

Lake Union HERALD

OCTOBER 2016



BUILDING
CONNECTIONS

FAITH, COMMUNITY & RELATIONSHIPS



Andrews
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Dave Sherwin



DEVELOPING THE FUTURE TO PRESERVE THE PAST

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

A Andrews University students Matt Harris, Emma Trench and other community and international development majors and Anne Kim, senior community and environmental development major and student editor, spent three months this past summer working to build, performing and lead for the Tallahassee Cultural Heritage Foundation, a local non-governmental organization (NGO) focused on educating the local people and helping them understand the cultural and historical significance of the archaeological sites...

I started out as an incoming opportunity and grew into a guiding experience that will undoubtedly benefit my work life. Harris, Trench and Kim were also during their time in Tallahassee...

Two more major reports to the United States Agency for International Development, needed to improve site management related to tourism, increased signs from English into Spanish and taught English to local students.

A matter of local, South Korea, Anne is no stranger to foreign culture or language. The team came to Florida to be ready the location of Russian...

The team also spent a variety of community activities around the city they desperately wanted to learn English. The girls agreed to teach with the goal that the approach to community development would lead to increased psychological and emotional connectivity of the Tallahassee area. "We had a lot of fun working with the English learners," says Anne. "There...

When the group first arrived in Tallahassee, they had to learn the local language through a week-long program for the Tallahassee Cultural Heritage Foundation.

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In this issue...

When I joined the faculty at Andrews University eight years ago, Adventist education was a foreign concept to me. Prior to Andrews, I was trying to change the world for good through my work as a journalist for NBC News. It was while at NBC it dawned on me: my mission was doomed to failure without God at the core. When I arrived at Andrews, I was filled with awe: students were excited to learn, faculty wanted to work together to build outstanding academic programs, staff members took great pride in their work and, at the core of all this, a mission to affirm faith and change the world.

As you thumb through this special edition of the *Herald*, it is my prayer that these stories will point you to Jesus and the valuable work Andrews University is doing in our region and beyond.

Debbie Michel

Debbie Michel, Managing Editor



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Hearing the Still, Small Voice

Elijah had seen success after success. Times in Israel were difficult but where Elijah was, God seemed to be also. Whether he was being fed by ravens, healing the son of the widow of Nain, or calling down fire on the prophets of Baal, Elijah asked God for a miracle and God responded. Isn't it strange, then, that after seeing how God had led him, one threat by Queen Jezebel and Elijah was fleeing for his life? In fact, he is so discouraged he sits down in the desert under a broom tree and wants to die.

In steps God. He could have reprimanded Elijah for losing faith after all he had done for him; he could have left him to wallow in his own negativity. On the contrary, God sends an angel to be with him and feed him. So, for three days Elijah sleeps and eats, and then takes a long walk, ending in a cave. Only when Elijah is rested does God call him out of the cave to hear his voice. And, of course, his voice is not in the tempest, nor whirlwind, nor earthquake, nor fire — none of the events that take your breath away with their power. He comes after all that bluster in a still, small voice. And, in the stillness, Elijah and God talk together and God is able to put Elijah's preconceptions of his own isolation (and importance) into perspective. He is sent off again on a new mission with a deeper understanding of God.

When I came to Andrews University in my 20s, I wasn't metaphorically sitting desolately under a broom tree. However, as I look back today, I was seeing a very limited perspective of what God could do with me and what I could do to serve in the future. I needed the opportunity to "eat," "sleep" and "walk" so I was ready to hear the whisper of God. Was it the rich campus environment and the amazing mix of students that brought a broader perspective to me? Was it the opportunity to understand my discipline more clearly through the eyes of faith? Was it the faculty mentors? Which of these were God's agents to me? Maybe all, and more, because I did leave here refreshed, reinvigorated and with a new, expanded purpose. In a very real way, I did hear the still, small whisper of God.

I want to tell you, however, that this is not just my experience. I hear every day of students who, through their encounters on this campus with other students, with those of us who work here and with God, clarify and enrich their calling. I believe that is what Adventist education is about — what Andrews University seeks to be every day: a living space that deepens individual knowledge and skills, encourages personal exploration and commitment of faith, and calls each person to find a way to strengthen God's kingdom.

That is what we, the University, want to gift the Church and our community: our students and our graduates who, with passion and selflessness, have heard the still, small voice of God on this campus and are responding with compassion, faithfulness and care.



Return Flight

BY D. LYNN BRYSON

When I arrived at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary as an Oregon Conference intern in the fall of 1985, I would never have imagined that it would take me 30 years to complete a Masters of Divinity degree. In March of 1986, as part of my student pastoring assignment, I organized a group of four eighth-grade students from Ruth Murdoch Elementary School and Mike McKenzie, Pioneer Memorial Church youth pastor, to travel with a student missions team from Pacific Union College to Colotlán, Jalisco, Mexico, to build a church and conduct a dental clinic in an Huichol Indian village located in the surrounding mountains.

On March 26, four of our team, including myself, were to fly to the Huichol village and Mike was to be dropped off at the airport in Zacatecas so he could fly home early for an appointment. I was sitting in the back seat of the Piper Cherokee Six plane as we took off from the dirt runway. As we began to gain altitude, suddenly the engine began to sputter and cough. After trying to adjust the throttle for several minutes, we came crashing to the ground. I will never forget the words of co-pilot Roberto Henriquez telling us to tighten our seatbelts as we were about to crash.

My first thought was, “We can’t crash! I don’t know anybody who has ever crashed in an airplane! That happens to other people!” But, clearly, it was happening to us!



Thirty years after a plane crash, Lynn received his MDiv diploma, May 2016.

Suddenly a sense of peace and comfort flooded my heart like I cannot describe. Clearly, it was the presence of the Holy Spirit with an unspoken reassuring message that I would not die. From that moment on, my life and the lives of the other four in that plane would change forever.

I praise the Lord there was no explosion or fire and that all five of us survived but, from that moment on, my life turned from a young 24-year-old seminary student to a partial paraplegic who was told I would never walk again. Air Evac plane rescue, surgery, two months of in-house re-

hab, followed by two-and-a-half years of outpatient rehab, brain tumor detection, brain surgery in the brain stem region, radiation therapy, etc. — my life went through a

series of trials and learning daily to place my trust in the hands of the Lord.

Through God's grace, I re-entered ministry as a youth pastor in May of 1989, although using a wheelchair. Through his continued grace, I met Debbie Jackson of Coloma, Michigan, and we married in 1990. With the assistance of forearm crutches, I was able to walk and stand for our ceremony. For the next 22 years, we served together in pastoral ministry for the Oregon Conference. The Lord blessed us with three wonderful children, Michael, Matthew and Meleah. After serving in our last church for 13 years, I decided to relocate to the Berrien Springs area and complete my degree. One of the motivating reasons for returning to Andrews was so our sons could be home to finish academy and experience the international flavor of Adventism. I also was ready for a break and an academic rejuvenation which was available with the fairly recent remodeled Seminary building, now having an elevator.

In the fall of 2012, twenty-six years after the plane crash, I began studies again. Imagine having to retake Hebrew and Greek after a thirty-year absence on top of having a mild form of dyslexia as a result of the brain tumor. Yet, the Lord was faithful and studying the Bible in the original languages was some of the best brain therapy I've ever experienced. There is something about studying the Word of God which has power to bring healing to the mind and soul of a person.

One of the greatest blessings about returning to the Seminary was to discover how much stronger and more complete is the Adventist education taking place on our campus. Rumors continually float around in the field of the "liberal" influence of biblical scholarship at our Adventist institutions and some of my parishioners were concerned I might become tainted. What I was to discover, however, was amazing.

As I began my study, I was granted credit for the classes I had taken in the 1980s with one exception — the class on the Sanctuary. I objected since I had taken a course in the Sanctuary in 1986 from Richard Davidson, but to no avail. I had to retake the class. What a blessing! When I attended Andrews, our denomination was still reeling from the crisis over the Sanctuary doctrine from the questions raised by Desmond Ford. I had just graduated from Pacific Union College where Ford had taught before he was let go. The controversial meetings at Glacier View, Colorado, had taken place and the Daniel and Revelation Committee was doing extensive research. Hundreds of ministers left the church and untold members had followed after them.

So, twenty-six years later, I was introduced to the increased knowledge we had gained as a church under the work of William Shea, Richard Davidson, Gerhard Hasel, Niels-Erik Andreasen and continued by Roy Gane, Jacques Doukhan, Felix Cortez and others. Roy's book, *Altar Call*, is a beautiful study of the Sanctuary and an answer to the questions and attacks raised by Desmond Ford and Dale Ratzlaff. Although it is a scholarly study, it is written in the language of lay people and is a reaffirmation of the ministry taking place currently in the Heavenly Sanctuary by our High Priest and Savior Jesus Christ.

Continuing in this excellent research and teaching is the work of Felix Cortez and his study of the book of Hebrews and the discovery that the focus of that great epistle is not on the Day of Atonement, but on Christ's inauguration as our High Priest. Felix is in process of writing his studies into a book form, which I believe will be a great companion to Roy Gane's book.

My recent experience at Andrews has been life-changing. Having studied under the direction of solid Adventist scholars and graduating alongside these young seminarians gives me greater hope and courage for the Adventist message. These students, many of whom I'm old enough to be their father, have been prepared to be strong and credible Seventh-day Adventist pastors and chaplains for a continued proclamation of the Three Angels' messages in power and dedication.

In just a short time, story author Kay Rizzo and I will begin co-writing this story of transition into a book. It will tell of the Lord's marvelous grace in my life and in the life of his church — a church that has been given a message like no other, a message so desperately needed by the world today.

D. Lynn Bryson writes from Sodus, Michigan, near Berrien Springs, where he currently resides with his family.



The mangled aircraft in Mexico, March 1986



Finding Joy

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

Webster defines joy as both a noun and a verb. As a noun, Webster describes it as a “feeling of great pleasure and happiness.” As a verb, Henri Nouwen described it this way: “Joy does not simply happen to us. We have to choose joy and keep choosing it every day.”

A baby will express joyful emotions somewhere in the second or third month, with cooing, chortling and smiling. At about the fourth month a baby will laugh spontaneously. Once again, this is an expression of joy. At first a baby will laugh when being touched gently. Later he or she will begin to respond to sights and sounds that elicit joy.

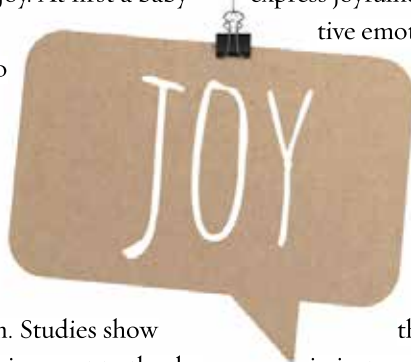
Joy, surprise and curiosity are not the only emotions a baby will express! There are also expressions of discomfort, anxiety, frustration and fear. Our babies are very tuned into the emotional moods of those around them. Studies show that even as young as three months, babies react to the depressed moods of their mothers. This doesn't mean you are a bad parent if you are depressed or are not always joyful and smiling. But it does mean you have a responsibility to be as emotionally healthy as possible and commit to not “take your moods out on” your child.

Studies show that babies, affected by the negative moods of their mothers, can cope and learn to soothe themselves. After crying and fussing a baby will often turn away and comfort himself. That's an important task of infancy, to begin to deal with feelings. Babies also soothe themselves by sucking their hands or fingers, by moving into a different position and by finding something else to do. We want babies to begin learning to recognize and handle all their feelings, but it is not a baby's job to have to

regularly adjust to the negative or depressed feelings of the adults in her life.

Children deserve abundant opportunities to feel and express joyfulness. It is a way to stimulate a child's positive emotional development. The greatest source of comfort and positive feelings in the world of a baby is people, especially their primary caregivers. And children bring us joy as well. In reflecting on how her baby brought her joy, one mother recalled, “The main thing was the joy of touch. She was so soft, so melting. I never touched so much as in the first of infancy.” A dad said, “There is joy in just watching her change. For us, she's such a very, very good person. She's so marvelous. She likes the cat, she likes the stroller. Everything is an adventure for her.” In expressing the joys of parenting a toddler, one dad said, “I have these proud father moments every now and then when I think, *That's my boy!* Those are wonderful moments!”

As God keeps his promises, may we each bring joy to those we love in the morning, and the mid-day, and the evening! God gives each of us this promise, *The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing* (Zephaniah 3:17 KJV).



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



On the Road to Wellness

BY JUSTIN NEU

Part of the Andrews University campus initiative for the 2016-2017 school year is to make Andrews the healthiest university in the world. In order to accomplish this goal, staff and faculty members from across campus have signed up to be Wellness Ambassadors (WAs) with the aim of making the desire for and work toward health and wellness go ... well, viral. From daily plank challenges, to weekly lunch hour and evening 5K walks, the WAs are burning calories and eliminating stress in the work place.

The importance of health and overall wellness is at an all-time high. From the ease of fast food to the prevalence of desk jobs, we are at a daily increased risk for health complications and stressors. Aware of these risks, the WAs encourage their colleagues to make small lifestyle changes, striving to motivate, educate and change habits in their respective departments.



difficult to share with individuals who aren't used to living the lifestyle many of us grew up living, such as vegetarianism and abstaining from alcohol. By beginning a WA initiative in your own community, it opens doors that allow you to share what we believe and how important living a holistic lifestyle is.

One very helpful item that WAs use and promote are fitness trackers. The ever-popular FitBit is a great way to track your daily activities, caloric consumption, water intake and, in some models, your heart rate. By being aware of these daily activities, individuals can begin the road to a healthier lifestyle.

Being a WA is not Andrews specific. The concept of a WA is to work toward living and encouraging an overall healthy lifestyle. Although a major focus of a WA is to promote health as well as fitness, it's much more than that. It's about living a holistic life, in every aspect. This initiative can be incorporated into any community: home, school, corporate offices, churches, men's and women's prayer groups, etc. It's a great way to build communities and spread holistic living to friends, families and co-workers.

As Seventh-day Adventists, we are blessed with an amazing health message — a message that sometimes is

In April 2015, the Mayo Clinic published an article¹ on stress management which stated that exercise and being active on a daily basis can boost endorphins and help distract an individual from their daily worries. This is one of many articles that have been published that correlates being active and healthy with decreased stress levels and a boost in "feel-good" endorphins. This is the main reason why being healthy and active is such a crucial part of living a holistic lifestyle.

I encourage you to put together your own wellness initiative in your community. By educating others and encouraging them to make daily activity changes — even small ones, it will open other doors that lead to teaching about the One who gives true peace and happiness.

Justin Neu is assistant manager, Andrews University Bookstore, and Chief University Wellness Ambassador.

1. <http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/stress-management/in-depth/exercise-and-stress/art-20044469>



PRESENT TRUTH

Following the Lamb wherever He goes

Every Member a Worker

BY ELLEN WHITE

Christ gave us the Great Commission to “Go!” not just to save those who have not yet heard the Good News, but that we might be saved ourselves. Our eternal life depends upon whether or not we embrace the work that God has given each of us to do. —The Editors

No church can flourish unless its members are workers. The people must lift where the minister lifts. I saw that nothing lasting can be accomplished for churches in different places unless they are aroused to feel that a responsibility rests upon them. Every member of the body should feel that the salvation of their own souls depends upon their own individual effort. Souls cannot be saved without exertion. The minister cannot save the people. He can be a channel through which God will impart light to his people, but then after the light is given it is left with the people to appropriate the light, and in their turn let the light shine forth to others. The people should feel that an individual responsibility rests upon them not only to save their own souls but to engage earnestly in the salvation of those who remain in darkness. . . .

We are living in an evil age. The perils of the last days thicken around us. Because iniquity abounds, the love of many waxes cold.

Enoch walked with God three hundred years. Now the shortness of time seems to be urged as a motive to seek righteousness. Should it require that the terrors of the day of God be held before us in order to compel us to right actions? Enoch’s case is before us. Hundreds of years he walked with God. He lived in a corrupt age when moral pollution was teeming all around him. He trained his mind to devotion, to love purity. His conversation was upon heavenly and divine things. He educated his mind in this channel, and he bore the impress of the divine. . . .

Enoch had temptations, as well as we. He was not surrounded with society any more friendly to righteousness than that which surrounds us. The atmosphere he breathed was tainted with sin and corruption the same as that which we breathe. Yet he lived a life of holiness. . . . He was a representation of the saints living amid the perils and corruptions of the last days. For his faithful obedience to God he was translated. So also those who “are alive and remain,” who are faithful, will be translated to heaven. They will be removed from a sinful and corrupt world to the pure joys of heaven (Ellen White, Manuscript 4-1868.7-10).

Ellen White was co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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:

- *Am I a worker in my church? — in my community?*
- *Is my mind trained to love purity?*
- *How would Enoch “walk” in my culture today?*

—The Editors

Praying for the Spirit

BY ALVIN J. VANDERGRIEND

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" (Matthew 9:36–38 NIV).

If we saw people as Jesus sees them and understood prayer as he does, we would pray for harvest workers constantly. What was Jesus' frame of reference? First, when he saw the crowds of people, he saw that they were *harassed and helpless* and his heart was moved with compassion. In other words, he was moved at the very depths of his being. It wasn't just earthly problems like poverty, sickness, injustice or loneliness that caused his heart to ache. It also was their hopeless spiritual condition caused by sin and Satan. He desperately wanted them to have eternal life as well as his love, his joy, and his peace. If we come to the point of caring for hurting and helpless people as deeply as Jesus does, then I am sure that we will pray for harvest workers with more of his compassion.

Second, Jesus knew that the harvest belonged to *the Lord of the harvest* — his Father. The *sheep without a shepherd* are his lost sheep. His heart aches for them to be found. He has even sent his own Son, the Shepherd of heaven, to search for them. When they are found and brought back to the fold, there will be a great celebration in heaven. If our hearts beat with the Shepherd's heart, we will care as he cares, and we will pray as he taught us to pray.

Third, Jesus observed that *the harvest is plentiful*. I wonder if we really believe that today. It surely doesn't seem very plentiful. In fact, in many places today, the harvest seems downright sparse. Many who hear the Good News reject it. Others start out well, then fall away. But Christ, who sees in ways that we do not, sees a bountiful harvest. And he commands us to pray in the faith that there is a harvest and that harvest workers will bring it in.

Fourth, Jesus understood that prayer is the means God has ordained in order to raise up a harvest force and release it into the harvest. To that end he charges us to *ask the Lord of the harvest ... to send out workers into his harvest field*. God will choose and call

and equip the workers. But he is moved to do this in response to our prayers. Dare we say that he will not do this if we do not pray for it? If we really understand that the harvest force depends on our prayers, we will surely pray with urgency.

Finally, Jesus' idea of a harvest worker is not what we normally think. We tend to think of pastors, evangelists and missionaries as God's harvest workers, and they are. But Jesus calls all of us to be harvest workers. The harvest is all around us. We are all empowered by the Spirit to be witnesses for him (Acts 1:8). We are all called to *make disciples of all nations* (Matthew 28:19).

So when we pray for harvest workers, we are praying that all of God's people, wherever they are, will see the harvests that God has prepared and step up to the task of being the Father's harvest workers. Would you pray that with me? And, would you also be the answer to your prayers?

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.



Food on Wheels

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

Although Sarah Forrest calls Berrien Springs, Michigan, home, she has lived a nomadic life, moving often between countries and states. “Those experiences have helped me develop great people skills,” she says, “which is absolutely required for this job!”

Sarah, manager of the Mobile Farm Market for the Andrews University Department of Agriculture, spends her summer days with agriculture students, driving a refrigerated truck full of produce around southwest Michigan.

“We work hard to make healthy food choices available within the food deserts of our community,” Sarah explains. “We aim to create sustainable changes by partnering with farms and communities.”

Food deserts are created when supermarkets close and there are no alternatives within walking distance for local residents. In Benton Harbor, a city of 10,000 about 12 miles from Andrews University, food deserts are a growing concern. With nearly a quarter of the population unemployed and two-thirds living below the poverty level, the economy is far less than booming.

“Over the past year, we’ve been working with the local health department to get to know the community,” Sarah explains. “It turns out they want and need access to fresh produce.”

The Mobile Farm Market began as an experiment and has been operational since 2014. After a successful first summer, more research was done and local farmers were invited to participate.

“We build ideas from the ground up,” Sarah says. “Taking into account the responses from local people, we build models based on their needs, and it has been wonderful seeing real change taking place in the community. The best part is seeing their eyes light up when we bring them something they really need.”



University Mobile Farm Market travels around southwest Michigan, bringing fresh produce from local farms (including the University's Student Gardens) to food deserts.

In addition to the University farm, two local farms have provided produce at affordable rates for the market, even donating produce for two weeks of the summer.

“Working with farms allows us to provide a greater variety of food,” Sarah explains. “We are helping bridge the gap between farms and community. We are educating local farmers about food deserts and educating the people on local food.”

Nearly 70 percent of the area surrounding the food deserts is farmland.

Sarah is excited to connect the two and reduce local need.

“It’s not just about providing access to affordable produce,” she says. “Education is another big part of the market — teaching people the purpose of nutrition, how to make simple healthy choices, and showing them alternative ways to feed themselves and their families.”

To this end, the market staff provides recipes with the produce they sell, and even offers mini-cooking demonstrations to teach community members what to do with the various produce provided.

A survey of food desert residents in 2014 revealed that 60 percent felt they were eating healthier in their homes as a result of the market, and nearly 50 percent said they heard neighbors talking about health more than they had the previous summer.

“Food is a basic essential,” says Sarah. “We hope that by providing fresh food we are helping the community make steps toward a healthier life.”

Becky St. Clair is the media communication manager at Andrews University.



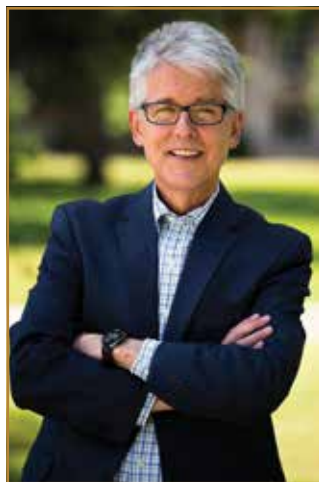
Vivir con esperanza

POR CARMELO MERCADO

Si cada soldado de Cristo hubiese cumplido su deber, si cada centinela puesto sobre los muros de Sión hubiese tocado la trompeta, el mundo habría oído el mensaje de amonestación. Mas la obra ha sufrido años de atraso (Joyas de los Testimonios, 3:297).

En el año 1998 participé en un evento innovador de evangelismo llamado en inglés NET 98 (La Red 98). Este evento consistió en transmitir alrededor del mundo por medio de satélite una campaña evangelística que tuvo como orador al pastor Dwight Nelson. En aquel entonces ese método de evangelización era muy innovador. Fue una campaña de cinco semanas que se transmitió en vivo a más de 5.000 iglesias en 100 países con traducción en 40 idiomas. La División Norteamericana pidió que yo me encargara de dar apoyo a las iglesias hispanas que participaran en ese esfuerzo. Gracias a Dios, más de 30.000 personas se bautizaron como resultado de esa campaña.

Al pensar en aquel evento me parece increíble que ya han pasado 18 años desde que se llevó a cabo y también cuánto han cambiado la tecnología y la cultura. Existen ahora diversos métodos de comunicación con los que se puede llegar a todo el mundo en una manera casi instantánea y nuestra iglesia en este país los está aprovechando a todos. Pero a la vez ha aumentado un ambiente secular en el que ahora más de una quinta parte de la población dice no pertenecer a ninguna iglesia. Es interesante notar otra realidad actual y es que más de dos terceras partes de la población dice que sí cree en Dios.



Dwight Nelson, pastor de la iglesia Pioneer Memorial

Teniendo en cuenta la nueva realidad en que vivimos se ha desarrollado un nuevo plan para evangelizar a esas personas que se conocen como los “Nones”. El título de este evento en inglés es *Hope Trending* y en español es “Vivir con Esperanza”. El formato del programa es de una hora, lo que incluye la predicación del pastor Nelson y luego un

panel de cinco personas que comente sobre el sermón. La diferencia entre el formato anterior y el presente es que se enfatiza que “Vivir con esperanza” sea visto en el contexto de grupos pequeños.

Este evento será traducido al español y transmitido por medio de Esperanza TV. Las presentaciones serán del 14 al 22 de octubre a las 8:00 p.m., hora este. Para obtener más información se puede ir a la página web <http://www.hopetrending.org>. Además, los pastores pueden dirigirse a <http://www.hopetrending.org/pastors> para conseguir materiales de apoyo en español para los grupos pequeños.

Es mi deseo y oración que nuestras iglesias y en especial los grupos pequeños consideren usar esta nueva iniciativa para llevar esperanza y ánimo a los que no conocen el evangelio.

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.

An English translation of this article is available at www.lakeunion.org.



A Cuban Revolution

BY L. FERNANDO ORTIZ

Miguel is a Cuban veteran whose house was destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012, forcing him to live under a small shelter with only one leg. Although he has to walk with a crutch, he came every night to the evangelistic meetings. When our Andrews University Master of Divinity students gave him a Bible, he came the next day with the Bible so underlined you would think he had had it for months. A veteran of his country, Miguel is now a soldier for Jesus.

Isaac, 17, a Pathfinder leader at his church in Cuba, gives Bible studies to 16 individuals every week. When Isaac arrives home from school every day, his priority is his Bible studies and, if there is time, he says, "I'll do my homework." He is an "A" student, but more than anything, he is an "A" soulwinner.

Liuska's mother, who, as a practicing *Santera*, had many idols in her home. When her daughter tried to give her Bible studies and warn her about her ways, she refused. But Seminary students visited her and befriended her. After a lot of prayer, she decided to give up her witchcraft. So she cleaned her house of all idols. Now she is no longer afraid of spirits but is studying the Bible and is in the process of learning how to trust the one true, living God.

These stories represent the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Cuba as students from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary engaged in hands-on, boots-on-the-ground personal and public evangelism work. Although students have the option to participate in domestic evangelism, the Cuba experience is meant to help students explore new ways of witnessing. This annual initiative, now in its fifth year, has changed the lives of more than 100 seminary students, hundreds of pastors and Bible workers in Cuba, and thousands who have heard the Good News that Jesus is their "true freedom."

By immersing themselves in the world of the local church, students are able to learn valuable lessons in evangelism as they rub shoulders with pastors, Bible workers and lay people, and see firsthand how they have been successful soulwinners despite the repressive Communist system. The whole experience is meant to equip students to obtain an evangelistic mindset and enlarge their worldview.

Students first take classes at Andrews on personal and public evangelism. Then, during their spring break, the Master of Divinity program organizes a study tour to Cuba to practice what they have learned and completely immerse the students in a new culture. They stay in local people's homes (not in hotels) and go door-to-door to either invite people to meetings or give Bible studies to those already prepared by the local Bible workers. In the mornings, they receive training from the local pastors before going to the field. This personal contact is what many of our students cherish and they report that this way of evangelizing has revolutionized their lives and ministry.

A Revolution

The revolution starts when the team, along with the participating local churches, takes a city by storm. Five different key sites are chosen, each one holding their own



Seminary students took a summer study tour to Cuba to work alongside local Bible workers spreading the Word of God.

Ray Bibit

evangelistic meeting. During our last tour, which took place in Santiago de Cuba, the theme was “New Hope in Christ” because Cubans who have almost nothing receive an incredible amount of hope in listening to the gospel.

Dwight Nelson, lead pastor at Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University, preached at one site, and our seminary students led the meetings at the other four. This gives students a one-of-a-kind experience preaching to large audiences and often ignites their passion for ministry. Each site was packed to capacity every night. After each meeting, dozens came forward to altar calls, and many decided to accept Jesus as their personal Savior. As a result, 277 people were baptized. Over the last weekend, a local convention center was secured and all sites converged for a moving final celebration with about 2,000 in attendance, followed by a large-scale baptism.

The Project Expands

But the project goes beyond a tour. It has developed into something deeper and wider than we ever expected or dreamed of. What started as a trip to equip Andrews’ students has transformed into a large-scale project to equip lay people and pastors in Cuba. Since most pastors and Bible workers in Cuba go from place to place on foot, sharing the gospel without basic materials like books or ministerial resources we consider standard here in the U.S., we have taken on the task of providing bicycles, computers, tablets, video projectors, horses, church buildings and other resources. This is empowering them to spread the gospel like never before.

So far, 300 pastors in Cuba have received much-needed resources.

News of this project in Cuba has spread far and wide, and we are hearing from many people who want to be part of the unique opportunity to make history in Cuba by donating toward a bike, a tablet or a computer for one of our workers so they can boldly proclaim the message to a people who have been in darkness for 50 years. For more information, visit: <http://www.careforcuba.org>.

In the meantime, Andrews will continue connecting students with the field, a field that will prepare them for greater and faithful service to their Master.

L. Fernando Ortiz is director of the Master of Divinity program at Andrews University and Cuba study tour leader.



Ray Bibit

Miguel is a Cuban veteran with one leg amputated who came on crutches to the meetings every night and devoured the gospel message.

PART OF THE CIRCLE

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

Xiara Mercado grew up in a non-Christian household in Puerto Rico. No one went to church and they certainly never talked about God. Though they might lean more agnostic than atheist, the point was that the family didn't make a place in their lives for God, and that didn't seem to be a problem for them.

When their dad died, Xiara's brother turned inward to try and cope with his grief, spending much of his time engrossed in video games and trading cards. He also found himself to be the victim of much bullying at school, so their mom enrolled them in Academia Adventista Metropolitana, where Xiara finished high school with plans to attend the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) with many of her friends.

Around this time, UPR began experiencing student strikes, resulting in graduation delays of nearly a year for many of them. Several other problems followed in the wake of these events, and Xiara decided she didn't want to be a part of that situation. Due to a misunderstanding of terms (in Puerto Rico "undergraduate" means not yet in college and "graduate" means college student), Xiara's aunt, who had offered to pay for her airfare to go to the University of Florida, purchased tickets for the wrong enrollment date.

Xiara ended up staying in Puerto Rico, where the only other option was to attend the Adventist School, Antillean University.

"I had just gotten away from all that!" Xiara says with a laugh. "I have tattoos, I wore earrings, I wanted to go to parties and hang out with my friends, but none of them were going to Antillean."

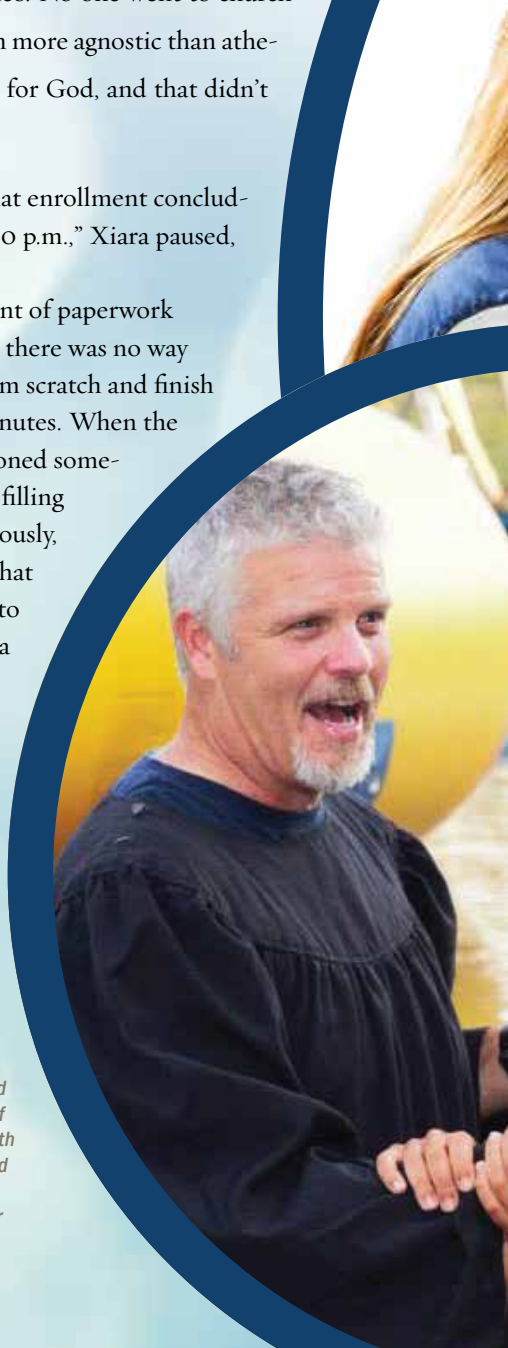
With her options limited, Xiara went to the enrollment office at Antillean University on a Friday, to ask about the deadline to enroll.

"They told me that enrollment concluded for the year at 1:00 p.m.," Xiara paused, "It was 12:50."

Due to the amount of paperwork enrollment requires, there was no way Xiara could start from scratch and finish everything in ten minutes. When the staff member mentioned something about perhaps filling out paperwork previously, Xiara remembered that Antillean had come to Academia Adventista Metropolitana and, as a joke, she'd filled out an application.

Amazingly, they still had her paperwork on file. By 1:00 p.m., Xiara was enrolled at Antillean University, though not

Gymnastics put Xiara Mercado on the road to God from agnosticism to a life of faith-guided discipleship with Christ. Xiara was re-baptized by Charlie Thompson last summer at Indiana's Timber Ridge camp.



The Gymnics are more than a team on the gym floor; they are a family who enjoy serving and nurturing others. Xiara with Gymnics teammates, left to right, Emma Magbanua, Leslie Allen and Nayeli Moretta.



Dave Sherwin

Brian Tagalog

without some hang-ups, she admits with an embarrassed grin. Since she had filled out the application originally as a joke with her friends, Xiara had indicated she was Russian, which caused some problems with her qualifications for scholarships. Fortunately, those problems were resolved.

“I was so happy I was in school, but so annoyed that it was the Adventist school,” Xiara said. “The only good thing about it was that the campus is four minutes from my house.”

Despite her annoyance, Xiara knew that attending college was something she needed to do, so she set about finding something to motivate her to stay in school. Being an active person, Xiara looked to athletics and sports to keep her interest.

“There was no girls’ basketball team; volleyball didn’t start until second semester and I don’t like soccer,” she numbers on her fingers the options she considered. “The only other thing I saw that sounded interesting to me at all was a gymnastics team. It sounded kinda fun, so I signed up.”

Despite signing up of her own accord, when she showed up for tryouts, Xiara “put on a mean face,” as she described it.

“I tried not to interact with anyone,” she says. “I wanted my old friends — not these uptight, religious people,” she laughs as she remembers how she felt that day.

Xiara made the team and looked forward to giving gymnastics a try, although she still had no intention of making friends.

“The environment was completely different from what I was used to,” she says. “Everything I was trying to get away from — worship, praying, God, I was finding myself more and more surrounded by. Even the gymnastics team had worship before every practice.”

Intimidated, Xiara found herself in a catch-22 situation: she didn’t want to make new friends, but she also didn’t want to be shunned by her new teammates for not being Adventist, so she avoided conversations that might reveal her secret.

“Every worship was related to what we’d be working on in practice that day,” she says. “I paid attention and did everything I was supposed to, but I felt I was living a double life. I still liked to hang out with my old friends on the weekends and go to parties and drink, but despite my best efforts,” she laughs, “I actually started making friends on the gymnastics team.”



Xiara Mercado (top left) found God through gymnastics both in Puerto Rico and at Andrews (pictured here).

Her new friends repeatedly invited Xiara to attend church with them, unaware that she didn’t attend church at all. She insisted every time that she had other plans. Finally, because they wouldn’t stop asking, she told them she wasn’t a Seventh-day Adventist.

“I told them in no uncertain terms, ‘I’m not taking my earrings out and I’m not dressing up,’” she recalls. “And they said, ‘We’ll go casual with you. Let’s go!’ So we did.”

That was in November 2010. The weekend prior was the last time Xiara remembers going to a party or drinking alcohol.

“The team was a no-drug, no-alcohol team,” she explains. “I didn’t want to get kicked out because my priority was gymnastics. I wanted to get better and better. I was having fun, and there was a notable difference between the friends I had at college and my outside friends. It was a difference I was starting to appreciate.”

That same month, the Antillean gymnastics team attended Acrofest, a gathering of Adventist academy, college and university gymnastics teams from across North America. The one team that stood out to her was the Gymnics from Andrews University.

“They were cheerful,” she recalls with a smile. “They were always singing and laughing and they had worship every night where they made a circle and prayed together as a team. They were so close. I wanted to be just like them.”

The following summer, Xiara’s gymnastics friends convinced her to participate in colporteurage (selling Adventist

WE LOOK AT OURSELVES AS MISSIONARIES DISGUISED AS GYMNASTS

books door-to-door) with them. In a series of events that is a story in its own right, Xiara was baptized in August 2011. While she knew it was the right choice to make, it didn't make things easy at home.

"I don't regret it at all, but it was hard," she says with a note of sadness. "Things were different in my house. My family wanted me to go do things with them on Sabbath that I didn't feel right doing, and it put a huge strain on my relationships with them."

More than ever before, Xiara clung to her gymnastics teammates. "They were my family," she admits. "I was baptized while colporteur, but I met God through gymnastics."

After three years at Antillean University, two of which she spent as captain of the gymnastics team, Xiara woke up one morning and realized she wanted to go to Andrews University. She applied, was accepted and made travel plans.

When she discovered that Andrews offered an exercise science program, she immediately enrolled in the School of Health Professions, excited to be working toward a degree that would help her put her passion for physical activity to good use for others.

At the start of her second year on the Gymnics team, Xiara was elected captain. She was elated to now find herself in a position of leadership on what was, to her, a dream team.

"We take turns nominating each other to present worship the following day at practice," says Xiara. "Hearing everyone else's points of view and how God is working in their lives and how they apply their experiences with him to Gymnics and school and everything, was so exciting to me. I was living the dream."

The Gymnics are more than a team on the gym floor; they are a family who enjoy serving and nurturing others. Together they created the Gymnics Circle, inviting non-members for a chance to experience what it's like to be on the team and learn more about gymnastics. They put together care packages for student missionaries around the world and travel to academies and special education schools to put on shows with a biblical message.

"We look at ourselves as missionaries disguised as gymnasts," Xiara explains. "We call the blue mats on which we pray, practice and perform 'the blue church.'"

The team takes their slogan, "Pray — Practice — Perform," very seriously.

"It's not just a catchy phrase we wear on our shirts," Xiara says. "It's a life motto. Pray every instant. Practice your faith. Perform your beliefs. It's not only about staying close to God, but also practicing what he's taught us and serving others in his name."

Xiara graduated in May and will be going into the United States Air Force in December. She chose to begin that month because she didn't want to miss one last Acrofest, the 25th anniversary event happening in November at its place of conception: Andrews University. Though she knows it will be hard, she has no intention of giving up her faith.

"My devotion to God will not waver," she says with determination; "I will not change my views. God will provide and make it work for me. I'm not worried."

Her relationship with her family also has improved; in fact, Xiara feels it's actually better than ever.

"I think it needed some space," she says. "We needed to establish some things, such as the fact that I'm completely into my faith and it's not a phase — it's my life."

Although in the beginning, Xiara's family was not willing to support her financially due to her decision to follow Christ to Andrews, they now help her with whatever she needs. Occasionally, Xiara sends her mother books from the Adventist Christian Bookstore and is thrilled that her mother is actually reading them.

"I can say they're believers now," she says with a smile. "My mom has always struggled with anxiety and depression, and I've told her multiple times I'm praying for her. Now she asks me to. It's amazing! One day I hope my family will actually come to church and make the important decision to follow Christ for themselves."

Xiara loves talking about gymnastics, her Gymnics family, and telling the story of how God used them both to bring her to where she needed to be — with him.

"Gymnastics built my faith more than anything," says Xiara. "It's showed me the joys and benefits of being a Christian rather than the rules and regulations you sometimes find people focusing on. Gymnics surpassed the expectations I had and grew me and my roots as a Christian person deeper than I ever knew possible."

Becky St. Clair is the media communication manager at Andrews University.



DEVELOPING THE FUTURE TO PRESERVE THE PAST

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

Andrews University students Noël Harris, senior French studies and community and international development major, and Anna Kim, senior community and international development major and music minor, spent three months this past summer working in Jordan, performing varied duties for the Tall Hisban Cultural Heritage Association, a local non-governmental organization (NGO) focused on educating the local people and helping them internalize the cultural and historical significance of the archaeological site.

It started out as an internship opportunity and grew into a guiding experience that will contribute heavily to both girls' futures.

Both Anna and Noël filled several roles during their time in Jordan. Anna lists some of hers:

"I wrote a grant request to the United States Agency for International Development, worked to improve site management related to tourism, translated signs from English into Korean and taught English to local students."

A native of Seoul, South Korea, Anna is no stranger to foreign culture or language. The latter came in handy in her work; the number of Korean

tourists and visiting businessmen in Jordan is so high that many tourist-heavy areas, including the Tall Hisban site, include not only English and Arabic on the signs, but also Korean.

As part of the community archaeology program, Anna and Noël taught English classes to students of all ages.

This came about when a survey of community members revealed that they desperately wanted to learn English. The girls agreed to teach with the goal that this approach to community development would lead to increased psychological and emotional ownership of the Tall Hisban site.

"We had students of varying levels of English fluency," says Anna. "Some

Anna Kim and Noël Harris taught local people to produce sustainable food sources within their community through a rooftop gardening project started by the Tall Hisban Cultural Heritage Association.



Anna Kim, an international and community development major at Andrews University, chats with one of her English students in Jordan after his graduation from the program in August.



Noël Harris (second from left) and Anna Kim (second from right) spent three months in Jordan this year doing various tasks with the local people, including teaching them English.



students could hold a decent conversation with us and others didn't know how to count." To remedy this, Anna and Noël led an advanced speaking session for some of the students before each class began.

It is crucial that the local people understand the historical and cultural significance of Tall Hisban, as many Jordanians still come to the site to dig for gold, not realizing the futility (and destructiveness) of such activity.

"Although there isn't any gold present, they don't understand what the site actually is," explains Noël. "Education is the first step to preserving Tall Hisban."

Although they originally requested 8–10 students each, they began teaching with about 30 each. As the weeks went on, Anna and Noël found they had increased numbers most days, and, near the end of their time in Jordan, Noël taught a class of 100 girls.

Fortunately for Anna, this was not her first time teaching English, which made her task in the classroom a bit more relaxed. For the last four years she has spent her summers in Korea teaching English to kids ages 7–18.

"This time was a bit different, though," she admits, "because I couldn't speak Arabic — I still can't! — and my students' English levels varied so extremely."

According to Jordanian culture, male and female students are not allowed to sit in classrooms together, hence the disparity in fluency levels in Noël's and Anna's classrooms. They were not allowed to combine students based on comprehension levels, which offered additional challenge to their assignment.

"This particular experience gave me not only wisdom but also tools I know I will use in my career," says Anna. "I had to be patient despite the constant inability to quickly communicate with my students; I had to be creative and come up with my own curriculum and teaching materials; and I had to be cautious against offending the culture or the people, since I was in a foreign place and still learning cultural norms."

Both Noël and Anna are planning to find careers in community development. Spending time in Jordan working in that field was eye opening and affirming for both of them.

"I think I've always wanted to live a life of service," says Noël. "My time in Jordan solidified even deeper my desire to empower people and facilitate their growth. Working with these kids was fulfilling to me because I knew they badly wanted to learn English, especially the older ones who wished to use their language skills to find jobs. I was able to help them achieve something they desired, and it's a really good feeling to be able to give someone that."

The classroom wasn't their only point of contact; Noël and Anna also worked with local women and children on rooftop gardening.

The brainchild of Connor Smith, an international agriculture student at Andrews University, rooftop gardening in Jordan is an attempt to encourage sustainable agriculture to ensure healthy food options for future generations of Jordanians.

"We want to educate the people on how ecosystems work and why we need to take care of ours,"

Anna explains. “We also want to increase community involvement for women and children.”

In partnership with Connor, Anna and Noël conducted an on-site, hands-on feasibility study.

“Roof gardens are relatively easy and affordable to implement,” says Noël. “And since all roofs in Jordan are flat, rooftop gardening is plausible there.”

Anna and Noël implemented two rooftop gardens during the summer, one on the elementary school and another on the girls’ high school, both in Hisban. They worked alongside the teachers and students through the entire process, planting local flowers and herbs and teaching them how to care for the garden.

“We wrote a curriculum as we worked,” Noël says, “including explaining ecosystems and why they’re important, innovative ways for teachers to practically teach these concepts to students and focusing on the specific plants that can be grown in Jordan. It’s a very dry, desert climate, so it is important that future generations learn how to grow more crops and take care of their country.”

The curriculum they developed was then translated into Arabic and will be distributed in local elementary and high schools in Hisban.

“It’s another way we can get the local people interested in taking care of their community,” says Anna. “It’s not just about learning English and how to garden; it expands to taking care of the Tall Hisban dig site, too.”

Kelsey Curnutt, research specialist and special projects coordinator for the Institute of Archaeology who supervised some of Anna’s and Noël’s work stateside, points out the irony that archaeology is a destructive discipline.

“It spoils natural landscapes and exposes ancient ruins to destruction by natural processes, looting, modern construction projects and urbanization,” she says.

It is estimated that in the country of Jordan alone there are over 50,000 archaeological sites that have been identified, and archaeologists have explored hundreds of these with little concern for long-term protection and preservation of the sites they have dug.

“Archaeology is about uncovering the past through mostly small objects and seemingly mundane items. Pieces of pottery, coins, a fragment of an inscription, part of a wall — they all work to reveal

the daily lives of local inhabitants,” says Kelsey. “If we as archaeologists do not work with the local community now, what use is our work in revealing and preserving the local community of the past?”

The hope is that the Hisban Cultural Heritage Project, for which Anna and Noël spent their summer working, will lead the way toward a more sustainable future for Jordan’s archaeological heritage by developing capacity in the local community to help care for the site.

Noël and Anna attribute at least portions of their choice to both spend time in Jordan and work toward careers in community development to inspiration from Jesus and his life of service.

Anna quotes Romans 12:9, 10, 13: *Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves ... Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

“I think these verses describe very well what development work is,” she says thoughtfully. “Sharing love, knowing which people are in need, being empathetic. These are the virtues that I need to grow in order to become able to excel at helping communities.”

Anna wants to become more skilled in creating classroom curriculum in developing countries. She also hopes that someday the opportunity will present itself for her to utilize her love of music as a tool in her passion for and work in community development.

Noël, who hopes to continue working in the Middle East, specifically with refugees and the underprivileged, finds motivation and inspiration in Jesus’ life on earth.

“When we look at the example Jesus set for us, he served everyone — even the lowliest,” she says. “In order to follow his example, we must do the same. We must serve everyone, even those we might be uncomfortable serving. We need to step outside our comfort zones because that’s what Jesus did, and because it’s rewarding to everyone involved. God not only gives strength, but he gives joy. Serving others is beautiful, fulfilling and fun. Love and joy don’t come from anything but true, selfless, agenda-less love for others.”

Becky St. Clair is the media communication manager at Andrews University.



Ivan LaBlanca

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Students operate on a cow's organs and experience time in the operating room during camp.

iBody interactive seminar offers more than dissection

Last month, a group of high school and college students came together for nine days to learn more about the human body, the changing nature of health care, and how Adventist Medical Center Hinsdale employees came to be passionate about providing the highest quality care possible.

The eighth annual iBody interactive seminar for students 16 and older was held at Hinsdale.

The students learned about the vast field of health care from doctors, nurses, other health care staff and administrators. It's not for the faint of heart. This year they got to watch open-heart surgery and a robotic procedure through a live feed. They also dissected seven different bovine organs, plus a fetal pig.

"The iBody seminar is really a great community service in a number of ways," said seminar facilitator Katie

Weibel, executive director of Nursing Professional Practice. "It exposes the community at large to the benefits of health care. And it allows our employees to share their strengths and passions with a new generation of health care providers."

The goals of iBody are to provide an education on the anatomy, physiology and pathology of various organ systems directly from health care providers.

Some of the students had the opportunity to shadow staff members. This included: viewing a procedure in the cardiac cath lab and cardiopulmonary testing; working with nurses and exercise physiologists within the cardiac rehab setting; shadowing a nurse as well as physical, occupational and speech therapists; watching the birth of a child; learning about radiation oncology at AMITA Health Cancer Institute and Outpatient Center.

"It really is a lot of fun," said Blake Genzler, 19, of Downers Grove, a student at St. Louis University. He served as lead counselor and has

participated for eight years, two as a student and six as a counselor. "It's a great experience if you have an interest in how the body works. You can do your first dissection, and you get a first-hand perspective of the health care system."

There also is the opportunity for small group study. This year, some of the participants researched a number of topics, including the use of 3-D printers in health care, the Zika virus, and triaging a car accident.

The forerunner to the iBody seminar was first offered in 1995 at the Robert Crown Health Education Center in Hinsdale, where it is still part of the curriculum.

"We were excited to continue iBody this year," said Weibel. "Young people can find out so much about health care and get introduced to the various roles. We want to attract young people and get them engaged."

Julie Busch, associate vice president of communications, AMITA Health



Students learned about the vast field of health care from doctors, nurses, and other health care staff and administrators.

Engineering graduate pursues life of mission

Michael Hess is a quiet, unassuming young man who listens (and thinks) before he speaks. He graduated from Andrews University with a degree in mechanical engineering in May 2016 and, before beginning his graduate studies, decided to spend a year as a student missionary through Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM). When asked what inspired this decision, he shrugs.

“Ever since I was little, I’ve had an interest in missions,” he says. “I grew up reading the AFM magazine and stories by Eric B. Hare.” Here he chuckles, knowing he’s not the only Adventist young person to have childhood memories of this nature. “Always in the back of my mind was the idea that this was something I’d do someday.”

While studying at Andrews, Hess heard stories from friends who had gone abroad as student missionaries and came back with adjusted world views and fires within. It encouraged Hess to hear not only the storybook accounts, but the real-life experiences of people he knew who had gone through the trials that come with mission work and come out stronger on the other side — both physically and spiritually.

Hess found he enjoyed being a part of various groups and ministries, both on- and off-campus. In addition to his Honors Program leadership and serving as treasurer for a spiritual club called Revive, Hess also regularly played piano and helped in the youth program at a local church.

As a member of the J.N. Andrews Honors Program at the university,



Michael Hess, a 2016 engineering graduate from Andrews University, enjoyed being involved in extracurricular activities on- and off-campus. He played piano for a local church as well as on-campus events such as the Honors Agape Feast, pictured here.

Hess established Scholars in Prayer, a program based on another student’s suggestion that they pray each day for a different honors student.

“A lot of what I experienced at Andrews reinforced the way I was raised,” he says. “I was able to find people who had similar values and interests, and we supported and prayed for each other, studied together and worshipped together.”

Once he graduated, he realized he was ready to jump into an even bigger service project — tentmaking.

Tentmaking is a term that refers to using one’s professional training and experience to support oneself in the mission field. It’s especially helpful when individuals feel called into a location where missionaries are not allowed; they can enter the country as a professional and support themselves as they live out the gospel message.

Hess found an open position through Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM) as a math teacher and signed

on to spend a year in Palawan, in the Philippines. At the time of this publication, Hess has been on-location for a little over a month.

Although he doesn’t yet know where God will lead him with his tentmaking, Hess is determined to use his mechanical engineering skills as a tentmaking profession.

“We’ve been given a message of the truth and hope in Jesus,” says Hess, “and there are people who haven’t had the chance to hear that. Someone needs to tell them, so why not me?”

Becky St. Clair is media communications manager at Andrews University.



Michael Hess (back row, center) developed friendships during his time at Andrews that will last a lifetime.

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Myanmar Company opens community service center

Michigan—In response to the large numbers of Burmese refugees settling in Michigan, youth from the Grand Rapids Myanmar Adventist Company launched a community service center geared toward meeting the needs of their community.

Church members, most of whom had spent a number of years in refugee camps in Thailand and Malaysia, along with community supporters celebrated at the center's open house held in July.

“Our Sabbath School lesson talks about our church being in the community,” remarked youth leader Suan Khai in a later interview. “This is good for our community!”

Volunteers in the center provide assistance to the burgeoning Grand Rapids Burmese population of 2,000 through English as a second language (ESL) classes and the distribution of food and clothing. Another in-demand component is help filling out important documents. “Church members would want help for reading letters from DHS [Department of Human Services], hospital records, bills,” explained Khai, an undergraduate theology major at Andrews University. “They understand the numbers but they don’t understand if they need to give money or get money. We thought this is something we could help with in our ministry.”

An average of 15–20 people attend the ESL classes held every Sunday. Most are Adventists, but the group is beginning a push to offer services to non-Adventists residents. They’ve received positive feedback, including from a Baptist pastor who attended the grand opening. Khai recalled the pastor



A newly-arrived refugee family from Malaysia, Mang Sing and family, at the Grand Rapids airport. The Myanmar Adventist Church is co-sponsoring them, along with Bethany Christian Services of Grand Rapids.



Youth received training in how to help fill out green card applications. From left to right: Rebecca Cing, Awi Kim (Cady), Kham Mung, TG Pau, Suan Khai, Lun Ngai, Ngai Ngai

saying, “This is something they have wanted to start for sometime, too.”

The idea for the ministry was hatched in recent months. Last February, Khai, his sister Cady, and three other youth, Joseph Kual, Rebecca Cing and Tuan Go Pau, traveled to Chicago for the bi-annual Lake Union

Youth Congress, an evangelism training symposium. While there, they discovered there were limited funds available to support various youth ministries. The group quickly decided to make their pitch for \$6,000.

The first hurdle was that they needed church board approval. But

their church wasn't technically a church. In fact, it was just last May that the group was formally recognized as a company, one step in the process before formal recognition as a church. Undaunted, they pressed on in prayer. They contacted leaders in the Michigan Conference who promised to help.

By the time they submitted their application to the Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE), the organization administering the funds, valuable time had passed. Two weeks later, they received a call from someone at the CYE saying they were out of funds, but that they may be able to give them \$1,500. Cady and the other youth took this as a sign that God was pleased with their walk of faith. The next week another call came from CYE, this time with news that the Lake Union leadership had decided to increase the funding to \$2,500. "I almost cried," said Cady. "I was so happy" at the thought that the project just may come to fruition.

Before long, the Michigan Conference's Adventist Community Services department advised the group they would contribute another \$3,000.

By this time, the group, made up of most of the 15 church youth along with some adults, were emboldened and had begun their own fundraising efforts, determined that it was God's plan to carry forward. They went door-to-door selling baked goods, and raised another \$1,000.

But that didn't stop the doubts from entering Cady's mind. Realizing the enormity of the project, she thought about stepping away. "I didn't feel confident to be the leader; I wasn't that spiritual," she surmised. But she began praying in earnest and came to the conclusion, "If I try my best, God will open the door and my relationship with him will be closer." Since the grand opening, Cady is buoyed by the



Awi Kim (Cady), with back to camera, teaching an ESL class.

affirmations from those they've helped and it has erased doubts she once harbored.

The impact of this youth-inspired, faith-building experience hasn't gone unnoticed. "It has thrilled my heart to see the youth getting more involved and more spiritual," says Cady, who is currently working full-time before returning to college. Where it was once difficult getting youth to come to choir practice or help out in various ministries, it's now easier. "You can definitely see the difference in our youth," says the 22-year-old.

Meanwhile, the adults are enthusiastic supporters, cheering them on from the sidelines. "We are encouraged," said Mung No, church elder, "and are encouraging them to go further."

Sb Ngaih Cin is serving as the lay pastor of the 60-member congregation and he acknowledged the young members' hard work and said that the success of this venture served as a lesson that prayer is indeed the key

that unlocks heaven's storehouse. "This couldn't have been done with our energies," Cin said while smiling as a proud father.

Ron Whitehead, youth director for the Lake Union Conference who played an integral role in lobbying for the funds, said that this is a win-win for everyone. "I am so happy that our union's youth ministries department and the local church could partner together to support this outreach evangelism vision," said Whitehead. "The Kingdom of God will grow because of their youth evangelism efforts."

The community service center is located at 2120 44th Street; hours of operation are Sunday, 11 a.m.–7 p.m.; Tuesday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; and Friday, 1 p.m.–3 p.m.

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

[UNION NEWS]

Health Initiative served Grand Rapids area refugees

Michigan—In an effort to reach the growing needs of the refugee community in Michigan, a free dental event was held in Grand Rapids on Aug. 12 and 14.

Almost two hundred people received services such as cleanings, extractions and root canals, totaling \$40,000 dollars.

Organizers of the community outreach included the Grand Rapids Central Church, along with the newly-formed Myanmar Company.

Yvette Weir, a practicing dentist, was the lead local coordinator. “I, myself, am very interested in missions and so, when there was a need for someone to coordinate, I volunteered.”

Volunteers provided translation services in five languages, including Kinyarwanda for the many Rwandan refugees.

One of the translators was Suan Khai: “I’m translating in Burmese, the national language of the people in Burma.”

A non-Adventist local dentist and volunteer, Qowsay Muharib, who hails from Iraq, was more than happy to participate. “It’s a reward in itself. You don’t need to get any compensation. It’s a good thing,” he said.

In addition to dental services, there were massage therapists and beauticians. Health educators dispensed information about the eight laws of health.

The event, held at the New Hope Baptist Church, coincided with the Rwandan camp meeting.

Each year some 600 refugees settle in West Michigan. Many come from places such as Rwanda, Burma, Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan.



Randy Griffin, DDS, director of the Lake Union’s Adventist Health Initiative with some of the 120 volunteers in Grand Rapids.



More than \$40,000 in free dental services were provided to the refugee community.

On Sunday, Aug. 21, Benton Harbor hosted its own successful health clinic at the Benton Harbor High School. Harbor of Hope, a Michigan Conference church, joined forces with Highland, a Lake Region Conference church, to provide services worth \$67,200 to 192 people.

Meanwhile, on Sunday, Aug. 28, Ephesus (Lake Region Conference) and Marion (Indiana Conference) churches served the dental needs of 80 people in the Marion community with services valued at approximately \$35,000.

Debbie Michel is associate Communication director for the Lake Union Conference.



Although health care professionals are essential, additional volunteers with a heart for service and a willing hand were encouraged to step forward.



Suan Khai (center) translated in Burmese.

[EDUCATION NEWS]

IA emphasizes project-based learning

Indiana—Indiana Academy has been purposefully evaluating what a Seventh-day Adventist education means and what it can (and probably should) look more like. This summer teachers participated in an intensive, hands-on training in how to develop and implement project-based learning (PBL), with an emphasis on service, that they believe bridges the gap between the value of service and the role of the academic classroom.

One example of the project-based learning is collecting macro invertebrates to determine the pollutant levels in the water.

“The exciting thing is that, when we’re done, our students are going to present their findings to the Cicero city clerk and a member of the Cicero Storm Water Board,” says Arthur Miller, Indiana Academy’s science teacher. “That’s the piece I’ve been missing in my classes. I’ve done projects before, but this has a component of service, of giving back to the community. That level of work is reaching the top of Bloom’s taxonomy.”

As the school year gets underway, Miller’s class isn’t the only one that’s finding ways to make service a key part of the curriculum.

Bible and history teacher Jordan Reichert has been taking his Bible III students to a local nursing home to have them practice a skill that many may have taken for granted — reading Scripture with someone they don’t know. After meeting with some of the nursing home residents and learning about their interests, Reichert’s students are developing short Bible studies to share over upcoming follow-up visits.



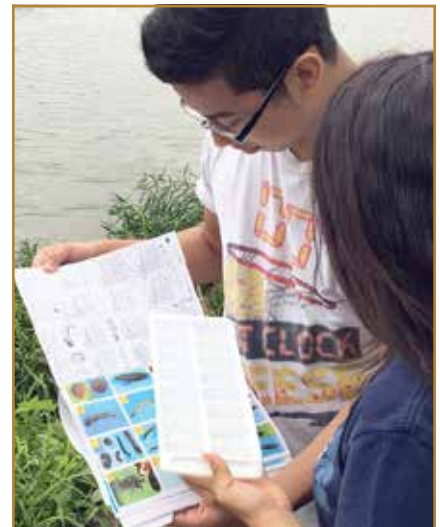
Arthur Miller gives some guidance to students as they begin collecting specimens.



Indiana Academy students gather specimens along local creek banks.

“It’s one thing to learn the theory of how to lead out in studying the Bible, it is another thing to actually do it,” says Reichert, now in his third year at Indiana Academy. “It’s still a bit of a work-in-progress, but I believe in what this approach to teaching can allow me to do in the classroom.”

More examples of PBL include: the Health class is using the principles of CREATION health to create a Healthy Choices Club. Senior Government students will be using the Spirit of Prophecy to evaluate an Adventist’s civic role and responsibility



Students compare reference guides to help identify their specimens.

as they develop and lead a voter registration drive. History students will be helping develop resources for a local park’s Native Peoples exhibit. And all of these projects are involving community partnerships, from local pastors to State representatives, as an essential part of the learning process.

“Community partners change the dynamic of the classroom,” states Ryan Steuer, the executive director for Magnify Learning who facilitated the PBL training at Indiana Academy. “Rather than rote traditional classroom work, students are now involved in

meaningful community impact. A strong PBL unit moves students from being one-dimensional test-takers to passionate world-changers by providing authentic problems that actually engage students with the learning process.”

Steve Baughman, principal of Indiana Academy, explains that, as exciting as it is to see the impact PBL is having in tying together elements of service and learning, project-based learning is nothing new. In fact, neither

is community service, and considering student-learning styles has been a trend for the better part of the last decade.

Solomon counsels us that, *What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun* (Ecclesiastes 1:9). But if this is the case, Baughman wonders, “Why does it feel like something new? Why do teachers sound so excited when I talk with them about what we’re trying to do at IA?”

The answer, he says, “Maybe it is that

some, if not many, of our Seventh-day Adventist schools have strayed too far from the counsel with which we have been blessed since the inception of our educational system. Not unlike with the health message, Seventh-day Adventist schools have the flexibility, the environment and the roadmap to provide a cutting-edge education that could be a light to the world.”

Steve Baughman is principal of Indiana Academy.

[GC NEWS]

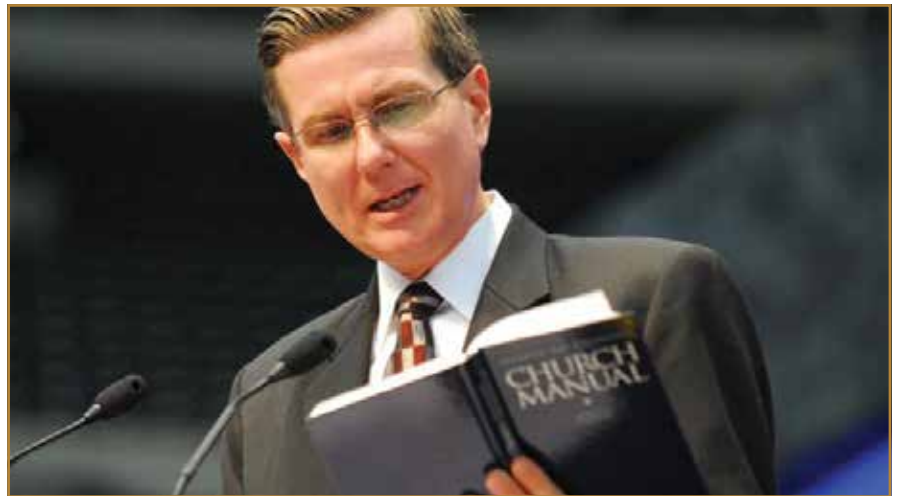
Church Manual updated after inadvertent omission

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has updated the *Church Manual* after finding that part of an amendment voted at General Conference Session last year was unintentionally excluded.

“It has come to our attention that there was omission on p.127 of the current *Church Manual*. The correction has been made, and a statement has been issued in that regard,” Hensley M. Mooroooven, associate secretary of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, said in an email to General Conference employees.

The church said in a statement on its Adventist.org website that the section on page 127 now reads: “Who May Conduct the Communion Service — The communion service is to be conducted by an ordained/*commissioned* pastor or an ordained elder. *Deacons or deaconesses are not permitted to conduct the service.*”

The italicized words were voted by delegates of the General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, in July 2015, but inadvertently omitted in the latest edition of the *Church Manual*, the statement said.



Then-undersecretary Homer Trecartin reading the Church Manual at the 2010 GC Session in Atlanta.

The *Church Manual* can only be revised during General Conference Session, which is held every five years. Many of the modifications in the latest edition were minor edits.

The *Church Manual*, first published in 1932, traces its roots to a 1875 statement by church co-founder Ellen G. White, who wrote: “The church of Christ is in constant peril. Satan is seeking to destroy the people of God, and one man’s mind, one man’s judgment, is not sufficient to be trusted. Christ would have His followers brought together in church capacity, observing order, having rules and discipline, and all subject one to another,

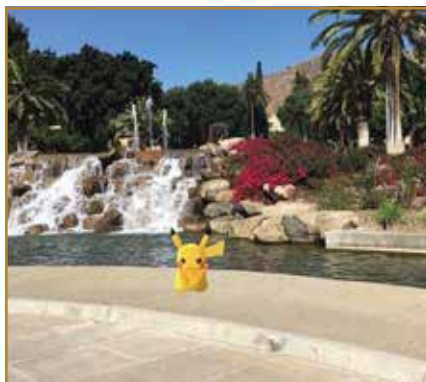
esteeming others better than themselves” (*Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 3, p. 445).

A section about the *Church Manual* on Adventist.org notes that God is a God of order and says the *Church Manual* seeks to achieve order “through principles and regulations that guide the church in its internal operations and in the fulfillment of its mission to the world.”

Both the updated version of the 2015 *Church Manual* and the statement are available at: <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/church-manual/>.

Andrew McChesney is news editor of the *Adventist Review*.

[UNION NEWS]



A July 14 tweet shows a Pikachu from "Pokémon Go" on La Sierra University's campus in Riverside, Calif.

Adventist insurer tells churches and schools not to overreact to "Pokémon Go"

Adventist Risk Management, the Seventh-day Adventist Church-owned insurer, has issued guidelines on how churches and schools should respond to "Pokémon Go" players, advising them to avoid overreacting and to seek opportunities to leave a good impression about Adventists.

"Pokémon Go," a game app that requires players to catch Pokémon characters with their mobile devices at real-life locations, has taken the gaming world by storm since its release in July.

Adventist Church-owned properties have found themselves among the places designated in the game as "PokeStops" or "Gyms," where players can claim rewards and fight battles.

Adventist Risk Management, which insures Adventist-owned properties around the world, said it has received inquiries about "what to do when trespassers come onto church or school property in search of virtual reality characters such as Pokémon."

"It can be alarming when strangers attempt to gain access to the

property who are not there to participate in church or school activities," said David Fournier, vice president and chief client care officer at Adventist Risk Management. "Also churches and schools want to avoid being held liable for the injury of a player who hurts themselves exploring their property."

Fournier, in a statement on the Adventist Risk Management website, offered four tips for churches and schools dealing with Pokémon players:

1. **Do not overreact:** Most of these people are just innocent gamers who may not have clearly thought through their actions. Others may simply have no respect for property, private or otherwise. Some players are children and must be treated gently and with care. The law holds children at a different level of accountability than an adult. If you do detain or restrain them, you may find yourself in more trouble than they are.
2. **Request removal of PokeStop or Gym:** You may want to visit the "Pokémon Go" website to seek removal of a PokeStop or Gym from your property. At the "Pokémon Go" website, click on the "Support" feature.
3. **Post "No Trespassing" signs:** Do this in addition to the removal request in item two, indicating that the

person is entering private property and trespassers, who do not have business here, are not welcome. In the context of a church, this should be worded carefully to indicate that people are welcome to visit and attend church, but using the property for personal reasons is not allowed.

4. **Coordinate with local law enforcement:** Coordinate with local law enforcement if you do have trespassers on the property. Do not take the law into your hands, or put yourself or colleagues in danger by instigating a hostile encounter.

The Adventist Church has not commented on the merits of "Pokémon Go" and the Pokémon media franchise, which has been around since 1995. But Fournier noted that "Pokémon Go" players could make their first contact with the church through the game.

"Perhaps there is an opportunity here to create a positive impression of Adventists and your ministry to community members who come across your church or school through this game," Fournier said. "Consider the safety and liability issues at stake, but also take the opportunity to make a positive impression in your community."

Andrew McChesney is news editor of the *Adventist Review*.



Compassion shown to Chicago residents

Inspired by a NAD initiative geared toward spreading compassion throughout the community, Lake Union iShare partnered with Chicagoland Adventist Community Services of Lake Region Conference to show God's love to the residents of Chicago.

On Labor Day weekend, more than 40 volunteers, nearly half from Great Lakes Adventist Academy and some from as far as California, divided into various teams — a group labored in two South Side community gardens while another group disseminated more than 200,000 tracts in neighborhoods and central places such as Millennium Park and the Planetarium. Another team painted inside the facility of the RTW Veteran's Center, an organization serving more than 3,000 meals monthly to homeless veterans.

Joe Reeves, pastor and director of iShare Lake Union, participated in the four-day mission trip and said the Veteran's Center head gardener was amazed at the amount of work done to mow, weed and mulch the gardens, remarking that more was done in the weekend than they had been able to accomplish all summer long. Reeves said he told him, "The angels must have been working with us."

Many people were grateful for the GLOW tracts distributed, an effort spearheaded by David Pano of the Michigan Conference. GLOW, Giving Light to Our World, is a ministry focused on spreading hope through small, easy-to-read tracts.

Donald Owen handed a GLOW tract to a homeless woman selling bottles of water. She gave him a bottle of water and stood up to hug him. When Nathanael



Felicia Datus

Over 200,000 GLOW tracts were distributed across Chicago on Labor Day weekend. Volunteers came from Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Andrews University, and as far away as California.



Alejandro Sanchez

Volunteers laid the groundwork for a community garden in the South Side of Chicago. The garden is expected to help feed homeless veterans.

Suero gave a GLOW tract to a lady she at first walked away, but quickly turned around telling him that something was telling her she needed this. A passerby who received a tract ended up helping a missionary hand out tracts and left with the contact information of a nearby Adventist church.

Despite the challenges that the city of Chicago faces, hope is sure to spring in someone's heart as a result of GLOW missionaries who believe that "God calls for message-filled books,

magazines, and tracts to be scattered everywhere like the leaves of autumn. As church members unite with literature evangelists in spreading the good news, the task will be accomplished" (*Publishing Ministry*, p. 5). Chicagoland Adventist Community Services and Shiloh Church generously provided lodging and food for the volunteers during the weekend.

Felicia Datus is communication director for iShare, which stands for I Seek to Help Advance Revival and Evangelism.



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 University's Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the inauguration of Andrea Luxton as the University's sixth president. You are invited to join the University community via livestream for this ceremony of dedication and commitment on Tues., **Oct. 25**, at 10:30 a.m. EST at <http://andrews.edu/livestream>. William Johnsson, past executive publisher of *Adventist Review* and former Seminary professor, will have the inaugural address, with a response by President Luxton.

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, or on its website at <https://howard.andrews.edu/events/>. Please verify dates and times of programs as these events are subject to change.

- Oct. 1, 8:00 p.m.:** Alumni Gala
- Oct. 9, 4:00 p.m.:** Sunday Music Series – Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra. Virtuosity is the order of the day in this concert of stunning showpieces from Eastern Europe. Acclaimed trumpet soloist Jose Sibaja – familiar to audiences from his appearances on *The Tonight Show*, Conan O'Brien and *Saturday Night Live*, as well as countless performances as lead trumpet with Boston Brass – will join SMSO in Arutunian's dazzling *Trumpet Concerto*. (Tickets required.)
- Oct. 23, 4:00 p.m.:** Wind Symphony Concert (Tickets required.)
- Oct. 29, 8:00 p.m.:** Symphony Orchestra Concert (Tickets required.)
- Oct. 30, 7:00 p.m.:** Howard Center Presents – Moriah Peters. Moriah Peters delivers a cutting edge, energetic sound that confidently carries a message that resonates with both the young and the young at heart. Her

sophomore release is a powerful collection on anthemic and melodic songs that challenge us to boldly live out our faith as Christians. (Tickets required.)

- Nov. 12, 8:00 p.m.:** Veteran's Day Choral Concert
- Nov. 13, 4:00 p.m.:** Sunday Music Series – Wendy Markosky, Organ. Wendy Markosky is professor of music and music department co-chair at Burman University in Lacombe, Alberta, Canada, and also serves as organist of the university church. She holds undergraduate degrees in biology and music, and earned doctoral and master's degrees in organ from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University-Bloomington. While resident there, she also studied harpsichord and carillon, was an associate instructor of music theory for five years, and served as university chapel organist.
- Nov. 18, 7:00 p.m.:** Charles Reid Studio Concert
- Nov. 19, 8:00 p.m.:** Wind Symphony Holiday Concert (Tickets required.)
- Nov. 20, 7:00 p.m.:** Howard Center Presents – Camerata Milwaukee. First conceived in 2010, Camerata Milwaukee was created to enrich the Baroque scene in the Milwaukee area. The ensemble, comprised of young professional musicians, specializes in repertoire from the Baroque era. (Tickets required.)

Lake Union

Offerings

- Oct. 1** Local Church Budget
- Oct. 8** Voice of Prophecy/ La Voz de la Esperanza
- Oct. 15** Local Church Budget
- Oct. 22** Local Conference Advance
- Oct. 29** NAD Evangelism

Special Days

- Oct. 1** Children's Sabbath
- Oct. 15** Spirit of Prophecy Sabbath
- Oct. 22** Pathfinder Sabbath

Michigan

"Family First" Family Retreat: This weekend, **Oct. 21-23**, is all about putting our families first. Learn new ways to make the Sabbath more special, put fun into your family worships, improve communication skills, and build strong connections through family meals, fun nights and outreach. We will have multiple presenters this year, sharing different ways to draw our families together and help us be ready for Christ's soon return. Open to families (single parents, grandparents, new members, etc.). Housing is based on family size, and guest rooms will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information or to register, call Alyce at 517-316-1543. To download an application, go to <http://www.misda.org> (Family Life).

Habitat for Humanity Reset 5K Fundraising Run. Come join us Sun., **Nov. 6**, at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy for a 5K fundraising run. Registration begins at 12:00 p.m. and the race begins with a 1-mile fun run at 2:00 p.m. The fee for the 5K comes with post-race refreshments and a tech shirt. For more information, call the school at 616-791-9797, or Burney Culpepper, principal, at 601-688-0043. We look forward to seeing you at GRAA!

Crystal Mountain Marriage Retreat will be held at Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville, Mich., **Nov. 11-13**. Delicious vegetarian buffet style meals (vegan options). Starts Friday night with dinner followed by the first meeting. Sabbath has three meetings. These are designed to help encourage/strengthen your marriage. The afternoon is open to enjoy time alone together. Sabbath evening is Date Night. Sunday morning has one more session. Our presenters this year are Buddy and Carmen Griffith, Family Ministries leaders from Southwestern Union Conference. They have been working with family/marriage counseling and presenting seminars for over 30 years. To register or for more information, call Alyce at 517-316-

1543. To download an application, go to <http://www.misda.org> (Family Life).

North American Division

Sandia View Academy – Spanish American Seminary Alumni Reunion, Oct. 6-8. Honor classes: 5-year, 10-year and 25-year. Golf Tournament Friday morning. For more information, contact Paul Chavez, president, Alumni Assoc. Inc., at 505-899-4181 or 505-304-3885; or Jerry Ruybalid ('54) at 405-570-3833.

Middag Legacy: All are invited to join us at Camp Kulaqua, **Jan. 13-15, 2017**, for a weekend of honoring Norm and Barbara Middag! Plans are being made to expand the nature center in their honor. Rekindle old friendships, or show your appreciation of the Middags. There is a cost for the weekend. For more information and to register, call 386-454-1351 or email rescentral@floridacamps.org.

Wisconsin

Mark Your Calendars for "Journey to Bethlehem" Christmas Pageant! Join us **Dec. 9 or 10** for a live, dramatic retelling of the birth of Jesus. On a short walk, you'll experience the bustling Jerusalem marketplace, the song of angels on the Bethlehem hillsides, the crowded inn, the observatory of the Magi, and the simplicity of the stable where the newborn Savior sleeps. "Journey to Bethlehem" takes place on the campus of Wisconsin Academy, N2355 DuBorg Rd., Columbus. For more information, contact us at 920-623-3300.

Alumni Homecoming 2017 at Wisconsin Academy: Whether it's been many years since you marched down the aisle to "Pomp and Circumstance" or only a few, we welcome you to spend the weekend of **April 21-23** at Wisconsin Academy celebrating what God has done and is continuing to do in our lives. We will be honoring the classes of 1947, '57, '67, '77, '87, '92, '97 and 2007. Watch for updates on Facebook at <http://www.wisacad.org/alumni/alumni-weekend> or call us at 920-623-3300. See you there!

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.

Anniversaries



John and Ruth Ann Copin celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 21, 2016, by having an open house hosted by their children at their home in Augusta, Mich. They have been members of the Urbandale (Mich.) Church for 43 years.

John Copin Jr. and Ruth Ann Van Houten were married Aug. 21, 1966, in Lansing, Mich., by Merlin Foll. John has been a physical therapist with specialty in Traumatic Brain Injury, retiring June 2012. Ruth Ann has been a homemaker and dental hygienist, retiring Dec. 2011.

The Copin family includes Janelle and Jay Gaban of Berrien Springs, Mich.; the late Jeffrey Copin; Gregory and Cherie Copin of Portage, Mich.; and three grandchildren.

Lewis and Annette Reed celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 17, 2016, by an open house in the Urbandale Church fellowship hall, Battle Creek, Mich. They have been members of the Lansing/Urbandale Church for 44 years.

Lewis Reed and Annette Mallen were married July 16, 1966, in Lansing, Mich., by Alli Johnston. Lewis has been a Polysomnographer, retiring in 2007. Annette has been a LPN, retiring in 2004.

The Reed family includes Laura VanOrsdal of Battle Creek; Rebekah Reed of Battle Creek; and two grandchildren.

Obituaries

BOONE, Shirley A. (Danneffel), age 70; born May 29, 1946, in Watervliet, Mich.; died June 2, 2016, in Kalamazoo, Mich. She was a member of the Hartford (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Charles; sons, Todd and Chad Hammond; sister, Jeannine Kerbs; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by William Richardson, Greg Timmons and Doug Clayton, with private inurnment, Coloma, Mich.

FERREE, Delores B. (Johnson), age 88; born March 4, 1928, in Milwaukee, Wis.; died Aug. 23, 2016, in Jeffersonville, Ind. She was a member of the Indiana Conference Church.

Survivors include her husband, John; son, Darrell; daughters, Rhonda Monroe, Rosanne Grove and Carol Ferree; sister, Marilyn Dellinger; seven grandchildren; and four step-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be conducted in November by John Dellinger, with private inurnment in Needmore Cemetery, Charlotte, Mich.

FIVASH, L. Weldon, age 93; born March 2, 1923, in Harrisburg, Ill.; died May 19, 2016, in Forest City, Fla. He was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn (Wein); brother, Matthew J. Sr.; and sister, MaryAnn Johnson.

Inurnment was in Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Fla.

FIVASH, Marilyn (Wein), age 90; born June 29, 1926, in Chicago Heights, Ill.; died

Aug. 19, 2016, in Astatula, Fla. She was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Inurnment was in Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Fla.

FITZPATRICK, Larry E., age 64; born June 28, 1952, in Detroit, Mich.; died July 15, 2016, in Green Bay, Wis. He was a member of the Green Bay Church.

Survivors include his wife, Holly; son, Cory; daughter, Christy Fitzpatrick; father, William; mother, Florence (Poole); half-brother, Ted Fitzpatrick; sister, Jesse Fitzpatrick; half-sister, Claudia Fitzpatrick; and four grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by William J. Ochs, with private inurnment, Green Bay.

KIND, Alvin, age 88; born Aug. 15, 1927, in Waukesha, Wis.; died May 3, 2016, in Waukesha. He was a member of the Waukesha Community Church, New Berlin, Wis.

Survivors include his wife, Beverly J. (Lucht); his sons, Gary and Allen; daughter, Lucinda Croft; and six grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Nate Skaife, and interment was in Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Union Grove, Wis.

RACINE, Harold V. "Hal," age 79; born Feb. 3, 1937, in Pontiac, Mich.; died Aug. 18, 2016, in Loma Linda, Calif. He was a member of the Pontiac and Ithaca (Mich.) Churches.

Survivors include his son, Jeffrey; daughter, Judy Racine; brother, Edwin "Bud"; sister, Helen Jacobs; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Family services were conducted, and interment was in Rich Township Cemetery, Mayville, Mich.

STOCK, Donna M. (Presti), age 68; born Oct. 2, 1947, in Milwaukee, Wis.; died April 25, 2016, in Green Bay, Wis. She was a member of the Green Bay Church.

Survivors include her sons, Jimmy Presti, and Raymond and Allan Stock; daughters, Vicki Verheyen, Jolene Dunham and Cheri Murray; brothers, Frank and Robert Presti; sisters, Linda Wojciehowski, Debbie Russell, Cindy Enelow and Sheila Kiedrowski; 23 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by William J. Ochs, with private inurnment, Green Bay.

STRASSLER, Adam, age 50; born March 18, 1966, in Terre Haute, Ind.; died April 7, 2016, in Terre Haute. He was a member of the Terre Haute Church.

Survivors include his wife, Olga; sons, Brandy, Liam, Connor, Zack, Lucas and Caleb; father, Max; mother, Mary Mouser; brothers, Ross and Phil; and three grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted, with private inurnment.

TINGLEY, Lola A. (Doran), age 99; born June 24, 1917, in Martinsville, Ill.; died June 25, 2016, in Casey, Ill. She was the oldest member of the Terre Haute (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Karon Tyhurst; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Daniel McKibben, and interment was in Ridgeland Cemetery, Martinsville.

WILDMAN, Elizabeth (Gluckleder), age 90; born Nov. 11, 1925, in Freising, Germany; died July 3, 2016, in Terre Haute, Ind. She was a member of the Terre Haute Church.

Survivors include her sons, Louis and Richard; and brother, Ludwig Gluckleder.

Funeral services were conducted by Herb Wrate, and interment was in Terre Haute Cemetery.

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28	Nov 4	Nov 11
Berrien Springs, Mich.	7:18	7:06	6:55	6:45	6:36	5:29
Chicago, Ill.	6:23	6:11	6:00	5:51	5:42	4:34
Detroit, Mich.	7:04	6:53	6:42	6:32	6:22	5:15
Indianapolis, Ind.	7:18	7:07	6:57	6:48	6:40	5:33
La Crosse, Wis.	6:36	6:24	6:12	6:02	5:52	4:44
Lansing, Mich.	7:10	6:58	6:47	6:37	6:28	5:20
Madison, Wis.	6:29	6:17	6:06	5:56	5:46	4:38
Springfield, Ill.	6:32	6:21	6:11	6:02	5:54	4:47

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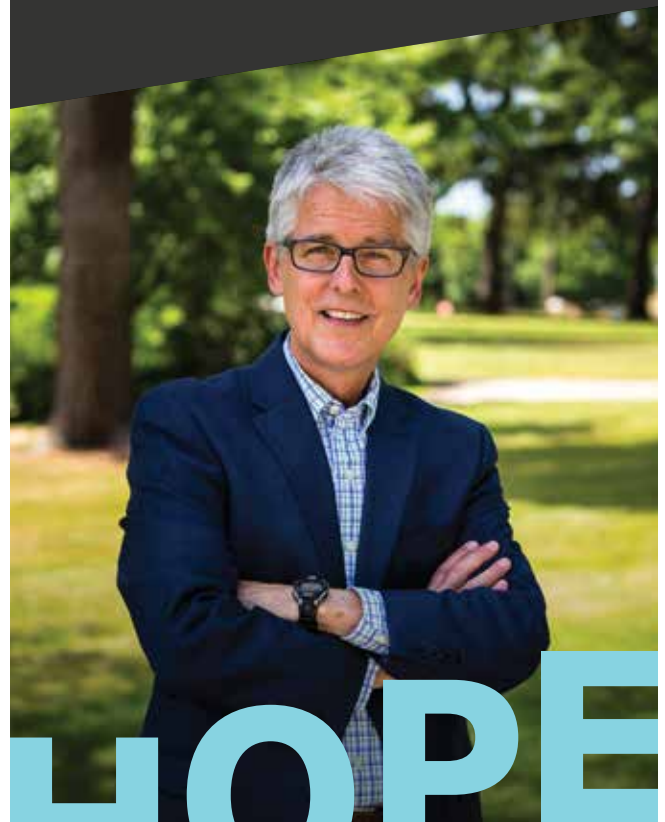
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music and spoken word. Come celebrate God's blessings past and present through heartfelt songs of victory in Christ. In addition to being an active musician/educator in Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, and Andrews University as an adjunct voice instructor, he has recorded/appeared on 3ABN and performed as soloist at the 2010 GC in Atlanta. For more information, contact Vladimir at vladoslavujevic@yahoo.com or call 269-473-2826. Appointments accepted through Dec. 31.

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**COMMISSION
ON
CULTURE**

SHARING CHRIST IN ACADEMIA

BY SHANDELLE M. HENSON

Sharing the gospel in the world of academia and research requires *credibility, authenticity* and *integrity*. In this context, credibility means having a reputation as a credible scholar in the wider academic community. It means eschewing mediocrity. Authenticity means living and articulating the gospel in deeply genuine, personal ways. Authenticity arises from a long-term, careful process of thinking through faith and coming to own it. Integrity refers to the intentional reflection upon ethics, the honest appraisal of new information, the struggle toward honesty of inward thought and outward action, and the attempt to live a consistent lifestyle, true to oneself. Credibility, authenticity and integrity are important when sharing the gospel in the wider intellectual world as well as with students in an Adventist university.

I have many hopes for my students, and three of these are particularly dear. First, I hope they will experience the immensity yet closeness of God and sink deep roots of faith that support lofty but humble, supple branches. With such depth and humility, no amount of learning can threaten their security in the love of Christ. Second, I hope they will delight and wonder at the miraculous abilities human beings have to create and to reason. The humble, reverent pursuit of excellence in these activities will lead them deeper into worship and the presence of God. Third, I hope they will long to make God's world a better place.

May we lavishly spread the grace of Christ to every person and to all of God's creation wherever we go.

Shandelle M. Henson is chair of the Andrews University Department of Mathematics.

The Tent

BY SAMUEL SAINT-PHARD

In seventh grade, I participated as a singer and greeter in The Tent, an event coordinated by seventh- and eighth-graders at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School on the campus of Andrews University. I remember my mom telling me that I was going to be one of the preachers the following year. I ignored her and turned to whisper, “That’ll be the day.”

My eighth-grade year, my heart was pounding as I signed up for a class in Evangelism. I was sitting in English when Mr. D, my Evangelism teacher, called me. I was excited as he told me that I was in his class. In that moment, I knew that my mother was right and that the Lord wanted me to do this.

Preaching day arrived. As the praise team was singing their set, I noticed I wasn’t too nervous, aside from my throat closing up and my legs shaking. But when I got on the stage, my nerves calmed down.

To me, the best part about preaching this sermon was that I was able to share the Word of God that touched people’s hearts. Rather than being stationary and reading my sermon word for word, I was able to be very interactive with the audience. I could feel the power of the Holy Spirit in the tent.

Participating in The Tent gave me a new perspective on God. Hearing the sermons saved me.

I used to only read the Bible once a week, but after The Tent [experience], I started reading again. In fact, I read the Book of Proverbs. Participating in The Tent rejuvenated



Samuel Saint-Phard

me spiritually. It also helped with my relationship towards my church. Before, I would not attend Sabbath school since it was too early for the morning person I am not. But I started going again and it made me happy. Seeing my friends in the summer, helping out in singing and participating in table groups to learn more about God moved me. I enjoy all of it.

I’m glad I was able to get involved in my church. Before The Tent, I did preach in two different churches

for Children’s Day and had never realized that I could be a blessing to other students and teachers in my school. I understand now that you can serve your church, no matter what your age is and what your skills are.

In conclusion, I believe I was drastically changed by this experience. Although I constantly sin and feel unworthiness of God’s grace, I know that he still loves me. Jeremiah 1:5 says, *Before I formed you in the womb I knew you*, meaning that God already knew that I was going to preach and that I was going to be baptized! God knew these things in advance. And even if I don’t know what will happen in the future, God can already see it.

Samuel Saint-Phard currently attends Andrews Academy.

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Contributors: Writer guidelines are available online at <http://herald.lakeunion.org>.

Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

Letting God Lead

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

Don Magbanua, a 2014 theology alumnus from Andrews University, now serves in Tunisia as the programs coordinator for Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).



Don Magbanua

“The fact that I’m still standing, nine months after being put in charge of all of ADRA’s operations in Tunisia on one year’s worth of experience, is certainly testimony that God can use anyone!” he says, laughing.

Working in partnership with Tunisia’s Ministry of Labor, ADRA’s work in Tunisia currently focuses on helping unemployed young people. The country’s population is 10 million and the unemployment rate for people ages 18–35 is 25–30 percent. ADRA, led by Don, operates a training center designed to provide not only skills training and coaching, but space for working on résumés and job applications.

“We help them find jobs to apply for, show them how to fill out applications, and coach them on interviewing, then give them space to practice and work,” Don explains.

ADRA also is currently working with the local government and the United Nations to improve the economic independence of area refugees, helping them become more self-reliant as they integrate into their new society.

His appointment in Tunisia didn’t happen by chance. Three study tours with Andrews to the Middle East — two to Lebanon and one to Palestine — affirmed his decision to serve in an Arab country.

“We spent a lot of time studying, but there was also an intense emphasis on service,” recalls Don. “It really helped me understand we’re here to change the world through the skills we acquire. I think about that a lot while I work here — through all the ups and downs, we’re here to provide our best to the people.”

Don was named programs coordinator about a year-and-a-half after graduating from college. He is confident, not necessarily in his own abilities, but in God, whom he believes placed him in this position of leadership and responsibility for a purpose.

“If it was just me, everything would have crashed and burned,” he says with a chuckle. “But God makes it work. He steps into every difficult situation and confirms that he’s making use of some young guy over here in Tunisia, and I’m just thankful to be available for him.”

Becky St. Clair is the media communications manager at Andrews University.

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