

HERALD

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MARCH 2022

FATHER OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION
GOODLOE HARPER BELL

WHOLISTIC EDUCATION THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE
JESUS IN CHRIST IS THE REASON

MIND
BODY & SPIRIT

BATTLE CREEK

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TEACHER NINETEEN



Jean-Irès Michel

A few weeks into the new school year, I ran into my daughter’s principal, Mario Ferguson. I had read of the academy’s enrollment growth and was curious to hear the reason. Expecting him to list some things I’d suspected—parents didn’t want their kids in a virtual setting, students found online learning challenging, affordability due to a more generous child tax credit, I was surprised by his response. “Prayer,” he said simply. “I’m at the academy early each day and pray with whomever is here, usually it’s the custodian.”

We often hear reports of Adventist Christian education in dire straits, and I can’t help but wonder, are we praying enough? We—and I, too, am guilty of this—tend to over-complicate life’s challenges. But I’m reminded, never get bored with the basics. Success comes when we cling to the Cross consistently and never lose hope in God’s promises. ■

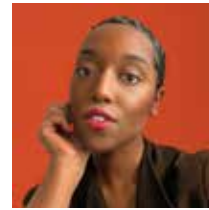
Debbie

Debbie Michel
Editor, *Lake Union Herald*

CONTRIBUTORS



Emily Gibbs has taught in the Michigan Conference for the past 10 years—in both peninsulas, and in both elementary and secondary classrooms. See her article on Nurturing STEM Growth on p. 26. Emily currently juggles several roles: Great Lakes Adventist Academy Religion IV teacher, mom to a toddler, and pastor’s wife.



Our cover illustration was created by **Courtney Saunders**, a newly minted graphic design graduate of Andrews University.



Sandra Mendez has been a professional photographer and photography/art instructor in the Chicago and Indiana region for the past 25 years. Her work has been exhibited nationally and showcases her life story.



Christa McConnell is a portrait photographer in the Indianapolis area. At any given time, you can catch her editing photos or planning her next photo shoot.



Jason Lounds has an MFA in Fine Art Photography and is a high school art, photography and Spanish teacher. He lives in the Lansing area with his wife and two children.



Fourteen-year-old **Samuel Girven**, student at ASPIRE Academy and Northview Adventist School, serves as assistant communication secretary for the Cadillac Church. Samuel covered the GYC conference in Houston; his stories are at lakeunionherald.org.



Christina Rogers graduates Andrews University in May with a BFA in photography and plans to start a career as a photographer.



With 50-plus years as a professional freelance writer, **Betty Kossick** was our most experienced contributor. Sadly, Betty passed away on Feb. 2, 2022, at age 90. She was an award-winning journalist for the *Cadillac News*. Betty wrote several stories for this issue, including the cover feature on the 150th anniversary of Battle Creek Academy (p. 14).



Renee Coffee just retired after working 45 years as a teacher and an associate education superintendent in the Michigan and Indiana conferences. By the way, we asked you to share your one-room school experience and you delivered! As space allowed, we included many of those stories in her article on p. 20.



Rayno Victor is studying Religion and Photography at Andrews University. He serves as media director of the Harbor of Hope Church.



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COVER ILLUSTRATION: Courtney Saunders

ON THIS PAGE: A STEM student at Downers Grove, Ill.

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Something Better

I first became aware of Dr. Thomas Geraty when I was attending Andrews University and the *AU Student Movement* did a story on him and his role as chairman of the Education Department. What stood out for me in the story was the picture of him on a ladder, painting the exterior of one of the buildings on campus.



▲ Ken Denslow

The article shared that he had the philosophy that it was important for all—students and faculty—to engage in manual labor, something he did for the university every week.

Later, I had the privilege of taking a class from him—Fundamentals of Education. I don't remember everything he said in that class, but I *DO* remember that he said there would be this question on the final exam: What is the watchword of education? The answer to that question is found in Ellen White's little book, *Education*, p. 296.

She writes: "Something better" is the watchword of education, the law of all true living. Whatever Christ asks us to renounce, He offers in its stead something better. Often the youth cherish objects, pursuits, and pleasures that may not appear to be evil, but that fall short of the highest good. They divert the life from its noblest aim. Arbitrary measures or direct denunciation may not avail in leading

these youth to relinquish that which they hold dear. Let them be directed to something better than display, ambition, or self-indulgence. Bring them in contact with truer beauty, with loftier principles, and with nobler lives. Lead them to behold the One 'altogether lovely.' When once the gaze is fixed upon Him, the life finds its center. The enthusiasm, the generous devotion, the passionate ardor of the youth find here their true object. Duty becomes a delight and sacrifice a pleasure. To honor Christ, to become like Him, to work for Him, is the life's highest ambition and its greatest joy."

In writing this editorial, I stumbled upon a bio for Dr. Geraty found in the *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists* and learned more about him than I ever had before. You might enjoy reading the entire article found at <https://encyclopedia.adventist.org/article?id=48DG> where you

THE ADVENTIST EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM WAS FOUNDED AND BUILT BY GIANTS OF WHICH TOM GERATY WAS ONLY ONE.

will find more detail of the very personal sacrifices that he and his wife, Hazel, made in pursuing the educational mission of the Adventist Church.

The bio concludes with this:

“Thomas Geraty was widely known and respected for his passionate commitment to the ideals of Adventist education and the practical ways that he found to put these into practice in the Church’s schools and colleges. His mission service was given in two very difficult fields of service where sensitive cross-cultural understanding and communication were critical. His educational leadership in China during the communist revolution helped ensure the continuance of the Church’s educational program during a politically disruptive period. His contribution to the development and strengthening of accreditation policy frameworks and to the establishment of graduate programs at Andrews University provided a strengthened, enduring foundation for the development of Adventist education. Later, at Andrews University, he played an important role in helping launch the institution’s first doctoral study programs in education.”

The Adventist educational system was founded and built by giants of which Tom Geraty was only one. But even larger than these personalities are the educational principles that they expounded and lived their lives by. As we celebrate Adventist education in this month’s *Lake Union Herald*, let’s remember the grand experiment of



Courtesy of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Archives

▲ Thomas Geraty

Adventist education that so many have committed to and sacrificed to build. You might even pull out that little book, *Education*, and see what other good things it has to say. ■

Ken Denslow is president of the Lake Union Conference.

Making Our Homes a Place of Healing

Late last fall, a colleague and I were trained as practitioners through the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development on Trust-Based Relational Intervention, thanks to a grant from local community partners.



▲ Ingrid Weiss Slikkers

It had been a dream of ours for years as we witnessed how this model helped children, especially those from “hard places” as Dr. Purvis herself calls it. One of the initial requirements for the training was to participate in the Adult Attachment Interview. This interview helps further understand how one was parented and subsequently how one will parent. Additionally, it gives insight into how one interacts with intimate relationships, especially in understanding, preventing and safeguarding oneself from perceived dangers within relationships.

My interview concluded by verbally processing it with a highly trained research scientist. She gave me insight into understanding the difference between *instrumental* and *nurturing* care. She described instrumental care as involving material things such as attending a child’s event, assuring music lessons, purchasing a new toy, or taking children on a trip. Then she said, “Nurturing care means connecting heart to heart, such as sharing and laughing at a private joke, snuggling after a long day, and looking someone in the eyes and telling them something you love about them.” She concluded by saying, “Although both instrumental and nurturing care are necessary for children’s development, nurturing care is the type that helps children heal and teaches them how to connect with others in their lives and in the future with friends, teachers, co-workers, and even romantic partners.”

Further training weeks later helped me to apply this interview clinically in supporting students and others as to how vital it is to understand how our parents (or

caregivers) did or did not show attached care. Knowing that if we received it, we could give that type of care to others. But even more importantly, comprehending that if we didn’t get it, we can progressively work on it as a purposeful skill.

As I thought about parenting today that is intentional in many ways, especially within Christian circles, I wondered whether the focus tended to be on the instrumental care areas instead of the nurturing areas. I paused to contemplate that if the true value lies in the *nurturing* care, what intentional and focused things are we doing to grow and strengthen this?

With this learning also came a deep pause spiritually. God’s desire is deep healing relationships amongst His people, and He models what He desires to have with us as well. My professional field is affirming the value of engaged nurturing care that could only originate from the One Healing Source. He wants to not only provide instrumental care, but also nurturing care.

As we approach spring, how can we intentionally pause to notice God’s *nurturing* care of us, *not just* instrumental and, in turn, pause long enough to give that to those around us, especially children? ■

Sources: <https://child.tcu.edu/about-us/tbri/#sthash.OJhgPONfdpbs>
George, C., Kaplan, N., & Main, M. (1996). Adult attachment interview. Unpublished Manuscript
Steele, H., & Steele, M. (Eds.). (2008). *Clinical applications of the adult attachment interview*. Guilford Press.

Ingrid Weiss Slikkers, LCSW, LMSW, CCTP, assistant professor of Social Work; director of the International Center for Trauma Education and Care, Andrews University School of Social Work.

Moved with Compassion

Many times the Bible says that Jesus was *moved with compassion*. The Latin root of compassion has a different meaning than sympathy or pity. It means co-suffering.

Christ did not just feel “sorry for” but He felt “sorry with” the ones with whom He came in contact. The sense of the word is stronger than just a feeling. It includes the desire to relieve suffering.

Christ truly bears our griefs and carries our sorrows (Isaiah 53:4). He is touched with the feeling of our infirmities because He lives them with us and gave His life to strengthen us in life’s storms, teach us a better way, and breathe life, health and hope into our lives so we can “touch” others.

While in lockdown [due to COVID-19 pandemic], many millions experienced what is known as “touch deprivation.” We know from studies of orphans that touch is as vital to human life as food, clothing and shelter. Babies deprived of touch die. Touch releases oxytocin, a hormone of well-being that lowers stress. Lack of touch increases isolation, stress, depression and loss of context in life.

Touch deprivation. Just a touch on the shoulder or a handshake can mean so much but, deprived of that in a lockdown, we must touch with our eyes and our tone of voice, or by reaching out in some way. We must look for eye contact and give the look that touches. If you know someone who lives alone, “touch” them.

Afflictions are a part of life, especially for those who carry a great burden for souls. There is no height of piety that releases us from the grief and sorrow that can be associated with this burden. Otherwise, why would we need the God of hope and the Spirit of comfort? Otherwise, how could we genuinely carry a burden for souls and grieve over our own shortcomings and need?

“All who in this world render true service to God or man receive a preparatory training in the school of sorrow. The weightier the trust and the higher the

service, the closer is the test and the more severe the discipline. (*Education*, p. 151)

It is because Christ is building into our own experience what it is to be “moved with compassion,” to genuinely touch rather than just feeling sympathy or empathy. This extends then to those who are “out of the way, suffering, sinful, unlovable.”

May God teach us His touch. ■



▲ Vicki Griffin

Vicki Griffin is director of Health Ministries/Lifestyle Matters, Michigan Conference.



Educational Explosion

From childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 2 Tim. 3:15, NASB



▲ George R. Knight

We might call the 1890s the decade of Adventist education. Beginning with the revival at Minneapolis in 1888 and running up through the start of the educational reformation at the Harbor Springs Convention in 1891 and flowing into the Avondale experiment and the elementary school movement, the 1890s would shape Adventism educationally for the rest of its stay on earth.

And we haven't even yet talked about the mission explosion of the 1890s that took Adventism and its educational system quite literally to every corner of the globe. Nor have we explored the impact of the Avondale model on Adventist schools in other parts of the world.

One small aspect of that influence was the making of Adventist education at the secondary and higher education levels into a largely rural system. E.A. Sutherland and P.T. Morgan, for example, transferred Battle Creek College from its restricted campus to the

"wilds" of Berrien Springs, Michigan, where it became Emmanuel Missionary College in 1901. Likewise, the directors of Healdsburg College moved the institution during the early twentieth century to the top of Howell Mountain, where it became Pacific Union College. Not only were the institutions isolated from the problems of the city (as students at Pacific Union College in the early 1960s, we quipped that the school was located 10 miles from the nearest known sin), but they were both built on hundreds of acres of land.

And so it was with Adventist education around the world. The reverberations from Avondale have never ceased. And they have had some interesting side effects. As population increases have expanded the cities and pressured land prices, Seventh-day Adventist schools often find themselves on priceless property holdings that they could never hope to purchase in today's market.

God has led His people in unique and special ways. When we survey the various aspects of the Adventist program around the world, we can only praise His name for the guidance He has given in our past history. Now we need to pray that we might have the conviction and the courage to follow His direction in present history.

Father, help us to be as responsive to your leading as the reformers of past eras. ■

George R. Knight is a retired professor of Church History at the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. This article is from his book, Lest We Forget, a daily devotional, published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, page 310. Reprinted with permission.



Wikipedia

▲ Pacific Union College's old campus in Healdsburg, California.

Dios nos llama a servir

“En aquellos días, unos profetas descendieron de Jerusalén a Antioquía. Y levantándose uno de ellos llamado Agabo, daba a entender por el Espíritu que vendría una gran hambre en toda la tierra habitada; la cual sobrevino en tiempo de Claudio. Entonces los discípulos, cada uno conforme a lo que tenía, determinaron enviar un socorro a los hermanos que habitaban en Judea; lo cual en efecto hicieron, enviándolo a los ancianos por mano de Bernabé y de Saulo.” Hechos 11:28-30

Este relato en el libro de Hechos me dio la respuesta a la siguiente pregunta: ¿Cómo era el ambiente cristiano en el tiempo de los apóstoles? Como dice el pasaje, surgió una necesidad que pondría en peligro la vida de miles de personas. El profeta Agabo anunció que vendría una gran hambre que cubriría todo el mundo conocido, es decir, el imperio romano. En aquel tiempo no existían servicios de ayuda de parte del gobierno como ocurre hoy en nuestro país. La gente vivía por medio del cultivo de productos alimenticios o bien los compraban. Es posible que el hambre haya sido el resultado de una gran sequía que afectó la agricultura y la ganadería.

Esta necesidad se presentó a los apóstoles. ¿Qué podían hacer ellos? Tal vez orar para que Dios mandara lluvia como ocurrió cuando oró Elías. Orar para que Dios les diera el poder de multiplicar los panes y los peces como lo hizo Jesús. Otra opción pudiese haber sido decir: “No vamos a preocuparnos por los demás; nos encargaremos más bien de cuidar a nuestras familias aquí en Antioquía todo lo que podamos, y pondremos a los demás en las manos de Dios”. Gracias a Dios, su reacción fue algo totalmente distinta. Respondieron a esta necesidad en base a las siguientes preguntas: ¿Quiénes están en necesidad? ¿Qué podemos hacer para ayudar? ¿A quiénes enviaremos?

A la Iglesia Adventista se le ha presentado la oportunidad de dar socorro gratis a miles de personas necesitadas de cuidado médico y dental en la ciudad de Indianapolis. El Ministerio llamado *Pathways to Health* (Camino a la Salud) llevará a cabo una mega clínica en el gran Lucas Oil Stadium. Comenzará el jueves 14 de abril de este año y concluirá el 21 del mismo mes. Se estima que más de 4.000 personas se presentarán para recibir atención. Se necesitan 2.000 personas voluntarias para servir y atender bien a los miles de hispanos que se espera asistan. No tengo duda alguna que Dios nos ha dado esta oportunidad para servir. Apreciado lector, deseo animarlo a que vaya a la ciudad de Indianapolis para ayudarnos en esta hermosa misión. Puede inscribirse a través del sitio web www.pathwaytohealth.org o llamar al número 423-641-6830.

Piénselo y ore sobre esta petición. Doy gracias que nuestro Padre Celestial envió a Jesús para salvarnos del pecado y para darnos un ejemplo de servicio. Mi oración es que muchos hermanos respondan a este pedido y sigan el ejemplo de Dios en servir a los demás. ■



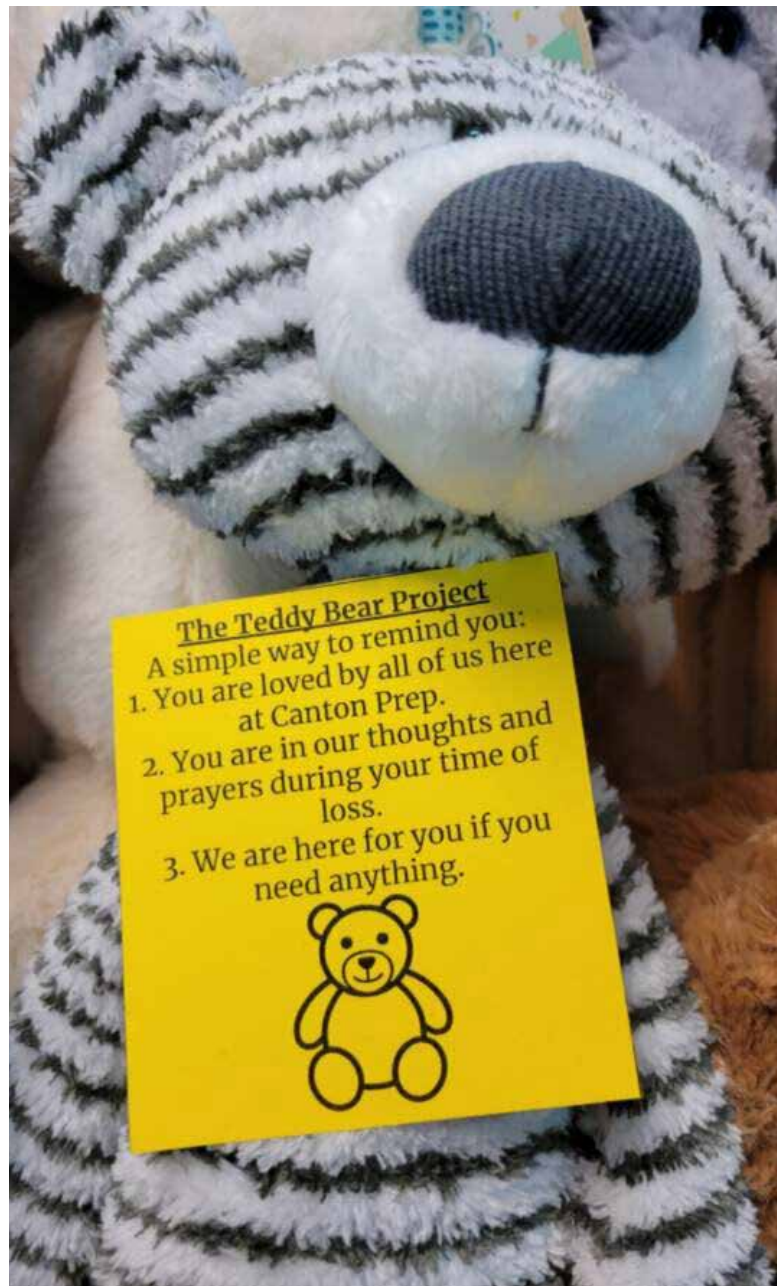
▲ Carmelo Mercado



Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago

Teacher Mobilizes Students to Support Oxford Community

By Elizabeth Harsany





◀ Inkster Sharon Church member Elizabeth Harsany said that the stuffed animal drive shows that God is all about love and community. "God used this project to unify and show that, no matter how dark it becomes, light will always win; no matter how much hate there is, love will always overpower it."

"THERE HAS BEEN SO MUCH DIVISION AND DISUNITY IN OUR COUNTRY, BUT THIS ALLOWED PEOPLE TO SEE PAST ALL THAT AS WE HAD SUPPORTERS FROM ALL RACES, ALL AGES AND ALL SOCIAL STATUSES."

WHEN NEWS OF THE NOVEMBER 30, 2021, deadly school shooting at Oxford High School reached Elizabeth Harsany in Canton, Michigan, her whole school was deeply affected.

They were just 50 miles away from the horrendous scene which had left four students dead and seven injured, including a teacher. At Canton Preparatory High School, a small charter school, students and teachers were a mixture of emotions, running the gamut from sad, angry and scared. They also felt helpless and wanted to do something.

The idea for a stuffed animal drive, the Teddy Bear Project, stemmed from a ministry at Canton. Whenever a student or staff member experiences loss or needs extra encouragement, that person's name is passed along to Elizabeth, and she places a new or gently used stuffed animal in their locker or on their desk accompanied by a card letting them know that they are loved and supported. During virtual learning, this ministry hit the road with home drop-offs which also allowed Elizabeth, an English teacher, to see her students in person.

On December 1, the first social media post went up asking for stuffed animal donations "to offer love and support" to the Oxford community. By the end of the first three days, they had collected 87. As the days went by and word began to spread on social media, donations began pouring in. Two local news stations came to the school and reported on their efforts. Donations arrived from Oklahoma, where Elizabeth is from, the Red Cross, 7-Eleven, and from members of the local

community. Some brought one item, while others brought truckloads. By the end of the collection period 10 days later, they had received 1,470 stuffed animals!

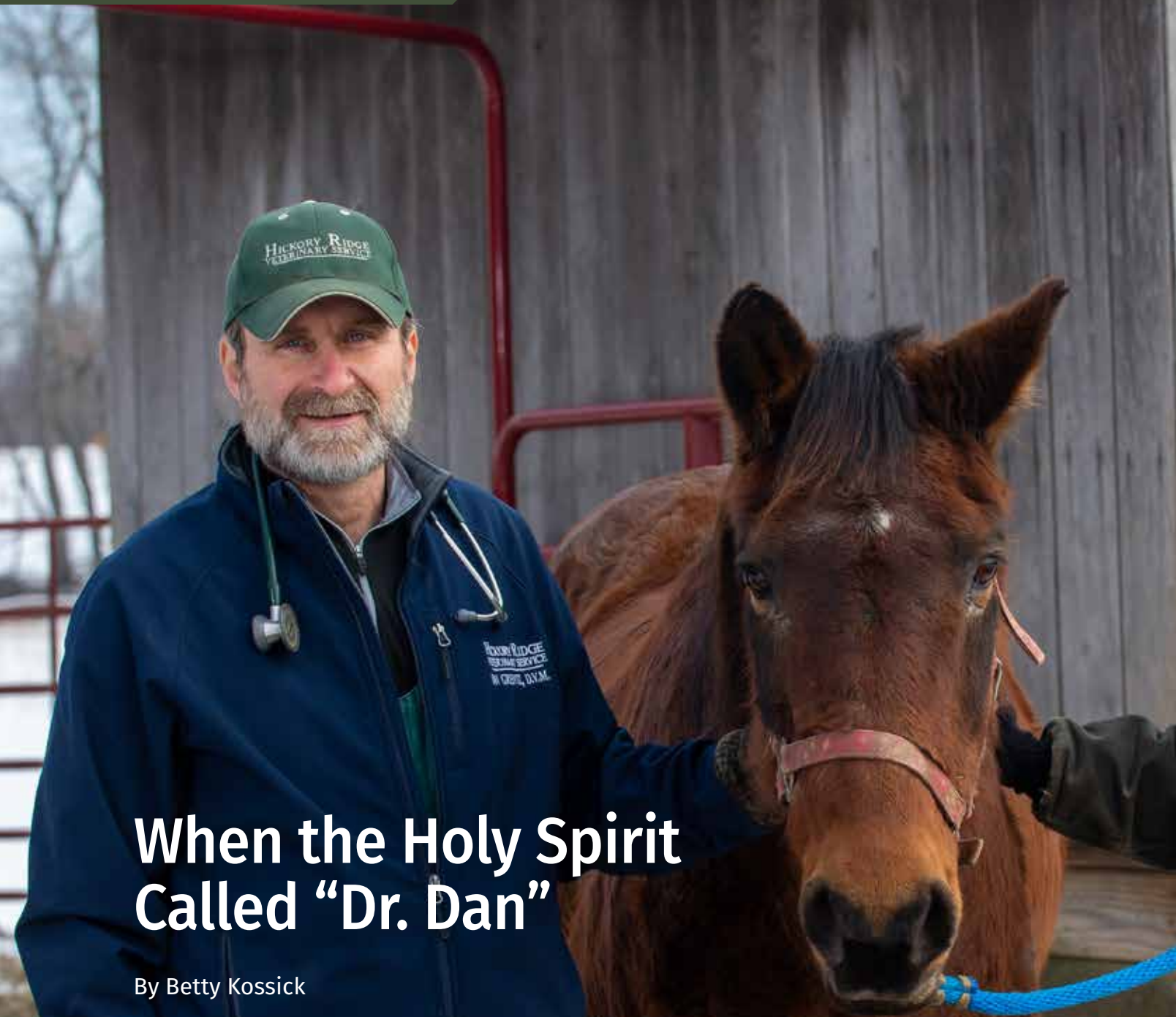
"It was just pure joy to see so many people, those associated with Canton Prep and even complete strangers, coming together for this cause," said Elizabeth, a member of the Inkster Sharon Church.

The next challenge was getting the donations to Oxford and, once again, God provided. A truck was donated by Penske in Plymouth. Elizabeth and a colleague drove to Oxford and delivered the truckload of stuffed animals to Oakland County Emergency/Relief services. The items were distributed the following day during a special social gathering for the kids at their local community center.

Elizabeth said this project has allowed students and staff to process this tragedy and allowed them to show support, love and compassion to others.

"God is all about love and community," she explained. "While this horrendous act sought to divide, I believe God used this project to unify and show that, no matter how dark it becomes, light will always win; no matter how much hate there is, love will always overpower it. There has been so much division and disunity in our country, but this allowed people to see past all that as we had supporters from all races, all ages and all social statuses." ■

Elizabeth Harsany with Lake Union Herald staff



When the Holy Spirit Called “Dr. Dan”

By Betty Kossick

DAN GRENTZ THOUGHT HE HEARD A VOICE through his protective headphones as he maneuvered his John Deere tractor through the horse pasture, mowing weeds with his brush hog (which makes a lot of noise). However, he ignored it—at first. Yet, even with the headphone protection, he continued hearing the voice, a sort of nagging came through his headset again and again.

Grentz, a member of the Delton Church in Michigan, is affectionately called “Dr. Dan.” This very busy

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine got the message. The voice wasn’t just anyone wanting his attention; he knew the voice belonged to the Holy Spirit.

He also knew why the voice didn’t stop, so Dan quit kicking against the pricks. He’d been asked to serve as school board chairperson for Battle Creek Academy (BCA), and he had a million “too busy” arrows in his quiver. Although he’d been praying about his decision, there remained the overstuffed quiver. “I distinctly heard God’s voice telling me to do this. I turned off the

Jason Lounds

engine, took off my headphones, and walked to the house to let Ruth know.” He points out that his wife, Ruth, is a God-fearing woman. “She understood that when God says go, you had better mind.” Ruth, like Dr. Dan, is well aware of his busy life, and realizes other challenges might arise. Regardless, she offered him immediate support because, first and foremost, Ruth trusts God to lead him.

Dr. Dan is now finishing his second year as school board chair and admits, “Yes, there were challenges that literally tried to shake us the first few weeks. Then COVID-19 hit, and that made the school year even more trying. And at the end of the school year, our principal accepted a position at Southwestern Adventist University. That added more responsibility to keep things running smoothly until we could procure a new administrator. God had someone prepared when Ranjan Fernando came to take BCA to new heights in August 2021.”

Of course, Dr. Dan wondered from the start what exactly God wanted him to do specifically for BCA, the flagship school of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination which celebrates 150 years of educating children for the cause of Christ in June 2022. Thus, during the past school year, Dr. Dan says, “I felt impressed that we as a school needed to be proactive in encouraging and incentivizing academic effort, achievement and excellence in our student body. We award many needs based on scholarships through our Christian Mission and Worthy Students programs but, until now, we didn’t have a program which is a merit-based scholarship program. Out of this impression, the Battle Creek Academy Merit-based Scholarship Program was born.”

Dr. Dan continued on to inform that award funds will be given to qualifying students on a semester basis (twice a year) and the level of funds awarded will be based on the student’s level of achievement each semester. He chose the example of Jesus choosing twelve disciples as an idea to form 12 groups of professionals to help bring this merit program to fruition, and to keep it financially viable. “If [there are] 10 people in each of the 12 groups, and each [one] donates \$200 a year, we can reach our annual goal of \$24,000 without stretching anyone’s bank account too much,” he stressed. He emphasized that this is just one

specific source of funding and also brought attention to the fact that *all* donations are appreciated.

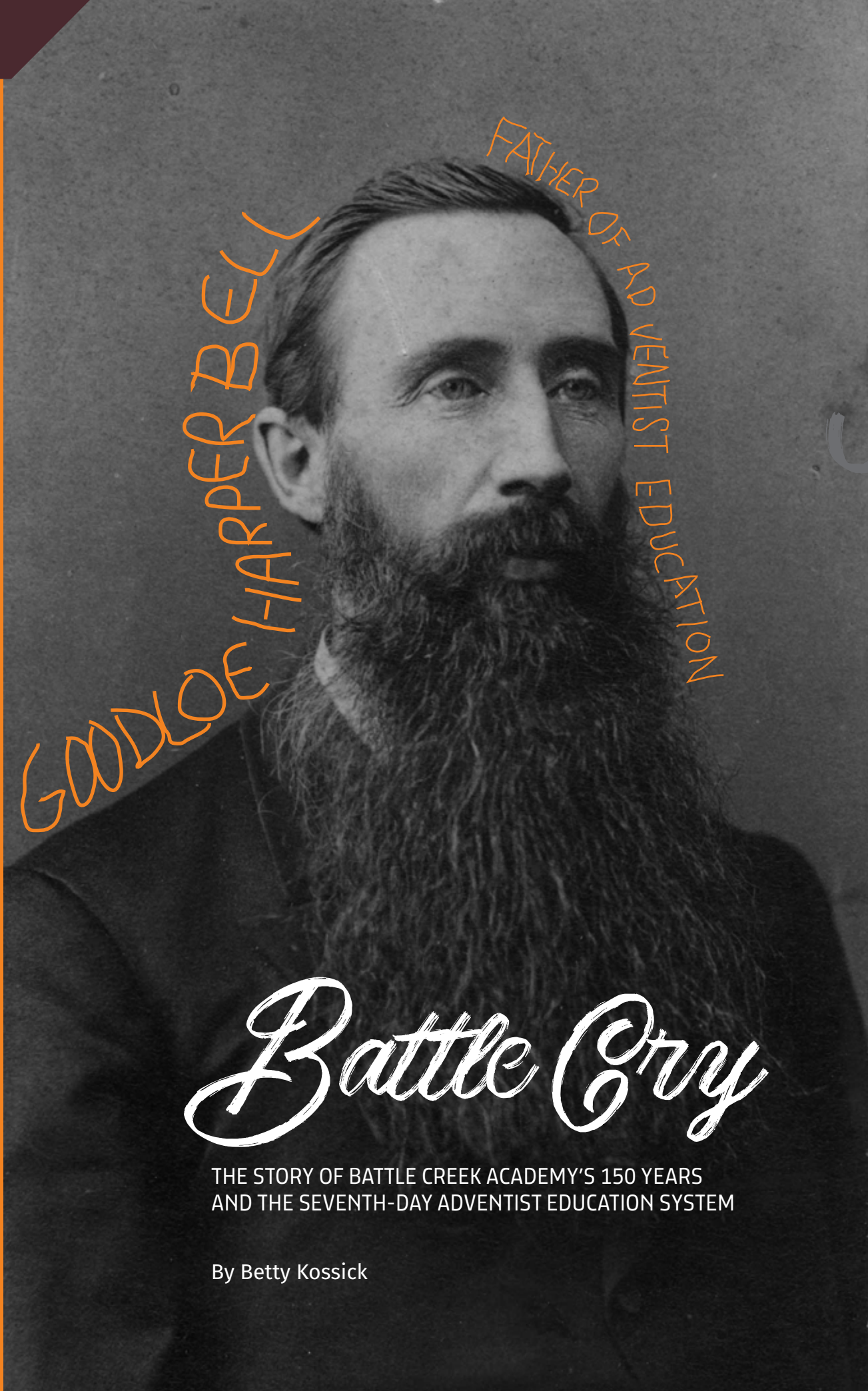
Mission School Approach

With all that said, Dr. Dan also brings attention to how the school’s demographics in its population of students, parents, teachers and administration has changed to a multi-cultural setting from its beginning 150 years ago. “As we approach the upcoming sesquicentennial, we are now serving a large percentage of local and immigrant Myanmar (f/k/a Burma) students that have made Battle Creek their home. This demographic change at BCA has shifted our paradigm to a mission school approach that demands a higher level of monetary support from its constituents and donors. These immigrant students currently make up about 60 percent of our student body.” With further emphasis, Dr. Dan notes, “These students would not have the opportunity of an Adventist education without the help of benevolent individuals supporting BCA.”

When one learns about Dr. Dan’s encounter with God, you can understand the “whys” of his passion for Adventist education, as he shares his background. “My roots run deep at BCA where I went to high school. I taught there for four years, several nieces and nephews attended there, Ruth and I sent all three of our children there, including Katie who is completing her ‘fresh-woman’ year there, and our son, Shadrach, teaches there. Before becoming school board chair, I was a school board member for nine years.”

The role of a school board chair is a demanding one, as this story reveals. So, what is Dr. Dan’s advice to others who are in such a decision as whether to accept or not accept such a position? His response is gracious but emphatic, “Be willing to listen to God’s voice. God called Samuel several times before he was sure it was indeed God’s voice. Be willing to be a Samuel, to listen and to accept. The path will not always be easy, but God will walk in front of you with His angels beside and behind you. God equips those who are willing to follow His leading and call.” ■

Betty Kossick was a professional freelance writer, journalist and poet with 50-plus years of experience. She remained faithful to her calling until contracting COVID-19 and passing on Feb. 2, 2022, at the age of 90.



GOODLOE HARPER BELL
FATHER OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION

Battle Cry

THE STORY OF BATTLE CREEK ACADEMY'S 150 YEARS
AND THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST EDUCATION SYSTEM

By Betty Kossick

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goodloe_Harper_Bell



young widower with four young daughters—largely self-educated, newly introduced to the Seventh-day Adventist church, and a recent patient of the Western Reform Health Institute (forerunner of Battle Creek Sanitarium)—might seem like an unlikely teacher to launch a worldwide, denominationally sponsored, education system.

Yet Goodloe Harper Bell, who took up the challenge in 1867, is considered the first of the denomination's sponsored teachers. By 1872, the denomination's leaders voted to officially support Adventist education.

Up to this time, Adventists, for the most part, did not seriously consider formal education. Some fully opposed it. This did not negate that others had tried with home schools to educate as far back as 1853 with Martha Byington teaching in Bucks Bridge, New York.

The slender, humbly attired, long-bearded educator, Bell, who started his teaching career at a one-teacher country school at age 19 after a short stint at Oberlin College in Ohio, didn't apply for the task even though he was out of work. It seems some young boys who wanted school learning begged him. Of those, it was Willie White who, while not keen on learning English, ended up as the one to challenge Bell to be their teacher. Thus, private tutoring began on the first floor of the Review and Herald Publishing building. With that meager start, Bell's Select School grew into Battle Creek College, which included elementary and high school classes; its college classes were moved to Berrien Springs in 1901, becoming at first Emmanuel Missionary College, and now Andrews

University.¹ The elementary and high school levels expanded into a 13-grade school in Battle Creek and today celebrates the 150th year of the Seventh-day Adventist education system in 2022.

Some of Bell's first students were two of James and Ellen White's sons, Willie and Edson. In 1871, their mother was given a vision about Bell "in connection of the cause and work in Battle Creek." She both commended and reproved Bell, and took into consideration, as she asked others to do, that he was new in the faith and that he fell into discouragement. She admonished him to return to his original enthusiasm. Sister Ellen actually felt that Bell was underappreciated.

Others of those first students are names of fellows who became some of the best-known denominational leaders: John Harvey Kellogg; his brother, William Keith Kellogg; Homer Aldrich; E.R. Jones; E.C. Loughborough; J. Byron Sperry; and James Edson White, Willie White's brother.

Bell's approach to education fits the description, "wholistic"—that of educating the mind, body and spirit. What he learned at Oberlin College (which taught education reform) combined with his newly found spiritual

1. Dr. John Harvey Kellogg later re-opened "Battle Creek College" independently from the denomination and it operated in Battle Creek from 1923 to 1938. See <https://www.lostcolleges.com/battle-creek-college>.



Courtesy Battle Creek Academy

▲ Undated photo of Battle Creek Academy students and staff. Founder Goodloe Bell's approach to education fits the description, "wholistic"—that of educating the mind, body and spirit, which formed the cornerstone for his service as a Christian teacher: moral character development.

life as a Seventh-day Adventist (that included a female leader ordained by God with the gift of prophecy) pointed him to urge practical education for the entirety of a student's being. Thus, the cornerstone for his service as a Christian teacher: moral character development.

His specialty in the classroom part of education: English. He wrote texts and taught grammar, rhetoric and literature. His books and his teaching methods were highly lauded, although his strictness was not as appreciated. However, Ellen White admonished that discipline is needed to effectively educate.

Bell also developed the first Seventh-day Adventist correspondence school. His contributions for including all aspects of educating the church as well as the school seems remarkably endless, as one contemplates what he taught and produced long before the age of technology.

Even in retirement, Bell founded and edited the *Sabbath School Worker*. He also edited *The Fireside Journal*, dedicated "to the moral and character benefits of a Christian home." He believed that education included the home circle. And he wrote many texts. He emphasized Bible-based education. As well, both James and Ellen White realized the need for a college to prepare well-educated ministers to serve. Sister Ellen especially noted the importance of teaching physiology to balance knowledge in the other subjects. She stressed the importance of understanding how to be good stewards of our bodies by saying, "True education is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers." (*True Education*, p. 9.1)

While all this progress continued, home schools were being established by Seventh-day Adventists across the



Courtesy Center for Adventist Research

▲ Bell's Select School (1903) grew into Battle Creek College, which included elementary and high school classes. The elementary and high school levels expanded into a 13-grade school in Battle Creek and today celebrates the 150th year of the Seventh-day Adventist education system in 2022.

United States. Then, in 1888, the first teachers' institute convened in Battle Creek. It was, however, almost into the twentieth century before Alma McKibben started the first Adventist full-grade elementary school, which opened in Centralia, California. While Bell is often called the "father" of Seventh-day Adventist education, it is McKibben who is likewise called the Adventist's education system's "mother."

What would Bell and his contemporaries think about it all today?

So to the question, "What do Seventh-day Adventists now show for the early pattern Bell laid for us?" From the modest beginnings, Seventh-day Adventists are recognized for developing the largest parochial school system in the world, second only to the Catholics. The

latest statistics [December 2020] reveal that our schools are found in 212 countries, comprised of 9,429 primary, secondary and vocational schools, and 117 colleges and universities. These include medical, nursing, dental and allied health professional education schools in support of the denomination's medical missionary vision and its healthcare network.

In 2020 alone, forty-eight of those schools were established in the following countries: Argentina, Botswana, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Chile, Guatemala, Malawi, Mexico, Panama, Romania and the United States. Then we count 113,640 teachers, and approximately 2,025,000 students. That there are dedicated teachers and students who remain loyal to the cause of Christ is because of the values taught in Seventh-day Adventist schools which are undoubtedly the denomination's greatest evangelism



▲ Walter S. Mead and Laura Foster Rathbun looking at a picture at the 50th anniversary of the ninth-grade class of Battle Creek College Prepatory of which Laura was English teacher and Walter a pupil.

tool. As students go from the halls of learning—be it one-teacher schools or grand universities—into their communities and abroad, the list of possibilities to serve—not only as missionaries but in almost every discipline of employment and career from medicine, business, statesmen and -women, to the arts—is endless.

Dr. Lisa Beardsley-Hardy, General Conference director of Education, points to the founding of Battle Creek College “as pivotal, spurred by the need to train leaders, pastors, printers and other denominational ‘workers’ to proclaim the soon return of Christ. Sister White proved to be the undergirding of the education system as she wrote about ‘proper’ or ‘true education.’”

Beardsley-Hardy notes that, in addition to Battle Creek College, the American Medical Missionary College (AMMC) became an outgrowth of classes at Battle Creek Sanitarium starting in 1878. It eventually merged with what is now the University of Illinois College of Medicine and ceased affiliation with the Seventh-day Adventist lineage of present schools (1908). Yet, when in 1909 the medical college opened at what is now Loma Linda University, many of AMMC’s alumni came aboard to teach and connect medical missionary work with the message of Revelation 14: 9–12. As Sister White expounded, “The medical work, in connection with the giving of

the third angel’s message, is to accomplish wonderful results.” (*Counsels on Health*, p. 540.4)

It is not likely that Bell ever imagined that God’s plan included a worldwide network of schools to emerge from such a meager start. He simply wanted to learn for himself and share his knowledge with others. Most of all, his willing spirit motivated him, even against odds that often discouraged him.

Oh, that we had detailed diaries of Bell’s to peruse. We can only imagine in the Kingdom this scene with Bell: early students gathering around and thanking him, along with the vastly counted students since those first few, plus the grand substance of dedicated educators.

Seventh-day Adventist educators, students, parents and church members everywhere around the globe owe much to Bell’s willingness to take on the magnitude of the work he did. Because if he had not, there is the question, “What if he had not?”

From his own experience, Larry Blackmer, recently retired educator, North American Division NAD vice president of Education, shares his thoughts.

“It is the responsibility of Adventist education to help young people grow and develop into well-rounded, healthy, happy and Christ-like adults. We need to instill in their hearts not only the hope

“SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST EDUCATION IS ONE OF THOSE GEMS THAT GOD HAS BESTOWED ON HIS CHURCH. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BRINGS OUR STUDENTS IN TOUCH ON A DAILY BASIS WITH OUR CREATOR, REDEEMER, HIGH PRIEST AND COMING KING!”

for our heavenly homeland, but an assurance, through the grace of our Lord, that Christ has paid the price for each young person and that the hope they possess is more than a hope for something that is possible in the future. It is a tangible hope, or assurance, in something that has already been purchased for us. In today’s world, hope is an elusive commodity. Adventist education has the answer: Jesus.”

In August 2021, Battle Creek Academy welcomed a new principal in Ranjan Fernando, who holds a worthy background in Christian education as he has served in several countries and is committed to the wholistic aspect of education. “It is imperative, while we educate for eternity, [to understand that] we are called to maintain a quality educational program with emphasis on health and outdoor education. Engaging students through agri-science and our re-designed land area for the pursuit of physical education also balances the time spent in learning through technology at BCA.” Fernando speaks with great affection for the many missionary-minded mentors God placed in his life who positively influenced him.

An appeal to remain faithful...

Pastor Ted N.C. Wilson, president of the worldwide denomination, shares his thoughts about the 150th-year milestone. “Seventh-day Adventist education is one of those gems that God has bestowed on His church. Christian education brings our students in touch on a daily basis with our Creator, Redeemer, High Priest and Coming King!”

Wilson continues, with his expression of gladness for his own church school education, “I praise God for the experience and the wonderful teachers who provided not only scholastic instruction but also spiritual guidance.” Then he stressed, “Seventh-day Adventist education is a must during these last days of earth’s history. I urge you to support Christian education and encourage young parents to plan well for having their children attend our schools which help to prepare young people for heaven through dedicated Seventh-day Adventist teachers and the power of the Master Teacher Who is coming soon to take us home and to our eternal classroom experience with Him!”

A part of Battle Creek Academy’s mission statement reads, “We are intentional about developing servant-leaders who build the community and who are ambassadors for the Lord.” While we consider how God led in the establishment of Seventh-day Adventist schools, we affirm the aim to *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth* (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV).

When one drives on to the campus of Battle Creek Academy, the Seventh-day Adventist denomination’s flagship school, there is an emblazoned structure, the school motto, that serves as a battle cry for the students who are taught there and those who teach them: The Pursuit of Excellence in Christ: The reason that all Adventist schools worldwide exist. ■

Betty Kossick was a professional freelance writer, journalist and poet with 50-plus years of experience. She remained faithful to her calling until contracting COVID-19 and passing on Feb. 2, 2022, at the age of 90.

ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS

Yesterday and Today

By Renee Coffee



The nostalgic time of *Little House on the Prairie* is gone forever. And with it, most of the 190,000 one-room schools that dotted the landscape of the United States 100 years ago.¹

¹One-Room Schools Holding on in Rural America, NPR, December 22, 2005

While it's true that larger schools have more staff, bigger facilities and additional programs, one-room schools have their own unique features which students, parents and teachers alike have come to value.

Those small schools, consisting of one classroom with a single teacher teaching academic basics to several grade levels, made education possible for children living in remote areas to get an education.

As we fast-forward to the 21st century, we must ask: "Are one-room schools now simply relics of days gone by?" Although the number of single-room schools have dwindled, the North American Division and, by extension, the Lake Union Conference, support the concept of one-room schools because they continue to play such an important role in Adventist education. Today, the Lake Union has 65 schools which offer elementary education. Of that number, 28—almost half—are one-room schools.

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Former Students Reminisce

Our denomination's first elementary school—a one-room school—opened in 1880 in Battle Creek. Other communities caught the vision and church schools began to appear across the country.

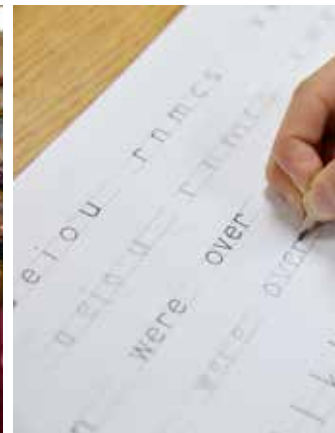
The first Adventist church school in Illinois was located in Aledo, close to the Iowa border. The school opened in the 1940s and Ramona Trubey, her two sisters, and two cousins, Bob and Larry, made up the entire student population.

Trubey remembers that the church members worked together to provide a school for the two families, an investment she felt was worth it. "I wouldn't trade

▼ Two Indiana schools, Columbus (top) and Richmond (bottom), reopened their one-room schools after being closed more than a decade.



Christa McConnell



▲ Although the number of one-room schools has dwindled, the North American Division and, by extension, the Lake Union, support the concept of one-room schools such as this one in Columbus, Ind., led by Angela Clark, because they continue to play such an important role in Adventist education.

those days for anything,” she says. “With only five of us in school, we had a lot of one-on-one time with the teacher, which made it easy to get the help we needed to progress quickly.”

Another student who treasures his time at a one-room school was Neal VanderWaal who attended the Rockford, Illinois, school from 1947 to 1950. The school was attached to the rear of the church, with a playground which was postage-stamp size—just a city lot. VanderWaal recounts that, while they didn’t have all the educational opportunities many other kids had, they developed character.

He recalls: “We read Bible stories, but also learned life lessons from the *True Education Readers* and the stories our teacher read to us. I learned honesty, patriotism, determination and temperance. We learned lessons of fair play, cooperation and sharing. Every morning we pledged allegiance to the flag. I learned reverence for God, and respect and love for everyone regardless of their color or beauty.”

Influential Teachers

Jennifer Landis attended a one-room school in Ionia, Michigan, for four years and was the only student in the upper grades. She recollects an enjoyable time in the same classroom as her sister who is five years younger. “I was able to get my work done quickly and then help the teacher with grading and other projects.” Jennifer’s calling as a teacher was solidified during that positive experience.

Beth Nelson spent only two years in a one-room church school in Almond, Wisconsin, but those two years also influenced her choice of life work. “My teacher

was very spiritual and caring. She once said that she hoped that all of us would be in the Lord’s work someday. She was the only person who ever said anything like that. It made such an impression on me and led me to go into education and teach at church schools in Illinois and Wisconsin.”

Former educator and missionary, Brooke Sadler was a charter member of the Ann Arbor, Michigan, church school, and graduated from the 8th grade in 1955. He recalls his teacher, Dorothea Williams, managing her class of 30 students effectively. “It was crowded,” he remembers, “but our teacher was such an inspiration in the way she treated us and guided us. It was a great place to go to school.”

Danita Fish also has fond memories of her years at the Adventist Christian Elementary in Indiana, and singled out her teacher, Janelle Ruba. “She was able to give me so much one-on-one time, so I got the help I needed, and I retained more,” says Fish, who’s thankful that her 5-year-old son is now a kindergartner at the same school. “I couldn’t believe how he started reading after only a few weeks.”

Model of Collaboration

Studies have shown that students learn better when they have to teach the material to others. Peer-based and team-based learning also have been found to be quite beneficial, particularly to prepare students for success in workplaces where group-based work across teams of different ages and backgrounds is prevalent.

Linda Fuchs, the Lake Union Education director, taught for 26 years before entering her administration



positions and treasures the three years she spent in a one-room school. She, too, bore witness to the effectiveness of peer-to-peer teaching.

“The younger students loved the older ones, and the older students felt a responsibility toward the younger, often explaining how to do an assignment, helping them warm up their food in the microwave, or teaching them how to jump rope or shoot a basketball,” she notes, adding that “one-room schools give the older students many opportunities to learn leadership skills which they can use all through their life.”

Seven of Linda Morrow’s children attended the local Adventist Christian Elementary one-room church school in Indiana, and she now has a grandson at the same school. She has stayed involved in the school and cherishes the family atmosphere. She welcomes “the good role models Josiah has had with the upper grade students.”

Also reminiscing about the mutually beneficial partnership formed in a single-room school is Cathy Buell, a recently retired teacher in Michigan. “The younger students looked up to the older ones and often listened more carefully to what they are saying, especially when it came to spiritual matters. And working with the smaller children helped the older students learn patience.”

Reversing the Slide

While some of the one-room schools have grown into larger schools, others had to close their doors for various reasons. That was true of the Columbus and Richmond schools in the Indiana Conference. But in 2019, the congregations connected to those former

schools began to discuss the possibility of once again providing their young people with Christian education.

After contacting the Education superintendent, both churches began working to turn their dreams into reality. And when the school year started last August, the Maple Creek Adventist Academy in Columbus and the Richmond Adventist Elementary School opened their doors after being closed for more than a decade.

Thomas Clark pastors in the Columbus area and says that connecting a school to the church really helped build momentum with the members in his district. “We had a mission, and the people came together, working on a common goal. We’ve also noticed that our students’ extended families have been attending more of our church functions and mingling with our church members.”

Pastor Blaine Fults, formerly of the Columbus district, noticed an increase in church attendance since their school opened. Jim Balkovek, one of the church elders, added that church members have personally invested their time in the school, teaching art classes, leading out in worships, a Week of Prayer, and other types of presentations.

One-room schools have been, are, and will always be an integral part of Adventist education. Only in heaven will we begin to understand the vital role one-room schools have had in the lives of students who passed through their doors. ■

Renee Coffee just retired after working 45 years as a teacher and an associate superintendent in the Michigan and Indiana conferences. She now hopes to devote more time to her love of music with the hope that she'll be able to conquer her cello someday.

▲ *Small schools, consisting of one classroom with a single teacher, such as Elvie Davis of the Richmond, Ind., school (above), instructing the academic basics to several grade levels, continue to make education possible for children living in remote areas to get an education.*

Only in heaven will we begin to understand the vital role one-room schools have had in the lives of students who passed through their doors.

'I THINK OUR SCHOOL IS ON FIRE'

By Ramona Trubey

My home was about two-and-a-half miles from the school. We could walk there across the fields and over the fences, ride our horses, or hitch our old horse to the buggy and 'drive' ourselves to school.

In mild weather, horseback was the choice of the day. Our lunch pails would slide up and down the side of the horse, and at noontime we would pick the horsehair out of our lunch buckets before we ate our lentil, mashed potato or peanut butter sandwiches, along with an apple or a homemade cookie.

An old potbelly stove sat on one side and kept us warm in the winter months.

One cold day when I was in the fourth grade, I heard crackling noises, and finally I looked up to see flames of fire around the stove pipe.

I raised my hand frantically (we were not allowed to speak without raising our hand

and getting permission). The teacher finally acknowledged me, and I pointed to the stove pipe and said, "I think our school is on fire."

Our level-headed teacher sent one of the boys running to his home to alert his parents, who also called my parents. Then she told us to get our books and take them to the tree line away from the school. Soon our parents arrived and put out the fire, which left a large hole on one wall, which the men of the church rebuilt.

The little schoolhouse is gone now, but the memories and the life experiences will stay with me forever.



► Photo taken in 1944 outside the Aledo church school in Northern Illinois. Ramona Trubey (second from left) is pictured with, from left to right, Rebecca Greer; Elizabeth Greer; teacher, Lydia Marsh; Robert Fillingham; and Larry Fillingham.



Courtesy Ramona Trubey

LAKE UNION ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS



CREATE



▲ Teacher Yanina Jimenez' Downers Grove class is one of six STEM cohorts in the Lake Union.

Jeff Boyd





Sandra Mendez



Christa McConnell

NURTURING

STEM

GROWTH

PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH . . . AND ETERNITY

The Grades 1–4 classroom door is locked when the children arrive at Downers Grove Adventist School. Although this is not an everyday occurrence, the students immediately know what this clue means. The cheering comes first, then the chattering and whispering begin as the students wait for Ms. Jimenez to open the door. They remember last time—that day when Ms. Amaro and Ms. Jimenez turned the entire classroom into a dig site—when every subject throughout the school day connected to the discovery of fossils in a fun, but challenging way.

Where will they be going today? To the lake? To the arctic? To a bakery? Who will they be? Poets? Paleontologists? Professional fishermen? What will they be wearing?

Naturalist hats? Aprons? Scrubs and surgical masks?

The anticipation builds as the door opens and Ms. Jimenez invites them in, a NASA logo on her hat and sweatshirt, and an astronaut doll in her arms. Eyes sparkle. Feet tap in anticipation. Another STEAM Transformation Day has begun!

Why STEM?

Yanina Jimenez is one of six teachers from the Lake Union Conference currently taking part in the recently-formed North American Division (NAD) STEM Cohorts—and one of countless other educators across the nation who are striving to introduce their students to the wonder, the exploration, the critical thinking skills, and the discovery to be encountered

◀ **Bottom, left:** Andrews University's STEM Division hosted "Chemistry: Principles from Food," a Zoom workshop featuring kitchen chemistry activities that can be deployed by teachers in K–10 classrooms.

Bottom, right: At Cicero Adventist Elementary, Kendra Knudson's students create a secret quilt code that could have been used to convey messages to fellow conductors and passengers of the Underground Railroad.

within the burgeoning fields of science, technology, engineering, (art), and math [STE(A)M].

Considering current projections that STEM jobs will have increased by 8.8 percent between 2017 and 2029, that software development employment in particular will have expanded by 22 percent within this same timeframe, and that the median annual wage of STEM occupations is currently twice that of non-STEM occupations (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics), this attention is certainly warranted.

As our world recognizes the expanding need for STEM education in order to fill future occupational voids within the fields of STEM, Adventist educators—with the additional goal of leading students on a “journey of excellence” through a lifetime of obedience to God’s call—recognize an even greater need for this type of training. When coupled with a firm grounding in Scripture, STEM education will equip Adventist students, whether within the Lake Union or anywhere else in the world, to share the Three Angels’ Messages in their future workplaces so spiritual nourishment can travel through STEM to bear fruit for eternity.

STEM, the NAD, and the Lake Union Conference

Since 2016, the Versacare Foundation has generously supported hundreds of schools across the NAD in the purchase of STEM equipment such as Chromebooks, iPads, 3D printers, and computer labs, thus enabling both teachers and students within the Lake Union Conference to expand their experience with STEM education. In 2021, however, with the desire to go beyond providing physical STEM apparatus, the NAD, in partnership with Loma Linda University, designated a \$350,000 Versacare grant toward STEM training for teachers. This gift has truly empowered Lake Union educators to utilize the STEM equipment they already have in a more intentional, STEM-directed way. Amongst numerous STEM training opportunities that are currently being provided by the NAD, several of these grant-funded STEM initiatives have been of particular value within the Lake Union Conference recently—namely, STEM Cohorts and STEM Summer Workshops.

► **Bottom, left:** Arthur Miller, teacher of science at Indiana Academy, is engaging students with food. Miller’s students already have enjoyed one of these labs involving Jell-O and pineapple, and have watched the power of enzymes at work.

Bottom, right: Kendra Knudson of Cicero Adventist Elementary

► *STEM with Randy Lonto’s Engineering and Building class at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School might look like students converting guitars, hockey sticks, shoes, bowling pins, stacks of books and seashells into light-giving devices. Pictured here are his robotics students.*

STEM Cohorts

The dream behind the NAD STEM Cohorts is extensive. From September 2021 through May 2022, cohorts of up to 10 teachers—from different conferences, different experience levels, different demographics, but similar grade ranges—are coached by a STEM expert through the process of learning a STEM lesson, teaching that lesson to the students at their local school, and then creating their own lesson plan. The end goal is the creation of over 100 STEM standards-based lesson plans that will be accessible to all Adventist educators.

Within the Lake Union Conference, participation in these cohorts has been inspiring teachers like Yanina Jimenez to engage students in interdisciplinary approaches to the standards, units and lessons that form the basis of Adventist curriculum. Similarly, Kendra Knudson of Cicero Adventist Elementary shares that her involvement in the cohorts has enabled her to recognize that “STEM opportunities can be pulled from any subject. It’s just about looking at the subject matter and asking yourself, ‘What STEM activity can I use to help my students truly connect what they’re learning?’”

STEM Summer Workshops

An additional six teachers across the Lake Union Conference were privileged to participate in STEM workshops at Andrews University in July 2021, choosing between intriguing titles like “Engineering-VEX Robotics” and “Chemistry Principles from Food.” Over the course of several intensely packed days, attendees engaged in activities such as building, wiring, coding and activating robots, or participating in experiments revolving around gummy worms and osmosis, the dissolving of M&Ms, and the involvement of sodium alginate for the creation of boba tea.

These workshops have provided participants like Arthur Miller, teacher of science at Indiana Academy, not only with an equipment kit for use in his classroom, but also with an arsenal of engaging STEM labs for his students—engaging because, “working with food is always of very high interest.” Miller’s students already have enjoyed one of these labs involving Jell-O and pineapple and have watched the power of enzymes at work.



Christa McConnell

To be sure, STEM education within the Lake Union Conference is about the wonder, the exploration and the critical thinking skills. . . . But it is also about fulfilling the Great Commission.



Christina Rogers



Sandra Mendez

STEM and the Senses

What does STEM education look like, sound like, and feel like throughout the schools of the Lake Union?

In Renee Truax’s Grades K–8 classroom at Hastings Elementary School, STEM might look like students building clay models of vertebrates and invertebrates, placing heavy objects on the models, and noticing the difference that a backbone makes in the organism’s ability to cope with pressure. STEM also might sound like second-graders using well-chosen vocabulary words such as “cephalopods” and “crustaceans” that day—and the next, and the next day after that, too, because they have had a meaningful experience with these terms.

At Cicero Adventist Elementary, in Knudson’s Grades 5–8 classroom, STEM might look like the creation of a secret quilt code that could have been used to convey messages to fellow conductors and passengers of the Underground Railroad. STEM education might sound like the hum and chatter of sewing machines and the murmur of young voices discussing the intricacies of the quilt block pattern and hoping they can convince Ms. Knudson to let them learn another one tomorrow.

STEM with Randy Lonto’s Engineering and Building class at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School might look like students converting guitars, hockey sticks, shoes, bowling pins, stacks of books and seashells into light-giving devices. It might look like the shining glimmer in the student’s eyes who has “gotten it.” STEM might feel like the sudden warmth of the bulb when the light turns on for the first time, or like the immediate sense of pride within the student who has wired it.

In every classroom, STEM looks like hands out of pockets, hands raised, hands-on learning, and hands actively engaged in creation. STEM sounds like teachers and students using terminology such as “ask,” “imagine,” “plan,” “create,” “test,” “improve” and “share” as part

▲ Outfitted in astronaut gear, a Downers Grove student seems captivated while reading a book inside a make-believe capsule.

Students furthermore recognized that by paying attention to the natural hazards in their own lives and remaining true to God through them, they could learn to more completely trust God’s faithfulness.

of their engineering processes. STEM looks like bursts of creativity, extensive collaboration, excellent communication, and vast amounts of critical thinking during project time.

Increasingly, STEM education travels beyond the walls of classrooms, too—into houses, onto playgrounds, into workplaces, onto jobsites. In Lonto’s words, “It is gratifying to hear that the knowledge the students learn is being put into action in the homes of their families.”

STEM, Spiritually Speaking

Another exciting component of STEM education throughout the Lake Union Conference is the God-centered focus that has been fostering both the connections constructed by the teachers themselves, and student-generated spiritual epiphanies.

Truax remembers distinctly the day one of her students looked up from a project involving exoskeletons and declared, “It’s like Jesus being our shell and protecting us!” These are exactly the kinds of associations she nurtures her students toward making on their own—encouraging children to recognize the relationships between their STEM lessons and biblical truths.

Knudson recalls how her fifth- through eighth-graders, while participating in a STEM lesson about natural hazards, realized that God has used disasters like drought, the Flood, pestilence and earthquakes throughout Scripture to caution earth’s inhabitants about coming judgments. Throughout biblical history, these warnings have enabled God’s remnant people to cling

to Him for safety and, as a result, experience God’s preserving power. Students furthermore recognized that, by paying attention to the natural hazards in their own lives and remaining true to God through them, they could learn to more completely trust God’s faithfulness.

Lonto’s theme verse is Micah 6:8, a verse that he emphasizes in each of his classes but especially so during STEM activities. He explains that “*to walk humbly with your God* is to serve God in the best way possible—in one’s own unique and special way.” Lonto further reminds his students that every skill they learn as part of STEM education can be how they are better able to share the love of Christ with those around them.

To be sure, STEM education within the Lake Union Conference is about the wonder, the exploration and the critical thinking skills. It is about preparing the next generation to meet the needs of a rapidly expanding STEM workforce. But it is also about fulfilling the Great Commission.

As the students of Downers Grove Adventist School leave for home at the end of their Outer Space STEAM Transformation Day, they are still chattering excitedly. More importantly, however, they are in awe of their Creator and His universe, and their minds have been opened to the dream of a future in STEM—not, perhaps, because of the higher-than-average salary, but because their thoughts have been broadened to comprehend the lifetime of learning, discovery and service that lies before them. ■

Emily Gibbs teaches English and religion at Great Lakes Adventist Academy.

▼ **Below, left:** An Indiana Academy student is absorbed in making a boba drink with different edible chemicals. Afterwards, students could eat their fun experiment.

Below: Cicero Elementary students doing hands-on learning with a slope project.

Christa McConnell



Christa McConnell

Clinical Pastoral Care: Seeing People Beyond the Surface

CHAPLAIN ALFRED KAMBAKI CREDITS GOD FOR WORKING THROUGH HIM, WITH HIM AND ON HIM AS HE PROVIDES SPIRITUAL CARE.



Dave Pfleiderer

▲ Alfred Kambaki is the regional director of Spiritual Care and the Chaplain Educator serving Adventist Medical Center Hinsdale, Bolingbrook, La Grange and GlenOaks in the greater Chicago area. In his role, he manages the welfare of his department, ensuring his team has the support and tools they need to provide spiritual care.

Once during his patient rounds, Chaplain Alfred Kambaki entered the room of a patient who was isolated and alone. Kambaki spent 45 minutes talking with him, and at the end, the patient made a small request: “Could you please give me a hug?” Kambaki happily obliged and as they embraced, the patient clung to him and heaved.

“When I let go, he was crying and said, ‘You are my angel,’” Kambaki recalled.

From that moment, Kambaki became his source of spiritual support until the day the patient died. He had been very lonely, and only later did Kambaki learn that his lack of visitors was due to the smell produced by his medical condition.

Kambaki draws two key points from that story — one, that God is still at work, and two, that God works in spite of Kambaki’s failings. Kambaki managed to be in that room for nearly an hour when all others would go in for only the amount of time absolutely necessary. *How?* He lost his sense of smell when he was 3 years old.

“It’s not about me. It’s about God doing His work at the right time,” he said. “My weakness — my failing — is what God wanted to use so I could connect with this patient heart to heart.”

Kambaki is the regional director of Spiritual Care and the Chaplain Educator serving Adventist Medical Center Hinsdale, Bolingbrook, La Grange and GlenOaks in the greater Chicago area. In his role, he manages the welfare of his department, ensuring his team has the support and tools they need to

provide spiritual care. He summarizes it as ministering to his team as they minister to others.

There was a time when the people in Kambaki’s life didn’t consider chaplaincy ministry. He had been a congregational pastor and a church administrator before going into clinical pastoral care.

“People were convinced that my move into chaplaincy was a departure from ministry,” he said. “Chaplains were considered individuals who had failed in ministry.”

But nothing could be further from the truth. For Kambaki, serving as a chaplain means living out the Word of God.

“I help people understand God loves them when I demonstrate love and communicate what it means to be loved when you are sick,” Kambaki said. “That’s the incarnation of the Word.”

Kambaki has served in clinical pastoral care at various hospitals and health systems since 2003. He said his greatest lesson has been in acknowledging that the world is not static, life is dynamic and, as such, he should be learning from the people with whom he interacts every day.

How does he do that?

“It’s important to listen to people in whatever station of life they are in,” he said, “to see them — beyond what is on the surface — and understand where they’re coming from.” ■

Ingrid Hernandez, AdventHealth, manager of Stakeholder Communications

Andrews STEM Division to host “Mission: Invent 2022”

This year Andrews University’s STEM Division will host the first “Mission: Invent,” an initiative encouraging development of innovation and entrepreneurship in K–12 Seventh-day Adventist students in the United States and Canada. During Mission: Invent, students will select real-world problems, create solutions using engineering design methodologies and entrepreneurial skills, and showcase their projects to peers at invention fairs.

“Participating classrooms or schools must host an invention fair, like the traditional science fair except that projects are carried out in teams,” explains Monica Nudd, STEM coordinator in the College of Arts & Sciences. “We want students to develop a love of math and science by designing and modeling a solution to their problem.”

Winning teams from each school will be registered to participate in an exhibition and awards ceremony hosted by Andrews University on Monday, July 11. The STEM Division hopes to hold the celebration in person on the Andrews campus.

“Invention and innovation are skills that prepare students for the 21st-century

job market,” says Matías Soto, director of Innovation & Entrepreneurship. “Both established companies as well as small businesses are in desperate need of inventors and innovators who can transform their businesses to deal with the constant changes happening in the world today.”

He notes, “Mission: Invent helps students to learn and develop innovation skills from an early age, so that [the skills] become part of their education. This prepares them for both the demanding curriculum of college and for the real-life job market.”

In addition to working on projects to showcase at invention fairs, students involved with Mission: Invent will have the opportunity to learn basic engineering and invention skills in the classroom. Nudd worked with colleague Michael Bryson, engineer and Andrews alumnus, to create workbooks, assessments, rubrics and other resources for K–12 teachers to utilize when implementing engineering topics into their own curriculum.

Via Zoom, Nudd and Bryson conducted live, interactive training sessions for Adventist teachers in August, October and November 2021. During these meetings,

teachers were introduced to the fundamentals of engineering, design thinking and inventing and contributed ideas to solve sample problems.

“There’s nothing better than hands-on learning to cement knowledge in a young person’s mind,” says Soto. “This program offers the opportunity for students to do active learning, team collaboration, problem solving, and goal-driven work. All those skills are invaluable to students.”

Andrews University has partnered with other Adventist universities and conferences across North America to establish an advisory committee for Mission: Invent. Members include representatives from AdventHealth University, Burman University, Central California Conference, La Sierra University, Pacific Union College, Southern Adventist University, Southern Union Conference, Southwestern Adventist University, Walla Walla University and Washington Adventist University. The committee plans to guide the rotation of Mission: Invent to participating universities in the future.

Mission: Invent was made possible through a grant awarded by the Versacare Foundation in spring 2021 to the Andrews University STEM Division. Established in 1990, the Versacare Foundation serves Seventh-day Adventist ministries and other humanitarian efforts with financial grants.

There is still time to participate in 2022. For more information on Mission: Invent, visit andrews.edu/go/invent.

▼ South Bend Junior Academy students participated in a pilot program for Mission: Invent in spring 2021.



Monica Nudd

Moriah McDonald, student writer, University Communication, Andrews University



▲ Mindy Salyers (center) with Great Lakes Adventist Academy students

Mental health services making a difference in Lake Union schools

Two years into the worldwide spread of COVID-19 and its related viruses, Lake Union schools are dealing with associated mental health problems just like the rest of the world.

To address this, the main plan of action, labeled Counselation Services, is being used by several Lake Union schools and proving to be the best friend of those they serve. Counselation Services combine mental health counseling in a consultant capacity so that teachers, administrators and parents have access to Adventist contextualized mental health supports without the large overhead price tag of adding an additional staff member.

Mindy Salyers, a licensed Adventist school counselor and educator residing in Chicago, described her role in this mental-health-rescue operation as being in a “no-man’s land” because this is a little-known role in Adventist schools. Added to that, Conference budgets are limited.”

However, last year’s Illinois Conference piloted counseling initiative spurred other Lake Union conferences to jump aboard to obtain Counselation Services. Salyers says, “The obvious needs, coupled with the capacity of virtual technology, have allowed us to think outside the box.”

This is where the Versacare Foundation came to the fore by approving grant

monies for the schools that applied. With applause for the cause, eight North American Division (NAD) schools participated in 2020–2021, three of which are in the Lake Union: Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. In addition, Great Lakes Adventist Academy (Michigan) also received a substantial grant from Versacare to provide caseload-based counseling for at-risk students. With four of the five Lake Union conferences onboard, it makes the Lake Union a forerunner in mental health services for Adventist schools.

Moreover, because the Counselation initiative works to bring mental health support to Adventist schools, it goes hand-in-hand with the Versacare Foundation mission statement: “To serve humanity by engaging in that which will further the Kingdom of God to restore the image of God in mankind.”

Thus, Versacare awarded a generous \$60,000 to Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin conferences to bring mental health and healing during the 2021–2022 school year.

Salyers stresses, “With Counselation Services’ approach to Adventist mental health, conferences obtain access to a licensed school counselor that is affordable, relevant, and contextualized in a Christ-centered theology.

“Counselation aims to support teachers in classrooms and impacting their students through web-based, social-emotional, learning videos and printable application activities. Regular newsletters are provided for educators.”

Having these tools available at the click of a mouse supports and empowers Adventist teachers such as Tiffany Meulamans, who teaches 5th through 8th grades at Peterson Adventist School (in Columbus, Wis.), who shared a recent classroom experience. “Thank you so much for Counselation Services! It was a God-send today. I grabbed the Stress and Anxiety video, and our afternoon turned into SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) time. Thank you, thank you, thank you! I was

able to put this up without prep, and I see smiles on faces that were tear-stained an hour ago.”

Delwin Garcia, principal at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, enthusiastically points out, “Anyone who works with young people can tell you that there is a rapidly increasing need for mental health services among our young people. At Great Lakes Academy, we prayed for a solution. The Lord answered by using Mindy (Salyers)’s ministry to change students’ lives, helping them to work through their emotional and health obstacles, so they can focus on their spiritual, social and academic life to live life at its fullest. We’re blessed to have Mindy as part of our ministry team.”

At a time when the pandemic finds parents struggling to understand their child’s behavior and worried about the learning gap that resulted from online schooling, parents are eager for any resource Counselation Services offers. Salyers notes, “Using the on-demand Counselation model, families can access articles, videos and *Kid’s Connection*, a monthly newsletter.”

Another educator, Sue Nelson, Wisconsin Conference superintendent, reviews Mindy’s “sound advice and willingness to respond and assist families in locating local resources.” Plus, Nelson zeroes in on the high quality of professionalism found in the website videos.

Having been a school counselor for 20 years as well as a trainer for LaSierra University’s Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) since 2013, Salyer comments, “I am so touched by how Adventists school climates have been impacted by prevention training and school culture initiatives, and yet grateful that the unforeseen COVID-19 brought mental health awareness to the forefront of Adventist educators.” ■

Betty Kossick was a professional freelance writer, journalist and poet with 50-plus years of experience. She remained faithful to her calling until her passing on Feb. 2, 2022, at the age of 90.



Christina McConnell

▲ **Front L-R:** store manager, Annette McLamb; sales staff: Muriel Wilson, Laura Fuller, Cindy Soe, Cesiha Saunders. **Back L-R:** general manager, Randy Griffin; marketing manager, Kathy Griffin; sales staff: Rachel Clemmer, Diana Beeler, Carol Brewer, Polly Rood

Indiana ABC has new name and leadership

The Indiana ABC has been renamed Three Angels Natural Foods & Christian Books and is managed by husband-and-wife team, Randy and Kathy Griffin.

For years, the store has existed to reach the surrounding community but found that the community viewed the ABC as a store just for Adventists. In an effort to make the community feel welcome, the name Three Angels was chosen as it is distinctly Adventist, yet does not sound exclusive.

The store will still carry Bibles, Christian books, and E.G. White books in English and Spanish, veggie food, natural foods, children's materials, and all the other resources offered over the years.

History

The Indiana ABC has been serving people of all ages, races and religious persuasions for more than 80 years. After originating near downtown Indianapolis in the late 1940s, it moved to Broad Ripple in 1966 and one other location in Indianapolis before it landed on the Indiana Academy campus in 1973 in a temporary building. In 1974, Harold Zacharias built and managed the new store, which is the current location.

Evangelism at the Core

The purpose for existing has always been to offer resources that bring awareness

to the gospel and the nearness of Christ's return. We have had countless camp meetings, holiday sales and Sunday sales throughout the years. Our predecessors have traveled promoting books and veggie food and stocking satellite store locations. The bookmobile may have graced your church back in the day, giving you a glimpse of new arrivals and providing much-needed evangelism tools. You may even fondly remember the ABC as the Book & Bible House!

As these decades have flown by, our mission is still before us. It is exciting yet sobering to see prophecy unfolding all around us knowing that we have the resources to unlock the truth that so many need, right in our own communities.

There are many options at the ABC to inexpensively share the gospel. There are upwards of 900 varieties of share books and materials that are well under \$5 per item. When purchased by the case, they are even more cost effective. *Pocket Signs*, *Glow Tracts* and share magazines are great materials to keep in your purse or car. There also are numerous Bible study guides always available for one-on-one or group studies. *Steps to Christ* is available by the case in several languages as well as *The Great Controversy* and all other E.G. White books.

Health evangelism is the right arm of the gospel and a large part of our legacy as a church. You don't have to look far into society to find someone who is looking for

lifestyle reform. There are numerous ads on social media promising people results that cost a small fortune but, at the ABC, our books and materials are based on biblical principles and natural remedies for a fraction of the cost! In the coming year we will offer free, lifestyle classes to the community. Our health ministry books have wisdom that will help heal lifestyle diseases and improve quality of life while boosting the immune system. Who couldn't use a better immune system?!

The following E.G. White quote from *Christian Service* (p. 158) is worth considering. "The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity she will have to do in a terrible crisis under most discouraging, forbidding circumstances." Every day is a great day to sow evangelism seeds!

Be a part of the Indiana ABC mission which is a part of the greater mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Indiana and the Lake Union Conference. Help us get these books into the hands of those who are open and searching for truth. Come and browse and hang out for a while, or you can call the store to place an order. Our friendly sales staff will have your order to you within days. Above all, please pray for us as we go forward in faith, and that we can maximize the use of our Adventist message during these last days.

ABC Fun Facts:

1. Our store has over 5,000 available items.
2. We receive fresh bread every month.
3. We have a book called, *Humpy the Moose*.
4. Kelp powder is a seasoning for a vegetarian/vegan, fishy taste.
5. Oregano essential oil is great for treating cold viruses. ■

Randy Griffin is general manager and Kathy Griffin is marketing manager of the Three Angels Natural Foods and Christian Books. To place an order, call 317-984-5393 or visit www.adventistbookcenter.com.



▲ Jeannelle Green, Gabriel Palacios, Noe Reyes and Moises Reyes

Andrews University students awarded for math presentations

BERRIEN SPRINGS, Mich.—Two groups of Andrews students received awards at the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) national MathFest conference from Aug. 4–7, 2021, for outstanding student presentations. The conference, which was held virtually this year due to COVID–19, allowed over 1,000 professional mathematicians and students to present the latest in mathematical research and attend workshops.

Mathematics majors Noe Reyes, Jeannelle Green, Moises Reyes and Gabriel Palacios were invited to speak at the conference, based on exceptional performances in their courses and an interest in research. The group presented their research, which was guided by Anthony Bosman, PhD, assistant professor of mathematics, during a presentation titled “On the Delta-unlinking Number.” The presentation

earned an award and the group went on to present their research at the Young Mathematicians Conference.

“Research is born out of intellectual curiosity,” shares Bosman. “I encourage students to engage in their classes by digging deeper and asking ‘why’ and ‘what if?’ questions.”

Noe, Jeannelle, Moises and Gabriel participated in an NSF-funded summer research experienced under Bosman’s direction this past summer. “During the 8-week program, they studied the delta move in knot theory, a way of transforming one knot or link into another,” Bosman explains. “They proved several original results and determined the exact number of delta moves needed to reduce a family of links into the trivial link.”

The students chronicled their results into a paper for publication and have been presenting their findings at a number of national conferences, including MathFest, where Noe shared the group’s findings. Following the conference, the MAA announced that the Andrews

University team had been awarded an outstanding student presentation award.

Senior mathematics major and student presenter Jonathan Homan also won an award for his presentation on “Strong Fusion Pretzel Links,” his J.N. Andrews Honors capstone project on which he worked under the mentorship of Bosman. Homan presented at the Pi Mu Epsilon national meeting as the representative for the Andrews University chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon.

On the last day of MathFest, Jonathan was notified that he was one of the Pi Mu Epsilon winners chosen for the quality of his research presentation.

“From over 100 student presentations, a couple dozen were selected for awards. For both of our Andrews presenters to receive this national recognition affirms the exceptional work that students and faculty on our campus are engaged in,” shares Bosman. “Such national conferences are a wonderful way for us to introduce students to the wider world of academic research. For them to present their own work and be recognized encourages our students to persist in the mathematical sciences and helps them stand out when they apply to top graduate programs.”

Yun Myung Oh, professor of Mathematics, other Andrews faculty members and mathematicians from across the country gave presentations about the various scientific career opportunities for students to pursue.

Bosman says that students should talk with faculty to learn more about the many undergraduate research opportunities available to them. “Expert faculty researchers who are eager to mentor undergraduates is a distinctive strength of Andrews University that students should know about and take advantage of,” he says. ■

Moriah McDonald, University Communication student writer

Clergy and educator memorial medallions available

Memorial Medallions

The Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes the sacrifices and dedication of its employees and seeks to demonstrate its appreciation in a variety of ways. One way the church expresses appreciation after the death of a pastor or educator is with a Seventh-day Adventist Clergy or Educator Memorial Medallion.

The Seventh-day Adventist Clergy and Educator Memorial Medallions honor the sacrificial service of the men and women who dedicated their lives of full-time gospel or educational ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Presentation of Memorial Medallions

- The medallion should be presented in gratitude for the faithful worker's service.
- The presentation should be made publicly at the funeral, memorial service or graveside committal.
- The family may wish to keep the medallion in their home, or have the medallion affixed to the cemetery grave marker. The funeral home director may be able to assist the family in finding the right person to ensure the medallion is placed securely on the tombstone.

Qualifications

Individuals can purchase Memorial Medallions from Advent Source independent from the Lake Union qualifications. To qualify for a Memorial Medallion from the Lake Union Conference, the deceased must have:

1. Been a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in good and regular standing
2. Served in Seventh-day Adventist Education/Ministerial work
3. Served within the LUC footprint

When someone from Seventh-day Adventist Education or Ministerial work has died who meets the three qualifications listed above:

- The family of a current employee within the LUC footprint may receive a medallion from the Lake Union Conference without charge.
- Family, conferences, churches or schools may request a medallion for someone who has retired (or for another reason is not currently working). There will be a \$35 fee charged to the requesting entity.
- It is the responsibility of the conference, church, school and/or family to request a medallion.



Please contact Vicki Thompson with any questions or to initiate this process (269-473-8221, vicki.thompson@lakeunion.org).

The Memorial Medallion may be presented by a principal, pastor, conference officer, university leader or union representative. Who presents the medallion will depend on calendar availability, leadership position, and knowledge of the deceased worker. ■

Lake Union Education Dept.

Pathway to Health

INDIANAPOLIS

April 14-21, 2022

Volunteer Opportunities

pathwaytohealth.org/volunteer

Pathway to Health

Pacific Island school gets boost from the Lake Union

In 2018 the North American Division asked each of its nine unions to adopt one of the nine islands in the Guam-Micronesia Mission where there was an Adventist church and school. Our Lake Union Conference island is Kosrae, a small island 2,800 miles southwest of Hawaii with about 6,600 residents.

For the past three years, students and church members across the Lake Union have been praying for our brothers and sisters who live on Kosrae. Many people in our Union also have helped to mail care packages since, for many months, ships were not allowed to deliver supplies to the islands due to COVID-19. Many also have helped to raise funds to build a mission gym for their school.

During these three years, the school has grown from 50 students to 76 students (Pre-K through eleventh grade). The positive impact that this school is making in the lives of the students, many from non-Adventist homes, is unmistakable.

Since February 2021, a LUC administrator, pastor, youth leader or educator has preached the last Sabbath of the month for their Sabbath church service via Zoom.

Principal Kamran Masih shared the following, "I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Heavenly Father for His goodness and for all of the Lake Union family who are praying for us. We are so humbled and honored by the partnership with the Lake Union."

The church members on this island need us. Even though they are dedicated, they are few in number. Knowing that people in the Illinois, Indiana, Lake Region, Michigan and Wisconsin conferences are praying for them is a source of strength and encouragement.



Messages from Students

The SDA church on Kosrae was established in 1973 and the Adventist school opened its doors in 1979. Classes are taught in English, which is important to many families. The Adventist school is respected for its strong academics and Christian values. The school is accredited by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.



New Gym

A big thank you to each Lake Union student, teacher and church member who has donated/raised money to build a gym for the Kosrae SDA school! Land already has been cleared and containers with gym materials have arrived on the island.

Money from a 13th Sabbath School offering and ADRA already has been sent to the Guam-Micronesia Mission for this gym. Our LUC goal was to raise \$75,000. We currently have \$50,000 in the Kosrae account. Only \$25,000 to go! If you would like to donate, you can do so by:

Giving online to the Kosrae gym project at: <https://www.lakeunion.org/>

Mailing a check made out to the Lake Union Conference. Please write "Kosrae Gym" on the memo line: Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Principal Kamran

Kamran Masih and his wife, Saima, are missionaries from Pakistan and have served four years at the Kosrae School. Kamran serves as the principal; he also teaches a freshman physical science class, helps with maintenance, and is the head elder at the church. Saima is the Pre-K/K teacher with 17 students in her classroom this year. She is grateful to have Mia Neth as her assistant.

Kamran and Saima have two children. Their daughter, Misha, is in the second grade; their son, Abner, is in the kindergarten class.



Student Missionaries

The Lake Union would like to express appreciation to the student missionaries who chose to give a year of their lives to teach at the Kosrae School. This year, Jordan Magakat from Andrews University, and Kelsey Perez and Dylan Waters from Southern Adventist University are teaching Bible, computers, language arts, math, P.E. and science classes to Grades 5–11. Student missionaries not only teach academic classes, they also make a spiritual difference in the lives of their students.

Water Bottles

In January 2019, a Lake Union team was privileged to visit the Kosrae church and school. During that week we visited classrooms, attended prayer meeting and visited in Pastor Manny de Guzman' home with church and school leaders. Pastor de Guzman's wife, Betty, teaches the

third- and fourth-graders. They are both missionaries from the Philippines.

On Sabbath we worshiped with Kosrae members at Sabbath School, church and vespers. We were treated to two delicious meals—Sabbath potluck and a farewell supper. What precious memories we treasure!

It is our desire that the students at the Kosrae School know that we are praying for them—and that we are glad to have them as part of our Lake Union family. This year at Christmas each student received a water bottle from the Lake Union. ■

Linda Fuchs, Lake Union Education director





Welcome to the Annual *Lake Union Herald* Readership Survey!

This is your opportunity to share your opinions and suggestions so the *Herald* magazine can best serve your interests. Your responses will help us gain a clearer understanding of what you expect to see in these pages and assist us in producing a magazine that is a better reflection of interests and concerns to our readers.

How often do you typically read an issue?

Every Most Occasionally Never

How much of each magazine do you read?

All Most Some None

How long do you keep an issue?

>1 mo. <1 mo. 1 wk. Discard

Total minutes reading each issue?

60+ 30-60 10-30 0-10

If additional content is available online only, how likely are you to go to the website to read it?

Not Some Moderately Very

Using either the list below, the Table of Contents (on p. 3) or by flipping through the magazine, please answer the questions that follow:

Feature articles which focus on a particular theme or topic for that issue

Perspectives (editorial, Lest We Forget, Conversations with God, Conexiones, One Voice)

Evangelism (Sharing Our Hope, Telling God's Stories, Partnership with God, On the Edge)

Lifestyle (Family Focus, Alive & Well)

Current Matters (AdventHealth, Andrews University, other News stories, Calendar of Events, Mileposts, Classifieds)

What type of articles would you like more of?

What article(s) do you *Always* read?

What article(s) do you *Never* read?

In general, the articles should be (*check one*):

Shorter Longer Remain Same

On a scale of 1-10, how valuable is the content to you?

In your opinion, how can we improve that value?

What article topic would you consider to be the most memorable in the last year?

What do you like the most about the magazine?

What do you like the least about the magazine?

Are there any changes or improvements you would like to suggest?

Do you subscribe to the weekly e-newsletter?

Yes No

Please sign me up (*provide info. below*)

Email address

Name

Please rate the quality of the current *Herald* magazine on the following:

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	No opinion
Content						
Cover						
Readability						
Design						
Photography						
Writing						

Of what conference are you a member?

Ind. Ill. Mich. Lake Region
 Wis. None Other

What is your age?

under 25 25-34 35-49 50-64 65+

What is your gender?

Male Female

Please mail completed survey by

**April 31, 2022, to: *Lake Union Herald*,
P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103**

Or, go online to fill out the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSG5MCW>

Or, scan this QR code.



Watch for survey results in the August issue of the *Herald*.

Thank you for your time and support in completing this survey.

Readers - Return your survey **TODAY** to be included in a drawing for a \$50 gift card at Amazon.

Lake Union Schools

Illinois

Alpine Christian School – Rockford
Downers Grove Adventist School – Downers Grove
Gurnee Christian Academy – Gurnee
Gurnee Christian Preschool – Gurnee
HAA Little Lambs Early Learning Center – Hinsdale
Hinsdale Adventist Academy – Hinsdale
Marion Adventist Christian School – Marion
Metro-East Adventist Christian School – Caseyville
North Aurora Elementary School – North Aurora
North Shore Adventist Academy – Chicago
Thompsonville Christian Junior Academy –
Thompsonville

Indiana

Aboite Christian School – Roanoke
Adventist Christian Elementary – Bloomington
Cicero Adventist Elementary – Cicero
Cross Street Christian School – Anderson
Door Prairie Christian Daycare – La Porte
Indiana Academy – Cicero
Indianapolis Junior Academy – Indianapolis
Indianapolis Southside Christian Academy –
Indianapolis
Maple Creek Adventist Academy – Columbus
Northwest Adventist Christian School – Crown Point
Richmond Adventist Elementary School –
Richmond
Riverview Adventist Christian Academy – Evansville
South Bend Junior Academy – South Bend

Lake Region

Chicago SDA Christian School – Chicago
Flint Fairhaven Elementary School – Flint
Indianapolis Capitol City Elementary School –
Indianapolis
Peterson-Warren Academy – Inkster
South Suburban SDA Christian School – Park Forest

Michigan

A.S.P.I.R.E. Academy – Michigan Conference
Adelphian Junior Academy – Holly
Andrews Academy – Berrien Springs
Ann Arbor Elementary School – Ann Arbor
Battle Creek Academy – Battle Creek
Bluff View Christian School – Bessemer
Cedar Lake Elementary – Cedar Lake
Charlotte Adventist Christian School – Charlotte
Eau Claire Elementary School – Eau Claire
Edenville SDA Elementary School – Edenville
First Flint Elementary School – Flint

Gobles Junior Academy – Gobles
Grand Rapids Adventist Academy – Grand Rapids
Grayling Elementary School – Grayling
Great Lakes Adventist Academy – Cedar Lake
Greater Lansing Adventist School – Lansing
Hastings Elementary School – Hastings
Holland Adventist Academy – Holland
Ionia Elementary School – Ionia
Ithaca SDA School – Ithaca
Kalamazoo Junior Academy – Kalamazoo
Marquette SDA School – Negaunee
Metropolitan SDA Junior Academy – Plymouth
Mount Pleasant Elementary School –
Mount Pleasant
Niles Adventist School – Niles
Northview Adventist School – Cadillac
Oakwood Junior Academy – Taylor
Pine Mountain Christian School – Iron Mountain
Ruth Murdoch Elementary School –
Berrien Springs
The Crayon Box – Berrien Springs
Tri-City SDA School – Saginaw
Troy Adventist Academy – Troy
Troy Adventist Academy Preschool – Troy
Village Adventist Elementary School –
Berrien Springs
Wilson Junior Academy – Wilson

Wisconsin

Bethel Junior Academy – Arpin
Green Bay Adventist Junior Academy – Green Bay
Hillside Christian School – Wausau
Maranatha SDA Christian School – Lena
Milwaukee SDA School – Milwaukee
Milwaukee SDA School – South Campus –
Milwaukee
Milwaukee SDA School – Waukesha – New Berlin
Otter Creek Christian Academy – Altoona
Petersen Adventist School – Columbus
Three Angels Christian School – Monona
Wisconsin Academy – Columbus

Education Statement

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



Sandra Mendez

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

OBITUARIES

CONNER, Ronnie D., age 75; born June 30, 1945, in Ionia, Mich.; died June 15, 2021, in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was a member of Cedar Lake Church, in Cedar Lake, Mich. Survivors include his wife, Margie L. (Hunt) Conner; sons, Brett M. Conner, Marcellus C. (Heather) Conner, and Jacob L. (Coral) Conner; daughter, Rondell E. (Ben) Conner-Gulick; sisters, Kaye L. (Wayne) Coston, and Sue A. (Larry) Wymer; 18 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Jeffrey Marshall; interment in Cedar Lake Cemetery, Cedar Lake.

CORSON, Joseph H., age 77, born April 8, 1944, in Millville, N.J.; died Oct. 30, 2021, in Sobieski, Wis. He was a member of the Green Bay Church in Green Bay, Wis. He is survived by his son, Jeffery Corson. Memorial services were held by Pastor Stephen Aust; inurnment.

DENSLow, Emma Berniece "Berni" (Holton), age 88; born April 11, 1933, in Saginaw, Mich.; died Dec. 23, 2021, in Chattanooga, Tenn. She was a member of the East Pasco Church in Zephyrhills, Fla. She is survived by her children, Sandy (John) Lindquist, Kenneth (Patricia) Denslow, Richard Denslow; and James (Wanda) Denslow; siblings, Stan (Rose Smith) Holton, Carol (Roger) Gantz, and Lonnie (Cathy) Holton; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. A memorial service is planned for March 19 in the McDonald (Tenn.) Church.

DAVIS, John H., age 97, born April 26, 1923, in Green Bay, Wis.; died April 3, 2021, in Green Bay. He was a lifelong member of the Green Bay Church in Green Bay. He

is survived by his wife, Kathleen "Kathy" (Hendricksen) Davis; sons, John L. Davis, and Kent (Patti) Davis; daughter, Lynn (Ronald Sr.) Klemp; six grandchildren; and seven grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor William Ochs; interment in Fort Howard Memorial Park, Green Bay.

DePAS, Cecil D., age 93; born June 16, 1928, in Wilson, Mich.; died Jan. 4, 2022, in Escanaba, Mich. He was a member of the Wilson Church in Wilson. He is survived by his wife, Elsa (Mohnhaupt) DePas; sons, Arthur DePas, Ronald (Pamela) DePas, and Raymond (Christine) DePas; daughters, Doreen (David) Berndt, and Denise (Adam) Loberg; eight grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Elder Aaron Berger; interment will take place this spring in Michigan.

DOVICH, Luvamay, age 85; born June 5, 1936, in Waldheim, Saskatchewan, Canada; died Nov. 7, 2021, in Brighton, Mass. She was a member of Holly Church in Holly, Mich. Survivors include her sons, Steven (Sherri) Dovich, and Douglas Dovich; daughters, Laurel (Micheal Fallong) Dovich, and Sharon (Micheal) Szykowski; and four grandchildren.

FORD, Dwain, age 93; born Dec. 21, 1927, in Nevada, Iowa.; died Nov. 7, 2021, in St. Joseph, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, Mich. Survivors include son, David; daughter, Diane; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Funeral and interment were conducted in Berrien Center, Mich.

HILL, Glenn H., age 88; born July 4, 1933, in Youngstown, Ohio; died Dec. 10, 2021, in

Gentry, Ark. He is a member of the Gentry Church in Gentry, Arkansas. Survivors include his wife, Mary Alice Hill; sons, Glenn Paul (Debbie) Hill, and David S. Hill; daughter, Lucinda S. Hill; and four grandchildren. A memorial service was held by Pastor Werner Gill in Arizona.

KNAPP, Mabel Mae (Stone), age 99; born April 28, 1921, in Boyne City, Mich.; died Feb. 19, 2021, in Boyne City. She was a member of Boyne City Church in Boyne City. She is survived by her sons, Ralph R. (Diana Douseman) Knapp, Steve H. (Gail Schaler) Knapp; daughter, Kay E. (Ronald) Brockette; 15 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Chris Ames; interment in Maple Lawn Cemetery, Boyne City.

MAPES, Charlotte D. (Sabin), age 92; born Sept. 11, 1929, in Diamondhead, Mich.; died Dec. 8, 2021, in East Jordan, Mich. She was a member of Boyne City Church in Boyne City, Mich. She is survived by her sons, Gerry (Cheryl) Mapes, Cliff (Kathy) Mapes, and Jeff (Lori) Mapes; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Chris Ames; interment in Maple Lawn Cemetery, Boyne City.

McDONALD, Ruthella A. (Alford), age 92; born May 28, 1929; died Oct. 8, 2021, in Midland, Mich. She was a member of Midland Church, in Midland. She is survived by her husband, Charles "Mac" McDonald; son, Jack (Debbie) McDonald; daughters, Dixie (Scott) Chaffee, Cynthia (Brent) Link; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

MESSERSMITH, Leslie W., age 68; born April 21, 1953, in Escanaba, Mich.; died Dec. 7, 2021, in Marquette, Mich. He was a member of Wilson Church in Wilson, Mich. He is survived by his wife, Nancy (Schultz) Messersmith; son, Jason (Melanie) Messersmith; daughter, Jamie (Glen) Pearson; daughter-in-law, Kristy



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Messersmith; brothers, Keith (Colleen) Messersmith, Clair Messersmith, and Gailyn (Valerie) Messersmith; sister, Darlene (Howard) Walden; sister-in-law, Nancy Messersmith; and seven grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Tom Hubbard; interment in Wilson Church Cemetery, Wilson.

MYERS, Janis F. (Sheets), age 91; born Sept. 25, 1929, in Fort Wayne, Ind.; died Sept. 23, 2021, in Angola, Ind. She was a member of the Angola Church in Angola. Survivors include her son, Scott (Leslie) Myers; daughters, Nancy (Manuel) Pujols, and Julie (Timothy) Hicks; sister, Delight (Truman) Johnson; 12 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Benjamin See; interment in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola.

PEMBERTON, Dortha; age 100, born Feb. 3, 1921, in Olmsted, Ill.; died Dec. 5, 2021, in Evansville, Ind. She was a member of the Evansville Westside Church in Evansville. Survivors include her son, Vaughn (Gloria) Pemberton; daughter, Alice (Rick) Johnson; brother, George Henson; and seven grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Lloyd; interment in Alexander Memorial Park, Evansville.

ROCKWELL, Carl, age 86; born Dec. 2, 1934, in Munith, Mich.; died Nov. 22, 2021, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Village Church in Berrien Springs. Survivors include his son, Scott Rockwell; daughters, Cheryl (Rockwell) Jenkins, and Kay Rockwell; brothers, Richard "Dick" Rockwell, Jerry Rockwell, and Mark Rockwell; sister, Loveva Slayton; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Memorial services were conducted; private inurnment.

SCHWARTZ, Jerome "Jerry" G., age 89, born Feb. 4, 1932, in Cadillac, Mich.; died Jan. 7, 2022, in Cadillac. He was a member of the Cadillac Church in Cadillac. Survivors include his wife, Linda G. (Schultz) Schwartz; sons, Brian (Lyndi) Schwartz, and Gunther

(Kristi) Schwartz; daughters, Heidi Schwartz, and Cara (Ovidiu) Brinzeiu; brother, Stuart Schwartz; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ariel Rodan; interment in Sherman Township Cemetery, Cadillac.

SCRIBNER, Gordon R., age 101; born Nov. 29, 1920, in Berrien Springs, Mich.; died Dec. 29, 2021, in Loma Linda, Calif. He was a member of the Village Church in Berrien Springs, Mich. Survivors include his daughter, Janet (Scribner) Horn; stepdaughter, Sandy (Don) Ely Balli and her family; eight grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren. Memorial services will be held this spring.

SCRIBNER, Kenneth L., age 74; born Oct. 25, 1947, in Benton Harbor, Mich.; died Dec. 16, 2021, in St. Joseph, Mich. He was a member of the Edwardsburg Church in Edwardsburg, Mich. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn "Kay" A. Scribner; son, Kenneth (Cornelia) Scribner; stepdaughter, Marlene (Richard) Cottier; father, Gordon Scribner (*see notice above*); sister, Janet Horn; many nieces and nephews; and two grandchildren. Memorial services were held; interment was in South Wayne Cemetery in Dowagiac, Mich.

SLUITER, Mary K. (Hoisington), age 71; born Oct. 17, 1949, in Cadillac, Mich.; died May 11, 2021, in Cadillac. She was a member of the Manton Church in Manton, Mich. She is survived by her husband, Wayne A. Sluiter; stepson, Terry (Lyn) Sluiter; daughter, Teresa Frye; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Memorial services were conducted by Elder Ramon Mayoral, Nancy Johnson and Pastor Bob Benson; private interment in Maple Hill Cemetery, Cadillac.

WALKER, Robert K., age 89; born Sept. 25, 1932, in Mattawa, Canada; died Dec. 13, 2021, in South Bend, Ind. He was a member of South Bend First Church in South Bend. He is survived by his wife,

Sharon (Moody-Baugues) Walker; son, Robert S. Walker; daughter, Elvyna Walker; stepdaughters, Wenona (Baugues) Hays, Natanja (Baugues) Hensley; two grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren. Memorial service was held; interment in Bronswood Cemetery, Oak Brook, Ill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Churches, schools, conferences, institutions and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at <http://www.lakeunionherald.org> and submit the announcement online. Readers may verify dates and times of programs with the respective sources, as these events are subject to change. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at <http://www.lakeunionherald.org>.

APRIL 8–9, 2022—50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR MILWAUKEE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SCHOOL (f/k/a MJA). All are welcome to attend. Speaker: Pastor Debbie Rivera. Celebration will be held at 1090 W. Mill Road, Milwaukee, WI 53225. Please RSVP to milwaukeesdaschool.org.

LEGAL NOTICE: The 23rd business session of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held in the Pioneer Memorial Church at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich., on May 15, 2022. The first meeting of the session will convene at 9:00 a.m. on May 15. This session is being held for the purpose of receiving reports for the six-year period ending December 31, 2021; the election of officers, associate treasurers, departmental directors, associate directors, and executive committee for the ensuing five years; to consider proposed constitutional changes; and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates.

Ken Denslow, president
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MARCH

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

March 2-5: *Band & Keyboard Music Festival*
March 11, 2:30-4 p.m. (general admission):
*Honors Scholars and Undergraduate Research
Poster Symposium*
March 13-14: *March Preview*

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*For more information on the following events
and to purchase tickets, call 888-467-6442 or
269-471-3560, or visit howard.andrews.edu.*

March 4, 7:30 p.m.: *Wind Symphony Vespers
Concert*
March 5, 4 p.m.: *Music Festival Finale Concert*
March 12, 8 p.m.: *Howard Presents: Violin
Concerto No. 2 "Teshuah"*
March 13, 4 p.m.: *Sunday Music Series: Ian
Hobson, pianist*
March 20, 4 p.m.: *Southwest Michigan
Symphony Orchestra Concert*

ILLINOIS

March 13: *Pathfinder Northern Area Honors
Academy, TBD*

INDIANA

March 5: *Hispanic Women's Ministries Day of
Prayer*

March 5: *State Pathfinder Bible Experience
(Virtual)*

March 11-13: *Indiana Pathfinder & Adventurer
Training Institute, Timber Ridge Camp*

March 30-April 18: *Ignite Indiana Evangelistic
Meetings, Local Churches*

LAKE REGION

March 5: *Women's Day of prayer*

March 18, 8 p.m.: *Women's History Month.
Livestream event.*

March 25-26: *Christian Fellowship League
Championship, Detroit*

MICHIGAN

March 1-15: *Camp Meeting Registration*

March 8: *Camp Au Sable Registration Opens*

WISCONSIN

March. 25-27: *Women's Ministry Retreat,
Camp Wakonda*

March. 31-April 2: *Wisconsin Academy Music
Festival, Wisconsin Academy*

LAKE UNION

March 11-12: *Our United Cry Prayer
Conference, Plainfield, Ind.*

March 19: *Pathfinder Bible Experience,
Andrews University*

March 19: *Global Youth Day (General
Conference)*

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

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EMPLOYMENT

ADVENTIST INFORMATION MINISTRY IS SEEKING AN OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR

to manage daily operations of our evangelistic contact center. This person will work to coordinate schedules, hire student workers, monitor and create reports, and more. Full-time position located in Berrien Springs, MI. For full description: callaim.org/employment. Contact Brent Hardinge, brenth@callaim.org, for more information.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS FACULTY- ASSISTANT PROFESSOR/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE/PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE

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MISCELLANEOUS

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CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS MARCH

- March 5** Local Church Budget
- March 12** World Budget, Adventist World Radio (GC)
- March 19** Local Church Budget
- March 26** Local Conference Advance



Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	March 4	March 11	March 18	March 25
Berrien Springs, Mich.	6:40	6:48	7:56	8:07
Chicago, Ill.	5:45	5:53	7:01	7:09
Detroit, Mich.	6:26	6:35	7:43	7:51
Indianapolis, Ind.	6:41	6:48	7:55	8:02
La Crosse, Wis.	5:58	6:07	7:16	7:24
Lansing, Mich.	6:32	6:41	7:49	7:57
Madison, Wis.	5:51	6:00	7:08	7:17
Springfield, Ill.	5:55	6:02	7:09	7:16

That the World May Know!

Growing up in southern Florida as the youngest of eight children, I remember a lot of large family gatherings. At one gathering in Pennsylvania, I was surrounded by many of my nieces, nephews and cousins, some of which I did not get to see very often.



▲ Rob Benardo

This get-together was particularly special to me because I was a newly baptized Seventh-day Adventist Christian (the only one in my family), and was eager to share my new-found faith.

I had brought with me a stack of the wonderful book, called *Steps to Christ*, that I had hoped to give out. I wouldn't really describe myself as shy, but I was hesitating and praying for the right opportunity to witness for my Savior. Not long after the prayer, one of my gregarious little nieces, probably about seven years old, happened to come over my way and saw the picture of Jesus on the front of the book. She took the book into her little hands and said, "Oh, this is Jesus! Jesus loves me and I love Jesus! Do you love Jesus?" I responded, "Yes, I do love Jesus," and without hesitation she excitedly went around the whole group with the little book, sharing her faith and asking every one of them if they loved Jesus also. At the end of the day, there was no doubt my little niece felt loved by her Lord, and she loved sharing Him with others.

The Gospel of John chapter 17 contains Jesus' most extensive recorded prayer. In verse twenty-three, Jesus prayed to His Father and ours and asked that the world may know two things: Firstly, that the world would know that the Father sent the Son, and secondly that the world would know that the Father loves the world as the Father loves the Son. The love between the Father and the Son is eternal and unchangeable. We, too, have been loved from the foundation of the world and there will always be a place in God's heart for us.

God so loved the world that He emptied out all of heaven in one gift for those that did not love Him!

But don't miss the first half of the verse! *I [Jesus] in them and You [Father] in Me, that they may be made perfect in one.* This perfect oneness is to be the basis for the world believing that God sent His Son out of love for them! We just finished the General Conference 10 Days of Prayer here in Battle Creek on January 15, and I can tell you that prayer is one of the best things we can do to foster that solidarity among the body of Christ. During that time, we learned about one another's deepest desires, struggles and requests; we poured out our hearts in prayer for one another; we leaned upon God's unfulfilling promises together; and we praised Him together in fullness of spirit.

If ever the world needed to see the unity of God's people, it is today. There are so many things that threaten to divide us, but prayer truly knits our hearts together as one. In closing, I just want to encourage you to be a part of your church's local prayer meetings. Also, we hope you will join our Lake Union prayer emphasis in Indiana on March 11 and 12 where we will be studying more deeply the great prayer of Jesus in John 17. ■

Rob Benardo, senior pastor of the Battle Creek Tabernacle and Prayer coordinator for the Michigan Conference

Living in the Rainy Day

Over the past two years, several fiscal shifts have occurred in our economy. At the beginning of the pandemic, food and normal household items were scarce. Major retail outlets and restaurants struggled to stay open while others closed their doors for good.

This new reality led to nationwide job losses and financial hardships. Simultaneously, the cost for many everyday household essentials increased substantially. Unfortunately, we are still faced with some of the same struggles today. The ability to live paycheck to paycheck is no longer a safe option.

You may have heard the age-old idiom, “saving for a rainy day.” I believe that this statement indicates two things: 1) a rainy day is very possible, and 2) when it happens, we need to be financially prepared. What one considers a rainy day will vary from person to person. However, we can all agree that a rainy day is a period unlike any other and one which will require preparation. I would propose that we are living in unpredictable times which feels like a prolonged rainy day.

How then can we prepare to weather this stormy season? Financial experts recommend having an appropriate amount in a savings account. Some experts recommend that you should consider saving 20 percent of each paycheck. Others suggest saving the equivalent of 3 to 6 months of your normal monthly expenses. Although experts may not all agree on the perfect amount to save, the emphasis is on saving something. Whether you save 20 percent or \$20 per pay period, the idea is to start a savings account.

The number one reason given for not saving is, “I don’t have the extra money to spare,” and to some, that may be the case. However, where there is a will, there is certainly a way. Here are two simple tips to help start your successful journey to saving. 1) Set an achievable

goal. Start small with a short-term goal until you’ve created a natural routine of saving. Setting aside \$20 a week for six months sounds easier than \$1,000 a year. 2) Identify what you can do without. Eliminating a \$10 take-out order can become \$500 in savings.

It is believed that two-thirds of Americans have less than \$1,000 saved, while 1 out of 4 have no savings at all. In Proverbs 21:20, Jesus declares *there is desirable treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise; But a foolish man squanders it.* It is never too late to prepare for the unexpected. Again, the key is to start. Most major banks can assist you with opening a savings account. If you find depositing money is a daunting task, options allow for funds to be automatically deposited securely into an account through your bank or employer.

Matthew 25 speaks of the five wise virgins and five foolish virgins preparing to meet the delayed bridegroom. Like the five wise virgins, if we would consider saving some “oil” now, then, unlike the five foolish, when the “bridegroom” unexpectedly arrives, we, too, will be prepared. ■

Jermaine Jackson is the associate treasurer and Stewardship director for the Lake Union.



▲ Jermaine Jackson



From Mud Floors to a Career in the Clouds

MY MIRACLE OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION

NOT MANY CHILDREN LEAVE HOME AT AGE ELEVEN. I discovered early on that my life would never be like most children's. I was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in Central Africa, the son of Pakistani missionaries working at the Adventist University of Lukanga. My father served as professor of Finance, then became university president; my mother was a cashier, and later registrar. Together they served in the Congo for 17 years.

My Adventist educational journey began with pre-school in a small, mud-floored facility serving 60 children. Recesses were spent on muddy playing fields. Our only notebooks were the ones my parents provided for my classmates and me. Still, I loved going to school every day because I was learning from one of the finest, most loving teachers I would ever meet.

Later, in elementary school, we still had mud floors. The only textbook was the one the teacher possessed. Each student "textbook" was whatever we copied into our notebooks from the teacher's writing

on the blackboard. I was the only foreigner in that school of 450 students, but my teachers and classmates made certain that I never felt like an outsider.

After nine years of pre-school and primary education in the Congo, all of it in French, my parents decided I would benefit from education in English. The decision was made: although not yet a teenager, I would travel about 500 miles to the Adventist boarding school in Uganda. My parents could have afforded to send me to a more prestigious school with better facilities, but their commitment to Adventist education was

unwavering. Once again, I was blessed in my new school. I never felt alone.

My educational journey led me next to exchange life in Africa for the United States. I knew some English by this time, but still hadn't had the benefit of my own textbooks or exposure to a wide range of subjects.

With the help of Wisconsin Academy's dedicated Christian teachers and kind, supportive classmates, however, I was able to succeed.

Still the only foreigner, I did



Rayno Victor

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Contributors: Writer guidelines are available online at <https://www.lakeunionherald.org/about/writer-guidelines>.
Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index



SOME MIGHT SAY THAT ADVENTIST EDUCATION IS LIMITING. I CONSIDER MY ADVENTIST EDUCATION TO BE A MIRACLE AND THE BEST POSSIBLE EDUCATION.

not suffer the acute loneliness that one might expect in someone so young and so far from family. When my classmates left campus each month for homeleave, a Wisconsin Academy faculty member always welcomed me into their home. Later, as I made friends among the student body, my classmates invited me to their homes. In the most practical way possible, I was reminded that I belonged to a large yet tightly knit Christian family.

Thanks to the prayers and support of my family in the Congo and my new family at Wisconsin Academy, I was honored at graduation with not only a diploma, but with three medals—The Caring Heart, Best Four-Year Student Worker, and Member of the National Honor Society. Even more important was my deepened commitment to Christ and the beliefs and ideals of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Today I am studying aviation at Andrews University in Michigan. As a young child, on flights from the Congo back to Pakistan with my parents, I was inspired by the pilots. I wanted to do what they were doing. I met missionary pilots, too, specifically Bob Roberts and his son, Gary Roberts. I

saw the smiles they brought to the faces of the people they served by delivering much-needed supplies, and providing access to services and expertise not readily available nearby. I decided to pursue a university major that would prepare me to be like these pilots while also honoring my parents' legacy of missionary service.

Some might say that Adventist education is limiting. I consider my Adventist education to be a miracle and the best possible education. Every step of the way, it was there for me, providing learning, community and spiritual development. It continues to inspire me to serve others where I am and wherever God and my degree eventually lead me. As my favorite verse of Scripture reminds me, *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me* (Philippians 4:13). ■

Nathan Gulzar is in his first year at Andrews University. Together with his parents, Amir and Shabnam Gulzar, and his twin sisters, Nathalie and Natasha, Nathan now calls Milwaukee home. Story was edited by Beverly Matiko.

Nathan received a \$100 scholarship for this article. If you're a youth or young adult interested in submitting an article for consideration, please contact: heraldlakeunion.org.



**"BEST PLANT-
BASED FILM
OUT THERE"**

Hans Diehl, Founder of CHIP



**"A POWERFUL
FILM"**

Chef AJ, Host of Chef AJ Live



**"INSPIRING
AND
MEANINGFUL"**

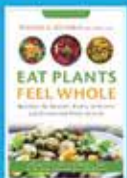
*T. Colin Campbell, Co-author,
The China Study*



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