

SERVING SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS IN THE LAKE UNION SINCE 1908

HERALD

APRIL 2023

I CHOOSE TO TEACH!



Despite
all that's
going on.



Make Things Right

As of April 11, we're officially 100 days into the new year. Did you set any goals? How are you doing? Perhaps there were some achievements? Congratulations! Perhaps there were disappointments? Can I propose we take this time to reflect and put things in proper perspective?

I love the following story about James and Ellen White because it just goes to prove that a setback is nothing but a setup for a comeback. It also shows there's a simple formula for facing those low points.

During the late 1860s and early 1870s, James and Ellen White were having some difficulties with the Battle Creek congregation. It was causing them great stress to the point where James had even suffered a series of strokes and had to move out of town. The denomination was in crisis after several setbacks. Even plans for a new school were put on hold.

The story goes that James and Ellen took some



time off and travelled west to recover physically and emotionally. It was during this period that James came up with a plan to do things differently. He appointed people to help bring about transformation, but those plans failed miserably.

It wasn't until he spent a week in personal prayer, Bible study and reflection that things began to change for the better. He was convicted that he had contributed to the problem so began in earnest to make things right.

When the couple returned to Battle Creek

in November 1873, they began preaching of the need for personal conversion. Witnesses describe hearts melting as the couple shared from their own experience about how God had worked in their lives.

This is perhaps the greatest story of revival in the history of our church. The lasting impact was that, two years later, it resulted in the highest growth rates in church membership. Battle Creek College was organized the following year and the church sent its first official missionaries, the J.N. Andrews family, to Europe.

Let's embrace the next 265 days of the year as an opportunity to focus on cultivating a closer walk with God. Take some time away, just as Ellen, James and Jesus did, to spend in prayer and the study of God's Word.

Debbie

Debbie Michel
Editor, *Lake Union Herald*

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Dave Sherwin

TELLING THE STORIES OF WHAT GOD IS DOING IN THE LIVES OF HIS PEOPLE

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Who Will Go?

BY RUTH HORTON

AFTER I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF DASHING INTO THE EMBRACE OF MY SAVIOR, WHAT I LOOK FORWARD TO IN HEAVEN IS BEING A STUDENT IN THE SCHOOL—UNLIKE ANY I’VE KNOWN.



▲ Ruth Horton

Many have a similar aim, finding that place—anywhere—to sit, stand, lie, and take it all in. I mean, to be in a place where learning will be my never-ending occupation. No days, no nights!

While I prepare for that time, like you, I have the opportunity to be in this classroom, of life. And oh, what a classroom it is! Yes, one that requires its own prescribed preparation. It is assuring to know of classrooms where God’s messengers, committed evangelist educators, provide 1,260-plus contact hours annually of educational service ministry to students, with the aim of leading them into the embrace of their Savior.

Educators learn well so we can teach even better; so we can successfully connect with the heart and ignite supple minds. Apostle Paul proffers a definitive charge: “If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well.” Romans 12:7.

I am reminded of the words of Ellen White that “It is not the highest work of education to communicate knowledge merely, but to impart that vitalizing energy which is received through the contact of mind with mind, and soul with soul. It is only life that can beget life.” *Desire of Ages*, p. 250:1

A godly example, marked by dogged determination, diligence and a desire for our students’ spiritual, personal, and academic wholeness and individual success, are what teachers in our union territory aim to foster. From our early childhood spaces through grade 12, our mission is to glorify God by championing Christ-centered, quality education that develops discerning, life-long learners, equipped to serve humanity. Simply put, we serve to Inspire. Transform. Empower.

We are inspired by the dedicated service of educators charged with a higher calling to accomplish a greater good and, too, by students who lift our spirits—daily; who through their resilience, potential and scholarship remind us, sometimes years later, of why we’ve chosen this impactful profession.

You know well a looming threat to our education system globally. No, it’s not finances, which we agree is an ever-present necessity. It’s a steady and disquieting decline of the teaching workforce. I ask this question: Who will go? Who will choose to keep the flame flickering in the hearts of our children and youth, to meet the embrace of their Savior, to be equipped to serve in a rapidly changing world, and confidently transition to the next phase of their educational pursuits?

As you delve into the following pages and unveil evidence of teachers whose hearts are bent towards students and their well-being and read about students’ learning experiences, my hope is that you will be similarly inspired.

While challenges in our society are looming larger and larger, the fight for the souls of our children is one we can ill afford to lose. Unite with us, in whatever way the Lord impresses you, and join this infantry of educators to contend for our children and their faith.

Ruth Horton is the Lake Union director of education.

ry 17, 2023



Dave Sherwin

Creating a New Normal for Mental Health



▲ David Sedlacek

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) CHARACTERIZES MENTAL HEALTH ESSENTIALLY AS A STATE OF WELL-BEING WHERE ONE CAN COPE WITH NORMAL STRESSES OF LIFE AND MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY.

Note the positivity that is inherent in this definition. Similarly, understanding how to practice resilience is important to thriving in a post-pandemic world. Resilience is the ability to cope with and recover from setbacks. People who remain calm in the face of disaster have resilience.¹ People with psychological resilience are able to use their skills and strengths to respond to life's challenges, which can include those related to the death of a loved one, divorce, financial challenges, illness, job loss, medical emergencies or natural disasters which are all too common in today's world.

Instead of falling into despair or hiding from issues by using unhealthy coping strategies, resilient people face life's difficulties head-on. Resilient people often have characteristics that help them weather life's challenges. Some of the signs of resilience include:

- **A survivor mentality:** When people are resilient, they view themselves as survivors. They know that even when things are difficult, they can keep going until they make it through.
- **Effective emotional regulation:** Resilience is marked by an ability to manage emotions in the face of stress. This doesn't mean that resilient people don't experience strong emotions such as anger, sadness, or fear. It means that they recognize those feelings are temporary and can be managed until they pass.
- **Feeling in control:** Resilient people tend to have a strong internal locus of control and feel that their actions can play a part in determining the outcome of events.

- **Problem-solving skills:** When problems arise, resilient people look at the situation rationally and try to come up with solutions that will make a difference.
- **Self-compassion:** Another sign of resilience is showing self-acceptance and self-compassion. Resilient people treat themselves with kindness, especially when things are hard.
- **Social support:** Having a solid network of supportive people is another sign of resilience. Resilient people recognize the importance of support and knowing when they need to ask for help.

If the negative impact of the pandemic is going to be with us, we must take steps to care for ourselves. Getting help through professional counseling is important for our mental health issues. As has been discussed above, mental illness as one of the effects of sin permeates the Scriptures. Therefore, there is no shame to getting help. In fact, more people are getting counseling since the pandemic than ever before. Perhaps this is one of the blessings of the pandemic. Having our eyes upon the present and not worrying about the future (Matthew 6:25-34) is also protective against mental illness. At the same time, looking with hope and great anticipation for the soon coming of our dearest Friend and Savior will carry us through whatever dark day may lie ahead. ■

1. Horn SR, Feder A. Understanding resilience and preventing and treating PTSD. *Harv Rev Psychiatry*. 2018;26(3):158-174. doi:10.1097/HRP.000000000000194

David Sedlacek is professor of family ministry and discipleship at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.



Soy, Friend or Foe?

SOY HAS GOTTEN A BAD REPUTATION LATELY. WITH SO MUCH INFORMATION CIRCULATING, WHAT'S THE REAL DEAL ON SOY, AND IS IT A FRIEND OR FOE?



▲ Christina Wells

Soy is derived from soybeans, which is a popular legume of Asian origin. Soy is a complete protein, containing all nine essential amino acids. Minimally processed forms of soy are edamame, soymilk, tofu and tempeh.

Soybeans are naturally low in saturated fat and are a good source of vitamin C, folate, calcium, iron, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium and thiamin.

So why has soy gotten a bad name? Because of a misunderstanding of the actions of plant-derived phytoestrogens compared to estrogen that is produced in the body, or endogenous estrogen. Soybeans contain isoflavones, which are a type of phytoestrogen. Phytoestrogens are estrogen-like compounds found in plants. Although phytoestrogens are similar to the primary female sex hormone estrogen and can weakly bind to the same internal estrogen receptors, phytoestrogens are not the same as endogenous estrogen and behave differently in the body.

In scientific studies, phytoestrogens have been shown to have positive effects. Phytoestrogens can help improve heart function by reducing cholesterol.¹ Isoflavones can help to improve blood pressure by improving blood flow.¹ Phytoestrogens can also reduce fasting blood sugar levels and can aid in weight loss.¹ Phytoestrogens also decreased risk of menopausal symptoms, osteoporosis, and brain disease.² In countries where people consume soybeans containing isoflavones and their minimally processed products, the incidence of chronic disease is lower, compared to Western (U.S.) populations who consume fewer soy products.¹

One major myth about soy is that it increases risk for breast cancer and should be avoided in women who have had breast cancer. Multiple studies have shown that consuming soy isoflavones can reduce the risk of breast cancer in pre- and

post-menopausal women.³ Soy isoflavones may, in fact, block multiplication of tumor cells and cause tumor cell death. Studies have also shown that soy may reduce risk of recurrence and death in women who consume soy and have a diagnosis of breast cancer.⁴

Supplements and highly processed foods containing soy do not have the health benefits of the naturally occurring isoflavones found in soybeans and minimally processed soy products and should therefore be avoided.

So, soy indeed is a friend. "The Lord has provided antidotes for disease in simple plants, and these can be used by faith" (Manuscript 65, 1899).

Faith, however, does not preclude us from the advice of trained health care providers so always remember to discuss your health condition with your medical provider.

And God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat." Genesis 1:29 KJV ■

1. Desmawati D, Sulastrri D. *Phytoestrogens and Their Health Effect*. Open Access Maced J Med Sci. 2019;7(3):495-499. Published 2019 Feb 14. doi:10.3889/oamjms.2019.044

2. Gorzkiewicz J, Bartosz G, Sadowska-Bartosz I. *The Potential Effects of Phytoestrogens: The Role in Neuroprotection*. Molecules. 2021; 26(10):2954. <https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules26102954>

3. Boutas I, Kontogeorgi A, Dimitrakakis C, Kalantaridou S. *Soy Isoflavones and Breast Cancer Risk: A Meta-analysis*. In Vivo Mar 2022, 36 (2) 556-562; DOI: 10.21873/in vivo.12737

4. Kucuk, O. (2017). *Soy foods, isoflavones, and breast cancer*. Cancer, 123: 1901-1903. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cncr.30614>

Christina Wells is health ministries director for Lake Region Conference.



Being a Living Letter



▲ Denis Kaiser

DR. RUTH JANETTA TEMPLE (1892-1984), WAS A SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST WHO WAS CONVINCED OF THE POWER AND RELEVANCE OF THE CHURCH’S HEALTH MESSAGE.

As the first Black graduate from the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University) and the first Black female physician to receive a license from the state of California to practice medicine, she became a lifelong crusader for total community health. Her outstanding work for the health of the total community was recognized by five United States presidents (from John F. Kennedy to Jimmy Carter) and numerous mayors of Los Angeles and other cities. Her upbringing and encounters with other people were likely foundational for her life’s journey.

Both her parents were well educated. Her father had graduated from Denison University in Ohio and the University of Chicago, and her mother had a teacher’s degree from Shaw University in South Carolina. When they moved to the state of Mississippi, her father was intentional to “get a house by the side of the road where the people pass by . . . all kinds of people, of all races, all creeds, all colors, all educational backgrounds” so that their “children will learn love before they learn hate.” When growing up, Ruth saw this attitude exemplified in their home. Her father had a large personal library and invited ministers of other denominations to pursue their research there. The family made friends with people of all races, welcomed those in need, and took care of them. Here, Ruth and her five siblings learned to have no racial and religious prejudice. When she got to know individuals who distinguished people due to their skin color, she compared people to flowers of “all shades and colors.”

After the death of her father in 1902, her mother moved to Los Angeles where she met Adventists. Ruth eventually attended an Adventist boarding school and completed a premedical course. Yet she

thought that only men were physicians and women could only be nurses. This changed when she listened to Jennie Ireland (1871-1961), who collaborated with Ruth’s mother in giving Bible studies and health lectures, together founding Black Adventist churches. Jennie told stories about two female doctors at Battle Creek Sanitarium—Drs. Kate Lindsay and Anna Stewart. So, Ruth decided to become a “lady doctor.” She enrolled at the College of Medical Evangelists, where she studied Ellen White’s book “The Ministry of Healing,” which inspired her to learn what a physician could do for a community. For more than 60 years, Ruth rendered outstanding service to the community of Los Angeles, having an impact on the state of California and the entire country.

Dr. Ruth Temple’s example illustrates the powerful influence of one’s upbringing and the importance of good role models. Coupled with her innovation, intelligence and conviction, she became an outstanding example for many others.¹ ■

1. The information in this article is based on DeWitt S. Williams, “Temple, Ruth Janetta (1892–1984),” *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*, January 3, 2021, accessed February 2, 2023, <https://encyclopedia.adventist.org/article?id=ECFY>.

Denis Kaiser is an associate professor of church history at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

▼ Dr. Temple, pictured right, administers vaccine. Looking on is Dr. Owen A. Troy (left), president of the Community Health Association



Courtesy/Carmelita Troy



Es Tiempo de un Reavivamiento

“LA MAYOR Y MÁS URGENTE DE TODAS NUESTRAS NECESIDADES ES LA DE UN REAVIVAMIENTO DE LA VERDADERA PIEDAD EN NUESTRO MEDIO.... NUESTRO PADRE CELESTIAL ESTÁ MÁS DISPUESTO A DAR SU ESPÍRITU SANTO A LOS QUE SE LO PIDEN QUE LOS PADRES TERRENALES A DAR BUENAS DÁDIVAS A SUS HIJOS.



▲ Carmelo Mercado

Sin embargo, mediante la confesión, la humillación, el arrepentimiento y la oración ferviente nos corresponde cumplir con las condiciones en virtud de las cuales ha prometido Dios concedernos su bendición. Solo en respuesta a la oración debe esperarse un reavivamiento.” *Mensajes Selectos*, tomo 1, p. 141

Recuerdo muy bien cuando llegué a Andrews para iniciar mis estudios; fue en el año 1971 y llegué con cierta incertidumbre por ser la primera vez que salía de Nueva York para vivir en un ambiente muy diferente del que me había criado. Todos mis estudios previos los habían cursado en escuelas seculares. Pensé que mi nuevo ambiente sería muy diferente pero lo que no me imaginaba era el espíritu de amor y oración que encontraría al llegar.

Resulta que en el año anterior se había visto en la Universidad un notable reavivamiento entre los jóvenes. El Espíritu Santo tocó los corazones de una manera impresionante, empezando con jóvenes que pasaban al frente confesando sus pecados, cantando alabanzas al Señor y orando. También los jóvenes salían compartiendo literatura y dando testimonio de lo que Dios estaba haciendo en sus vidas. Ese espíritu de reavivamiento se mantuvo durante el año que llegué, aunque con menos intensidad. Yo fui a Andrews con la intención de usar la mayor parte de mi tiempo en estudiar biología y química, pero casi inmediatamente llegué a formar parte de un grupo de jóvenes que se había comprometido en visitar diferentes iglesias para compartir

el amor de Dios. Fue una experiencia muy linda y me quedé dos años con ellos. En mi tercer año organicé mi propio grupo de jóvenes para poder llegar a más lugares.

En momentos en que escribo este artículo se oye de un reavivamiento que está ocurriendo en Asbury University. Me alegro mucho oír de jóvenes que se están entregando a Cristo. Espero que los jóvenes involucrados en esa experiencia se mantendrán fieles a Dios y que seguirán en búsqueda de la verdad que está en Cristo. En especial estoy orando por los jóvenes de nuestra Iglesia Adventista. Vivimos en mundo de mucha confusión y división, que tristemente está afectando aun nuestras iglesias. Estoy convencido que lo que se necesita más que nunca es un reavivamiento en nuestras iglesias y universidades.

Apreciado lector, quisiera pedirle que en este año 2023 ore por los jóvenes y que se comprometa a orar *con otra persona (preferiblemente con un joven)* por lo menos una vez por semana. Oremos sin cesar. Ya es tiempo de un reavivamiento. ■

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago

► *Estudiantes de Andrews durante el reavivamiento de 1970.*



It Takes a Church

WHEN I WAS GROWING UP, I EXPERIENCED GOD IN SOME UNIQUE WAYS, INCLUDING INVOLVEMENT IN A CULT CALLED SOLAR: SCHOOL OF LIGHT AND REALIZATION. MY PARENTS PULLED ME OUT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL WHERE I HAD BEEN ATTENDING THIRD GRADE TO ATTEND “SCHOOL” AT SOLAR; WE SPENT THE DAYS LEARNING TO MAKE MACRAME PLANT HOLDERS AND SAND CANDLES. WHEN MY PARENTS REALIZED THAT THE ACADEMIC QUALITY WAS EXTREMELY LACKING, THEY QUICKLY PUT US BACK IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL.

BY NICOLE MATTSON



I'd never even heard of an Adventist school until my father met and married an Adventist woman when I was 11 years old. I attended my first evangelistic series with her and excitedly came home clutching a copy of "The Triumph of God's Love," better known as "The Great Controversy." Later, at her bidding, I attended an Adventist academy during my sophomore year of high school. At Cedar Lake Academy, English teacher Rondi Aastrup saw something in me and asked if I would serve as editor of the Cedar Log the following year when I was to return as a junior. It was also during that year that I met Jesus Christ for the very first time.

I knew there was something different there—and I couldn't forget the change it started in my heart.

However, I didn't get to return to Cedar Lake the next year. My parents fell away from the church and their commitment to Adventist education. I went back to public school and became deeply engrossed with a young man who would be my husband before I graduated my senior year as we were expecting our first child that fall. Our second and third sons would follow over the next four years, but my husband fell deeper and deeper into a lifestyle that locked him into a dangerous world where threats immobilized us. Drug dealers would



Julia Viinczay Photography

MY ROAD HASN'T BEEN EASY, BUT I'M SO THANKFUL FOR ALL THE PEOPLE THAT I'VE MENTIONED AND PLENTY MORE THAT I HAVE NOT—PEOPLE WHO LOVE PEOPLE, LOVE ADVENTIST EDUCATION AND LOVE JESUS.

frequent our house, looking to collect from him and even physically confronting me as they searched to find him.

As his habits and outside relationships continued, I knew that I could not continue in this relationship. While he served time in jail, I reached out to the Adventist church pastor and his wife, Bob and Angie Joseph. Angie and I began Bible studies, and I committed my life to Jesus. Shortly after, I was baptized alongside my three children as they were dedicated to the Lord. My husband was very angry with me for my decision, and on more than one occasion he made church attendance difficult. One Sabbath, he removed the spark plug wires so the kids and I couldn't drive. Another time, I started off with the kids to church with him on the hood of my car—until I abruptly braked, sent him rolling, and off we went. I wasn't going to let him keep me from going to church. The battle went on for several years.

Finally, I was able to pull out of the harrowing marriage permanently and began working to support my children. During that time, the small Adventist school in Traverse City, Michigan, was looking for a teacher's aide, and they invited me to interview. Although I had been a good student growing up and loved to learn, I didn't feel that this was my calling. I did the interview, was offered the job and turned it down. They hired another person, ended up canceling that invite, and called me back—insisting that I at least try it out and see if I liked it.

It was then and there that I found my calling. Teaching was my passion, and my path in life had finally cleared enough so that I could see it. I worked with the children there for two years and then

decided that I needed to go back to school and get a degree so that I could become a “real teacher.” I enrolled in the local college, obtained my associate degree, and put my own children in the church school for one of those two years. During the second year, I became discouraged and put them in the local public school for a year, a decision I would later regret as it gave them a taste for things that would stay with them for years to come.

I knew at that time that I either had to move to Andrews University, and leave the family and friend support systems that we had or give up any thoughts of becoming an Adventist teacher. I took a year “off” and continued work as a bank teller while I contemplated what to do. I continued to feel impressed to move to Andrews with my three boys, so that's what I did. I needed a place to live, and God provided me a wonderful landlord in Tom Witzel, who helped me find the perfect little home to stay in at a rate I could afford. I needed care for my youngest and sometimes the older two when I attended classes: God gave me Lori and Brian Manley and their sweet family. They took excellent care of all of us and supported me through rough times. I needed help with tuition: Andrews had a wonderful single-mother program called Genesis that provided financial and logistical support. I wanted to make sure my sons were in Adventist school: The principal at Ruth Murdoch Elementary, Jim Martz, made sure that I had the scholarships to cover their tuition. Wonderful staff there handed me money now and then, like Wanda Poole and Kurt Frey, who gave me leftovers from the cafeteria's bread supply and made sure that we never went without. The mechanic at Don's Auto helped me keep my essential car on the road. Repeatedly, God provided

through all the wonderful people in my life who believed in Adventist Education.

When it was time for my first teaching job, I landed at Battle Creek Academy, where I taught for 12 years. It was there that I saw my sons through high school, found a wonderful husband, and was “raised up” by the best team of educators that anyone could ask for—people like Kevin Kossick, Phyllis Essex, Jean Anderson and Charlene Lavalée mentored and cared for me, showing me the love of Christ every day. I like to say that I “grew up” as a Christian there, though my journey certainly isn’t over. I plan to keep “growing” until Jesus comes!

I have to also share that I have the best, most supportive family that anyone could ask for. They helped me with my boys whenever they could, paid for a multitude of things and encouraged me every step of the way to achieve my dream. Although they weren’t Adventist, they never let their personal beliefs affect how they chose to support me. Now, all

these years later, we happily enjoy Bible study almost every Sabbath afternoon and God is allowing me to “give back” as my husband and I share the Gospel truth with them. We serve an amazing God who knows no boundaries!

My road hasn’t been easy, but I’m so thankful for all the people that I’ve mentioned and plenty more that I have not—people who love people, love Adventist education and love Jesus. That’s the kind of people who raise up people like me—a person who loves people, loves Adventist education and loves Jesus. The cycle perpetuates itself because this is the village that it takes. ■

Nicole Mattson is associate director of education for the Lake Union Conference.

Reprinted with permission from Pacific Union Conference.



◀ Nicole with her grandchildren Hudson, Sawyer and London.

I CHOOSE TO TEACH

[despite all
that's going on.]



FIVE
SNAPSHOTS
PHOTOS BY DAVE SHERWIN





A nursing assistant, a lumberjack, a journalist, a marketing professional and a transportation logistics manager. They all have one thing in common: They decided to go back to school, not as students—but to teach.



Why would these five teachers decide to stick it out when daily we hear reports that teachers nationwide are quitting at an alarming rate? In the Lake Union, that rate has accelerated too.

in pursuit of higher education, on-the-job safety concerns, byproducts of diminishing constituent embrace and support for Adventist education, and increasingly contentious social, cultural and political battles that often target educators.



Lake Union Education Director Ruth Horton points to a confluence of factors causing many teachers to change careers, and many potential teachers to forgo teacher education altogether as a career choice. Among these factors are pandemic-related workload demands, teacher burnout, compensation concerns, fear of incurring unmanageable debt

Despite so many challenges, many Lake Union teachers keep showing up in their classrooms. And others are stepping up to fill vacancies—often leaving behind interesting and rewarding careers. The following profiles offer glimpses into what leads some professionals to choose—and remain in—Christian

BY EMILY GIBBS AND BEVERLY MATIKO

ILLINOIS

education.

Evelyn Hainey spoke to us on her car phone one evening at 8 p.m. It was a school day, and she was driving home from Walmart after picking up supplies for her seventh-through 10th-grade students at Thompsonville Christian Junior Academy. “They’re constructing a house in their Spanish class,” Hainey explains. “As they’re making the house, they’re learning the names of its rooms and furnishings. They’ll be able to share this new vocabulary with their families at our Winter Fest. The parents especially like to see the students’ projects.”

Hainey’s journey back into the classroom followed a path that was anything but direct. Since the age of 14, she worked in food service and had plans for a career in dietetics. She initially studied home economics and dietetics in college.

As a college student, Hainey often volunteered at the local elementary school. She enjoyed working with Pathfinders and

the youth at church. Hainey eventually changed her major to journalism. After earning that degree, she worked for several newspapers, then transitioned to development work in an Adventist academy.

Hainey’s work experience has been punctuated by periods of full-time and substitute teaching. She came to the realization that while she enjoyed things about each of her varied careers, she kept feeling drawn back to teaching. “I realized I liked being in the classroom more than any office,” she admits. “And besides, what other job gives you recess?” she adds with a chuckle.

One day, in her first year of





teaching junior high students full time, Hainey noticed a flyer announcing, “Teach Guitar in your classroom.” The flyer was advertising a particular music education program. This chance glance led to Hainey earning credentials to teach music at the junior high school

level.
One of her fondest memories as a teacher involved unknowingly answering a student’s prayer. Hainey regularly visits a local pawn shop to look for instruments and spare parts needed in her own music program at school. One day, a salesperson handed Hainey a trombone. “We haven’t been able to sell this,” the vendor said. “It’s missing some parts. Maybe you can find a use for it.”
Hainey repaired the instrument and decided to present

it to one of her students at his baptism. Only then did she learn that this student had been praying for an instrument of his own. He fervently wished to attend Sunnysdale Academy and then go on to study music but knew this would be impossible without his own instrument. Today, he works alongside Hainey as a colleague, directing the school’s string ensemble.
“The blessings continue,” Hainey explains. “On a return visit to the pawn shop, I got to chatting with one of the salespeople. I shared the story of their trombone and how it had been an answer to a student’s prayer. The salesperson couldn’t thank me enough. ‘I’ve had a horrible, horrible, horrible day,’ she said with tears in her eyes. ‘Thank you, thank you, thank you. I needed to hear that today.’”
As Hainey looks back over her varied career path, she readily admits that every job she has done makes her a better teacher. She firmly believes, “Teaching is evangelism.” She advises anyone considering teaching, “If you enjoy kids like I do, I can’t think of anything better to do.”

INDIANA

Armando Camacho was an unlikely candidate for the Adventist classroom. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in business administration, Camacho found himself far from both God and the church. "I made a lot of terrible choices," he says.

Several years later, Camacho was ready for a change. He married his girlfriend, enrolled his children in the local Adventist school, and began attending church again. Unbeknownst to him, he was setting in motion a series of decisions through which God would eventually lead him to his true calling.

Camacho was working in transportation logistics. Because his workday didn't begin until 3:30 p.m., he decided to pick up some substitute teaching jobs in the local public and Adventist schools. Depending on how many appointments he accepted, some weeks he found himself working 60 to 80 hours between his two jobs. Recognizing a passion and talent for working with young people, he also agreed to serve as Pathfinder leader for

his local church.

Camacho began to sense that his work in the transportation industry was impacting his spiritual life. "The presence of God wasn't there," he concluded. "I didn't want to leave the church again. I had to leave my job if I wanted to stay with my faith."

Camacho's landlord called him one day to tell him that a family member was returning to town and needed housing, so the Camachos would have to move. Camacho and his wife looked everywhere for new housing, but their search was fruitless.

Three days after the landlord's call, Camacho received another call. It was from the superintendent of education for the Indiana Conference. The superintendent was aware of Camacho's invaluable

work at his local Adventist school. Their discussions led to Camacho accepting employment at the Riverview Adventist Christian Academy in Evansville. The local pastor found accommodations for the Camachos near the

Adventist-owned retirement home where Camacho's wife, a certified nursing assistant, found employment.

Camacho currently serves as principal and teaches math, science and social studies for grades 1-8. He knows that he



is working far more than what he is getting paid to do as a teacher, especially in comparison to his previous salaried eight-hour-a-day position in transportation. Yet he is not looking back. He loves being with his students, teaching his

largely non-Adventist audience about Christ, and being a father-figure to many. He loves being called upon to exhibit patience, love, kindness and mercy to students who so often have experienced otherwise. He loves hearing his students

say they are praying for him. “I didn’t think I’d ever have this opportunity,” Camacho says. “God gives second chances. Praise Him.” Camacho certainly could be successful elsewhere. He is quick to point out, however, that “teaching is the ultimate job I could ever have.” He believes that God has been training him for this ministry. When rough days happen, as they do for every teacher, Camacho looks back to his calling and reminds himself, “I know this is God’s will. I know that God is on my side and that He is leading.”

LAKE REGION

Enid Williams started college with the goal of earning a degree in early childhood education. It seemed a natural choice for someone who loved working with children. She began hearing discouraging comments from some around her about teachers' salaries, however, and switched to studying marketing. She earned a degree in that field and enjoyed professional success as an office supplies re-buyer.

Today, however, Williams finds herself drawn back to what she describes as her "first love." She teaches all the major subjects plus choir to the fifth- through eighth-grade students at Chicago Seventh-day Adventist School. "Here I am, doing what I started 30 years ago," Williams observes. Williams says her desire to impart love, wisdom and encouragement to young people led her back into teaching.

Williams, who became a Seventh-day Adventist in adulthood, says that getting to know her students and their families has enabled her to help them both inside and outside of the classroom. She remembers encountering a grandmother

who was sacrificing everything she had to provide Christian education for her grandchildren. Williams and her husband, who was a gym teacher, decided to partner with this family by providing transportation for the children to and from school. The families have stayed in touch over the years, and it has been very inspiring for Williams to see these young people overcome obstacles and become successful. "It is a privilege to show the love of Jesus to students and to live it before them and to be a part of their nurturing. You don't always see the results immediately, but

sometimes, years later, you can see the fruits of your labor," Williams says.

In her current position, Williams enjoys exploring the Bible together with her students. "We were studying the Jonah story recently," Williams



recalls. “They all know the fish part, but I was able to help them see that the story is really about much more than that. It demonstrates God’s forgiveness, grace and mercy. And those are things we must extend to one another too.”

Williams is particularly grateful for the daily opportunities she receives to minister to so many different types of children. “They don’t come in one size,” she says. “They’re not from one cookie cutter. They are all different, with

different needs. What you say or do can make or break a child—a word, a look, a demeanor. They’re so impressionable. As a teacher, you can make a difference. You can lay a foundation. That’s what I would want anyone considering this profession to know.”
“The verse ‘Suffer the little children to come unto me’ is always with me,” Williams says. “Time is of the essence. As a Christian teacher in a Christian school setting, you are able to partner the spiritual with the academic to help children navigate their way through this world. You can make a double impact.”

MICHIGAN

Dave Carter worked as a lumberjack, an analyst of electrocardiography (EKG) data, and in the electrical and construction fields before deciding to use his talents in Christian education. He currently teaches auto mechanics, science and welding at Great Lakes Adventist Academy. He has also taught judo, life skills and mathematics.

Carter explains that he didn't really decide to become a teacher. "Rather," he says, "the Lord brought us here so clearly." Carter never intended to make education his career. He remembers finding the high school years easy and thought he would go to medical school. He had a wide range of interests and was eager to pursue as many of them as he could.

While in college, he took a year out to serve in Taiwan as a student missionary. His duties

included teaching English and tutoring students in medical English. "This experience softened my attitudes toward teaching," Carter discovered.

Carter enjoys the variety that teaching provides. He appreciates how much time he can spend with his students in a boarding school. "Your interaction isn't confined to the classroom," he observes. "Often, you are able to get to know your students and their families too."

Carter has taught long enough to watch his students complete higher education and go on to build their own



successful careers. “Many choose medical careers,” he recounts, “and teaching at all levels. One is a veterinarian. Whatever paths they have chosen, I am just happy to see them committed to using their talents and abilities to better

themselves and their world.”

Part of his mission, as Carter understands it, is to help his students develop confidence in themselves. “Don’t quit. Don’t give up. These are two things I am constantly urging upon my students,” Carter says. “I also encourage them to get involved at church—now. If they do, it increases the likelihood that their involvement will carry over to their home churches.”

Carter likes to read from Proverbs at the start of his classes. He includes prayer

and praise sessions as part of their worship and is always on the lookout for ways to weave spiritual lessons into the academic material. “I had a student teacher who was particularly gifted in this area,” Carter admits. “She was such an inspiration—both to the students and to me. I learned a great deal from her.”

To any young people or used-to-be-young people who may be considering a career in Christian education, Carter recommends it, “if you have a passion for it.” He warns, “It’s a lot more work than you think

it’s going to be.” He acknowledges too that “the pay is not always monetary. You are rewarded in other ways.” He is very realistic when he says, “Christian schools are not the utopian settings we may wish. Teachers do encounter criticism and, sadly, lack of support. You have to be strong to be able to deal with these things.”

As he looks back over the range of work experiences he has enjoyed before becoming a teacher, Carter says, “The Lord taught me so many skills and provided opportunities to hone them in a variety of places. Nothing I have learned has been in vain. Everything I have learned is still useful to me—and to my students.”



WISCONSIN

Sometimes after school, **Travis Dennis** likes to sit down at home and work on a jigsaw puzzle. “I’m currently working on a 1,000-piece puzzle of the night sky,” he says. “It’s not an easy puzzle, that’s for sure,” Dennis admits, “but it helps me unwind at the end of a school day.” Dennis teaches all subjects for fifth and sixth graders at Milwaukee Seventh-day Adventist School.

Teaching hasn’t always been Dennis’s vocation, however. He worked as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) for eight years. His father was a pastor and

teacher, and his mother was a school librarian. Dennis “grew up in schools” and remembers being with his mother in the school library when Space Shuttle Challenger exploded. “I was probably sitting under her desk at the time,” he adds.

Dennis sees his work as a CNA and a teacher as being very complementary. “I like helping people” he explains, “and that’s at the core of both



do or say that might ignite a spark with a student. You don't always see the results during your brief time together, but you do your best to help them develop a foundation that they can build upon."

Dennis admits to seeing changes in students now, compared with when he first began teaching. "Kids grow up faster now," he observes. "I try to help them preserve some of their childhood. I think that's so important."

Dennis is teaching 24 students this year, his largest group. He has an aide who assists in the classroom three days a week with grading and tutoring. "She's invaluable," Dennis says.

For those who may be considering teaching, either as a first career or a change of career, Dennis advises, "You must have patience. That is essential. School always came easy for me, but for many students it doesn't. You have to work with the students wherever they are."

One of the greatest rewards Dennis finds in teaching is "helping kids succeed." He remembers one student, a particularly quiet pupil who wasn't doing as well as he could have in school. This student eventually went on to earn a graduate degree in chemical engineering. "You do what you can for each student, and leave the rest to Jesus," Dennis says. "You never know what you

of those professions." Dennis credits his parents' employment, at least in part, for his switch to teaching. "My parents were called to new teaching jobs, and their educational superintendent said to me, 'I think you should consider teaching, too.' He was right."

Freelance writer **Emily Gibbs** is a teacher at Great Lakes Adventist Academy.

Beverly Matiko, newly retired English and communication professor, is especially grateful for the opportunity to co-author this article with her former student, Emily Gibbs. Emily chose Beverly as her faculty mentor for her creative writing honors thesis. They both cherish memories of the time they spent together wrestling with words and ideas during Emily's undergraduate years at Andrews University.

AdventHealth, UChicago Medicine Launch Joint Venture to Expand in Chicago Suburbs

THE START OF 2023 BROUGHT A NEW BEGINNING FOR ADVENTHEALTH GREAT LAKES REGION WITH THE LAUNCH OF A NEW JOINT VENTURE WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MEDICINE. KNOWN AS UCHICAGO MEDICINE ADVENTHEALTH, THIS JOINT VENTURE COMBINES THE EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES OF BOTH ORGANIZATIONS TO BRING ACADEMIC-LEVEL MEDICINE TO CHICAGO'S WESTERN SUBURBS.

“With the launch of this affiliation, we are blessed to continue to build on the rich legacy of whole-person care and further our mission and commitment to making these communities healthier for years to come,” said Terry Shaw, president and CEO for AdventHealth.

Under the joint venture, UChicago Medicine acquired a controlling interest in AdventHealth Great Lakes Region, which includes four hospitals in the suburbs of Bolingbrook, Glendale Heights, Hinsdale and La Grange, along with a network of nearly 50 primary and specialty practice locations and two multispecialty outpatient centers. AdventHealth retains the remaining ownership and continues to manage the daily operations of the hospitals and other facilities. Both UChicago Medicine and AdventHealth will maintain their separate system-level governance and administrative structures.

UChicago Medicine and AdventHealth announced a definitive agreement to affiliate in September 2022. They closed on the transaction at the beginning of 2023 and officially launched the joint venture affiliation on Jan. 10, unveiling its co-branded name and a new marketing campaign. That day, team members and physicians joined special celebrations at each of the four UChicago Medicine AdventHealth hospitals.

“We wanted to commemorate the start of this new partnership, and build on the excitement we all are feeling,” said Thor Thordarson, president and CEO for AdventHealth Great Lakes Region. “Bringing this high level of specialty care to our local communities means increased access for our patients, which furthers our mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ.”

New signage featuring the co-branded name was installed at the four hospitals in



▲ AdventHealth Great Lakes Region team members celebrated the affiliation on Jan. 10.

January. The name builds upon the complementary strengths of the two organizations, including UChicago Medicine’s national reputation as an academic health system and AdventHealth’s focus on delivering outstanding whole-person care, treating body, mind and spirit in community settings.

In the coming months, medical teams from both UChicago Medicine and AdventHealth Great Lakes Region will work to expand programs and services, recruit more physicians and increase the delivery of quality care.

“Like us, UChicago Medicine is laser-focused on providing high-quality care and an excellent patient experience,” Thordarson said. “Our joint venture brings together two similar cultures, and we expect tremendous clinical synergies between our two organizations, leading to improved outcomes for our patients.” ■

Julie Busch is assistant vice president of marketing & communications for the Great Lakes Region of AdventHealth.



Genesis Fellowship: “Come Create Cariño”

A YEAR AND A HALF AGO, A GROUP OF ANDREWS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS APPROACHED JOSÉ BOURGET, UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN AND ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR FAITH ENGAGEMENT, WITH AN IDEA. “THEY THOUGHT IT WOULD BE REALLY GREAT TO HAVE A FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCE THAT SERVES LATINO STUDENTS,” SAYS BOURGET.

“We had that first conversation and then last spring, we had a second conversation. The thing I share with students all the time is that if you have an idea, if you have a desire, you feel like the Spirit is moving in your life, come and talk to one of the chaplains. Let’s see how we can make it happen here at CFE [Center for Faith Engagement].”

These same students had previously participated in an on-campus Hispanic ministry called Makarios, which had been serving Hispanic churches in the area through spiritually uplifting music, drama and poetry. In the height of the COVID pandemic, Makarios’ ministry was paused. But rather than cause students to stop their pursuit of God, the temporary pause strengthened their passion.

Bourget says students told Pedro Navia, the chair of the Department of International Languages & Global Studies and sponsor of Makarios, that “they really needed to do something to continue to find ways to use their skills and their talents on Sabbath morning—it’s how their faith would grow. So, during COVID, we were able to have that group of students meet every other week. And as they met every other week and as

COVID restrictions relaxed, the students really began enjoying this space to experience faith and community in the experiences that they understand and grew up with.”

At the beginning of the 2022–2023 school year, students at Andrews University began Genesis Fellowship: “Where new beginnings with God become a reality in a community of cariño (caring connection).”

The first service took place on Sabbath, Sept. 3, in the University Towers auditorium. Genesis Fellowship now meets biweekly on Sabbath mornings, celebrating the Latino Seventh-day Adventist faith experience, and holds services in Spanish, Portuguese, and English.

Genesis Fellowship extended the idea of “cariño” to small groups and potlucks on Friday evenings, a “Santa Cena” (communion) service during the Christmas season, and a Sabbath service with Makarios during Alumni Homecoming weekend. In January, Genesis began exploring the formation of a community worship choir.

After more than a semester of Genesis Fellowship, many students have been able to relate to and learn from the fellowship’s inclusive environment. “Genesis makes



me feel like anything is possible when you put your plans in God’s hands,” says Loren Manrique, a senior and Genesis Fellowship organizer. “A project never seen before was put in our hands and even when it started, we still didn’t believe it could work out. But now, after a semester of meeting and our team growing, we can see God’s hand every step of the way. Genesis is a blessing for those of us who have committed to work on it, and we want it to be a blessing on campus as well.”

For more information on Genesis Fellowship, follow them on Instagram at @auegenesis.

Nicholas Gunn, *University Communication student writer, Andrews University*

Indiana Conference Opens Brand-New School

ON SUNDAY, FEB. 19, ADMINISTRATION MEMBERS FROM THE INDIANA CONFERENCE, INDIANA ACADEMY, THE LAKE UNION CONFERENCE, AS WELL AS NEWS ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF ABOITE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL IN FORT WAYNE, INDIANA.

“This doesn’t happen very often,” says Carmelo Mercado, vice president of the Lake Union Conference and former pastor of the Fort Wayne Church. “It’s been a while since a brand-new school was built from the ground up within the Lake Union territory. So, this is a huge deal and a very exciting one!”

Aboite Christian School (ACS) is supported by the Fort Wayne Church and sits on 20 acres on the west side of the city. The new 8,000-square-foot building consists of an office for administration, classrooms, a library, a chapel and a gym. In addition, leaders wanted to ensure the safety of their students and staff by including a state-of-the-art security system.

The vision for this property does not just stop with the school. In the future,

the campus will also house a church, a community center and a wellness center. Emphasized throughout the ceremony was the need to impact their city for Jesus.

“This is a unique school,” said David DeRose, pastor of the Fort Wayne Church. “Today, our country is increasingly diverse, and this school has representation across the spectrum ethnically. This allows children to see that they are indeed a part of God’s people, a worldwide church.”

LONG TIME COMING

“Twenty years ago, we had a vision,” said Mac McAllister, who serves on the building committee. “It took seven years to find this property. We wanted land that would allow us to serve the community in a Christian way.”



Felicia Tonga

Candice Hagar, chair of the building committee, thanked all involved parties saying, “What a dream! Last June, we had a groundbreaking ceremony. Then, in July, we began to dig and push dirt all over this property. Over the last seven months, we began building, and God carried us through every obstacle we faced.”

Sharing in the special moment was Indiana Conference Education Superintendent Peter Cousins, who expressed his enthusiasm on behalf of his colleagues. “We are excited that Aboite Christian School will continue to be a beacon of light and hope to the community, a place where children can learn about Jesus through the hearts of our teachers and the curriculum.”

As the ceremony ended, Aboite’s principal, Gladys James, recognized the school board, church board, building committee, the Indiana Conference and the Lake Union Conference for their endless effort to complete this project. Then, reiterating the school’s mission, she ended by saying, “The school will help prepare students not just for this life but for life eternal by helping students understand the Christian values, fundamental beliefs and, ultimately, the love of Jesus.” ■

Felicia Tonga is assistant communication director of the Lake Union Conference.



Felicia Tonga

WATCH A VIDEO REPORT
<https://youtu.be/838A84AL9U8>



Week of Prayer Yields 72 Baptism Requests

WHEN EARL BALDWIN WAS INVITED TO SPEAK FOR RUTH MURDOCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S WEEK OF PRAYER, HE FACED A SCHEDULING CONFLICT. HE EVENTUALLY CLEARED HIS CALENDAR TO PRESENT ON OCT. 17-21, 2022, FOR THE BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN, SCHOOL'S BI-ANNUAL WEEK OF SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS.

In keeping with the theme 'Walking with God'— taken from Micah 6:8—Baldwin, youth director for Lake Region Conference, decided to teach the students what he calls "The 5 L's." Monday, he instructed the students to "Look for God." Tuesday, they learned how to "Listen for God." Wednesday's presentation focused on how students can "Learn from God." On Thursday, Baldwin wanted students to "Let go and let God." Lastly, on Friday, he urged students to "Live for God."

Along with his messages, Baldwin encouraged the students to give 21 minutes to God every day. "I challenged them to have seven minutes of prayer, seven minutes to study the Bible and seven minutes of quiet time for listening and reflecting on what God has to say," he said.

By the end of the week, 72 students decided to give their lives to Christ.

Second grader Ezra Jean-Baptiste was one of the students in attendance. "I loved it! Every day I wanted to go, and I didn't want to miss a second!"

► *Lake Region Conference Youth Director Earl Baldwin speaks to Ruth Murdoch Elementary students during their bi-annual week of prayer.*

'READY TO RECEIVE JESUS'

Principal Evelyn Savory said, "The kids were at a place where they were really ready to receive Jesus, so it was a wonderful experience to just see them engaging in the singing, the music and the actions, and finding the scriptures in the Bible was just electric. It was just so beautiful to watch, and by God's grace we hope to keep them all closer to Him."

When Baldwin received the news of the large number of baptismal requests, he was shocked. "I was like 'Whaaaaat!' I couldn't believe how many responded. Anytime to be used by God in that way is always humbling. In ministry, it is easy to question, 'Am I doing the right thing?' In the meantime, God shows up.

"We all go through difficult patches, and I just came through a difficult patch. I believe God did this to affirm that He has His hands over my life, and I can be used by Him if I simply leave myself in His hands." ■

Nicholas Gunn is a freshman at Andrews University.



Chicago Church School Offers Free Tuition

LAST FALL, THE SHILOH SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO MAKE TUITION FREE FOR FAMILIES WANTING TO GIVE THEIR CHILDREN ACCESS TO A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT, PASTOR JOHN BOSTON II SAID THEIR GOAL WAS TO “DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO GIVE THE CHILDREN OF CHICAGO THE BEST CHANCE WE CAN GIVE. NOTHING DOES THIS BETTER THAN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.”

The Chicago Seventh-day Adventist Christian School, administered by Shiloh Church, is nestled in the heart of Chicago's South Side and since 1913 has served generations of pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade students.

We asked Boston to explain more about this new initiative that has garnered positive reviews since the announcement.

Debbie Michel, *Lake Union Herald editor*

DM: Why was it necessary to make this bold move?

JB: We couldn't afford not to do something in this area. The South Side of Chicago is riddled with violence on the news. This Adventist school is probably one of the most

viable opportunities to make a difference in this community. Many urban Adventist schools and churches are not doing well. We believe at Shiloh that our path to heal our community is through Christian education. Right now, we have begun speaking with local and international agencies fighting human trafficking: 16,000 young girls are trafficked in Chicago each year. That's two every hour. This was the time for us to step out and stand in the gap. Jesus is coming soon, and we need every available tool to reach the hearts of the people around us.

DM: Free isn't really free since someone will eventually have to pay. How will it be financed?

JB: This is absolutely true. Salvation

is free, but ministry costs. We have a limit on the number of children the school can handle to keep the student-teacher ratio in harmony with policy. We want quality education for all children and a meaningful experience for the whole family. The Historic Chicago Shiloh Church decided to step out in faith and God has not disappointed with provision.

We are utilizing the entire evangelism budget for the last half of 2022 and the first half of 2023. Christian education is probably the most effective form of evangelism and discipleship we have. In addition to this the church has historically set aside a considerable amount for the ministry of education and there are several donors that have given to this area over the years.

The final piece comes in from donors in Chicago and around the world that want to be a part of making this kind of difference. This is a need-based scholarship. Once a family applies, we apply the spiritual care necessary to make sure we make room for their children every way we can. Some parents can afford to sacrifice money to place their children at this school, but we want to make sure they don't have to decide between meals, gas, rent and tuition. We step in to get the tuition where they can't handle it. For some that means 100%, for others that will mean much less. The bottom line is that we will not allow tuition to be an obstacle for any family that comes to us.

DM: What's the church hoping to achieve with all this?

JB: Exponential growth! Really, we want the floodgates of change in our community to pour through the church and the school. Jesus is coming soon and if we are going to make a radical difference, we must take



some radical steps. If I had to crystalize this, I would say we want:

All the children in our community to learn of the Lord. We will do that through the school, Sabbath school, Pathfinders, Adventurers, Family Ministries, VBS and

everything that we are led to pursue.

We would like to see the church experience a powerful transformation in the wake of exercising this type of faith and sacrifice.

The birth of a model that can be scaled and sustained. I believe we are on miracle

territory since this announcement and the story has yet to be told. We have no idea what will happen at the end of this story, but we do know we intend to give it our all and watch God do something unbelievable. ■

Geology Trip Takes Kids Underground

VILLAGE ADVENTIST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICHIGAN TOOK THEIR STUDENTS ON A TRIP TO MAMMOTH CAVE, KENTUCKY, TO GET A CLOSER LOOK AT GOD'S HANDIWORK. MAMMOTH CAVE HAS OVER 400 MILES OF UNDERGROUND TUNNELS AND IS THE LONGEST KNOWN CAVE SYSTEM IN THE WORLD. THE KIDS WERE ABLE TO GO ON SEVERAL TOURS WINDING UNDER THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH TO LEARN HOW CAVES FORM AND SEE THE NATURAL BEAUTY NORMALLY HIDDEN IN DARKNESS.

The students' favorite trip was a wild cave tour where they got to crawl through caverns, squeeze through holes, and splash through underground rivers. This was an excellent opportunity for the kids to see how wildlife adapts to cave conditions, including shrimp that become translucent and fish that lose their eyes.

Katie Roddy, the nature specialist at Village Adventist Elementary School, led the expedition. The principal, Mark Bugbee, and Michael Gusky, a sixth grade teacher, were also part of the adventure, along with many of the parents of the sixth grade class. The mix of students, family, school staff and

Village SDA Church staff created an engaging social opportunity as well as the chance to weave spirituality into the experience. On trips like this, parents get to talk with each other about raising kids, and teachers get to understand family communication patterns and learn how to connect with students in a more understanding way.

Morning and evening worship sessions included various Bible stories concerning caves and other spiritual lessons that could be learned from caves. From Village Church, Pastor Dennis Page, pastoral intern Junior Vertes, student missionary Yoshi Thiele, and bible worker Robert Rice helped connect spiritually with the youth and others present. And, one of the tours was led by a Christian guide.

Miss Roddy led out in some unique cooperative activities to help people learn trust, communication and teamwork. One such activity was the "trust walk," which involved having kids and their parents go through a natural obstacle course blindfolded. No talking was allowed. Everything had to be done with pre-determined nonverbal language strategies. The debrief afterward brought out several lessons: parents often have more experience than children which enables them to be effective guides; greater trust allows things to move more smoothly; the ability to see ahead allows warnings to be shared; and there are several ways to successfully complete a project or solve a problem.

Trips like these are part of the school's focus on outdoor education. Jesus often referenced nature when he taught those around Him. Directing the mind to birds and flowers helped his followers connect with spiritual

themes and created memorable hooks that would easily come to mind when one journeyed through the hills of Judea. Please pray for the Village Adventist Elementary School, and all our schools, that nature and spirituality can be woven tightly throughout the curriculum and that the works of God will testify of the glory of their Creator. ■

Robert Rice, Village Church bible worker



Robert Rice

▲ Village Adventist Elementary School sixth graders get an underground tour on their geology trip to Mammoth Cave area.



Robert Rice

▲ Interesting formations are abundant in Crystal Onyx cave.

Academic Enrichment Program for Youth Launched

IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT THE PANDEMIC HAS HAD SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS ON STUDENT LEARNING ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND IN OUR SCHOOLS. THE UNIVERSITY SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH (UCHURCH) IN EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN, SAW THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE PROACTIVE.



▲ The East Lansing Fire Department came and gave the UChurch Young Scholars a comprehensive presentation on fire safety and the many tools they use on the job.

Last September, by unanimous vote, the church board approved the pilot of a new initiative called UChurch Young Scholars. This innovative academic program for grades K-8 was designed and launched by a local Adventist educator, and focuses on four main components: learning enrichment opportunities, school/homework support, individualized tutoring, and educational consulting for families.

There was immediate interest from families as application forms were distributed. While this pilot program is subsidized by

UChurch, the parents pay registration and session fees. Tracy Ferreira, a board member and a Young Scholar parent, couldn't be happier about this program launch.

"We feel that God answered prayers when this started and we feel so blessed to be part of it," Ferreira said.

Once a young scholar is accepted in the program, parents are asked to provide documentation of their child's academic history. This includes a copy of report cards, test scores and other artifacts to generate a comprehensive picture for each student. A series of assessments are also given

to gauge the level of understanding. This information is then analyzed to help develop academic goals and an educational plan for each student. Rachel Huddleston, another Young Scholar parent, explained the benefit she sees in this process.

"Young Scholars offers [my daughter] encouragement and individual attention, and I appreciate the feedback I receive about her growth from a dedicated educator," Huddleston said.

One focus of the program is the weekly meetings, held on Tuesdays from 4-5:30 p.m., when the students come together to receive general study help with school work. The first portion of these group meetings include an enrichment presentation from a local member of the community. The purpose of bringing in guest speakers is to broaden the scope of learning beyond what is taught in a traditional classroom.

Through this enrichment segment, the scholars have learned about a variety of topics including homesteading, creative arts and public service. The UChurch pastor, Jermaine Gayle, also serves as the chaplain of the East Lansing Police Department. He has used his network to invite speakers such as a local postal worker and a police officer and his K-9 police dog.

"We believe this is an opportunity for our youth to not only meet and learn from critical members of our city, but it allows our church to make meaningful connections," said Pastor Gayle. "During their visits, we're able to pray for these individuals and bless them for the work they do," he continued.

The young scholars write each of the guests a thank you card, and for some of the guests, a small gift is given. Sometimes these gifts go a long way.

One guest speaker for UChurch Young Scholars was the mayor of East Lansing, Ron Bacon. He shared about his work, and he expounded even more as the students asked questions that they had prepared ahead of time. At the end, he was presented with a gift which included a wooden art piece



▲ Mayor Ron Bacon (middle) stands with UChurch Young Scholars (left to right) Keola Majee, Olivia Im, Isabella Ferreira, Philip Owusu, Gabriella Ferreira, Madeline Huddleston and Titus Ramos.

signed by all the students that read: “May your faith be bigger than your fear.” Before he left, the young scholars and parents circled around him and prayed that God would grant him wisdom and courage to lead our city. Mayor Bacon felt confident that the Young Scholars meeting was a divine appointment, and he brought that gift with him to an important news conference that evening.

God’s hand is guiding this unique ministry. The students are growing, the community is willing to share their skills and knowledge, and everyone is blessed as a result. Proverbs 29:18 says, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” The opposite

appears to be true as well. *Where there is vision, God’s people thrive.*

“I’m so thankful UChurch loves and invests in our children. It takes a village,” Huddleston concluded.

She is right. God is providing His church an opportunity to meet the challenges by rallying people together with a shared vision. May the Lord help us make a commitment to be that “village” that ensures the success and salvation of our children. ■

Judy R. Ramos has taught in Adventist schools for several years and currently serves as an educational leadership consultant. She is grateful for the opportunity to help her home church pilot and direct the UChurch Young Scholars program. She is passionate about instilling spiritual and academic excellence, especially in young people.

School Personnel, Graduates and Students Celebrated

EVERY YEAR, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SHARON INKSTER SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH DEDICATES STUDENTS, AFFIRMS SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND CONGRATULATES GRADUATES. DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, THE “BACK TO SCHOOL” PROGRAM HAD BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL NOV. 5, 2022, WHEN SEVEN GRADUATES WERE ACKNOWLEDGED.

Graduates from middle school, high school and professional programs at the University of Southern California, Michigan State University and the Paul Mitchell School of Cosmetology were celebrated.

The congregation recited litanies invoking God’s blessings while Pastor Keynel Cadet and Elder Gary Edwards offered prayers for each group. Eleven students along with four school personnel, including Principal Lynnette Jefferson from Peterson-Warren Academy, were recognized.

Cadet said he is pleased that the church “recognizes our graduates and students

and encourages them to inspire other young people to follow them in the path of Ecclesiastes 7:12, as they follow Christ.”

Graduates received gift bags of school supplies and hopefully the assurance that their church family loves them and will be praying for them. ■

Jacqueline Blake, Sharon Inkster education leader

► Pastor Keynel Cadet offered prayer for school personnel – (l-r) Lucy Byrd, Lynnette Jefferson, Daphne Springer, Sandy Edwards and students.



Clint Springer

▲ Graduates (l-r) – Hailey Daniels, Kyera Lee, Javion Lee, Jasmine Hall, Gayle Springer, Elyse Springer. Not pictured: Natalie Blake.



Clint Springer

Academy Leadership Camp Bounces Back After Two-Year Hiatus

NINETY-FIVE STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS LAKE UNION ACADEMIES GATHERED AT CAMP AU SABLE FROM SEPT. 29 – OCT. 2, 2022, FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND TEAM-BUILDING ACTIVITIES. THIS IS WAS THE FIRST MEETING SINCE COVID LOCKDOWNS FORCED A PAUSE IN 2020 AND 2021.



Photos by Dave Sherwin

WHY IT MATTERS

The Lake Union Secondary Leadership retreat, set amid a stunning fall backdrop, is an opportunity for students to take a break from the pressures of schoolwork, jobs and relationships to enjoy the company of others whose lives are also focused on leadership. The training allowed the students to collect ideas and thoughts from other academy leaders to implement back in their home schools.

WHAT HAPPENED

Experts led out training for the following positions and groups:

- Campus Spiritual Life leaders, led by Andrews Academy Principal Mario Ferguson and Wisconsin Academy Bible Teacher Greg Edge.

The student representatives from seven academies enjoyed finding common ground with other leaders, sharing ideas about how to better involve their fellow school members, brainstorming new fundraising ideas, and putting together projects. The Andrews University Enrollment team provided engaging Sabbath School and evening programs. Students were able to participate in team-building activities including a three-legged race, donut and pie-eating competitions, a bonfire reflection session, a t-shirt design competition, and a nighttime hay ride.

The student listened to speakers who graciously stepped in at the last minute after Hurricane Ian prevented author Melissa Schiffbauer from making the trek from Florida. Lake Union President Ken Denslow opened on Thursday night with a powerful message on the Prodigal Son, and Pastor Seth Day presented on Friday and Sabbath.

SPEAKER POINTS

Day's presentations focused around the theme of the weekend, "When You Have Love." He asked the students to ponder the question: "How can God use me, even when I've been broken, hurt, and betrayed?" He advised the students, "Just worry about sitting in the presence of God and where He wants to send you." Day also preached that the leaders of today are called to step up and help those who are hurt, to disregard self and embrace others with love.

- Student Association leaders, overseen by Indiana Academy Principal Steve Baughman.
- Dormitory RAs (resident assistants), led by Great Lakes Adventist Academy Vice Principal Matt Hill.
- Yearbook editors/Public Relation officers, facilitated by Lake Union Communication Director Debbie Michel, Andrews University Photography Professor Dave Sherwin and Andrews University Design Professor Diane Myers.
- Junior and Senior Class leaders, facilitated by Great Lake Adventist Academy History Teacher Bruce Reichert.



COMMUNION SERVICE AND TESTIMONIES

During the Friday evening vespers program, after a foot-washing and communion service, students shared personal testimonies of how God had worked in their lives. One young woman told a story of how her grandfather, whom she considered her superhero, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. She felt that she was losing her superhero figure, but she learned to lean on God and eventually realized that He was her true superhero, one that would never leave her nor forsake her.

Another student talked about his experience of suffering from extreme depression. He went to a summer camp where he had the opportunity to talk to pastors. With each conversation, he was able to strengthen his faith in God and rediscover his purpose, finally breaking free from the chains of despair that once held him back from living the life God called him to.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS ARE SAYING

Peyton Martz, junior class vice president at Hinsdale Adventist Academy, says she was helped by listening to the other leaders. "I was reminded that some of the qualities I don't always consider, such as caring for others, I can take into consideration and grow as a leader."

Hevanna Hippler, Andrews Academy senior class president, says it was interesting

to hear other perspectives. "I appreciated hearing how other schools managed events and also got some ideas on things we can do."

Khine Myint, Indiana Academy pastor, was grateful to have met "so many great people and made so many connections with other schools." One big takeaway for him was that leadership begins with self and our relationship with God. "We need to recognize that we can't give what we don't have."

Students produced a newsletter, which will be distributed in the coming days.

To watch a livestream of the Friday and Sabbath programs, visit: www.youtube.com/youtube ■

Jacob Capiña, Hinsdale Adventist Academy Student Association Public Relations officer, with Herald staff.

▲ At the Lake Union leadership retreat, leaders gathered to collect ideas to implement in their schools. They also participated in a communion service and took time to have fun at Camp Au Sable.

WATCH A VIDEO REPORT
<https://youtu.be/e9WsZQMzIUQ>



Adopted Island's School Gymnasium Completed

OVER 6,000 MILES AWAY, AMID A BEAUTIFUL SEA OF CORAL AND LADEN WITH PALM TREES IS THE LAKE UNION'S ADOPTED ISLAND OF KOSRAE. SEVERAL YEARS AGO, EACH UNION IN THE NORTH AMERICA DIVISION ADOPTED ONE OF THE NINE MAJOR ISLANDS THAT MAKE UP THE GUAM MICRONESIA MISSION.

In January 2019, a team from the Lake Union traveled to Kosrae on a fact-finding mission with one major goal in mind: How could we help this small church and growing Adventist school where over 40 students were attending? When we expressed our desire to help, some things became very clear: The church had a mission to help the community, the school was growing, and the campus needed help. After much discussion and brainstorming, a clear vision was established to build a gymnasium that could double as a recreational facility, be rented to the community, and also provide shelter for

the students when it rained...which happens quite frequently on this tropical paradise!

Fast-forward four years: Generous donations from the NAD 13th Sabbath offerings and collective fund-raising efforts enabled over \$100,000 to be raised to cover the cost of the building. COVID did delay plans for a while, and the gymnasium remained in the steel containers that they were shipped in for many months while they waited for the go-ahead to get started.

Finally, ground-breaking took place last summer. After the concrete floor had been partially poured, some delays in equipment and materials postponed the finish longer than expected, the gym was finally completed in February 2023.

Superintendent of the Guam Micronesia Mission, Churchill Edwards, personally thanked the Lake Union Conference constituents for their generosity and commitment to the project, especially the schools where many of our students held various fund-raisers, such as 5K events, to raise money for a portion of the gym. The students of the Kosrae SDA School are excited to use the new facility and have been watching the construction with eager anticipation.

What are some other ways that the Lake Union will continue to support Kosrae? An NAD accreditation team visited the island in



January 2023 and reported that some help with curriculum resources is still needed, so the Education Department of the Lake Union will follow-up with those needs.

Before last year, the Education Department had also coordinated Sabbath speakers for the fourth Sabbath of every month. Now that someone has been re-appointed to run the technology for the service in Kosrae, we will once again resume scheduling speakers and sharing the Word with these beautiful island people.

The next great need that they have expressed is for an adequate fresh water supply system. The current system of water collection is no longer sufficient or efficient for the church and school's use with over 70 students in attendance. Plans are in place to begin a new fund-raising campaign to help put this needed system in place. Please watch for more information on how you can be a part of this fund-raising venture for our adopted island, Kosrae. We are the hands and feet of Jesus! ■

Nicole Mattson is associate director of education for the Lake Union.



New Scholarships and State Grants to Benefit Andrews University

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PURSUING A CAREER IN TEACHING MAY SOON BENEFIT FROM NEW SCHOLARSHIPS AND STATE TUITION GRANTS.

The University recently announced several scholarship opportunities as part of its commitment to making Adventist education as affordable as possible for all students. Meanwhile, the state of Michigan has launched new tuition grants to address a growing teacher shortage and improve access to education and skills training for its residents.



Beginning in fall 2023, Michigan residents enrolling in any undergraduate program at Andrews can apply for the state's Michigan Achievement Scholarship, which is worth up to \$4,000 annually and renewable for up to five years. Through the state's MI Future Educator Fellowship program, Michigan residents working on their initial teacher certification at Andrews and other participating institutions may also receive up to \$10,000 per year for three years. A second program, the MI Future Educator Stipend, offers up to \$9,600 in additional financial assistance during their student teaching experience.

Andrews undergraduates, including those majoring in education, can further reduce their tuition costs by combining these state grants with new and existing scholarships offered by the University. Starting in fall 2023, freshmen who demonstrate

leadership experience and/or potential will receive a new one-time \$750 Leadership Scholarship, in addition to the \$8,000 to \$14,000 Andrews Partnership Scholarship (APS) already available to every admitted freshman. For transfer students, the current \$3,000 to \$9,000 APS will increase in fall 2023 to match the \$8,000 to \$14,000 given to freshmen. The APS for international students is also increasing. Previously dependent on academic performance, the new APS will be a flat rate: \$14,000 (excluding Canada).

"Preparing the next generation of Adventist educators is not only an important part of Andrews' mission, it is critical to the future of Adventist education," says Tony Yang, vice president for strategy, marketing & enrollment and chief communication officer. "These new scholarships and state grants will help remove financial barriers that might otherwise discourage prospective teachers and other students from pursuing their God-given callings."

To learn more about scholarships and grants available to Andrews University students, visit andrews.edu/tuition. ■

John Press is a marketing and enrollment management operations coordinator at Andrews University.

Illinois Announces New Youth Director

ON WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15, 2023, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE IN A JOINT SESSION SELECTED JOSANT BARRIENTOS JR. TO SERVE AS THE NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR FOR THE ILLINOIS CONFERENCE.

Barrientos Jr. has been serving as the youth director for the Potomac Conference. Barrientos Jr., along with his wife, Claudya, and two daughters, Emma and Abby, will join

the Illinois Conference ministry team in the spring. We look forward to God's Spirit ministering to our field through their ministry. ■



Health Ministry Weekend Inspires New Resolutions

THE NORTH SHORE ADVENTIST CHURCH, LYING JUST NORTH OF THE HEART OF CHICAGO, HAS FOR ALMOST 70 YEARS PROVIDED A PRIME LOCATION FOR INNER-CITY MINISTRY.

In addition to their vibrant food pantry and clothing closet, their church school and gymnasium provide multiple avenues for outreach. Recently, the church coordinated a weekend focused on yet another increasingly relevant need—health ministry.

Janet Rondina, a North Shore member and registered nurse, serves as the newly appointed health ministry coordinator for the church. Rondina's passion for helping others find health and healing inspired her to take an online, six-week medical missionary course through a program called Med Missionary. She then looked for ways to share practical and helpful information with her local church and community. With the support of North Shore's pastor, Jonathan Burnett, a path was paved to host a Health Ministry Weekend in which Med Missionary's

founders were invited to give talks on health and a food demonstration.

"I wanted the church and the community to be blessed by the simple recipes and lifestyle changes that help our health," Rondina says.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND TESTIMONIES HIGHLIGHTED

North Shore's Health Ministry Weekend focused on natural remedies and anti-inflammatory eating. On Sabbath, Mercy Ballard, retired RN and co-founder of Med Missionary, shared about her journey of trusting God through her own health crisis and how she started a lifestyle center at her home. Dr. Joyce Choe, MD, MPH and co-founder of Med Missionary, explored the question, "What is true medical missionary work?" and presented on natural therapies for colds and flus.

Sunday's presentations included a combination of lectures and interactive food demonstrations, where approximately 40 attendees learned how soaking and sprouting foods increases nutrient availability and ease of digestion. Participants also learned about how modern agricultural and even health practices might be affecting health. Case studies of recovery using a more therapeutic and anti-inflammatory diet and lifestyle were shared, followed by a demonstration on how to make soy-free tofu, a granola with amaranth and gluten-free bread using black beans.



Eliana Perez

▲ Dr. Joyce Choe, guest speaker and founder of Med Missionary, explores the question, "What is true medical missionary work?" with attendees of North Shore's Health Ministry Weekend.

"We are fearfully and wonderfully made," Choe shared with weekend participants. "I believe that a loving God has given us principles in His Word for improving the quality of our lives."

Throughout the weekend, the North Shore church members and guests learned about ways to use diet and lifestyle, as well as natural therapies, to bring the body into a more healthful state. Each of the presentations called for those attending to have faith in the Word of God to have courage to move forward in obedience to what they see God calling them to.

HEALTH INFORMATION HAS 'UNIVERSAL APPEAL'

"The response and turnout was strong," Burnett said, reflecting on the positive response from attendees of the Health Ministry Weekend. "I could tell that for Dr. Joyce and for Mercy, this is what they have a real sense of calling for, and their personal testimonies of their own health journeys helped back it up. It reaffirms to me that the health message, when done well, really has universal appeal."

Burnett noted the hunger from those who attended for more on these topics. Many resolved to make choices that glorify God in their body and mind.



Jonathan Burnett

▲ The Health Ministry team at North Shore (from left to right) Carina To, Jaja Habla, Janet Rondina, and Evangeline Biglang-awa, together with the weekend guest speakers Dr. Joyce Choe, and Mercy Ballard, RN.

Over the course of the weekend, the presentations on healthful dietary principles segued to the principles associated with lifestyle, inspiring dialogue on growing food and country living. Though surrounded by the city, the congregation identified ways they could engage more in agriculture.

“Growing your own food in the city is more challenging, but people are interested in collaborating, finding land, and finding space to grow food,” Burnett shared. “It’s a dream I’ve had since coming here, to have a North Shore Farm. As a church community, it got us thinking about how we can be more holistic in our health, while having an awesome ministry outpost here in the city.”

Both Burnett and Rondina see an opportunity in the deep interest from attendees to learn more.

“During weekends like these, we’re learning together as a church, and through these we’ll be able to bless the community,

especially in the last days,” Rondina said.

A seed was planted, and they want to see it grow. ■

Faith LaCelle is a freelance writer.



Carina To

▲ During an interactive food demonstration hosted on Sunday at North Shore, approximately 40 attendees learned how soaking and sprouting foods increases nutrient availability and ease of digestion. Attendees also learned how to make soy-free tofu, a granola with amaranth and gluten-free bread using black beans.

SAVE THE DATE

April 28-29 2023

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Spring Fellowship

GUEST SPEAKER:
Neil Nedley, M.D.
President, Weimar Institute.

Tinley Park Convention Center,
Tinley Park, IL 60477

LODGING
Hampton Inn Chicago/Tinley Park

For more information visit:
www.asilakeunion.org

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Berrien Springs, Mich.	7:17	7:25	7:33	7:41
Chicago, Ill.	7:22	7:30	7:38	7:46
Detroit, Mich.	8:04	8:12	8:20	8:28
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:15	8:22	8:29	8:36
La Crosse, Wis.	7:39	7:47	7:56	8:04
Lansing, Mich.	8:11	8:19	8:27	8:35
Madison, Wis.	7:31	7:39	7:47	7:55
Springfield, Ill.	8:29	8:36	8:43	8:50

APRIL

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

GENERAL EVENTS

- April 7-9:** *Gymnics Homeshow Weekend, Johnson Gym*
- April 16, 12-7 p.m.:** *International Food Fair, Johnson Gym*
- April 21-22:** *Formal Celebration Weekend for Dwight K. Nelson, Pioneer Memorial Church*
- Friday, April 21, 7:30 p.m., Proximity Vespers Sabbath, April 22, 9 & 11:45 a.m.,** *Worship Services*
- Sabbath, April 22, 4 p.m.,** *Tribute Program*

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER EVENTS

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

- April 2, 4 p.m.:** *Sunday Music Series: Carla Trynchuk & Elena Braslavsky*
- April 7, 8 p.m.:** *Andrews University Choirs "Easter Tenebrae"*
- April 15, 8:30 p.m.:** *Andrews University Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert*
- April 22, 8:30 p.m.:** *Andrews University Wind Symphony Spring Concert*
- April 30, 4 p.m.:** *Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra Concert*

ILLINOIS

- April 16:** *Adventurer Fun Day*
- April 17:** *Southern Illinois Adventurer Fun Day*
- April 23:** *Master Guide Training*
- April 28-30:** *Spring Camporee, Camp Akita*

INDIANA

- April 6-8:** *Indiana Academy Music Festival*
- April 19-23:** *Indiana Academy Home Leave*

LAKE REGION

- April 7-9:** *Master Guide Campout, Camp Wagner*
- April 9-15:** *LRC Schools Spring Break*
- April 14-16:** *Adventurer Escape Weekend, Camp Wagner*
- April 15:** *Chicagoland Youth Federation, Independence Church, Chicago*
- April 22:** *Health Ministries - Better Health for You*
- April 29:** *FEHJA Youth Federation*
- April 29:** *LRC/Impact Indiana Men's Conference, Martinsville, Indiana*

MICHIGAN

- April 1:** *Pathfinder Impact Day*
- March 31 - April 2:** *Statewide Youth Conference, Troy Adventist Church*
- April 7-9:** *Hispanic Marriage Retreat, Camp Au Sable*
- April 14-16:** *Women's Ministry, Camp Au Sable*
- April 21-23:** *Women's Ministry, Camp Au Sable*
- April 24-30:** *GLAA Home Leave*
- April 28-30:** *Church Leaders Workshop, Camp Au Sable*

WISCONSIN

- April 1:** *Wisconsin Academy Music Festival*
- April 14-15:** *Wisconsin Academy Alumni Weekend*
- April 28-30:** *Hispanic Men's Conference, Rodeway Inn & Suites, Milwaukee*
- April 29:** *Adventurer Fun Day, Camp Wakonda*

LAKE UNION

- April 8:** *Children's Leadership Conference, Andrews University*
- April 21-22:** *ASI Spring Fellowship, Tinley Park, Illinois*

EDUCATION SABBATH IS APRIL 22



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ANNIVERSARIES

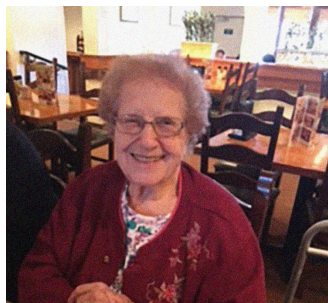


James and Joan (Marsh) Keeney celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Dec. 21, 2022. A few days before their anniversary date, friends and family from all over the country gathered for a surprise celebration at the University Seventh-day Adventist Church, where both Jim and Joan have worshipped and served since 1955 after serving in the United States Army. Jim and Joan dated at Emmanuel Missionary College, now Andrews University, and were married in South Bend, Indiana, at Pastor and Mrs. William Ortners' home with their roommates, Joyce (Larson) and Lloyd Penrod in attendance. They have continued to be an inspiring example as parents to their three children, Gary, Jim and Marsha, along with their larger impact in their church community.

BIRTHDAYS



Margaret Wright, a member of Benton Harbor Highland Adventist Church, celebrated her 100th birthday on Feb. 22, 2023. She has served the church as a faithful deaconess for many years. She has four children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Margaret Wright is a living testimony of Exodus 20:12, "Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."



Anna (Greavu) Dean celebrated her 102nd birthday on Feb. 13, 2023, with an intimate gathering of friends and family at Anna's assisted living center in Holly, Mich. Anna has been a member of the Holly Adventist Church for 84 years. Anna was a

homemaker and mother. Anna's husband, Myrle, died at the age of 89 in 2006. They lived on a dairy farm in Holly. She attended Adelphian Academy where she met her husband. They were very active in the church. She was a head deaconess, church clerk, and taught in the children's division. She enjoys crocheting, reading, and word search puzzles.

OBITUARIES

BOSSENBERRY, Donna M. (Bjelde), age 92; born Oct. 5, 1930, in Madison, Wis.; died Dec. 20, 2022, in Madison, Wis. She was a member of the Evansville Adventist Church in Evansville, Wis. She is survived by her daughters, Susan L. Bossenberry, Diane L. Bossenberry; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. A private service was conducted on Dec. 28, 2022, by Gunderson Worker at the Roselawn Memorial Cemetery in Madison, Wis.

COPIN, JR., John Samuel, age 79; born Oct. 5, 1943, in Kalamazoo, Mich.; died Dec. 20, 2022, in Kalamazoo, Mich. He was a member of the Urbandale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Battle Creek, Mich. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann (Van Houten) Copin; daughter, Janelle (Jay) Gaban; son, Gregory (Cherie) Copin; sister, Jeanne

Dent; and three grandchildren. Inurnment was conducted by Pastor Jerryn Schmidt at Fort Custer National Cemetery in Augusta, Mich., with military honors on Jan. 20, 2023. A memorial service was held on Jan. 22, 2023, in the Urbandale Adventist Church Fellowship Hall.

KLEMP, Dale L., age 92; born Apr. 3, 1930, in Rolling, Wis.; died Apr. 13, 2022, in Eagle River, Wis. He was a member of the Clearwater Lake Adventist Church in Eagle River, Wis. He is survived by his wife, Carol V. (Johnson) Klempe; sons, Gregory (Gloria) Klempe, Ronald (Lynn) Klempe; daughter, Cynthia Klempe; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. A memorial service was conducted by Pastor Christian Sorto on June 18, 2022, at the Clearwater Lake Cemetery in Eagle River, Wis.

SAMUELSON, Peter "Pete" D., age 89; born Feb. 13, 1933, in Clearwater Lake, Wis.; died Jan. 26, 2023, in Eagle River, Wis. He was a member of the Clearwater Lake Adventist Church in Eagle River, Wis. He is survived by his son, Paul (Jay) Joseph; daughter, Joan Tomlanovich; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Private inurnment.

SHERWOOD Sr., Leonard G., age 82; born Mar. 24, 1940, in Harbor

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.

Beach, Mich.; died Jan. 14, 2023, in Petoskey, Mich. He was a member of the Boyne City Seventh-day Adventist Church in Boyne City, Mich. He is survived by his wife, Susan "Sue" (Magee) Sherwood; son, Leonard (Karen Habenicht) Sherwood, Jr.; daughter, Connie (Jack) Dunlop; stepdaughter,

Robin (Matthew) Rees; brother, Leland (Daniella) Sherwood; sister, Joan (Albert) Miller; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild. A memorial service will be held in the spring at the Maple Lawn Cemetery in Boyne City, Mich.

WOODRUFF, Gilbert R., age 82; born Nov. 6, 1940, in Brocton, N.Y.; died Jan. 16, 2023, in Portage, Ind. He was a member of the Michigan City Adventist Church in Michigan City, Ind. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Woodruff; son, Bruce Cressley; stepsons, Zach (Taryn)

Duis, Seth Duis; daughters, Courtney (Jake) Zimmerman, Lynn (Dewayne) Tanner, Victoria Einink; and stepdaughters, Donna Wiltsie, Kristin (Adam) Smith. A private service will be held at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Ye' Olde" Cedar Lake

Academy reunion will be held June 2-4, 2023, for the alumni and schoolmates of 1973 and earlier at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Michigan.

The Honor classes this year include: 1953, 1963, 1973. Details will be sent by mail to all alumni. You may contact GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181 or <http://www.glaa.net>.

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>.

THE WORK IN THE CITIES
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 FOR THIS TIME • P.28
Ministry to the Cities
 BY ELLEN G. WHITE

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CALENDAR OF OFFERINGS

APRIL

- 1 Local Church Budget
- 8 Hope Channel International, inc. (GC)
- 15 Local Church Budget
- 22 Local Conference Advance
- 29 Local Church Budget



Lake Union Conference
 7th Bilingual Youth Congress

JUNE 2-4 2023

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MAIN SPEAKER:
 PR. ARNALDO CRUZ

2023 Lake Union Schools

Illinois

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

Indiana

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

Lake Region

Chicago SDA Christian School » Chicago, IL
Flint Fairhaven Elementary School » Flint, MI
Indianapolis Capitol City Elementary School » Indianapolis, IN
Peterson-Warren Academy » Inkster, MI
South Suburban SDA Christian School » Park Forest, IL

Michigan

A.S.P.I.R.E. Academy » Michigan Conference
Adelphian Junior Academy » Holly, MI
Andrews Academy » Berrien Springs, MI
Battle Creek Academy » Battle Creek, MI
Bluff View Christian School » Bessemer, MI

Cedar Lake Elementary » Cedar Lake, MI
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Eau Claire Elementary School » Eau Claire, MI
Edenville SDA Elementary School » Edenville, MI
First Flint Elementary School » Flint, MI
Gobles Junior Academy » Gobles, MI
Grand Rapids Adventist Academy » Grand Rapids, MI
Grayling Elementary School » Grayling, MI
Great Lakes Adventist Academy » Cedar Lake, MI
Greater Lansing Adventist School » Lansing, MI
Hastings Elementary School » Hastings, MI
Holland Adventist Academy » Holland, MI
Ithaca SDA School » Ithaca, MI
Kalamazoo Junior Academy » Kalamazoo, MI
Marquette SDA School » Negaunee, MI
Metropolitan SDA Junior Academy » Plymouth, MI
Mount Pleasant Elementary School » Mount Pleasant, MI
Niles Adventist School » Niles, MI
Northview Adventist School » Cadillac, MI
Oakwood Junior Academy » Taylor, MI
Pine Mountain Christian School » Iron Mountain, MI
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Wisconsin

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Absolutely UnBEElievable

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS AND WHAT DO MAY FLOWERS BRING? HONEYBEES!

Bryce Bowman



▲ Nephew with swarm of bees caught last year at Michigan Camp meeting

Over the past 15 years I have had what I believe to be a very fascinating hobby that I find great joy in: Beekeeping. I want to first put out a disclaimer that I am a novice when it comes to the art of keeping honeybees. The more I learn the less I seem to know. But this I do know – beekeeping has helped me to have a greater appreciation for our Creator God and the mighty and wonderful ways in which He works and wants to work in my life.

Just think about some of the details He put into the honeybee. They have 5 eyes and two stomachs. They beat their wings 190 times per second and can fly up to 15 miles per hour. They will travel 5-6 miles from their hive to gather nectar or pollen. They also communicate to each other through pheromones and with a simple “dance,” tell other bees where there is a nectar source, as far as six miles away. Honeybees are so industrious that they don’t sleep. Our Creator put all this ability and more into an insect with a brain the size of a sesame seed. *Absolutely unBEElievable.*

We receive many personal benefits from the honeybee. They pollinate our flowers and approximately one-third of the food we consume. They produce honey for us to eat, and even their venom is used as a treatment for arthritis and high blood pressure. And did you know honey has antioxidant, anti-bacterial and anti-inflammatory properties and can be used as a wound dressing to promote rapid and improved healing?

Another thing that amazes me is the unity that honeybees exhibit and the amount they get done. In the summer, there can be 40,000-60,000 bees in one colony and yet they work as one. The harmony which they display is remarkable and what they can accomplish is outstanding. From the making of hexagon-shaped wax cells for the storing of honey and pollen, and as birthing chambers, to the gathering of nectar and pollen, and the making of honey. All of this is accomplished because they work in unison. It makes me think of Psalm 133:1, which says, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

What if we, as God’s remnant church, as stewards of His last day message, were to work with such unity? What if we were to stop fighting and quibbling among ourselves and simply start doing what our Creator has put into our hearts to do?

What if, instead of selfishly looking out for our own good, we would, like the honeybees, be willing to lay down our lives to defend and provide for the colony, the family, the cause of Christ?

By the Grace of God, may we learn the lessons of true unity and reap its results both now and for eternity. ■

Joel Nephew is stewardship director for Michigan Conference.



H₂C=L

“LOVE IS A TWO-WAY STREET.” “IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO.”
“BOTH MUST GIVE 100%.”

These are familiar phrases of love but what if only one person in the relationship is in love and the other is barely half involved? They have other loves just as important or more so? What if they ignore you sometimes, talk to you only when they feel like it or when they need something from you? We would call them “NOT in love.”

When love is real it's deep and solid between two people who enjoy talking together, laughing together and even at times crying together. When you're in love, people can't wait to be with each other just to be in each other's presence. Where even silence is comfortable. If you know you are loved you are not afraid when you're apart because you are confident your love is thinking of you as much as you are thinking of them.

So it is with love. And, so it is with God. And, so it is with prayer.

This is our love story with God. God wants to know if you're in love with Jesus. In love with Him like He is with you? It takes two to be in love, remember?

In His last love letter to us, Jesus has tried hard to show us His unconditional love in our relationship with Him. He stands at the heart's door and knocks...even calls lovingly out to us. (Revelation 3:20) Can it be many of us are deaf to His voice?

Like a lover in the dark of night searching for His love, He calls out, If anyone can hear my voice please answer me! Let me know you're there! Let

me know you hear me! Please don't keep silent...I want to be with you!

Sadly, as any love story goes, a person cannot be in love by themselves. Sooner or later, they have to turn and walk away with a broken heart. Never will the other person realize how much they lost. The joy and happiness they could have experienced with One who has loved them so deeply. Never will they find a love so true anywhere.

Dear friends, God has been waiting. Knocking. Calling to us a lifetime.

Isaiah 55:3 says, “Incline your ear, and come unto Me: hear and your soul shall live...” Are your ears tuned to listen for His voice today? Do you believe talking to Jesus is worth your time? He is inviting you into a love story. He wants your heart—and it has to be your heart. Won't you talk with Him today? He won't wait forever you know, He can't. Time is running out.

If you were wondering about H₂C=L, it's a simple formula. Two Hearts Connecting equals Love. ■

Lesla J. Budd is Wisconsin Conference's prayer coordinator.



▲ Lesla Budd



Future Teachers of the Lake Union

SEVERAL ACADEMY STUDENTS ATTENDING THE LAKE UNION SECONDARY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AT CAMP AU SABLE, SEPT. 29 – OCT. 2, 2022, RECEIVED MUCH MORE THAN THEY SIGNED UP FOR.

Abigail Grunden and Khine Myint from Indiana Academy, and William Ramos from Wisconsin Academy won the draw for three \$4,000 Consider a Career in Teaching scholarships sponsored by the Lake Union. This draw was open to junior and senior conference attendees who expressed interest in becoming teachers in Adventist schools. Upon their enrollment as an education major at an accredited Adventist college or university, Grunden, Myint and Ramos each will receive \$1,000 yearly tuition assistance for four years from this Lake Union Conference initiative.

William Ramos, a senior, plans to major in theology. He can see himself teaching Bible one day at the academy level. He also is considering becoming a pastor. “I like helping people” he says, “and I’m pretty good at talking to people, especially one-on-one.”

Ramos is relatively new to Christian education. This is his second year at Wisconsin Academy, an experience he credits with being “life changing.” His previous education was in public schools where Ramos admittedly often felt isolated and “like the one weird Christian kid there.” Ramos identifies Artie Hamann, history, social studies, and physical education teacher at Wisconsin Academy, as one of his main inspirations. Ramos describes Hamann as “being like the dad we all want.” Another person that Ramos cites as being an important influence is Bible teacher Greg Edge. While working for Edge, Ramos began to sense that “I might like to do this.”

Ramos hasn’t decided yet where he will attend college or university.

Abigail Grunden, a junior, has been considering a career in architecture or teaching mathematics at the secondary level. When she entered her name into the drawing for the Consider a Career in Teaching scholarship, she thought, “If I win, maybe this means that I’m meant to be a teacher.” She describes herself as “academically driven.” As someone who takes her studies seriously, she often “chooses homework over hanging out with friends.” She says that math has always come easily to her. “I always hear people talking about how hard math is, but that is mainly because of their mindset. I’d like to help correct the misconceptions that so many have about this subject,” Grunden says.

Grunden attended Cross Street Christian School in Anderson, Indiana, before enrolling at Indiana Academy. She credits Jordan Reichert, who teaches Bible, history and social studies at Indiana Academy, with being one of her most influential teachers. Grunden describes Reichert as “so giving in a spiritual way and wise with his words.” She adds that “he played a key role in the process of my baptism.” Grunden describes herself as “patient and a good listener and someone who truly desires to help,” all qualities that she feels will help her become an effective teacher. Grunden hasn’t decided yet where she will attend college or university, but she is certain that this funding will significantly help her meet her next set of educational goals.

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▼ Khine Myint, Abigail Grunden and William Ramos after receiving their scholarship certificates during the Lake Union Secondary Leadership Retreat last fall.



Greg Edge

In addition to carrying a full academic load, **Khine Myint**, a senior, is recognized by his teachers and classmates as a committed servant leader on campus. He is Student Association pastor, a resident assistant and captain of the gymnastics team, the Aerials. He also assists others in their roles wherever he can, contributing to the religious programming at school and at church. He frequently accompanies the praise team and other campus musicians on the cajon and guitar.

Myint describes himself as “not the most social person,” yet others observe that he regularly steps outside of his comfort zone, making it his personal mission to help everyone around him feel noticed and included. Although Myint’s earlier years weren’t characterized by spiritual devotion, the love of Christ has produced in him what one classmate calls a “180 degree turn.” Now

Myint can be found preaching to his fellow students and church members as well as connecting with local public school students and friends at the Buddhist temple.

While still a student himself, Myint is already demonstrating many characteristics of a committed and caring teacher. Whether inside or outside of the classroom, Myint remains attuned to the needs of those around him, always ready to bear witness to the transformative power of Jesus Christ.

Beverly Matiko remembers winning first prize in an essay-writing contest sponsored by her home church. The assigned topic was “Reverence.” Matiko credits this affirmation from Adventist grade school days with strengthening her determination to “keep writing and keep going to school.” Matiko ultimately earned an MA and PhD in English, opening the door to a fulfilling career of teaching writing and related subjects in Adventist colleges and universities in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the USA.

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