

Lake Union HERALD

MARCH 2009



The GIFT
of GIVING

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



Cover artwork by Tyler Burns.



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in this issue...

The wisest investors who realize the greatest returns do not invest their resources in gold, silver, property, stocks or bonds.

Following the counsel of Jesus, they invest beyond the reach of volatile and failing markets. Their investments are fully insured against all loss. They invest in the Kingdom. More and more believers are concluding that now is the time to liquidate their property and assets to invest everything in the mission of proclaiming the gospel to the world.


Gary Burns, Editor



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The Best Reason

All through the year we give gifts to people for differing occasions and for a variety of motives—birthdays, anniversaries, thank you gifts and, of course, the recent Christmas season. Maybe some are still paying for that round of gifts.

Consider with me some of the reasons we tend to give gifts. Some give gifts because they feel it is a necessity or an obligation. We don't want to look bad, cheap or selfish, so we comply with circumstances and deliver a gift. The obligation motive is a common reason for giving a gift, but not a great motive.

Some give gifts from fear. We know, or surmise, that some people, maybe even God, tend to track the gift, its quality and who it comes from. From experience we also know there may be some price to pay if we don't perform to those people's expectations. So fear is certainly an unproductive motive for gift-giving.

Some, however, just really like giving gifts to others. It brings great joy to their hearts. My wife Barbara is one of those. Our closets are quite full of gifts bought especially for certain people and little gifts of care that are on standby for just the right person and occasion. I've noticed this practice has dramatically increased since grandchildren began to arrive.

Jesus validated the joy of giving when He said, "It is better to give than to receive" (see Acts 20:35). And, of course, we know "God loves a joyful giver" (see 2 Corinthians 9:7). Joy can be both a motive and an outcome of giving.

Joy is a great reason for giving gifts and often accompanies what seems to me to be the best motive—love. The gifts I've received, and those I have given simply as an expression of love, bring the most joy and make the best statements to others.

How about you? Can you think of any gifts you have given just to express love? Gifts given as a pure expression of joy that brought meaning to the recipient?

Have you noticed the gifts flowing from people to God all the time—the hours a Pathfinder club director invests in the youth of our church, the faithful deacon who cares for the church building and serves the needs of the members, the school teacher working late into the night grading papers and posting grades? We have all seen people sacrifice time and resources for God's cause—some from duty, some from faithfulness and some because no one else will take the responsibility.

I have often climbed into my car after a late board meeting or pastoral placement process knowing the next morning I had some flexibility in my schedule, while most of the people I worked with that night would have to be at work by seven or eight o'clock the next morning.

Thank you for all you do for the mission of God's Church. I pray that your service is a loving response of worship to a graceful and saving God. There are many good and a few great motives for giving gifts—but the greatest of them all ... is love.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Michigan The South Flint Church family welcomed five new members on Sabbath, November 8, 2008.

“Without her pushing me,” **Ernest Beauty** says of his wife, “I would still be in the unsaved world. Initially, I agreed to attend church just to please her, but soon the Lord came into my heart and won me over to Him.” He added, “I’ve had a very bad and violent life, but when I found Jesus I found true peace.”

As Ernest grew in his faith, he felt there was more to learn from a deeper study of the Bible. Ernest participated in an online Bible class and discovered the seventh-day Sabbath. Subsequently, Todd Ervin, South Flint’s head elder, contacted Ernest and they began to study the Bible together.



Five new friends were welcomed to the South Flint Church family. From left: Ernest Beauty, Melvin Santos (former pastor), Jordan Marzi, Deanna George, Deborah Porter and Vera Soper

Soon, Ernest began to attend the South Flint Church. “I had already been baptized in my previous church,” Ernest stated, “but I wanted to be baptized again as my commitment to all the new Bible truths I had learned.”

“Feelings of unworthiness kept me from being baptized for a very long time,” reflected **Deanna George**, “but as I studied the Bible with Melvin Santos (former South Flint pastor), I began to realize it was Christ’s worthiness that I should depend on and not my own. As I learned the truths recorded in Daniel and Revelation, and compared them with the daily newscasts, it was clear we are living in End Times. I decided I didn’t want to be on the outside looking in as Christ’s Second Coming took place. Neither did I want my daughter Allie to be holding Christ’s hand and not mine.” In addition, her sister and South Flint member, Dodie Marzi, provided encouragement and support and was instrumental in Deanna’s decision for baptism. “It’s

going to be nice,” she said, “to have some things in common with her that we both can believe in and share.”

With her beautiful heart of love for Christ, it wasn’t difficult for **Jordan Marzi**, Dodie’s nine-year-old daughter, to make a decision to be baptized. She has experienced a strong desire to live like Jesus so she can be with Him in Heaven. This has been her loving response to Christ, because He died for her sins on the cross. Jordan’s parents, family members, many friends, plus a surprise visit from her grandparents made the event very special.

When she received a card in the mail inviting her to take the Amazing Facts Bible studies, **Deborah Porter** thought, *Nothing will come of this, but what have I to lose?* and sent it in. She was stunned a short time later when Wayland Lively and Dawn Johnson appeared at her doorstep with the first studies for her to complete. Wholly drawn to the Lord, Deborah continually asked for more studies, wanting three at a time. She just couldn’t get enough of God’s Word and the new truths she was learning. Not knowing how she would be accepted, for several months Deborah made excuses when invited to attend church. When at last she came to church, Deborah was completely overtaken by the unconditional love she received. Now, with her fears gone, Deborah plans to start a card/Bible study ministry of her own. Her greatest desire is to be like Jesus.

Vera Soper was raised as a Christian and a member of a church when she became a Seventh-day Adventist 16 years ago. Since childhood her spiritual journey has had its times of ups and downs. “I’ve had a hard life,” she admits, “but my goal is to be closer to Jesus.” Through a series of studies in the book of James, Vera gained a deeper understanding of how faith works. Her time spent at the South Flint Church broadened her sense of devotion to Christ and strengthened her faith. “Everyone is so nice,” Vera says, “and there are no cliques. We all serve the same Lord.” With her commitment to God, Vera gives her testimony in two simple yet powerful words, “I’m home!”

Mary Pereault, associate communication leader, South Flint Church, as shared with Bruce Babienko, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*

Wisconsin **Wayne and Linda Schmalfus** were baptized at The Shepherd’s House in Wausau, Wisconsin, on Sabbath, November 1, 2008, by two pastors, Rowell Puedivan and Ed Sajdak. Wayne and Linda decided to begin Bible studies with Rowell after they watched Three Angels Broadcasting Network. As Wayne and Linda watched the televised Bible programs, they were convicted it was time for them to locate a church that worshiped on the seventh-day Sab-



Wayne and Linda Schmalfus greet The Shepherd's House church family each week with their usual happy smiles. Wayne and Linda are grateful for those who patiently taught them about Jesus Christ as a personal Savior.

bath and believed in baptism by immersion.

Both of these Bible doctrines were important to them, because Wayne and Linda understood they were also taught, explained and believed by the New Testament church. Baptism by immersion was especially important to

Wayne and Linda because, although they had been baptized by sprinkling water on their heads, they wanted to experience a spiritual death to sin and resurrection to a new life with Christ as the Bible teaches. Accepting the blessings of the seventh-day Sabbath created in them a new happiness as Wayne and Linda were welcomed into their new church family. Their testimonies included a special thanks to everyone who gave them support and love, and to those who patiently taught them about Jesus Christ as a personal Savior.

The Shepherd's House church family welcomed Wayne and Linda with open arms. They appreciated their faithful witness to their family and friends. Some Shepherd's House members said it is wonderful to have new members who are always full of smiles and have an encouraging word to share each Sabbath.

Diana Spieth, Shepherd's House member, as shared with Bruce Babienico, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*.

Michigan A chance meeting at a local restaurant led **Diana Adair** to the answers to questions she pondered for years. Diana wondered why so many different churches existed, all with varying doctrine. She wanted to know what God desired of her. At the restaurant, Diana struck up a conversation with Metropolitan Church (Metro) member, Roy Coleman. Over time, Diana learned that Roy went to church on Saturday. More importantly, Roy displayed genuine sincerity about his relationship with his Lord. This made an impression on Diana, and she desired that kind of rapport with God.

Throughout her life, Diana had strong faith in God. Because of circumstances beyond her control, Diana lost the right to attend her chosen church she had attended faithfully since age 15. She was hurt and felt betrayed by the rebuff. Nevertheless, she still loved God. God carried

her when someone murdered her husband, and she feels she would have never survived her grief without Him. God nurtured her kind and giving spirit by leading her to help special needs children as a nurse at the University of Michigan Mott Hospital. Since retiring, Diana has volunteered at a crisis center as a phone counselor. Her contribution was enhanced by previous experience with substance abuse patients. She continues to care for special needs children as a private nurse.

In March 2008, Diana began attending Metro where she met the pastor, Bob Stewart, and his wife Sandi. She began Bible studies with Sandi, and through these studies Diana saw God in a whole new light. She found what God really desired for His people and for her. Diana had progressed about two-thirds of the way through the "Storacles of Prophecy" lessons when evangelist Steve Vail began his "Discover Prophecy" outreach meetings on July 11, 2008, at Metro. Seeing the lessons on the big screen and hearing them powerfully preached cemented Diana's conviction. Near the last night of meetings, Steve made a call asking those who desired baptism to come forward, and Diana walked forward with fervor. Diana knew she was doing the Lord's will, and she felt a void filled in her life with her decision.



Diana Adair smiles after being baptized into the Detroit Metro Church. She said, "It has been a very long time since I have felt so happy and fulfilled."

Diana loves her best friends, her four daughters, and many grandchildren. Diana says, "Metro is the warmest family-oriented church I have ever attended; you are indeed like one big family and I love that." Attending Metro has helped Diana since her daughters moved away. Diana says, "It has been a very long time since I have felt so happy and fulfilled. It is all very exciting since I made my decision to walk with the Lord." Diana was baptized on August 30, 2008.

Joy Hyde, communication leader, Metropolitan Church

Share the Good News!

Do you know of someone who recently made a decision for Christ? Submit your story to the editors at our website: www.lakeunionherald.org

Following the Holy Spirit's Lead

BY MATHIAS DAVID CARNERO

John Khargie, a junior at Andrews Academy, together with the support of his friends, founded a Bible study group. He felt impressed to get something going for God. Even way before Week of Prayer began, John felt the impression by the Holy Spirit that some kind of movement for God should be taking place, so his convictions prompted him to host a Bible study group.

John is thankful that he made the decision to go forth in faith to follow the Holy Spirit's leading. Usually John has his topics all ready to be discussed. For example, he asked the group what they think about forgiveness. Each person responded as well as they knew how, and finally John gave a biblical answer. His goal for the Bible study



John Khargie was impressed to get something going for God, so with the support of friends he started a weekly Bible study group.

group is to inspire his peers that "being in Jesus" is the ultimate way to go, for to serve Jesus is to believe and have faith in Him and not follow one's own will.

The Bible studies are held every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church, in Berrien Springs, Michigan. The group is fortunate to have a room with an atmosphere congenial for study, just the right size, cozy and warm, with comfortable seating. A total of about 16 teens and young adults attend. Winter in Michigan has not been so cold since 1999, so the members believe it is a blessing to receive a comfortable space.

Most who attend the study are academy students, so relating to each other is natural to the group. One or two are relatively beyond their high school years, and if there is ever an inside story shared, they are filled in on details. Members think that attending Bible studies has made them thankful, because it has shown everyone who attends that God is at work in the lives of others. Dialoguing with each other, every one profits. All have been impressed that everyone

who attends really wants to serve God by faith through Christ Jesus.

Two main topics discussed recently were about choosing one's own attitude, and another was about not judging others. The one about choosing one's attitudes has helped members realize that keeping a right attitude, despite the problem, is best and

can often lead to a positive outcome. And that as a Christian, deep inside, everyone knows what they have to do to honor God. That is, people must know how to make good decisions. Judging others is not a Christian attribute; the group is realizing the fact that judging what a person is like before getting to know them most likely leads to a judgment that is not true.

Being in Jesus all the time is what all Christians should strive for, those who attend the Bible study group want to achieve it. For as long as one lives, true surrender is what it takes—though it may take time, and some more than others. Brianna Cave, a junior at Andrews Academy, stated: "It makes me happy to see that the group and I are at the same level."

Alex Gayton, a sophomore at Andrews Academy, also made a statement concerning the Bible study. He says, "It's pretty cool that something actually got started."

Mathias David Carnero is a senior at Andrews Academy.



HANDS

BY RAMONA TRUBEY

I have always been fascinated by hands, which I believe are a distinguishing mark of a person. I picture my mother's hands, though they have been folded in death for many years—small hands with long slender fingers that could not only make the piano keys talk, but accomplished the many duties of a farm wife and soothed, caressed and loved us children.

I marveled at the tiny perfect hands of my newborn babies. When their farmer father with his large vice-grip hands held and stroked those miniature models, an admiration of God's wonder and love flooded over me. I cannot count the times I kissed and loved those precious little hands.

We did business with a gentleman who had the largest hands I had ever seen. I asked if I could look at his hands, and he smiled and said, "Of course." I marveled that his hands were large enough to crush a normal hand, and very capable of doing great harm, and yet they belonged to such a gentle man. He commented that he knew his hands were large, but they had served him well over the years.

I hired a worker one time, strictly on the appearance of her hands—hands that said she knew how to work hard. I was not disappointed.

I have just experienced another appreciation of hands as I traveled to Dodoma, Tanzania, Africa, with a team of ShareHim enthusiasts from my home church in Cicero, Indiana. A hearty handshake, lock thumbs, return to the handshake, was the accustomed greeting. Shy, little children scurried up and shook hands before shyly dashing away. Those hands, hundreds of them—small, large, bony, grimy, slimy, coarse and rough—all conveyed the joy in their hearts just to meet you.



After observing Abel (front) drag himself with one hand to the nightly meetings, ShareHim missionaries pooled their resources to purchase a wheelchair for him. Abel's mother (back, left) dressed in her nicest clothes to attend the presentation. Abel was baptized the following day.

Sitting in the dirt in front of our speaking platform, out in an empty, dusty lot, the children's hands waved madly to answer a question about the previous night's children's story. The air was full of waving hands, and after the meetings we were surrounded by eager hands begging to be touched by the messengers from the U.S. telling them about Jesus.

But one hand in particular fascinated me. Each evening, down the dusty road, came a young man dragging his de-

formed body on the ground with his one usable hand. He dragged his useless legs for half a mile to sit in the dirt and listen to the love of God being proclaimed. That hand was so calloused; its original shape was hard to distinguish. But as that hand was raised in greeting or grasped my hand, and later raised to indicate that he wanted to surrender his heart to the Lord, I considered it to be a beautiful hand. It was washed clean in the water of the baptismal tank.

I will never forget the eagerness of the grasp of those many hands, and I want to show that same eagerness as I grasp the nail-scarred hands of my Savior as we meet and greet in the earth made new.

Ramona Trubey is a member of the Cicero Church.





FAMILY TIES

Finances: A Family Affair

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

“There is no surprise more magical than the surprise of being loved. It is God’s finger on man’s shoulder.” —Charles Morgan

Five children in the family. A mom and dad who knew education, at its best, addressed real issues. There were no secrets about money. No ATM mentality. These kids came to academy having learned how to manage the family’s money. They knew how much money there was as well as the values of their parents in paying tithes and offerings. These kids knew how to write checks, balance the checkbook and justify the bank statement. Wow! It should have been no surprise that they were responsible and resourceful in many ways.

Considering economic conditions, the time is ripe for parents and grandparents to actively share their money management skills with their families. Rather than filling children with fear about what they can’t have or may lose, how about getting them involved in productive ways?

Children from preschool age on can be productive money managers. In a recent survey, 67 percent of parents believed that financial management was not a priority for their teens, while 60 percent of teens said financial management is a top priority! I invite you to consider using these resources, depending on the ages of family members:

Younger kids can focus on learning to save and on spending behavior at learntosave.com/lessons.

Third through sixth graders can check out orangekids.com.

Teens and young adults can follow the links at bankhs.com/students. You’ll also find videos, books and other resources to use.

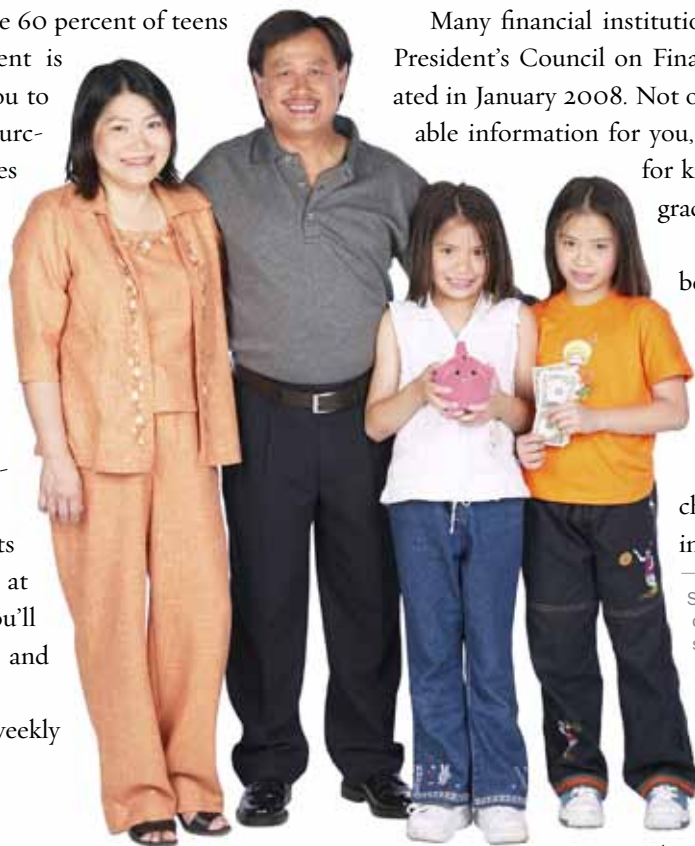
Consider holding a weekly

family finance meeting. Visit practicalmoneyskills.com and schwabmoneywise.com for budgeting and spending ideas and games. There are many good ideas, including: If you pay weekly allowances, set specific expectations for what is to be paid for by your children. And don’t bail them out when they overspend. You’ll find some good advice by going to the “Children and Money” link at financial-education-icfe.org. For teens, also visit handsonbaking.org for ideas.

Many financial institutions are collaborating with the President’s Council on Financial Literacy, which was created in January 2008. Not only does the site provide valuable information for you, there are grade specific ideas for kids from fourth through ninth grades. Go to mymoney.gov.

Talk about bargains! Never before have we had so many free resources at our fingertips. These can assist us in being good stewards of God’s resources as we invest in the kingdom, by providing our children with the best education in financial management.

Susan Murray is an associate professor of family studies who teaches behavioral science and social work at Andrews University. She is a certified family life educator and a licensed marriage and family therapist.



Beans lower LDL cholesterol and triglyceride levels.

Beans, Beans, Good for Your Health

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

For optimal health we should eat one half-cup of beans per day.



Thousands of different varieties of beans exist, including lima beans, black-eyed peas, black beans, pinto beans, chick peas, lentils and many others. While dietary guidelines call for eating three cups a week, or one-half cup per day, Americans typically consume less than one cup of beans per week.

Beans are a staple in the Middle East, India, China and in Latin America. Beans are popular since they are easy to grow, transport and store, and are an inexpensive source of good quality protein. In addition, beans are a good source of fiber, folate, B vitamins, potassium, magnesium, iron, zinc, copper, phytosterols and other phytochemicals. Beans have a very low sodium and saturated fat content, and generally contain less than one gram of fat per one-half cup serving.

Beans are really good for your health. In fact, for every half ounce of legumes eaten per day, your risk of death decreases about eight percent. Clinical trials reveal that diets containing beans, such as vegetarian baked beans, can significantly lower LDL cholesterol and triglyceride levels, and reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease.

People who ate beans and lentils at least four times a week showed a 22 percent lower risk of heart disease compared with those who ate beans less than once a week. In one research study, diets supplemented with dry beans, such as pinto beans, lowered blood cholesterol and triglyceride levels to a degree similar to that achieved by oat bran.

In the CARDIA study, those who consumed the most legumes had the lowest incidence of hypertension. In addition, the resistant starch and soluble fiber in

beans, and the low glycemic load of beans, helps to stabilize blood sugar and reduce the risk of diabetes.

A study found that teenagers who eat beans had lower body weights and smaller waist circumferences than non-bean eaters. In a national survey, those persons who regularly consumed beans had a 22 percent lower risk of obesity compared with non-bean eaters.

A regular consumption of beans lowers the risk of various cancers and helps reduce tumor growth in animals. Men with the highest intake of legumes were less likely to have prostate cancer, while overweight persons who had a high intake of legumes had less pancreatic cancer. In a clinical trial, those who increased their bean intake the most had a 65 percent lower risk of precursor lesions for colon cancer.

Some people are afraid of beans because of the gas problem. Many beans contain raffinose and other sugars that we cannot digest. These sugars are attacked by bacteria in the colon, producing gas. Proper cooking methods and the use of spices such as anise, coriander and cumin are useful in diminishing the flatulence problem. Flatulence does diminish in time as beans are consumed more frequently.



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



EXTREME GRACE

I'm Not as Selfish as...

BY DICK DUERKSEN

The world's economic collapse is largely the result of excesses by greedy capitalists, like the fellow who used millions of taxpayer "bailout" money to pay bonuses to his friends. And did I mention his \$1,400 parchment wastebasket?

These are people who allocate their "Malachi tithe" to golden faucets for their dog's powder room.

I'm really glad I'm not like any of these people.

Instead, in response to the insistent tear-jerking letters I receive each month, I write a check to every school I've ever attended or worked close to. I buy magazine subscriptions and fine chocolate from desperate seventh graders. I only use the "free" return labels that 14 different non-profits send me if I send them donations large enough to cover the cost of printing and mailing the labels. When traveling, I limit myself to purchasing no more "trinkets" than can be scrunched into my suitcase. I actually use all 24 of the cracker boxes that come in the warehouse family pack. And there's nothing in my cupboards that is still in its original plastic wrap.

Not.

Actually, I'm really a pretty selfish capitalist myself, just not on a large enough scale to derail the economy ... not even the economy of my neighborhood! But I doubt God's got a measuring tape on the size of my selfishness. He just erases the check mark beside "good steward" and watches the cracks in my nest egg morph into caverns large enough for a "super-sized" shopping cart to roll through.

But we're working on it.

On Christmas Eve, Brenda and I joined a small group of friends singing carols through the streets of a small town in a far-off country. Being good stewards of our time, we considered this a perfect way to "do good through singing." Since we were singing in a language none of us can speak, and reading from poorly-copied song sheets that were impossible to read in the dark, we sounded awful. And that

gave the populace the happiest Christmas ever! At one house a ten-year-old lad practically threw his back out of kilter while laughing at our rendition of "Silent Night." Our "good stewardship" likely earned a star for "enhancing the well-being of the neighbors."

Christmas Day we conducted a medical clinic for a group of "not terribly well-off" folks on the other side of the tracks. Lots of Tylenol and *Steps to Christ* were distributed. Darla joined the clinic as a volunteer glasses-distributor, responsible for finding eyes that matched the 99¢ store reading glasses someone had donated for the clinic. (Now that's good stewardship!)

One of Darla's customers had been sent away "unglassed" on the 24th, but was back the next day "just hoping you found more glasses overnight." We hadn't, and Darla was the designated "I am so sorry" spokeswoman. She delivered her message and waited for the woman to leave. But Mrs. Hopeful just sat there—looking into Darla's eyes like a Golden Retriever hoping you'll throw the ball.

Darla waited briefly, and then in an extravagance of stewardship reached up to where her own glasses perched to provide clarity to her world. Not quite knowing why, she removed her specs, spun them around, and handed them across the table.

"Try mine," she offered. They were perfect, and Darla cried happily as they walked out the door perched on the bridge of their new owner's nose.

Maybe stewardship is just about choosing to be blind to your own wants as you meet others' needs.

Dick Duerksen is the official "storyteller" for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact the author at dduerksen@maranatha.org.



Dear God...

BY DON JACOBSEN

Dear God,

I've notice something recently that bothers me. I'm sure You have noticed it, too: When we don't have much money, we pray more.

Now God, I'm trying to understand why that is. Is it because when we have plenty, we don't feel our need of You? Is it because we have come to think of praying as a way to get something from You? Is it because when our needs are met, we assume we did it and that we need You primarily in case of emergency?

I don't like how I feel when I ask those questions.

See, I would really like to be able to give away a lot of money to the work of the Kingdom. A lot of money. There are so many needs, an almost infinite number of opportunities, doors that are open. I know a family who recently gave \$100,000,000. I'd love to do that.

Then it occurred to me that You have designed it so that when there are calls for funds from Your church, You route the money through Your people. What a great plan.

But maybe it means that the more money I have, then that is when I need to pray the most. About where and when to give it, about how to invest it, about how to get more so I can give that away, too. I guess it's all about motive.

I know the truth of the statement, "Continual giving starves covetousness to death." I sense that principle applies in my life whether I have much or little. So maybe while this giving thing is partly about my checkbook, it's even more about my heart.

I have to admit to You that narrow financial times really do remind me of my total dependence. And my heart needs to be constantly reminded of that. When there is much money left over at the end of the month, it keeps fresh in my heart that You and I are in this together and that You'll see me through.

It is then You call to my mind stories like the one of John Wesley, who began his ministry making only a few pounds each month. As his income rose, he attempted to keep his expenses minimal so he would then have more to give away. I have to admit I often don't by nature think that way.

So here's what I'm thinking. I want to ask that You help me to learn to pray BIG prayers regardless of the circumstances around me. More than anything I want to seek Your heart. More than anything I want to walk in Your story. More than anything I want my life to be available for Your big purposes.

If that should include an abundance of resources, teach me dependence and guide me in how I use them. If that should include only meager fare, teach me dependence and help me understand how to use what I do have to show Your love to the world. In whatever circumstance, teach me dependence and to learn explicit, unwavering, contagious, enthusiastic and grateful confidence in the wise providence of the Sovereign of the universe.

Amen.

Your friend.

Don Jacobsen is the former president of Adventist World Radio. He writes from Hiawassee, Georgia.

Mission Trip at Home

BY DIANE THURBER

Matt and Leah Kohls were student missionaries on the island of Pohnpei in Micronesia before marriage. Matt says, “We had both experienced the joy of mission service before we became a couple, so it came as part of the package for both of us when we came together.” Matt and Leah intentionally committed to go on a mission trip each year, and talked about their desire to be missionaries wherever they were.

Matt and Leah have traveled to El Salvador and Tanzania with *ShareHim*, where they presented evangelistic series. Matt says, “Our passion for sharing Jesus was rekindled every time we went on a trip.” Matt and Leah were both re-baptized as a result of preaching the evangelistic series. Matt says, “So while we were seeking to point others to Jesus, our hearts were drawn back to Him, too.”

Last year Matt and Leah began to think about where God would take them for their summer mission experience and prayed for His leading. They were interested in traveling to Zambia, but felt God telling them to wait on Him instead of moving forward with their plans.

Matt and Leah realized they weren’t active in reaching out to people right where they live. So last spring they joined a discipleship training group at church where they learned how to give Bible studies and lead others to Christ. During this class, Matt and Leah decided their mission trip should be at home. They asked Staci Osterman, the group’s leader, if she could think of anything they could do. Staci gave Matt and Leah Bible study interest cards collected by Magabook teams working in their community, and she asked Matt and Leah to personally deliver the first study to those individuals.

Matt and Leah set aside July 2008. For 12 to 20 hours each week they knocked on doors, delivered the first lessons, and explained the Bible study process. They also



Each year Matt and Leah Kohls of Lansing, Michigan, pray for God to lead them in their service for Him. Last summer, instead of an overseas mission trip, God directed them to their own community.

inquired if there was a Bible in the home. Surprised to learn not every home did, they provided Bibles.

Though the outcome of their service is unknown, Matt and Leah do know there are several people who didn’t have the Word of God in their homes who now do. And they’ve been blessed studying with contacts. Matt and Leah say, “It has been awesome to watch the hope and joy that it brings to someone else to discover the beautiful truths of the Bible and to grow in their relationship with God.”

Blessed with a bigger picture of the needs of people around them, Matt and Leah now realize “the har-

vest truly is plentiful, even right here where we live.” They understand, “You don’t have to be a professional evangelist or pastor to make an eternal impact in your own hometown. ... He is the only One who is really able to change people’s lives and to save them. But if you tell Him you are willing to be used, He will do that saving work through you.”

Diane Thurber is the assistant communication director of the Lake Union Conference.

Matt Kohls teaches grades seven and eight at Greater Lansing Adventist School. Leah Kohls is the speech-language pathologist at Delta Center Elementary School. They attend the Lansing (Michigan) Church.

Magabook teams introduce individuals to enriching Christian resources. Contact your local conference literature distribution coordinator for information. *ShareHim* is a worldwide outreach initiative to help individuals experience God as they witness for Him (see www.sharehim.org).

EL MILAGRO DE SHEBOYGAN

POR CARMELO MERCADO



“El Dios que escuchó la oración de Daniel escuchará las nuestras cuando acudamos a él arrepentidos. Nuestras necesidades son tan urgentes como las del profeta, nuestras dificultades son tan grandes como las suyas, y necesitamos tener su misma firmeza de propósito, y echar con fe nuestra carga sobre el gran Portador de las cargas” (Review and Herald, 9-2-1897. A fin de conocerle, p. 274).

En el año 1999 la Iglesia Hispana de Sheboygan comenzó sus servicios de la misma manera que lo han hecho otras iglesias hispanas: alquilando la iglesia de habla inglesa. Al llegar el pastor Rubén Rivera ese mismo año les presentó por primera vez el desafío de conseguir un templo propio.

Pasaron los años, hubo dos cambios de pastor, pero aún seguían adorando en un templo alquilado. En el año 2006 el pastor Rivera regresó para ser el pastor de esa misma iglesia, y otra vez les lanzó el desafío de conseguir un templo propio.

Desde el punto de vista humano, la meta parecía imposible de lograr. La congregación contaba con sólo 35 miembros. Varios hermanos habían perdido sus trabajos, y tuvieron que trasladarse a otras ciudades en busca de empleo. Pero los miembros de la iglesia siguieron elevando sus oraciones a Dios, pidiéndole que los guiara para encontrar un templo adecuado.

Por fin llegaron a enterarse de una propiedad que consistía de una iglesia, una casa y un solar, todo por el precio de \$350,000. Siendo que la iglesia tenía solamente \$23,000 en su fondo pro-templo, parecía imposible obtener esa propiedad. Sin embargo, el pastor estaba convencido que sí era posible. Al contarme la historia, el pastor Rivera dijo lo siguiente: “Mi mensaje para la iglesia fue el siguiente: Para Dios nada es imposible, si creemos. Al presentarles la experiencia del santuario en el desierto, les recordé que lo que Dios le había pedido al pueblo de Israel era de lo que ya les había dado en Egipto cuando ordenó al pueblo a coleccionar entre los egipcios. En otras palabras, Dios nos pide de lo que ya nos ha dado por

adelantado; no tenemos que dar lo que no tenemos. Les sugerí que se sentaran e hicieran un inventario de todo lo que tenían en sus casas y que identificaran lo que no usaban o que no fuese una prioridad.”

Después de algunas reuniones más con el pastor vendedor y sus líderes, se logró que bajaran el precio original y que separaran el templo del resto de la propiedad. Como

resultado se le asignó al templo el precio de \$160,000. Con este nuevo acuerdo, la congregación quedó convencida de que Dios estaba obrando poderosamente. Finalmente, con el gran esfuerzo de los miembros de la iglesia que hicieron cosas extraordinarias tales como vender autos, bicicletas, bienes del hogar y hasta refinanciar sus casas y donar parte de sus salarios, junto

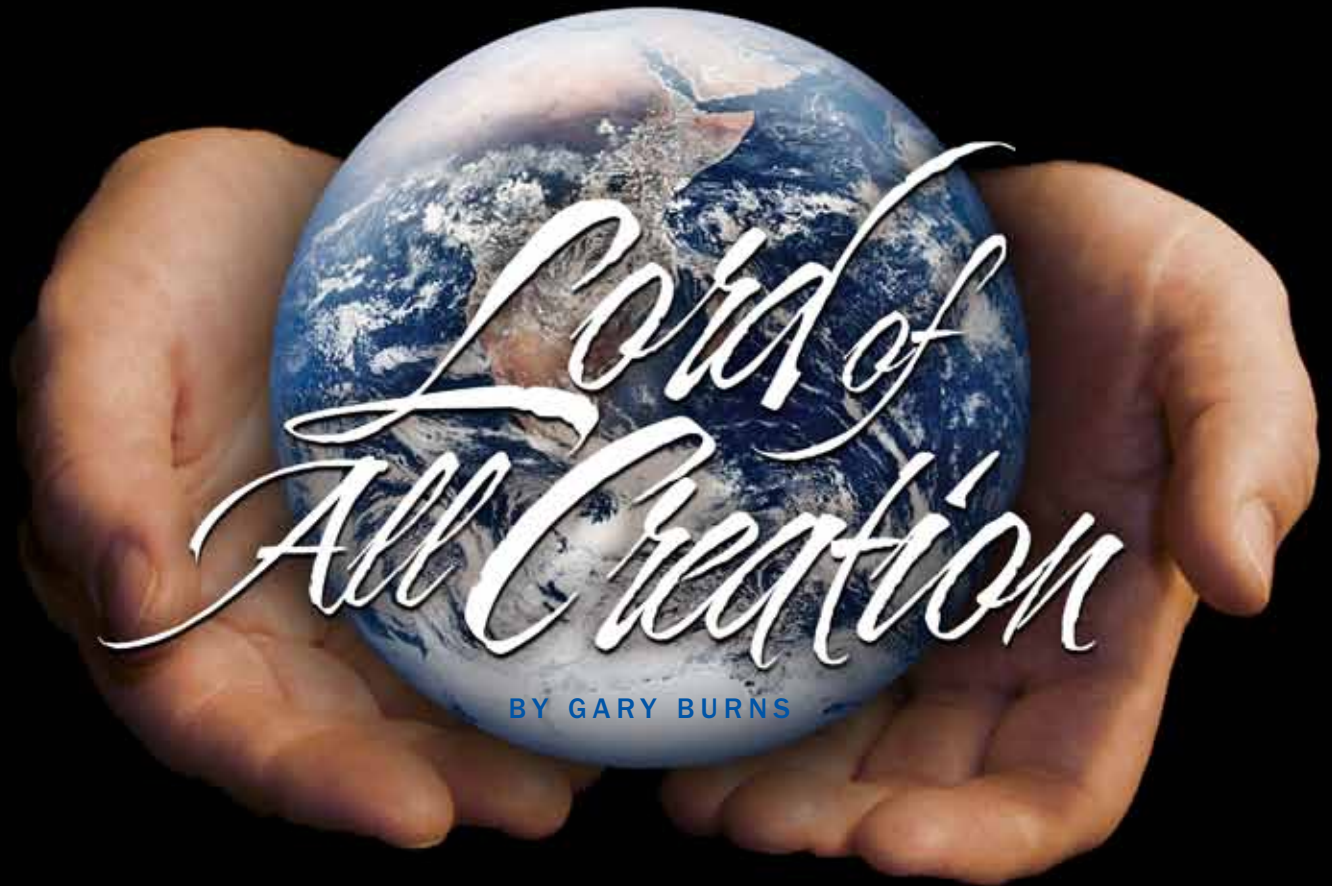
con las contribuciones de la Asociación de Wisconsin, de la Unión del Lago y algunas amistades de los hermanos, llegaron a ver realizado su sueño: llevaron a cabo la compra del templo en el mes de agosto del año 2008.

La lección de esta historia es que Dios todavía suplente nuestras necesidades cuando ponemos nuestra fe en acción. Encomiendo al lector de este artículo que considere lo que ocurrió en Sheboygan y ore con fe y confianza, seguro de que Dios sí cumple sus promesas.



Algunos de los miembros de la Iglesia Hispana de Sheboygan en frente de su nuevo templo

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente general de la Unión del Lago.



THE PRAYER OF A FAITHFUL STEWARD

You are worthy, my Lord and my God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things, and by your will we were cre-
ated and have our being.

You created the heavens and stretched them out.
You spread out the earth and all that comes out of it.

You created the heavens,
You are God;
You fashioned and made the Earth,
You founded it;
You did not create it to be empty,
but formed it to be inhabited—
You are the LORD,
and there is no other.

By you all things were created—things in Heaven and
on Earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers
or rulers or authorities; all things were created by you and
for you. You are before all things, and in you all things hold
together. All authority in Heaven and on Earth is yours.
So I bow before you and give you glory and worship; for
you made the heavens, the Earth, the sea and the springs
of water.

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,
for everything in Heaven and Earth is yours.
Yours, O LORD, is the Kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.

You alone are God over all the kingdoms of the Earth.
Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.
In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.

You are the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the Earth.
You will not grow tired or weary,
and your understanding no one can fathom.
You give strength to the weary
and increase the power of the weak.
Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;
but those who hope in you
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

You created me, you formed me. You give me breath
and life. You formed me and made me for your glory. I am
your workmanship, created in you to do good works, which
you prepared in advance for me to do. You created me to
be like you in true righteousness and holiness.

O LORD God Almighty, who is like you?
You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness
surrounds you. You rule over the surging sea;
when its waves mount up, you still them.

The heavens are yours, and yours also the Earth;
you founded the world and all that is in it.
You water the mountains from your upper chambers;
the earth is satisfied by the fruit of your work.
You make grass grow for the cattle,
and plants for man to cultivate—
bringing forth food from the earth:
If you were hungry, you would not tell me,

for the world is yours, and all that is in it.
You tend your flock like a shepherd:
You gather the lambs in your arms
and carry them close to your heart;
you gently lead those that have young.

I know that you secure justice for the poor and uphold
the cause of the needy. You raise the poor from the dust
and lift the needy from the ash heap; you seat them with
princes and have them inherit a throne of honor. You have
been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in his
distress.

Therefore, I will not be hardhearted or tightfisted
toward my poor brother. I will open my hand to the poor
and needy in the land. I will rescue the poor who cry for
help, and the fatherless who have none to assist him. I will
show no partiality to princes nor favor the rich over the
poor, for they are all the work of your hands. I will defend
the cause of the weak and fatherless and maintain the
rights of the poor and oppressed. I will share my food with
the hungry and provide the poor wanderer with shelter;
when I see the naked, I will clothe him, and not turn away
from my brothers and sisters.

But who am I that I should be able to give as gener-
ously as this? Naked I came from my mother's womb, and
naked I will depart. Everything comes from you, and I
have given you only what comes from your hand.

I will sing to you all my life; I will sing praise to you as
long as I live.

May my meditation be pleasing to you, as I rejoice in
your faithfulness.

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

Adapted from Genesis 5; Deuteronomy 15; 1 Samuel 2; 2 Kings 19; 1
Chronicles 29; Job 1, 29, 34; Psalm 50, 82, 89, 104, 139, 140; Isaiah
25, 40, 42, 43, 45, 58; Matthew 28; Ephesians 2, 4; Colossians 1; and
Revelation 4, 14 (NIV).



The Joy of Faithfulness

BY DON CORKUM

Is it realistic in difficult economic times to put the needs of God's work first? After all, we have to survive. Yet, inspired counsel challenges us to always put the needs of God's work first. In *Counsels on Stewardship* we read, "The cause of God is to hold first place in our plans and affections" (p. 220). Of course, at the same time, God promises to care for our needs. How can we possess the faith to give God priority in the midst of an economic recession?

God often asks His people to do His work in the most difficult times. The stories of Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Nehemiah and many other Bible personalities were carried out in times of crisis and challenge. The task often seemed greater than their resources could handle. Yet, with God's command came a promise to His people in Bible times that is important for us today. God said to Joshua, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9 NKJV). In most key situations in Scripture, God says that we should not fear for He will be with us.

During the past decade, Adventists in Wisconsin often faced challenges that seemed beyond the capabilities of their resources. Yet, they were amazed to see how God supplied their needs when they moved forward in His work. In 1998, the conference constituency voted to build a new caf-

eteria for Wisconsin Academy. This would cost more than \$1 million and there were no capital funds in hand to start the project.

It seemed impossible to find the money for this project, when funds were stretched to meet current operating needs. If we raised \$1 million for the cafeteria, would all the rest of the work suffer? Would the tithes and offerings be diminished? Appeals were made to the Wisconsin Academy alumni and the constituents of the conference. A three-fold challenge was presented: 1) It is not equal giving that God wants, but equal sacrifice; 2) Is my gift involving a sacrifice? and 3) Does it take faith to make my commitment to God?

Also, a commitment was made not to go into debt and obligate a future generation.

God's people responded by putting His needs first. Many gave with faith and sacrifice. The response was gratifying with more than 1,000 people participating. The theme of

the campaign was “Together We Can.” More than \$1 million came in, so the facility was dedicated on the same day as the official opening. All the funding was provided. There was a great celebration of praise thanking God for what He did for and through His people.

What happened to the conference resources during this time? During the time of the heaviest giving to this project, the conference experienced the highest tithe increase in recent history—11 percent. It was a time of abundance! Story after story from academy alumni and conference members told of the miracles they received from giving this project priority in their stewardship. God often supplied unforeseen gifts and new sources of income to meet the additional commitments the members made.

when needed. Answers to prayer occurred. The building was dedicated debt free at the official opening. The project brought a new sense of unity to the congregation. They knew that being God’s stewards is a wonderful partnership. Similar stories could be told from other projects.

Do people have less because they give to God’s work? In Malachi 3:10 it states God will “open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.” The blessing referred to here is not just evident in monetary terms but in an enriched life. Many do see God’s hand in financial blessings. One family who made a substantial gift to a capital project said that increased income allowed that commitment to be covered in only a few months. Many other people expressed they felt

“SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS HAVE A GLOBAL WORK. THE NEEDS OF LOCAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL ARE GREAT AND OFTEN DEMAND

My wife Phyllis and I had a gratifying experience at that time. We had just finished helping our third child through college and had no savings except a small amount of equity from a house we sold in Canada. We knew we needed to have resources to help us in the future. We wondered, *How could we give to the project and begin some savings at the same time?* We made a commitment that we felt involved faith and sacrifice. To our amazement, about three months later my wife received an inheritance gift from an aunt that was more than enough to cover the commitment we had made. We praised God for His care for us.

The academy cafeteria project began a series of capital projects to provide improved facilities at the academy and campground. At the same time, many projects were taking place in church districts. The Rhinelander Church desired a new facility. It seemed too big a project for a small congregation. The members employed Ray Hubbart, a specialist on Christian stewardship in capital campaigns. He helped them understand what God could do through them as opposed to just what they themselves could do. The church decided to move forward with the project. In talking with the head elder, he said that it was amazing how people responded to meet the needs. The funds were always there

God’s presence with them as they met their commitments each month. Partnering with God is one of the joyous privileges of God’s people.

It was not just in capital projects that members of the church experienced the fulfillment of their Christian stewardship. The amount given to evangelism increased substantially as God’s people faithfully responded to the needs of the work. This allowed the many Net Bible study series to have success. In 2002, Hope for the Homeland Bible study series were conducted through Wisconsin. We experienced more baptisms in one year than we had seen annually during the past 30 years. More than 80 Bible study series took place that year. People gave of their resources in time, talents and possessions. Later, a conference evangelist was employed and outreaches to new people groups—such as the Hmong people—gave expansion to the work. More than 20 new church groups were planted since 2002. Adventists in Wisconsin had the joy of seeing their investment in God’s work result in the growth of God’s Kingdom.

In the parable of the talents (see Matthew 25), God shows how He wants His people to use their resources to advance His Kingdom—especially as they await His return. Christ is pictured as a man traveling to a far country, delivering

His goods to His servants. His goods are all the gifts and resources entrusted to His people to advance His Kingdom. God assures that these goods are to care for personal needs as well. Two of the servants were honored when the Master returned, because they were active and creative in multiplying the Master's goods. To them He said, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (verses 21, 23 NKJV).

One servant hid his goods in the ground. He is called an "unprofitable" servant (verse 30 NKJV). God's people, in the Last Days, are to be involved in faith ventures with God to help expand His Kingdom—even in times of difficulty and crisis. When His resources are used to advance His Kingdom, He calls His people profitable servants. Those who play it safe and never enter experiences of faith and

If the sale of the property had been delayed, this property would probably have lost much of its value due to the recession.

At the beginning of 2009, the Wisconsin constituency and Wisconsin Academy alumni have a project to raise about \$1.3 million (people have already responded with about \$300,000 toward the project). A recession is impacting our world. This seems like a time to stay steadfast and not move forward. How can we embark on this great challenge at this difficult time? Yet, God delights in turning seeming impossibilities into possibilities. When Mary was presented with the Divine plan to be the mother of Jesus, she said "How can this be...?" (Luke 1:34 NKJV) The angel of God answered with words that echo with hope to our

A LOT OF SACRIFICE. YET, A BLESSING COMES AS WE GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO SUPPORT A WORLD-WIDE WORK."

sacrifice with God will not hear His "well done" at His return. They are hiding the gifts in the earth. Spending God's gifts mainly on ourselves does not qualify us to be His faithful stewards.

Seventh-day Adventists have a global work. The needs of local church and school are great and often demand a lot of sacrifice. Yet, a blessing comes as we give tithes and offerings to support a world-wide work. A portion of our tithes and offerings helps in areas where resources are limited. They also help conference and union projects. Other aspects of mission also need support, such as Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Amazing Facts and It Is Written. When God's people give to expand His work He says, "Well done, My good and faithful servants."

In 2009, Wisconsin Conference members face their greatest challenge of the decade. In March 2008 the constituency voted to build new dorms for Wisconsin Academy. This would be about a \$4 million project.

The Lord provided advanced help through the sale of the conference office property. This amounted to \$5 million. Only one-half was needed to build a new conference office and Adventist Book Center. So, \$2.5 million is available to put toward the dormitories. God is great in His timing.

day, "For with God nothing will be impossible" (Luke 1:37 NKJV).

The banks of earth are running dry because of greed and selfishness. However, the treasury in the Bank of Heaven is full. In Philippians 4:19, Paul says, "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (NKJV).

At Wisconsin Academy the first half of the project will be completed this spring with the opening of the boys dormitory. The girls dorm is scheduled to begin in May of this year following graduation. The conference executive committee voted that once the funds have been pledged the project can begin. Will that happen by May 2009?

This is a time of challenge for the people in Wisconsin. We invite our brothers and sisters around the Lake Union to join us in prayer as we attempt what seems like an impossible task in the midst of a recession. Yet, it is with courage that we embark on the task as we remember the words to Joshua, "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9 NKJV).

Don Corkum is the president of the Wisconsin Conference.

Stewardship Strategies

BY ED REID & ERIKA PUNI

FACT:

Did you know that the Bible has more to say about money management than any other subject? In fact, it has more to say about money management than salvation, the Sabbath, and the Second Coming. There are some 2,500 verses that deal with money, our possessions and our attitude toward them.

It was an important subject to Jesus, as evidenced by the fact that two-thirds of His

parables were about money and possessions.



Melissa's Gift

Little eight-year-old Melissa came up to her daddy with that irresistible smile and said, "Daddy, could I borrow \$10?"

Her daddy was a very kind and generous man, but he had a reputation for being rather deaf on debt; so he replied, "Melissa, did you know that when you borrow money people get to ask you all kinds of questions?"

"Really?" she said, with a rather puzzled look on her face. "Like what?"

"Well," her daddy explained, "they can ask questions like, 'What do you plan to do with the money?' 'Are you going to buy a house, or a car or go on a vacation?' and 'How do you plan to pay it back?'"

She looked up at her daddy with a twinkle in her eye and said, "But Daddy, I was planning to buy a gift for you and Mommy, and I wasn't planning to pay it back."

Melissa was going to buy her daddy a gift with his own money. Can you imagine that?

Well, isn't that what we do when we bring our gifts to God? Everything we have comes from Him.

And it all belongs to Him. We're not even borrowers, we're simply managers of God's possessions.



FACT:

Did you know that the children of Israel gave at least one-fourth of their income to God in the form of tithes, thank offerings, support of the temple and gifts to the poor? Most of these donations were personally delivered by each family, in kind or in cash equivalents, to the central storehouse—first at Shiloh and then Jerusalem.

This personal delivery system required being away from home and work at least one month each year.

The 25 percent giving and the one month away from home were actually the basis for their prosperity and blessing—and they knew it!

FACT:

Did you know that in harmony with the Bible principle, the Seventh-day Adventist Church organization has designated the local conference as the storehouse? For the convenience of the church members and as part of their worship experience, the tithe is returned through the local church where membership is held and the local treasurer forwards all the tithe to the conference storehouse, from which the religious workers are paid. This system, outlined by God, has enabled His church to have a worldwide and ever-growing impact in the world.

An Honest Tithe

1. Percent—one-tenth (Ten percent)
Genesis 14:20; 28:22
2. Place—God's storehouse
Malachi 3:10; Psalm 116:14, 18, 19
3. Purpose—support gospel workers
Numbers 18:21; 1 Corinthians 9:14

Old

Financial Matter
Focus on Self
Work Oriented
Obligation Emphasis
Maintenance Driven
Members are Donors

New

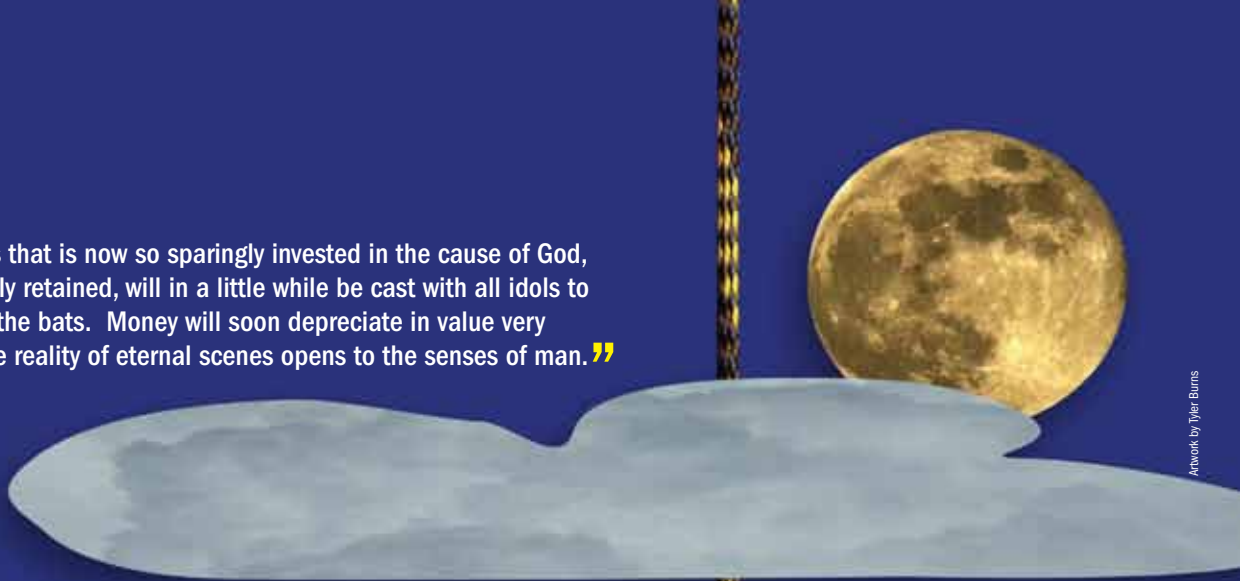
Spiritual Act
Focus on God
Grace Oriented
Lordship Emphasis
Mission Driven
Members are Stewards





“The very means that is now so sparingly invested in the cause of God, and that is selfishly retained, will in a little while be cast with all idols to the moles and to the bats. Money will soon depreciate in value very suddenly when the reality of eternal scenes opens to the senses of man.”

Evangelism, p. 63



Artwork by Tyler Burns

7 Principles of Money Management

1. God is Owner of everything.

The earth is the Lord's — Psalm 24:1, 50:12
 Everything comes from You — 1 Chronicles 29:13, 14
 Honor the Lord with your wealth — Proverbs 3:5-10

2. We are managers of what God has given us.

We brought nothing into this world — 1 Timothy 6:7
 He entrusted His property to them — Matthew 25:14
 Servants of Christ, those entrusted — 1 Corinthians 4:1, 2

3. Our purpose in life is to glorify God.

Do it all for the glory of God — 1 Corinthians 10:31
 Praise your Father in heaven — Matthew 5:16

4. Prosperity is having what you need when you need it.

God will meet all your needs — Philippians 4:19
 I am with you always — Matthew 28:20
 You will keep in perfect peace — Isaiah 26:3

5. Debt is bad.

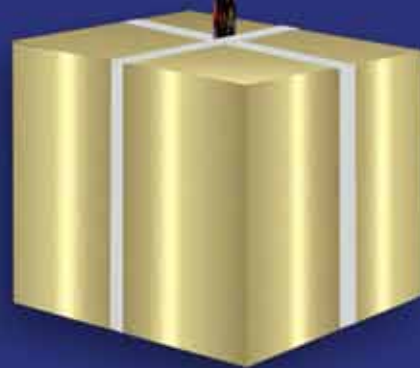
The borrower is servant to the lender — Proverbs 22:7
 Lend to many, borrow from none — Deuteronomy 28:12
 Let no debt remain outstanding — Romans 13:8

6. The tithe is the minimum testimony of our Christian commitment.

Abram gave him a tenth of everything — Genesis 14:20
 I will give a tenth of all — Genesis 28:20-22
 You rob me in tithes and offerings — Malachi 3:6-11

7. We must give an account to God of our stewardship.

The master settled accounts — Matthew 25:19
 Each one will receive what is due — 2 Corinthians 5:10
 My reward is with me to give — Revelation 22:12



A Gift of the Heart

Apparently, our treatment of the poor and suffering, more than anything else, is an indicator of our relationship with Jesus. To those who have a heart like His, He says, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me” (Matthew 25:34-36).

Source: Ed Reid, NAD stewardship director, and Erika Puni, GC stewardship director, as presented at the “Partnership with God” Bible stewardship conference, Dec. 2-4, 2007, at Pioneer Memorial Church.

For information and more resources visit:
www.LakeUnion.org



Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital celebrates first anniversary

Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital officials and members of the community celebrated the hospital's first anniversary by reflecting on the hospital's accomplishments and looking ahead to initiatives that will allow the hospital to continue serving the health care needs of local residents for many years to come.

"Over the past 12 months, our hospital has been recognized as a state-of-the-art health care facility with the latest technology and a highly skilled, patient-oriented clinical team," CEO Rick Mace said at the hospital's Jan. 12 anniversary event.

The 138-bed, 310,000 square-foot hospital opened Jan. 14, 2008, as Illinois' first new hospital in 25 years. The hospital was designed with patients in mind, with private family-friendly patient rooms designed for comfort and ease. It's one of the area's largest employers, with 525 full-time workers.

During its first year in operation, Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital logged more than 30,000 emergency depart-

ment visits. More than 700 babies were born at the hospital, slightly surpassing projections. In April, the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board approved the hospital's request for cardiac catheterization services, providing critical access close to home for residents in and around Will County.

In September, the hospital opened its new Women's Imaging Center. Located in the medical office building adjacent to the hospital, the center offers digital mammography, ultrasound and dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) bone density tests.

"While new technologies are an important part of how we deliver care, it's not our only focus. It's the care at the bedside that people will remember, and our ultimate goal is to transform the lives of our patients. We'll do this by extending the healing ministry of Christ," said David L. Crane, president and CEO of Adventist Midwest Health. "With this mission in place to guide us, I know this hospital will continue to be a success."



In September, Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital opened its new Women's Imaging Center. Located in the medical office building adjacent to the hospital, the center offers digital mammography, ultrasound and dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) bone density tests.

Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital is in for a busy 2009. The Maternal-Fetal Medicine Center, which provides full-service, comprehensive obstetrical care including state-of-the-art neonatal services for premature and critically ill newborns, will relocate from the main hospital campus to the adjacent medical office building. The hospital also will begin offering minimally invasive weight loss surgery and support through an adjustable gastric banding system.

Mace also presented the hospital's first "Excellence in Wellness" award to Bolingbrook's mayor, Roger Claar, for his unwavering support of Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital and his dedication to improving the quality of life for the residents of the village of Bolingbrook. In honor of the hospital's first anniversary, the village of Bolingbrook declared January as Bolingbrook Wellness Month.

"It has been an exciting first year for Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital," Mace said. "We are proud to be part of this community. We are looking forward to another productive year of 'firsts.'"



From left: Adventist Midwest Health CEO David L. Crane is pictured with Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital CEO Rick Mace, Bolingbrook mayor Roger Claar, James Rejowski, M.D. and John Rapp, regional vice president, Ministries and Mission, Adventist Midwest Health.

Lisa Parro, public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health

Andrews takes a look at 'The New Face of Poverty'

In an effort to bring identity and understanding to a growing global crisis, Andrews University faculty, staff and students honored the memory of Martin Luther King Jr. with "The New Face of Poverty," a week-long event from Jan. 17–23. With more than 1.4 billion people living in extreme poverty, according to a 2005 World Bank estimate, the week raised awareness for victims of poverty, both globally and locally.

An eye-opening highlight of the week was Hope for Hunger, a campus-wide option to sign a subsistence eating pledge; participants reduced food intake for five days and donated the money normally spent on additional food to replenish two food banks in need. In the end, Hope for Hunger raised more than \$6,000 for The Soup Kitchen in Benton Harbor, Mich., and The Better Living Center in Detroit, Mich.

The week kicked off on Sabbath, Jan. 17, with a special New Life Fellowship service. June Madrigal, associate dean of women, presented "Loving

Your Enemies," a sermon first delivered by Martin Luther King Jr. on Nov. 17, 1957.

At the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation held Monday, Jan. 19, guest speaker Gary Miller, from Trinity Lutheran Church in Berrien Springs, presented, "The Face of Poverty." Quoting King, "The evil which plagues the modern world is that of poverty," Miller said, "With that statement, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. described the familiar face of poverty. It is a base which includes 25,000 to 30,000 deaths per day of hunger-related causes."

During the convocation, individuals or organizations who exemplify King's values of civility and equality were recognized with a Freedom Award. This year's recipients were Bridgman Family Dental Center, the Second Baptist Church of Benton Harbor, Mich., and The Soup Kitchen of Benton Harbor, Mich.

The poster exhibit, "What the World Eats," was on display in the Campus Center, featuring photographs from Peter Menzel's book, *Hungry Planet*, depicting what is on family dinner tables in 15 different homes around the globe.

As the week came to a close, the Martin Luther King Jr. Arts Exposition brought hundreds of area students and their families to the Howard Performing Arts Center. A special program with several performances by area public, private and home school children was followed by an awards ceremony for the projects best highlighting the week's theme.

Student Life welcomes Paul Buckley

"I'm passionate about students," states Paul M. Buckley. "It is the core of my reason for working in higher education."



Paul M. Buckley

Buckley, the new associate dean of Student Life, came to Andrews University in late 2008 from Syracuse, N.Y., where he is working on a doctorate in Cultural Foundations of Education.

Buckley is a 1995 graduate of the University at Albany, State University of New York, where he obtained a Bachelor of Business Administration. He went on to earn a master's in Educational Administration and Policy Studies in 1998. Having held several administrative posts, which allowed him to shape student success, promote healthy campus culture and work with students to help them actualize their goals, Buckley's wealth of experience includes time as an assistant residence hall director, a diversity education specialist and many positions in the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Syracuse University. He brings to Andrews a rich background in dealing with a broad diversity of student issues from promoting campus culture to creating minority initiatives.

Even though Andrews brings him to the smallest campus of his career, Buckley is open to the transition and says, "I think that perhaps it allows me to get to know more students."



Through the collaboration of Ben Chilson, director of Dining Services (left); Joseph Warren (middle), chair of the Dr. Martin Luther King Planning Committee; and Rebecca May (right), director of campus relations, Hope for Hunger raised more than \$6,000 in just one week for The Soup Kitchen in Benton Harbor, Mich., and The Better Living Center in Detroit, Mich.

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

Andre Weston, intern, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Century-old vision continues to inspire Grand Rapids constituency

Michigan—One hundred four years ago, Cyrus Clark had a vision for the Seventh-day Adventist young people of Grand Rapids, Mich. Because he believed they needed a Christian school with a curriculum that focused on the principles of the Adventist church, he pitched a tent in his backyard and Adventist education became a reality.

Since that day whenever a place became too small, a search for something bigger resulted in a new address for the school. The last move resulted from the expanding size of the junior academy on Alger Street. The old Oakleigh School was purchased from the public schools with skeptics questioning whether the three-story building would ever be fully occupied. That was 28 years ago.

With all that room to expand, faithful believers continued Clark's



What started as a vision more than 104 years ago, now includes this new building addition, which provides more classrooms for the students at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy.

vision and began planning for a full academy. During the time since 1980, many have dreamed and some have tried to move forward. Finally, in 2003, the Grand Rapids Junior Academy constituency stepped out in faith and voted to add grade II, followed by grade 12 in 2004, as an extension of Battle Creek Academy (BCA). While the academy was grateful to BCA for assisting them in their transitional stage, the vision was still incomplete.

A new building and the approval of full academy status from the Office of Education at the North America headquarters were needed to fulfill

the vision. By this time the too-large, three-story building was too small. Time was running out and questions remained about how long the school could continue to function as an extension of BCA without proper room for a viable program.

When God is in control, all things are possible. Prayerful, committed individuals kept moving forward until, in March 2008, ground was broken for a new facility alongside the existing building.

The summer was abuzz as not only the construction crew but many volunteer parents, students, staff and interested parties pushed forward to complete the new building in time for school to begin in September 2008. The Lord has blessed in so many ways.

With the new building finished, excited students are breaking in the new state-of-the-art science lab, music room and classrooms. The academy has worked hard to complete the process to have full academy status next year. Their approval process is close to being finished.

The students, parents and staff of Grand Rapids Adventist Academy would like to thank the Grand Rapids constituency, the Michigan Conference, the Lake Union and the North America headquarters for supporting the expanded vision of a K-12 Adventist day academy in the greater Grand Rapids area.



The open house for the new Grand Rapids Adventist Academy was well attended by students, parents and church members.

Debra Barr, principal,
Grand Rapids Adventist Academy

Students learn valuable stewardship lessons and raise funds for Mission: Maluti

Lake Region—It has often been said that stewardship involves using one's time, talents and resources (usually money) in service to God. The Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA) faculty and students embraced this concept in the form of Mission: Maluti, the North American Division Adventist Education Project for the 2008–2009 school year (see <http://hope4.com/maluti>). Successful implementation of the project would provide a new school for the families of dedicated missionaries and workers of Maluti Adventist Hospital in Lesotho, Africa.

The significance of Mission: Maluti was first introduced to the school board by Ruth Horton, superintendent of education, Lake Region Conference. The meager, inadequate condition of the current antiquated building and the fact that new students cannot be accommodated due to restricted facilities were stressed in a Hope for Humanity pamphlet. Families who want a Christian education for their children must look elsewhere, which means that some may be forced to resort to public education.

During the very next staff meeting, PWA principal Juanita Martin engaged the faculty, who were very supportive of the project from its inception. Each teacher pledged to help his or her class raise at least \$100. At the time the teachers had no idea of how to begin the task, but knew they had to do something. Believing that all God initially expects—when faced with a daunting task—is a willing heart, the teachers took advantage of the wonderful opportunity for service.

When the project was presented to the students, they also accepted it with open arms. When asked why she gave money to support Mission: Maluti,



The third- and fourth-grade class at Peterson-Warren Academy has collected more than \$50 for Mission: Maluti.

LaToya Bunting, an 11th-grade student, put it succinctly, “We got our financial blessing, so we should share our blessing with others.” One sixth-grade student, Maya Hightower, stated that she helped so the kids in Africa could have a school.

Fifth-grader Alicia Dent donated “so that everyone gets a proper education, so later in life they could get good jobs.”

Micah Key in the seventh grade also wanted “to help the children there to have a better education.”

Twelfth-grader Breanna Brown, spokesperson for the senior class, said that her class will sell snacks at upcoming basketball games and give \$100 of the proceeds toward the mission project. PWA students are truly mission-minded and know what it means to be a good steward.

The teachers have since come up with some creative ways to raise money for Mission: Maluti. Darlene Brown plans to auction the art projects of her preschoolers and kindergartners to adoring parents and guardians. Joyce Bone will lead her tenth-grade class in a bowl-a-thon, which involves securing five-cent pledges for each pin knocked down. Pamela Bertram, a nature lover at heart, wants to take her students to a park or nature trail for a walk-a-thon when the weather gets warmer. The walk-a-thon will include obtaining pledges from family and friends.

The first- through eighth-grade teachers have already collectively raised more than \$100 by displaying large jars in the classrooms as visual reminders

for the students. Others sent home notes enlisting the aid of parents in this worthwhile project. Under the direction of Arthur Strawbridge, the school collected approximately \$200 for dress-down days during the week of school before the holidays. The students willingly gave \$1 each time they were out of uniform.

On the day after the Mission: Maluti project was explained to the students, Juelien Vaughan generously presented his teacher with a crisp dollar bill from his scanty savings, noting that it was “for the poor students in Africa.”

One second grade student, Kalya Holloway, sweetly announced that she gave “so they could have markers, pencils and stuff for school like we do.” Children will give if we provide an opportunity and reason for them to do so. They naturally have tender hearts which need little prompting.

Monique Cole, a fourth grader, said it brilliantly: “The children in Africa need more stuff than we do. Sometimes we’re greedy and selfish, and we forget that it’s nice to give. If you give, God will bless you.” What a testament to the power of Christian education!

As Christian teachers, we hope and pray we do more in the classroom than teach the core subjects. Our intent is to train the students by our examples, to practice what is advocated, to care for people, to love others genuinely, to sacrifice for those in need, to live what we believe, knowing we are all precious children of our heavenly Father.

Elizabeth Vaughan, teacher,
Peterson-Warren Academy

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Adventurers learn about their Adventist heritage

Michigan—The Battle Creek Pilgrims, the Tabernacle’s Adventurer club, get to learn about Adventist history unlike any other group. For these 26 lucky students and their families, they can see Adventist Heritage throughout their community.

This year’s Adventurer theme is “Adventist Heritage.” The Battle Creek

club spends time at each meeting reading books and learning about different Adventist pioneers, such as Rachel Oakes and William Miller.

“These Adventurers have an opportunity that most Adventists don’t have,” says Ryan Keough, Battle Creek Adventurer director. “They can look out their back doors and see where the Seventh-day Adventist church was born. From the Tabernacle to the home of James and Ellen White, to the grave-sites of many Adventist pioneers, these kids and their families don’t need to just read books and listen to stories. They can go experience the history for themselves!”

Staying with this year’s theme, the Pilgrims will visit many historic sites while on a tour through the Historic Adventist Village in Battle Creek. “There is so much for the kids to see at the village,” said Duff Stoltz, director of the Historic Adventist Village.

“The John Harvey Kellogg Discovery Center holds many of Dr. Kellogg’s machines and health-related equipment and a video titled, ‘Breakfast at Grandpa’s,’ that tells about the creation of breakfast cereal. There’s the Hardy home, an old schoolhouse where we talk about the beginnings of Adventist education and Battle Creek Academy. We have a meeting house where Ellen White told people about her visions and [where] the name ‘Seventh-day Adventist’ was chosen.”

Lisa Morgensai, who toured the Historic Adventist Village shortly after joining the Adventist family in 1999, thinks that it will be fun to go back and study the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with her sons, Kenny and Alex. “Kenny (who is in third grade) is definitely at the age where he will be able to appreciate the village. I’m glad that they will get the opportunity, and I’m looking forward to going back.”

After learning about Adventist heritage all year, the Pilgrims will present what they learn to other Michigan Adventurers at “Adventurer Fun Day” this spring.

Wendy Keough, marketing co-director, Battle Creek Academy



The Battle Creek Pilgrims look forward to sharing their knowledge of Adventist heritage at the spring Adventurer Fun Day. Here Adventurers participate in an activity at last year’s Adventurer Fun Day.

Holt Church family extends invitation to visit new facility

Michigan—With eager anticipation, the Holt Church members opened the doors to their new building. The members previously rented the Olivet Baptist Church for several years before finishing their own building. To allow for building space, an old farm house on the property was torn down. Then the loyal members of all ages sawed, hammered, organized, painted, swept and cleaned till they finally completed Phase I of the construction plans.

Now 90 members worship in the beautiful new building, which is their

fellowship hall. The building also has several classrooms and a large state-of-the-art kitchen, which their vegetarian club plans to use for food demonstrations. When the final building inspection was completed, members and guests crowded into the fellowship hall for the first church worship service. Since its opening, the church family has hosted evangelist Ted Struntz for a reaping series and welcomed three new mem-



The Holt Church family completed Phase I of construction plans, a new fellowship hall. The beautiful new building now serves as their sanctuary, also.

bers who were baptized.

Church members invite you to visit their new church, which is located at 5682 Holt Road in Holt, Mich.

Laurie Snyman, member, Holt Church, as told to Bruce Babienko, volunteer correspondent, Lake Union Herald

Glendale members meet their neighbors

Indiana—Someone asked, “If the doors of our church were locked for good, would anyone in our neighborhood miss us?” This question was posed to a pastor of a small church in Canada many years ago by a member of his congregation. It ultimately spurred a large outreach by his congregation to demonstrate God’s love to their neighbors.

This question also spurred some members of the personal ministries department of the Glendale Church in Indianapolis to give birth to a program they aptly named, “Project: Lead the Way.” Their goal was to become acquainted with as many of the church’s neighbors as possible in a three-month period.

Four hundred homes in the immediate area of the church were selected; and in September 2008, approximately 60 members met on a Sabbath afternoon to begin the visitation project. Small party bags were purchased and filled with a variety of goodies, including a \$10 gift card from Marsh, a local grocery store.



Judith Yeoman

The members prepared 400 gift bags each month for three months.

As people answered their doors, they were greeted with a smiling face telling them, “We are your neighbors from the Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church on 62nd Street. We have been at this location for over 50 years, and we wanted to meet our neighbors and give you a little gift.”

The results were amazing! In most cases, the neighbors were friendly. Some were very appreciative when they discovered there was a free \$10 gift card in the bag. Many responded by saying, “God bless you!” Some of the neighbors wanted to talk, especially when they realized the church

members were not trying to evangelize them but were simply being a friendly neighbor. Some even requested prayer.

One of the best results of the first day of visitation was the effect it had on several of the church members

who had proclaimed they “were out of their comfort zone!” But, after they got started, they were transformed into chattering extroverted Christians!

Prior to the October visitation, a letter arrived at the church from one of the homes that was visited in September. It said: “Dear Glendale Seventh-day Folks: When you came to our door, our curtains were closed for my ... husband’s nap as he was sick. But these Magi came bearing gifts of fruits (literature), a card for Marsh, plus other things. I didn’t see their camels, but just want to say thank you and praise God for unexpected showers of blessings. In thanks and in His love.”

In October the gift bags included a copy of the church’s newsletter. The members visited the homes for the third time in November with more gifts bags. This time it included a notice of the school’s citrus fruit program.

According to youth pastor, Greg Taylor, plans are underway for a youth outreach to these homes. In fact, the neighborhood visitation program will never end. One person contacted the church and asked to be on the church and school mailing lists. I believe the Holy Spirit has plans we know nothing of! And already there are people in the church’s neighborhood who would miss us if the doors of our church were locked for good.

Gene Purdue, personal ministries leader,
Glendale Church



Judith Yeoman

Glendale Church members prepare to visit the homes around their church and offer gift bags that included a greeting card explaining they were neighbors.

Northwest Church awards scholarships to young people

Indiana—Thanks to donations by several members, the Northwest Church recently awarded scholarships to seven members of their church family who are attending a Seventh-day Adventist college or university. Members of the Northwest Church have done this for the past five years; they want to show their support for the

ty; Richie Mendez Jr., physical therapy student at Andrews University; Jamie Moore, student at Andrews University; Patrick Scalzitti, physical therapy student at Andrews University; Jeremy Wagner, business major at Columbia Union College; and Tom Wagner, physical therapy student at Andrews University.

Among the thoughts expressed in thank-you letters to the church, the students stated they never expected the scholarship from the members, and

it really made them feel a part of their local church family. One wrote of her surprise, “Especially when the church has so many other financial obligations in other areas, to remember me made a real difference in my life.” Another stated that the scholarship made him more than grateful and happy to help the church whenever he was there during home leave. And yet another student wrote, “I feel that someone really cares about me, and

it will help me tremendously in my education.”

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).

James Pavelka, communication leader, Northwest Church

Season of prayer highlights blessings of God

Michigan—From Jan. 1–10, Adventist Southeast Asia Projects (ASAP) and Path 2 Prayer Ministries hosted ten days of prayer for missions, local ministries and an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Each night they were joined by church members and min-

istry leaders from the Berrien Springs, Mich., area, including representatives from Your Story Hour, Adventist World Aviation, Adventist Frontier Missions, Reach International and Simple Updates.com.

Although the group shared inspirational thoughts and stories, and heard from different ministries each night, they spent the majority of the time in prayer. “I felt that it was really important to spend more time actually praying rather than just listening to a speaker,” says Martin Kim, ASAP’s communications director and organizer of the event. “Dan Augsburg shared my feelings, especially with regards to bringing together ministry leaders, so he partnered with us in organizing these ten days of prayer.”

“I was really blessed by the sincerity, the depth of spirituality and camaraderie, and the Holy Spirit’s presence in these meetings,” says June Burn, who attended with her husband Walter. Together they saw God’s answers to prayer in the life of their daughter’s family. “Our grandson is autistic and doesn’t speak, but this past week when our daughter woke him up one morning, he said to her, ‘Hello, Mommy, how are you?’ That was a personal miracle,” Walter says.



Students at the Northwest Church recently received scholarships from their church family to further their education at a Seventh-day Adventist college or university. From left: Richie Mendez Jr.; Allen Shepherd, pastor, Northwest Church; Kristina Lounds; and Patrick Scalzitti; Not pictured: Holly Brubaker, Jamie Moore, Jeremy Wagner and Tom Wagner, also scholarship recipients

young people in their midst who are continuing their education at a private Christian school rather than a local or state college or university.

Since it is so expensive to attend a Christian college or university, the members hope that by giving these scholarships the young people see their church family really does care and appreciate the students’ commitment to Adventist education. The prayer of the members is that the students who receive the scholarships will be rewarded in three ways: 1) Receive an excellent education at one of our schools; 2) Obtain an education that will lead to a good profession; and 3) Learn to be a better disciple for spreading God’s Word in their chosen career.

This year’s recipients were Holly Brubaker, premed/biology major at Andrews University; Kristina Lounds, nursing student at Southern Universi-



Ministry leaders pray together for God’s blessings.

“ASAP had been planning a project to spread the gospel amongst poor women in South East Asia, but had only raised half of the necessary funds,” says Julia O’Carey. “During the ten days of prayer, God put everything in place, with perfect timing, for this project to start in the next few months.”

Other answers to prayer the group saw included the finding of a mislaid passport in time for an important trip, greater personal peace and new applicants to serve with various ministries.

“It is such a blessing to see God work,” concludes Kim. “God will have a people at the end of time who pray for and receive His Holy Spirit. If we are serious about finishing the work, prayer is not optional ... it’s a necessity.” The ministry leaders who attended have decided they would like to continue meeting every Thursday evening for prayer.

Lynette Allcock, student missionary in Southeast Asia, Adventist Frontier Mission

[UNION NEWS]

Lake Union distributes additional funds

At the Lake Union Executive Committee year-end meeting, administration distributed \$562,000 in additional appropriations to the conferences. Each year the Lake Union returns millions of dollars in appropriations for evangelism, education and other ministries per North American Division policy. The Lake Union is one of the leanest union offices in the division, making these additional appropriations possible. “Our philosophy is to revert back to the local conferences as much as we



As Glynn Scott, Lake Union treasurer, presented the conference presidents with additional appropriations, he said, “Our philosophy is to revert back to the local conferences as much as we possibly can for ministry.” Receiving appropriations (from left): Gary Thurber, Indiana; Ken Denslow, Illinois; Don Corkum, Wisconsin; Jay Gallimore, Michigan; Jerome L. Davis, Lake Region. Also pictured with the presidents: Carmelo Mercado, Lake Union vice president; and Rodney Grove, secretary

possibly can for ministry,” says Glynn Scott, treasurer. “We are committed to be faithful stewards with the financial resources that are entrusted to us as we work together to fulfill the gospel commission.”

Gary Burns, communication director, Lake Union Conference

Vacation Bible School coincides with tent revival

Michigan—“Lift up the trumpet and loud let it ring, Jesus is Coming Again!” This song’s title was the rousing call for the 157 children who attended the Vacation Bible School (VBS) program during the Detroit Northwest Seventh-day Adventist Church’s 24-day tent revival.

An average of 35–55 children attended daily; only approximately 35 percent were from Detroit Northwest.

Volunteers April Young and Selena Schofield traveled all the way from the state of Georgia to help with the activities, which began on Tuesday evening, July 1, 2008, at six o’clock, with an “old fashioned” children’s story hour.

The children gathered around and listened with wide-eyed enthusiasm as Sharron Rowe and Abby Ashton, both members of Detroit Northwest, alternated for the next two weeks reading the wonderfully exciting Bible stories

as they gently swayed back and forth in a huge, old-fashioned rocking chair.

Korey Murray and Sherwyn Barnes (both 12 years old) were keynote speakers who rotated for three weeks bringing forth the Word of Jesus to all those in attendance.

Sabbath school superintendent Beverly Cooley orchestrated a daily program of crafts, which included jellyfish, washcloths, dogs made from yarn and crosses out of foam. Beautiful swans and whales were carefully cut out of paper plates and painted. A tie-knot blanket was the highlight of all the crafts, and all the children were eager to learn the intricate dexterity involved in creation of one.

Master Guide and Pathfinder leader Charles Ford amazed the children with inner city nature walks and introduced them to his array of strange insects and snakes from around the world.

On Sunday, Aug. 3, the VBS culminated with a wonderful picnic. There were stilts

to walk on, go-carts to race in, miniature track racing cars to challenge your friends with and lots of food and cool drinks to enjoy.

A host of other faithful supporters prayed and many participated to help make the program possible. “It was a lot of hard work, but it was worth it to see the smiles on the children’s faces and know they came closer to Jesus each night,” Cooley said as she hurried away to make plans for next year’s VBS program.

Deborah A. Cole, communication leader, Detroit Northwest Church



[NAD NEWS]

Oakwood University president participates in South Pole marathon

In 2008 Oakwood University president, Delbert Baker, Ph.D., surpassed his personal fitness challenge of running a marathon a month. On Dec. 12, 2008, he challenged himself yet again to run the Antarctic Ice Marathon (AIM) and 100K in the frigid temperatures of the South Pole. Baker successfully completed the marathon in Antarctica. He was one of five runners representing the United States, and finished the race in just under seven hours, clocking in at six hours, 53 minutes and 15 seconds.

The AIM took place at Patriot Hills in the Ellsworth Mountains, Antarctica. The race started at 8:10 p.m. Chilean time, Saturday, Dec. 13, in chilling temperatures of -12°C, and

ended Sunday morning, Dec. 14. Fortunately, this is the time of year when the Antarctic experiences continuous daylight for six consecutive months, so the marathoners never had to worry about running in the dark. Flags are used in this race to guide athletes around the course in this endless sea of snow and ice, and participants are kept in view and closely tracked at almost all times. It is extremely important to keep peripherals covered and to be alert to any signs of frost damage, since any exposed area of skin can become frostbitten in just a matter of seconds.

Most of the 16 participants who completed the full marathon had experience running marathons around the world in places like the Sahara, Himalayas, Everest and the North Pole. Baker described the race as “beautiful and brutal,” remarking that it was the most difficult event he had ever attempted. He noted that this success was possible only with the inspiration of his wife Susan, the students,

faculty and staff of Oakwood University, and the generous donors who pledged more than \$80,000 in scholarship and endowment funds for the Running for Scholarships Endowment, if Baker completed the race.

Contributors to AIM include the Adventist Health System, BCI, Colonial Bank, Consolidated Construction Company, Florida Hospital (CREATION Health Model), Huntsville Hospital, Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C., SAIC, SunTrust Bank, UNCF and WEUP-AM/FM. The Seventh-day Adventist conferences that have made contributions include the Bermuda Conference, Central States Conference, South Atlantic Conference, South Central Conference, Southwest Region Conference, Columbia Union

Conference and Southern Union Conference.

The Ice Marathon, as it is also called for short, is recognized as the race that is run the closest to the South Pole in the Antarctic. According to *Ultimate Adventures: A Rough Guide to Adventure Travel*, 2008 edition, Antarctica is considered one of the most inconvenient places on the planet. It is said to be the coldest, windiest, driest, most inhospitable place on earth. Just getting there requires extraordinary logistical considerations, and surviving the harsh environment takes careful planning, preparation and immense determination.

According to plan, Baker crossed the finish line carrying the American flag in one hand and a pocket version of the Holy Bible in the other. With the completion of the AIM, Baker has successfully completed six marathons on seven continents and 28 marathons in 50 states. For those who are keeping a close eye on those numbers, a more complete account will be provided at a later date to fill you in on that extra continent he picked up along the way to the Antarctic Circle.

Thanks to donations from students, alumni, supporters, businesses and corporations, the university raised more than \$50,000 on Baker’s completion of this race—which totals more than \$100,000 in funds and pledges. Each marathon is underwritten by the Florida Hospital Health System, allowing all funds raised to be appropriated, in their entirety, for student scholarships and endowment.

In preparation for the races, Baker follows the CREATION Health lifestyle developed by Florida Hospital (Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook, Nutrition).

For more information on how you can track or give to the Running for Scholarships Endowment, log on to www.oakwood.edu.

Michele Solomon, director of public relations, Oakwood University



Delbert Baker carries a small Bible in his right hand, and the U.S. flag in his left, as he crosses the finish line.

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

Obituaries

BAKEWELL, Dorothy L. (Tear), age 86; born Mar. 12, 1922, in Gladwin, Mich.; died Dec. 23, 2008, in Livonia, Mich. She was a member of the Metropolitan Church, Plymouth, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Brian; daughters, Sharon Peters and Janice Brummett; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bob Stewart, and interment was in Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi, Mich.

BOTIMER, Leota (Keyes), age 98; born Sept. 20, 1910, in Gilford, Mich.; died Nov. 17, 2008, in Farmington Hills, Mich. She was a member of the Metropolitan Church, Plymouth, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Lyle; daughter, Jean Earhart; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bob Stewart, and interment was in Newton Cemetery, Newton Twp., Mich.

CLARK, Linda L. (Maddox) Busby Cain, age 61; born June 14, 1947, in Bedford, Ind.; died Oct. 8, 2008, in Spencer, Ind. She was a member of the Spencer Church.

Survivors include her husband, Gary M.; son, Bryan Cain; daughter, Angela (Cain) Paris; stepdaughter, Kimberly Clark; mother, Koleeta F. (Hutton) Tonkin; brother, John C. Maddox; half sister, Sharyn (Maddox) Joseph; one grandchild; and one step-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dean Coridan, and interment was in Cresthaven Memory Gardens Cemetery, Bedford.

COMBES, Ralph O., age 96; born Apr. 28, 1912, in Cole, S.D.; died Nov. 10, 2008, in Greencastle, Ind. He was a member of the Glendale Church, Indianapolis, Ind.

Survivors include his wife, Vivian E. (Elison); daughters, Della Decooman and Deanna Pendleton; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jerry Lastine, and interment was in Oaklawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Indianapolis.

COMBS, Evelyn G. (Phillips), age 88; born Mar. 22, 1920, in Anna, Ky.; died Apr. 11, 2008, in Pembroke Pines, Fla. She was a member of the Anderson (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Ismael T.; son, James R.; daughter, Carolyn M. Grosswiler; four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Don English, and interment was in Park View Cemetery, Alexandria, Ind.

DAVENPORT, Charlotte L. (McKenney), age 79; born Apr. 8, 1929, in Flint, Mich.; died Nov. 24, 2008, in Holly, Mich. She was a member of the Warren (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Chris; daughter, Marsha Greco; and brothers, Leslie and Stanley McKenney.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Earl J. Zager, and interment was in Lakeside Cemetery, Holly.

DYRESEN, Dyre, age 97; born Feb. 19, 1911, in Sel, Norway; died Oct. 24, 2008, in Kalamazoo, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his son, Donald; daughter, Arna Waterhouse; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Skip MacCarty, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

GREER, Isabell M. (Fensch), age 97; born Feb. 13, 1911, in Detroit, Mich.; died Dec. 16, 2008, in Novi, Mich. She was a member of the Warren (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Eugene; daughter, Jacqueline Boisso; brothers, Robert and Bud Fensch; sister, Shirley Verhelle; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Paul Larsen, and interment was in Cadillac (Mich.) Memorial Gardens-East Cemetery.

HARVEY, Ruth E. (Tebo), age 80; born Feb. 6, 1928, in Boyne City, Mich.; died Nov. 18, 2008, in Trufant, Mich. She was a member of the Freemont (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Thomas, Ronald and Douglas; daughters, Julie Humphrey, Carol Tebo and Gloria Hume; brothers, Robert Tebo, and Larry and Ted Gabriel; sister, Charlotte Keeney; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Don Williams and John Falkenbridge, and interment was in Plainfield Twp. Cemetery, Rockford, Mich.

HERZOG, Melba M. (Coomer), age 102; born May 29, 1906, in Belleville, Mich.;

died Nov. 28, 2008, in Vestaburg, Mich. She was a member of the Lakeview (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Marilyn Delo, Helen Kay Roberts and Glenna Dagher; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Gotshall, and interment was in Cato Twp. Cemetery, Lakeview.

LOHR, Dorothy M. (Harrison), age 89; born May 8, 1919, in Greenville, S.C.; died Dec. 3, 2008, in Ann Arbor, Mich. She was a member of the Edmore (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Brenda J. Lohr and Barbara (Lohr) Ward; stepdaughter, Claire (Lohr) Gillespie; sisters, Nancy Owen and Betty Fueyo; and three grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Rev. Judy Shipman, with private interment.

MCDANIEL, Gladys (McKinney) Bryant, age 83; born Aug. 22, 1925, in Sardis, Miss.; died Dec. 5, 2008, in Gary, Ind. She was a member of the Mizpah Church, Gary.

Survivors include her husband Fred Sr.; sons, Tyrone Bryant, and Gilbert and Anthony McDaniel; daughters, Veronica (Bryant) Barfield and Pamela (McDaniel) Gillum; sisters, Alene Crump Bell, Christine McKinney and Jennie Russell; 10 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by George Bryant, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Gary.

MCPHERSON, Grace I. (Trumble), age 81; born Sept. 5, 1927, in Billings Twp., Mich.; died Oct. 12, 2008, in Beaverton, Mich. She was a member of the Edenville (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Clare Sr.; son, Clare Jr.; daughters, Jeannette Wray and Sandra Broka; sister, Ann Simsack; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Per Grace's wishes, she was cremated and there was no memorial service.

PENROD, C. Lloyd, age 76; born Aug. 31, 1932, in Lansing, Mich.; died Dec. 31, 2008, in Greeneville, Tenn. He was a member of the Battle Creek (Mich.) Tabernacle and a long-time teacher at Battle Creek Academy.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce A. (Larsen); daughters, Holly Tinny and Jillyn Penrod; brothers, Charles and David; sister, Lillian Weckerley; and three grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor John Duroe, and interment was in Riverview Cemetery, Greeneville.

POTH, Elva M. (Nash), age 79; born Apr. 4, 1929, in Tell City, Ind.; died Oct. 29, 2008, in Dale, Ind. She was a member of the Tell City Church.

Survivors include her husband, Austin; son, Daniel; daughters, Susan Scott and Sandra Nafziger; sisters, Vedah Mobley, Margie Huffman and Marzell Buse; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Justin Childers, and interment was in Dale Cemetery.

SCHWERSINSKE, David D., age 68; born July 13, 1939, in Fond du Lac Cty., Wis.; died Mar. 31, 2008, in Evansville, Ind. He was a member of the Evansville Westside Church.

Survivors include his wife, Lola M. Winstead Schwersinske; stepsons, Norman, Arnold, Billy, Doris and Roger Winstead; brother, Walter; nine step-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Lloyd, and interment was in Townsend Cemetery, Dixon, Ky.

SEARS, Freda (Townsend) Wise, age 88; born June 2, 1919, in Greenville, Mich.; died Feb. 18, 2008, in Grand Rapids, Mich. She was a member of the Portland (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Wallace H.; sons, Rex and Dan Townsend; stepsons, John and Loren Sears; daughter, Roberta Hall; six grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and six step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Scott Manly, and interment was in Rest Haven Memory Gardens Cemetery, Belden, Mich.

SEARS, Wallace H., age 90; born Oct. 28, 1917, in Sebewa Twp., Mich.; died July 8, 2008, in Hastings, Mich. He was a member of the Portland (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his sons, John and Loren; stepsons, Rex and Dan Townsend; stepdaughter, Roberta Hall; sister, Arlene Fore; seven grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and four step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elders Jim Micheff Jr. and Lyle Davis, and interment was in East Sebewa Cemetery.

SKAGGS, Anna Rose, age 57; born Apr. 11, 1951, in Marion Cty., Ky.; died June 19, 2008, in Corydon, Ind. She was a member of the Evansville (Ind.) Westside Church.

Survivors include her mother, Gertrude (Ritchie) Skaggs; brothers, James H., Jerry Lee, Fred T. and Paul R. Skaggs; and sisters, Norma Waynescott, Alice McDaniel and Mary Lou Wetherton.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor James Shaw, and interment was in Kraft-Graceland Memorial Park Cemetery, New Albany, Ind.

Classifieds

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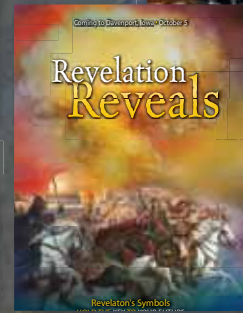
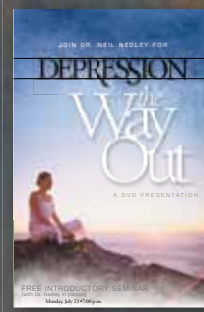


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	Mar 6	Mar 13	Mar 20	Mar 27	Apr 3	Apr 10
Berrien Springs, Mich.	6:41	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:12	8:20
Chicago, Ill.	5:47	6:55	7:03	7:11	7:18	7:26
Detroit, Mich.	6:28	7:37	7:45	7:53	8:00	8:08
Indianapolis, Ind.	6:43	7:50	7:57	8:04	8:10	8:17
La Crosse, Wis.	6:0	7:09	7:17	7:26	7:34	7:42
Lansing, Mich.	6:34	7:43	7:51	7:59	8:06	8:14
Madison, Wis.	5:53	7:02	7:10	7:19	7:26	7:34
Springfield, Ill.	5:56	7:04	7:11	7:18	7:25	7:31

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Andrews University

Center for Adventist Research Symposium: You are invited to attend the fifth annual "Ellen G. White and Current Issues" symposium sponsored by the Center for Adventist Research, the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary Church History department. It will be held on **Mon., Apr. 6**, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., in the Seminary chapel on the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. The purpose of this symposium is to break new ground in understanding Ellen White and issues relating to her life, ministry and prophetic gift that have current importance. There is no charge for attending the symposium.

The Andrews University Alumni Association is looking toward Homecoming 2009, which will take place **Sept. 24-27**. Honor classes are: 1929, '39, '49, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 and '99. We need to hear from you—we are collecting nominations for Honored

Alumni 2009 and welcome your submissions. Honored alumni are typically acknowledged during their honor class reunion, in order to be recognized with their peers, although we encourage you to nominate anyone you feel worthy, as they will be considered for future years as well. To make your nomination, visit www.andrews.edu/go/honoredalumni/.

Illinois

Hinsdale Adventist Academy Academy Days will be held on **Mar. 21** beginning at 7:30 p.m. with a parent meeting, followed by activities for the students, including a lock-in. Open to all students entering high school next fall. To make a reservation, call 630-323-9211.

Broadview Academy Alumni Association Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend is **Apr. 24 and 25**. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars. Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes: 1949, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 and '99. Fri. night vespers, Sabbath school and church. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes **WE NEED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESSES**—POSTAGE IS TOO EXPENSIVE. Send it to shona@cross.co.za, or call Shona Cross at 630-428-4182. More information to come. Don't miss it!

Hinsdale Adventist Academy Visitor's/Step-Up Day for students entering grades 1-8 in the fall will be held on **Wed., Apr. 29**, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Meet next year's teachers and classmates and experience what Hinsdale Adventist Academy is all about! For more information and to make a reservation, call 630-323-9211.

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Indiana

Musical Festival is **Apr. 2-4** for all Indiana Adventist students in grades 5-10. The grand-prize song from the third annual Scripture Song Contest will be performed Sabbath afternoon, Apr. 4, by the festival choir. For details, contact Stacy Stocks in the education department of the Indiana Conference at 317-844-6201.

Sabbath Celebration is **Apr. 4** at the Indiana Academy gymnasium in Cicero. Plan to be there at 9:30 a.m. for Sabbath school; hear guest speaker Troy Fitzgerald at the 11 o'clock worship service; bring your lunch and picnic in the auditorium with friends (old and new!) at this annual state-wide minicamp meeting. Our young people will be performing at the Musical Festival program at 2:30 p.m.

Evangelismo de Semana Santa: A spring crusade will be held in every Hispanic church throughout Indiana, **Apr. 4-12**. To learn more about this week of spiritual refreshing, contact Antonio Rosario, Indiana Hispanic Coordinator, at 317-856-5770.

Indiana Academy: All students in grades 8-11 are invited to Indiana Academy Days, **Apr. 19-20**, to meet staff and students, and experience an awesome educational opportunity! To register, contact Stan Detweiler, vice principal, at 317-984-3575, ext. 247, or e-mail stndtwlr@yahoo.com. For more information, check out the Web site at www.iasda.org.

Golf Fundraiser: The fifth annual Indianapolis Junior Academy and Cicero Elementary School golf outing is **May 21** at Bear Slide Golf Club in Cicero. All proceeds will benefit the two schools. Register before Apr. 15 by e-mailing Mark Fogg at mark.fogg@unitedagy.com. For additional information, call Mark at 317-513-3774.

Lake Union

Offerings

- Mar 7** Local Church Budget
- Mar 14** Adventist World Radio
- Mar 21** Local Church Budget
- Mar 28** Local Conference Advance

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering

- Mar 28** Southern Asia-Pacific Division

Special Days

- Mar 7** Women's Day of Prayer
- Mar 8-14** Adventist Youth Week of Prayer
- Mar 21** Disabilities Awareness Sabbath

Michigan

"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion will take place **June 11-14** at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA) for alumni and warmly-welcomed schoolmates of 1959 and earlier. Honor classes: 1929, '39, '49 and '59. For further information, contact the GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181, or visit www.GLAA.net. Please pass the good word.

North American Division

Safe TV® Presents "God's Three Greatest Gifts": Carlos Pardeiro, president of Safe TV®, invites you and your family to join him, along with Dwight Nelson, Lonnie Melashenko and Monte

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Church, for a great time of fellowship as the marvels of God's love are shared as revealed in Creation, Salvation and the Second Coming of Christ. Held live **Apr. 3, 4 and 5** from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Central Time from the Safe TV® studios, we encourage you to participate by calling in with your questions regarding these subjects. Let your friends and family know so they, too, can join us for "God's Three Greatest Gifts." For more information about this Safe TV® event, please visit www.safetv.org or call 1-888-777-9392 or 479-361-2900.

The Oakwood University Alumni Association extends a warm welcome to all graduates and friends of Oakwood for the 2009 Annual Oakwood University Alumni Weekend Homecoming Celebration. This **Apr. 9-12** event will be held on the campus of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala. This year's speakers are Ron Smith, Divine Worship Service; Jeffery Watson, Youth Worship Service; and

Linda Penick, Fri. evening vesper service. For further information, visit our Web site at www.oakwoodalumni.org, or contact Alumni Relations at 256-726-7039.

Enterprise Academy Alumni Association 90th Anniversary All School Homecoming will be held **Apr. 10-11** on the campus of Great Plains Academy in Enterprise, Kan. ALL alumni are invited to attend. For more information, visit www.alumni2009.org or call Darcy Force at 785-263-8211.

Preview Union College During Home School Sneak Peek: Home schoolers, explore your options for college and your future, **Apr. 16-17**. For more information or to reserve your place, call 800-228-4600 or e-mail gofar@ucollege.edu.

La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend includes a Golf Tournament on **Apr. 24** and Alumni Reunion Sabbath on **Apr. 25**. Honor classes are 1949, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89, '99 and 2004—all

friends of LSA are warmly welcome! Keynote speaker: Lewis Walton. Come celebrate friends and memories on our Riverside campus. Contact the alumni office at 951-351-1445, ext. 244, or e-mail Isaalumni@sak12.com to update information, find missing class members, and share news and class reunion gatherings. We also have a large selection of vintage yearbooks and group photos if you need replacements.

Platte Valley Alumni Association Homecoming will be held **Apr. 25** on the Platte Valley Academy campus in Shelton, Neb. For more information, visit www.greatplainsacademy.org or call Darcy Force at 785-263-8211.

Courage to Stand International Camporee: More than 9,000 Pathfinders are already registered to attend the largest six-day Adventist youth event in the world, **Aug. 11-15, 2009**. More than 30,000 participants will represent approximately 100 countries. To exhibit and/or participate, contact the Center

for Youth Evangelism at 269-471-8380, or visit www.camporee.org.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Academy Alumni Weekend will be held **Apr. 24-26**. Honor classes: 1939, '49, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89 and '99. Speakers for the weekend include Steve Bohr and Don Schneider. Special features will be the dedication and tours of the new boys dormitory on Sabbath afternoon. For more information, call 920-623-3300 or e-mail development@wisacad.org.



Village Church
FAMILY LIFE SABBATH **May 8-10**
269-471-7795
villagesda.org
Don't miss this Family Life Seminar by seasoned authors and international speakers
Jim and Sally Hohnberger

PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Living In a New Dimension

BY GARY BURNS



I remember the first time I experienced seeing in 3-D while sitting at an audio console in a recording studio. I wasn't wearing any special glasses or anything; I was just staring at the rows and rows of knobs and sliders when all of a sudden, *vois la*—everything was in 3-D. Years later, the people at Magic Eye, Inc., figured out a way to print a stereogram algorithm that would produce a similar 3-D effect. Maybe you remember the Magic Eye craze of the 90s.

Did you see it? Some people, try as they might, could never get their eyes to view parallel, without converging, while focusing on the object to get the desired result. Others could flip through the pages and see the 3-D image in seconds—like it was second nature.

It's actually just an illusion—a mind trick. But there's another dimension of seeing that is real. It's no illusion at all. In fact, this dimension is the true reality.

To see in this dimension, you simply have

your eyes anointed with eye salve. That's what it says in Revelation 3:18. Without it, you can't see what the Spirit sees.

A friend of mine in North Dakota was sharing a practical application of seeing in this dimension with me today. As with many people in today's economy, he's in transition. But he sees this not as a setback, but an opportunity. Here's the thing: He's not looking for a better career or a higher paid position; he's asking God to direct him to the place where he can be most productive for God's purpose and the kingdom. "Lord, where can I serve You best to accomplish Your purpose?"

I know God will show him, because he's willing to do whatever God asks—no matter what. Because it's all about Him.

Now that's living in a new dimension of a partnership with God.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

God Provides!

BY SARAH OLSEN

It was Tuesday, August 15, 2006. My sophomore year was just around the corner. I was packed and ready to head off to Great Lakes Adventist Academy for my second year. Move-in day was August 20, and I was spending my last week of summer at a friend's house in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

My freshman year flew by with my senior sister always at my side, taking care of all my "big problems." This year would be different; I'd really be on my own. But I wasn't nervous, I was excited. Up until that day if there was a problem at home, my parents would call my sister, and she would relay the message to me. Now my parents had to rely on me to be the responsible one.

I knew we weren't rich, that was no secret. But I had no idea how bad off we really were until that Tuesday, five days before school began. It was about ten in the morning and I was getting ready to go to the Berrien County Youth Fair to hang out with some friends. A few minutes before we walked out the door, my friend handed me the phone. It was my dad. He started the conversation with chit-chat, but I heard something wrong in the tone of his voice.

Finally, he told me what was up. They had prayed and believed that God would provide money for my school registration, but it was getting to be too late. Now going to the academy was no longer guaranteed, it was just a possibility. I went to the fair with a slightly gloomy spirit and in denial. I had too much faith to believe that God wouldn't provide the money. One day passed. Two days passed. I re-



fused to let my faith waver. Now it was Thursday, and I was supposed to go home on Friday to spend my last weekend home with my family.

Late Thursday night I got a call from my mom with the news. I wasn't only going to be able to go to the academy again, I was going to be a dorm student! God provided money through a mystery donor, who to this day remains anonymous. Someone paid my entire registration fee and would donate monthly so we would not have to pay as much.

Faith has become close to me through my past years at the academy. More than once money was

tight, but God always provided. He even gave me the privilege of going on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic this past December, providing every penny of the \$1,750, plus some. I had to pay nothing. I plan to go to college next fall. Though money is still a little rough, I know God will provide everything He wills. Even though the economy is going down I can still look up, because I have the best money manager of all, God.

Sarah Olsen is a senior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy. She will receive a \$100 scholarship, since her story was selected for publication.

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Contributors: Writer guidelines are available online at www.LakeUnionHerald.org.

Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

Katie Fierce is a junior at Downers Grove North High School. She is also a member of Downers Grove Church, along with her parents Cheryl and Dean.

Katie is very involved in both school and church. At school, Katie especially enjoys the science and biology programs. She is also in the school choir and in the ensembles. This leads to many unique opportunities to share her faith. Katie is upfront with her teachers, letting them know from the beginning that she is not available for Friday night or Saturday performances. As a church member, Katie finds herself pulled into leadership, coordinating the Friday evening youth meetings.

Katie plans to attend college after graduating from high school, but she has not settled on a major. Her advice to others is, "Whatever you are going to pursue in the future, if you feel down, sometimes, by circumstances, pray about it. Being involved with church activities helps you to keep a positive outlook."



Katie Fierce



Colin Garner

Colin Garner is a member of Springfield First Church, along with his parents Dave and Tammy. Colin is a junior at a Christian high school. He really enjoys his science classes, especially chemistry, physics and biology. As an Adventist student, Colin has numerous opportunities to share the unique perspectives of his faith. In the required religion classes, he tries to choose carefully when to comment and when to hold back.

Since friends do not observe the Sabbath, social events are often great witnessing opportunities. At one point, when friends challenged him, he told his friends to ask their religion teacher about the Sabbath. The religion teacher explained that Colin was right about which day was the Sabbath.

Colin spent his first eight years as a student in Springfield Adventist Christian School. He sees his time in the little one-room school as a blessing, since the ratio of students to teachers and resources gave him an edge in the learning process. He is now in the top ten students in his class of 80.

Colin plans to attend Southern Adventist University after graduating from high school. He hopes to be an anesthesiologist one day.

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