

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







Photo taken on March 31 at the "Justice and Mercy" march on the Andrews University campus.

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- 2 May 2012 · LAKE UNION HERALD

# In this issue...

Young and old will soon gather for summer camps and camp meetings. Included in this issue is information about all these events in the Lake Union.

Every gathering of God's people is an opportunity for united prayer. Recently, God united the hearts of His people in a silent justice and mercy prayer march for the Trayvon Martin shooting incident, which included four stations of prayer. The march concluded on the steps of the Pioneer Memorial Church. To read more, see pages four and five of this issue.



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# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

# Taste and See

ou may remember the February 2010 editorial titled "Brussels Sprouts and Pizza." While there was clarity on my dislike of Brussels sprouts, there was an admission that I really like pizza. Believe it or not, I did not like pizza immediately.

Sight-eaters are gifted, they (we) can identify good and bad food from a great distance. Sight-eaters are usually traditional, believing (knowing) that good food must always be similar to already acceptable foods. Anything outside this previously accepted list is instinctively rejected.

As a young boy, pizza pie was making inroads into the culinary experience of our country. I quickly decided that anything called "pie" but looked like that could not be a good thing. My dad, on the other hand, saw pizza and decided he liked it. I still remember Dad bringing a flat, square box to the car, sliding onto the front seat, opening the box and, with great delight, consuming this new, strange food. Every time Dad or Mom offered a slice to me, I refused — because I knew better. None of that stuff for me!

I remember the night everything changed. Dad returned to the car with a pizza, and it became clear to me, on that occasion, I would either have a bite of pizza or starve. With great emotion, I objected to this abuse. With tears running down my face, I took a very small bite off the tip of a slice.

"So," they asked, "isn't that good?"

My answer was a definitive "No!" My mouth said one thing, but my palate said quite another. In my heart, I knew I was hooked.

There is a phrase in the business world, attributed to Peter Drucker and popularized in 2006 by Mark Fields, president of Ford Motor Company: "Culture eats strategy plans for breakfast." In other words, who we are and how we have always done things becomes our normative point of view. We assume something's right and is the way things should be. This culturally normative way of thinking can even affect the way we interpret Scripture. That's exactly what Christ faced in His time. The norms and traditions were all ingrained in the minds of leadership and the nation of that time. Jesus did not focus on tradition; He focused on true meaning of Scripture. The real Kingdom of God was not a dominate nation of Israel; it was connecting with and following the Father.

Sabbath was made for man, not the reverse. External behavior was to be secondary to internal holiness. Gentiles were to be reached, not avoided. Circumcision would become an issue of holiness of the heart, not an external sign. These were major changes from the deep culture of the day. Jesus pointed then and now to the Scripture, "It is written..." (see Matthew 4:4).

God does not change. His Word is true and forever. As the New Testament church received the Holy Spirit, a clearer revelation of the Father was understood. The fog of culture faded, and the real meaning of the Messianic prophecies became clear. This excited a passion within the hearts of Christians to tell the world. They transitioned from a national and religious culture into a commission culture. When that happened, they experienced things way better than pizza; they began to live in the will of God.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. And I'm not talking pizza.

## FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

# Justice and Mercy

#### BY TIMOTHY P. NIXON

n January 6, 1946, an unknown Protestant pastor stood before the representatives of the Confessing Church in Frankfurt, Germany. His words spoke to his community as they watched silently while others were mistreated. It was a simple speech with profound meaning, and it has become the challenging call for all people who witness injustice and remain idle.

He is credited with saying, "When they came for the communists, I remained silent; I was not a communist. When they locked up the social democrats, I remained silent; I was not a social democrat. When they came for the trade unionists, I did not speak out; I was not a trade unionist. When they came for the Jews, I remained silent; I was not a Jew. And when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out."

His name was Friedrich Gustav Martin Niemöller, and today we share his sentiments. In the Trayvon Martin tragedy, we cannot remain

silent. As Seventh-day Adventist Christians, we see justice and equality as divine principles that God extends to all humanity. The Bible teaches us that the Sabbath, like no other command, reminds us that we are all God's children, created in His image and likeness. God instituted the weekly celebration of the Sabbath, during creation, as a consistent and perpetual reminder of our common humanity and brotherhood as sons and daughters of God. And the Sabbath rest that God commands is extended to all humanity, regardless of their race, nationality, status, station or



gender. Any attempt to deviate from this basic truth must be challenged by those who profess to be Christ's followers.

It is this basic truth that compels us as Christians to stand against any institution or system that promotes the inequality or inferiority of anyone who is a part of the human family. It was this ethic of equality and brotherhood that compelled Jesus to cleanse the temple and announce to *all* that His house would be called a house of prayer for *all people*. And because Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath, He has called His people as the repairers of the breach, to bind broken

hearts and rebuild broken relationships.

When bias and discrimination are practiced, God's people cannot remain silent. And so we gather today not to throw a brick, but to build a bridge — a bridge of hope, healing and harmony.

And we call on our nation, from all political and ideological persuasions, to follow their better angels and unite to stand together for the weak and the voiceless; for the innocent and the ostracized; for peace, reconciliation, unity and harmony. For we are joined together by a single thread of mutuality. You cannot hurt without me feeling your pain. You cannot suffer without me sharing your distress. We are our brother's keeper.

And because every person is our brother and sister, we stand not only with Trayvon, but we also stand with George Zimmerman. For he is our brother as well. As Christians, we cannot choose whom we shall love. Jesus commands us to love our enemy. So, whatever you may feel about this incident, we must love George as well because he is our brother.

And while we call for justice, we also seek mercy, for no one lives this life free of fault or failure. No one stands with clean hands and pure hearts. No one is without sin; hence, no one can cast a stone. We all call for God's justice, but we all need God's mercy. And it is because of mercy that we live under God's grace. God's grace can bridge the distances that divide us, and heal the wounds that hurt us.

So, today, we add our voices to the chorus of voices that have been heard across this nation calling for justice. And with that justice, we add mercy — mercy that heals the victimized and forgives the perpetrator; mercy that tears down the walls of division that separate us; mercy that teaches us that love is more powerful than hate, because God is love. And that love is the greatest power in the world. It can heal a fractured nation and unite hostile people. God's love has the power to turn people from each other, toward each other.

We reject the superficial synopsis that determines a person's value based solely on their clothes or their color. For the Bible says, "Man looks on the outward appearance but God sees the heart" (see I Samuel 16:7). We reject those who attempt to dismiss injustice and those who, in the face of injustice, attempt to exploit it. We reject those who demean or devalue another human being and dismiss acts of incivility against them. We reject all those who attempt to turn our differences into divisions. And we stand with all citizens of good will who seek positive solutions to end unwarranted violence and unnecessary death.

This is our hope; this is our aim. And this is the movement that we represent, and stand ready to join all of those who seek justice and mercy.

Timothy P. Nixon is a chaplain at Andrews University and a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church pastoral staff. He shared these thoughts from the steps of the Pioneer Memorial Church at the conclusion of the justice and mercy prayer march on March 31.



### FAMILY TIES

# Be Good to Yourselves, Parents!

#### BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

arents today are bombarded with advice and new information in an abundance of parenting books, magazines and online resources. The reality is that, sometimes, it's all a parent can manage to do just to get through the day, let alone listen to others' advice and read up on all the latest wisdom. Thankfully, there are strategies for coping.

You may feel criticized when someone offers advice about parenting. It's hard to be calm and accepting when you feel put down, but the way you respond can make a big difference. You can let others know you accept what they say, but you don't have to agree with them. By accepting, you are simply saying. "I hear you." These are some accepting words you can use

to give yourself a little breathing room and avoid arguments:

- "Let me be sure I understand..."
- "What you are saying is that I..."
- "I'll think about what you said."
- "I can see how you might feel that way."

Write down some specific goals you have for your child. When people offer advice that does not correspond with your goals for that time, you can more easily decide if you should take their advice or not. For example, if you understand that 70 percent of babies sleep through the night by nine months, it will be easier to not feel intimidated or defensive when someone says, "Your child should really be sleeping all night by now."

Be your own best friend; give yourself a pat on the back! You may be expecting too much of yourself. It's impossible to be patient, understanding and loving all the time. Do the best you can. You may be operating with a whole list of "shoulds," like:

• I should never get impatient with my child.



• I should always put the baby's needs ahead of mine.

• I should always have dinner ready when my partner comes home, no matter how tired I am.

As you consider the "shoulds" list from which you are operating, I invite you to complete these sentences:

- A good mother/father should...
- When my baby cries, I should...
- When I'm tired and my baby (child) is cranky, I should...
- As a parent, I should never...
- As a parent, I should always...

Think about where your "shoulds" are coming from. Your parents? Your in-laws? Your friends? Your spouse? Rather than putting yourself down with your list of "shoulds," work to accept your feelings and realize it's not easy to be all things to all people, even little children. Think about what "shoulds" are helpful and even necessary to you, what "shoulds" you will change to "coulds," and what "shoulds" you want to take off your list.

If you feel overwhelmed and sometimes wonder where God is, remember God doesn't move! Find time and energy to move closer to God. Commune with Him in prayer and study His encouraging words in Scripture. May God give you the peace, understanding and energy you need at this important time in your life.

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

### HEALTHY CHOICES

Humor helps promote recovery from illness.

# Laughter: Good Medicine

Humor helps combat stress

#### BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

umor is the spice of life. It can add joy to our everyday conversation. Laughter can lighten a tense moment and produce a feeling of well-being. Humor helps a speaker connect in a meaningful way with his or her audience, and keep them engaged. Through the years, *Reader's Digest* has given joy to many folks who have read their regular column, "Laughter, the Best Medicine." A good laugh helps a person improve their outlook on life, and may help lift a person out of depression.

The psychological benefits of laughter are well-recognized. Laughter makes a person more optimistic and hopeful. Laughter releases substances in the brain (beta-endorphins) that lower pain levels and reduce anxiety and stress. It helps a person relax in a tense situation, and enjoy happier relationships. Humor helps to minimize one's worries and fears, and enables an individual to confront problems with greater creativity and flexibility.

A hearty laugh may be good for your health, and protect you against heart disease. Laughter provides some benefits to the heart similar to that obtained from an exercise rou-

tine. A burst of laughter can improve your blood circulation, increase respiration and reduce the level of stress hormones. Those who enjoy good humor are less likely to get sick, more likely to feel better, and better able to cope in tough situations.

Health professionals realize the value of humor to reduce pain, relieve inflammatory conditions, foster recovery and brighten the outlook of life. Hospital patients who receive humor therapy by watching comedies and reading jokes are more relaxed and responsive, sleep better, and make fewer demands on the hospital staff. Furthermore, patients who regularly watch comedy videos have a marked decrease in cortisol (the stress hormone), lower blood pressure levels, experience fewer heart attacks over time, and bolster their body's disease-fighting immune forces.

Humor therapy can improve the quality of life for patients with chronic problems. Scientists have observed that those who used humor as a way to cope with difficult life situations had the highest immunoglobulin A levels. One can even experience significant mood improvement from remembering funny events from the past, or by looking forward to watching a comedy or humorous movie. Just the expectation of laughter can raise the endorphin levels in your brain.

> When you smile, the world smiles with you. The smile of an infant has been shown to procure love and attachment from a caregiver, thus securing the child's well-being for the future. Experiments have shown that people who take on the facial expressions and postures of happiness experience more joy and acceptance, and are able see the funnier side of life.

Those who live a very long life are typically happy people with a good sense of humor. Solomon recognized there are appropriate times in life for laughter (see Ecclesiastes 3:4), and commented that a merry heart does good like a medicine and causes good healing (see Proverbs 17:22 KJV).

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

## PRESENT TRUTH

Following the Lamb wherever He goes

# Developing a Voice

#### THE EDITORS

he news headlines are often about issues on which the church cannot remain silent. The church has been commissioned with a voice to every nation, and we should have a salt-and-light-influence in the national conversation. However, the first century church didn't speak out against the atrocities of Rome as much as they did of their own nation, and there was a major qualifier for their voice: They spoke and acted as they were enabled and directed by the Holy Spirit in response to prayer.

Seventh-day Adventists have traditionally kept the subject of religious liberty before the conscience of our civic leaders and legislators. Many of our founders were abolitionists, and some participated in the Underground Railroad. Yet, by the time of the Civil Rights Movement, we found ourselves slow to react, revealing that a movement was needed in the

church as well — a movement of prayer and the Spirit.

In the December 2011 issue of the *Lake Union Herald* were published a number of official statements on human rights and the protection of the vulnerable. Although slow in coming, these statements from the Church give a good foundation and direction for how to live the principles of Christ in the modern world. Our prayers regarding these principles have resulted in the implementation of a church-wide plan to provide greater protection to our children.

The media recently have been very active in calling for justice in the case of Trayvon Martin, and questions why the church in America seems to be silent on the subject. Watch groups like ChristandPopCulture.com and ThinkChristian. net have noted "the Christian silence and the need for radical grace" and "the curious evangelical silence over Trayvon Martin," respectively.

Timothy Nixon, a chaplain at Andrews University and a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church pastoral staff, refers to a statement by Friedrich Gustav Martin Niemöller (see page four of this issue) and the consequences of remaining silent. That is why, on March 31, the church family gathered to march



and pray about apathy, racial profiling, justice and mercy on the campus of Andrews University.

Our leadership has not been silent. "Leaders and members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America join with others in the deep concern of the senseless, violent acts surrounding the death of Trayvon Martin one month ago. Young Trayvon fits the description

of many of our youth, many of our own children. We join in mourning with his family and friends, and pray for justice to be found in this situation and the love of Christ to be manifested in our communities."<sup>1</sup>

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

How did Jesus relate to people and the injustices of the culture of His day? Ask for the Holy Spirit to give direction in how to apply the statements below.

"The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern" (Proverbs 29:7 NIV).

"It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble" (Luke 17:2 NIV).

"This is what the LORD Almighty said: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another" (Zechariah 7:9 NIV).

The Lake Union Herald Editors

<sup>1.</sup> Dan Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, released this statement on March 26.

## Conversations with GOD

# Asking for Good Things

Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! — Matthew 7:9–11, NIV

s a father, I have always wanted good things for our four children. I have desired deeply that they have firm faith, wholesome morals, excellent educational opportunities, fine friends, good jobs, strong marriages, lovely children and stable lives. I have hoped and prayed that their lives may be full of love, joy and peace. I have wanted all this, despite the fact that, as an earthly father, I don't hold a candle to the heavenly Father.

Jesus makes clear that our heavenly Father, who is perfect in His love and unlimited in power, wants good things for us, His children. And He assures us that the Father is willing to give good gifts to His children, much more willing than any earthly father or mother.

There's just one hitch. In order to receive the good things the Father wants for them, His children have to ask. Not to ask is not to receive. That's what some spiritually-deprived believers found out the hard way. James said to them, "You do not have, because you do not ask God" (James 4:2 NIV).

The "good gifts" Jesus has in mind are the spiritual blessings of grace, wisdom, joy, peace, power, holiness and so on. These are things in accord with God's will. We can ask the Father for them with absolute assurance that He will give them to us. It's what He has promised.

What an amazing promise! Getting hold of this promise revolutionized my spiritual life. I searched the Scriptures for the good things God wanted for me. I asked for them. And, true to His promise, God began to give them — not in huge, once-for-all doses, but little by little. Every time I began to ask for some new, good thing, if I watched closely, I began to see God working that good thing into my life.

God is eager to give. He's on the lookout for children who will take Him at His word and ask in faith. As one Old Testament prophet put it, "The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him" (2 Chronicles 16:9 NIV). God is probably looking at you right now and waiting for you to ask good things of Him. I have a feeling He'll be disappointed if you don't go for the max and ask Him for all sorts of really good things — things He is really eager to give you — right now.

#### Reflect

What good things would you give to your family members or friends if you could?

What do you prize most highly among God's good gifts?

Why is it important to God that we ask?

#### **Pray**

*Praise* the Father, who in His love and power, is able and willing to give "good gifts" to those who ask.

*Confess* any attempt to fill your life with worldly things instead of the good things the Father wants to give you.

Ask for all the spiritually good things you can think of.

*Thank* God in advance for what He will send in response to your prayer.

#### Act

Continue to ask for the good things you prayed for yesterday. (It's a good idea to make a list, so you can remember them.) Pray those requests again today, trying to think of all the reasons why your heavenly Father would want to give them to you. Can you think of any reason He wouldn't want to give them?

Alvin J. VanderGriend is co-founder of the Denominational Prayer Leaders Network and currently serves as evangelism associate for Harvest Prayer Ministries in Terre Haute, Indiana. This article is an excerpt from his book, *Love to Pray*. Reprinted with permission.

# SHARING our HOPE

# Waves of Hope

#### **BY ASHLEY MEYER**

hat was once a small, online radio station, operating off just one computer in a single room, now reaches out to encourage and inspire not only the campus and community near Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, but listeners all around the world.

Using a \$15,000 grant from the North America Division of Seventhday Adventists Communication Department, CMRadio began as a ministry of the Center for Youth Evangelism at Andrews University in 2002. Originally focused on young adults, it was first known as AYRadio (Adventist Youth Radio). It was quickly determined CMRadio had a ministry to share beyond campus.

In 2005, AYRadio became CMRadio and moved to a studio in the Office of Campus Ministries. The station now has listeners on every continent, from such varied places as Kenya, Australia, Japan, Argentina, the Bahamas and the Netherlands. "It's amazing how far CMRadio reaches!" says Richard Parke, volunteer station manager. "You can listen to it anywhere in the world at any time. All one needs is an Internet connection, and you're immediately connected with Andrews."

"CMRadio's mission is to bring Jesus closer to the lives of its listeners through spiritually uplifting music and programming," says Richard. The station plays current Christian contemporary and gospel music, as well as music from some classic Christian artists like Michael W. Smith and Amy Grant.

CMRadio is the only station that airs Andrews University Campus Chapel live throughout the school year. The station's website also has interviews with artists such as Take 6, Committed and Sandi Patty, who have performed at the Howard Performing Arts Center.

In addition to providing Christian music, CMRadio offers several syndicated Christian programs, including:



Richard Parke (left), CMRadio volunteer station manager, interviews Jose Bourget (right), chaplain for outreach at Andrews University. Also pictured: Lindsey Pratt (center), a dedicated CMRadio volunteer

"20: The Countdown Magazine," "Keep the Faith" and "Walk the Way." Sabbath morning programs include "Scriptural Pursuit," "Your Story Hour," and live audio from the worship service at Pioneer Memorial Church. In February 2012, CMRadio added a new program to their lineup, "Under the Radar."

"Under the Radar' highlights some of the best undiscovered and under-ap-

preciated tunes from Christian artists," says Richard. "Host David Trout shares stories, spiritual insights and exclusive artist interviews to discover the depth of faith and creativity found in the music."

The day's song lineup is posted online, but listeners aren't tied to a preselected playlist. "Listeners are able to request a song and within the next three minutes, it will play!" says Lindsey Pratt, assistant station manager and a theology student at Andrews University. Lindsey is one of only four enthusiastic volunteers who donate their time and energy to CMRadio's mission of spreading the Word of God through the medium of music.

"It has been a blessing to work at CM Radio," says Lindsey. "There is so much inspiring music that anyone can listen to online for free."

To learn more about CMRadio or to take the opportunity to listen in on your computer or mobile device, visit http:// www.andrews.edu/go/cmradio.

Ashley Meyer is a student newswriter in the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.



# Anunciando un nuevo medio de comunicación

#### POR CARMELO MERCADO

La pluma, mojada en la fuente de la verdad pura, puede hacer llegar los rayos de la luz a los oscuros rincones de la tierra, los cuales reflejarán de vuelta esos rayos, añadiéndole nuevo poder a la luz y acrecentándola para ser esparcida por doquiera. — Servicio cristiano, pp. 163, 164

a página en español de esta revista tuvo su comienzo en el año 2005 con el propósito de informar acerca del progreso de la obra hispana y proveer artículos de ánimo espiritual para esta hermandad hispana. Muchas personas me han dicho que aprecian esta página y que la leen con regularidad, por lo que doy gracias a Dios. Pero con el pasar de los años aumentó en mí la convicción que debiéramos aumentar el número de páginas en la revista de la Unión del Lago.

Por más de dos años los editores del *Lake Union Herald* y un servidor hemos tratado de encontrar la manera de proveer artículos e informes acerca de la obra hispana. Después de mucho estudio y oración podemos anunciar que habrá una nueva sección en español en el *Lake Union Herald*.

La razón principal por la que podremos ya comenzar con esta publicación es que tendremos el privilegio de contar con los servicios de la profesora Stephanie Smart como nuestra editora hispana. Stephanie es oriunda del bello país de Venezuela

de donde vino con sus padres cuando era aún niña. Con el tiempo se mudaron al estado de Michigan y ella estudió en la Academia Great Lakes. Al terminar sus estudios en la academia se trasladó a la Universidad Andrews donde graduó en el año 2009 con dos licenciaturas: español y periodismo. En la actualidad Stephanie es profesora de español en la academia de donde se graduó y estudia a la vez en la Universidad Andrews para obtener una maestría en comunicaciones.



Stephanie Smart

El interés de Stephanie en el periodismo se despertó mientras ella estudiaba en la Universidad Andrews. Al leer, investigar y luego redactar los ensayos para sus clases aumentó en ella el deseo de escribir, ser editora y así poder apoyar la vida espiritual del lector.

Es interesante notar que mientras nosotros en la Unión orábamos a Dios pidiendo su ayuda y dirección para encontrar a un editor, nos llegó una recomendación de que consideráramos a Stephanie. Al conversar con ella encontramos que tiene las cualidades y la

preparación necesarias para dirigir esta nueva publicación.

Esta nueva sección del *Lake Union Herald* se publicará trimestralmente; estará compuesta por una columna editorial, una columna de informes acerca de la obra hispana en nuestra Unión, una de anuncios de eventos y una última que relate testimonios inspiradores.

Es nuestro deseo que este esfuerzo literario sea de gran bendición para nuestros lectores.

Carmelo Mercado es el vice presidente general de la Unión del Lago.

# Camp Meeting Reflections

#### BY MARIAN BRAZZELL

amp meeting is a time of revival, renewal of truths and exposure to new ideas. It is a time to renew old friendships
and make new friends, listen to beautiful music and immerse oneself in spiritual awakening.

My earliest camp meeting experiences were in Indiana at a ten-day encampment, which included the old cabins, tent city and Bunker Hill. Because camp meeting lasted through two full weekends, we could meet up with friends on the first weekend, and then make plans to add more friends during the second. My mother and grandmother always requested the same two cabins next to each other. There would be six children (sometimes more) between the two cabins.



Marian Brazzell (front row, second from right) and her family surround her granddaughter, Addie Myers (front row, center), at her baptism, at the 2011 Indiana Camp Meeting. Also pictured is Javier Quiles (back row, center), the pastor who baptized Addie.

My favorite part of camp meeting as a child were the Primary and Junior campfires. We sat on blankets and towels on the hillsides, sang vibrant songs, and listened to stories of missionaries in other lands. I wanted to be one of those people sharing Jesus with others. I felt "on fire" for Jesus, and the feeling lasted for months afterward.

One friend, who I met in my earliest camp meeting days, was Beverly Amos. Our friendship began while playing in the gravel between the cabins at about five years of age. We met again later as students at Indiana Academy, and became lifelong friends. We are now both Adventist teachers.

It isn't always easy to get to camp meeting; in fact, I don't think it ever is. The devil throws up barriers until you think it is impossible. He does not want us to have the blessings that sustain us all year long. However, when we ask God and remain faithful, He removes *all* the blockades. It has happened to me repeatedly.

After I became married, it was a few years before I stayed at camp meeting again. I became inspired to take my two daughters, ages one and two, to Indiana Camp Meeting to begin their experiences. Our first camp meeting together *was* an experience! As we traveled north, in a big, black pickup truck with camper, our truck stalled at least 25 times on our 130-mile trek. My girls and I literally prayed our way there!

At camp meeting, it has always been my main objective to get children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews fed and to their classes. Those classes help them find the joy of Jesus through learning and by meeting good friends. The favorite meeting for me is the early morning meeting. It revives, energizes and gives cheer for the day. It is also a special time with God and His people.

My goal is to create a love for God within my family. Camp meeting is a jump-start to the year. Then the kids follow through with summer camp at Timber Ridge Camp. I was privileged to participate at our eldest granddaughter Laken Bex's baptism at Timber Ridge in 2010, and our granddaughter Addie Myers' baptism at camp meeting in 2011. What a peace Christ gives us when our family becomes His family!

I look forward to Indiana Camp Meeting 2012 where the peace, adventure and spiritual awakening will avail itself. I definitely plan to be there, and hope to see you there, too!

Marian Brazzell is the principal of the Tullahoma SDA Christian School in Tullahoma, Tennessee.

# Illinois Conference

#### **BY GLENN PAUL HILL**

hicagoland Convocation brings some new twists this year. The theme, "Renew Us Again," emphasizes a desire to become more Christlike through the Holy Spirit at work in each one.

Henry Wright, senior pastor of Community Praise Center SDA Church in Alexandria, Virginia, is the keynote speaker for the first Illinois Conference "camp meeting." Japhet De Oliveira, leader of campus ministries at Andrews University, will lead a technology-based Sabbath school lesson study (bring your iPhones and Droids). In addition to musical numbers by church choirs, the afternoon praise service will include selections by Cheryl Wilson-Bridges, author of the book, *Levite Praise*. In the evening, there is a free *Selah* concert (to reserve seats for the concert, please call) and recreation. It is an opportunity to experience faith, fun and fellowship.

In addition, Illinois Conference offers the more traditional family camp meetings — one in English and one in Spanish (both at Camp Akita). Paul Richardson is the keynote speaker for the Akita Family Camp Meeting (in English). He currently serves as coordinator of reconnecting ministries for Seventh-day Adventist churches in North America, and is the executive director of the Center for Creative Ministry in Lincoln, Nebraska. G. Alexander Bryant, executive secretary of the North American Division, is the keynote speaker for Sabbath morning.

Don't miss the chance to be a part of these faith-building opportunities.

Glenn Paul Hill is the communication director of the Illinois Conference.



G. Alexander Bryant



Japhet De Oliveira



Henry Wright

#### **CHICAGOLAND CONVOCATION: MAY 12**

Northern Illinois Camp Meeting

#### Location

Wheaton College\* 501 College Avenue Wheaton, Illinois \*Chicagoland Convocation is not a program of Wheaton College.

#### **Registration Information**

Phone: 630-856-2874 for meals Phone: 630-856-2857 for concert tickets Email: ngregory@illinoisadventist.org for meals Email: cdriver@illinoisadventist.org for concert tickets Website: http://www.illinoisadventist.org/convocation

#### FAMILY CAMP MEETING: JULY 25-28

#### Location

Camp Akita 1684 Knox Road Gilson, Illinois

#### **Registration Information**

Phone: 630-856-2874 for reservations Email: reservations@illinoisadventist.org Website: http://www.illinoisadventist.org

#### CAMPESTRE HISPANO: AGOSTO 31-SEPTIEMBRE 2

#### Lugar

Camp Akita 1684 Knox Road Gilson, Illinois

Información para inscribirse Teléfono: 630-856-2854 Email: vsotelo@illinoisadventist.org

Cheryl Wilson-Bridges Selah Visit www.LakeUnionHerald.org

# Indiana Conference

#### CAMP MEETINGS & HISPANIC FELLOWSHIP DAY

#### **BY VAN HURST**

he 2012 Indiana Conference Camp Meeting theme is "Homecoming in the Sky." Won't that be a glad reunion day? Friends and loved ones long parted by death will be together once again — never, no never, to part again.

Dan Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, is slated to be with us for the weekend, as well as the Hinsdale Men's Chorus!

Don Schneider, previous president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, will lead evening meetings as he encourages everyone to be ready for Jesus to come. His wife, Marti Schneider, a church-planting specialist, will provide an afternoon seminar. Rodney Grove, executive secretary of the Lake Union Headquarters, will expand on "How Jesus Treated People." Clinton Meharry, Lafayette Church pastor, will present on the topic, "Jesus, Righteousness by Faith." Lynell LaMountain, from Adventist Health System, will teach us how to share the eight-part health message, "CREATION Health." This non-obtrusive format builds on a platform of relationships.

Karen Lewis, a layperson from Highlands Ranch, Colorado, is the author of the "Lifting Up Jesus" Bible study lessons that teach doctrines from the position of Jesus. If you would like to know how to share your faith, her workshop will be a score for you!

Hermes Tavera, a pastor from the Florida Conference, is the guest speaker for Hermandad Hispana 2012 (Fellowship Day). The theme is "Con Mi Espíritu!" ("By My Spirit").

The events will be extra special if you are there to enjoy them with us. Heaven will be special because we are together, too. Plan now to attend. We can all meet around the Tree of Life.

Van Hurst is the president of the Indiana Conference.





Dan Jackson

Rodney Grove

Lynell LaMountain



Location

Indiana Academy 24815 State Road 19 Cicero, Indiana

**Registration Information** 

Contact: Julie Loucks Phone: 317-844-6201 Email: treasury@indysda.org Website: http://indysda.org/camp-meeting-2012 (*Register online*)

HISPANIC FELLOWSHIP DAY: JUNIO 16 Hermandad Hispana 2012

Lugar Cicero SDA Church

24445 State Road 19 Cicero, Indiana

#### CAMPESTRE HISPANO: AGOSTO 31-SEPTIEMBRE 3

#### Lugar

Timber Ridge Camp 1674 Timber Ridge Road Spencer, Indiana

#### Información para inscribirse

Contacto: Antonio Rosario Teléfono: 317-856-5770 Email: prarosario@aol.com



Karen Lewis



**Clinton Meharry** 



Hermes Tavera



Marti and Don Schneider

# Lake Region Conference

#### CAMP MEETING

#### **BY JEROME L. DAVIS**

ne of the great Lake Region Conference gatherings is camp meeting. Why? It's a time for members and visitors to relax from the stresses of daily living and enjoy good preaching, good music and outstanding seminars. It's a time for brothers and sisters to fellowship with one another.

This year camp meeting will be June 15–23. The theme for this encampment is "Mission: Possible." The mission that Christ has given to the church is, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19 KJV). Is this mission possible? According to Jesus, it is, for He says in Mark 10:27, "but with God all things are possible" (KJV). Accordingly, all seminars and workshops will center on this goal. Additional highlights about camp meeting are found on the Lake Region Conference website at http://www.lakeregionsda.org.

As usual, we will be blessed with a number of great speakers from Sabbath to Sabbath.

If you have not registered for Camp Meeting 2012, you may do so by contacting the Treasury Department of the Lake Region Conference at 773-846-2661. May God's blessings rest upon each as we look forward to a great summer in the Lord.

Jerome L. Davis is the president of the Lake Region Conference.

## LAKE REGION CONFERENCE CAMP MEETING: JUNE 15-23

#### Location

Camp Wagner 19088 Brownsville Street Cassopolis, Michigan

#### **Registration Information**

Contact: Kristal Kraig Phone: 773-846-2661, ext. 113 Email: kcraig@lakeregionsda.org







Jerome L. Davis

C. Wesley Knight

Walter Veith

# Michigan Conference

#### MEETINGS CAMP

#### **BY JIM MICHEFF**

ne of our favorite traditions in the Adventist Church is camp meeting. Members from all across Michigan look forward to the spiritual inspiration and instruction it offers. Our theme this year is "His Vision, Our Mission ... Go Make Disciples."

The Michigan Conference has the privilege of holding three separate camp meetings. Cedar Lake camp meeting is a nine-day event on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy where inspirational speakers, seminars and great music, along with superb children's programing, enrich the spiritual experience. We also have two three-day camp meetings: one in the Upper Peninsula at Camp Sagola, and a special Hispanic camp meeting held at Camp Au Sable. We look forward to seeing all of you who are able to join us this summer.

Jim Micheff is the executive secretary of the Michigan Conference.



John Bradshaw







Don Livesav



Nicholas Miller



C. Raymond Holmes

Dwight Nelson

#### CAMPESTRE HISPANO: MAYO 25–27

#### Lugar

Camp Au Sable 2590 Camp Au Sable Drive Grayling, Michigan

Información para inscribirse Teléfono: 517-316-1562 Email: dscaraone@misda.org

#### **CEDAR LAKE CAMP MEETING: JUNE 15-23**

Location Great Lakes Adventist Academy 7477 Academy Road Cedar Lake, Michigan

**Registration Information** Phone: 517-316-1512 Email: jmurphy@misda.org Website: http://www.misda.org

#### **UPPER PENINSULA GAMP MEETING: JULY 26–29**

Location Camp Sagola 2885 SR-M69 Sagola, Michigan

**Registration Information** Email: campsagola@gmail.com



# Wisconsin Conference

#### MEETINGS CAMP

#### BY MICHAEL G. EDGE

ou are invited to attend Wisconsin Camp Meeting, June 15–23, at Camp Wakonda in Oxford, Wisconsin. Our theme during

this nine-day gathering is "Living the Mission."

For nearly 150 years, these camp meetings have offered spiritual encouragement through seminars, speakers, music and fellowship. Daily programs and activities are provided for children and youth as well.

The annual Hispanic Camp Meeting also will be held at Camp Wakonda, August 15–29.

You are welcome to attend all or a part of these gatherings. Join us as we pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Michael G. Edge is the president of the Wisconsin Conference.



Stan Reerman

Roscoe J. Howard



Consuegra





Dan Jackson



#### Location

Camp Wakonda W8368 County Road E Oxford, Wisconsin Phone: 608-296-2126

#### **Registration Information**

**Registration: Aileen King** Phone: 920-484-6550 Email: akking@wi.adventist.org Website: http://wi.adventist.org

#### CAMPESTRE HISPANO: AGOSTO 15-29

#### Lugar

Camp Wakonda W8368 County Road E Oxford, Wisconsin Teléfono: 608-296-2126

Información para inscribirse Contacto: Evelio Miranda Teléfono: 414-446-5964 Email: eveliomiranda@msn.com





#### BY MANNY OJEDA

**Hands-on Christianity** 

ummer camp is a place for family! Camp is a place where all ages can be motivated to be what God has created them to be. The first Sunday afternoon of camp is the most exciting because that is when Mom and Dad learn to say goodbye, and their son or daughter learns to say hello to his or her new cabin family, counselor, stimulating schedule, horseback riding, ceramics, swimming, the rock wall, and worship that is inspiring and fun!

If Jesus was born in the 21st century, would He spend time at summer camp as He did in Samaria, Capernaum or Galilee? Every summer, hundreds of families around the Lake Union make plans to send their children to summer camp. Every winter and spring, our camp directors actively recruit loving, passionate youth and young adults to run and staff our camps. Every summer, the Spirit of Jesus comes and mingles within our camp programs, be it at the waterfront, horse barn or worship amphitheater. Is summer camp the hands-on Christianity Jesus would have practiced?

I believe Jesus would have ministered at camp because camp is the place where everyone can belong! No matter what culture, language, socioeconomic class, or even your faith or the lack thereof, camp is the place for all people under the sun! The basic human need of community, love and acceptance is what camp specializes in! This is why Jesus would come to camp and be a staff member.

Jesus would also minister at camp because summer camp is for unbelievers as much as it is for believers. Summer camp is evangelistic! Last summer, at Camp Akita, we had a camper who professed to be an atheist. During morning staff worships, his case was lifted up to God in prayer; after a week of fun, fellowship and worship, he made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and to be baptized. How can I explain it other than to say that summer camp is where Christ becomes incarnated and real through all we do?

Summer camp is Jesus' *modus operandi*, as Ellen White wrote in *The Ministry of Healing*, page 139: "The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good..." At summer camp, we live that model, especially as committed senior youth and young adults dedicate their summers and talents to minister to other young people. Let's not underestimate the power of that "army of workers as our youth, rightly trained..." (see *Education*, p. 271).

In the Lake Union, we are blessed with a team of top quality summer camp programs — Camp Akita in Gilson, Illinois; Timber Ridge Camp in Spencer, Indiana; Camp Wagner in Cassopolis, Michigan; Camp Au Sable in Grayling, Michigan; Camp Sagola in Sagola, Upper Peninsula, Michigan; and Camp Wakonda in Oxford, Wisconsin. This summer we invite you to be part of hands-on Christianity. See you at camp!

Manny Ojeda is the youth director of the Illinois Conference.



The Lake Union Herald is available online

### **ILLINOIS CONFERENCE SUMMER CAMP**

#### BY MANNY OJEDA

ou cannot miss the fun and excitement this summer at Camp Akita! We are growing with four new cabins and 639 acres of fun, friends and Jesus. Camp Akita is accredited through American Camp Association, and is also a member of Adventist Association of Camping Professionals. We are located almost three hours southwest of Chicago and 45 minutes northwest of Peoria, Illinois.

Come, be launched into the air from the Blob, or enjoy God's nature from the back of a horse! Making memories and decisions for Jesus is what we are all about at Camp Akita!

Camp brochures/applications can be picked up in your local church or obtained by calling the Illinois Conference Youth Ministries number listed below.

Manny Ojeda is the youth director of the Illinois Conference.

#### **CAMP AKITA DATES**

Cub Camp: June 17–24, Ages 7–9 Junior Camp I: June 24–July I, Ages 10–12 Junior Camp II: July 1–8, Ages 10–12 Teen Camp I: July 8–15, Ages 13–17 Teen Camp II: July 15–22, Ages 13–17 Family Camp and Camp Meeting: July 25–29, All Ages Campamento De Menores: Julio 29–Agosto 5, All Ages

#### Location

1684 Knox Road 1200 N Gilson, IL 61436-9430 **Phone:** 309-876-2060 **Fax:** 309-876-2061

#### **Registration Information**

Phone: 630-856-2857 Email: youth@illinoisadventist.org Website: http://www.campakita.com



Visit www.LakeUnionHerald.org

### INDIANA CONFERENCE SUMMER CAMP

#### BY CHARLIE THOMPSON

t Timber Ridge Camp, in Spencer, Indiana, there are a lot of fun things to experience, like riding horses, doing crafts, fishing, mountain biking, swimming, sailing and a whole lot more! However, the best thing to do at TRC is to get to know Jesus better!

First, campfires, worships, camp councils and Sabbath programs are all about Jesus. Second, it is important for every young person to have some godly person they can look up to. All staff are chosen and trained to be Christlike role models for every camper who visits TRC. We want all our campers to get a little taste of Heaven when they come to see us this summer.

The Indiana Conference Health Ministries Department and TRC are pleased to offer a new camp to the Lake Union Conference, "Fitness at the Ridge," open to all ages. Gwen Foster, former health czar for the City of Philadelphia, will direct the medically-supervised health camp.

Fitness on the Ridge will begin with a pre-physical assessment, and provide daily activities at a level determined appropriate for each person's fitness level. The program involves physical activities, worship, whole food meals and seminars during the day, such as nutrition classes, cooking classes and emotional support.

Register online at http://www.trcamp.org. We hope to see you there!

Teen Camp: July 15–22, Ages 14–17 Family Camp: July 22–29, All Ages Fitness at the Ridge! Camp: July 22–31, All Ages National Camp for the Blind: July 29–August 5\* \*Call 402-488-0981 to register for Blind Camp.

**NOTE**: The annual B.I.K.E. event has been changed from June to October 4–7. It is a mountain bike trip this year!

#### Location

1674 Timber Ridge Road Spencer, Indiana

#### **Registration Information**

Contact: Trish Thompson Email: youth@indysda.org Phone: 317-844-6201 Phone: 812-829-2507 (after June 15) Address: Youth Department, P.O. Box 1950, Carmel, IN 46082-1950 Website: http://www.trcamp.org

Charlie Thompson is the youth director of the Indiana Conference.

#### TIMBER RIDGE CAMP DATES

Single Moms & Kids Camp: June 21–24, All Ages Single moms and kids are invited to spend four fun-filled days enjoying everything Timber Ridge Camp has to offer! The camp staff works hard to pamper the moms as much as possible. To register, call Indiana Conference Women's Ministries Department at 317-844-6401. Cub Camp: June 24–July I, Ages 7–10 Junior Camp: July 1–8, Ages 10–12

Tween Camp: July 8-15, Ages 12-14



### LAKE REGION CONFERENCE SUMMER CAMP

#### BY RALPH SHELTON

ummer fun! Anyone and everyone knows these words just seem to go together. When we consider the warm weather and longer days of summer, it just seems natural that fun and sun are the order of the day. At Camp Wagner, the laughter of boys and girls, counselors and campers, instructors and students seem to resound all across the campground. Line calls, camp councils, dining hall, shower house, laundry or kitchen, bus rides, onsite and off-site activities — all seem to ring with joy and signal camp is in full swing.

Our new campers come for a one-week stay, find the satisfaction of summer fun, and beg to stay another week. Some often stay all three weeks of Junior Camp. The warmth and blending of worship and work, classwork and recreation, and interaction with other campers and counselors are just a few of the many things blended to give each camper a sense of independence while allowing them to experience a sense of community.

This year, summer camp dates are July 8–14, 15–21 and 22–28. We will feature evangelism as an emphasis again for the first two camps. The theme is "Making Memories with Jesus." Special training will be offered to each camper by the North American Children's Ministries Department. Our final week of camp will feature a banquet. Youth, ages 8 to 15, are welcome to be campers. Hope to see you there!

Ralph "Director Sheltz" Shelton is the youth and camp director of the Lake Region Conference.

#### **CAMP WAGNER DATES**

**Junior Camp 1:** July 8–14, *Ages 8–15*  **Junior Camp 2:** July 15–21, *Ages 8–15* **Junior Camp 3:** July 22–28, *Ages 8–15* (Banquet)

NOTE: Camp fees are \$265 per week; a camper can attend for \$200 per week if paid in full before June 14.

#### Location

19088 Brownsville Street Cassopolis, Michigan **Phone:** 269-476-2550

#### **Registration Information**

Contact: Josie Essex Phone: 773-846-2661, ext. 206 Email: jessex@lakeregionsda.org



### MICHIGAN CONFERENCE SUMMER CAMPS



#### BY KEN MICHEFF

hether you are a child or a mighty oak in Israel, you are in for a life-changing experience at one of Michigan's summer camps.

A story is told of a young girl who came from a home where neither parent was a Christian. But she was determined to go to Camp Au Sable. That summer she made a decision for Jesus. After her baptism, her pastor asked if there was anyone who wanted special prayer. The little girl's dad raised his hand, with tears in his eyes, and he has never been the same since. The time spent at camp is an investment in eternity.

Summer is the best time for all to experience the beauty of God's nature, the excitement of camp activities, and, most of all, making friends for God's kingdom.

The staff and I welcome you to join us this summer. We're looking forward to the memories we will make and the activities we will experience.

Ken Micheff is the youth director of the Michigan Conference.

#### **CAMP AU SABLE DATES**

Adventurer/Jr. Junior Camp: June 17–24, Ages 7–11 Junior Camp: June 24–July I, Ages 10–12 Tween Camp: July I–8, Ages 12–14 Teen Wilderness Survival Backpack Outpost: July I–8, Ages 16–19 Teen Wilderness Survival Canoe Outpost: July I–8, Ages 16–19 Teen Camp: July 8–15, Grades 9–12 Specialty Camp: July 15–20, Ages 10–17 Father/Son Wilderness Survival Backpack Outpost: July 15–19, All Ages Father/Son Wilderness Survival Canoe Outpost: July 15–19, All Ages Family Camp I: July 22–29, All Ages **Family Camp II:** July 29–August 5, *All Ages* **Family Camp III:** August 5–12, *All Ages* 

#### Location

2590 Camp Au Sable Drive Grayling, Michigan

#### **Registration Information**

Register Online: http://www.campausable.org Contact: Alanna Knapp Phone: 517-316-1570 Email: aknapp@misda.org

#### **CAMP SAGOLA DATES**

**Junior Camp:** July 8–15, Ages 10–12 **Teen Camp:** July 15–22, Grades 9–12

#### Location

2885 SR-M69 Crystal Falls, Michigan

#### **Registration Information**

**Email:** campsagola@gmail.com **Website:** http://www.campsagola.org



### WISCONSIN CONFERENCE SUMMER CAMP

#### **BY GREG TAYLOR**



here is no better place to spend your summer than at summer camp. At Camp Wakonda, you will be able to experience horseback riding, swimming, waterskiing, crafts, basketball, climbing, nature discovery and much more. Each day presents opportunities to meet new friends, experience new adventures, and, most importantly, come to know Jesus better. The staff who work at camp are dedicated young adults who have a passion for ministry and sharing their faith.

Please don't miss this amazing opportunity to experience the beauty of Wisconsin this summer at Camp Wakonda! Applications can be picked up at your local church, and this year you can now register online at http://www.wakonda.org.

Greg Taylor is youth director of the Wisconsin Conference.

#### **CAMP WAKONDA DATES**

Blind Camp: July 1-8, Register with Christian Record Services\* Junior Camp: July 1-8, Ages 7-10 Tween Camp: July 8-15, Ages 10-12 Teen Camp: July 15-22, Ages 13-17 Family Camp 1: July 22-29, All Ages Family Camp 2: July 29-Aug 5, All Ages

#### Location

W8368 County Road E Oxford, Wisconsin 53952 Phone: 608-296-2126 Fax: 608-296-4329 Website: http://www.wakonda.org

#### **Registration Information**

Register online: http://www.wakonda.org. NEW!! **Contact:** Nancy Martling Phone: 920-484-6555 Email: nmartling@wi.adventist.org

#### \*Christian Record Services

Phone: 402-488-0981 Fax: 402-488-7582 Email: info@christianrecord.org



## TELLING GOD'S STORIES

# Priceless Dividends

#### **BY KORTNYE HURST**

n Fort Wayne, Indiana, Aboite Christian School holds on to the rainbow promises of God's faithfulness. The school strives to hasten His return and to make Adventist Christian education possible for young people in the Fort Wayne family.

"We are actually a mission school, especially when you realize that children are the most receptive toward evangelism," said Nadine Schultz, Aboite Christian School treasurer.

It is the unofficial mission of the school to make an Adventist Christian education possible for each child in the Fort Wayne family. This plays a factor in the hardcore fundraising in which the school engages to make their mission a reality.

"In 2011, we budgeted \$21,000 to cover the basic operating expenses," Nadine said. "By the end of November, we raised \$22,000, meaning that all additional earnings could be added to our budget for assistance."

Most of the school's 30 students receive some form of financial aid.

"With five families that have one or both parent(s) unemployed, I'm pleased we have been able to keep within our budget," Nadine said.

Last June, the school's walk/jog/bike-a-thon brought in \$3,000. "The idea was to get people outside of the church to sponsor it," she said.

Hser Hser Win is grateful the Fort Wayne Church has the vision to develop young people through Christ-based education. "I was born in a Thailand refugee camp where my family sent me to an Adventist school," she said about a place where Adventist instruction is considered the Cadil-



Gunde Nkumba and daughters, Dorothy, 11, and Daphine, 7, show their entry numbers for the school's walk/jog/bike-a-thon, which raised \$3,000 for Christian education.

lac of education. "American education is so much more expensive. There was no way my family could send me to a good school like that, but we knew I had to finish my education."

On Hser Hser's first Sabbath at the Fort Wayne Church, Nadine and her husband, Sheldon Schultz, both teachers at Aboite Christian School, talked to her. "They made me feel loved even though I could not speak English yet," she remembers.

Through translators, they told Hser Hser about the church school.

"I got so excited to have the privilege to go there," she said with obvious energy. "I had seen a lot of young people from my tribe who went to public

school. They changed in a bad way. But, in Christian school, we are taught how to become better."

After elementary school, Hser Hser desperately wanted to attend Indiana Academy.

"I was afraid to go to public school. I asked Dad, but [learned] it was impossible because finances were scarce. Dad told me, 'I can't do anything. I'm just human, but you have a heavenly Father and He can give you this.' ... I prayed and prayed."

"When she first came to Fort Wayne, I had to put my head within four to six inches of her head to hear what she said. Now, she's turning into a leader [at Indiana Academy]," said Sheldon, clearly proud of his previous pupil.

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Even as the apostle John was called by God to share a vision, so Hser Hser feels called to share God's promises with the world.

"As a child of God, I know He uses a lot of people to make me who I am. My dream is to go back and build a place for orphans and



Hser Hser Win

#### to touch the lives of young children, even as Christ's love was shared with me," she shared.

Kortnye V. Hurst is the correspondent for the Indiana Conference.

# Unexpected Friendship

#### BI KAT FICHEITE

lying can be an adventure. It can also be a hassle. I sometimes look forward to meeting new people while traveling to other cities. At other times, I would rather just mind my own business and not get involved in protracted conversations.

My favorite place to sit is in an aisle seat. It is so much easier to get up and down to keep circulation moving if I can get an aisle seat; it also prevents the challenging contortions required when crawling out of a window seat past a couple of other passengers. Window seats can be rather cramped. And, probably, no one likes sitting in the middle seat. Such seats are "reserved" for those

who missed stretching opportunities (aisle seats) and sleeping opportunities (window seats).

One day, I found myself in a window seat waiting to see who would be joining me in the middle seat. It was one of those days when I wished I could just mind my own business and get some reading done. I picked up a book and tried to appear occupied, a sure signal to any seatmate that conversation would be unnecessary. At the same time, I wanted to know who soon would be joining me. I kept glancing toward the front of the plane. And then I saw him.

As soon as he stepped into the plane's aisle, I knew he would be my seatmate. His eyes looked bloodshot, and he appeared a bit disheveled. As I surreptitiously glanced his way a few more times, I realized he must be drunk. It was going to be a very long flight. I would be trapped between a rock and a hard place or, at least, between the window and a drunk man.

I kept my nose in a book until they began handing out the meals. (This flight was a number of years ago.) We each received our meal, and began to eat what we could. And



then, the "drunk man" offered me his sandwich. I said, "No, thank you. But if you are not going to use your salt, I would like to have it."

At this point, he looked me in the eye and said, "You must have Addison's Disease."

I was stunned. How could a simple request for salt be translated into a medical diagnosis by this man? I looked at

him again, and all my earlier observations came into question. He no longer appeared drunk. He looked very alert and intelligent. I discovered he was a cardiologist who practiced medicine at Baylor University Medical Center. He was a devout Muslim who had moved to the States from Pakistan. True to his faith, he avoided the ham sandwich. With an eye for detail, he observed the only clue I had given that could possibly hint at a medical condition. His caring heart caused him to act on my behalf. Before I could say anything more, he contacted a flight attendant and asked her to bring me an ample supply of salt.

People may not be who we make them out to be. It is so easy to let a few visual cues dictate our perception of others. And yet, we can only truly appreciate who they are when we learn to look with the eyes of the heart. I did a double-take, and gained friendship from an unexpected source. Perhaps God also has some surprises waiting for you.

Ray Pichette is the president of the Illinois Conference. Glenn Hill, communication director of the Illinois Conference, assisted in writing this story.



Sue Wohld, a certified music practitioner, plays for patients at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital two days a week.

### Healing through music: Harpist Sue Wohld eases pain, lifts spirits

Propped up on a skinny elbow, Kasi Sanders, 15, was in the middle of a coughing fit when Sue Wohld wheeled a harp into her intensive care room at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital.

"Do you mind?" asked Wohld, poking her head out from behind the harp. "Would you mind if I played some music for you?"

Sanders smiled and nodded. A few minutes later, the acoustical notes of "Over the Rainbow" filled the room. Music drifted down the hospital halls, bringing a calming vibe to other patients who hadn't even noticed Wohld enter the unit.

A few minutes later, Sanders' heart rate went down, her oxygen levels went up, and Wohld left the girl, who was recovering from pneumonia, smiling and ready for a nap.

For many patients, it's that easy. A certified music practitioner, Wohld plays a small harp at patients' bedsides two days a week on all floors of the hospital. The music differs from music therapy in that it's not interactive, so all the patients have to do is listen. Sometimes Wohld plays for a whole group awaiting outpatient surgery; other times she gives private sessions in patient rooms. Whether she plays softly for new babies in the neonatal intensive care unit or soothingly to patients near death, Wohld seems to bring peace wherever she goes.

"Every day before I start, I ask God to let me be a blessing," Wohld said. "I ask Him to let His work flow through me to promote a healing atmosphere."

Music has evolved into a respected tool in integrative medicine programs in hospitals across the county. It is widely known to help ease pain and reduce stress for both patients and their families.

At Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, when nurses see Wohld step onto their floor, many times they already have a list of patients for her to see. In fact, when she arrives on each floor, Wohld's first stop is always the nurses' station. Then she walks around, introduces herself to patients and explains her service before asking permission to play. If a patient is unresponsive, she obtains permission from their family member. Patients are always free to decline, although they rarely do.

Dressed in a white button-down shirt and black pants, Wohld tries to blend in with the clinical setting around her. It's her tiny harp pin that reveals her true passion. She mixes in Christmas music during the holidays but mainly Wohld selects unrecognizable tunes, nothing that anyone might recognize or could trigger an unpleasant memory or an emotional response. She does, however, have "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" and "Wheels on the Bus" ready for her youngest fans.

"I see people who are in pain, and I make them feel better," Wohld said. "Sometimes I feel like I take a little bit of their stress and pain with me when I leave their room. To me, that's amazing."

Wohld was "discovered" by Marcie Calandra, director of nursing process improvement and Magnet project director at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, at a regional meeting for advanced practice nurses a few months ago. Wohld officially joined the hospital in December 2011.

"It's amazing how God has chosen the harp; it's such a beautiful instrument that it even looks like the shape of an angel's wings," Calandra said. "Sue is unflappable. She goes into a room and connects with patients with such grace. She is a gift from God for us."

Pastoral care manager Tricia Treft added that Wohld's music encourages peace, tranquility and harmony toward healing.

"The highest standards of music education and performance have been a heritage of Adventism," Treft said. "Music is often used by the Holy Spirit to heal and transform lives."

> Sheila Galloro, public relations specialist, Adventist Midwest Health

### Andrews 🛆 University



On Sunday, March 4, at the annual faculty/staff awards night, Ante Jeroncic was the recipient of the Spiritual Life Award, which recognizes his significant contribution to the spiritual life on campus. He has taught at Andrews since 2006.

### 2012 faculty/staff awards presented at Andrews

The annual faculty/staff awards night, "Celebrating Excellence at Andrews University," was held Sunday, March 4, at the Howard Performing Arts Center. Alayne Thorpe, dean of the School of Distance Education, served as emcee for the night. "You may be surprised to see me up here because I'm a newbie," Thorpe said, "but that's indicative of how welcoming Andrews is." She then gave special note to the Years of Service awardees in the five-, 10-, 15-, 20- and 25-year categories who, together, have dedicated a total of 1,250 years of service to the University.

The Siegfried H. Horn Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarship Award was established to recognize the lifetime scholarship achievement of University faculty members. This year's recipients were: Steve Hansen, professor of art for the area of Arts, Humanities & Education; Duane McBride, research professor of sociology and chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences, for the area of Professional Programs; Jiri Moskala, professor of Old Testament Exegesis and Theology, for the area of Religion & Theology; and Curtis Vander Waal, research professor of social work and chair of the Department of Social Work for the area of Pure and Applied Science.

The Staff Excellence in Service Award is given in recognition of outstanding service to the University, the church and the community, and for demonstrating, by precept and example, a Christ-centered life. This year's recipients were Marvin Budd, database administrator, ITS; Mimi Weithers-Bruce, assistant to the provost, Office of the Provost; and Dean Snow, manager, Custodial Services.

Eight faculty members received the Daniel A. Augsburger Excellence in Teaching Award. This award recognizes faculty whose teaching reflects the high standards of excellence modeled by Daniel A. Augsburger in his 60 years of teaching at Andrews University. This year's recipients were: Rudi Bailey, professor of educational psychology, school psychology & special education; Bruce Bauer, professor of world mission; José Goris, professor of management; Herbert Helm, professor of psychology; Marcia Kilsby, associate professor of medical laboratory sciences; Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion; Martin Smith, assistant professor of architecture; and Tiffany Summerscales, assistant professor of physics.

**Spiritual Life Award** 

The Spiritual Life Award, which recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to the spiritual life of campus, went to Ante Jeroncic, assistant professor of theology. His commitment to scholastic excellence encourages his students to emulate him. A student says, "Dr. Jeroncic is one of the most important influences on the formation of my spiritual and intellectual self. His challenge to students to investigate why they hold their beliefs significantly impacted my conversion to Christianity by showing the way to a Christ-centered hermeneutic without pushing me away. Intellectually, he expected me to achieve my full potential and expected nothing less. This helped me improve greatly as both a thinker and a believer."

Two individuals were recognized with a 35 Years of Service Award: Thomas Baker, faculty at Andrews Academy; and Joseph Warren, professor of English.

Four individuals were recognized with a 30 Years of Service Award: Ruth Gardner, manager and postmaster of Central Mail Service at Andrews University; Tari Popp, director of the Office of Planned Giving & Trust Services; Jeane Robinson, purchasing; and Robert Schwab, professor of management, department chair and graduate advisor in the School of Business Administration.

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

Note: For the full faculty/staff awards story on the Andrews University website, see http://www.andrews.edu/news/2012/03/ awards\_night.html.

#### [EDUCATION NEWS]

### AA teaches compassion in action

Michigan—For those who have not experienced Seventh-day Adventist high school education, one may think it is similar to a public school experience with the addition of Bible classes and worships. But the Andrews Academy school experience, as in other SDA schools, includes the integration of faith in every aspect of the school experience.

In my biology class, we have two textbooks: a biology book and God's book, the Bible. As we discover the intricacies of biology, we also discover the intricacies of why and how God wants us to live as Christians, how He created us, and biblical reasoning on ethical issues as they relate to science.

Andrews Academy students also enjoy many social activities together. It may be the Student Association weekend camping trip that is focused around a spiritual theme or going out in small groups to help our community.

Our service philosophy is based on Matthew 25:31–40: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (v. 40 NIV). We teach that we are not only to treat others as we would want to be treated, but treat others as if they were Christ Jesus Himself. Service is "compassion in action."

On community service day, the school day began with a devotional thought focusing on Christ's love and deep compassion for those in need. Students were encouraged to work hard — not to please people (as in the other students or their teacher) but God, and to realize that God calls them to be a light to the world. As Christians, our diligent, hard work is for the glory of God and a way to help bring others to Christ.

When Christian compassion is incorporated into the curricular and cocurricular activities effectively, students enjoy these experiences and create



During their five-day class trip, the seniors of 2012 participated in community service. Some said the best part of the trip for them was the community service day.



Students and faculty help beautify a stretch of highway by picking up litter and debris. Living out Christ's love through service is modeled at Andrews Academy. Pictured are: Brooklyn Wood; Sari Butler, guidance counselor; Ben Lovhoiden; Crystal Porter; Anna Rorabeck; Ivette Ruban; and Byron Graves, music teacher.

good memories. When the seniors returned from their five-day senior trip, I was pleasantly surprised with how many commented that the best part of the trip was community service day!

The Andrews Academy Student Association plans various vesper programs for the school. This past Christmas they organized a Friday evening caroling vespers at a nearby nursing facility. One student's comment reflected what many others expressed: "It was a lot of fun; the people there were really enjoying it. A number of them came out to say, 'Hi'; some gave chocolates, and gave us Merry Christmas hugs!" The Lord worked through this activity to intervene not only in the lives of the residents but in the lives of the students as well.

The Student Association Children's Christmas Party is designed to help



At the Student Association Children's Christmas Party, Santa is portrayed by Dillon Zimmerman, S.A. pastor. He holds a community student while Kyle Whiteside hands the child a gift. Also pictured is April Habenicht, Andrews Academy student

academy students grow in the spirit of giving during the Christmas season. The students sign up in groups of two to four to sponsor a child for the party. Various needy children from the community are invited for the evening. As the children arrive, the festive evening commences. The children and students draw Christmas pictures on their tables as the development of their relationship begins. I see God working in the lives of the little children as well as the "big" ones. I see smiles all around.

You often hear of schools that build school spirit, school pride and their identity through their sports teams. The success of their athletic department is central. At Andrews Academy, identity and school spirit is built on broader and what faculty and staff feel are more important things. Living out Christ's love through service is an excellent way to incorporate the three components of a balanced education.

"Our ideas of education take too narrow and too low a range. There is need of a broader scope, a higher aim. True education ... is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come" (Ellen White, *Education*, p. 13).

Having teachers work side-by-side with students during these service

projects develops a sense of respect, closeness and love between faculty and students. This love was demonstrated on the last day before winter break when we had an "Andrews Academy family prayer" for Patricia Banks, a home economics and health teacher who was moving away. Students gathered around her, placed their hands on her, and prayed for her.

We are blessed to be part of a team of believers in Christ who are dedicated to our objective that the students "may know Christ and the power of His resurrection...," and be "strengthened with power through his Spirit in their inner being, so that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith that they, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that they may be filled with all the fullness of God" (Philippians 3:10 and Ephesians 3:16–19).

> Steven Atkins, science teacher, Andrews Academy, with his wife, Alice Atkins



The Pleasantview Christian School and Child Care Ministry daycare playground is circled by the NASTrike Raceway, a loop outside the play area for the kids to ride tricycles on. It takes 20 laps to make a mile.

# School recognized for excellence

Indiana—Pleasantview Christian School is known for its outstanding childhood education program. "We don't do any [commercial] advertising. Everything is word-of-mouth," said Michele McCaw, school principal and daycare director. "With 12 employees and 51 kids, we are full."

Pleasantview and the Lafayette Church's Child Care Ministry recently combined to create a glowing picture of Christian quality. "It is the best school I have found," Becky Morales said. "I had Cece in a Montessori school, but they weren't really teaching her anything. I pulled her out and brought her here. The teachers at Pleasantview are kind, helpful and far more involved with the kids. They are in tune with what the kids are feeling as they learn. Their curriculum — it's fantastic! Their teaching about the Bible is also a plus. I [expect] Cece will be here until they run out of grades for her to take."

With the growth of the school and the merger of school and daycare, Pleasantview needed new rooms. "We needed one room for ten two-year-olds and two rooms for 18 children in pre-K," Mc-Caw said. "There was no way the church could come up with the money." Pleasantview received a \$10,000 grant from The McAllister Foundation, which gives to high-profile educators such as Purdue and Ivy Tech. In 2006, The McAllister Foundation gave Pleasantview \$40,000 for new playground equipment.

"We never know when the state will come to inspect," said McCaw. "Last time they visited, they pulled me aside and said, 'I can't find anything to write you up on. It's one of the cleanest places and filled with beautiful color for the kids!" Five years ago, the inspector brought five other inspectors to show them a top-notch daycare.

Since 1995, McCaw and her husband have cared for the reputable quality in Pleasantview. Almost immediately after joining the Lafayette Church, she was placed on the church board. "They mentioned a preschool, but thought they would 'can' the idea because nobody was interested in leading the project," Mc-Caw said. "I left the meeting thinking, I can't do this. Why would I ever volunteer to take this on? After getting home, I asked my husband, 'What would you think if I taught preschool?'

"After thinking about it, he said, 'If you can find someone to support you so you're not doing it alone, then I, too, will support you."

"Would you be willing to help?" McKaw asked a neighbor.

"It was the right person, at the right time and place, because she easily answered, 'Sure!" McCaw said.

"The church board found an addition to our team, Gayl Stevens, who worked at a daycare. Gayl became the teacher, and we were assistants. We knocked out walls, added rooms and added a daycare on the side," McCaw recalled.

That summer, McCaw and her husband funded getting the rooms ready for students. They laid carpet and tiles, and had the daycare painted.

The first year there were just five students in the elementary school, but their team's standard of excellence has paid off. In 12 years, Pleasantview has grown more then ten times its original size, and has built a strong ministry that shows a picture of Jesus to the community, church and home.

For more information, see http:// www.pleasantview.us or email pleasant view.school@yahoo.com.

> Kortnye V. Hurst, correspondent, Indiana Conference

# NEWS



In March, gymnasts from Washington Adventist Academy performed daring maneuvers for enthralled students and staff at Hinsdale Adventist Academy.

### Gymnasts perform at Hinsdale Adventist Academy

Illinois—Forty gymnasts from Washington Adventist Academy performed the first week of March for enthralled students and staff at Hinsdale Adventist Academy during the team's spring break tour.

Ben Johnson, head coach, said the team was also scheduled to perform in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio during their tour. "This tour isn't just for the audience's entertainment," Johnson stated. "We have a message we want to convey about the importance of a healthy body and a healthy mind." Johnson went on to say that taking care of our bodies ultimately gives us the opportunity for a closer relationship with God. "Seventh-day Adventists have long promoted the value of healthy living. By making good choices, such as abstaining from drugs and alcohol, our bodies can perform at their peak."

And perform at their peak they did! The gymnasts completed amazing routines, hurling the tumblers almost to the roof of the HAA gymnasium. Elijah Bojko, a senior, said, "I love gymnastics. For me, watching that show was like taking a little kid to a ballgame!"

Classmate Emily Garvanovic shared her enthusiasm, "Just watching it, I pulled seven muscles! But the best part was seeing Pastor Frederick!"

Students were thrilled when Johnson called up the school's religion teacher, Danaran Frederick, to join in the show. The coach informed HAA students that Frederick, known as "P. Freddie" to the students, was a former captain of the gymnastics team at Washington Adventist University. Johnson challenged P. Freddie, now in his mid-30s, to see if he still had the agility to perform. P. Freddie didn't disappoint, easily completing a round-off tuck and handspring.

After completing their routine at HAA, the gymnasts traveled to Indianapolis to perform the half-time entertainment for the Indiana Pacers and Atlanta Hawks basketball teams.

HAA caters to students from preschool through grades 12 in a loving and safe environment. For more information about HAA, go to http://www. haa.org, or call 630-323-9211.

> Cherie Jackson, communications coordinator, Hinsdale Adventist Academy



Cynthia Ferguson teaches the commission mission, which was to care for other kids. VBS students volunteered to bring in an excess of 100 gifts to wrap to take to a nearby children's hospital.

### School partners with God to recruit students

Illinois—To start this school year, we actually began "fishing" for students in August as we kicked off the school year with our vacation Bible school program, "Go Fishing!" The principal of Crest Hill Christian School, in Joliet, Ill., and Laurie Grabowski, a preschool teacher, led out in the program with a few volunteers from the church. The prayedfor goal was to uplift Christ to those in attendance, to accurately portray Christ to those in the community, while teaching those in our church and school how to minister effectively to others. A few church young people served and led out in posts during the program and did an excellent job!

The leaders asked the Lord to bless this outreach ministry by leading kids to them who wanted to learn what God can do in their lives. They prayed that some of their school students as well as other children from the area would be interested in joining in this fun, week-long scope of activities that reinforced the idea that God empowers each one of us to be fishers of men, not just adults. At Crest Hill School, the staff and school board members believe that kids can be fishers of men, and that God would like nothing more than for His kids to go fishing to enlist others for His cause.

The staff had only a week-and-ahalf to pull the program together, and set up all the stations and "man" them with volunteers and activities, which all tied into the theme. Upon studying the theme, all staff were "hooked" on the theme. Now all they had to do was advertise, work and pray, pray, pray! They didn't have much time.

The Lord, of course, came through and hooked several children. In that short time, He sent nearly 30! Even one of the volunteers brought a friend to help and, during this time, this young person became "hooked" and attended

several other youth activities at the church after the VBS program was completed! Talk about fishing for men! Sometimes fish can be "hooked" even where and when you least expect it!

Cynthia J. Ferguson, principal, Crest Hill Christian School

### **Battle Creek Academy students** hold series of meetings

Michigan-Jean Andersen, sixthand seventh-grade teacher at Battle Creek Academy, has a passion for evangelism, and that passion has spilled over into her students. A few years ago, Andersen saw a presentation of the "Truth 4 Youth" evangelistic series for children. The concept piqued her interest, and she began researching the series online.

The "Truth 4 Youth" series is based on research by the Barna Institute which shows that children between the ages of five and 13 are more than five times more likely than adults to make a lifelong commitment to Christ. Produced in conjunction with "Share Him!," formerly a Carolina Conference of Seventh-day Adventists "Global Evangelism" program, "Truth 4 Youth" is a 26-program DVD series, which gives tools and resources to present a full evangelistic program to young people.

Andersen desired to carry the concept one step further. She envisioned her students giving the presentations. With the support of her principal, Elvis Agard, and the pastor of the Battle Creek Tabernacle, Bruce Moore, she ordered the series and presented the idea to her students. Would they be interested in holding a full series of evangelistic meetings for their peers and adults as well? She wasn't disappointed in their reactions.

"They loved the idea, and were very eager to participate," Andersen says. The Battle Creek Tabernacle agreed to



Teacher Jean Anderson and Chloe Smith lead the opening song while Shad Grentz and Brandon Houghatling prepare to speak.

have the "Truth 4 Youth" series as their evangelistic meetings for 2012.

Tabernacle associate pastor, Doug Carlson, and youth pastor, David Tenold, began working with students and editing scripts. They chose to present 16 of the 26 programs. Each program included a script and accompanying PowerPoint slides. The students not only learned their mini-sermons, but also practiced advancing the slides to coordinate with their speech.

Most of the sixth- and seventhgraders had little experience speaking in front of a large audience, but there was little anxiety among the group. They worked hard during and after school, and in the evenings at home as well.

The "Truth 4 Youth" meetings were held in the chapel, at Battle Creek Academy, during the month of February. Sixth- and seventh-grade students also provided the special music, sometimes with the help of family members and other students. The academy chapel was nearly full each night, with guests coming from all of the Battle Creek-area churches. The students found that their passion was contagious. Many attendees expressed their enthusiasm and appreciation for the meetings. "I am so proud

of these students for having the courage to do this." said one.

Another commented, "I loved the simple, but profound, messages." The meetings touched the hearts of many young people and adults, and gave them a better understanding of the character of God and His Son, Jesus.

The participating students also were excited about the outcomes. "I was extremely excited it went so well and that I had this experience," said Chloe Smith.

"I would do it again," added Shad Grentz.

"God has amazing ways He works through people and experiences," said Andersen. Several times, during the meetings, individuals volunteered to help with a specific area before they even knew there was a need. Would she do it again? "Absolutely! Even though it was hard work, we definitely saw God's leading throughout the meetings. It was a tremendous cooperative effort by many, many people. The support was amazing."

> Charlotte Erickson, communication director, Battle Creek Tabernacle

#### [LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

### ACS volunteers rally to help southern Indiana tornado victims

Indiana—Friday, March 2, came as a hungry tiger into southern Indiana with tornadoes bouncing across the lower part of the state. Paths of destruction spanned more than 100 miles. Hundreds of homes, businesses and schools were consumed — some towns almost gone from the map. Many were injured, but the 22 greatest tragedies were fatalities, which included a young family of five.

A 115,000-square-foot warehouse was secured in record time, causing Indiana Conference Adventist Community Services and Disaster Relief director, Allen Currier, to remind those he organized in the relief effort that God has a plan for His children, despite the destruction lying in the world around them.

"Only through God can something like [the relief implementation] happen so quick and on a gentleman's handshake," he said.

Day and night, donations and volunteers poured into the footballsized warehouse. The multi-agency warehouse was set up at 700 Patrol Drive in Jeffersonville, Ind., just north of Louisville, Ky.

This warehouse served as the dropoff location for all donations, from private individuals with a desire to help tornado victims to business, corporate and government contributions. Volunteers sorted, tagged and filled orders, enabling drivers to deliver necessities to distribution points in each county.

While the warehouse served as the link to get resources to the hurting people and exhausted workers in affected counties, it also served as an outlet. The outlet allowed thousands of people around the country to donate, volunteer and participate in the healing process.



Disaster relief volunteers have their work cut out for them as they sort donations into categories, inventory and distribute to various distribution centers around southern Indiana.



On March 2, tornadoes created paths of destruction in Indiana, damaging hundreds of homes, businesses and schools.

In addition to Seventh-day Adventist volunteers, more than 70 from different agencies, including the American Red Cross, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, The Salvation Army and United Way, survivors of the disaster, and other helpers aided relief efforts on Sabbath, March II, some of whom drove more than 500 miles in order to assist.

"I had family in Joplin, [Mo.], when the tornado hit [in May 2011]," said Evansville resident, Jessica Sickman. She organized a semi-truckload of relief items.

One couple volunteered in the warehouse, grateful to be alive after the tornado scraped past them on I-65. Daniel Seidler was driving his semi when the skies turned black and trees bent one way, then another. He closed the curtain to the sleeper to protect his wife, Clarice. They both said, "I love you" to each other, and then prayed. The tornado crossed a quarter-mile ahead of them. They were deeply impacted by the experience and wanted to help. "Most people want to give back. It is what you do for your community," said Daniel.

Others interested in aiding the relief efforts can donate through the Indiana Conference website: http:// www.indysda.org/how-to-donate, or mail donations to the Indiana Conference Headquarters, marked for disaster relief, to P.O. Box 1950, Carmel, IN 46082-1950. Most of all, please pray for those affected and for all of the volunteers. Adventist Community Services in Indiana wants to remain doing what Jesus would have them do: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40 KJV).

Debbie Burns, member, Evansville First SDA Church

### Lake Region members share the gospel with Super **Bowl attendees**

Lake Region—The Eastside Sabbath school friendship evangelism group, in Indianapolis, Ind., decided to get out of their seats, on their feet, and into the street to share their enthusiasm for evangelism.

During the week of the Super Bowl XLVI, in February, Indianapolis experienced six days of extraordinarily beautiful sunshine with 50- to 60-degree temperatures. On the seventh day, Feb. 4, when the group was scheduled to catch the city bus to pass out their prayer pamphlets, the weather changed to rain and was pretty cold. Undeterred, the friendship evangelism group joined forces with the Landmark SDA Church of Indianapolis, braved the inclement weather, caught the bus anyway, and continued on to the Lucas Oil Stadium community, where the volunteers passed out inspirational tracts and spread the Gospel.

As Jesus called His disciples, He said, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37, 38 KJV). Yes,

#### [UNION NEWS]

### **LUC financial** report reveals God's blessings

As an opening note for this report, I would like to register the fact that the Lake Union Conference (LUC) administrators truly believe we are living in the time of the end, and Jesus is soon to return. Consequently, we are intentional about seeking God's wisdom as stewards and using the resources God has entrusted to us to advance our common mission. This mission includes, but is not limited to,

proclaiming to all people the everlasting gospel in the context of the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14:6–12 and leading them to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

truly the harvest is great, and that was

the mission that Sabbath. The crowd

was great, the people were in a festive

ous to the soon coming of Jesus.

mood, and it seemed many were oblivi-

An event greater than any Super

Bowl is about to take place; however,

many seem so unconcerned. This was

out to many of Jesus' children. The

Holy Spirit used this experience to

do more. The joy that the group

an opportunity for the laborers to reach

motivate all the participants to want to

Bowl in February.

The past three-and-a-half years (2008–2011) have been turbulent economically, politically and climatically. With the three factors just cited, this time period has been like none previous for multiple years. The bright side of this picture is the fact that 2012 promises to be stable-tomuch-improved over the experience of 2008-2011.

With the above background in mind, I am delighted to share a brief

experienced was something that can only be known by following Jesus' command to "Go."

The outreach was captured by photographs and video by Pat Taylor from the Landmark Church, who served as the news and videographer for this evangelistic outreach event in Indianapolis. Readers may view some video clips in the Media Library at http://www. herald.lakeunion.org.

> Shirley Wimsatt, communications secretary, Eastside SDA Church

report of the yearend 2011 financial performance of the LUC. Our year-end 2011 tithe increase was 3.22 percent; 2011 had one additional Sabbath as compared to 2010, thereby,

if you equalize the two years, the 2011 increase was 1.22 percent. This increase was the fifth highest of the eight unions within the U.S. footprint (see Graph A on page 34).

World mission fund for year-end 2011 increase was 5.5 percent. If you



The Eastside Sabbath school friendship evangelism group prepare to leave church to pass out tracts at Super

Glynn Scott

#### equalized this increase for the additional Sabbath in 2011 as compared with 2010, the year-end increase was 3.5 percent. This increase was the highest of the eight Unions within the U.S. The commitment to give freewill world mission offerings is important as this speaks to the sacrificial spirit of our membership during these difficult financial times (see Graph B).

In 2011, LUC administration reverted special appropriations back to the local conferences and Andrews University beyond North America Division policy of \$1.9 million. As a result of this cash distribution, our Net Assets declined marginally as of the year-end 2011. Our working capital as of year-end 2011 was 144.7 percent. (NAD requires 100 percent working capital for financial strength and stability.) The LUC Executive Committee has voted to set a floor for working capital at 130 percent, with all additional reserves to be reverted to the local conferences for ministry (see Graph C).

LUC membership has grown 3.4 percent during the past three years (2009–2011), from 81,481 to 84,262; this is a blessing given that more job opportunities are found outside of the LUC footprint than within it.

The unemployment national average for the past three years (2009– 2011) was 9.3 percent, while the LUC territory unemployment average for the same three years was 9.7 percent. Again, given the economical headwinds, the LUC year-end financial report is truly the result of God's blessings.

The above highlighted year-end financial performance is absolutely a testament to the blessing of the great God whom we serve and the faithful stewardship of our membership. As we await the soon and second return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, may we all resolve to be faithful stewards committing our all for the building up of His Kingdom.

> Glynn Scott, treasurer, Lake Union Conference



#### **GRAPH B**



2011/2010 by Union



### Percent of Working Capital

(Unallocated only. 2007-2010 after appopriations)



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

#### **Andrews University**

#### 2012 Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop: Registration is open for this workshop, scheduled for Aug. 5-10. Registration closes July 25; limited to 60 participants. The workshop, sponsored by the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, focuses on the skillful use of natural remedies, water and nutrition in times of illness and health. This five-day workshop involves 30 hours of lectures and demonstrations. along with hands-on labs. All participants who successfully complete the workshop will receive a certificate of achievement. Graduate credit is available for M.A., M.Div. and MAPMin students. Fee charged; repeat attendees and spouses are entitled to 50 percent workshop fee discount (labs only if not full). For additional information, visit http://www.andrews.edu/go/ nrhw/ or email fran@andrews.edu.

#### Indiana

**Hoosier Chapter ASM:** Former members and friends of the Hoosier Chapter, ASM, will be held at Timber Ridge Camp the weekend of **May 11-12**. We look forward to seeing old friends. For further information, contact Cindy Hamilton at 812-620-8126.

Lake Union

#### Offerings

May 5Local Church BudgetMay 12Disaster & Famine ReliefMay 19Local Church BudgetMay 26Local Conference AdvanceSpecial DaysMay 5Community Services SabbathMay 12Youth SabbathMay 19Single Adults Sabbath

#### Michigan

"Forks over Knives": Documentary showing Tuesday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m., in the Battle Creek Tabernacle Seminar room. The major storyline traces the personal journeys of Dr. T. Colin Campbell, a nutritional scientist from Cornell University, and Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn Jr., a former top surgeon at the world-renowned Cleveland Clinic. Inspired by remarkable discoveries in their young careers, their separate research led them to the same startling conclusion: Degenerative diseases like heart disease, type 2 diabetes and even several forms of cancer, could almost always be prevented - and in many cases reversed - by adopting a whole foods, plant-based diet (http://www.forksoverknives. com/about/synopsis/). Admission charged. Documentary admission plus small fee to cover expenses gives admittance to additional three-part education sessions which includes 200+ page book with 125 recipes. Program completed May 22, 29 and June 5 at 6:30 p.m. R.S.V.P. to 269-0962-1132.

"Ye Olde Cedar Lake Academy Reunion" will take place June 8-10 at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich., for alumni and warmlywelcomed schoolmates of 1962 and earlier. Honor classes: 1932, '42, '52, '62. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. Also, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181; or visit http://www.GLAA. net for further information. Please do pass the good word.

#### **North American Division**

Tillamook Adventist School in Tillamook, Ore., invites past students, faculty and friends to a weekend celebration of 75 years of Christian education May 18-20 at the school campus. Special rates at Ashley Inn; call 503-842-7599. For more information, visit http://www.TillamookAdventist School.org, join Tillamook Adventist School Alumni Facebook group or call 503-842-6533.

The Madison College Alumni Association Homecoming will be June 22, 23 and 24, honoring classes 1942, '47, '52, '57 and '62. Also invited are those who attended Madison College or Madison College Academy, and the Anesthesia School. There will be activities and meals beginning Fri. evening and continuing through Sun. morning at the Madison Academy campus. For more information, contact Henry Scoggins, president, at 615-919-7767, or Jim Culpepper, secretary/treasurer, at 615-415-1925.

First NAD Adventist Muslim Relations Training and Networking Weekend: Are you interested in reaching out to your Muslim neighbors? Have you ever wondered how our Adventist theology of mission can be applied to the Muslim context in North America? Would you like to be trained by practitioners who will be presenting the field-tested fruitful practices they have discovered? If so, this first NAD AMR training and networking weekend is for you! Dates: **July 26-29**. Location: Heritage Academy, Tenn. Space is limited, so register early to reserve your place. For more information, contact Heidi Guttschuss at Heidi.NADAMR@ gmail.com or 404-558-4682.

Frederick (Maryland) Seventh-day Adventist Church 100th Anniversary Celebration will take place Oct. 5-6. Event begins Fri. evening, 7:00 p.m., with light supper, fellowship and communion with God. Sabbath includes: Sabbath school, 9:15 a.m.; worship service, 11:00 a.m., with Lonnie Melashenko; lunch; historical tour of former church sites; and 3:30 p.m. organ concert by acclaimed organist, Van Knauss. For more information, contact Ann Damazo at 301-662-5366 or Alberta Reed at 301-662-6769; email fred ericksda@gmail.com; or visit website: http://fredericksdachurch.org. Please contact us if you are planning to attend.

#### Wisconsin

8th Annual Wisconsin Academy Motorcycle Rally Location: Milwaukee area, dates: July 20-22, combining with the weekend at the Swanderosa. For more information, visit http://www. cruisin4christ.org/.

### Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27	Jun 3	Jun 10
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:49	8:56	9:03	9:09	9:14	9:19
Chicago, Ill.	7:55	8:02	8:09	8:15	8:20	8:25
Detroit, Mich.	8:37	8:45	8:52	8:58	9:04	9:08
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:44	8:50	8:57	9:03	9:08	9:12
La Crosse, Wis.	8:14	8:22	8:29	8:36	8:41	8:46
Lansing, Mich.	8:44	8:52	8:59	9:05	9:11	9:16
Madison, Wis.	8:04	8:12	8:19	8:26	8:31	8:36
Springfield, Ill.	7:58	8:05	8:11	8:17	8:22	8:26

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

#### Weddings

Melanie Towar and Micheal Goetz were married Oct. 24, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Dan Towar and Chris Holland, pastors.

Melanie is the daughter of Dan and Patsy Towar of Lansing, Mich., and Micheal is the son of Mike and Cheryl Goetz of Tenmile, Ore.

The Goetzes are making their home in Berrien Springs.

**Cora Jean Scribner and George S. Haley** were married Oct. 9, 2011, in Dowagiac, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Travis Smith, pastor.

Cora Jean is the daughter of Ira R. and the late Cora Parker of Ionia, Mich., and George is the son of George and Mattie Haley of Dowagiac.

The Haleys are making their home in Dowagiac.

Lynette Hillmon and Ted Quinty were married Sept. 19, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Dan Towar, pastor.

Lynette is the daughter of Leray and Sandra Hillmon of Stevensville, Mont., and Ted is the son of Ted and Dorothy Quinty of Portland, Mich.

The Quintys are making their home in Berrien Springs.

Donna Papendick and Joseph Scaravilli were married Nov. 18, 2011, in Cedar Lake, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Ralph Williams, pastor.

Donna is the daughter of Harry H. and Edith Pierce of Mio, Mich., and Joseph is the son of Vito and Theresa Scaravilli of Chicago, III.

The Scaravillis are making their home in Cedar Lake.

#### **Obituaries**

ANDERSON, Eleanor P. (Magnat), age 90; born Sept. 10, 1921; died Dec. 25, 2011, in Fremont, Mich. She was a member of the Wright Church, Coopersville, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Frank Jr., Roland, Raymond, Donnie and Terry; and daughters, Beverly Harris and Margaret Schmidt.

Funeral services were conducted by Jim Micheff Jr., pastor, and interment was in Croton Twp. (Mich.) Cemetery.

CLARK, E. June (Harvey), age 83; born June 8, 1928, in Detroit, Mich.; died Jan. 22, 2012, in Lenox, Mich. She was a member of the New Haven (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Robert; son, Howard B. Filburn; daughters, Kathleen Freeman and BeeJay Douglas; 11 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren. Memorial services were conducted by David Gotshall, pastor, with private

**GRISMORE, Dennis B.**, age 72; born Oct. 1, 1939, in Bunker Hill, Ind.; died Feb. 20, 2012, in Bunker Hill. He was a member of the Kokomo (Ind.) Church.

inurnment.

Survivors include his wife, Nenieta (Cueno); son, Rocky A.; brothers, Rex and Galen; sisters, Patricia Schwartz, Joanne Bentjen and Marcia Wilson; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Javier Quiles, pastor, and interment was in Springdale Cemetery, Bunker Hill.

HARRISON, George Z. "Jack," age 80; born Mar. 7, 1931, in Danville, III.; died Feb. 3, 2012, in Hendersonville, N.C. He was a member of the Bethel Church, Arpin, Wis. His service in the Lake Union area included personnel manager for the Mid-America Nursing Homes, Wis., and principal of Joliet (III.) Church School and Bethel (Wis.) Junior High.

Survivors include his wife, Neda (Kingman); son, Shawn; daughters, Sharon Metcalf and Sandy Sanders; brother, Ben; four granddaughters; and one great-grandson.

Private inurnment took place in Fletcher, N.C.

HATHAWAY, Dorothy J. (Anderson), age 81; born Aug. 12, 1930, in Ottertail Cty., Minn.; died Feb. 16, 2012, in Berrien Center, Mich. She was a member of the Eau Claire (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Kathy Hathaway; and sisters, Betty Anderson and Lillian McMichael.

Private inurnment took place in Berrien Center.

JONES, Bertha Mae (Dennis), age 89; born Jan. 14, 1922, in Memphis, Tenn.; died March 27, 2011, in Warren, Mich. She was a member of the Ecorse (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Clinton Sr. and Bennell S.; daughters, Bertha Jones, Courtney Whitehead, Lois Jones, Phyllis Ann Dunson, Vivian G. Jones and Carolyn Charleston; stepdaughter, Lucille Smith; brother, O.D. Dennis; 46 grandchildren; 30+ great-grandchildren; and 20+ greatgreat-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by William E. Hughes, pastor, and interment was in Rose Lawn Cemetery, Berkley, Mich.

MILLIGAN, Beverly A. (Robinson), age 75; born June 10, 1936, in Onaway, Mich.; died Dec. 20, 2011, in Alpena, Mich. She was a member of the Alpena Church.

Survivors include her sons, Darrel, Bill and Doug; daughter, Kathy Kolson; mother, Claris Robinson; brothers, Donald and Dale Robinson; sister, Diana Nessel; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by David Austin, pastor, and interment was in Hillcrest Cemetery, Onaway.

NASH, LeBurta (Guthrie), age 90; born Feb. 9, 1922, in Edenville, Mich.; died Feb. 12, 2012, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her sons, William and Lyndon; daughters, Wanda Sheppler Murdick, Juanita Sheppler and Marla Norton; sisters, Jane Hallock and Johanna Simpson; 14 grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Ariel Roldan, pastor, with private inurnment in Berrien Cty., Mich.

**ROUSE, Raymond R.,** age 81; born Aug. 13, 1930, in Elm Creek, Neb.; died March 7,

2012, in Avon Park, Fla. He was a member of the Hinsdale (III.) Church. His service in the Lake Union included secretary/treasurer of the Indiana Conference (1972-1977) and treasurer of the Illinois Conference (1977-1986).

Survivors include his wife, Darlene (Herr); son, Arden; daughter, Darla Erhard; sisters, Wilma Gromer and Dorothy Huenergardt; three grandchildren; and three greatgrandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted March 31, 2012, and interment was in Bougainvillea Cemetery, Avon Park.

SCHOENHERR, Mildred (Stratton) Simo, age 96; born Mar. 25, 1915, in Nashville, Tenn.; died Jan. 11, 2012, in Dixon, III. She was a member of the Princeton (III.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Richard; son, David Simo; stepson, Richard Schoenherr Jr.; daughters, Vicky Schenberg and Belinda Wells; half-sisters, Eileen Rutberg and Rose Titcheff; 15 step-grandchildren; and 18 step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Joe Arner, pastor, with private inurnment.

SHEPARD, Kathryn F. (Roberts), age 95; born Aug. 28, 1915, in Idaho Falls, Idaho; died May 8, 2011, in Riverview, Mich. She was a member of the Ecorse (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Robert Jr., Brian and Sylvester; daughters, Gayle Kimmey, Loretta Thomas, Shirley Fuquay, Jennifer Washington and Monica Johnson; 22 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; and 19 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by William E. Hughes, pastor, and Errol Liverpool, and interment was in United Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Plymouth, Mich.

VANBUSKIRK, Shirley J. (Roberts), age 82; born July 7, 1929, in Clare, Mich.; died Nov. 13, 2011, in Clare. She was a member of the Clare Church.

Survivors include her sons, John L., Mitchell O. and Rand C.; daughter, Linda Ann Burkhard; sister, Barbara Wright; 12 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Russell Thomas, pastor, and interment was in Gillmore Twp. Cemetery, Farwell, Mich. All classified ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$35 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$45 per insertion for all others. A form is available at http://www.LakeUnionHerald.org for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order or check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at http://www.LakeUnionHerald.org.

#### **Miscellaneous**

#### **DIABETES, CANCER, HBP, WEIGHT LOSS:**

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WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE RENEWAL & WEIGHT MANAGEMENT: Programs focus on lifestyle change, health education, hands-on cooking and exercise. 14day sessions: May 20-June 3 and June 10-24, cost: \$740. Upcoming seminar, "Country Living," July 15-29, cost: \$370. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. For more information, contact Darlene Keith at 931-724-6706; visit http://www. wildwoodhealthretreat.org; or email darlenekeith@gmail.com.

ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION FLY-IN: Sabbath, May 26, Bob Folkenberg will preach at the Waukesha (Wis.) SDA Church. AWA missionaries, the LaBores, will share stories in the afternoon. Sun., May 27, AWA will host a fly-in breakfast (\$8.00) at the McDermott Airpark 31 WI (200 Main St., Sullivan, Wis.). For more information, contact Richard Habenicht at dickhabe@gmail.com.

#### **Employment**

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** seeks graduate faculty to join our missionfocused team as we launch a new DNP program. Candidate must hold current family/adult NP certification. Requisite qualities include interest in research, successful teaching experience, flexibility, and commitment to nursing and SDA education. The candidate must be a member in good and regular standing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Doctorate required. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Holly Gadd at hgadd@southern.edu or SAU School of Nursing, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370.

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# Classifieds

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LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY is seeking an experienced, strategic leader with the

capacity to guide central academic and student information operations for the position of University Registrar. Qualifications: A master's degree is required with a minimum of three years of leadership experience in a registrar's office or related university or high school position in which the candidate worked with academic information and oversight of operations; doctoral degree preferred. For more information, see posting at http://www.lasierra.edu/index. php?id=8375.

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT: The Illinois Conference seeks a committed Adventist human resources assistant with a bachelor's degree in a related field. See job description at http:// www.illinoisadventist.org/employ ment. This fulltime position is to be filled by June 2012. For additional information, call 630-856-2880 or email kahn@illinoisadventist.org.

#### **Real Estate/Housing**

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#### UPPER PENINSULA, MICHIGAN, HOME FOR

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# Classifieds



with GOD Someone Could Get Killed

BY GARY BURNS



Recently, my daughter, Josie, and I had the privilege to don our hoodies and participate in a silent march to prayer stations on the Andrews University campus. Quiet time causes one to reflect. My heart goes out to Trayvon Martin's family, and all who live under the cloud of fear for no other reason than they don't look like me.

I remember, back in 1976, when I was directing a TV show with a Christian recording artist. We arranged free guest accommodations for him in a beautiful mansion estate. Not thinking, I neglected to alert the estate security and police that our guest was an African-American. Seeing a Black man inside the mansion that night, on their rounds, they immediately activated full deployment; the place was surrounded, and I was called in to verify his identity.

The incident did not result in any physical tragedy to our guest, and he responded to the threat, embarrassment and humiliation with the grace of Christ. But I get sick to my stomach every time I think about what I put him through by not being cognizant and sensitive to the realities that he lived with every day. And if something had gone drastically wrong, it would have been because of my contentment with negligence and ignorance. I am thankful for the enlightening experience; for though I had not thought of myself as racist, I was content to live without understanding. And this applies not just to race, but all our differences - whether political, social-economic, religious, etc. It is time for change in partnership with God. Someone could get killed!

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

# ONE VOICE [YOUNG ADULTS SPEAK THEIR MIND]

# Faith in the Face of Disability

laina and Amanda. The only things I knew for sure about these two campers were that they were visually impaired, and that, in years past, they blew past staff with endless amounts of enthusiasm and energy. Our week for the blind at Timber Ridge Camp is always exciting and fun. As I approached the registration table, I knew Blind Camp was shaping up to be quite eventful. Alaina was already preparing a piece for the annual talent show, and Amanda was so excited to see all the returning staff. I couldn't keep them both in the same spot for more than a couple of seconds!

The girls' excitement only intensified throughout the week. Every day, we found ourselves in an adventure that taught me a little more about myself as well as what the girls were capable of doing. By the end of the week, we were inseparable, like The Three Musketeers. We were ready to tackle anything together.

As their counselor, I received a blessing as I saw a unique side of the girls. During the day, Alaina and Amanda were flamboyant and

extremely sociable. We very rarely saw a scowl on either face. But, at night, when no other ears could hear, they opened up to me, and it broke my heart.

Most people don't realize how much a child is affected by the physical impairments that life has handed them. Since they often seem happy, we forget that the inside may not be as content, that they are still hurting. I admired the optimistic outlook of my campers, in spite of the difficulties they had encountered. Their continuing trust in God made me ashamed to think how small my own problems were in comparison, and how poor my attitude was.

The girls continually surprised me with their spiritual insights. "Heaven, the land where we all will be healed," was



Amanda's favorite subject of conversation. It brought tears to my eyes to see how animated they became during our talks about this place where sin will be no more.

Since that summer, I changed my major to special education. I believe God wants me to work with kids who have special needs; not only because I have something to give to them, but because they give me so much as well. When I think that I can't possibly be the right person for the

job, I think of Amanda and Alaina who helped me realize my life is not my own, I constantly need to give it to God. As for Alaina and Amanda, we're still friends, and I look forward to visiting with them every summer at Timber Ridge Camp.

Sarah Fruth, 22, is a member at the Cicero (Indiana) Church. She attends IUPUI where she pursues a dual license in Elementary and Special Education. She spends one day a week at Cicero SDA Elementary School, where she works with first- and second-graders, teaching them movement and health.

Blind camps at Timber Ridge Camp, and at other camps nationwide, are sponsored by Christian Record Services for the Blind, a General Conference ministry that "helps the blind see Jesus" in more than 80 countries around the world. See http://www.christianrecord.org.

# ON THE EDGE ... where faith meets action A Year with God

#### **BY ASHLEIGH JARDINE**

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. —1 Corinthians 15:58 ESV

shok Willmott says his decision to be a missionary was "all God." "Even though I had my best year at Andrews my sophomore year, I knew I was putting other things in front of God," he says. "I wanted to get out of the U.S. and figure out my relationship with Him. God really made it happen."



Ashok has spent the 2011–2012 school year as a student dean at Vejlefjordskolen Academy in Denmark. He says God is using the experience to teach him to serve others and to live life to the fullest.

Mike, Ashok Willmot and Mikkel

Ashok was one of ten student missionaries who arrived in Denmark in August 2011. The group has spent the year "being

kids," says Ashok, and building relationships with students. On a typical day, Ashok drives students into town, plays sports, laughs and spends time with them. He also directs chores and does night checks in the dorm, morning wake-ups and monthly worships.

"I didn't think I'd be this involved spiritually or in sports," he says. "Playing sports is a big way I connect with the kids."

Ashok also didn't expect to connect so well with the students, particularly Mike.

Mike, a ninth-grader, struggled at the beginning of the school year. He was temperamental, angry and had a bad attitude, says Ashok. He also got in trouble a lot and didn't seem to care.

Ashok took Mike under his wing and learned of his troubles at home. Years earlier, Mike's dad left his mother when she refused to have an abortion. The missing fatherson relationship was hurtful and confused the teenager. As the school year progressed, however, people noticed a change in Mike's behavior. He aced his classes and smiled more; he even attended Bible studies with Ashok. The two spend regular time together — talking, playing basketball and growing in their faith.

"Since the first day I met Mike, we became friends," says Ashok. "He's changed a lot in the last few months. Even though he's five years younger than me, he's teaching me things."

Although Ashok misses his family and friends, he knows God put him in Denmark. Visit http://www.awillmott.tumblr.com/ to read of his other "Adventures in Denmark."

Ashleigh Jardine is a freelance writer from Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she is majoring in physical therapy at Andrews University.

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