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In this issue...

ne of the things I like about living in Berrien Springs is how connected I feel to our world church. With a hundred nations at my doorstep, I have the opportunity to learn how the church is growing in other parts of the world and how God is at work in the lives of people from different political situations.

When we don't have contact with the global church, we have difficulty accepting the idea that there could be more to Adventism than what we know. That's why going on short-term mission trips, sponsoring missionaries or orphaned children, participating in a relief project, supporting world missions or global ministries helps us to see our church from Heaven's perspective.



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WRIGHT, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE

t was July 1969. There were 183 of us gathered in the concourse at Dulles International Airport waiting to board a World Airways flight for Zurich, Switzerland, for the Seventh-day Adventist World Youth Congress. We watched on airport monitors as Neil Armstrong took his "one small step."

Upon arriving at the Hollenstadium in Zurich, we were greeted with a huge banner proclaiming "Welcome" in about fifteen different languages. The Sabbath services afforded us the privilege of hearing a youth choir from Poland that had only been given clearance to leave their country at the last minute by their Communist government. Those kids left Poland with the equivalent of \$1.50 each, but oh, did they sing with fervor! My own Dale Wright Memorial Concert Choir had also been invited by the General Conference (G.C.) to perform on that same stage.

Robert H. Pierson, G.C. president, spoke and his message was translated into several languages. A handful of representatives, from a movement that over the years had dedicated itself to the conversion and general harassment of Adventists, attempted to distribute its literature among the Sabbath crowd on the plaza outside the stadium. Thousands of us youth surrounded them, and began to ... sing to them! We sang, "Do Lord," "Give Me Oil in My Lamp," and many other favorites. It was interesting to see our uninvited guests frustrated by our love.

We slept in Swiss-built high schools on Swiss-made army cots. I remember one night, after the lights had been turned off, voices drifted out of the darkness from the room where about 60 of us were sprawled. The voices spoke in English with heavily-tinged accents from around the world. We talked half the night away as we explored our national differences and our unity of one faith. It was exciting! We were getting to know each other, in the darkness that made us all the same.

I am not sure which of these experiences made me realize what an awesome church the Advent movement is. Maybe it was a combination of all of them. We ate, slept, prayed, sang, and all experienced ice-cold, bone-chilling showers. And for at least ten days, we were impressed with the fact that we were one.

Now, there are approximately 13 million of us world-wide and efforts like the recent Hope for Our Day are designed to bring more into the family. Will you continue to help?

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

VEW MEMBERS

attended an evangelistic series sponsored by the Hammond (Ind.) Church. The dynamic speaker was Mike Troxell, former Hammond pastor. June attended every meeting. Although Joe missed a few, they were both very impressed by what they heard.



From left: Allen Shepherd, Hammond pastor, presents June Carroll and Joe Carpen certificates of membership.

They learned new insights into Bible prophecies and truths they never understood before. June attended Hess-ville Christian Church, and Joe attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, but they were so deeply impressed with what they learned that they visited the Hammond Adventist Church one Sabbath.

They were warmly welcomed by the congregation and asked to come back again. They have continued to worship with Hammond members; the congregation's warmth and affection for them has grown and become irresistible.

Allen Shepherd, Hammond pastor, approached June and Joe several times and asked what their thoughts were about joining the church. June and Joe recently had time to reflect on what they had learned and decided it was time to become members of the Hammond Church. On October 16, 2004, they joined by profession of faith. Today, they rejoice they are members of this friendly congregation and desire to continue to study and grow spiritually.

Joe Carpen and Joyce Jackna, Hammond communication leader, as told to Bruce Babienco, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent



Jim and Ginny Wery

Indiana Jim and I (Ginny Wery) began dating in June 1962. One evening the subject of religion came up. Jim said I probably had never heard of his church, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and he was right. The very next evening I headed for the library to do some research about Adventists. I learned how to make Jim's visits more comfortable at my home as I learned about the Adventist healthy lifestyle.

Jim and I married in 1963. When our first child arrived, we attended the Methodist church in our little town and continued there for the next thirty years.

Jim came home from work one Friday evening and said he planned to attend the Adventist Church the next morning. It put a great strain on both of us. However, our love for the Lord and each other got us through those tough times.

I had felt spiritually empty for several years. I tried doing more things at my church, spent more time reading my Bible and other religious materials, but nothing seemed to help.

One day, I saw a television advertisement for a series of meetings about Daniel and Revelation. I thought this might be something Jim would be interested in so I mentioned it to him. He proceeded to tell me his church was sponsoring the meetings. When he asked if I would like to go, I said "Yes." I attended all but three meetings, and even went by myself.

Looking back, I believe the Lord has been working on me for 42 years. I know Jim's family has been praying for me. Jim never pushed me, but I think he was nudging me a little each day. I am happy to say I am now baptized. It may have taken me a long time to make this decision, but the Lord never gave up on me. He knows I won't ever give up on Him.

Ginny Wery, First Seventh-day Adventist Church of South Bend member, as told to Bruce Babienco, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

Wisconsin "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'" (Isaiah 52:7)

This is exactly what Ric Swaningson, an evangelist, and the Green Bay (Wisconsin) Church did from September 10–October 6 when they hosted this year's evangelistic outreach, Adventures in Prophecy. The ministry was enriched on several occasions with guest vocalist Annette Campbell and violinist Gary McAleer. DeWayne Butcher, a physician, also gave timely health lectures in the series. Their

joys were great as they witnessed a harvest of fourteen baptisms, two rebaptisms, and one profession of faith.

One of the attendees, Bev Sanville, had been watching Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) in her Manitowoc home. One day, as she was driving through town, she noticed a yard sign advertising an upcoming meeting. The signs, a creative advertising method, were provided by the Green Bay Church to display on members' lawns. She drove over 80 miles round trip each evening to listen to the presentations. She followed her heart and head and was baptized the evening of October 16, 2004, by Delmar Austin, Green Bay pastor.

Greg and Wendy Larson,

devoted Lutherans, were

familiar with the Adventist faith. They had supported their daughter, Heather, when she chose to marry Bryan Davis, a lifetime member of the Green Bay Church. Heather became an Adventist because of the Bible truths she learned. The Larsons were present to help Heather when she became the Home and School leader, and started undertaking many local school projects. The Larsons also attended Sabbath worship services on various occasions. They became disheartened with their Lutheran faith as they watched their church compromise biblical teaching over the issue of homosexuality.

Greg and Wendy attended the Adventures in Prophecy series on a regular basis. The messages helped confirm their decision to follow the Bible and be baptized. They are already inviting and escorting their friends to worship services on Sabbath.

Andy Seidl had been watching 3ABN for several years when he heard about the Adventures in Prophecy series and

decided to attend. When the Sabbath truth was presented he felt strongly convicted he should observe it as God intended. even though his present job required him to work on Saturdays. Though he had concerns about what might happen, Andy nevertheless decided to be faithful to God's Word and began keeping the biblical Sabbath. Since then, he has not worked on the Sabbath and is

> Evangelistic ings are a tremendous yet exciting undertaking for any church to host. Sacrifices are made by those who choose to follow the soft beckoning voice of

now negotiating with

his boss about whether

or not he will be able to

keep his job. He may dis-

cover the Lord has a bet-

ter plan waiting for him.

the Holy Spirit inviting them to be a part of God's program for gathering His children during public meetings. Yet, they will find lasting joy as they walk through eternity, always greeting those for whom they labored—the precious individuals who gave their hearts and lives to Jesus and found a glorious Savior.

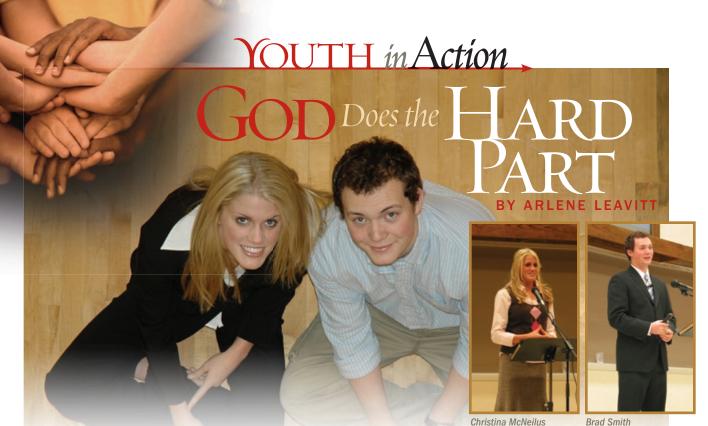


From left: Wendy and Greg Larson with Delmar Austin, Green Bay pastor



The Green Bay (Wis.) Church family welcomed seventeen new members.

Becky Kraft, Green Bay communications leader, with Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent



rad Smith and Christina McNeilus, both seniors at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA), had an opportunity this fall to see God at work close up and first hand. In the process, they received training that extended well outside the classroom walls.

They looked forward to sharing the love of Jesus with students at Central Michigan University (CMU) realizing that it would be challenging and exciting, but stepping into the shoes of a gospel preacher was another thing.

With their confidence in God and what He would accomplish, they shared messages of hope on the campus each evening from October 1 through November 6. But they weren't the only ones who got to participate in what God was about to do on that campus. Other GLAA students provided special music, greeted visitors, helped with children's programming, and organized additional aspects of the outreach ministry.

Jacob Mayer, a senior, said, "While working behind the scenes, I was able to see hearts and lives being changed as the attendees came night after night. I believe God used Brad and Christina to change the lives of many—and He changed mine, too."

The students got to meet a total of 60 new friends from the community during the meetings, ten have made a decision to be baptized and are studying further with Darren Greenfield, Mt. Pleasant (Mich.) Church pastor. Several others have expressed an interest in learning more from the Bible. One new friend Brad and Christina made was Dan. He told them that he attends all religious meetings held at CMU, yet it was at these meetings he felt God's Spirit move his heart.

A student preparing to become a Jesuit priest told Brad and Christina he believed they were speaking the truth from the Bible and he had no choice but to follow what he learned from them. He was baptized on December 4, 2004.

Cindy Peterson, a Bible teacher at GLAA, was enthusiastic about the students' involvement in evangelism. On the closing night of the meetings, she exclaimed, "I didn't wear anything with buttons tonight, because I know they might burst!"

Christina discovered that publicly sharing the love of Jesus is life-changing. She remarked, "Through this evangelistic series, Brad and I were supposed to be witnessing to other people, but instead, the experience has impacted my life and made me understand why I serve the Lord. My life will never be the same."

Brad admitted, "This evangelistic series was difficult at times. Sometimes I didn't even want to get up and speak. But time and again God gave me strength, and showed me that He was in control; He was the One that was doing the hard part. I was just a page turner."

"Those who taught others wisely will shine as the brightness of the firmament and those who led many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever" (Daniel 12:3, The Clear Word).

Arlene Leavitt is the Great Lakes Adventist Academy assistant development director.

BEYOND our BORDERS

Tuning in to God's Call

REMARKABLE MINISTRY COMBINATION

BY DIANE THURBER

ore than half a century ago H.M.S. Richards, the illustrious founder of the *Voice of Prophecy* radio ministry, made an official visit to Australia. At the time, Adrian Peterson, a comparatively new Adventist, was training for ministry at Avondale College.

He was invited to a specially-called worker's meeting where pastors could meet Richards. Peterson turned to an older pastor

and asked, "Why is the Voice of Prophecyl broadcast only on mediumwave (AM)? There is a massive audience out there tuned into the stations on the air in the international shortwave bands, why is the Voice of Prophecyl not on the air to this huge global audience?" The pastor replied, "I don't know. Go and ask him (Richards)."

"How could I—a new Adventist, a pastor in translator and he training, and a colonial at that—approach a noble man of such illustrious stature?" he thought. Timidly, Peterson picked up his courage and approached Richards. To his surprise he found him to be very approachable and quite friendly. Peterson told Richards of his growing involvement in the international radio world and asked him the same question, "Why is the Voice of Prophecy not on the air to the global audience on shortwave?"

Richards replied, "This has also been my dream for many years. The *Voice of Prophecy* was on the air shortwave at one stage during the war," he added, "from the large stations in California that relayed programming from *Voice of America* to American forces in the Pacific."

Richards pointed his finger at Peterson and challenged him with an unanswerable mandate: "Why don't you make this your life-long ministry?" Awesome concept! Gospel ministry linked with international radio broadcasting—what a remarkable combination!

Since then, God has provided many opportunities for Peterson to respond to Richards' challenge. He eventually was transferred to Southern Asia to work in media ministry, preparing programming for broadcast on shortwave to other countries in Asia. He was also invited to head up the Southern Asia Division international radio ministry in Poona, India, which became Adventist World Radio in Asia (AWR-Asia).

After nearly two decades of service in Asia, political changes took place, and Peterson accepted an invitation to transfer to the United States



translator and his family in Malaya.

for service in the same two areas—international radio and pastoral ministry.

"It has been my privilege to travel to Asia and other parts of the world for Adventist World Radio, and also to conduct





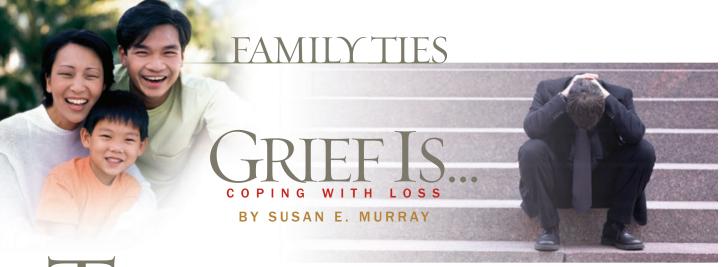
Individuals await baptism after a series of meetings in India

evangelistic efforts overseas," he said. Speaking appointments have taken him to international radio conventions in the Americas, Europe, Asia, and the South Pacific. Peterson has also preached to descendants of headhunters in Borneo, open-eyed villagers in Pakistan, huge crowds in India, and to new Christians in Malaya.

Peterson is the international relations coordinator for Adventist World Radio and has the distinction of having the longest continuous association with the organization.

"I am grateful for short-term mission opportunities in other countries," he said, "and enjoy pastoral ministry in a local Indiana church—a remarkable combination indeed."

Diane Thurber is the Lake Union Herald managing editor.



he pain of grief is just as much a part of life as the joy of love; it is, perhaps, the price we pay for love, the cost of commitment. In this new year, grief will likely come to each one of us in some way. I invite you to consider these thoughts about grief:

Grief is a natural, normal, and understandable reaction to losing a beloved person. It varies from person to person and is expressed through a wide range of emotions, thoughts, and behavior.

Grief is often characterized as acute "pangs," evoked by reminders of the loss. A pang of grief may be sadness, severe anxiety, or yearning to be with our loved one again. We want to experience the affection, guidance, reassurance, and companionship provided by the relationship. During these pangs of grief, those who are grieving often weep for their lost loved one, and that's okay.

Grief is a beneficial and necessary reaction to significant loss. Grief should not be regarded as undesirable or destructive. Although grief reactions may be distressing, especially at first, they also provide comfort, reassurance, and relief.

Grief is both public and private. Obituaries, the funeral, formal and informal conversations—these are the public rituals that help us remember, honor, and reflect on the life and contributions of our loved one, while acknowledging the reality of their death. The private side is highly personal and involves our private thoughts, feelings, and personal rituals. These can include dreaming about the person, yearning for his smile, trying to be more like the person, doing what would make her proud.

Grief is symbolic. We miss the physical presence and the things the relationship gave us. We can miss the love, affection, companionship, sense of belonging, information, advice, and reassurance that individual contributed to our lives. Grief reflects the uniqueness, personal meaning, and value we experienced in the relationship.

Grief is dynamic; it fluctuates over time. It's a process of ongoing adjustment and adaptation. Grief reactions don't typically decrease over time in an orderly fashion. They fluctuate in their frequency and intensity. Fluctuation in our grieving is often due to loss reminders or situations and circumstances that remind us of our loved one's presence.

Grief is often an extended process. Our grief for a person is likely to last as long as we feel the absence of that person and the lost relationship. These reactions can last for months, years, decades, and often a lifetime. Healthy grieving does not require forgetting.

Grief is remembering. It is not about forgetting or cutting off our emotional ties to the person who is gone. It helps us make the necessary emotional, mental, and physical adjustments to the loss that will help us get on with our lives. A major part of this work is finding a suitable place for our loved one in our ongoing life. We could say the relationship needs to be re-formed so it becomes one of memory instead of physical presence. This permits us to create new and rewarding relationships and life activities.

There is no universally "normal" way to grieve. To say that grieving is a predictable and consistent progression through a series of universal stages is misleading. We now understand that the grief process is highly variable in its symptoms and intensity—across individuals and cultures.

In the end, we all have this promise from Revelation 21:4—"He will wipe away all tears from our eyes, and there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain. All of that has gone forever" (TLB).

Susan Murray is an associate professor of behavioral science and social work at Andrews University.

HEALTHY CHOICES

On Your Mark, Get Set-Go!

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

aking new year resolutions can be fun; keeping them may be something else. In January, many Americans resolve to go on a diet to lose some extra pounds they have gained. Some resolve to begin a regular exercise program and endeavor to maintain a healthier lifestyle.

As the holiday season is over and the new year begins, these resolutions appear to be needed more than ever. Especially when we see that two out of every three adult Americans are overweight.

But which diet is the best? The marketplace contains a host of diets, all promising quick and wonderful results. With names like Sugar Busters, Protein Power, Fit for Life, South Beach, Eat More and Weigh Less, Slim Fast, and the Hollywood Diet, losing weight never sounded so easy and so much fun as now. But are these diets safe and reliable? Can they guarantee one to lose 20 pounds over the next six months, and to keep it off for the next five to ten years?

The media has done an effective job promoting low-carb diets such as *Atkins* and *South Beach*. Carbs have been presented as being the real villains. While these low-carb diets can provide a quick fix with measurable weight loss over the first few months, they are really unsafe and unhealthful diets over the long haul.

Carbohydrate-bashing has become popular in the press, but the overwhelming evidence of science suggests that a high fiber, high starch diet (containing slow-release carbs), which is modest in both fat and protein and low in saturated fat and cholesterol, is the most healthful diet. This is actually the very opposite of the *Atkins* diet, which allows you to eat all of the high fat foods you wish.

One of the secrets to successful weight loss is portion control. Many people are really unaware how much they actually eat, due to super-sizing and portion distortion in the fast-food industry. Over the past 20 years, the average

Losing weight never sounded so easy and so much fun!

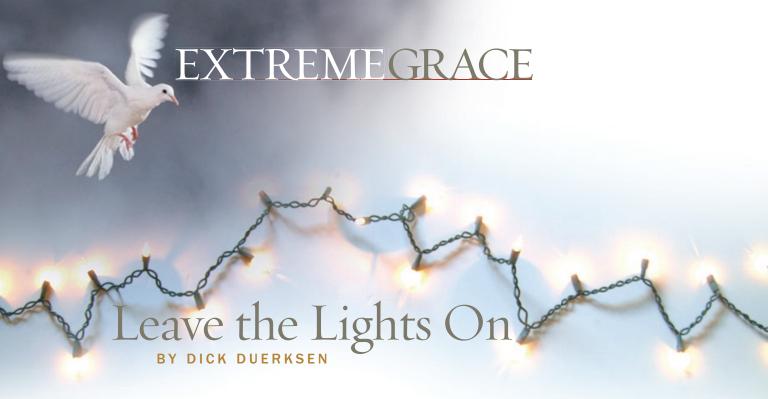


food portion size has increased from about 50 to 135 calories, while the average beverage serving has increased from eight to 20 ounces. Smaller servings should be the order of the day.

Furthermore, it is important that we remove from our desks, cars, cupboards, and purses all easy-to-grab, quick-to-consume, high-calorie snack foods and drinks. These can be ruinous to any weight management program.

Dieting can only be effective in the long term when adjustments to food intake are combined with a regular exercise program. Twenty to 30 minutes of exercise every day will keep the basal metabolic rate elevated, depression at bay, and the fat cells burning.

Winston J. Craig is a professor of nutrition at Andrews University.



here do those little white Christmas lights look best? How many lights should I use? How long can I leave them up? I heard those three questions many times in November and December, but discovered they still need answering long after the holidays are gone.

Q1: Where do those little white Christmas lights look best?

On the Christmas tree is the logical answer. But, how about on the oak tree in the front yard? And, how about using them to outline the aluminum ribs of the screen enclosure around your swimming pool? Or, circled around a lamp post to make it look like an old-time barber pole, or dangling from the ceiling of your bedroom, or outlining your front windows with a welcoming glow, or covering the fake ficus tree that stands beside your piano?

The answer is, "Wherever you would like light and attention, hang the lights!"

Q2: How many lights should I use?

Just a few more than enough.

Down our street, four families formed a light crew and hung 40 million lights on their oaks, palms, roofs, garages, streetlights, and parked cars. Looked like runway lights! But people came from far away just to see the sight, count the wattage, and talk to the engineers. Lights draw people into the circle of your friendship.

When we moved into our current house we inherited four, eight-foot fake ficus trees. Ugly ficus trees. I was carrying two of them to the dumpster when

Brenda intervened, pled their cases, and convinced me to return one to the living room to be covered with 100 little white lights. "It will be beautiful," she promised.

Brenda was right. As always. No one notices the tree, but many comment about how warm and cheery the lights are. "Makes the room feel safe," one said. Lights draw people into the safety of your friendship.

There is a hedge in our backyard. It wanders around the edge of the grass providing a bit of leafy privacy, and a perfect place for hanging lights. They're there, about four feet up, glowing away the dark each evening. Lights draw the dark away, and replace it with glittering hope.

Q3: How long can I leave them up?

For always! As long as you'd like to have friends come, sit, talk, laugh, and share—hang lights. Lots of lights. And leave them on so the "Light of Life" will draw new friends to you ... so you can introduce them to Him.

Dick Duerksen is an assistant vice president for mission development at Florida Hospital.

ADVENTISM



James & Ellen: YOUNG PIONEERS

BY ANN FISHER

nother pioneer of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was a young man named James White, who joined the Millerite movement in 1842. In two years his preaching led at least 1,000 people to join the Millerites.

In the spring of 1843, while attending a meeting in Portland, Maine, James was deeply impressed by the testimony of a young woman named Ellen Harmon. They married August 30, 1846, and became two of the most influential leaders in the Seventh-day Adventist movement.

James White

James was gifted as a writer, editor, preacher, business manager, and administrator. He printed the first Adventist publication, *Present Truth*, in 1849. Later renamed *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, it continues as the *Adventist Review*—the most widely read journal in Adventism today. James founded both the Review and Herald Publishing Association and the Pacific Press Publishing Association which still serve the publishing needs of the church today.

In the 1850s, James began to urge Sabbath-keeping Adventists to develop an organization that could carry the burdens of the publishing work, which up to that time he had personally managed under his own name. At a conference in 1860, the church's name Seventh-day Adventist was chosen and a publishing association was formed.

As churches and state conferences were organized, the need for formal administration became evident. The General Conference (G.C.) of Seventh-day Adventists was officially organized in May 1863, and James was elected as its first president. However, he refused the position and John Byington became the first president. James later served three different terms as G.C. president.

Ellen White

During 35 years of marriage to James, Ellen worked by his side and traveled with him. She was raised in a branch of Methodism that emphasized the importance of holiness and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Although her childhood was plagued by a serious facial injury and recurring illness, Ellen was deeply spiritual and spent much time in Bible study, prayer, and spiritual reflection. Deeply effected when Christ did not return in 1844, Ellen sought God for light and guidance.

One morning, in December 1844, 17-year-old Ellen joined four women to pray at the home of a close friend. As they were praying, she experienced her first vision¹ which brought comfort to the little group in Portland, Maine.

Ellen was seen by Adventists as the instrument used by the Holy Spirit to communicate God's counsel to the growing Advent movement, but she directed others to the Bible as our only rule of faith and practice. She always pointed to Christ, the true leader of the church. Her prophetic role was often difficult and discouraging but, on more than one occasion, she changed the course of Adventist history through her courage and faith.

Her visions continued until the year of her death, 1915. With the help of literary assistants she authored scores of books and more than 4,000 articles during her lifetime, which continue to guide the church today.

Portions of this article were adapted by Ann Fisher from *Welcome to the Family*, an out-of-print book published jointly by Home Study International and the North American Division, and used with permission. Ann writes from Walla Walla, Washington.

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Ellen G. White, Early Writings, (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1945), 13-19.



SHARING our HOPE

A Boy's Dream Encircles the Globe

BY GARY BURNS

s a young boy in Belize, Ray Young loved radio. In fact, he remembers creating and recording his own programs with his father's tape deck. He had always wanted to be involved with radio. When Ray and his wife Debbie moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan, and joined the Ypsilanti Adventist Church, he found a need and stepped in to help with the audio for the church service. There was very little equipment to begin with, but slowly Ray began realizing his boyhood dream.

Debbie said it all started in the second bedroom of their home. From time to time Ray came home with another piece of electronic equipment that could be used to record programs. A radio ministry soon began with a series of one-minute spots, then five-minute programs, and then a 30-minute religious variety show. Through long-distance interviews listeners learned how Adventists were contributing to the world community by meeting a whole variety of needs.

In those early days of production, Debbie stood at her microphone in the spare bedroom while Ray taped a little lapel mic to the speaker on the phone to pick up the other person's voice. Their program, *Quiet Moment*, was heard on the largest religious radio station in Detroit. Soon the program was being carried by stations on the Adventist Radio Network, including the Adventist World Radio station on Guam.

They formed partnerships, which resulted in more people contributing to the content of the program. They took a mock radio program on the road to demonstrate what *Quiet Moment* was about. One of the churches that became a key partner was in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Ray and Debbie continued to produce the radio programs from their home until the neighbor's dog developed a pattern of barking every time they started a recording session. So the Ypsilanti

church board voted to support the ministry by providing space in the basement of the church. They built a studio room, control room, and a small office which serves as the home for the ministry today.

The ministry has changed with the industry. With the support of Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI), the Youngs purchased television cameras and for the last couple of years have streamed the church service live over the Internet. Since they began this phase of the ministry, they have received e-mails from as far away as China.

"This is really exciting!" exclaimed Debbie.
"You work hard in your ministry and you believe in it, but it's sure nice to have some validation—some affirmation." They started getting more e-mails as people also discovered their website.

Debbie and Ray first started the ministry realizing the importance of a genuine relationship with God. It wasn't about the equipment; it was about the relationship. Debbie says that the theme of their marriage has been, "What are we going to do about evangelism? How are we going to tell people about Christ? What are we doing in our community?"

Those questions continue to guide Ray and Debbie in their marriage, and their ministry.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Herald editor.







Nueva Iglesia Hispania de Milwaukee

BY CARMELO MERCADO

ara la mayoría de nosotros un nuevo año significa un nuevo comienzo. Para los miembros hispanos de nuestra Unión, este primer número del año 2005 de la revista Lake Union Herald marca un nuevo comienzo en comunicaciones, ya que por primera vez en la historia de esta revista se hace espacio para agregar una columna regular, que será impresa en español para nuestra comunidad hispana.

El propósito principal de ConeXíones es darle ánimo espiritual, informarle lo que Dios está haciendo por la obra hispana en nuestra Unión, y también informar a todos acerca de los eventos que se llevarán a cabo en la Unión. La persona encargada de preparar ConeXiones son el pastor Carmelo Mercado. El redactor es Sra. Eunice Isabel Dupertuis que es una profesora de español en el departamento de lenguas de Andrews University. Como editores, estamos deseosos de recibir cualquier noticia que usted nos pueda dar o ideas que piense serían de beneficio para nuestro pueblo.

El nuevo comienzo

En nuestra primera ConeXiones queremos hacerle saber cuánto nos ha bendicido Dios en el nuevo comienzo de la Iglesia Hispana Adventista de Milwaukee, perteneciente a la Asociación Regional. La iglesia tuvo sus comienzos hace sólo tres años con diez adultos y tres niños que se reunían en una casa. El grupo creció y esa casa les resultó demasiado pequeña. Se mudaron al sótano de la Iglesia Adventista del Northwest y allí tuvieron sus cultos.

Después de nueve meses se cambiaron al gimnasio de la Iglesia Adventista de Sharon. Siguieron creciendo y pronto se vieron en la necesidad de obtener su propio templo. Fue en abril de 2004 que encontraron un hermoso templo que estaba para la venta. A pesar del alto costo de la propiedad, trabajaron y oraron para que se encontrara la manera de comprarlo. Finalmente, en agosto de 2004 se mudaron a su propio templo. La dirección de la iglesia es: 2392 S. Wood-



De izquierda a derecha: el pastor Carmelo Mercado, su esposa Rosanne, Roberto Gaetán, anciano de la iglesia hispana de Milwaukee, y Oscar Rodríguez, pastor de la misma iglesia.

ward, en Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Los hermanos de la iglesia invitan a todos para que vayan y vean el milagro que el Señor ha hecho por ellos.

Un anuncio importante

ENCUENTROS, un retiro de jóvenes hispanos solteros a nivel de Unión del 4 al 6 de marzo en Grace Adventures Campground en Mears, Michigan. Los detalles de este evento se encuentran en www.joveneslakeunion.com. La matrícula es limitada. Si no tiene acceso al website, comuníquese con el director de jóvenes de su iglesia o llame a la oficina de la Unión, 269.473.8200. Será un evento inolvidable que nuestros jóvenes no querrán perder.

Que el año 2005 sea un año en que Dios le ayude a hacer nuevos comienzos en su vida, como también para la iglesia. Recordemos las palabras de Pablo en I Timoteo 6:12, "Pelea la buena batalla de la fe, echa mano de la vida eterna, a la cual asimismo fuiste llamado, habiendo hecho la buena profesión delante de muchos testigos."

Carmelo Mercado son el vice presidente general de la unión del lago.

TATOLE STATE S

ittle Jiao Wang Xin sat on the hill behind his home in remote northwest China wondering what was across the river and beyond the mountains. His parents, among the first Chinese to become Adventists in Shanghai nearly 20 years before, were excited about their new faith.

Wang Xin's father had to leave medical school because of his Sabbath observance, so they began printing translated copies of *The Great Controversy* and *The Desire of Ages*. During this time China closed its doors to Christianity, and eventually the young couple was sentenced to prison for their faith.

Wang Xin's father was sent to a labor camp in northwest China while his mother remained in Shanghai. The young couple determined to remain faithful to each other and to God, not knowing what great plans He had for their lives.

Like Joseph and Daniel of old, Wang Xin's father was a model prisoner and was given additional responsibilities. Because of his medical school background, he was permitted to work in the labor camp clinic. Eventually he was transferred to a larger labor camp with a hospital.

Life in the labor camp was very hard. It was prohibited to practice Christianity or to possess religious materials of any kind, but Wang Xin's father kept his faith and shared it when there was an opportunity. Tucked away in his pocket was a small book where he had written many Bible passages from memory.

On one occasion, the prison officials called all the prisoners to the square and one by one they were searched. As Wang Xin's father waited his turn he prayed and asked God to protect him, determined that he was willing to suffer the consequences if that is



what God allowed. As it neared his turn, suddenly another official called him away for a hospital emergency.

When his ten-year sentence was complete, Wang Xin's father continued to work at the same labor camp where he was a prisoner since his citizenship had been taken away and he could not leave the area. His wife, who had only seen him once for 15 minutes during that time, was finally able to join him.

At the age of 40, the couple had their first child. Two years later Wang Xin was born. After ten additional years working as a doctor at the camp, the government of China extended an official apology, removed his sentence, and returned him to full citizenship. The irony is that because he had been working all these years at a military establishment, they made him an officer, issued him a uniform, and gave him a full salary complete with retirement benefits.

He was refused medical school because of his obedience to the Sabbath, imprisoned for spreading the gospel, and ended up retiring as a military "missionary doctor" totally funded by the Chinese government. God had proven Himself faithful.

Wang Xin learned of God's love and faithfulness through the example of his parents. The little book story taught him to value scripture and to commit it to memory. He learned that God must have a special plan for his life. As a baby, he escaped death when his father's axe blade flew off while chopping wood and landed in the crib right next to his head.

Wang Xin pondered these things as he sat on the hillside, now thirteen years old, still wondering what was beyond the river on the other side of the mountains.

With the government's apology, the family was free to return to Shanghai. Although his parents were eager for their boys to attend school in Shanghai, they were willing to stay in Northwest China if relatives could not find a school that would allow the boys to keep the Sabbath.

A school was found and Wang Xin, his mother, and brother left for Shanghai while his father stayed behind to complete his work at the hospital.

After high school Wang Xin wanted to go to college, to possibly follow in his father's footsteps to become a medical doctor. But before he could go to college, he would have to take several days of



Daniel (Jiao Wang Xin) and Charlotte Jiao with their two children Belicia and Ethan.

entrance examinations, one of which would be on the Sabbath. What would he do? Wang Xin recalled the words of his parents, "We don't want to force you to keep the Sabbath. We don't want you to think this is a religion from your parents. You make your own decision." Wang Xin thought, "Do I really want to keep the Sabbath and lose the chance to go to college?" Remembering the experience of his father, and how God had accomplished his father's dream even though imprisoned, Wang Xin resolved he would not break the Sabbath to take the examination.

Without college, Wang Xin began to wonder about his life. "Is this religion my parents taught me something I really want in my life? 'God, You show me the way. You show me that you are the God that I can trust. Even though I have read the Bible before, this time I'm going to read the Bible through and I want You to show me, through the Bible, what Your will is for my life."

During the next year, Wang Xin spent his time reading through his Bible and taking notes of all the evidences of God's providential salvation. At the end of the year, Wang Xin read a story about David Livingston printed in *Signs of the Times*. He read the magazine to help him learn English, but found himself wanting to be like David Livingston. He prayed, "God, I want to be like him. I want to do Your will. I want to dedicate myself to You. I want to have more opportunities to study the Bible so I can learn more about you."

In answer to his prayer, Southern College (Southern) put in a request to sponsor a Chinese student and Wang Xin was chosen. That was the summer of 1989, the time of the incident in Tienanmen Square. The government tightened their control and made it impossible for him to get a passport and visa—unless God provided a way. Wang Xin received his passport and visa in time to arrive at Southern just two days after school began. He registered as Daniel Jiao, a name his mother gave him for America.

After graduating from Southern with a theology degree, Wang Xin came to Andrews to continue his education at the seminary. After just one quarter he got a call to go to Hong Kong to work with Adventist World Radio (AWR).

Years before, Wang Xin was excited to hear on the family's shortwave radio, the voice of a China-born Adventist, who had also been sent to prison for many years. "When we heard the program, all our family was so happy," Wang Xin said.

"I did not know that I would be involved in this radio ministry, but I told myself if God wanted me to do this, I would be more than willing. Now that I look back, I can see that God provided a way for me to have some training." Wang Xin was an excellent choice for AWR because of his pleasant speaking voice, and because he spoke Mandarin.

"The biggest reward is to receive a listener's response and to see how their lives have been changed by a program," says Wang Xin. "To see how they can find God at a low point in their life when they were in despair and see hope [is thrilling]."

Although Wang Xin enjoyed his work, he still wanted to finish the seminary. So after three years in Hong Kong with AWR, he returned to Andrews University.

After just over a year he was called back to Hong Kong for a problem with his visa. His work visa for Hong Kong would not be renewed and he could not work in Hong Kong unless he came back immediately.

Five years and two children later, Wang Xin was able to return and finish his degree. While at Andrews, he has continued his radio programs for AWR on his laptop computer from the couple's Garland apartment. When he returns to Hong Kong this month he will be responsible for the Hong Kong Media Center, which will include television and an Internet ministry as well as *Voice of Prophecy* Bible school programs.

"With all this we will be able to do the work and hopefully bring more people to Jesus," Wang Xin said with enthusiasm. The target audience is China. Shortwave radio is popular in places where governments have tight control and information is blocked. It is also the only connection to the outside world for people like Wang Xin who live in remote places. 'Quite often," says Wang Xin, "as people turn the dial looking for stations, they come to our program. It is something they have never heard before so they start listening."

From somewhere across the river and beyond the mountains comes the voice of hope. The voice they hear is the voice of Wang Xin.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Herald editor.

For information about Adventist World Radio, visit www.awr.org or call (800) 337-4297

DID YOUKNOV

he name Seventh-day Adventist is based upon two core beliefs of the church? Seventh-day describes the observance of the biblical Sabbath, the seventh day of the week, Saturday, as God's ordained day of worship. Advent, or coming, describes a belief in the nearness of Jesus Christ's return to Earth.

- With nearly 13 million members (a community of over 20 million) and an average of 3,000 new members a day, the Seventh-day Adventist church is one of the fastest growing denominations in the world.
- Adventists work in 203 of the 228 countries and areas recognized by the United Nations, and communicate in more than 717 languages.
- Adventists run one of the largest Protestant educational infrastructures in the world, with 5,605 elementary through college-level schools worldwide. Of those, 99 are colleges and universities.
- 70 percent of the world's population is a potential audience for Adventist World Radio, which is recognized as a major religious shortwave broadcaster. These programs, broadcast in 55 languages, are produced in 69 different production studios around the world.
- The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International is an independent humanitarian agency established in 1984 by the Adventist Church for the specific purpose of providing individual and community development and disaster relief. ADRA has a presence in more than 120 countries and assists more than 15 million people annually.
- In order to carry out Christ's command to "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," the Adventist Church started Global Mission, a program in which people work in unentered areas. More than 35,000 Global Mission workers, called pioneers, are serving around the world.
- You can get news and information about Adventists on the World Wide Web at http://www.adventist.org.

- John Harvey Kellogg, a physician and Adventist pioneer, guided the Adventist Church's first medical institution, Battle Creek Sanitarium, into becoming an internationally-known medical center. From its beginnings in the 1860s, the Adventist Church now operates more than 600 hospitals, sanitariums, dispensaries, and clinics worldwide.
- The Adventist Church has a global satellite network of six channels spanning the globe. In 2003, under the direction of Adventist Television Network (ATN), the church launched the Hope Channel. This global English language satellite channel broadcasts a variety of interesting Christian programs 24 hours a day, seven days a week. ATN also has full-time channels in the Spanish and Portuguese languages that can be seen in Latin America and North America. The largest satellite evangelistic meeting was simultaneously translated into 40 languages and seen around the world. The meeting holding the record for the most people attending a host site was Port Moresby, Papua, New Guinea. In July 2001, over 100,000 people packed into a stadium to hear speaker Mark Finley present the message of Christ. The Adventist Church is a leader in using modern technology to introduce people to Christ.
- Adventist News Network (ANN) is the weekly information voice of the global church. Via e-mail and the Internet, ANN reaches tens of thousands of readers worldwide with news about Seventh-day Adventist Church matters, social concerns, and global action. Hundreds of thousands more interact with ANN reports as they are republished in church and other media around the world.

Adapted from www.adventist.org and used with permission.

Our GLOBAL Family

his past October we observed the 160th anniversary of the Great Disappointment—October 22, 1844. That was the date a handful of Advent believers, mostly white, mostly rural, mostly living in the northeastern United States, waited in vain for Jesus to appear in glory.

Now, the remnant of that band of believers numbers in the millions and encircles our planet like stars in the autumn sky with congregations, schools, health-care and evangelistic centers, and countless individuals dedicated to living God's love and proclaiming the soon coming of Christ.

If you imagine this movement to be monolithic, monochromatic, and monotonous, you'd be disappointed. Rather, if you could travel to different parts of the world and see the vitality of the movement we call Seventh-day Adventist, you'd be impressed.

I've been to the Philippines where the pastor with whom I worked was responsible for nearly 30 congregations.

I've been to Russia, where self-supporting Global Mission pioneers move into communities with few, if any, Adventist believers and sell books, hold evangelistic meetings, and establish new congregations.

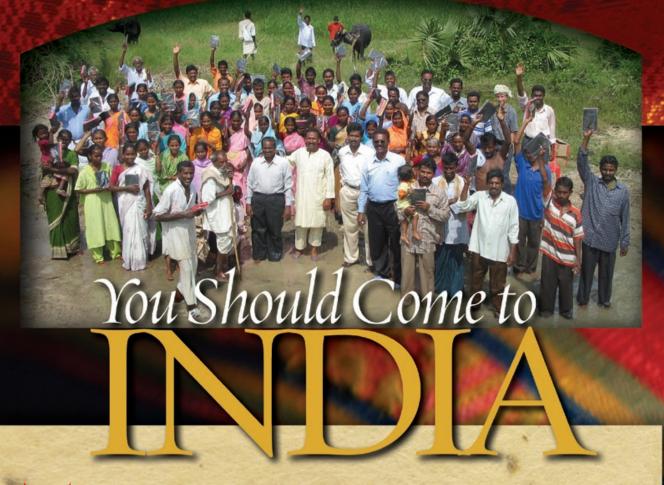
I've been to Poland, where Adventists work creatively to counteract decades of prejudice nurtured by members of the state-sponsored religion.

I've been in Ghana, where the vast number of newly baptized members strains the church's ability to nurture them.

I've been in Nicaragua and El Salvador, where dedicated members travel hours—sometimes by car, often by foot—to small villages to teach people to read and to help them study the Bible.

I've been to churches in North America—both small and large—where the members seek to implement outreach strategies that appeal to a society steeped in secularism and materialism.





en years ago, two church members suggested a short-term mission trip for our local congregation. "Let's do it," I said, and we were off, like a sled full of children at the top of a hill. We had just received the initial push. Little did I realize how this divine nudge would shape the identity of the members and mission of my church. Each year we do it again. I have just returned from India with seven teenagers and six adults.

God called me to India. It happened the Sabbath before campmeeting. Bob Robinson, Southern Asia Division assistant to the president, sat listening to my sermon about foreign missions and the local congregation. At the end of the service he slipped out of his pew, took hold of my hand and said, "You should come to India." I knew he was right.

Encouraged by my conference president, I extended the call to others. After nine months, only three people had committed to join me. A few months later two had to change their plans. I came to the conclusion that it would be a rather small "team." I was wrong.

In the four months preceding our October departure God added another dozen people to the trip, most of them young men and women.

The team now consisted of fourteen people from six Indiana churches who were willing to fly ten and one-half time zones away to bring the good news of Jesus to the village people of Andra Pradesh, one of India's 30 states. Divided into half a dozen evangelistic teams, they would encounter 5,000 people in six locations for 15 consecutive nights of Bible preaching and health education.

Each made personal sacrifices.



Aaron Clark hadn't seriously considered going until, urged by his mother, he felt impressed he should join the team. Going to India meant no family income for a month and leaving behind Ember, his eight-month-old daughter. Would she remember him if he was absent from her life for three weeks? After praying about it, he decided his mother was right, he should go and trusted God to take care of his family. Aaron later admitted he may not have thought seriously about participating in the mission trip without her encouragement.

Larry McConnell decided to go because he believes "the time is short [until Jesus returns]. Our church is a mission-minded church and we should view ourselves that way either abroad or locally. This [India] is an opportunity where the Lord called us abroad."

Larry was saving unused building materials after a disappointing business venture. One day a family member invited him to participate in an auction. Larry thought of the building materials, and India, and decided to put the materials in the auction. Larry said, "The Lord moved the building materials so we could put the funds toward India."

David Ward, a 15-year-old sophomore at Indiana Academy, donated the \$1,000 he was saving for something special. He also sacrificed personal time with friends to prepare for the trip and devoted additional time when he returned to make up missed school work.

One teen used his detasseling and lawn mowing money to purchase his ticket.

The preparation for our journey was priceless. Each Tuesday we met at the church to sing, pray, and train for the health lectures and evangelistic sermons. We committed to a simple "John the Baptist" lifestyle and sought to make our hearts right with God, trusting He

would do something through us, and in us. One young man captured the value of the experience when he said, "Preparing for this trip has brought more spiritual growth to my life than would have happened naturally over several years."

How do you prepare for India—the crowds, the dirt, the poverty? The country is a paradox of the modern and the ancient. From industry to agriculture, the contrast of the old and the new is everywhere. One field is cultivated with an ox or a camel and the next with a Massey Ferguson.

Even more startling was the discovery of our revered status as American holy men. Each evening at the end of the meetings, the people flocked to the front wanting nothing more than to have us lay our hands on them and pray. This simple and somewhat misplaced confidence was a humbling experience. And yet, God did work miracles—spiritual and physical.

Luis Evia, Evansville (Indiana) Hispanic Church pastor, with seven national pastors, asked God to stop the heavens' down-pour of rain. By the time he said, "Amen," the rain ceased. Bela Kobor, Evansville (Indiana) Church pastor, applied charcoal to a man's neck and after three days the soreness in his neck was gone. Jose Vazquez, Indiana Conference Community Services director, was presented with a baby who had a fist-size tumor protruding from his back. He laid his hands on the child's back and prayed. God healed—the swelling was gone!

Another young boy was brought by his parents, confident God would listen to the prayers of an American pastor and heal their mute son. In humility and with faith, the pastor took the boy outside the tent and knelt trembling. He felt unworthy to petition God on this young boy's behalf. Hearing two voices, one giving

doubt, the other telling him to proceed, he recalled looking up at the moon and in its shadows saw the face of Jesus while hearing one voice get louder. The pastor prayed for healing and the young boy returned to the tent. For the first time they heard him speak the words, "Mama and Papa."

For two weeks we preached the gospel, visited under thatched roofs, prayed for the sick, and handed out 4,200 Telegu Bibles. We navigated congested streets and shared principles of healthy living. Over 4,000 people gave their lives to Christ and confessed their love through baptism. We left 15 Global Mission Pioneers to give ongoing spiritual nurture to 30 new congregations. We purchased property for 18 churches, which are currently under construction, and paid for it all with American dollars. We have 12 more to fund and build.

Because of our global organization, we have a network in place to help us recapture this vision. Members of our church—brothers and sisters around the world—can benefit from our fellowship and service. At the same time, we gain a vision of the world work like never before. Entered into carefully and prayerfully, the experience is transformational.

It transformed Aaron's life. "I took a quantum leap in spiritual faith," he shared. "The trip opened my eyes to where I was spiritually and helped me see the importance of talking to others who do not know Jesus." While Aaron was experiencing the blessings of God overseas, his wife Holly was experiencing the blessings of God back home. Expecting to be without Aaron's income for a month, the Clarks were overwhelmed when they learned family and church friends had donated so much for Aaron's trip that the excess would pay for his trip and bills in his absence.

The trip also changed David's life. David was teamed with a seasoned pastor, Jose Vazquez, who encouraged and coached him through health lectures, sermons, and many surprising experiences. More importantly, "we prayed together and helped each other in many different ways," David shared.

David felt frustrated after his first health lecture, but was determined to do better the next time, so he prayed and studied harder. It was then he felt the Holy Spirit working with him. He felt God's blessing and was amazed as he saw God remove his fears and give him powers of speech. Witnessing God at work in his own life helped David realize the whole experience was not about him, but about God.

David learned lessons he wouldn't have learned in a classroom as he also witnessed the Indian people's faith. "They relied on us. They poured out their hearts to us and believed if they would ask, they would receive." "Sharing the Bibles with the people really brought home the meaning of the words, 'Go ye into all the world ...' for me," David remarked. As individuals were baptized, they returned to the Americans who taught them about Jesus for another prayer. It was then that the Bibles were presented to them. David says "Religion ... was the only thing that brought them joy. By giving them the Bible, we gave them the key to happiness."

Would he go on another mission trip? David responded, "God willing, I'll go."

Larry was moved personally by his teammates' testimonies upon their return. "They gave me personal strength and reminded me our God is an awesome God, waiting to pour out His blessings if we just take the step or leap," he emphasized. "To see individuals before the trip and to know them afterwards ... you can see a difference. You *are* a different person. I'm such a small vessel and so imperfect, but to be used in the perfect work of the Lord meant committing my all to Him."

Mission experience can become the catalyst for a passion and a competency for evangelism in America.

"Mission trips strengthen your church body," stated Larry. "The Holy Spirit moves the hearts of the whole church family to make it [mission trips] happen." Following the trip, Cicero (Indiana) Church members listened to their missionaries tell stories about unfinished projects in India. They are rallying to do what they can to finish the work there. "People are just making them happen," remarked Larry. In addition, Larry has seen local church outreach strengthened as members' lives have been changed following church mission trips. "It is a contagious kind of virus and it's wonderful to see people coming together."

I have a clipping on the bulletin board in my church from an Indian newspaper. It tells the sad story of a woman who threw her newborn baby girl into a muddy ditch believing that black magic would change her from a girl to a boy! This lady is just one of the I.I billion reasons I went to India. Others like her are why we are called to go back. There is a reason to sacrifice. There is a reason to pull together. And when we do, there will be a reason for rejoicing.

"Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of God as a missionary" (*The Desire of Ages*, 195).

Ron Kelly is the Indiana Conference family ministries director and Cicero (Indiana) Church pastor.

Extending the Healing Ministry Christ



Throughout Adventist Health System, skilled physicians, nurses, and caregivers reach out, touch the hearts, and heal the lives of more than 3,000,000 people each year. It's part of the Legacy of Healing that began more than 2,000 years ago. And it's a mission we strive to carry forward today as we work to Extend the Healing Ministry of Christ. To learn more, visit www.AdventistHealthSystem.com.





New Century, New Name

Hinsdale Hospital has undergone a few name changes as it progressed from the sanitarium program of its early years to being one of the few community hospitals in Illinois to offer tertiary level care. For a century, it has remained strong in its mission of whole-person care, and its latest name change reflects that as well.

"Adventist Midwest Health is an organization that shares the Seventh-day Adventist heritage of service to God and to the community, dedication to the healing mission of Christ and providing whole-person care to our patients," said Ernie Sadau, Adventist Midwest Health president and CEO, in announcing the addition of Adventist to the front of each of its facilities' names.

Lynn Larson, Adventist Midwest Health Lake Union

Herald correspondent



Todd Werner, Hinsdale Hospital CEO, escorts Kathryn Sieberman, a former hospital vice president and 47-year employee. The hospital announced it will name its dining room in honor of her lifetime achievements, and its lobby in honor of Mardian Blair, former hospital CEO.

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital Centennial Celebration Highlights



Hinsdale Hospital concluded its 100th year of dedication to the ministry of healing with celebrations that included a visit by Hinsdale Sanitarium co-founder David Paulson, a physician portrayed by actor Richard Garey. Paulson's words inspired employees throughout a Week of Spiritual Emphasis, as well as guests at the Centennial Banquet.



Awards presented during the Centennial included a Living Our Mission award to William Mulske (second from left), now a part-time baker, who previously worked for the hospital more than 36 years in Food Service. Congratulating him are (from left): Jonathan Leach, regional director of Ministries and Mission; Todd Werner, CEO; and Edgar Urbina, chaplain.



Benjamin Carson, Pediatric Neurosurgery director at Johns Hopkins, presented the Sabbath message at Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church during the Centennial weekend. At left is Mardian Blair, former Hinsdale Hospital CEO.



Banquet entertainment included a fashion show of nurses' uniforms from 1900 to the 1940s. More than 600 guests attended the festivities.



A service of remembrance for Mary and David Paulson, physicians and hospital co-founders, took place at Bronswood Cemetery, attended by the Paulsons' descendants.

Assistant to the **President for Spiritual Life Appointed**

Beginning in January 2005, Ron Whitehead, Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE) director and Christian Ministry assistant professor at the Adventist Theological Seminary, will function in his newly-appointed role as assistant to the president for spiritual life at Andrews University.



Ron Whitehead

Whitehead has served as the North American Division associate youth director and has been the director of three international Pathfinder camporees, including the most recent Faith on Fire Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., which had over 30,000 attendees. While still keeping his CYE position and office, Whitehead will work together with student services, campus ministries, and the office of the president to coordinate the various spiritual life activities and programs on campus. In this role, Whitehead will focus on reorganizing the spiritual life structure on campus in several different areas.

Whitehead hopes to create better communication, keeping students, faculty, and staff informed internally, as well as sharing what is happening on campus with the community, prospective students, and alumni. He aims to create a strong, talented pool of both staff and student leaders. The current campus ministries office will be remodeled to better equip student leaders with the office space needed to help them work in their individual ministries.

A key aspect of support will come from the spiritual life committee. Whitehead's goal is for this committee to be a "one stop shop" where ministry leaders can come to get the required help or permission necessary to perform their ministry. Whitehead plans to increase student representation on the committee to an equal level with that of faculty/ staff representation.

As a member of the president's cabinet, Whitehead will work directly with the president, bringing the spiritual life of the campus to a higher level of attention, identifying its importance. In short, Whitehead's vision is to "make it easy for every student to be a part of, or lead out in, a ministry."

> Beverly Stout, University Relations Lake Union Herald correspondent

Teacher in the Spotlight

If you ever sit down to chat with Peter Pribis, Andrews University nutrition professor, give yourself at least an hour. The Slovakian native has more stories than Uncle Arthur, Uncle Dan, and Aunt Sue combined, and when listening to his boyhood tales of communism and Cambridge it's easy to lose track of time.

Pribis did not have a typical childhood by American or Slovakian standards. None of the other boys in the little mountain village of Poprad, for example, had the opportunity to leave the country twice and study English at Cambridge, a rare luxury in communist Slovakia. "I was the exception, in this

respect," Pribis confesses, explaining, "The man in charge of issuing passports had always dreamed that his son would learn to play the accordion. My mother was a music teacher. The son was lazy and never practiced, but my mother was patient with him, and one day the official came to her and said. 'You know, if any of you would ever like to take a trip " And so, with the sponsorship of an Austrian uncle, the young Pribis was able to spend two summers in England.



Peter Prihis

This taste of life abroad whet Pribis's appetite for travel, and he headed for southern California in 1990 after earning a M.D. in Internal Medicine at Charles University, Prague. Pribis completed a Doctorate in Public Health at Loma Linda University in 1996, and subsequently held various research and consulting posts in the Czech Republic and southern Germany before landing a position in the Andrews University Department of Nutrition in 2004.

An experienced mover, Pribis has had no trouble settling into a quieter life in rural Berrien Springs, where he lives with his wife, Natasa, and their two daughters, Abigail and Aimee.

> Aaron Beaumont, University Relations student news writer



[EDUCATION NEWS]



From left: Elizabeth DeLeon, Illinois Association treasurer; Helen Bacchus, North Shore Junior Academy principal; Reuel Bacchus, North Shore Church pastor; and Paul Saint-Villiers, Illinois Conference trust services director

School Receives Surprise Gift

Illinois—Maude Larson led a long but simple life. She passed up many of the extravagances available to her, choosing instead to live a life centered on her faith in God and service to others. Before her death last year, at the age of 97, she decided to give something back to the congregation where she had been an active member for so long.

On October 23, Illinois Conference officials were present to tell members of the North Shore Seventh-day Adventist Church in Chicago, Ill., about Maude Larson's final gift. Following a thirty-minute ceremony highlighting reflections on Larson's life, Paul Saint-Villiers, Illinois Conference trust services director, presented a check for \$283,851 to Reuel Bacchus, North Shore pastor, and Helen Bacchus, North Shore Junior Academy principal.

Larson directed that the money be used for the school in any way the leadership sees fit. Helen Bacchus thanked Larson and God for the generous donation. "The young people of North Shore Junior Academy (NSJA) will benefit from this gift," she said after accepting the check. "May God continue to bless NSJA and all the young people God has given us."

Before the check was presented,

Duane Rollins, Illinois Conference treasurer, gave the congregation an overview of how the process works. The North American Division has been in the trust business for forty years. An individual may use a will or a trust to distribute their assets. Trusts can be restricted or unrestricted. Larson's donation was a restricted trust intended to go specifically for North Shore Junior Academy.

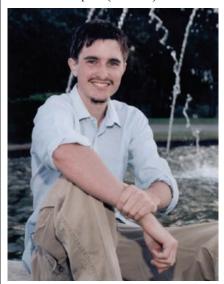
Jim Martz, Illinois Conferers, dent, brought the ceremony to a conclusion with a prayer of blessing on the school's faculty, staff,

Michael Denslow, Illinois Conference news writer

and school board.

BCA Students Compete for National Scholarship

Michigan—Maggie Billingsley and Robert (Bobby) Costie, Battle Creek Academy (BCA) seniors and members of the National Honor Society (NHS), have been nominated to compete in the NHS scholarship sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).



Robert Costie III

Kevin Kossick, BCA principal, announced the nominations, which places Billingsley and Costie in the national competition. Two hundred national NHS winners will be chosen this spring to receive \$1,000 college scholarships.



Maggie Billingsley

High school NHS chapters from across the country were eligible to nominate two seniors to compete. Nominees were selected based on their leadership skills, participation in service organizations and clubs, achievements in the arts and sciences, employment experience, and academic record. They also were required to write an essay.

While at BCA, both students have been active in school government and community service. Billingsley has been NHS president, yearbook editor, Student Association president, band vice president, a volunteer at the Humane Society and Safe Place, and a participant in mission work outside our borders. After graduation, she plans to attend Andrews University and will major in Elementary Education.

Costie has been junior class president, senior class treasurer, and campus ministries director. He has participated in several community service projects on campus, a local park cleanup project, and assisted with preschool childcare. Next fall, he plans to enroll in a nurse anesthetist program.

Michelle Cain, Battle Creek Academy public relations correspondent

The Little School that Could

Wisconsin-Vicki Martin had a dream while teaching at the Woodland Adventist School, and she shared it with anyone who would listen. "Someday," she said, "we should establish a Christian preschool in our area and we could use it as a feeder for our church school."



Steve Martin puts finishing touches on the drywall in one room of the Little Oaks Preschool.

Vicki's dream is becoming a reality! Under the leadership of Lori Krohn, Little Oaks Preschool director, and Harlin Carey, school board chair, the preschool has not only started, but is flourishing. Twenty-five children are currently enrolled in daycare. Fifteen more children are on a waitlist to enroll when there is a vacancy. The church school has increased its enrollment to 26 this year. Little Oaks Preschool is just finishing a building project to add much-needed space.

But the school has not always functioned in this manner—there was some question just a few years ago as to its viability. What made the difference-vision, persistence, faith, and hard work.

Vicki Martin is still dreaming ... but she is smiling, too! May God bless Woodland School—the little school that could.

> James Fox, Wisconsin Conference communication director

Gifts of Love in Abundance



Niles school principal, Stan Detweiler (far left), and student Christine Kusmiez (center front), help volunteers sort OCC shoeboxes for packing.



Smiles appear on faces of students as they help with shoebox gifts, From left; Noah Abbott, Brandon Hughes, and Michael Weatherburn

Michigan—The week of November 15–22, 2004, proved to be very busy and exciting for the Niles Seventh-day Adventist School.

This was the week for their annual Operation Christmas Child Bible lab opportunity. Students from the school as well as willing student groups from various venues gathered together to have a hands-on experience at mass-production ministry.



Stacking cartons containing shoebox gifts is a big job for students! From left: Prince Mangena, Jaime Howell, and Ryan Edwards

Working side by side with other volunteers, students packed into cartons the 13,900 shoebox gifts brought

> to this 50-70 mile radius regional collection site. Packed cartons were then rolled into waiting semi trailers and stacked for shipment, filling three trailers and part of a fourth.

> There was some last minute scrambling to find more cartons for unexpected extra shoeboxes. The site was anticipating just a little over 10,000, but the final tally revealed there were over 4,000 more shoeboxes collected than last year!

These shoeboxes bear practical gifts and a message about Jesus coming to this world to save us. They are going around the world to brighten children's lives and to give them hope. Who knows how many children will be in Heaven because of these generous gifts of kindness!

Judi Doty, Lake Union Herald back pages editor

[YOUTH NEWS]

Fellowship of the **Lion Killers**

Illinois—Imagine a weekend with no TV, no Internet, and no CDs. You leave your laptop behind and don't pack your iPod. Would that turn out to be a good weekend for you? For the eightyplus young people who attended the Illinois Conference youth rally it was.

Held on the grounds of Camp Akita, outside Peoria, Ill., young people spent November 12–14 learning more about their God, nature, themselves, and each other. "Being at the youth rally gives young people the chance to leave the normal things behind, let their hair down and say what's truly on their heart. They can interact with others who believe the same things that they do, and that is something that is sometimes hard to find," said Michael Boryca, Camp Akita ranger.

-Continued

NEWS



Glenn Poole, youth rally speaker, wanted the young people to know that even though they are involved in spiritual warfare there is a brighter side.

The theme of the rally, "Fellowship of the Lion Killers," was based on I Peter 5:8, 9. One of the purposes of the weekend was to challenge young people to understand the world around them, physically and spiritually.

The weekend speaker was Glenn Poole, a former Illinois Conference pastor and current Andrews University religion teacher. Poole wanted the young people to know that even though they were involved in spiritual warfare there is a brighter side.



Over eighty Lake Union young people attended the Illinois Conference youth rally.

"Sometimes Disney understands the great controversy better than we do. They know that there was a once upon a time and there will be a happily ever after. We, as Christians, sometimes forget the happily ever after," Poole said in his Sabbath morning message.

Leading out in song service for the weekend was the band *Ekklesia*, whose name means the ones called out. Greg Greek, Nate Gemmell, Chuck Gomez, Jason Horinouchi, and Ryan Yeo make up this group from Southern Adventist University.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the first ever Camp

Akita *Open Mic* session. There were plenty of cheers to go around for the few acts that performed, which included singing, guitar strumming, and piano playing. The participants were also given devotional books for sharing their talents.

Lauren Brooks, one of the young people who attended the rally, felt that those who didn't attend truly missed something special. Brooks said, "Pastor Poole's messages were really good. He reassured me that there is a purpose for my life, and that's something that many young people need to hear."

Pierre Quinn, Andrews University communication major and Pontiac Southside Church member



[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Hispanic Church Holds Community Graduation

Indiana—For three months last spring several groups in the Indianapolis (Ind.) Hispanic Church offered the course, *Hogar Feliz* (*Happy Home*), to members of their neighborhoods.

On May 22, a graduation service was held in the church; approximately IIO people from the community were presented certificates of completion at a very nice graduation program.



Uncle Daniel (Tony Escotto) and Aunt Elena (Ileana Gutierrez) are surrounded by the children who came to the graduation service to meet the individuals behind the Your Story Hour voices!



From left: Orlando Vazquez, Indianapolis Hispanic Church and North Vernon Hispanic Group pastor; Gary Thurber, Indiana Conference president; Peter Neri, Indiana Conference ministerial director; Carmelo Mercado, Lake Union vice president; and Frank Gonzalez, La Voz director/speaker, present a certificate to one of the graduates.

Frank Gonzalez, La Voz de la Esperanza director/speaker, was present for the occasion, along with Tony Escotto (Uncle Daniel) and Ileana Gutierrez (Aunt Elena), the individuals behind the voices from Tu Historia Preferida, the Hispanic Your Story Hour program. Escotto and Gutierrez were recognized for their faithful efforts and were presented with a plaque.

During the service Hernell Hernandez, Indianapolis Hispanic Church associate pastor, was overjoyed as he baptized seven precious individuals.

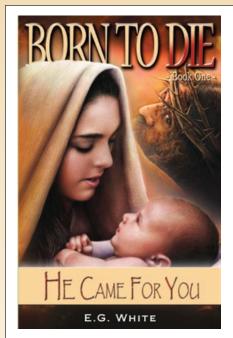
May God bless the seeds that have been planted through the Hispanic Voice of Prophecy lessons and through the Your Story Houn radio program. May these seeds be multiplied for His kingdom.

Raquel Vazquez, Indianapolis Hispanic Church correspondent

Wal-Mart Stocks Adventist Books

Michigan—Earlier in 2004, Remnant Publications, a ministry of members in Coldwater, Mich., negotiated with Wal-Mart to sell *The Passion* of *Love*, a book containing excerpts from *The Desire of Ages*.

The Lord has been blessing tremendously! Because of the continuing sales of *The Passion of Love*, Wal-Mart placed an order with Remnant Publications for their latest new release, *Born to Die. Born to Die* contains the first sec-



tion of *The Desire of Ages*. It begins with Jesus' birth and continues through to just after His baptism. *Born to Die* is the first of a five-book series from the *The Desire of Ages*.

Wal-Mart will carry the full, five-book series with a new release coming out every two months. *Born to Die* arrived in Wal-Mart stores the second week of December. To make this project a local success and to ensure the books stay on the shelves, each Wal-Mart store needs to sell four to five books per week.

If your local Wal-Mart is not carrying the book, you should ask to speak to or leave a message for the person who services the store's inspirational books. Politely mention that this book is in other Wal-Mart stores and state you would like to buy these books at the current location.

Hundreds of Bible study requests have been pouring into the Remnant Publications mailbox from people reading and being touched by the truths on the pages in *The Passion of Love*. Please pray this new sharing project will find its way into many homes and hearts.

For more information, call (800) 423-1319.

Jeff Eldred, Remnant Publications news writer

[UNION NEWS]

Plane Crash Kills Adventist Leaders

On Thursday afternoon, December, 2, 2004, Adventist members paused in disbelief as they listened to reports leaking out about a plane crash involving the administration and staff of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference (GCC).

Members' fears were soon confirmed with statements released by GCC and Adventist News Network. A plane crash just to the north of Collegedale, Tenn., took the lives of three administrators and a director of GCC, as well as their pilot, on Thursday, December 2, at approximately I:15 p.m. A sixth person, the co-pilot, escaped with minor injuries.

The Cessna 421 went down two miles north of Collegedale, crashing near Pine Hill and McDonald roads shortly after take-off. The group was headed from meetings at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., to Knoxville, Tenn., for a regional pastors' meeting.

Clay Farwell, retired Indiana Conference president, was on the plane and perished when it crashed. Farwell and his wife, Jo, retired in 2002, and moved from Indiana to their Tenn. "farm." In his retirement, Farwell was in charge of development for the GCC Cohutta Springs Conference Center. The day before the plane crash, Farwell began his new role as assistant to the president for GCC.

Farwell was widely known and respected for his more than 35 years of service and leadership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. He served as a pastor and youth director in several conferences, youth director for the Southern Union, vice president for Adventist Health System, and president of the Kentucky-Tennessee and Indiana conferences.

Farwell is fondly remembered in Indiana as a servant leader who



Clay Farwell



Dave Cress



Jamie Arnall



Jim Frost



John Laswell

worked diligently for the Lord. His major accomplishments in Indiana include making improvements at Timber Ridge Camp, constructing the chapel/music building at Indiana Academy, instigating the IA Project fundraising campaign to help renovate the campus, and strongly supporting evangelism throughout the conference.

In his 2002 farewell message, Farwell reminded constituents, "May we all walk close to Jesus until the day we all go home to live together again."

Also killed in the crash were Dave Cress, GCC president; Jim Frost, GCC vice president for administration: Jamie Arnall, GCC director of communication; and John Laswell, a member of the Collegedale Community Church and a corporate pilot who had flown for GCC occasionally. Iim Huff, vol-

unteer co-pilot and member of the Standifer Gap Seventh-day Adventist Church, survived.

The Lake Union Conference family grieves with the families of these men. Visit the GCC website at: www.gccsda. com for information about memorial funds established, and to submit remembrances or messages of support and hope.

Diane Thurber, Lake Union Herald managing editor



Ray Young (pictured below) works with the Quiet Moment Ministries team to oversee live streaming of the ministries convention on the Web.

Lake Region Offers Ministries Conference Online

Lake Region—The Lake Region Conference Church Ministries training conference was held November 19-21, 2004, at the South Bend (Ind.) Century Center. The vision for this event was cast two years prior in a conversation between Noelene Johnsson, North American Division (NAD) children's ministries director, and Phyllis Washington, Lake Region Conference children's ministries director.

Over 700 registered participants came from the five-state conference territory—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. A nominal registration fee of \$25 provided participants a selection of 105 workshops presented by experts in a variety of disciplines. Presenters from the General Conference, North American Division, Lake Union, and Review and Herald were well received. Participants continue to give positive feedback about the quality and quantity of information.

The keynote line-up was no less impressive. James Black, NAD youth ministries director, Walter Wright, Lake Union Conference president, Henry Wright, a Potomac Conference pastor, and Rosa Banks, an assistant secretary at the General Conference, provided a challenge for lay ministry in

the 21st century. The Sabbath worship service brought an attendance of nearly 2,000 spread across three meeting areas that included special services for youth and hispanic ministries.



Quiet Moment Ministries of Ypsilanti, Mich., in cooperation with the Ypsilanti Church and the Lake Region Conference Communication department, streamed the general sessions and communication workshops live via the Internet. Josephine Taylor, an Ypsilanti church member, reported one of her friends discovered the service while surfing the Web on Saturday morning. He enjoyed it so much that he tuned in the entire day and asked Josephine about other programs carried on the church's website.

The Lake Region Conference plans to follow up this training with specialized departmental training events during 2005 and will have their next large-scale training event in 2006.

Phyllis Washington, Lake Region Conference children's ministries director, and Ray Young, Lake Region Conference communication director [NAD NEWS]

PMC Receives eChurch Award

In an effort to encourage web excellence among North American Seventh-day Adventist churches, the North American Division Office of Communication, PlusLine, and TAGnet recognize twelve churches annually which have outstanding websites. Each month an evaluation committee reviews sites nominated for consideration based on criteria established, and designates one website as "Outstanding Website of the Month."

The November 2004 eChurch Award was presented to Pioneer Memorial Church (PMC) in Berrien Springs, Mich. Mario Pietravalle Jr., a member of the evaluation team, shared that in addition to meeting the established criteria he found "42 different ministries listed on the Ministries page, each one going to a page that describes that ministry and how to participate."

The PMC pastoral staff is excited about this honor earned by Janine Lim, webmaster, and her team. "Janine Lim eats, breaths, and sleeps pmchurch. org," remarked Skip MacCarty, a PMC pastor. "She is constantly thinking of new ways to expand and improve the site, to make it more user friendly and user valuable," he added.

"What an honor to receive the NAD eChurch award. Receiving this award shows how God has blessed our team with grace and wisdom to share the gospel and encourage His children through the use of the Web," remarked Lim.

In its beginning, the focus of the website was the church bulletin, posted by Friday, the sermons, and study guides. Lim remembers, "In the fall of 2003, it became apparent that the website had grown exponentially and needed ... to become more user friendly." New members were added to the Web ministry team and a decision was made to convert the website to a new format using Simple Updates (see www.simpleupdates.com).



Janine Lim, PMC Web Ministry coordinator

Now the Web team focuses on the overall site design and maintenance, and training and equipping each interested ministry to maintain their section. Lim remarked, "Truly this couldn't be done without a team effort."

Esther Knott, a PMC pastor, recently expressed, "One of the things I appreciate about Janine is that she listens to the announcements at church, the ministry opportunities, and incorporates them into the website. She takes the initiative. Janine comes up with ways to improve the site. ... Recently, Janine made it possible so people could sign up for small groups online. It has saved us an enormous amount of time and paperwork. Someone from South Korea signed up for a small group. ... We're not there yet, but it is possible in the future. ... It is exciting to think about how God can use technology to connect us around the world."

During the last couple of months, over 600 messages have been sent to the website from non-members in places like Qatar, Arizona, Oregon, California, Canada, South Africa, South Carolina, Oman, Alabama, Zambia, New York, and Texas. These messages contain theological questions, prayer requests, requests for information, comments on sermons seen via 3ABN, Safe TV, or one of the many other ways the sermons are distributed. PMC's online chaplain fields most of the questions.

The mission of the PMC website is to be an avenue through which people

can find Jesus, join His body, and participate in the great commission to share Him with others; to help members find a ministry in which to serve; to help visitors and members find and participate in worship activities; and to assist members in finding activities that build community and connect them to their church family.

To learn how to enhance your church website, or to nominate your church for an eChurch award, visit www.plusline.org.

Diane Thurber, *Lake Union Herald* managing editor with Janine Lim, Pioneer Memorial Church webmaster

Adventist Media Experts Convene

Over 130 communication professionals and students converged in Dallas, October 14–17, 2004, for the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) 16th annual convention.

In his welcome, Ryan Teller, SAC president, emphasized, "We are drawn together by our common belief in Jesus and the Seventh-day Adventist Church. ...We all have a passion for communication using many different media, but we also have a passion for our church and our message."

SAC exists to nurture the spiritual, social, and professional growth of its members. This was accomplished at the convention with networking opportunities, professional growth seminars, and worship times for spiritual renewal.

Workshops were offered to enhance and develop skills in the areas

of directing, marketing, editing, web design/publishing, public relations, and more. Seminars were conducted by SAC members, *Dallas Morning News* award-winning reporter, Berta Delgado, and Jeff Grilley, an Emmy Award winning journalist with over two decades of television news experience, and other professionals.

Convention attendees were spiritually renewed at worship times by speakers, which included: Mike Tucker, Bill Johnsson, and Ray Tetz. Musical guest Buddy Houghtaling, of Battle Creek, Mich., was appreciated for the way his lyrics reflect various everyday experiences and the personal relationships of people in his life.

A highlight of the conference was the gala banquet. Musical guest Rickey Smith, a former Southwestern Adventist University student and semifinalist on the *American Idol* television show, shared a variety of musical selections and his personal testimony.

At the banquet, SAC members also recognized the dedicated service and leadership of Kermit Netteburg, who recently vacated the position of North American Division vice president. Kermit has impacted the lives of countless communication professionals throughout his years of service in the Adventist Church. He was awarded the SAC Lifetime Achievement Award.

The 2005 SAC convention will be held in Portland, Ore., October 13–16. Visit www.adventistcommunicator.org for additional information about SAC.

Diane Thurber, Lake Union Herald managing editor



Attendees of the 2004 Society of Adventist Communicators Conference in Dallas, Texas

G.C. Session Update

Simultaneous Interpretation Services Provided at Session

Imagine trying to provide translation services for up to 80,000 people from around the globe attending the 2005 General Conference Session. Responsibilities are many and include knowing how many language groups will be represented there, how many volunteers will be needed, and where to find translators. With all these questions to answer, translation coordinator Odette Ferreira is already hard at work.

Some 230 volunteer interpreters—many of them delegates—are expected at the Session, translating worships, meetings, and programs simultaneously into as many as 20 languages, Ferreira reports. Thirteen of the church's most spoken languages will each have their own FM radio frequency.

Adventist World Radio will sell small, digital AM, FM, and shortwave radios for U.S. \$20 each that can be used in the meetings to receive simultaneous translations. Official delegates will be given one free radio. You are also welcome to bring your own.

The 13 languages in which translation will be provided via FM frequency are: Spanish, Portuguese, French, Russian, Romanian, German, Japanese, Korean, Serbian-Croatian, Chinese, Italian, Bulgarian, and Czech. Translation services in American Sign Language will also be provided in a designated seating area. Women's Ministries meetings will be translated into Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Russian.

Many interpreters are needed, Ferreira says, because they have to switch off every hour or two. "It's too taxing on the brain to go too long," she explains. Translators will also be ready on the main floor for delegates who wish to speak in their native language.

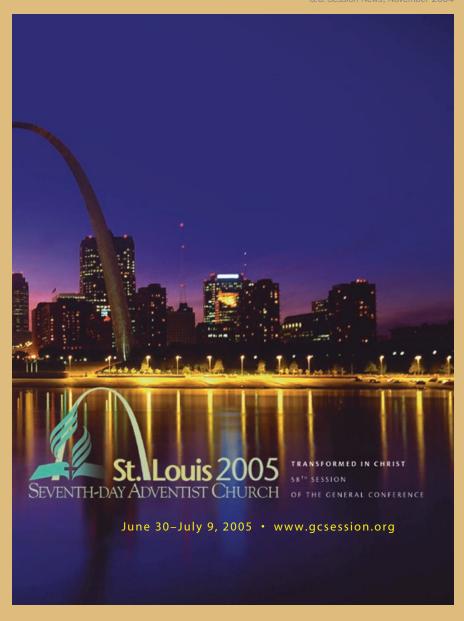
There will be language booths, each with a coordinator in charge of selecting people in his or her region to be interpreters and to supervise his or her colleagues at the Session.

"This service is important for the world church. If you come as a delegate and don't [understand] half of

what's going on, it's throwing money out the window," Ferreira says.

Volunteers are still needed to help with translation as well as other services. Translators must be fluent in English and the language they are translating to and from, and quick. Contact Ferreira at Odette. ferreira@nad.adventist.org, or call (301) 680-6454. Volunteers will be given meal tickets for use during the 10-day Session.

G.C. Session News, November 200



MILEPOSTS

Within the Lake Union, the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at luc.adventist.org/mileposts. Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 39.

Anniversaries



Glenn and Mary Alice Hill celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 28, 2004, by a reception meal and photo memories at the Total Life Community Center, in Gentry, Ark. They have been members of the Battle Creek Tabernacle, Urbandale, Lansing, Ionia, and Charlotte (Mich.) churches for a total of 19 years.

Glenn Hill and Mary Alice Gyde were married May 17, 1954, in Berrien Springs, Mich., by Edwin R. Thiele. Glenn has been a pastor-evangelist in four conferences for 41 years, including nine years in five departments of the Michigan Conference, retiring in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference in 1995. Mary Alice has been a homemaker, and was elementary teacher in Adventist schools for 15 years. They have done world evangelism in 12 countries since retiring.

The Hill family includes Lucinda and Lee Spencer of Collegedale, Tenn.; Glenn and Debbie Hill of Weimar, Calif.; David and Melinda Hill of Goodlettsville, Tenn.; and four grandchildren.

Weddings

Lois J. Adams and James C. Libka were married Sept. 26, 2004, in Fort Wayne, Ind. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Peter Neri.

Lois is the daughter of Durbin and Anna McDermott of Franklin Park, N.J., and James is the son of the late James and the late Bernadine Libka of Bainbridge, Ind.

They are making their home in Fort Wayne.

Sonya L. Martinez and Antoine J. Miller were married Sept. 26, 2004, in Burton, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Melvin Santos.

Sonya is the daughter of David and Donna Martinez of Burton, and Antoine is the son of Greg and Cindy Miller of Flint, Mich.

They are making their home in Flint.

Obituaries

BAKER, Ilene G. (Peck), age 81; born Sept. 21, 1923, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Nov. 8, 2004, in Ionia, Mich. She was a member of the Ionia Church.

Survivors include her husband, Cleo E.; son, Kenneth; and sister, Evelyn Oom. Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Karl Tsatalbasidis, and interment was in Sunset Memorial Gardens Cem-

BLACKWELL, Marion (Miller), age 92; born Sept. 12, 1910, in Flint, Mich.; died June 9, 2003, in Apison, Tenn. She was a member of the First Flint Church.

Survivors include her brother, H. Duane Miller.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor H. Duane Miller, and inurnment was in Cumberland Heights Cemetery, Apison.

BROWN, Muriel E. (Petersen), age 76; born Aug. 6, 1926, in Merrill, Wis.; died Apr. 24, 2003, in Mitchell, Wis. She was a member of the Bethel Church. Aroin, Wis.

Survivors include her husband, Wendell E.; son, Merlin; daughters, Carol Howard, Marcia Turner, and Wendy Jensen; brother, Floyd Petersen; sisters, Kathyleen Oliver and Ruth Wirtz; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Matthew Christo and Rev. Paul Nelson, and interment was in Bethel Cemetery, Arpin.

BROWN, Wendell E., age 80; born Feb. 17, 1924, in Chicago, Ill.; died Sept. 8, 2004, in Arpin, Wis. He was a member of the Bethel Church, Arpin.

Survivors include his son, Merlin; daughters, Carol Howard, Marcia Turner, and Wendy Jensen; sister, Hazel Rice; seven grandchildren; and two greatgrandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Matthew Christo, and interment was in Prairie Rapids Cemetery, Nokomis, Wis.

FARRA, Violet L. (Hahn), age 77; born Jan. 3, 1927, in Elroy, Wis.; died Sept. 21, 2004, in Madison, Wis. She was a member of the Reedsburg (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Phillip; daughter, Judy Kopstein; brothers, Larry, Roger, Doug, and Alan Hahn; sister, Joyce Thonesen; and three grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor William J. Ochs, and interment was in Millards Prairie Cemetery, Elroy.

GRAY, A. Jean (Hughes), age 60; born Apr. 4, 1943, in Kansas City, Mo.; died Mar. 18, 2004, in Spokane, Wash. She was a member of the Oakhill Church, Caseyville, III.

Survivors include her husband, Gary L.; sons, Gary II and Jason; daughter, Gina Bell; brothers, Clarence and John Hughes; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Eugene Taylor and Gary L. Gray, and interment was in Harbor Lawn-Mt. Olive Cemetery, Costa Mesa, Calif.

HUDSON, Frank Jr., age 48; born Aug. 6, 1956, in Chicago, III.; died Nov. 5, 2004, in Flint, Mich. He was a member of the First Flint Church.

Survivors include his wife, Katherine L. (Hudson); daughter, Farisi Dean; mother, Ruth Scott; and stepbrother, Roosevelt Lee.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bruce Babienco, and interment was in Riverrest Cemetery, Flint.

HURT, Maggie M. (Cox), age 93; born Feb. 6, 1911, in Rockport, Ill.; died July 23, 2004, in Carthage, Ill. She was a member of the Carthage Church.

Survivors include her son, James C.; daughter, Mary Pollock; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Gary E. Russell, and interment was in Franklin Cemetery, Carthage.

KENT, Opal E. (Franz) Dixon, age 89; born Aug. 2, 1915, in Freedom, Okla.; died Oct. 5, 2004, in Cedar Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Sparta (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Dennis A. Dixon, Kenneth R. and Robert F. Kent; half sister, Ruth Franz; and eight grandchildren

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ron Mills, and interment was in Greenwood Cemetery, Sparta.

NASH, Audra E. (Hall), age 99; born June 1, 1905, in Fordsville, Ky.; died Sept. 10, 2004, in Marion, Ind. She was a member of the Marion Church.

Survivors include her sons, Charles and Kenneth; four grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Conrad Reichert and Whity Fights, and interment was in Riverside Cemetery, Gas City, Ind.

NUNLEY, Bertrand L., age 75; born Dec. 28, 1928, in San Antonio, Texas; died June 7, 2004, in Southfield, Mich. He was a member of the Community Fellowship Church, Southfield.

Survivors include his wife, Janet (Carter); sons, Bertrand III and Kevin; foster sister, Joyce Graham; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Garth Gabriel, with private inurn-

SCHERER, Shirley J. (Whitaker), age 61; born Oct. 15, 1942, in Ludington, Mich.; died Oct. 14, 2004, in Ludington. She was a member of the Ludington Church.

Survivors include her sons, Terry, Timothy, and William; daughters, Sherri Herlien and Sally Odean; brothers, Arthur, Leo Jr., and Albert Whitaker; sisters, Ester Malstrom, Deloris Leiker, and Ione Myers; and ten grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Douglas Carlson, and interment was in Bachelor Cemetery, Sheridan Twp., Mich.

TENTEBERG, Helen (Schowe), age 79; born Jan. 1, 1925, in Schimmerwitz, Germany; died Sept. 15, 2004, in Columbus, Wis. She was a member of the Watertown (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her stepdaughter, Elvira Seegert; and sister, Elli Schowe.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Richard G. Habenicht, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Water-

WAGNER, Alice (Coffin), age 77; born Sept. 10, 1927, in Nevada, lowa; died Sept. 14, 2004, in Hartford, Mich. She was a member of the Glenwood Church, Dowagiac, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, John J.; sons, Jerry and Ron; daughter, Cathy J. Hill; sister, Margaret Meeker; seven grandchildren; one step-grandchild; and three step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Anthony Rivera and Jerry Wagner, and interment was in Keeler (Mich.) Cemetery.

All 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: \$25 per insertion for Lake Union church members: \$35 per insertion for all others. A form is available at luc.adventist.org/classifieds for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order/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.

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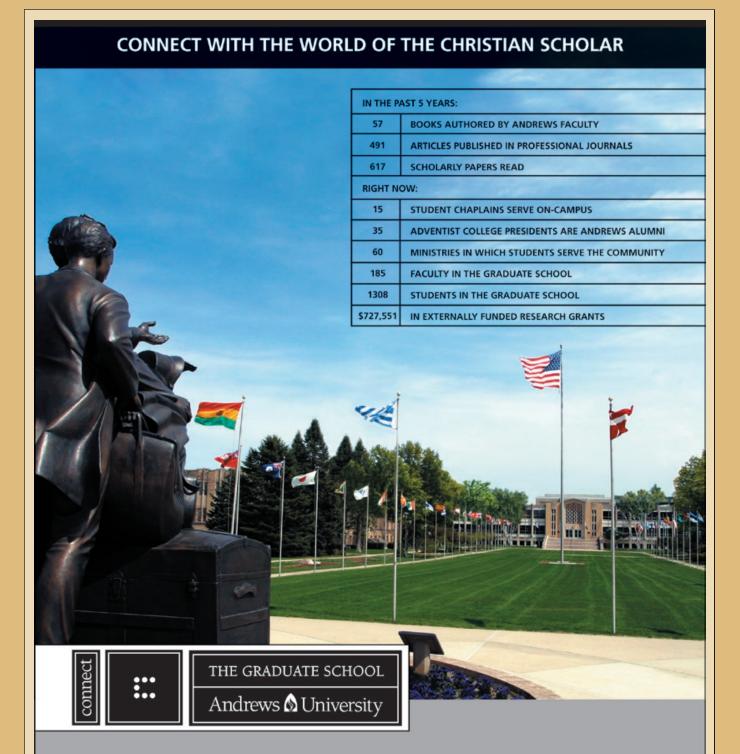
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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks assistant Plant Service manager. Assist manager in building maintenance operations. Directly supervise mechanical maintenance. Hands-on experience in mechanical areas. Plumbing, electrical, HVAC. Ten years experience in total plant maintenance/operations. Good organizational/people skills. Adventists apply at www.andrews. edu/HR/emp_jobs.html.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY PLANT SERVICES seeks HVAC technologist. Provide maintenance and service for all HVAC equipment as well as refrigeration for campus facilities. Five years experience in HVAC and refrigeration work. Certified for refrigeration work. Adventists apply at www. andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs.html.

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seeks full-time teacher in Information Systems, to begin July 1, 2005. Doctoral degree in Information Systems from accredited university required. Adventists submit résumé to: Robert Schwab, chair, Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems, School of Business, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0022; phone: (269) 471-6859; or e-mail: schwab@andrews.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks manager for School of Visual Art Productions. A bachelor's degree with a significant length of experience in business administration required. The manager will supervise the production company's finances, policy formation, and planning. Please send résumé to President, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; or e-mail: bietz@southern.edu.

CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES, the church's ministry for the blind, seeks a full-time person for desktop publishing and video editing at the office in Lincoln, NE. Work Mon.-Thurs. Contact Human Resources at (402) 488-0981, or e-mail: prhr@christianrecord.org.

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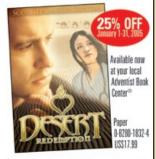
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BOOK OF THE MONTH



Searching for spiritual meaning and healing, Matt ends up in the Middle East teaching English. Through an amazing series of events, he accepts Jesus as his personal Savior, marries the girl of his dreams, and learns how to serve God in a Muslim country.

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FULLY RESTORED 114-YEAR-OLD COUNTRY HOME FOR SALE: Located on four acres; 2,200 sq. ft.; three-bedroom; three bathrooms; full dining room; horse corral and barn. Mint condition, ready to move in. Two miles from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich. For more details, call (269) 471-7617.

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Sunset Calendar

	Andrew Control of the	the same of the sa					
		Jan 7	Jan 14	Jan 21	Jan 28	Feb 4	Feb 11
	Berrien Springs, Mich.	5:29	5:37	5:45	5:53	6:02	6:11
	Chicago	4:34	4:42	4:50	4:59	5:07	5:16
	Detroit	5:14	5:22	5:31	5:39	5:47	5:56
	Indianapolis	5:35	5:42	5:50	5:58	6:05	6:14
	La Crosse, Wis.	4:43	4:50	4:59	5:08	5:17	5:26
	Lansing, Mich.	5:16	5:24	5:32	5:41	5:50	6:00
	Madison, Wis.	4:38	4:45	4:53	5:02	5:11	5:20
	Springfield, Ill.	4:49	4:56	5:04	5:11	5:19	5:28

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 luc.adventist.org/announcements and submit the announcement online. Readers may verify dates and times of programs with the respective sources, as these events are subject to change.

Andrews University

Music and Worship Conference: Spring of 2005 will mark the second annual Music and Worship Conference sponsored by the Department of Music and Center for Youth Evangelism. Hosted on the University campus, this conference is a training event for professional and volunteer church musicians, pastors, and lay leaders. Participants will have access to a variety of seminars, workshops, and concerts. The conference will take place Apr. 14-16, and is available for academic credit. For more information, call (800) 968-8428, or visit website: www.musicconference.andrews.edu.

Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy Workshop: The Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary offers this popular workshop from May 1-6. For information and pre-registration, call Fran Mc-Mullen at (269) 471-3541, or e-mail fran@andrews.edu.

Indiana

A Winter Ski Fest will be held at Timber Ridge Camp Jan. 27-30 for youth in grades 7-12. For further information,

call Trish Thompson in the Indiana Conference Youth Ministries department at (317) 844-6201.

Romance at the Ridge: Take a weekend to rediscover the love that brought you together! It will happen Feb. 11-13 at Timber Ridge Camp. The charge per married couple includes meals, lodging, and materials. For more information, call Ron or Collene Kelly, Family Ministries directors, at (317) 984-4376.

A Pathfinder Winter Campout will be held Feb. 11-13. For information, contact Trish Thompson in the Indiana Conference Youth Ministries department at (317) 844-6201.

The Indiana Youth Rally with guest speaker Dave Ferguson, Blue Mountain Academy chaplain, will be held Feb. 18-19 for youth in grades seven and up. The Friday evening program will be held at Indiana Academy in Cicero, and all the Sabbath activities will be held at Indianapolis Junior Academy, East 62nd St., Indianapolis. Free lunch on Sabbath! Call Trish Thompson in the Indiana Conference Youth Ministries department at (317) 844-6201 for additional information.

Indiana Men's Retreat: Deepen your walk with God and strengthen friendships at the first Indiana Men's Retreat Feb. 25-27 at Timber Ridge Camp. For more information, contact Ron Kelly, Family Ministries director, at (317) 984-4376.

Lake Union

Offerings:

Jan. 1 Local church budget

Jan. 8 Local conference advance

Jan. 15 Local church budget

Jan. 22 Religious Liberty

Jan. 29 Local church budget

Special days:

Jan. 1 Day of Prayer

Jan. 16-22 Religious Liberty Week

Vengan al retiro "ENCUENTRO": Invitamos a los jóvenes hispanos de nuestra Unión a "ENCUENTRO," un retiro para solteros que se llevará a cabo del 4-6 de marzo de 2005, en GRACE ADVENTURES, un lindo campamento en Mears, Michigan. Este evento es auspiciado por la Unión del Lago. El costo para el fin de semana es de \$75.00 por persona si se matricula antes del 14 de febrero, u \$85.00 si lo hace después de esa fecha. Esto incluirá hospedaje, comidas y una camiseta. Haga su reservación con tiempo va que el espacio es limitado. Para más información llame a la oficina del pastor Mercado, al teléfono (269) 473-8249.

Florida's 14th Annual Lake Union Academies Alumni Reunion will be held Mar. 5 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Forest Lake Academy. Alumni and friends of all Lake

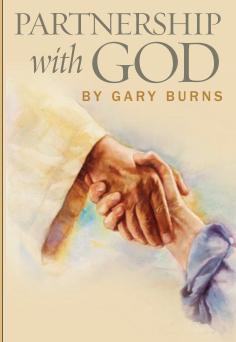
Union academies are invited to attend. Bring your own picnic lunch to be eaten in the cafeteria. Dessert and drink provided. For more information, contact the alumni directors at the Lake Union academies.

North American Division

La Sierra University invites all alumni and friends to Homecoming 2005 Feb. 25-28. Honor classes include: 1925. '35. '45, '55, '65, '75, '80, '51+ and '61+. La Sierra University Sabbath church service with Gary McCary '75, Sat. night class reunions, and Sun. night Homecoming banquet. For more details, contact Alumni at (951) 785-2LSU (2578).

The Quiet Hour invites you to be part of a team that will conduct a two-week reaping series in El Salvador, Mar. 11-26. We urgently need medical personnel (doctors, nurses, optometrists, and others) as well as speakers and support team members. For more information, call Charlene West at (800) 900-9021, x111.

Union College Homecoming Weekend: All alumni, friends, and former faculty are invited to come Relive the Spirit of Union Apr. 7-10. Honor classes are 1945. '55. '65, '75, '80, '85, and '95. For reservations or more information, contact the Union College Alumni office at 3800 South 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506; phone: (402) 486-2503; or e-mail: alumni@ucollege.edu.



an you imagine one of the world's top inves-✓ tors contacting you and offering you a full partnership in a business venture in which the only thing you bring to the deal is yourself? The investor brings all the capital, all the resources, provides the property and the inventory, provides the employees, and covers all the advertising. You get to manage the business and share in its success.

There is nothing in your résumé or past performance record that would recommend you for such a position. In fact, your portfolio is non-existent and your credit report is red-flagged. Yet the investor is ready to give you a full partnership, asking only that you agree to manage the business in such a way that it remains faithful to its mission statement. On top of it all, he co-signs for an unlimited line of credit at the bank and gives you the number to his mobile phone so that he can be available to you 24/7.

By the way, the business just happens to be your dream come true—the one thing you love to do—the opportunity of a lifetime that you never thought possible. Wow, what a deal! Who would make such an offer?

Well actually, God has. God offers just such a partnership to us. We come with nothing but ourselves. He comes with all the resources of Heaven. We bring nothing but liabilities. He offers unlimited assets. We bring our ignorance and incompetence. He brings His wisdom and abilities.

Oh, the foolishness of God. How unlike us to offer everything and get nothing in return. Or does He?

David understood something about this partnership with God. He said, "The Lord takes delight in his people. He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me" (Psalms 149:4, 2; Samuel 22:20, NIV).

Could it be that God wants to partner with you simply because He delights in you?

TEAMWORK: The Most Valuable Asset in Life

GOD WANTS US ON HIS TEAM
BY KATIE PAUL

eamwork is the most valuable asset in life. Working with other people towards a common goal is a vital part of what we do in everyday living. We use teamwork with our friends, at work, at church, and with our families. I believe teamwork brings us closer to God and to others.

Teamwork brings friends closer together.

I was able to go to the Dominican Republic on a Maranatha trip this past February. Not only was I extremely blessed by the people we helped, I was drawn closer to my church family. On the job site, people split up into different teams, each with their own specific duties. Among the people on the team I was working with were Katie Ferguson and Renee Book, two of my friends from Indiana Academy. It was a lot of fun to work together because we get along so well, but we also got a lot accomplished. In the time I spent with them in the Dominican, our friendship grew more than it could ever have grown with our schedules at school and during the summer. We now have a friendship that nothing can break.

Teamwork gets the job accomplished.

This year, I am the pianist for the choir and *Keynotes* at Indiana Academy. It doesn't sound like that would require much teamwork, but it does. Andrew Lay, IA music director, gives me the music I need to practice, and instructs me on difficult pieces. I practice and tell him if I am having difficulties. That's just one part of the team, though. My coworkers, Elkyn and Rashid, who are in both choirs, sometimes come and sing

the music I'm practicing. That helps me find any errors I might have overlooked, and it gets them ready for class. The choirs are also part of the team I work with. If we both practice, the choir will sing well. Everyone works separately so that we can work together.

Teamwork brings us closer to God.

In the Dominican, Katie Ferguson and I stayed in the same tent. Every night one of us read a passage or verse from the Bible, and we would pray together afterward. That changed my outlook on life. I am not very good at sitting down and reading my Bible, but having Katie there helped me to see that God appreciates every effort we make to come closer to Him. At a prayer conference last year Peter Neri, a guest presenter, showed us a new way for group

Bible study. It was fascinating how much I learned in just one session. The Bible is written in such a way that everyone who reads it can get something different out of it. It is amazing how God works through

teamwork. After all, God works in mysterious ways. I view my relationship with God as a team. We work together to accomplish any task ahead.

Teamwork is such a large part of our lives that sometimes we don't even notice it, but God wants us to be part of His team. And that is the best team of all.

Katie Paul is a 17-year-old junior at Indiana
Academy and a member of the Cicero
(Indiana) Church. She will receive a
\$100 scholarship for having her
article selected for this column.

Profiles of Youth [ANDREWS ACADEMY]

Cali Ann Damron, an Andrews Academy senior, was born at Berrien General Hospital to Don and Elise Damron and has lived in Berrien Springs, Mich., ever since.

Cali has been elected to class and National Honor Society offices for the past three years, is involved in music as a member of the Concert Band and Women's Chorus for all four years, and Handbell Choir for a year and a half. Recently, Cali was instrumental in starting *Intermission*, a Friday evening vespers program she coordinates for community young people.



Cali Ann Damron

Cali's interests include family, bell ringing, cooking, and travel. Her career plans include mission service as either a nurse practitioner or physician's assistant. Cali's interest in mission work is a result of meaningful experiences on mission trips, including two SOW Safari trips with Andrews Academy.

According to one of Cali's teachers, "Cali always has a smile on her face, is energetically involved in whatever she finds to do, and has a pleasant greeting for anyone she meets."



Jeffery Allen Habenicht

Born to parents who were mission doctors in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, **Jeffery Allen Habenicht** spent his first twelve years learning to love island life. The son of Larry and Donna Habenicht, Jeff, a senior, is enjoying his experience as he finishes four years at Andrews Academy.

Jeff's talent for leadership is obvious; he has served as freshman class vice president, sophomore class president, Student Association treasurer during his junior year, and now leads the class of 2005 as president. He is also a National Honor Society member, and has worked on the

newspaper and yearbook staffs. Jeff is passionately involved in the academy music program, playing trumpet in the Orchestra and Concert Band, where he has been student conductor for the past two years, and singing in the Men's Chorus.

Jeff's interests include photography, music, and sports—especially running and biking. Service is an important part of his life as demonstrated by his involvement in *Random Acts of Kindness*, a student-initiated group which helps community members; his participation in many mission trips, including three SOW Safari trips with the academy; and his leadership in an evangelist series in Botswana, Africa, this past summer. Jeff states that he "want[s] to make the world a better place for those who follow [him]."

He plans to pursue a double major in molecular biology and photography at Andrews University this fall, and a possible advanced degree in genetic engineering at Harvard in the future.

Address Correction

Members from the Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin conferences should now contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all *Lake Union Herald* address changes. Members of Indiana and Lake Region conferences and paid subscribers should continue to contact the *Lake Union Herald* office with their address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right.

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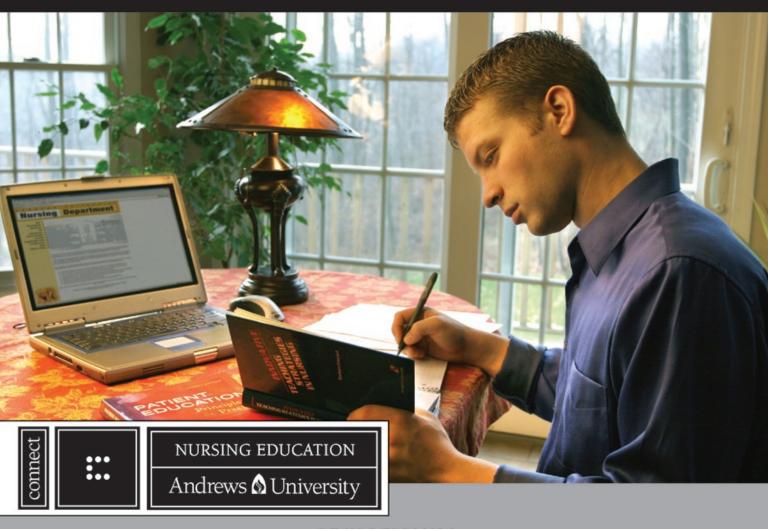
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