

Lake Union HERALD

AUGUST 2005



SHARE
THE LIGHT
Church Ministries Convention



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in every issue...

- 3 Editorial** by Walter L. Wright, Lake Union president
- 4 New Members** Get to know some recent additions to the Lake Union.
- 6 Youth in Action**
- 7 Beyond our Borders**
- 8 Family Ties** by Susan E. Murray
- 9 Healthy Choices** by Winston J. Craig
- 10 Extreme Grace** by Dick Duerksen
- 11 Adventism IOI** by Ann Fisher
- 12 Sharing our Hope**
- 13 ConeXiones** en español by Carmelo Mercado
- 28 Adventist Midwest Health News**
- 29 Andrews University News**
- 30 News**
- 36 Mileposts**
- 38 Classifieds**
- 45 Announcements**
- 46 One Voice**
- 47 Profiles of Youth**

in this issue...

As a pastor stepping into the role of communication director, the convincing reasons to come to the Lake Union were leadership's emphasis on evangelism and the resulting number of members actively engaged in ministry. I was surprised to learn that many first-time lay evangelists held *Hope for the Homeland* and *Hope for Our Day* meetings. But conducting meetings is only one part of the total evangelism picture.

This issue is dedicated to our church ministries convention theme: "Share the Light." It is about our ongoing quest to encourage one another in a variety of consistent and integrated ways to become more effective ambassadors for Christ.

Gary Burns
Gary Burns, Editor



features...

- 14 God's "Code Blue" Team** by Rodney Grove
- 16 Kingdom Kids** by Diane Thurber & Don MacLafferty
- 19 Don't Worry About What to Say** by Brad Bolejack
- 22 Church Planting: A Revival All Its Own** by Lisa Isensee
- 25 Christ's Community** by Gary Burns

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LET'S GET BUSY

“**W**hatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.” (Ecclesiastes 9:10 NIV). I received a bulletin the other day from Don Schneider, North American Division (NAD) president, and it contained some startling facts:

- ▶ There is one Adventist for every 468 people in the world. That ratio has dropped from one in 669 in just the past ten years.
- ▶ During 2004, the NAD surpassed one million members. Membership is now 1,006,317.
- ▶ There are 5,679 churches and companies in the NAD. Worldwide there are 117,737.
- ▶ On an average, 2,756 new Adventists are baptized daily around the world, with 13 congregations formed in the same 24-hour period.

And the amazing statistics go on and on. I don't know about you, but this excites and exhilarates me! We are seeing prophecy being fulfilled and are blessed to be alive at this time. And I believe far greater things than these will be witnessed before the closing of time.

So, fellow-believer, what should this mean to you and me? I think it means we had better get busy. We don't want the Holy Spirit to leave us out of these awesome accomplishments. Nor do we have to be. In the words of our text, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.” Time is winding up.

I know. I've been hearing that in church ever since I was a boy. But it is closer to fulfillment now than before. And you and I have opportunity to be a part of sharing the light we have before it's too late! Once we pass from Earth's scene, and I was strongly reminded last year that we can leave here at any time, there is nothing we can do to fulfill the Great Commission.

Listen, friend of mine, the Lake Union Conference is providing training August 26–28 in Merrillville, Indiana, so you can train for a special ministry of your choice that suits your gifts and talents. This means you can prepare to be an integral part in finishing the work.

Pull out that bulletin insert again that you received in your church, or the brochure you received at camp meeting, and make plans to be with us. We are going to **SHARE THE LIGHT**. You too can learn to **SHARE THE LIGHT**. Don't miss it. This may be your last chance to “do it with all your might.”

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Michigan Phillip DeCamp was raised as an Adventist Christian, and while growing up he enjoyed a close walk with the Lord. As a teenager, he wanted desperately to attend Grand Ledge Academy, but lacked the funds. Miraculously, in answer to his prayers, the Lord provided a way. In the years following academy, his choices began to conflict with his life training and he drifted from his closeness to the Lord. Eventually he chose to leave the church completely.

Although Phillip severed ties with the church, God provided opportunities for contact to continue. In becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Phillip received his training at an Adventist health institution. His lifestyle, however, was totally out of harmony with the Bible principles he once loved and practiced.

Phillip met Roxie, the woman of his dreams. She too had an Adventist background, but was living a life apart from her church. He felt she understood him in a way no one else ever had. Their love for each other grew and they eventually married. Yet, something inside Phillip was causing an internal struggle. It was a struggle between how he was living and how he knew God wanted him to live. Roxie knew she too had abandoned God's will for her life. Both felt the convicting influence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. There were times when Phillip felt he should return to the

Adventist church, but he was torn between his personal convictions, his desire to return to Christ, and his relationship with Roxie.

Eventually Roxie's health began to decline and it was discovered she had a terminal illness. It had been twenty years since

Phillip had been to church, but he and Roxie attended occasionally when her health would permit. Before her eventual death, Roxie was able to make her peace with God. Phillip was devastated, for in losing her, he lost the only person he believed really understood him.

Seeking spiritual comfort and answers to life's questions, Phillip decided to attend the *Hope for Our Day* evangelistic series in 2004. The messages he heard took him back to his earlier training as a child, and the Holy Spirit brought conviction to his heart. Although he was struggling with issues of self-worth, keeping the Sabbath, and trusting God with his finances, he indicated to Karl Tsatalbasidis, Ionia-Belgreen district pastor, that he would like to be baptized.

As he and Karl studied together, the Holy Spirit provided the faith and strength for him to choose to be obedient to all the Bible's truths. As he grew spiritually, the day finally came when he had the courage to approach his boss with a request to be relieved of Sabbath work. Although he had been with the company for six years, he was willing to give up his job if the request was denied.

Phillip shared his conviction about keeping the Bible Sabbath. When he made the request, two other employees heard his conversation with the boss and said, "If Phillip can have his Sabbaths off, then we ought to be able to have our Sundays off for church." His boss replied, "Sunday is not



Phillip DeCamp (left) was baptized by Karl Tsatalbasidis, Ionia-Belgreen district pastor.



Karl Tsatalbasidis (far right), Ionia-Belgreen district pastor, introduces Phillip DeCamp (far left), Marilyn Porter, and Ed Andres to their new church family.

the true Sabbath. Phillip goes by the true Sabbath and will have his Sabbaths off.”

Encouraged in his faith, Phillip also began to experience the blessings and miracles of returning his tithes and offerings to God. He discovered the Lord could stretch nine-tenths of his money after tithe, more than he had been able to stretch his total income.

On December 11, 2004, Phillip was baptized at the Belgreen church in Greenville, Michigan. Phillip knows it is by God’s grace he found his way back into fellowship with Him. Now, he is committed to live for Christ and looks forward to receiving a crown of life at the coming of Jesus Christ.

Phillip DeCamp with Bruce Babienco, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

Wisconsin When Lisa Isensee, Monroe Church pastor, received a request in the mail for video Bible studies from **LaVada Roper**, she responded right away. She found LaVada, and discovered she loved the Lord, was kind and thoughtful, and had a great sense of humor.

Some weeks later, when Lisa picked up the video about the Bible Sabbath, she asked LaVada if the subject was new to her or if she had any questions. She responded, “No, I don’t have any questions because it is the truth, and I’ve known about it since I was a little girl.”

As it turned out, when she was just four years old, she had learned about the Sabbath from her grandmother, who loved the Lord and often spoke about the Sabbath. She remembered hearing her say, “Sunday is not the day God tells us to worship—Saturday is!”

LaVada remembers that her grandmother gave her a Bible of her very own as a young child. It was she who helped put a desire in LaVada’s heart to love Jesus and want to follow Him in all He asked her to do.

In 1955, as a young wife and mother, LaVada lived in Schullsberg, Wisconsin. The *Voice of Prophecy* radio broadcast was heard in that area at that time. Each night, LaVada and her grandmother listened to the familiar music of the *King’s Heralds* quartet and the loving, encouraging messages from H.M.S. Richards.

One day, LaVada and her grandmother decided to enroll in the free Bible correspondence course that was offered. LaVada completed the course and enrolled in another course on the book of Daniel. Now, 50 years later, she was delighted to find someone teaching the same familiar



LaVada Jean Roper shows one of the Bible study courses she took 50 years ago.

truths she had learned from the broadcast. She was also excited to learn that the *Hope Bible Prophecy Seminars* were coming to Monroe in Fall 2004. She determined she was going to attend.

Arthur “Art” Schneider also attended the *Hope Bible Prophecy Seminars*. He had not been to a church service more than a dozen times his entire life. What drew him to the prophecy seminars was a desire to be with his fiancée, LaVada Roper. He could tell she was captivated by what she was hearing and that God was speaking to her heart.



Arthur Schneider

But it wasn’t just her heart God was speaking to. As he learned about God’s wonderful plan of salvation, His atoning death on Calvary, and that Jesus died for him personally, Art gave his life to Jesus Christ and accepted salvation by faith. On February 26, 2005, Art and LaVada sealed their decisions through baptism, and now they both are experiencing the joy of being a part of God’s family after all these years.

Bruce Babienco, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent with Lisa Isensee, Wisconsin Conference church planting coordinator and Monroe Company pastor

Blankets for Honduras

NURSES WERE FORCED TO
WRAP BABIES IN NEWSPAPER

BY DIANE THURBER AS SHARED BY KELLY RAZZOUK

What does an Adventist youth group from Miami, a Presbyterian church in Colorado, and a mother in Australia have in common? They are just a few of the people who responded to a recent global campaign to send baby blankets for the Tegucigalpa Maternity Hospital in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Kelly Razzouk, a Hinsdale (Illinois) Church member, spent a year working at the United Nations and learned of a plea for help from a representative of the Mission of Honduras. The representative informed Kelly about the deplorable conditions at the Tegucigalpa Maternity Hospital. Hearing that “nurses were forced to wrap babies in newspaper,” Kelly felt compelled to act. “It broke my heart to know that in 2005 these tiny babies would not be welcomed to the world with a warm blanket,” she said.

Kelly wanted her university to be involved in helping with the project too, so she contacted Southern Adventist University’s *Students in Free Enterprise* (SIFE) program where Rebecca Huey, student director, and Don Van Ornam, department chairman, were excited about getting involved. “SIFE is a community service-based organization that looks to help those in need,” Rebecca said.

Since Kelly’s appearance on 3ABN where, during an interview with host Danny Shelton, she asked viewers to



Kelly Razzouk and Rebecca Huey, SIFE director, pack blankets for the maternity hospital in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.



When Kelly Razzouk learned of the deplorable conditions at the Tegucigalpa Maternity Hospital, she felt compelled to act.

send blankets, SIFE has received e-mails and phone calls from people around the world ready to contribute. “I was surprised by how quickly people responded,” said Rebecca, whose office is already filled with hundreds of blankets. Rebecca was also impressed with the personal dedication of those who gave. “People have invested the time to crochet blankets themselves, and some young people have organized car washes and bake sales to raise money for blankets,” she said.

The first collection of blankets was shipped April 8, and subsequent shipments will follow. Southern will continue to collect blankets and donations to cover shipping costs throughout the year. “God said that whoever does it unto the least of these does it unto Me,” reminded Rebecca. “Sending my blanket is a

way to share God’s love,” she added.

Kelly and her friends are examples of what young people can do to make a difference in the world. She invites you to join her blanket campaign. Send blankets or money for shipping costs to: Southern Adventist University, Students in Free Enterprise, Blankets for Honduras, 5071C Industrial Drive, Collegedale, TN 37315.

For additional information, contact: sife@southern.edu.

Kelly Razzouk is a member of the Hinsdale (Illinois) Church; she graduated from Southern Adventist University on May 1, 2005. Diane Thurber is the *Lake Union Herald* managing editor.



Answering God's Call to Help TSUNAMI VICTIMS

HOW CAN I SAY 'THANK YOU'?

BY SUSAN COOPER

Jeff Davies and his wife, Laura Chen Davies, both of Oakland Township, Mich., first felt God's call to help with the tsunami relief effort while sharing breakfast December 29. Forty-eight hours later, they were on a plane headed to Banda Aceh, Indonesia, the region hardest hit by the December 26 disaster.

Jeff Davies, 30, an emergency medicine resident, and Laura Davies, 28, a journalist, recruited friends Craig Chaya, 28, an internist, and his wife, Michelle Chaya, 28, an emergency room nurse, to join them. The group met in Los Angeles, the Chayas' hometown, and left the United States on January 1. Once in Indonesia, they joined a medical team put together by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). The entire team including the Davieses and Chayas included four doctors, ten nurses, three medical assistants, and a pastor.

The group set up a free clinic on the outskirts of downtown Banda Aceh, just down the street from a survivor camp that had been set up at a mosque. They saw about 500 patients a day and treated them for conditions such as respiratory ailments, rashes, diarrhea, infected wounds, and more. Over 3,000 patients were treated during the group's seven-day stay.

"We expected the people to be depressed and thought we would be consoling them the entire time," said Craig. "But most people were pretty upbeat considering what they



Michelle Chaya, of Culver City, Calif., examined a young patient at a free clinic set up by ADRA in Banda Aceh, Indonesia.



Laura Chen Davies (left), of Oakland Township, Mich., stands next to an Indonesian man and his six-year-old neighbor, found at the top of a coconut tree six hours after the tsunami waters receded. The boy has no known living relatives, so his neighbors have been caring for him.

had just gone through. We were inspired by their resilience."

One survivor who stood out in Jeff's mind was a man who was in his 20s. The man brought his grandmother to be treated for pneumonia and, with tears in his eyes, told Jeff, "I have no words to explain how thankful I am for what you are doing here. How can I say 'thank you'?"

"I told him, 'You just did,'" Jeff recalled.

"It's so easy to get caught up in the numbers," said Jeff, who, with his wife, attends the South Flint Seventh-day Adventist Church. "You hear 200,000 were killed, 100,000 are missing, and you become numb to the real suffering. But when we were in Aceh and met the people and heard their stories, we were able to put a face with the numbers, and these faces belong to real people like you and me."

ADRA Indonesia has committed to rebuilding schools in Aceh and Melaboh, which is off the western coast of Sumatra. For more information or to donate, call (800) 424-2372 or visit www.adra.org.

To read more about the medical team's experience, visit the following web address: http://www.freep.com/voices/sunday/davies23e_20050123.htm.

Susan Cooper is a pseudonym.





MISSING the POINT

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

Some of you have been there. We were there nearly 30 years ago. We went there again in May. It was a moving experience! On a wind-swept spot on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, we visited Kitty Hawk and were reminded of the incredible accomplishments of Orville and Wilbur Wright.

Their first successful flight took place there in December 1903. They excitedly telegraphed their sister, Katherine, “We have actually flown 120 feet. We will be home for Christmas.” She took their telegram to the local newspaper office where the editor read the telegram and said, “How nice. The boys will be home for Christmas.” He missed the point!

Do you find yourself “missing the point” in your marriage, as a parent, or as a member of your family? Do you find yourself focusing more on the negative details of your life than on the overall positive picture of your spouse, child, or other family members?

One of the best ways to “get to the point” of successful relationships is to focus more on the positives than the negatives. In this hurry-up world of countless challenges and priorities, it is easy to miss an important point—showing affection and appreciation towards those we say we love.

I invite you to consider these ideas for building affection and appreciation in your relationships so you won’t miss the point:

Take time—for talking, relaxing, and listening. It’s been said that the way children spell LOVE is TIME.

Look—for ways to meet your loved ones’ needs for attention, support, appreciation, and comfort.

Focus—on ways you can bring joy. In what ways do they like affection (a hug, wink, tender smile, or holding hands)? What are their love languages (time, gifts, appreciation)?

Review—what you’ve been doing. How is it working? We often give the kind of affection we like; when something isn’t working, we keep trying harder doing the same thing. I often say, “It’s never too late to start doing things differently.”

Consider—how you can be more lovingly available to those you love. Can they confide in you or do they see you to be critical or uninterested?

Reassure—your loved ones of your desire for closeness and of your commitment to meet their needs. Speak words of appreciation and affection to the place they have in your life.

Listen—to your loved ones’ ideas, dreams, interests, fears, joys, hopes, and plans.

Initiate—affection through your touch, spoken words, and written words.

Plan—some unexpected times when you can show your loved ones how much you cherish and need one another. We each desire to be needed.

When there are clues that we are “missing the point,” we can shift our focus. God is ready and able to help us be instruments of His grace to meet the acceptance, affection, and appreciation needs of those whom we love.

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

*Some thoughts adapted from David and Teresa Ferguson’s, *More than Married: Ten Keys to Intimacy for a Lasting Marriage*, J. Countryman, 2000.



For the HEALING of the Nations

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Millions benefit from
herbal remedies.

The World Health Organization estimates four-fifths of the world's inhabitants rely upon traditional medicine for primary healthcare needs. For centuries, indigenous peoples have used plants and plant extracts for medicine. The leaves, fruit, seeds, flowers, roots, or bark of various trees, shrubs, and other plants have been harvested for their useful healing properties.



Recently, in Western society, there has been a resurgence of interest in the use of botanical therapies for the relief of various illnesses. According to a national survey, one in three Americans utilize at least one non-conventional therapy per year. Annually, alternative medicine has become a multi-billion dollar industry.

Ellen White recommended years ago the value of a number of simple herbal remedies such as hop tea to induce sleep, eucalyptus and honey for coughs, and charcoal for indigestion and inflammations. Some of the commonly used herbs with a safe and effective record are listed below.

- ▶ **Feverfew is effective in reducing the frequency and severity of migraine headaches.**
- ▶ **Valerian is a mild sedative useful for the treatment of anxiety and insomnia.**
- ▶ **St John's Wort has been used to treat mild and moderate forms of depression.**
- ▶ **Echinacea is commonly used to treat colds and flu symptoms.**
- ▶ **Cranberry juice contains pigments that fight urinary tract infections.**
- ▶ **Fresh aloe vera gel relieves burns and sunburns, and facilitates the healing of wounds.**

- ▶ **Saw Palmetto is effective for the treatment of prostate enlargement and inflammation.**
- ▶ **Slippery Elm reduces gastric and intestinal inflammation.**
- ▶ **Ginger is useful to treat nausea and prevent symptoms of motion sickness.**
- ▶ **Tea tree oil is useful therapy in the treatment of *Candida*, *tinea* and other fungal infections.**
- ▶ **Elderberry is a safe and effective treatment for colds, flu, and sore throats.**
- ▶ **Fennel is used for treating digestive problems and mild spasms of the gastrointestinal tract.**
- ▶ **Eucalyptus oil is effective as a decongestant and provides relief for coughs.**
- ▶ **Psyllium is used as a safe laxative and helps lower elevated blood lipid levels.**
- ▶ **Garlic is a wide spectrum antibiotic and reduces the risk of blood clots.**

Those who understand and appreciate the beneficial value of commonly grown herbs and learn how to properly utilize them could prevent a lot of pain and suffering, and enjoy better health (*Selected Messages*, Book 2, pages 297–8).

Winston Craig is professor of nutrition at Andrews University.



EXTREME GRACE

Kingdom GROWTH BY DICK DUERKSEN

I am 16 weeks a grandfather, and that truth has added a whole new dimension to my life. I am drawn to the children's books in Borders. I have purchased a new box of crayons, and am on the prowl for a perfect coloring book.

Griffyn will be coming to grandpa's and grandma's home for Christmas, and I'm doing my part to be ready! Last night I watched Griffyn wave, and heard him coo (Brenda and I are still arguing over which of us he was waving to.) as we watched on our Internet video machinery. I do not understand how it works, but I love being able to see him and his parents right here in the study—even though they are far off in New Zealand. Griffyn is a new branch on our family tree, a branch filled with promises of future generations for our family, promises of men and women who will continue God's ministry on Earth.

Much of my life's ministry has been in Seventh-day Adventist schools. I have taught, principaled, driven bus, graded papers, and eaten the cafeteria's Friday evening cinnamon rolls. Throughout that time I have watched students grow wise within the safety of Christian teachers who have been willing to love them through the rough spots. Many of those students are now elders, deacons, youth leaders, community service directors, secretaries, janitors, and pastors in Seventh-day Adventist churches around the world. They are the backbone of our congregations, dedicated leaders



whose time belongs to God and whose hearts are open in service. Our children do stay in the church, IF they are accepted, respected, loved, and supported.

Churches seem to grow best when children are born, dedicated, educated, graduated, and given jobs in the church. It's an eye-popping challenge! But, they're up to it, especially when the other members

provide a safe place for kids to mature as persons, and as Christians.

Church growth generally comes in four ways:

1. New members are baptized.
2. New members are accepted on profession of faith.
3. Members transfer from another Seventh-day Adventist congregation.
4. Children of members accept Jesus as Savior and choose to become members.

Numbers one, two, and four increase the number of Seventh-day Adventists, and are called "Kingdom Growth." All are good, but for me, number four is best. But then, I am a new grandpa, admiring the new limb on our church/family tree, and imagining a future when his courage and understanding will help other kids over the rough spots. Griffyn is a sixth-generation Seventh-day Adventist. That's Kingdom Growth!

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



Systematic Benevolence

BY ANN FISHER

Seventh-day Adventists are known for their willing and generous support of the world church and its mission. From the 1850s, our Adventist pioneers adopted the practice of making regular contributions to the church according to a predetermined plan. The plan conceived by a Bible class in Battle Creek, Michigan, led by J.N. Andrews, became known as “systematic benevolence.” Members at a Battle Creek Church meeting in 1859¹ pledged to give specific amounts each week, according to the ability of their adult members. Men were to give from 5 to 20 cents, and women from 2 to 10 cents. Landowners would give from 1 to 5 cents for every \$100 of their land’s value.

Today, church members at all economic levels have united in generously supporting the church and its mission by giving offerings in proportion to their incomes. In addition to the ten percent tithe, many Adventists give a “second tithe” for offerings.

If you are a new member, I’m sure you have discovered the offering envelopes usually located in the racks on the back of church pews. These envelopes are provided by your local conference to make systematic benevolence easier for you. Though there are slight variations from conference to conference, the envelopes usually have at least four main sections where you can indicate to your church how you wish your donations to be used.

Tithe

Tithe money is considered sacred and is kept separate from other money. It is used exclusively for the financial support of the ministry.

Local Church Budget

These funds go to pay your local church operating expenses—heat, electricity, church ministries, Sabbath school supplies, maintenance, Pathfinders, church school operation, etc.

Conference Advance

The tithe envelope will usually list specific projects for your conference. These may include youth camps, camp-

grounds, assistance building new churches and schools, and special evangelistic or educational programs. Church policy does not allow tithe money to be used for land purchases, construction costs, or building repairs, so conferences must rely on offering money for these projects.

World Budget

Sabbath school offerings, which are devoted to world mission work, are listed here. Several additional offerings used to establish or maintain specific missions or ministries in North America and throughout the world are listed that receive special attention at some time during the year. In your *Lake Union Herald* announcement section under the Lake Union heading, there is a list of the church offering designations for the current month to help you plan for these offerings.

One advantage of placing donations in an offering envelope is that the church treasurer may identify donors and provide them with receipts for their tithe and offerings. The next time you pick up an offering envelope from the back of the pew and tuck your donation into it, consider the awesome privilege you have of joining your world family in spreading the good news that Jesus is coming soon.

Ann Fisher writes from Walla Walla, Washington.

1. *Review and Herald*, Feb. 3, 1859.

Continuing Education Requested

WE DON'T WANT TO MISS THE SABBATH AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY
BY BRUCE BABIENCO AS SHARED BY BARBARA AND GEORGE DRONEN

Barbara and George Dronen are a retired pastoral couple who cared for the Boyne City, Central Lake, and Gaylord, Michigan, churches as interim spiritual leaders. The Dronens began Bible studies in Boyne City on Sabbath afternoons with two couples, Cary and Cris Johnson and Andrew and Therese Dunlop.

It came time for the Dronens' assignment to end, but the Johnsons and Dunlops enjoyed the Sabbath afternoon Bible studies so much; they asked the Dronens if they would please continue their weekly appointments. Barbara and George were happy to say yes to their request.

Eventually both couples asked to be baptized and a date was set. George suggested they invite their family members to come to the Boyne City Church to celebrate their new commitment to Christ. Their families responded to the invitation, filling the church and swelling attendance to over 70 people for the baptismal service.

Barbara and George have continued the studies and the Holy Spirit is blessing. Now, 11–13 people come for a two-hour Bible study each week. The Dronens use the Amazing

Facts *Storacles of Prophecy* study guides, and those who come are elated with what they are learning. "It is a joy to observe how they are growing in their experience with the Lord," says George. "It confirms the fact that when new members are baptized we need to continue to have fellowship,

friendship, and Bible instruction with them, their family, and friends."

Those who attend the studies have said, "We don't want to miss the Bible study on Sabbath afternoon," and "Having Bible studies on Sabbath afternoons gives the Sabbath meaning." Several of the church members have joined with visitors and youth and are en-

joying the presentations also. This experience has created a desire for more church members to share with others what God is revealing to them. As they gain practical knowledge of Christianity with the use of *Storacles of Prophecy*, it creates a deeper interest in the Bible.

Some visitors are now attending the church's weekly Sabbath school too.



The newly-baptized members are (from left): Cary and Cris Johnson; Therese and Andrew Dunlop. The couples are holding books from the *Conflict of the Ages* series given to them at their baptism.

Bruce Babienco is the *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent; Barbara and George Dronen are a retired pastoral couple from Indian River, Michigan.



El llamado macedónico

POR CARMELO MERCADO

El apóstol Pablo se sentía frustrado. Durante su primer viaje misionero había viajado por más de dieciocho meses y había establecido iglesias en seis territorios diferentes. En el segundo viaje se dedicó a visitar las iglesias que había fundado anteriormente. Pero quería también predicar el evangelio



Pastores y laicos presentes en la organización de la nueva iglesia hispana en Evansville, Indiana.

en Asia, donde le parecía que podría tener mucho éxito, ya que había muchos judíos y sinagogas en esa región. Pero el Espíritu Santo le prohibió ir a Asia. Luego intentó ir hacia el norte, a Bitinia, pero el Espíritu Santo también le prohibió ir allí. Debido a estas prohibiciones, Pablo y Silas tuvieron que viajar más de 300 millas sin predicar el evangelio.

Cansados de viajar, llegaron finalmente a Troas. Me imagino que Pablo oró antes de acostarse, como era su costumbre y le pidió a Dios que lo guiara a dónde debía ir. En la noche tuvo una visión en la cual vio a un varón macedónico que estaba de pie y que le decía: “pasa a Macedonia y ayúdanos”. Con nuevo ánimo los dos misioneros fueron a Macedonia y llegaron a Filipos, un lugar donde había pocos judíos y donde no había ninguna sinagoga. Al leer el capítulo 16 del libro de Los Hechos se puede notar que Pablo y Silas experimentaron mucho peligro y persecución. Pero el resultado fue el establecimiento de una fuerte iglesia cuyos miembros aumentaban constantemente.

Es interesante ver cómo en la actualidad se puede oír el llamado macedónico en este país, tal como ocurrió en Evansville, Indiana. En febrero de 2001 una persona hispana llamada Marcial Camilla comenzó a visitar la iglesia de habla inglesa en Evansville. Luego llegaron otras personas de habla hispana a la Escuela Sabática de esa iglesia.

Bela Kobor, el pastor de esta iglesia y los miembros de la misma vieron la necesidad de evangelizar a los hispanos y trataron de conseguir a alguien que enseñara una clase de Escuela Sabática en español. La iglesia vio contestada su oración cuando Michael y Cecilia DePriest (una familia bilingüe) se mudaron a Evansville

en mayo de 2001. El grupo de habla hispana siguió creciendo y pronto surgió la necesidad de conseguir a un obrero bíblico.

En agosto de 2002 Luis Evia, un pastor del estado de Washington, visitó la ciudad de Evansville para ver si Dios lo estaba llamando a apoyar la obra hispana en ese lugar. Durante su visita Evia escuchó el llamado macedónico y pronto hizo la mudanza con toda su familia. El grupo siguió creciendo con la bendición de Dios, el 26 de marzo de este año se organizó la primera iglesia hispana en Evansville.

Dios llama en la actualidad a personas hispanas para que se trasladen a lugares nuevos y para que abran obra hispana. En nuestra propia unión hay muchas ciudades con un número muy alto de habitantes hispanos, pero donde no existe ninguna iglesia hispana adventista. La hermana White nos dice:

“Hay campos abiertos que invitan a los obreros a entrar. La cosecha está madura y por todas partes en la tierra se escucha el ferviente llamado macedónico que pide obreros” (*Consejos sobre mayordomía cristiana*, p. 43).

¿Será que Dios le está llamando hoy para entrar en un campo nuevo?

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



**GOD'S
“CODE BLUE”
TEAM**

BY RODNEY GROVE

“**A**re you still in pain?” she asked. I was lying in a hospital bed with monitor probes attached to my body, an automatic blood pressure cuff on one arm, an IV in my hand, an oxygen tube draped around my head, and she just stuck me with a needle. *How could I not be in pain*, I thought. I knew, however, that she was talking about what was going on in my chest and so I answered truthfully, “Yes.” That’s when the excitement began.

It started earlier that morning when I rose to get out of bed. The most excruciating pain I have ever felt cut through my chest. I have had broken bones, migraines, body parts stitched back together, and have locked up my back so bad that I couldn’t move, yet nothing I had ever experienced before compared to that pain. I was terrified.

Hospital emergency departments are amazing places if you have chest pain. It seemed like they lifted me onto a gurney before I got to the door.

As we raced toward a cubicle, a doctor asked me questions while someone else took off my shirt. Someone else connected me to monitors as soon as we arrived. Another drew blood and still another stuck an IV connection in the back of my hand.

I don’t remember what the doctor asked, but I do remember thinking this must be serious because they wouldn’t even let me undress myself.

Once stabilized, they sent me to the “heart floor” where personnel who specialize in heart cases took care of me in a

room designed to deal with heart problems. I realized that’s where I was as the cardiac nurse tried to help me with my pain.

I took the medicine she offered and the pain disappeared—I thought. Actually, my mind started to go into a fog and I really didn’t feel anything. In the background I could hear a monitor making a noise I hadn’t heard before. I knew it bothered the nurse because it sounded like she was saying something about a code to turn it off.

Instantly, the room was filled with people helping her search. They must have been through this before because everyone seemed to have an assigned spot. The only person who spoke called out numbers. The numbers apparently

didn't do any good because the monitor kept up its steady wail.

Finally, the person working around my chest said, "We got him." Soon the fog lifted and my mind began to clear. I then realized the numbers they had called out were my blood pressure.

Since I had worked on the heart floor of a hospital in my youth, I recognized the blue tape on the cart that appeared in my room. This was the "Code Blue" team, called to rescue me.

The church has been called a hospital for sinners. Our mission, like the "Code Blue" team, is to rescue people who are dying. Our work, however, is more urgent because we are dealing with death that is eternal.

There are several lessons I learned from my experience with the "Code Blue" team. First, responding to my crisis was their number one priority. No one decided to wait until they had more experience. No one refused to help because I might not respond. No one said it was time for their break. I was their single focus. As a church, our single focus should be caring for the "dying" around us.

Second, they worked in unity. Nobody tried to take someone else's job; ethnicity didn't seem to matter; and nobody's culture got in the way. Wouldn't it be great if we operated that way in our congregations, our conferences, and our union?

Third, everyone had a specific assignment. The Holy Spirit gives different gifts to each of us; and all of us are needed to accomplish the task. If one person had been missing from that team, I might not be here today.

Fourth, they had the best training and equipment. We should constantly refresh our skills, employing the latest technological advances to respond to the latest cultural changes. They didn't work in a "second rate" hospital and we don't serve a "second rate" God.

Finally, they worked together as a team. When the doctor said, "We got him," he could just have easily said, "I did it. Nurses and technicians are just support staff." The truth is, you and I are only support staff. Our Savior is the One who does it.

You and I are on God's "Code Blue" team for the communities in the Lake Union. What an awesome place to care for people. What an honor to be on God's team!

Rodney Grove is the Lake Union Conference executive secretary.

Share the Light Church Ministries Convention

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Youth, laity, and pastors within the Lake Union Conference are invited to attend any track offered in English or Spanish. Share the Light Church Ministries Convention provides training workshops in various aspects of church life and programs designed to optimize evangelistic tools and opportunities.

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KINGDOM KIDS

BY DIANE THURBER AND DON MACLAFFERTY

The Holland (Michigan) Church loves children. In fact, they have been intentional about caring for the spiritual needs of the children in their church in special ways for years. Members have supported Bible Labs outreach projects at the school, organized quarterly children's worship services, and encouraged the children to become involved in ministry based on their spiritual gifts. Some children were even coached to give Bible studies and enjoyed the thrill of seeing friends make decisions for baptism. Much of the church's vision for encouraging ministry for and by children came under the leadership of Don MacLafferty, their former pastor.

During his five years in ministry at the Holland Church, Don wrestled with the importance of children to God and tried to understand His plans for them. He says, "It was there that I had the joy of partnering with the church family to involve children in the worship, ministry, and mission of the church." When Don left Holland, church members continued to look for ways to nurture the children in their church and Don continued his personal quest "to discover how to better grow kids in Christ and in personal outreach."

Holland Church members were excited to learn of their former pastor's involvement in establishing The Kids in Discipleship Center at the Collegedale (Tennessee) Church and of its mission "to mentor kids as empowered disciples of Jesus NOW." They discovered the Center is a working model where leadership teams receive training and coaching using *Kids in Discipleship (K.I.D.)*, a curriculum for families and children.



Going on a mission trip is a real adventure for children. They are eager to work for others.



Children must be mentored in using their gifts in worship, ministry, and mission now.



Children experience real joy when they help others.

A ten-person leadership team from the Holland Church traveled to the Center in Fall 2004 for training. Don expressed, "Imagine my excitement when Holland, my former church, sent a team of lay leaders to be trained. ... It has been a joy to witness a much-loved church family invest themselves in equipping families to disciple their children." Don has asked the Holland team to pilot the new program and provide feedback about its effectiveness in their church.

The team returned home and now parents from the team are actively involved in a process to mentor their children spiritually, led by group leaders LaVonda Schutt and Nancy Wolcott. Wanting to experience the blessings of the *K.I.D.* program before teaching it to others in the church, team members with children completed *Footprints in the Sand I*, a nine-week class, to prepare them to lead their children through a 32-week discipleship adventure. Through this experience, partici-



pating parents have rediscovered Jesus' call to discipleship in their own homes.

LaVonda and Nancy are now leading four families each through *Footprints in the Sand II*, an interactive study. The children have learned about *TAG Time*, which helps them enjoy personal, daily time with God, and will learn the Biblical foundation of faith and how to use their gifts in worship, ministry, and mission. At the end of the 32-week class, children are trained to lead unchurched friends to Christ.

Paula Olsen and her husband Tom are leading their four daughters through the class and have found they really enjoy their daily *TAG Time*. Paula says, "We liked the fact that this was for the entire family. I had morning devotionals with the girls but it did not include my husband. ... God impressed us to begin making it a priority to do evening devotionals together. *K.I.D.* has really impacted our whole family." Other children are heard quoting scripture and speaking openly about what they are learning during *TAG Time*.

At designated times in the small groups the participants separate into family units. During this time, parents share with their children how different biblical truths have had meaning in their lives and encourage them to see and express the relevance for their daily life also. They are encouraged to ask questions, like, "What does this mean to you?" LaVonda says her group has finished 11 or 12 lessons.

LaVonda never felt comfortable leading adults. She said, "I always looked for volunteer jobs to do where I didn't have to be up front. I like to be behind the scenes." But she says she has learned God doesn't always call us to do things we are comfortable doing; He equips us to do the things He needs us to do. So she accepted the challenge of leading a small group. It has been thrilling for her to see the families recommit their time to disciple their children.

Alarmed by statistics that show how many Adventist children are leaving our church and by other statistics that indicate some of our young people's lack of assurance of sal-

vation, LaVonda knew she wanted to get involved in this ministry. She says, "I have been surprised to learn that many times we say things to our children and think they understand, but they do not. I was recently telling the children how Jesus wants us to be fishers of men and asked if they knew what this meant. I was surprised to find they did not. One young child said, 'Jesus is the best fisherman. If we watch Him we'll be the best fisherman.'" She encourages parents to ask questions and give their children time to share what they understand and think about the lessons.

LaVonda realizes time is one of the family's biggest enemies and that the devil would love for families to crowd out the essential discipleship training that should begin in the home. She says, "Discipling our children really is our responsibility. God gave us these children but so many times we are too busy. Many children do not know what the Bible teaches, cannot quote memory verses, or do not find meaning in their lives." She believes one of the most helpful things about the *K.I.D.* program are the daily practical suggestions provided for parents to implement during the week between small group meetings so the principles become anchored in the lives of their children. LaVonda is looking forward to later lessons when children will apply



K.I.D. encourages parents to be the primary spiritual mentors to their children in the home.



Invest time in relationship—a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

the truths they have learned in worship and mission experiences.

As LaVonda worked with English-speaking families in the Holland Church, she and a friend, Christine Wold, became convicted they should reach out to the Laotian families in their congregation as well. For the past ten years some 50 Laotians have attended the Holland Church. LaVonda said, "They were with us, but not of us." She felt impressed to do something more for them. LaVonda said, "Christine and I couldn't sleep at night. We kept asking ourselves, 'is this me or is it the Lord?'"

They visited with the Laotian group leader and some members and said, "The Lord has put it on our hearts to work with you." They told them about the *K.I.D.* program and how they thought it could be helpful to learn the principles being taught, and then for them to pass them on to their children. They asked, "Would you like that or not like that?" They knew the Lord had directed them when one of the Laotian members responded, "We just had prayer last week that someone from the mother church would come help us."

LaVonda teaches the English *K.I.D.* class on a weeknight. Then each Friday evening she teaches a *K.I.D.* class to the Laotian children because many are familiar with the English language. During Sabbath school, the adult Laotian *K.I.D.* class is taught by LaVonda and Christine. Approximately 20 individuals attend. Some who attend are Adventist members and others are guests from the community, including a highly-respected Laotian leader of the Buddhist faith. The *K.I.D.* lessons are being adapted to reach the needs of the group as questions arise.

Since the *K.I.D.* lessons are in English, LaVonda and Christine need a translator when they speak to the Laotians. However, there is only one English-speaking Laotian pastor in the United States. He has been coming to help with translation, but will soon leave the Theological Seminary at Andrews University to return to California. As a result, LaVonda and Christine are looking for other ways to continue to communicate with their Laotian friends. LaVonda says, "It is a slow process sometimes, but we just pray, 'Lord, help them hear what they need to hear.'"



LaVonda Schutt, a K.I.D. group leader, teaches a class to Laotian members and community guests, assisted by translator Saeng Saengthip, the only Laotian pastor in the United States.



Each Sabbath morning, nearly 20 Laotian adults assemble for the K.I.D. training class taught at the Holland (Mich.) Church.

Christine and LaVonda wanted to help the Laotian members become fluent in English so they looked for a curriculum to teach English as a second language (ESL). When Christine located a curriculum, they contacted Holland member Carol Burns, a former teacher, and asked her to lead out. She accepted, and now another ministry has been launched.

Some students in the class have asked for help passing their G.E.D. test. When the ESL class ends, LaVonda says she promised to find someone who can teach classes to help some of the students pass

their G.E.D. so they can attain further education and better jobs.

Through all this, LaVonda has learned "it is not our timetable, it is God's." She says at times she told her husband, "I'm too busy to teach these three classes." But when she sees how God leads in the lives of the children, their families, and her new Laotian friends, she says she is "refreshed ... and it's worth it."

One young mother has only finished half the *K.I.D.* lessons and has already brought a friend to class. Another grandma in the class returned to Laos and witnessed about Jesus to her villagers. She has returned to Holland and has requested baptism. Some guests have also requested for their children to attend the Holland school next fall.

LaVonda says she "wholeheartedly" believes in the intent of the *K.I.D.* program and prays Holland children will develop a close personal relationship with Jesus and know they are called to be disciples of Christ ... now.

She also prays God will use the *K.I.D.* program and ESL classes as a tool to strengthen friendships with the Laotian members and to reach many other Laotians in the community. She challenges her Laotian friends to be disciples and to share what they are learning in their communities.

For additional information about *K.I.D.*, contact The *K.I.D.* Center at (423) 396-2134 or visit www.kidcenter.org.

Diane Thurber is the *Lake Union Herald* managing editor and Don MacLafferty is The *K.I.D.* Center director.



DON'T WORRY About What to Say

I'M JUST A NORMAL TEENAGER

BY BRAD BOLEJACK

Seventh to ninth grade was a hard time for me and I don't know why. My confidence was about zilch to none. I guess you could say I really wasn't the most popular person in the world. And my spiritual life had kind of waned. I had once been enthusiastic about church, but during those years I went just to appease my parents. I just felt a sense of abandonment as far as my spiritual life was concerned. I had some problems—mainly with depression and anger and things of that nature.

During my sophomore year of high school, a woman came up to me in church and said, "Brad, Glendale [Church] is going to hold its first youth Sabbath. Would you like to have the sermon?"

I wanted to say no. I thought, "I can't give a sermon. I'm sixteen years old. I've never spoken in front of anybody before." I wanted to say no, but for some reason I said yes.

As soon as she left, the thought went through my head, "If only she knew exactly who I was outside of church. She would have never asked me—ever."

I began working on the sermon. I had about three months to work on it and I used every bit of that three months. Finally, it came time to present the sermon. After I preached



people came up to me and said, "You're going to be a pastor." I smiled, nodded, and thought, "No ... no I'm not."

Then I started thinking more seriously about what people had said. I got down on my knees one night and prayed, "God, if You really want me to be a minister, first of all, You're going to have to change me ... big time! Second of all, You're going to have to give me a sign.

The sign is going to be obvious opportunities—more opportunities to preach."

My thinking was, what person in their right mind would call and ask a sixteen-year-old boy to go preach at their church? That's unheard of. I thought I had out-smarted God. There was no way I was going to need to worry about being a minister now.

Well, two weeks later, God must have chuckled, because a church called, and said, "Hey, we heard your preaching. Come to our church and give the exact same sermon you preached at Glendale."

A few weeks later, another church called, and then another church, and another church. Soon an opportunity came to speak at camp meeting. Then Fred Troxell, my assistant pastor, asked if I wanted to preach a series of seminars for

Hope for the Homeland.

God could not have been more obvious about what He wanted me to do. I felt like God had just picked me up and walked me through those series of events and said, "Okay, this is what you're going to do. You made the deal. Now it's your job to hold up to it." I said, "Okay, God. Just lead the way and I'll follow."

We made all the necessary preparations. We got all the equipment. We rented a room in the Signature Inn. The first night of the meetings I was nervous. I didn't know what to expect. I had never done anything like this before. I was praying all the time, "God, You're going to have to get me through this. I need You to tell me exactly what to say so that somebody can be touched."

My dad's friend, David Yancey, called and said, "Hey, I heard that you're seventeen and giving evangelistic meetings." I said, "Yeah ... yeah I am." He said, "Well, I want to be a part of your ministry. I [have] promise cards—these little cards that have a Bible promise on them. I want to donate those to you." He sent ten boxes of those promise cards to us.



Brad Bolejack, 17, (far left) shared messages of hope from God's Word during Hope for the Homeland. He is pictured with his family, who were very involved with his meetings.

I'm just a normal teenager. I got a C minus in speech class. I have no speaking ability whatsoever, but when I get behind a pulpit, it's different.

I laid the boxes out on the living room floor and opened them all up. I thought, "I'm going to see how much God really uses these things." I picked a random box. Then I picked a random card out of the box.

I had been nervous that whole summer. I didn't know what I was

going to say. I didn't know if these seminars were going to be effective. I didn't know if people were actually going to put their trust in a seventeen-year-old boy. So, I opened up the card and it said, "Do not worry about what to say, or how to say it." And as soon as I read that, I knew instantaneously God was there. I keep it in my wallet at all times because this promise is really remarkable to me.

Through the course of these seminars, I felt this "presence" and I could sense it in people's eyes. I knew God was working. I knew He had something special to do. Every night, people were talking about how the message had touched them and how it related to their life. One night a woman just started crying in the middle of the seminar. Afterward, she told me her husband had just died about a month before. She said the state of the dead message had given her

so much hope about her husband. “Thank you, Brad,” she said. “That is exactly what I needed to hear.”

This rush of emotion came over me. I was just used by God to touch somebody. That’s what The Great Commission is all about—to go out and preach to the world and comfort people. I sensed I was fulfilling God’s mission and that God

was working through me. Thoughts were going through my head about preaching that night that I had not prepared, I had not planned, they weren’t in the notes; I just said them—just off the top of my head. I knew God was leading me to say those things.

There was a man who had been away from the church for many years. The reason why he left was the message of the judgment. I guess he had talked with somebody and got so scared of the judgment that he just left. He didn’t want any part of church anymore. He came up to me after the sermon on the judgment and said, “Wow, I’ve never heard anyone put the judgment in such a hopeful way.” He started to come back to church.

On the 14th night, the message was on Heaven and how we have hope for the Homeland. I saw people who had been taught for so many years that God was punitive and judgmental start to cry as they understood they did have hope in attaining a forever eternity and friendship with God. They found the Adventist message—that God was actually a God of love and forgiveness—that He was a God to run to instead of a God to run from. God had spoken to those people in a very special way, but I’m convinced that I was touched more than anybody, because God really worked on



Brad Bolejack says God told him what to say and how to say it during his first evangelistic series.

my heart that night and strengthened my faith as well.

God got me through it. He told me what to say and how to say it. Just like that promise card I read. I’ve had some bumps on the way, but overall I can definitely sense God has been there, holding my hand, and leading me every step of the way.

I’m thankful for all God has done and

how He has led in my life. I just pray each one of us can follow Him wherever He leads. He told Abraham to pack up and go out of nowhere. I think that’s a call for each and every one of us—to just pack up and go—go out and preach His Word.

So I just feel it is a privilege to be a part of those many people who are going to finish the work. God is calling people to do that. We can either be a part of it, or we can run away from it. Either way, He’s going to get it done—with or without us.

I’m just a normal teenager. I got a C minus in speech class. I have no speaking ability whatsoever, but when I get behind a pulpit, it’s different. There have been people who have asked how long I have been a minister, and I say, “I’m still in high school.” So that’s evidence in itself right there. You don’t need an already existing talent. God’s not calling talented people. God is just calling people who are willing. And if you’re willing to take that first step, He’s going to give you the talent when the time comes.

Brad Bolejack is now a 20-year-old sophomore studying accounting at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. He has a passion for sharing God’s Word and has been preaching at churches across Indiana for the past four years when opportunities arise. He plans to attend the seminary.

CHURCH PLANTING: A Revival All Its Own

BY LISA ISENSEE

Four years ago my husband Richard and I moved back to Wisconsin where he had just accepted a job as a facility engineer in Madison. I had loved my work as a pastor and youth camp director, but I, too, was eager to be near family and to stay home with our children, the first of which was growing inside me. We thought the move was perfect timing—and it was—in more ways than we realized.

We planned to be involved in ministry however we could at the Madison Community Church, a young and vibrant church where Richard had come to know Christ some years before. So, we were surprised when we both felt God had something more, something different, for us to do. What it was we didn't know, so we began to pray.

At camp meeting that year I was listening to a speaker, my baby boy asleep in my arms, when the Lord seemed to say, "Lisa, I want you to start a Bible study in your neighborhood." Immediately, before I could say a thing, Richard said, "Lisa, I know now what it is we need to do! We need to start a Bible study in our home." So we did.

Two months later we received a call from an excited pastor asking us to be part of a church plant in Monroe, Wisconsin, only 16 miles from our home. The wild, God-led ride of the last four years has taught me a lot and cemented my passion for church planting.



John Fowler signed the charter membership list while his daughter Sarah Fowler lit her candle.

Until recently, the trend was to dwell on church planting in the cities to the exclusion of smaller communities. Paul Oliver, Neillsville Company leader, believes the harvest is ripe in smaller communities, too. We didn't know all the things you were supposed to do to start a church. We just said, "Dear Lord, we want a church." And we went out there and started picking fruit! At the beginning of

2004, their membership stood at 25. Their goal and prayer was to have 50 members by the end of the year.

At a recent seminar I asked those currently planting a church to share stories of what God has been doing. Paul raised his hand and said, "Well, we had eight baptisms." I interrupted, "That's wonderful! Eight baptisms last year!" (Which, by the way, would have been an amazing 32% increase.) His response brought tears to my eyes, "No. We had eight baptisms last month!" And this was in a town of just 2,731.

Kathy Herwick, church planter in Hudson, says, “Some people have the idea that people really aren’t interested. They’ve held evangelistic meetings and the results were discouraging. We find people saying, ‘give us more, give us more!’ All of our new people are coming Wednesday nights in addition to Sabbath. They’re eager to learn. And they are sharing what they are learning!”

Kathy and Dan Herwick drive 104 miles, round-trip, several times each week to plant a church in Hudson. “As tired as you are, you always come home feeling more invigorated than when you started out. Each time you gather new strength. If you could just get people to taste church planting—they would catch the vision,” says Kathy. “I just really feel that church planting’s a revival all in it’s own.”

After I lifted Martha out of the baptismal waters, I looked out in the congregation and saw Don, tears glistening on his cheeks. You see, Don had been baptized only two years before at our church’s first baptism. So many times I’ve heard him say, “This church, they go right from the Bible. And you won’t find a more loving group of people anywhere.”

Don, retired from the telephone company, wanted to share what he was learning. He wasn’t yet ready to give in-home Bible studies, nor even pray out loud with someone, but he lit up when I talked to him about delivering video Bible studies. “I could do that,” he said. Don would report every week or so, “I’m bringing them to Martha. She’s the nicest lady. Her husband is such a good guy too.” Then later, “I’m bringing Martha two videos at a time, she’s enjoying



Monroe Company members, on the day they were officially organized

them so much!” Still later, “Martha’s sharing the videos with her college-age daughter who lives a couple hours north of here.”

One evening Martha showed up at our mid-week Bible study, she jumped right in with questions and comments, and was there the following Sabbath. Martha herself says, “I was so ready for this. I’m just like a sponge—soaking it all up!”

Artie Hamann, teacher for the mid-week service, has said various times, “I think we shouldn’t be surprised when God brings in people like Martha, who embrace truth wholeheartedly, and start teaching us things!” It wasn’t long before Martha told me how her daughter Jennifer had said, “Mom, you’ve got to quit smoking because I want to be baptized with you!” Martha, a beautician at a salon in Monroe, knew this wasn’t going to be easy. “I’ve been smoking since high school, and unlike many other people, I liked my first cigarette.” A couple days before Jennifer’s birthday Martha quit cold-turkey, saying, “I’m doing this for you and for Jesus.”

In December they, along with five other beautiful people, were baptized. Today, less than a year later, Martha is our head deacon/deaconess. Like Don, both Martha and Jennifer are sharing their newfound peace and joy in Jesus.

The Monroe Company was gearing up for its second evangelistic series. I had asked my Dad, a seasoned evangelist, to come hold a series of meetings in Fall 2003. We’d budgeted evangelistic costs for \$6,100, determined to reach the surrounding community with a gospel invitation. As we visited the people who were attending, one woman shared



At the Monroe Company organization service, Lisa Isensee, Monroe Company pastor, and Caryn Erb talked about the dream for the next church plant in the Mt. Horeb-area, just 40 miles north.



The Birchwood Fellowship Group has increased their attendance by over 100 percent in the past year.

how she had decided to come to the meetings. She knew she needed to go back to church, but she wondered which church to attend. She knew she didn't want to go back to the church of her childhood, and she dreaded the thought of having to check out the various churches in town.

Not long after realizing she must do something, she received a brochure in the mail advertising a series of Bible studies in a town 15 miles away. She decided she and her 11-year-old daughter would check them out. They arrived opening night and kept coming.

Even when her employer started calling people back for second-shift work, she made sure she could be there night after night. We rejoiced when they both decided to be baptized.

I was visiting one afternoon when a newly-baptized member asked if I would do something for her. She went on to explain, "I recently received a lump sum of retirement money. I have already paid taxes and used some of it to pay off medical bills. I planned to use the remaining amount for a down payment on a house. I want to return tithe on the whole amount and thankfully I still have the money to do that. But I don't want to hand it in at church. Can I give it to you to turn in?" I said that was fine and she came back with a bank envelope stuffed thick with bills. I opened it and realized it wasn't thick with tens or twenties. It was full of \$100 dollar bills. Sixty of them to be exact—yes, \$6,000 total.

God has ways of which we don't yet have a clue. The Clear Lake youth voted their annual missionary project would raise money for the new church plant in their district. They sold sweet corn and found other ways to raise over \$1,000 for the Hudson Church plant.

In Monroe, we could write a whole article on how God has provided financially. Our current miracle is that we are renting a church from a beautiful group of Christians. They are thankful that their building, which seats 300, can be used more often to spread the gospel and appreciate our help in maintaining the facility. They've split the bulletin boards down the middle, let us advertise, as well as let us leave our children's programs set up. When you call the church, you hear, "This is Believer's Fellowship and the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Press one for Believer's Fellowship; press two for the Seventh-day Adventist church." All this for less than \$175 a month!



Children listen to a puppet show put on by the Monroe Company youth.

Planting churches requires an initial investment—sometimes a substantial one. But let's not forget new members love their Lord wholeheartedly and are eager to share their time and resources. We shouldn't be surprised at the miracles God will do—He's more than ready to fulfill His promises.

Study God's passion for lost people. Cultivate this passion in your own life. Intentionally develop relationships with lost people. Start a prayer "hit list" of friends and relatives who don't know Jesus. Pray regularly for them. Find ways to reach out in love and friendship to them. Ask God to help you lead them one step closer to Jesus. Talk to church planters in your area or conference. Attend a church-planting seminar or conference. (The annual SEEDS conference at Andrews is incredible. Call (800) 255-7568 for more information.) Watch God work ... and work ... and work!

Lisa Isensee is the Wisconsin Conference church planting coordinator and Monroe Company pastor.



CHRIST'S COMMUNITY

LOVE FLOWS FROM ONE
BELIEVER TO ANOTHER

BY GARY BURNS

Christ Community Church of Seventh-day Adventists sits on the edge of the little town of Bessemer in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Just a few miles downstream, the Black River spills from one waterfall to the next on its short journey to Lake Superior.

C. Raymond "Ray" Holmes and Gordon Frase are pastors of this community church—Ray's second in this little Michigan town. You see, Ray has always been a seeker of truth—which explains why he left his former parish to become a Seventh-day Adventist minister. The two churches are only a mile from each other! Some of you may have read his story in the book, *Stranger In My Home*.



Ray and Shirley Holmes

Retiring after many years of service, Ray and his wife Shirley have returned to her home community. When Ray was asked to be the church's pastor, they were delighted.

Having spent a number of years teaching in the seminary, it felt good to pastor a church again where he could put into practice a principle he had always enthusiastically taught—every believer, by virtue of his or her baptism, is a minister of the gospel. Here's how that principle works at Christ Community.

The first elder, Joseph Hellman, as it turns out, is the son of Ray's former parish secretary. It was through his mother that Joe became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Joe works at the Gogebic County Mental Health Center where he not only ministers to patients, but to the staff as well. Joe was so excited about sharing his faith and the life of his church, that he offered Bible studies to co-workers during their lunch break.

The Bible study group had only been meeting a few weeks when Connie Cvengros came to work at the center. As Joe got acquainted with Connie he discovered she was a Christian who loved the Lord. Joe naturally asked her if she would like to join the Bible study group. As he got to know Connie better, he thought of Cori Johnston, who attends Christ Community as well, thinking that the two might make good friends. Joe invited Connie to a cooking school at his church and it was there she met Cori. Joe was right—they formed an immediate friendship.

Members at Christ Community are happy to invite their friends and coworkers to their church because they know that "when they come through that door, they are greeted and loved," says Cori, "And people like that."

Joe and his wife also invited Connie and Cori to their home to view some Doug Batchelor videos. As Connie developed a closer relationship with her new faith community, she also began to discover new things from the Bible and was eager to learn more.

"I was able to share things at the Bible study that Connie was searching for in her life," says Cori. "That led to her asking questions. We struck up a friendship."

All too soon, Connie transferred to work at the prison. But before she left, she trained Cori to replace her. It was one more step in strengthening their relationship.

When Connie transferred to the prison she discovered someone else making the commute from Bessemer, so she made arrangements to carpool with Shar Buck. She discovered that Shar, too, was a Christian and they began to share their faith with each other.



(From left): Connie Cvengros, Cori Johnston, Shar Buck, and Joseph Hellman

By this time Connie learned to love the people at Christ Community and had begun a series of Bible studies with Ray and Shirley. Connie was so excited about what she was learning that she couldn't help but share it with Shar. Although Shar was very content in her own church, she could tell Connie was really excited about what she was learning. That excitement for truth was missing in her own experience. Connie could tell Shar was interested in learning more, so she invited her to come to the studies with her.

Shar had been coming only a couple of weeks when Christ Community began its *Hope for the Homeland* meetings. She and Connie decided to attend. When Ray presented the Bible's description of God's remnant people and gave the invitation for anyone to join them, Shar and Connie were the first to jump up.

Shar speaks of her experience. “I see that God is really working in the life of our church. I really sense that. I feel that I am learning so much. There’s still so much to learn—so far to go. The fellowship that we have here, and the leadership that we have, [is evidence that] the Holy Spirit [is] moving—it’s a continuing on-going process. Pastor Holmes has always made it a point to be proactive—encouraging new members to take part in the church and to be active.”

Shar and Connie were both given opportunities to assist with Sabbath school and a series of health seminars, which Shar says is a great opportunity to get into the community. They began to immerse themselves in the life of their church. As new members, they became a part of the decision-making process.

The little church has a significant presence in the community as it provides a Christian day care for families of all faiths. The program is so successful that they operate at full capacity. The church’s ministry to families is so well received and supported that members and others were impressed to build a school where children could continue to learn the principles of Jesus. Even though they are a small church in a small community, they feel this was the direction God was working, so they broke ground.

Because they were in a building project when the opportunity came to be a part of the *Hope for Our Day* meetings, the church decided they could not participate. Later, when Ray was in Lansing for some meetings, Shar, Connie, and a few other members began to question their previous decision and, in another meeting, rescinded the earlier action.

“We had discussed it and had decided that we needed to do this,” explained Connie. “Even if only one person was to accept the Lord ... it would be worth it. You can’t be a dead church and expect growth.”

Shar adds, “We felt that waiting would be missing an opportunity. The Lord might have someone’s heart prepared this fall and it just didn’t seem right to wait until next fall. So we decided to do it.” When Ray returned he was surprised to learn the church decided to accept the challenge to hold *Hope for Our Day* meetings, but was even more surprised to learn that Shar and others had volunteered to be speakers.

Shar’s parents, George and Audray Haynes, have been active Christians, walking with the Lord for years. “I know they had concerns when I started attending the church here,” said Shar. “They had questions.”



George and Audray Haynes were excited to attend their first Adventist camp meeting this summer.

“There were concerns,” George reported. “Our background has always been church on Sunday. What’s this Saturday business? I had heard the name Seventh-day Adventist, but I never knew what it was.”

Shar’s love for her new church and the things she was learning caused her parents to realize there had been an emptiness in their experience. They realized the things they had been taught just didn’t go along with the things they read in the Bible. So they decided to accept Shar’s invitation to visit Christ Community.

“The people are fantastic and the messages are great,” George discovered. “What has drawn me thoroughly here is the messages and truth that is being taught.”

Even before they asked to become members, Shar’s parents invited other friends to come. And so the cycle continues—every believer a minister. “The Holy Spirit is working,” said Ray. “And the evidence is right here before our eyes, one to another.”

“I know God put me here at this time in my life and in my family’s life,” reports Shar. “Pastor Holmes happened to be here right now and [Connie, Cori, and Joe] were here and [everyone else]. I really know that God has big plans for the Church. I believe it!”

And so, at Christ Community Church of Seventh-day Adventists, love and faith spill over from one life to the next, just as the river spills from one waterfall to another on its way to the sea.

Gary Burns is the *Lake Union Herald* editor.



Hope for the Future

Ten years ago, Adventist Glen-Oaks Hospital in Glendale Heights, Ill., opened doors to a therapeutic day school of its own in response to the lack of programs in the community to meet the whole-person needs of young behavioral health clients.

“At that time, alternative schools only focused on conduct disorders and had high drop-out rates,” notes Lisa Grigsby, now GlenOaks Therapeutic Day School principal and director of child and adolescent outpatient services at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital.

“We give the students and their parents hope. We try to keep their future in front of them and place them in lifelong growth areas where they learn social, living, or vocational skills. Our ultimate goal is to assist students in the development of self-awareness, confidence, and problem-solving strategies so they can re-enter community schools and transition into successful careers.”

Today, fully accredited and self-contained in a former industrial building, GlenOaks Therapeutic Day School is the number one referral choice of area school districts, thanks to its 100 percent graduation rate. The school is licensed for 120 students, and future plans call for an expansion to fulfill a critical market void in the far western suburbs. The student-teacher ratio is about three to one.

According to Grigsby, “Many of our students are diagnostic quandaries. They have met multiple failures and their families are desperate. Our students have been victimized, hospitalized for extended care, and are emotionally fragile for a variety of reasons. Our staff has a great knack for figuring out what’s wrong, whether it’s medication issues, determining behavior triggers, or something else.

“While many of our students are not able to function in large suburban school environments, they still need to



be challenged academically. Our high school curriculum goes beyond reading, writing, and arithmetic,” says Grigsby. “Core curriculum is enhanced with stimulated elective offerings such as advanced biology, child development, or photography.

“We support our students through more than one-on-one counseling or group sessions. We offer art, music, recreational, and pet therapies. With this variety, our non-verbal students can get in touch with their feelings.”

GlenOaks Therapeutic Day School, which serves third-grade through high school students, also offers extracurricular activities. “Perhaps in their past, these students made unhealthy choices. We help them build skills they didn’t come in with. This gives them something new to excel in,” says Grigsby.

Through extra-curricular activities, students learn skills and are introduced to a hobby they can stay involved with after they transition out of GlenOaks Therapeutic Day School. The activities

include choir, theatre arts, sports, chess, bowling, peer mediation, Outreach Club, Poetry Club, Student Council, Boys Group, Girls Group, Environmental Group, and Substance Abuse Education.

Students, faculty, and staff build each other up through a community program, *Character Counts*, which instills values of responsibility, fairness, citizenship, respect, caring, and trustworthiness. Past students who have returned to serve on the Advisory Group for the school have said, “You taught us skills we didn’t know how to use, but now we use them in college, work, or with our own families.”

GlenOaks Therapeutic Day School students find the alternative school a safe and secure environment to learn in, but their success is measured in becoming whole again and learning to take risks to move on with their lives.

Lynn Larson, Adventist Midwest Health
writer/media liaison

AU Student to Create Initiative Against Child Obesity

On May 23–24, 2005, Dennis Meyers, CEO of Manchester Memorial Hospital in Manchester, Ky., and Mark Laws, Manchester Memorial chaplain, visited the Andrews University campus in search of a student to fill a new full-time internship position to begin this fall.

Manchester Memorial will hire an Andrews student, preferably a graduate student, to work full time toward the creation of an initiative against childhood obesity, a major problem in the area.

Located in Clay County, one of the poorest counties in the nation, Manchester suffers from high unemployment and welfare rates, and a below 50 percent average for high school graduates. Due to the amount of poverty, the area suffers from many diet-related health issues, of which childhood obesity is one of the biggest.

The intern will work with local schools and the hospital to create awareness and put together programs throughout the year. One of the main responsibilities will be to coordinate summer day camps that focus on health and wellness for children in 2006. The intern will be considered a regular hospital staff member, receive a small

stipend plus payment for all expenses, and have tuition paid for the following year of school.

Andrews students have already been building relationships and playing an active role in the Manchester community, traveling there on *We Care* domestic mission trips for the past three summers, working on various projects such as building repairs, painting, and children's ministries.

Meyers and the Manchester Memorial staff, part of Adventist Health System, believe mission is a very important aspect of their work in the community. "If we lose sight of our mission, then we won't be very successful," noted Meyers. "Mission is the most important thing."

Beverly Stout, University Relations Lake Union
Herald correspondent

Students and Faculty Honored with Awards

On Apr. 14, 2005, Andrews University honored the achievements of students and faculty at the annual awards assembly held in the Howard Performing Arts Center. This is the time of year when students receive scholarships and special honors for academic and athletic achievements from their departments and different entities on campus. It is also the chance for students to recognize special professors

with the student-chosen *Advisor of the Year* and *Teacher of the Year* awards. Both of these awards are determined by feedback received on evaluations filled out by the students.

Jane Sabes, associate professor of political science, was this year's recipient of the *Teacher of the Year* award. Sabes,



Diane Ford, assistant professor of nursing, is presented with the Advisor of the Year award by two of her students.

however, was not able to be present to hear the kind words said about her at the time the award was given. She was taking a class out on a promised end-of-the-semester lunch, a perfect demonstration of her commitment to her students.

This year's *Advisor of the Year* award went to Diane Ford, assistant professor of nursing. Students shared quotes taken from student advisor evaluations describing the positive impact Ford had on their college experience.

"I just do what I imagine most other faculty at Andrews do," said Ford. "I try to do what is important to students, such as spending time with them, being available, giving friendly comments, and encouraging words. I feel honored and very appreciative to have received this award."

Beverly Stout, University Relations Lake Union
Herald correspondent



Mark Laws, chaplain, and Dennis Meyers, Manchester Memorial Hospital CEO

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Concert Benefits International Student Scholarship Fund

Michigan—The first annual *A World of Music* benefit concert presented selections from around the world. Held at the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., on Tues., May 24, 2005, the concert featured local and international performers.

Mickey Kutzner and Rita Seay, members of the Ruth Murdoch Elementary School governing board, coordinated the concert to raise scholarship funds for children of international seminary students. Many international seminary students endure financial hardship when they leave their country to receive an advanced degree at Andrews University. They sacrifice to experience an Adventist education, although in many cases there are not funds for their children to experience the same.

A survey distributed to international seminary students revealed the respondents were from nine countries. None were sponsored by their home conference. Of the eleven families represented in the surveys, five were not able to send their children to Ruth Murdoch Elementary School due to lack of finances. Collectively, their ten children were deprived of an Adventist education. Our mission is to provide financial assistance to these children for the 2005–2006 school year. We hope to accomplish our mission with pledges of support in addition to an annual *A World of Music* benefit concert.

Dwight Nelson, Pioneer Memorial Church senior pastor, was master of ceremony for *A World of Music*, which helped raise over \$3,000 for the International Student Scholarship Fund. The concert began with “This Is My Father’s World,” sung by Talisa Gonzalez, Timmie-Ann Maturan-Lee, and Beatrice Serban, Ruth Murdoch



Isabel Ong played “Holy City.”

Elementary School students. A variety of religious and folk selections followed, including a Jewish Dance Group, Malawi Singers, Southeast Asian Kids, Kutzner Family & Friends, and the Ong family from Taiwan, among others. The final performance was a rousing rendition of “God Bless the U.S.A.,” sung by Jeremy McIntyre, a recent Andrews Academy graduate.

We are all a part of our Father’s world. We are all especially blessed when our American educational institution can play a role in spreading the gospel around the world. We invite you to participate. To contribute to the International Student Scholarship Fund, contact Rita Seay by e-mail at: ritaj@andrews.edu, or phone (269) 471-3225.

Rita Seay, Ruth Murdoch Elementary School principal

PWA Students Visit Nation’s Capitol

Lake Region—Since the beginning of the first quarter of school in 2004, Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA) students in grades five to seven prepared for a field trip to the nation’s capitol, Washington, D.C., scheduled for Apr. 3–7, 2005. The first quarter of the school year, students studied the making of the United States, which in-

cluded Plymouth Rock, slavery, the War of Independence, and the Civil War.

During the second quarter, special guests were invited to speak about their experience in the military service. Roscoe Gray, who fought in the Vietnam War, explained the meaning and fear of losing dear friends and comrades who are standing right next to you. He also spoke of how his unit was ambushed late one night as he and nine others were on patrol. As a result, Gray ended up with extensive wounds he suffers with even today.

Another special guest was Mike Hawkins, a specialist in the U.S. Army. Hawkins, stationed in Iraq for a year, was home for a two-week rest period. The fifth- and sixth-grade students got a chance to ask questions about how wars are fought today and compared the technology available for WWI, WWII, and the Vietnam War. The students watched movies, prepared essays, and did special assignments to prepare for the climax of the semester—their trip to Washington, D.C.

In Washington, D.C., they walked through the WWI and WWII museums and understood the sacrifices made for them. The Vietnam Memo-



Fifth- and sixth-grade students from PWA visited the White House.



Seventh-grade students also visited the White House.

rial Wall was a very solemn experience as they read the names of some of Gray's Army friends who died during the conflict.

The Holocaust Permanent Museum gave even more meaning to the students as they learned names and saw real faces of those who suffered under the hands of Adolph Hitler and his German army.

As we looked at how laws are made in our country, the students got to see state senators actually voting on a proposed law. They also saw Dick Cheney, U.S. vice president, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Ted Kennedy, state senators, and their own senator, Michigan's Carl Levin. They saw Barry C. Black, Chaplain of the U.S. Senate, and a Seventh-day Adventist.

Though security was extremely tight, the 52-person entourage was able to enjoy the historic sights and sounds of Washington, D.C. To add to this wonderful trip, the group of students and chaperones were invited for a home-made dinner at the home of former PWA teacher Florine Spence and her husband Wesley, who are now located in the D.C. area. Another day, the group was invited to the home of Lois and Leroy Peters for a pool party and dinner. The students nor chaperones will soon forget this memorable experience of traveling to Washington, D.C.

Juanita Martin, Peterson-Warren Academy principal and social studies instructor

We're a Family Here

Illinois—"I made a mistake," confessed a former student as he registered at the Alumni Homecoming at Broadview Academy (BVA) on May 14, 2005. "I left Broadview after my junior year." The former student continued, "I should have stayed—Broadview is my family. What can I do to get on the mailing list? I must come back each year to visit."

"We're a family here," stated new BVA principal Randal Siebold, formerly an associate professor at



Randal Siebold holds up the book, *Education*, which will serve as a guide in everything happening at Broadview Academy.

Andrews University, during the Sabbath afternoon meeting. "You may have heard a rumor that Broadview is closing. It's just not true. Together, as a family, we'll figure this thing out. We will meet the needs of every student in Illinois. They will receive a quality Christian education. The delivery of that program may not be what you are used to," he continued. Holding up the book, *Education*, by Ellen G. White, Siebold, who did his doctoral dissertation at the University of Indiana using the book as his reference, explained that as the principles found therein are followed, the program at BVA will evolve with input from every member of the family.

For Martha "Marty" Jean Anderson, class of 1946, alumni vice presi-

dent for communication, BVA is her family, too. For years she has carefully kept track of family members, not only those in her class, but all the classes as well as the new alumni each year. She has spent countless hours on the database, but also in selfless service as she leads out in making each alumni reunion special.

Before Richard Huff, class of 1947, died, he and classmate Donna Thomson Heine set in motion a plan to honor Anderson for her untiring efforts on behalf of the Alumni Association. Art Davis Jr., class of 1961, presented Anderson with a special plaque during the Sabbath worship hour. The plaque expressed deep love and appreciation for her many years of dedication, perseverance, and loyal service to BVA and its Alumni Association.

A scholarship fund has been established with funds collected in Anderson's honor, giving students an opportunity to become a member of the BVA family.

For more information on the BVA family or the Marty Anderson Scholarship Fund, please visit: www.broadviewacademy.org; send correspondence to P.O. Box 307, La Fox, IL 60147; e-mail info@broadviewacademy.org; or call (630) 232-7441.

Rachel Terwilligar, Indiana Conference development director



Art Davis Jr., presented a plaque to Martha "Marty" Jeanne Anderson, '46, in honor of her work for the Alumni Association.

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Hartford Members Exceed Ingathering Goal

Indiana—Ingathering is a yearly project looked forward to with eagerness by Hartford City Church's 24 members. They believe Ingathering is a fun and effective way to share the love of God with their community.

As church members walk from house to house to contact people, they have several goals in mind. One goal is to share God's love by informing people about Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and the local Community Service work the Adventist church provides. This lets people know there are people who care for hurting individuals and communities. It also gives others the opportunity to contribute to the aid being given to people in need.



(Back row from left): Douglas Meyer, Emma Maddox, Lisa Meyer; (Front row from left) Lori Fletcher, Rayana Mayer. Not pictured is Doris Meyer, who organizes and inspires members for Ingathering.

Another goal is to give the Good News about Jesus to as many people as they can. Along with the *Ingathering ADRA Report*, other pamphlets and books containing the gospel message are handed out. This year the literature included nearly four hundred copies of the book, *The Passion of Love*.

A third goal is the dollar amount to be raised during the Ingathering campaign. The dollar amount suggested for the Hartford City Church by the Conference in 2004 was \$206. But members have consistently gone

over their goal. So they set their own goal at \$1,000. This past year the amount brought in was \$1,044. Praise be to God!

Hartford members look forward to the upcoming Ingathering season and encourage other Lake Union churches to discover the joy of this outreach opportunity.

Conrad Reichert, Hartford City Church pastor



Brownsburg Members Celebrate Mortgage Burning

Indiana—Members and friends of the Brownsburg Church held a special service, Feb. 12, to celebrate the burning of the mortgage note for their sanctuary.

Despite a number of delays due to public hearings and new zoning



From left: Carmelo Mercado, Archie Moore, Jerry Lastine, Todd Stout, Garry Starkey, George Crumley, Aquilla Crawford, Glynn Scott, and Nelson Starkey

requirements, the little congregation, with fewer than 30 members, continued to grow in faith and were able to hold their first service in the new church on Sept. 20, 1997. The Lord also blessed by nearly tripling membership. Eighty-seven members were able to celebrate the mortgage burning.

Guest speaker Carmelo Mercado, Lake Union Conference vice president and Hispanic Ministries director, was

the pastor at Brownsburg when groundbreaking ceremonies were held in 1995. Other guests at the ceremony included: Glynn Scott, Lake Union Conference treasurer; George Crumley, Indiana Conference treasurer; and Archie Moore, Indiana Conference secretary. Todd Stout, Brownsburg's current



Brownsburg Seventh-day Adventist Church

pastor, officiated at the service. Garry Starkey, local elder and church treasurer, and his nephew Nelson Starkey, the

newest baptized member, burned the mortgage before a thankful congregation.

Following the service, the grateful members hosted a fellowship meal for all who attended.

Jerry Lastine,
Brownsburg Church
communication
director



The Cottonville crownfire scorched everything in its path, but God spared the Clementis from its destruction.

Answered Prayer in Midst of Fire

Wisconsin—On May 5, a man clearing his land let a small fire get out of control, escalating into a 4,000-acre forest fire in central Wis. and forcing more than 135 families from their homes. The fire tore through several communities, destroying 30 homes, 60 mobile homes, and other structures, but thankfully no one was injured.

Lorraine Clementi of the Wisconsin Rapids Church was one person whose home was in the path of the fire. She was bringing her granddaughter home from a doctor's visit in Rapids when, about 14 miles from her home, she could see the smoke and knew a huge fire was raging near her home. Immediately, she pulled off the highway and prayed that God would send angels to encompass her home, keeping it safe. Her property was not insured, the family dog was tied outside, and their cat was trapped inside the house.

After praying, Lorraine drove on. By the time she reached her driveway,



Lorraine and Tony Clementi marvel at the miracle that saved their home, cars, and pets from the fire's destruction.

the fire was less than two miles away and firemen and police made her turn and leave, without her pets. Evacuated to a campground, she could do nothing but continue to pray and phone her husband, Tony.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) stationed people at the campground to talk to the residents, and she was told that because of where her house was located, she would be one of the people to lose her home. As she and her family sat crying, she said she stopped and said, "Not my home! My home will be safe because I prayed and asked God to send angels to protect it and I have faith that He did." Her husband Tony, who normally does not attend church, said, "If that house is safe, I will be converted and I will attend church with you."

When the fire was finally extinguished, and the owners allowed to return home, the Clementis' house, cars, pets, and garage were all fine, with the exception of some melted vinyl siding on the garage, and the loss of trees. It appeared that God had indeed sent angels.

Two days later, Lorraine was accompanied by her husband Tony to church on Sabbath morning. They were both giving thanks for the blessings they had received.

Rhonda Whetstone Neibauer, Wisconsin Rapids Church media correspondent



The radio station tower for WMLY-LP 93.1 FM is located a few miles east of the Marshall (Mich.) Church.



The Cedar Lake and Great Lakes Adventist Academy radio station tower is located on the water tower.

[UNION NEWS]

New Christian Radio Stations Now Operating

Michigan—With help from Michigan Advance Partners (MAP) funds, three new Christian low power FM radio stations are now on the air. They join the West Branch station, **WAWB-LP 107.3 FM**.

WSFT-LP 96.3 FM is in the Berrien Springs area and is operated by a group from the Berrien Springs Village Church. **WMLY-LP 93.1 FM** is operated by a group from the Marshall Church. **WGLN-LP 93.5 FM** is operated by a group from the Cedar Lake Church in cooperation with Great Lakes Adventist Academy.

Michael Nickless, Michigan Conference communication director

Help Send Care Packages to Iraq

Lake Region—The Lake Region Conference National Servicemen's Organization (NSO) has been responding to the needs of military personnel in Iraq. The number of Adventists serving in the armed forces overseas is now higher than ever.

The work of the NSO includes the ongoing ministry of sending care packages with Bibles to promote the spiritual and mental health of our young people in service. They appear to be real morale builders.

One soldier wrote, "I am very thankful for the things you have mailed. The books came in handy. I am reading [them] and plan to gather some soliders for Bible study." Another wrote, "Just letting you know I got the boxes! What a big day for me!"

Many requests are coming in, including, "Do you have any Sabbath school lessons? Loved the tapes!" A current project is to provide DVDs of sermons to be used in Sabbath services in Iraq.



Philip Willis Jr., a chaplain for the U.S. Army, is currently stationed in Iraq.

NSO provides support to anyone in the military who requests material or help. I receive the names of soldiers from my son, an Army chaplain stationed in Iraq. Just this week he wrote:

"I do believe the Spirit of God is with us here. I have to believe. My belief is all I have. Yesterday, I was burdened with an office full of soldiers and their problems late into the night. Helping people is what I enjoy, but sometimes it starts to weigh heavy on



Funds are needed to send care packages overseas to our service men and women in Iraq.

your spirit when there is nowhere to go, nothing to do, and no one to really talk to. A few examples of the soldier issues are as follows:

"(1) Soldier's uncle committed suicide, and he sat in my office and wept; (2) Soldier's wife cheated on him, he felt alone, found a friend here, confessed to his wife, now she is making him pay for it, and holding him out to dry; (3) Soldier is suffering from post traumatic stress because the driver of her vehicle was killed during an IED explosion and she had to peel his bloody body off of her face and clothes. ...

"The chaplain works 24 hours a day, seven days a week. He is expected to be up with a ready smile and a good word. ... This week I go on the most dangerous mission I have been on. The roads are bad, insurgents attack every convoy, and the last soldier that was killed was killed on this trip. I have been afraid, very afraid, but I'm trusting that the same God that kept me this far will keep me one more time. One more time, God, one more time."

NSO needs your help; we have more than 25 boxes waiting for funds to be mailed. We also need to purchase blank DVDs in order to duplicate sermons. Please help by sending your

check or money order payable to the Lake Region Conference, to the attention of: P.C. Willis Sr., NSO Director, Lake Region Conference, 8517 S. State Street, Chicago, IL 60619.

Philip C. Willis Sr., Lake Region Conference National Servicemen's Organization director

[NAD NEWS]

The Appearing—A New Evangelism Opportunity

Interest in the end of the world is at record levels. Nearly 75 million copies of the *Left Behind* book series have been sold. Major news publications like *TIME*, *Newsweek*, and *The Economist* have recently had cover stories about the end of the world. NBC recently ran a mini-series about the end of the world, called *Revelations*. And since 9/11, the top two topics requested at Bibleinfo.com are the "Second Coming" and "Signs of the End." Yet at the same time, misunderstanding about the Second Coming is also very high. *Left Behind* talks about the rapture. *The Last Disciple*, a new book from Hank Hanegraaff of *The Bible Answer Man* radio program, offers the preterist perspective of prophecy. Millions of people, desperate to understand the subject of Bible prophecy, are turning to sources of information that do not reflect solid biblical truth.

The team at *It Is Written* wants to change that. The purpose of *The Appearing* is to help those in our communities who are interested in this topic discover one of our churches and the unique Seventh-day Adventist message about the Second Coming.

What is *The Appearing*? *The Appearing* is a five-night satellite experience about the Second Coming, and an intentional seed-sowing activity for a local church community. It is designed to bring *It Is Written* viewers and other members of the general public through the doors of a local church, teach the



Bible truth about Jesus Christ's Second Coming, and quickly transition participants into one or more specific follow-up activities—pastor's class, other Sabbath school classes, individual Bible study, local evangelistic campaign, or home Bible study group.

The Appearing has four teaching components:

Satellite experience—Each night for five nights, Shawn Boonstra will spend 30–40 minutes sharing some aspect of the Second Coming in a dynamic, media-rich presentation via satellite.

Local moderator—At the conclusion of each night's presentation, Boonstra will turn the time over to a local moderator to lead the audience through a short follow-up Bible study. The study will both review the content they've just heard and add a few questions to deepen their understanding. This allows for more personal interaction and stronger relationship building, and helps to quickly establish the local leader as an authority on the subject.

Follow-up class—Each night, Boonstra will also promote a follow-up class that will meet weekly at each host site for six to ten weeks. Classes will begin the Sabbath following the conclusion of the five-night series. This might be a pastor's class, another Sabbath school class, individual Bible studies, a local evangelistic campaign, or home Bible study group.

Book—Boonstra has also written a book about the Second Coming called *The Appearing*. This book gives much greater historical detail about competing viewpoints about prophecy, and fleshes out the Adventist perspective. This book is an excellent companion to the five-night event and local follow-up classes.

Partnering with local churches, *It Is Written's* objective for this project is to bring new interests through the doors of the local church and help integrate them into church life. From the pre-event promotion, to each night's presentation, and the follow-up communication with registered attendees—the *It Is Written* team is actively working to transition each interest from *It Is Written* toward a strong relationship with local church members.

Each church registered as a host site will receive a free resource kit with specialized materials. This resource kit includes:

Promotional materials, to rally church members and to inform the community about the event.

Training materials, to equip church members to be effective ambassadors for the Gospel.

Presentation materials, to prepare the local moderator to lead in each evening's closing discussion.

In addition, *It Is Written* will offer a variety of follow-up resources to help members nurture and grow the new interests who would like to integrate into the life of the church.

To register as a host church, go to www.theappearing.com/host.

It Is Written press release

[WORLD CHURCH NEWS]

International Website for Seventh-day Adventist Nurses

Adventist Nursing Connection (ANC) is the name of the new website designed specifically to link the world-wide community of Seventh-day Adventist nurses. The possibility of communicating technologically with other Christian nurses on a global scale is a vision of Linda Royer, in association with a group of professional nurses representing education and practice.

With a grant from the former ASDAN (Association of Seventh-day Adventist Nurses), the site—www.adventistnursingconnection.org—is now live. Nurses who log on will find information on nursing practice, patient and staff education, Christian job opportunities, career tips, Adventist nursing schools and nursing history, stories, humor, essays with a Christian slant, Adventist mission opportunities, and much more. There is also a discussion forum on which to share experiences, thoughts, and concerns as well as ask questions pertaining to nursing practice or governance, including ethical or moral dilemmas, making wise nursing management decisions, and promoting health.

The focus is on attracting men and women to the nursing profession and supporting and encouraging those who are in practice. This virtual community of Adventist nurses should prove especially welcome to those nurses who practice in isolated areas of the world. The organizers' first major project was to provide a seminar to health professionals while at the General Conference Session in St. Louis, Mo. The theme was "Disaster Response: Providing Spiritual Support to Victims and the Community." A report from the seminar is on the website.

ANC needs your assistance in reaching all Seventh-day Adventist nurses with the news of this new virtual community. Contact Linda Royer, M.P.H., M.S.N., project director, at (540) 477-9653, or e-mail: anc@adventistnursingconnection.org

Adventist Nursing Connection news release



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 47.

Obituaries

BERNARD, Ivalo P. (Snyder), age 88; born Apr. 17, 1917, in Ann Arbor, Mich.; died May 16, 2005, in South Bend, Ind. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Carl; daughters, Karen Pearson and Susan Shuler; four sisters; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Esther Knott, and interment was in Prattville (Mich.) Cemetery.

BLOOD, Richard E., age 74; born Sept. 6, 1929, in Lupton, Mich.; died June 12, 2004, in Dewitt, Mich. He was a member of the St. Johns (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Jean (Schultz); daughters, Sheila Quigley, Dena Minarik, Katrina Bishop, and Bonnie Conrad; sister, Elaine Lintz; 15 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Alan Meis and Elder Olan Thomas, and interment was in Dewitt Cemetery.

BOERNER, Douglas K., age 42; born May 3, 1962, in Milwaukee, Wis.; died Jan. 21, 2005, in Deerfield, Wis. He was a member of the Madison (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his brother, Fredric.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Stephen Stauffacher, with private inurnment.

BUTE, Cheryl A. (Benson), age 58; born Feb. 9, 1946, in Milwaukee, Wis.; died Jan. 20, 2005, in Madison, Wis. She was a member of the Watertown (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Daniel, Donald, and Matthew; daughter, Jill Brunk; brothers, Carl and Edward Benson, and Jay Baukin; sisters, Jerilyn Jaggars and Candice Bunting; six grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Ethan Steinbrenner, and interment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Fort Atkinson, Wis.

CURRY, Edith M. (Hammel), age 89; born Jan. 7, 1916, in Redwood Falls, Minn.; died June 2, 2005, in Flint, Mich. She was a member of the First Flint Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Sharon Frost and Diane Grimaud; sister, Jean Galbraith; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Douglas Carlson, and interment was in Flint Memorial Park Cemetery.

DELGADO, Henry G., age 38; born Apr. 10, 1967, in Takoma Park, Md.; died May 12,

2005, in St. Joseph, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his former wife, Karen Johnson; son, Garrett G.; father, Henry; mother, Eva (Roman); and sister, Lisa Hess.

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

ERICKSON, Lucille (Smith), age 86; born Sept. 28, 1918, in Poy Sippi, Wis.; died May 4, 2005, in Omro, Wis. She was a member of the Conference Church, Madison, Wis.

Survivors include her daughter, Shannon Cook; foster child, Howard Revels; brother Raymond Smith; and sister, Beth Hanke.

Memorial services were conducted by Elder Richard Habenicht, and inurnment was in Poy Sippi Cemetery.

FORSHEE, Peter, age 60; born Apr. 6, 1944, in Heidleberg, Germany; died Mar. 17, 2005, in St. Joseph, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Sally Jo Ann (Britain); son, Charles D.; daughter, Annette M.; and two grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Dwight K. Nelson, and inurnment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

GARBESON, Kathryn M. (Schultz), age 88; born Feb. 1, 1917, in Bainbridge Twp., Mich.; died May 18, 2005, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Coloma (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Michael; daughters, Beverly Brady and Karen Beckwith; sisters, Faith Smith, Armis Baginske, and Mary Spivey; 11 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Elder Dan Rachor, with private inurnment.

GAY, Betty J. (Fredericks), age 70; born June 16, 1934, in Huntington, Ind.; died Feb. 23, 2005, in Markle, Ind. She was a member of the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, John R.; sisters, Bonnie L. Burnworth and Jaqueline S. Fisher; and half sister, Barbara N. Hale.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ramon Ulangca, and interment was in Lancaster (Ind.) Cemetery.

HARGASH, Paul, age 86; born Apr. 5, 1919, in Chicago, Ill.; died May 11, 2005, in Saginaw, Mich. He was a member of the Saginaw Church.

Survivors include his son, Paul Jr.; daughter, Sharon Gembrowski; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert C. Quillin, and entombment was in Chapel Hill Mausoleum, Freeland, Mich.

HUFF, Richard L., age 75; born May 12, 1929, in Indianapolis, Ind.; died Apr. 28, 2005, in Niles, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his sons, Richard A. Huff and Verner Harper; stepsons, Doug and Dave Herdman; sisters, Alberta Yeoman and Mary Elizabeth Shull; two grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Dwight K. Nelson, and inurnment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

JONES, Joyce M. (Mohlmann), age 81; born Nov. 3, 1923, in Bethel, Conn.; died Apr. 15, 2005, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her son, Bruce D.; daughter, Meredith Gray; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor John R. Jones, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

MABIE, Dorothy E. (Cramer), age 94; born Jan. 27, 1911, in Nekoosa, Wis.; died Mar. 10, 2005, in Watertown, Wis. She was a member of the Watertown Church.

Survivors include her son, Donovan L.; daughter, Kathleen Glennie; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Michael J. Quishenberry, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Watertown.

MURMANN, Juanita M. (Hewett), age 96; born June 7, 1908, in Duluth, Minn.; died Mar. 29, 2005, in Apopka, Fla. She was a member of the Grand Haven (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Richard W. and David Hewett; daughter, Donna M. Peterson; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Richard Peterson and Elder J. Florea, and inurnment was in Robinson (Mich.) Twp. Cemetery.

NEWBERRY, Douglas R., age 56; born Jan. 27, 1949, in Kingston, Ontario, Canada; died Mar. 23, 2005, in Fenton, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Lois R. (Fechtenburg); son, Bradley D.; daughter, Jennifer R. Mueller; father, Ronald F.; brother, Glenn F.; and sisters, Dianne McMains and Joanne Edgar.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dwight K. Nelson, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

PEBLER, Mildred E. (Bollin), age 92; born Sept. 2, 1912, in Nauvoo, Ill.; died Jan. 31, 2005, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, George; daughters, Elizabeth Lucas, Mary Harrington, Naomi Paus-

tion, and Joanna Barton; brother, Lawrence Bolin; sister, Beulah Pilkington, 16 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Chaplain Roy Jeffery, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

RILEY, Mabel (Burton), age 89; born Feb. 20, 1916, in Sycota, Ohio; died Apr. 12, 2005, in Niles, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her daughters, Mary Jo Brown, Ruth Ann Dingman, and Cattie Burke; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

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

RIPPON, May (Moore), age 90; born Dec. 28, 1914, in Perth, Australia; died Mar. 4, 2005, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, William B.; daughter, Norene M. Clouten; and seven grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Barry Gane and Esther Knott, with private inurnment.

SWANSON, Gertrude L. (Anderson), age 97; born Aug. 31, 1907, in Duluth, Minn.; died Feb. 19, 2005, in Springfield, Ill. She was a member of the Springfield First Church.

Survivors include her son, Richard; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Lee Grady, and inurnment will be at a later date in Hinsdale, Ill.

TOMPKINS, Elen (Cash), age 89; born May 15, 1915, in Jackson, Ga.; died Jan. 13, 2005, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her daughter, Barbara Byrd; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

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

WILLIAMS, Geraldine O. (Casner), age 81; born Dec. 11, 1923, in Decatur, Ill.; died Apr. 8, 2005, in Decatur. She was a member of the Decatur Sunnyside Church.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Larry Clonch, and entombment was in Star of Hope Mausoleum, Graceland Cemetery, Decatur.

WITT, Genevieve (Statlman), age 93; born Oct. 9, 1911, in St. Paul, Minn.; died May 8, 2005, in Flint, Mich. She was a member of the South Flint Church, Burton, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Gerald L. and Thomas E.; daughters, Patricia A. Ostrander and Francis K. Chambers; sister, Ann Smith; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Leonard Kitson, with private inurnment.



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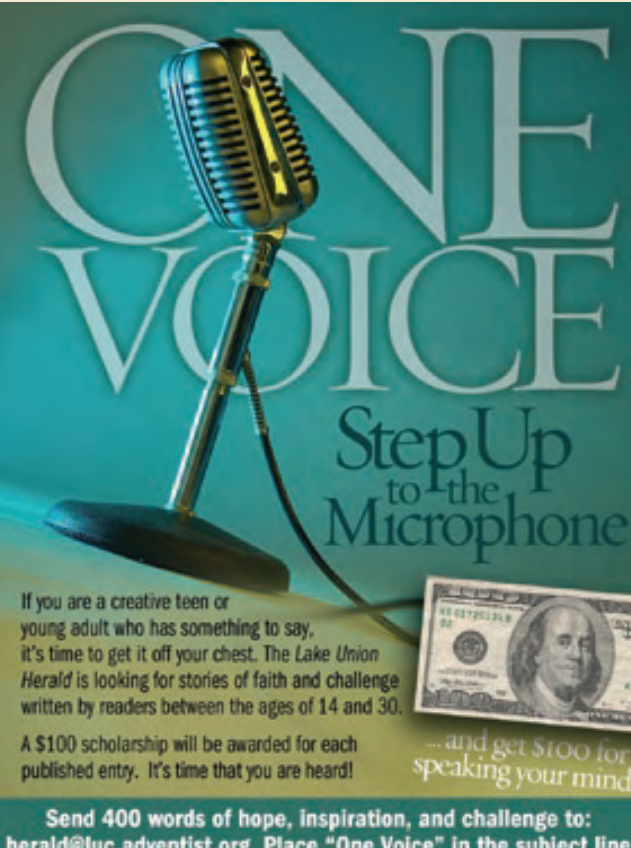
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LIFESTYLE CENTER OF AMERICA in Okla. needs CFO. The qualified applicant will have at least eight years proven accounting experience, two years team management experience, and



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SOUS CHEF NEEDED at Lifestyle Center of America, a premier diabetes medical resort with mission to restore health through lifestyle intervention. The qualified applicant will have at least two years vegan cooking experience in a restaurant setting. Submit résumé to: Lifestyle Center of America, Attn: Diana Wildermuth, Route 1, Box 4001, Sulphur, OK 73086, or e-mail: dwildermuth@lifestylecenter.org.

CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES, General Conference ministry for the blind in Lincoln, Neb., seeks a controller. Accounting experience required. Denominational or not-for-profit experience helpful. Contact Human Resources at (402) 488-0981, or e-mail: prhr@christianrecord.org.

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PARTNERSHIP *with* GOD

God Doesn't Need Ryan's Money

BY GARY BURNS



My youngest son, Ryan, was sitting next to me as we listened to a couple of students tell the desperate story of a little girl. They came in contact with her on a short-term mission trip and learned of her need for critical medical attention beyond what was available in her village. The students devised a plan so she could receive the help she needed, but it was beyond their means to provide.

As he listened to their plea, Ryan's hand found its way into his pocket where there was a little bundle of bills he had been saving for something special. He pulled out his cache, which initiated a plan of intervention

on my part. I caught myself about to whisper to him that God didn't need his money, reasoning that God had the world's resources at His disposal. Then I realized the foolishness of my "good" intentions and the incredible blessing I was about to steal away from my son.

God didn't need Ryan's money, but Ryan needed to give. He needed some tangible way to honor God with the first and best of all he had. His heart needed to be moved by the needs of others. He needed to realize how blessed he was. Ryan needed to give as a way to deepen his partnership with God—and so do you and I.

Gary Burns is the *Lake Union Herald* editor.

Announcements



Churches, schools, conferences, institutions, and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at 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

Notice of Regular Meeting of Members: To the constituency of Andrews University, a Michigan nonprofit educational corporation: Pursuant to the laws of the State of Michigan, notice is hereby given that the regular meeting of the Andrews University Constituency will be held in Chan Shun Hall on the campus of Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich., on Sun., **Oct. 16, 2005**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to elect the members of the Board of Trustees and to conduct such other business as may be necessary.

Brent G.T. Geraty
Secretary of the Corporation

Historic Adventist Village

For more information on these events, contact Stanley Cottrell, Village director, at (269) 965-3000; or visit website: www.adventistheritage.org.

Aug. 14, 2:00 p.m.: Musical concert—Buddy Houghtaling.

Sept. 18, 2:00 p.m.: Historical play—"Men of Vision"; reenactment—History of Battle Creek.

Oct. 1: 150-year anniversary, speaker: Merlin Burt—Move to Battle Creek—First Publishing House; 145-year anniversary of choosing the name, "Seventh-day Adventist"; organizing the publishing work; and, "Time to Begin the Sabbath" (sunset to sunset).

Oct. 2, 2:00-5:00 p.m.: Heritage Festival—arts/crafts/food, historical reenactment—Chet Damron as Abe Lincoln.

Oct. 29: Adventist Heritage Ministries Partnership Weekend; 150-year anniversary of *Testimonies for the Church*.

Dec. 10 and 11, 4:00-7:00 p.m.: Victorian Christmas—carols, choirs, Village lantern tours, Food Bank offering, Chet Damron as the storyteller.

Indiana

Enroll at Indiana Academy (IA): If you want to attend an Adventist academy with an excellent academic program and strong

spiritual emphasis, then IA is the place for you. Students may take classes for college credit and are offered a variety of work opportunities to help make an Adventist education affordable. Visit website: www.indianasdaacademy.org to learn more about IA, or call (317) 984-3575 to request an enrollment package and consultation.

School's Not Always Inside! The annual outdoor school for Indiana Adventist home-schoolers will be held at Timber Ridge Camp **Aug. 22-26**. For information, call Lutricia Whitlow at (812) 829-2507, or e-mail: lwhitlow@direcway.com.

Hispanic Family Retreat: Plan to join other Hispanic Adventists for a spiritual retreat at Timber Ridge Camp, **Sept. 2-4**. For information, call Orlando or Raquel Vazquez at (317) 209-8246, or e-mail: yorland@juno.com.

TRAT (Timber Ridge Annual Tour): Ride 170 miles on a bike in three days with plenty of rest, fellowship, and a spiritual program on Sabbath! It all starts at 7:00 a.m. Thurs. morning, **Oct. 6**, and concludes Sun., Oct. 9. For additional information or to register, contact the Indiana Conference Youth department at (317) 844-6201.

Lake Union

Offerings:

- Aug. 6** Local church budget
- Aug. 13** Oakwood College/Andrews University/Loma Linda University
- Aug. 20** Local church budget
- Aug. 27** Local conference advance

Reconnect with those who sang in *Harambe* and/or *Our Father's Chil-*

dren in 1975. Let's reconnect for Andrews University Alumni Weekend, **Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2005!** Contact e-mail: interfaith2000@yahoo.com.

From This Day Forward Marriage Conference:

Come laugh, learn, and share with your spouse at this motivating marriage conference to be held **Oct. 8** in Merrillville, Ind. Elaine and Willie Oliver of NAD Family Ministries team up with several other presenting couples to share insights on how to take your marriage to the next level of spiritual intimacy. Please register by Aug. 31 to receive early bird discount. Visit www.plusline.org/events.php or call (800) 732-7587.

Michigan

Singles Retreat at Camp Au Sable: Mark your calendar and plan to attend this fun-filled event, **Oct. 21-23**. You won't want to miss this opportunity to fellowship with other singles in Mich. Speaker for the weekend: Christian Martin. Other activities include: go-karts, horseback riding, canoeing, hiking, etc. Space is limited so register early! For more information and cost contact the Family Ministries department at (517) 316-1500 (ask for Lynn White), or contact Elodia Jones at (517) 227-1781, or e-mail: ElodiaLJones@peoplepc.com.

North American Division

Baltimore (Md.) Junior Academy's 90th Alumni Weekend, "Putting Together the Pieces for a Brighter Tomorrow," will be held **Oct. 7-9**. The weekend includes Fri. vespers with current academy students, Sabbath services with Mark McCleary, Sat. evening banquet featuring Paul Heflin and honoring Ethelind Tilghman Sewell ('42) and Paul Vieny ('37), and Sun. morning alumni constituency meeting. For more information, visit website www.bjacademy.org and follow Alumni link.

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Whitecoat Foundation would like to contact you to let you know of reunions, special recognition received, and other happenings. There will be a reunion in Orlando, Fla., in **Nov.** If you served, or know someone who did, and have not been to a reunion or otherwise contacted, call Joel Craw at (360) 666-2706 or e-mail: WhitecoatJBC@aol.com.

Announcing Oakwood College Accreditation:

God has blessed the Oakwood College Family and Consumer Sciences department by granting the initial accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association (ADA) for the undergraduate Dietetic and the Dietetic Internship programs. The CADE of the ADA values the commitment to the quality and continued improvement of dietetics education demonstrated by the dietetic programs during the accreditation process and site visit on Apr. 4-6, 2004. The next site visit for continued accreditation will be scheduled for 2014. To learn more about these programs and career opportunities, visit our website: www.oakwood.edu/fcs/default.asp?ID=2.

Thunderbird Adventist Academy is trying to locate all graduates from the class of 1956 for their 50th reunion. If you are a 1956 graduate, contact Eugene Wahlman at 12223 N. 39th Way, Phoenix, AZ 85032; phone: (602) 867-0264; or e-mail: genenan@mailstation.com.

Sunset Calendar

	Aug 5	Aug 12	Aug 19	Aug 26	Sept 2	Sept 9
Berrien Springs, Mich.	9:01	8:52	8:41	8:31	8:20	8:08
Chicago	8:05	7:56	7:46	7:35	7:25	7:13
Detroit	8:48	8:39	8:29	8:17	8:07	7:55
Indianapolis	7:55	7:46	7:37	7:26	7:17	7:05
La Crosse, Wis.	8:25	8:15	8:04	7:53	7:41	7:29
Lansing, Mich.	8:58	8:48	8:37	8:26	8:14	8:02
Madison, Wis.	8:15	8:05	7:55	7:44	7:33	7:21
Springfield, Ill.	8:08	8:00	7:50	7:40	7:31	7:19

MISSION: *Impossible?*

BY REBECCA SAUER

“Please fasten your safety belts and prepare for takeoff.” Groggily listening to the flight attendant, I settled into my seat for the overnight flight from Santiago, Chile, to Atlanta, Georgia.

The past two weeks had been a whirlwind of activities as I toured all across the country of Chile with the *Andrews University Singers*. After performing eleven concerts and several impromptu special musical numbers, I truly felt a sense of mission and satisfaction from the warm, hospitable church members. Not only were the Chileans blessed through our music, but I was also touched and drawn closer to God. Throughout the whole tour, it seemed the more we gave of our time and talents, the more we were blessed. But our greatest blessing was still in store for us.

Shortly after hearing the announcement preparing us for takeoff, I began to feel the plane moving down the runway. Before taking off, I heard another voice come over the speakers telling us our plane was experiencing mechanical difficulties, but several mechanics were working on the problem immediately. Quickly sending a prayer heavenward, I began to relax and fall asleep.

After a 25-minute wait, the pilot announced the problem had been repaired and we would take off shortly. As our plane taxied down the runway, accelerated, and began to lift, I suddenly felt a huge jolt. Our plane had begun to take off, but had stopped halfway through the attempt due to an emergency warning on the computer screen. This emergency landing blew

out two tires. I later found out that even though it was a simple mechanical problem with the left wing, our plane would have rolled and crashed if it had taken off.

It was not until the next morning the reality of our experience began to sink in, and I was able to see the miracle

I had experienced firsthand. Although we had been a singing mission team dedicated to the Lord, He had greater plans for every member of the group. The devil had tried to put an end to our trip and our lives, but Jesus had a greater plan. This experience helped me see God is still all-powerful in this sinful Earth, and I am even more determined to follow His plan because He still has an important purpose for my life.

Rebecca Sauer is a junior elementary education major at Andrews University and a member of the Burlington (Michigan) Church. A \$100 scholarship will be awarded since her article was selected for publication.



A 2005 graduate of Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA), **Bradley "Brad" Smith**, 18, is the son of Sydney and Gina Smith of Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Brad knows what Christian service is about; throughout his life and schooling, he has been very involved in the work of Christ. In his junior year at GLAA, Brad was given the *Caring Heart Award* for his dedication to witnessing and evangelism. He also served as Adventist Youth for Better Living pastor.

Brad spoke for the Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. In his senior year, as Student Association pastor, Brad was one of two speakers for an evangelistic series conducted at Central Michigan University. In July 2005, Brad was a speaker at a site in Kumasi, Ghana, for the *Ghana Pathfinders Bible Project*.

Brad was a very important member of the *Aerokhanas*, GLAA's gymnastic team, and witnessed with them. Through all his work, Brad's explanation is simple: "Working for Christ and sharing His love with others is what helps my love for Christ grow." He added, "I know that God will continue to open doors for me to share that love."

Brad plans to major in theology and possibly foreign language studies. At GLAA, he was often heard speaking Spanish to anyone who would listen. He has a great sense of humor and enjoys reading, painting, and traveling.



Brad Smith

Optimistic and dependable are two words to describe **Alaina Elder**, 18, daughter of Paul and Mary Elder of Fen-ville, Mich. Alaina graduated in May 2005 from GLAA. She has dedicated herself to doing her best in academics and being a positive witness for God.

Alaina could always be seen with a smile on her face. She was very involved in service for her school and community. She loves traveling, writing, wind-surfing, and golfing.

Alaina believes in conservation and protection of the environment. She truly cares for this world and the people in it. Recently Alaina participated in the *Ghana Pathfinder Bible Project* as a speaker in Kumasi. She spent time visiting local people and experienced their culture while sharing the love of God.

As a senior, Alaina was National Honor Society president and ranked in the top ten of the senior class. She was honored by the American Chemical Society as outstanding chemistry student of the 2005 graduating class and was also a commended National Merit student. Alaina plans to attend Andrews University this fall and will major in environmental science and pre-law.

The most important thing she has learned is "to appreciate the beauty in the little things that God has given and to share that beauty with others."



Alaina Elder

These students were selected and profiled by faculty members at their school. To recommend outstanding students for recognition, speak with your pastor or a faculty member. Visit www.lakeunionherald.org for selection criteria.

Address Correction

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

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