

# Lake Union HERALD

OCTOBER 2004

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### COVER

Celebrating Our Diversity at Andrews University: The population of Andrews University is representative of the worldwide body of Christ. Students and faculty from approximately 100 countries bring a rich cultural, linguistic, ethnic, and historical diversity to the university community. Sabbaths are filled with colorful and varied sights, sounds, and aromas as our imaginative Creator gathers His children before Him in worship, praise, and fellowship.

The *Lake Union Herald* (ISSN 0194-908X) is published monthly by the Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs, MI, and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription price is \$8.50. Vol. 96, No. 10.

POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: Lake Union Herald, P. O. Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.



## EDITORIAL

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT,  
LAKE UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

# Different, but Alike

Don't you just love this text? "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28). The text is strongly indicating that once we come to Jesus in full surrender and commitment, we no longer have room to segregate ourselves into little compartments and pigeonholes.

In the remnant church, we are to be even more homogeneous. It does not require us to lose the uniqueness God has given us or the cultural considerations that make each of us special. It does mean we are to represent to the world what God is like — what Christ is like. He is the One who said they will know you are Christians by your love (see John 13:35).

I had a very special soul-preparing experience early in my ministry. While attending the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, my sponsoring conference administration assigned me to three different territories on paper, only to send me back home to Germantown, Ohio, when I finally began my work. In this little country church I pastored my father and mother, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, and a host of international congregants. It was the experience of a lifetime.

Our church counted among its membership African-Americans, Hispanics, Brazilians, Caribbeans, Anglo-Americans, and individuals from several African nations. What a picnic! I learned so much from all these precious souls that it expanded my preparation for ministry far beyond anything I could have hoped for.

We experimented with worship styles, sacred music, social arrangements, and evangelistic outreach. I dedicated babies with all sorts of cultural ramifications. The church potluck dinners were adventures in ethnic cuisines. And this young pastor had to learn to counsel with a sensitivity that I could not have been aware of otherwise.

God was getting me ready to lead. He wanted me to know that when He calls you into ministry, you are not to decide who will be the beneficiary of your efforts. We are never to narrow our scope of outreach, but rather expand it to the near-breaking point. Throw out the Gospel net and expect a large draft of fish, all kinds of fish — even some swordfish!

Friends of mine, be ready. "Hope for Our Day" will produce even more diversity in our church families. Shouldn't it be so? Remember, "There is neither Jew nor Greek ... ."

Now you can read the *Lake Union Herald* online.



# YOUTH IN ACTION



## HANDS-ON EQUALS CHANGED HEARTS

BY DEBBIE YOUNG

“I thought it would be what most good kids would do to get brownie points with Jesus, but it was a spiritual experience that was much more than I expected.” That’s 15-year-old Brian Dent’s reflection on the *Youth for Jesus* program sponsored by Adventist-Laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI). A member of the Ypsilanti (Michigan) Church, Brian joined 25 other young people from across North America in Cincinnati, Ohio, for the five-week youth evangelism program.

ASI is an organization of Seventh-day Adventists in business and ministry whose purpose is to share Christ in their marketplace.

*Youth for Jesus* was created from a passion to equip young people with tools to share Christ, recognizing that they have unique gifts and influence that can be used effectively in Christian witness.

In its six-year history, *Youth for Jesus* has trained over 400 young people in the rudiments of public evangelism — visitation, greeting,

ushering, providing special music, giving health lectures, working with a children’s program — everything it takes for a successful evangelistic campaign. Several of those youth participated as speakers for youth-led evangelistic series. Hundreds have been baptized as a result of the work of these energetic young people. Probably the most notable outcome is what has happened in their lives. Many share Brian’s testimony about his *Youth for Jesus* experience. “You’ll never be the same after you do it. Your whole view of life changes and you discover the joy in doing God’s work.”

Brian says it was some of the experiences he had that sparked this change. A church member took special interest in his nephew, traveling one hour each way to bring him to the meetings. It was clear the nephew wasn’t very interested and only attended at his uncle’s request. When Brian and another youth befriended the nephew and explained what they believed, he became more open and receptive. He began asking his uncle to pick him up for church meetings.

Another experience that left a deep impression was the passion for evangelism demonstrated by his peers. One person Brian speaks of is Chelsea Jordan from Minnesota. “It was refreshing to see a young

person really on fire for God.”

Looking back, Brian says he had a lot more fun than he expected.

“We even got to play basketball,” he said with a grin. But more than fun, making new friends and witnessing over 60 baptisms, Brian’s heart is changed.

“After I got back home, I was playing ball with a friend. As we talked, I led the conversation to spiritual things. He had a lot of questions and I happened to have a Bible study guide that would address some of his questions. Now I look at life through spiritual eyes and see people as a contact for Jesus.”

Brian wants to go on a mission trip to do as Jesus did — community service and evangelism — but he mainly wants to do evangelism. Brian says, “The Gospel is important work and all of us should be involved.” It seems that is the magic formula — hands-on equals changed hearts.



Brian Dent shares a testimony during a *Youth for Jesus* worship assembly.



*Youth for Jesus* participants assembled every morning to share testimonies and prayer requests.

Debbie Young is a Lake Region Conference volunteer correspondent.

# WELCOME

## NEW MEMBERS

**Michigan** — After Sabbath School, as I was leaving my greeter's post, I walked an anxious-looking lady. I asked how I could help and she began telling me about calling all the homeless shelters, only to find them full. She needed a place to stay. I asked her to sit in the church service while I sought counsel from the leaders. Later, she came out of the service and told me her relatives in Indiana could help her if she could get a bus ticket to Indianapolis. The head elder gave her money for a bus ticket.



Marie Rhymer

When the service was over, other members joined me in providing for our visitor's needs. I took her to the bus station, and another person gave her money for food. She purchased a ticket to Indianapolis by way of Detroit. The bus wouldn't leave until 6:00 p.m. that evening. It was now 2:00 p.m. *What shall I do now?* I was confused and hungry.

My new friend asked me to drive her several blocks to pick up her belongings. When we arrived at a senior citizens' complex, I was introduced to her cousin, **Marie Rhymer**. Once inside, we began a lively conversation which included some Bible questions about what

happens when a person dies. I asked if they would like to know what the Bible teaches about death, and they answered, "Yes." Since I had completed a Bible marking class, I knew I could find the answers. When we finished the study, they thanked me. I was grateful for God's blessings on my very first Bible study.

When it was time to leave for the bus station, the three of us stood at Marie's door. My new friend turned to me and said, "Marie believes the seventh-day Sabbath." When this was confirmed, I asked Marie if she would study the Bible with me each week. She agreed, and I was thrilled. We studied together over a year, through good and bad experiences. At times I felt like it was useless to continue. I was driving twenty miles to her home, and sometimes it seemed the Bible studies were not changing her life. During those times God and I talked in prayer. I learned to be more loving and patient, and to surrender my plans to God's wise ways.

Today, I praise the Lord that Marie finally made her decision to be a Seventh-day Adventist. She was baptized in the First Flint (Michigan) Church on February 7, 2004. She testified she had been praying for God to lead her into the true church and told how she had prayed that prayer on the very first Sabbath we met.

Although her cousin still travels the highways, Marie loves the Lord Jesus and is anxious for His soon return. Marie has no doubt in her mind that ours was a meeting God had prearranged.

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*Darlene Bessey, as told to Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent*



Denise Klingman

**Wisconsin** — **Denise Klingman** has lived next door to the Milwaukee Northwest Church in Wisconsin for the past eight years. One day Ric Swaningson, Milwaukee Northwest pastor, was outside the church and noticed Denise in her yard. Wanting to be friendly, he took time to introduce himself. As they were getting acquainted, Swaningson invited her to join the church family at an upcoming Wednesday night prayer meeting.

Denise decided to come as his guest; she discovered how nice the service was and how friendly members were. She said the members were caring and understanding, something she had never experienced in a church. She also enjoyed the spiritual lessons being presented from the Bible. At Milwaukee Northwest, the Wednesday night meetings focus on the mission of the church, and presentations are centered on reaching out to those who don't know Jesus.

Observing her positive response to the prayer meeting services, the pastor invited her to also come to Sabbath School and worship services each Saturday morning. Everyone was grateful to see her attending the Sabbath morning services and Wednesday night meetings.

When church members George Washington and Margo

Swaningson befriended her, she opened up her heart to these new friends. She shared with them how her life had not been satisfying and of the emptiness she felt inside. They talked with Denise about how committing her life to Jesus Christ would bring a new happiness as she experienced His salvation. They also explained to her what the Bible taught, how to live as a Christian, and then invited her to commit her life to Christ through a beautiful baptism service. Since Denise's heart and life had changed, by God's grace, she joyfully responded and was baptized on January 17, 2004.

Today Denise beams with love for her new church family because they are always there to support her. She is also thankful that no matter how busy her pastor may be, he always takes time for her. Most importantly, she now has Christ in her life and feels happy inside — especially when she walks into the Milwaukee Northwest Church. She believes the true friendships she found there helped win her heart to Jesus.

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*Debbie Laudon as told to Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent*

**Wisconsin** — **Kevin Ruehl** began attending the Stevens Point (Wisconsin) Church with his fiancée, Beth Hauerich, an Adventist who had recently moved into town. Chuck Kohley, church pastor, visited Ruehl and discovered he was interested in history. This provided an opportunity to ask Ruehl, a Lutheran, if he would be open to Bible studies that compared Bible prophecy with history. His positive response allowed Bible studies to begin in February.

Kohley next invited Joseph Bergeon, a Stevens Point member, to assist with the studies for two

reasons: his presence would add to the fellowship, and Bergeon could present a Bible study if the pastor were called away.

A unique set of video Bible studies was used. Half of the video presentations were created by the pastor; the other half were taken from the scripts of the "New Beginnings" series. A 15-minute interactive discussion guide that followed the video presentations created the spiritual desire in Ruehl to become a member of the church.

Instead of asking questions aimed at just reviewing facts in the study, Ruehl was given the opportunity to select responses from a suggested list aimed at helping him discover what each point in the Bible study meant to him.

The pastor's aim was to help Ruehl appreciate and choose to

"own" each part of a Bible study. This non-confrontational approach allowed him to share insights and convictions about the topic he had viewed.

God blessed the studies and on June 30, 2004, Ruehl became a baptized member of the Stevens Point Church. Bergeon desired to nurture Ruehl in his new walk with Jesus Christ and so he continued to give him Bible studies.

As the pastor and layman worked together to bring Ruehl to Jesus, God's Spirit allowed his life to be changed by grace. Combining their talents proved to be God's plan to win another person for heaven and eternal life.

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*Chuck Kohley, Stevens Point pastor, as shared with Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent*



*From left: Joseph Bergeon, Kevin Ruehl, and Chuck Kohley, Stevens Point (Wis.) Church pastor*



## Holy Day or Holiday?

BY ANN FISHER

God says, “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.” If we carefully follow a list of Sabbath-keeping rules, is it possible for us to somehow make Saturday a holy day? Of course not. All our best Sabbath-keeping efforts can never make the Sabbath day holy. Our Holy Creator made the day holy at creation when He “blessed the seventh day and hallowed it.” God reminds us to *keep* it holy — to not desecrate this holy gift of time with the One who created us in His image.

So how can I *keep* the Sabbath day holy? When I was a child, I remember my parents teaching me how to treat the Holy Bible. The Bible was always placed on top. Nothing was to be stacked on top of it. I like to think the Sabbath hours are like my Bible. To keep them holy, they must always be given preference. None of life’s clutter should be allowed to accumulate on top of them.

It might be easy to give every new Adventist a list of do’s and don’ts for keeping Sabbath. But man-made lists are not very helpful, and they rob us of the adventure of discovering for ourselves how rewarding the Sabbath can be. So, instead of rules, here is a list of five suggestions for a more positive Sabbath experience.

The first two — **anticipation** and **preparation** — were discussed in last month’s Adventism 101 column. If you missed reading “Anticipating the Sabbath,” you may read it at [www.LakeUnionHerald.org](http://www.LakeUnionHerald.org).

### Separation

The Sabbath draws its meaning from the difference between it and the other days of the week. Keeping the Sabbath holy means setting the day apart, separating it from the others for special religious purposes. The Sabbath commandment makes a clear distinction between the six days of labor and the seventh day, which has been reserved for rest and worship.

Many Adventists welcome the Sabbath on Friday evening at sunset with a special worship and a traditional meal. Many families make Sabbath dinner a festive occasion and regularly invite guests to share it with them. Some Adventists have special Sabbath clothes, and some parents have Sabbath toys and games for their children. We are challenged to look for creative ways to remember the Sabbath’s importance.

### Adoration

Worship is an indispensable part of the Sabbath and a natural time for formal worship services. When we attend church on the Sabbath we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, who regularly attended synagogue services on the Sabbath day (Luke 4:16). Sabbath afternoon is a great time to visit the countryside or a park in order to contemplate God’s creative genius in the beauty of the natural world.

### Communication

Sabbath is a day for communicating with each other and with God. Solitude can be an important part of the Sabbath experience for busy people; it provides their only chance all week to spend some time alone with God.

Sabbath is also the only opportunity some people have for fellowship with other Christians. Moms and dads who work all week can gather their children together for a day of family worship and quality time together.

So, as we contemplate these five suggestions for a more positive Sabbath experience — anticipation, preparation, separation, adoration, and communication — and how we can preserve the Sabbath’s holiness and receive the blessing God longs to share with us, I leave you with a question and a challenge. How is a holy day different from a holiday? The challenge is to celebrate each new Sabbath as the holy day God sanctified it to be.

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

DOMINICAN MISSION TRIP IMPACTS LIVES

# God Sent You Here!

BY COLLENE KELLY AND RAMONA TRUBEY

The Cicero, Indiana, mission team and friends arrived March 12 in Santiago Rodriguez, Dominican Republic, excited to begin work. On prior mission trips, the Cicero team constructed eight houses of worship in six countries. With this experience, they quickly organized, sent out a medical team and then started construction on a church building in Santiago Rodriguez.



Photos by Collene Kelly

*Vicki Bolin, assisted by Teri Reutebuch, gives an eye exam to a Dominican gentleman visiting the medical clinic.*

Construction soon began on a second smaller church in the little town of La Lana. The larger church built in Santiago Rodriguez was a Maranatha church; the smaller one was a gift from the Cicero Church and all materials were furnished by its members.

The medical team set up a clinic in a different town every day. Clinic facilities included a beauty shop, open shelter, the disco hall, and various homes. Cicero member

Denise Fruth laughingly recalls meeting in a barn where baby chickens kept entering and exiting with continual shooing from the Americans!

Without a previous announcement people came by word of mouth, and even the schools let out so children could be brought to the doctor.

This year, for the first time, the team provided eye exams and offered reading glasses. The people were so grateful to have them. One older woman who hadn't been able to sew or read was especially delighted. She remarked, "God sent you here! God bless you!" Bringing clear vision to approximately 100 pairs of blurred eyes was just a tiny taste of the joy Jesus must have experienced when He smeared mud on the blind man's eyes and told him, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam."

The team's record was treating 209 people in one day and by the end of the trip, 1,056 patients had been seen. The medical personnel came home every night exhausted, but so happy.

Elwin Shull, a Cicero member, headed the pew construction crew for the churches built by team members. Over the past nine years, 225 sanctuary pews and 75 children's pews have been constructed by Elwin's crew providing seating for approximately 2,000 people.

Words cannot describe the sights, sounds, smells, and feelings



*The new La Lana Church built with donations from Cicero Church members replaced a delapidated wooden shack where light shone through the cracks.*

that accompany such a trip. What words describe the smile of delight on children's faces as they look into a goody bag and realize the treasures are for them? Before each mission trip Carolyn Rollins, a Cicero member, begins her annual gift of love, cutting and sewing bags to be filled with treasures by church members for the children. Throughout the years she has sewn nearly 2,000 bags and spends approximately 100 hours annually on this project. She has never experienced the joy of watching the children receive the bags, but keeps sewing, knowing her mission of love will bless many little lives.

How can you explain the feeling you get when little old people put their arms around you and hug you with joy at finally having a church home? What adjectives describe the look of hopelessness as sick children are held out to the doctor for help?

The Cicero mission team was reminded that as we give, so we also receive abundantly. May God impress the hearts of those who can go on mission trips, and those who cannot, to give of their time and means to help others experience these blessings.

*Collene Kelly and Ramona Trubey are Cicero Church correspondents.*



# Cultivating Closeness

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

According to Scripture, God intends for marriage to be a relationship in which husband and wife truly connect and experience a deep sense of intimacy that can be described as becoming one flesh.

While many would describe this as true in the spirit of their marriage, it is not the reality of their day-to-day lives. What hinders many couples from enjoying this deep level of intimacy is their communication style. They talk, but only on a surface level.

He doesn't know how to express his innermost thoughts and feelings. He may be more than a little afraid of them, so he doesn't allow himself to get in touch with his inner self. She is more conscious of her inner self, but may be no more able to

share than he is. Her reasons are different, but no less inhibiting. The risk involved in disclosing a deeply intimate experience may be rated with indifference, and that's too big a risk for some to take.

Paul Tournier suggests, "Deep sharing is overwhelming, and very rare. A thousand fears keep us in check. First of all, there is the fear of breaking down or crying. There is especially the fear that the other will not sense the tremendous importance with which this memory or feeling is charged. How painful it is when such a difficult sharing falls flat upon ears either preoccupied or mocking, ears in any case that do not sense the significance of what we're saying."<sup>1</sup>

When love is nurtured, communication can be cultivated. As one shares, the other feels more safe to share. This is not one act, it is a style of communication that becomes the very fabric of the relationship. Trust builds trust. The little things, the seemingly insignificant happenings of a day, the shared memories — these are the building blocks of emotional intimacy.

"For the couple who dares to plumb the depths of their thoughts and feelings, there remains an intimacy that can only be described as a blessed oneness. This is the ultimate achievement of marriage — the merging of self into self. ... Freed from the fear of misunderstanding or rejection, they

can truly be the self God meant them to be."<sup>2</sup>

If this description reflects on your marriage relationship, rejoice! If you desire deeper intimacy within your marriage, I invite you to contemplate these questions suggested by Exley:

- ▶ What are one or two words that best describe the interaction you had with your partner today?
- ▶ What activities have you shared with each other this week?
- ▶ How would you describe the nature of the time and activities spent with each other — worship, leisure time, household tasks, problem solving, in conflict?
- ▶ Is this the kind of interaction that enables you to reach the level of sharing that brings the deep intimacy you truly desire? If not, what changes do you need to make to cultivate that kind of sharing with one another?

As Paul said, "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 15:5,5 NIV).

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1. Exley, Richard, *Marriage in the Making: Devotions for Living Happily Ever After*, (Tulsa, OK: Honor Books, 1994).

2. Tournier, Paul, *To Understand Each Other*, (Richmond, VA: John Knox Press, 1962).

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



# EXTREME GRACE

## Country Music

BY DICK DUERKSEN

Country music is of the devil. It's got too much cursin' and leavin' and lovin'. Too many pickup trucks, and not enough serious commitment.

Wrong.

Country music has a lot of songs that were written by angels. Unfallen angels. Look, for instance, at the music of Randy Travis. Randy first found #1 on the country music chart in 1986 with "On the Other Hand," a song that my mama would have been proud for me to follow. Randy's like that, choosin' songs that preachers can use as sermon illustrations, songs that bring your values right out in public along with your tears.

Between 1986 and 1998 Randy had 21 #1 songs. Then came five years in the chart cellar. Randy had gotten religion, thrown away the wild life, and followed his wife Lil's advice to sing about God. Those albums are some of my favorites, but the charts mostly ignored them. Till May of 2003.

Randy's #1 song in 2003 was "Three Wooden Crosses," a ballad that sneaks up on you and whispers,

"I guess it's not what you take when you leave this world behind you, it's what you leave behind you when you go."

"If you can listen to this song without crying," says one of my uncountrified friends, "then your tear ducts are broke."

"Listen to this song and the Holy Spirit'll be whisperin' conversion lyrics in your ear," says another.

Randy Travis is not alone. Bushels of country music stars sing spiritual invitations in their songs. That's because country music is about life where we live it — in the kitchen, in the bedroom, on the two-lane, in the moments when we and God get to make eyes at each other over life's impossibilities.

Take the title song on Tim McGraw's new album, "Live Like You Were Dyin'." It starts slowly, like a walk to the doc's office to learn if your cancer is malignant. It is, and the song speeds up to

match the anxiety of dealing with terminal news.

"Man whatcha do?"

"An' he said: 'I went sky diving, I went rocky mountain climbing,

I went two point seven seconds on a bull named Fu Manchu.

And I loved deeper and I spoke sweeter, And I gave forgiveness I'd been denying.'

An' he said: 'Some day, I hope you get the chance, To live like you were dyin'.'"

The song has earned Tim McGraw his 18th #1. Even better, it made me sit down and re-sort my priorities. Now I'm doing "nuttin" when family calls. Noticing sunsets, whistling back at songbirds, speakin' kinder words, laughing at kittens, reading the Good Book, forgivin' myself ... and maybe even listenin' to some country music.

*Dick Duerksen is the director of mission development for Florida Hospital in Orlando.*



## Your Fabulous, Forgotten Friend — Fiber

BY VICKI GRIFFIN

Is it possible to curb cravings and cut calories without the miserable aftertaste of hunger and unhappiness? The answer is yes. The place to begin is by eating more fiber foods and choosing healthful plant fats and sugar from the whole fruit. Plant foods include an amazing array of tastes, colors, and textures to please even the pickiest palate and relentless appetite! Plant foods are satisfying and reduce hunger between meals.

Simple changes can produce profound results. Fred could not get through the day without consuming hard candy and soda pop at frequent intervals. He suffered from fatigue, irritability, and had trouble sleeping. The doctors ruled out any specific disorder, so he examined his habits and decided to try just one change. He said: "I became convinced my problems were due to sugar addiction, and I decided to try something new. I prayed for courage and rather than reaching for candy first thing in the morning, I grabbed a fresh, crisp apple or



peach. ... It was hard at first, but very soon I began incorporating fresh fruits and vegetables, salads and whole grains into my meals. I began to enjoy the food and even look forward to it. Before long I no longer had the urge to snack at all! I feel better, sleep better, and am free from my addiction for the first time in years!"

Your stomach holds about four cups of food. When you eat fiber foods, your pouch gets full before you eat too many calories. Fiber foods are lower in calories and high in satisfaction. Instead of a donut and coffee for breakfast, try a half grapefruit, some fresh strawberries, whole wheat toast with peanut butter and applesauce, and a cup of fortified soy milk.

Fiber-rich foods also help maintain consistent serotonin levels. Severe calorie-restricted diets and very high protein, low carbohydrate diets cause a drop in brain serotonin, a hormone associated with mood, appetite, and cravings. If your serotonin level drops you may feel down, which may cause a craving for sweets. Balance your serotonin levels with high fiber foods rich in complex carbohydrates, such as beans, legumes, whole grains, pasta, leafy vegetables, fresh fruits, and nuts.

God's plan for healthful eating is not about deprivation, it's about addition — adding more

wholesome, fiber foods to your diet, and eliminating foods that stress you, drain you of energy, and add unwanted pounds. So, power-up your life with your fabulous, forgotten friend — fiber.

*Vicki Griffin is the Michigan Conference health ministries director.*



The attractive Lifestyle Matters kits include books, audio CDs, and videos designed to help you incorporate God's principles into your life. These principles deal with issues such as stress sensitivity, immune function, memory, learning, behavior and mood. They are simply presented and easy to share with others. You are also encouraged to include the Lifestyle Matters ministry modules in your church's comprehensive evangelistic plan for 2004. Visit [www.lifestylematters.com](http://www.lifestylematters.com) or call 866-624-LIFE (5433).



# Determination Yields Harvest in God's Timing

BY TRACY SCRANTON

Two years ago members of a small downstate country church in Noble, Illinois, were forming big plans. The community of Fairfield, Illinois, 25 miles to the south, was ripe for the harvest; Noble Church members were about to provide the reapers. Their *Discover Bible School* records and the *Magabook* students' community visits uncovered a strong need for Bible truth in Fairfield. Clyde Liston, Steve Scott, and Dennis Scranton had been working for years to reach their community with the Adventist message — Bible studies and door-to-door visits had sown the seeds. Now it was time for the harvest.

Satan always works hardest when God's people reach out. Liston and Scranton had prepared for 2002 outreach meetings for over a year. Plans were postponed when Liston's mother passed away. In 2003, Liston and Scranton again began to work with Scott and other Noble leaders for an autumn outreach; however, Scranton was killed in a tragic auto accident in August.

The congregation was devastated by this loss, but voted unanimously to proceed with a Daniel and Revelation seminar in October. The church board voted to fully fund the seminar in Fairfield, and to provide video and audio equipment and manpower. It was also decided that Noble members living in Fairfield, as well as any new interests, would remain

in Fairfield to establish a new company following the seminar.

"We can't afford to lose that many members in a church this size."

"Why can't the new interests in Fairfield come to Noble?"

"If we proceed with this project, will our own church die?"

These were just a few of the comments spoken in fear by members who were always reassured by their pastor. Tom Ferguson, Noble Church pastor, reminded members that "When God opens the door, we have to step through."

Ferguson conducted the first ten seminars in October 2003. Within days, over 80 people had been reached with God's message. As lay speakers shared the 14 remaining topics, Satan continued to attack the group with illness, family deaths, and auto accidents.

Despite these challenges, four precious souls were baptized, and several others are being nurtured. The Fairfield Company was officially recognized by the Illinois Conference this past summer. Long-range witnessing goals include a *Discover Bible School*, conducting a *CHIP®* program, and additional evangelistic seminars.

What happened to the Noble Church? Obviously, the church plant had a huge impact. In a congregation of 60, 13 absent members left a large hole. Leadership positions vacated



Tom Ferguson, Noble pastor, enjoys the privilege of baptizing Janice Scott and welcomes her to the new Fairfield Company of believers.

included: two elders, a deacon, a Sabbath School superintendent, the church clerk, personal ministries leader, Pathfinder director, teen Sabbath School teacher, and bulletin secretary — but our God is an awesome God.

The Noble Church also held a Daniel and Revelation seminar this spring with an attendance of 25, surpassing any outreach conducted for the last ten years. Five new souls were baptized into the Noble Church. The *Discover Bible School* is still going strong, and home Bible study groups are actively working with others interested in God's message.

Stepping out in faith can be painful, but God blesses those who aren't afraid to stand up and proclaim Him before others. The Noble members have been rewarded for their faith and vision, and the Fairfield Company is proud to be called a planted seed.

*Tracy Scranton is a correspondent from the Fairfield Company.*

## Small Town Offers Big Ministry Opportunities

### Chippewa Valley Hospital Chaplain Serves Dual Role

One of the whole-person care contributors at Chippewa Valley Hospital and Oakview Care Center in Durand, Wisconsin, is chaplain David Guerrero. Guerrero's path to ministry was a walk of faith full of obstacles. His family moved to a small community in upstate New York when he was 14. There, Guerrero felt a call to ministry serving as a youth elder in his church. Following graduation from Alfred State College in New York, he briefly pursued a theology degree at Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama.

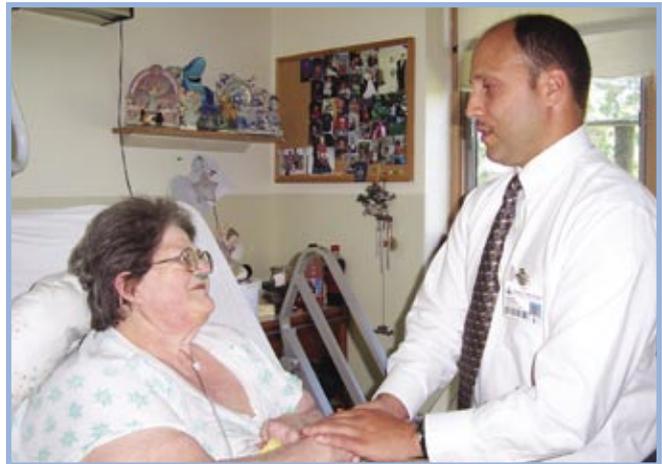
He later returned to New York, where his mother faced a serious illness, and worked at a diagnostic treatment center. After working his way up to manager, Ted Lopez, Guerrero's pastor, encouraged him to consider ministerial training again by suggestion they pray together about it for one week. "He was convinced I was being called to pastoral ministry, but I had reasons why I questioned his resolve," explained Guerrero. "I was happy with my job and serving the church as an elder." At the end of the week, they visited Atlantic Union College in S. Lancaster, Massachusetts.

"I thought the visit was a waste of time, but by the end of the day I was accepted [into the school]. What I thought was previously out of my reach became attainable through a financial-aid package," Guerrero recalls.

During his schooling, Guerrero was able to pastor in the Greater New York Conference. After graduation he was invited to be an associate pastor



*David Guerrero and his wife of 13 years, Jacquelyn, and their children (clockwise from top right) Joshua, Joel, and Hannah.*



*David Guerrero, chaplain, visits Annie Brown, a patient in Oakview Care Center, the 58-bed skilled nursing facility licensed for Medicaid and Medicare adjacent to Chippewa Valley Hospital, a 25-bed critical care hospital.*

and Bible instructor for the Southern New England Conference. While there, Guerrero received Clinical Pastoral Education and a certificate for outstanding chaplain from The Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven, Connecticut.

Guerrero knew he was now at a crossroad in his ministry. "I asked the Lord where I should serve," Guerrero remembered. Four days later he received a call from Don Corkum, Wisconsin Conference president. "He spoke as if he was responding to my inquiry. I knew it was the Lord telling me to go there," Guerrero remarked.

For three years Guerrero provided leadership for the development, integration, and coordination of spiritual care activities for Chippewa Valley, while also serving as pastor of the Durand and Menominee churches. He was ordained at the Wisconsin camp meeting last June.

Guerrero attended seminary at Andrews University and completed concentrations in chaplaincy, youth ministries, and church growth. His ministry provides creative opportunities. He has begun a curriculum for developing volunteer chaplains with two having completed the program and he is an American Lung Association certified facilitator of a stop smoking program. In addition, he is a prison ministries' coordinator and founder of The Spiritual Renewal Bible School at Yale University. "I find ministry is much more rewarding as you build friendships, and these people see and feel your genuine concern for them. They accept your appeal for them to accept Christ more [easily] after they give you the invitation to share with them about your faith," stated Guerrero.

*Lynn Larson, Adventist Health System Midwest Region  
Lake Union Herald correspondent*

## Andrews University Welcomes New Faculty

Verlyn Benson and Merlin Burt have recently joined the Andrews University (AU) faculty.

As of July 2004, Benson is the new dean of the College of Technology. He comes to AU from Pacific Union College (PUC) where he taught in the department of technology for sixteen years, serving as chair since 2002. Before teaching at PUC, Benson was the director of the technical school at what is now Bolivia Adventist University from 1981–1987.

Benson received his undergraduate degree in industrial technology from PUC and his masters in industrial technology, with an emphasis in graphics, from California Polytechnic University in 1987. He received his doctorate of industrial technology degree from the University of Northern Iowa in 1998. While studying for his doctorate, Benson worked as a graduate assistant doing research for John Deere's engine division.

As dean, Benson wants to focus on how AU can better communicate and relate with the community, helping the university grow to become a leader in technological education among Adventist institutions. Benson joins the AU community with his wife, Anita, and their two children.

Merlin Burt joined the AU faculty last fall as the director of the Center for Adventist Research when the Ellen G. White Estate and the Adventist Heritage Center came together under joint administration in November 2003. He was director for the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office at Loma Linda University from 1993-2003. Burt comes to AU with his wife, Sarah, and their three children.

Burt received his Ph.D. in Religion from AU in 2003 with a focus on Adventist studies and American church history and a cognate in archives.

Since Burt's arrival, an endowment fund has been started with the hope of supporting future outreach programs and expansion.



Verlyn Benson, dean of the College of Technology



Merlin Burt, director of the Center for Adventist Research

A new website has also been created: <http://www.andrews.edu/library/car/index.html>, and a scholars program has been instituted, which allows registered scholars of Adventist church history and Ellen G. White the chance to study at the Center.

Burt states his "biggest desire is to help Seventh-day Adventists appreciate the movement and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church by seeing how God has led in the past."

*Beverly Stout, University Relations news writer*

## Teacher in the Spotlight

Just strike up a conversation with Kathy Demsky and it will soon become apparent how much she loves her job, and the students she interacts with in her position as director of the Architecture Resource Center at Andrews University (AU).

"Students are everything. They come first," Demsky explains. "They're my second family."

Demsky moved to AU with her husband, Conrad, from Gentry, Arkansas, in the mid 1980s. Her library talents were soon discovered, and she was recruited to begin working in the architecture library in July 1987. Before she even finished her undergraduate degree, Demsky became director of the Architecture Resource Center in 1989.

Demsky went on to receive a double degree in organizational management and management and human resources at Bethel College in 1992 and a masters in library science degree from Indiana University South Bend in 1994.

Besides being the only Seventh-day Adventist architecture librarian in the world, Demsky also holds a permanent position on the board of directors of Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) as publications coordinator. The AU Architecture Resource Center's EDRA collection is the most comprehensive compilation in the world.

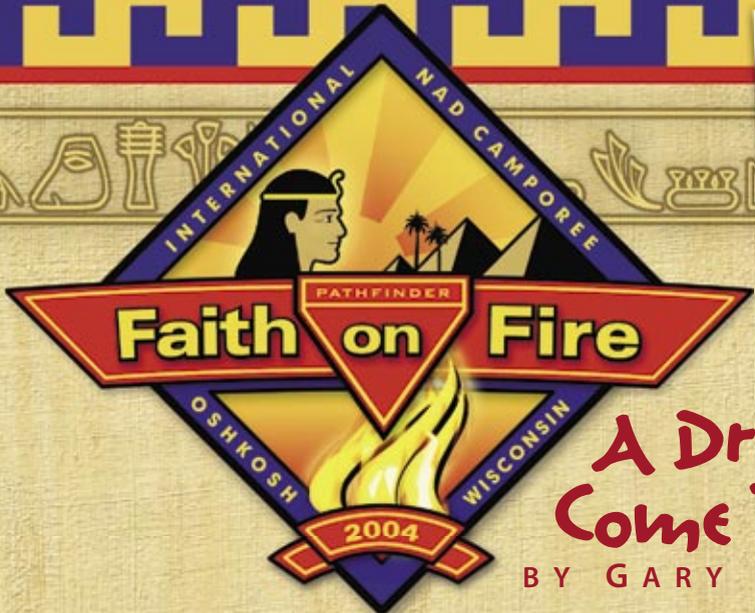
Demsky is also an assistant professor. She has helped organize the architecture department's study abroad program and has taught a class on Waldensian faith and history.

Demsky accounts her success to God's blessings, and a quote from Psalm 18 lines the top of her office wall in bold black letters, reminding her that "By my God I can leap a wall."

*Beverly Stout, University Relations news writer*



Kathy Demsky, director of the AU Architecture Resource Center



# A Dream Come True

BY GARY BURNS



Lake Union Herald editor, Gary Burns, interviews Ron Whitehead, Faith on Fire Camporee director.

**GB:** The Faith on Fire Camporee was your brainchild. It's something that came to you. How did that happen?

**RW:** I'd wake up at night and the thought in my head was: *It's important that our kids get together and worship and pray together.* I felt some consensus with important people in my life and we said, "Let's see where it goes."

**Where did the Joseph theme originate?**

I saw the idea of using Joseph to illustrate a spiritual journey for a

young person at a camporee called "Tabalin," in Australia about six years ago. Joseph is a gift from Scripture to the 21st century young person. The issues and struggles he had to deal with spiritually are the very same young people deal with today.

*The camporee goes beyond an in-house, feel-good, let's-go-camping-together experience to something else entirely, doesn't it?*

Leadership knew this camporee was different. We sensed it wasn't about numbers; there was an understanding that God was assembling His young people and those who love His youth for a special spiritual event — a historical spiritual event.

As you moved into the Joseph story, as you heard the appeals, as you watched the young people stand and raise their hands, it went way beyond numbers.

It goes beyond Pathfinder honors and activities. It goes much deeper. I think [about]the spiritual handbook we gave every night. Kids could go back and study and dig deeper in Scripture.

I think the website really prepared people spiritually to come to the event and seek the blessing that was there, and I think God gave us the theme, "Faith on Fire."

*You had the vision years ago to provide the camporee for the church and began assembling some people who could help accomplish the task. Tell me about that team.*

I wish I could say to you, "Gary, I was a real smart guy and I had it all figured out and I had read some books." It's actually more spiritually intuitive than that. I believe all the glory goes to the Lord, Jesus Christ. I believe He put the team together. He identified me as the leader through other individuals. And then once I understood that and it settled on me, I started praying and asking God to identify people around me like Moses of old to lift up the arms.

It took about 1,000 adults to manage the city of over 35,000 who were there on Sabbath morning. It's one thing to run a convention of 30,000 to 40,000 people indoors at a superdome, or some kind of building; another kind of group needs to assemble to accomplish something outdoors ... with all the dynamics of cooking, restrooms, water, gray water, our own security force, radio station, and newspaper. It's a city that you establish for six days.

**And you're the mayor!**

They tell me I'm the mayor — that's right. And in the context of all that, you want your city of young people to not isolate themselves.



Photos from www.AdventistPhoto.com

We want to insulate them in Jesus, but [equip them to] get out in the community. Thousands of young people went every day into the community to be salt and light to illustrate that their faith was on fire.

One person wrote me this week and said, "Pastor Ron, I loved this camporee. I was just disappointed it only lasted six days. I wanted it to last three or four weeks. And I can't wait to come back in 2009."

I emailed back to ask what his favorite memory was. He said, "I saw Jesus brand new and I also saw that my church is huge. I am part of a big movement."

They caught a vision for their own lives and their church.

I got another email from a young person who said, "Pastor Ron, it's nice to know that my church cares about me. The camporee ... what it means to me is that my church loves me and cares about me and I saw that my God loves me too."

***I'm sure that you had some surprises.***

There were a couple of surprises that should not have happened. Good people made a few little mistakes.

One of the most pleasant surprises at the *Faith on Fire Camporee* was the international guests who came — close to one hundred countries [were

represented]. I found the young people of North America really embraced these guests from around the world and connected to their church in a big picture kind of way. And I know of some clubs that are going to Brazil to be with the club they hosted — they're going to trade hosting each other.

Another blessing/challenge occurred Friday afternoon. We had planned on 150 being baptized and then we heard over 200 were being baptized, so we started calling all around the country to try to locate a second pool. We started praying and kept calling and nothing — zero. So we started praying harder. We said, "You know God, this is important to You and this camporee." We made one more call to the northern part of the state and the fellow said, "I can't believe you're calling me. I have a demonstration model and it was sold, but now it's not sold. When do you need it?" We told him we needed it right away! And he said, "Well, I'll drive it down there for you." He got it down there and it matched beautifully.

As Sabbath afternoon moved on, there were so many people being baptized that it was moving into the evening program. Some of the evening program people said, "Pastor, how are we going to work

this, because you know we have schedules and agreements and everything?" And I said, "You don't worry about any of those schedules or any of those agreements. As long as people want to be baptized, we're going to keep that open." And they agreed.

We had over 300 people baptized! It was a good thing.

***So you are a pastor more than an administrator?***

I'm much more a pastor than an administrator. I'm told that I have administrative gifts, but my heart is about ministry and watching people in love with Jesus.

Let me tell you about one more thing. Just like in Joseph's day there was a famine upon the land today — in the 21st century — there's a spiritual famine. And we know the power of the Word, the Bible. We encouraged young people to bring one dollar and one Bible to the *Faith on Fire Camporee* so we could send them to parts of the Philippines, Belize, and Africa where people are starving for Scripture. I'm happy to report to you over 35,000 Bibles were donated and over \$20,000 was collected. That's plenty of dollars to move these Bibles into the hands of people who are hungry for the Word of God.

# Answered Prayer at Oshkosh

## KENNY'S UNFORGETTABLE BAPTISM

BY DIANE THURBER AS TOLD BY ILEANA GUTIERREZ



**B**aptisms are never ordinary, but those who know Kenny Gutierrez would say his baptism story is extraordinary for sure.

After camp meeting in June, Kenny returned home and shared with his parents his desire to be baptized. They had watched his spiritual journey and sensed Kenny's strong conviction and readiness to take his stand for Jesus.

Kenny's father, Sergio, is a pastor. He visited the Adventist Book Center and purchased the Discipleship Guide for Juniors. He and his son committed to study the lessons together daily.

Ileana, Kenny's mother, remembers the day he announced, "I want to be baptized at Oshkosh." The family planned to attend the *Faith on Fire Camporee* to be held in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, in August. They believed his wish could be granted. He was excited and his anticipation grew daily.

The Gutierrez family traveled to Oshkosh where they enjoyed a wonderful week of activities, camping, fellowship, and programs. But on Sabbath morning their pleasant experience was interrupted.

Sergio awoke with a sharp pain located in the lower right side of his abdomen and discovered every step he took was painful. Blood drawn at a nearby walk-in clinic revealed an elevated white blood cell (WBC) level of 15,000, far from the normal range of 4,000-7,000. With this information and his symptoms, appendicitis was suspected. Sergio was instructed to consult with a surgeon at a nearby Catholic hospital.

The Gutierrez family was concerned — not just for Sergio's health, but about Kenny's baptism scheduled for 5:30 p.m. that afternoon. Sergio and Ileana told Kenny he could be baptized as planned if someone else was willing to perform the baptism, or he could wait until his father recovered and be baptized when they returned home. Kenny was conflicted and felt locked in a horrible decision. He shared with his mother, "I have already prayed and I know Jesus will do something because this is too hard for me."

Arriving at the hospital, Sergio met wonderful nurses and physicians who seemed to immediately understand his predicament. The importance of the baptism registered with the surgeon who, after reviewing Sergio's CT scan, administered pain medication and granted him permission to leave the hospital briefly for the baptism service. Kenny and his family were overjoyed.

Arriving back at the campground, Sergio hurried to the baptism site where arrangements were made for Kenny's baptism to be the first of about 300 baptisms. Just prior to his baptism, Charlie Thompson, Indiana Conference youth director, explained to those present the journey Kenny had been on that day with his dad and then prayed for Sergio's healing. Surrounded by many friends and family, Kenny experienced the joy of baptism with his father.

Sergio returned to the hospital for further observation. When he awoke Sunday morning, without pain and with a WBC count of only

5,000, surgery was avoided and his doctors were left puzzled by his sudden recovery.

Kenny remarked to his father as the family was packing to return home, "Pastor Charlie prayed yesterday and I was praying so hard. I think Jesus heard and made it possible for you to be healed." He continued, "Jesus did something really important for me that day so I could have both Oshkosh and my Daddy."

Sergio doesn't know why he had this experience, but believes strongly God was in control. He was able to witness to medical personnel about his church and answer many questions when they discovered he was a pastor.

Kenny was right, Jesus did do something really important in Oshkosh. It will be exciting to discover His complete plan when we get to Heaven.

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*Diane Thurber, Lake Union Herald  
managing editor as told by Ileana  
Gutierrez*





# Multicultural Ministry Ideas

*If your church is interested in starting a cross-cultural ministry, but isn't sure how to begin, here are some suggestions to get you started!*

- ▶ Have a missions Sabbath where members from another country are invited to lead out in the mission story, and then present scripture, prayer, and special music in their native language.
- ▶ Schedule an ethnic cuisine potluck once each quarter allowing members to experience a variety of food items from other countries.
- ▶ Invite a multicultural church to join you for worship services and then visit their church another day. Switch pastors one Sabbath.
- ▶ Assist a refugee with resettlement. Contact World Relief at [www.wr.org](http://www.wr.org) to learn how to connect with a refugee. Also see the Canadian Lutheran World Relief website at [www.clwr.org/guidesponsor.html#f](http://www.clwr.org/guidesponsor.html#f) for practical information on preparing for sponsorship.
- ▶ Research ethnic groups which have settled in your area. Does your current outreach ministry reflect your desire to reach people of every tongue and nation? Visit [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), [www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org), [www.popnet.org](http://www.popnet.org), or [www.ameristat.org](http://www.ameristat.org) to find state demographics and population characteristics, school info where available, and census data specific to your zip code.
- ▶ Sponsor an international student from a college campus near your church. Billy Graham stated, "Every year over half a million students come from around the globe to study in the United States — right in our own backyard. As we develop friendships with these future leaders and executives, we have an opportunity to reach our world for Christ. ... Unfortunately, during their time in the U.S., over 70 percent ... never enter an American home or visit a place of worship." See [www.cross-culture.org/links/students.htm](http://www.cross-culture.org/links/students.htm) to learn how to juncture with organizations who work with international students.
- ▶ Take out a newspaper ad wishing your ethnic neighbors a happy holiday. See [www.ethnicharvest.org/ideas/christmas.htm](http://www.ethnicharvest.org/ideas/christmas.htm) for Christmas greetings in 75 languages. Invite visitors to your church during the holiday season.
- ▶ Hold a missions fair and advertise to the community for free giveaways — Bibles, videos, books, and pamphlets in a variety of languages. See [www.cross-culture.org/bibles/alpha/langhome.htm](http://www.cross-culture.org/bibles/alpha/langhome.htm) for a list of links to find Bibles in many languages.
- ▶ Conduct cultural awareness and celebrating diversity classes for members. Visit [www.nadadventist.org/ohr/index.htm](http://www.nadadventist.org/ohr/index.htm), the NAD Office for Human Relations website, for suggested resources.
- ▶ Start ESL (English as a second language) classes in your church or local library. See [www.cross-culture.org/ideas/esl.htm](http://www.cross-culture.org/ideas/esl.htm) for suggested resources.
- ▶ Sponsor a missionary family to a foreign land and support them while there. Feature frequent reports and look for ways to corporately meet the family's needs.
- ▶ Practice friendship evangelism as you befriend individuals from other countries. See [www.ethnicharvest.org/ideas/friendship.htm](http://www.ethnicharvest.org/ideas/friendship.htm) for an on-line "Biblical Basis of Hospitality" study and for a list of ways to meet the practical needs of friends from other countries.
- ▶ Participate in a community work project to benefit a family of recent immigrants.
- ▶ Offer a Vacation Bible School in a second language. While young children are enjoying VBS, offer activities for parents in their natural language also.

# Burmese Family Welcomed Home

## Fort Wayne Members Embrace Refugees

BY BRETT MCALLISTER

The idea of living in a jungle is unthinkable for most Americans, but that's the way it was for Than Than Aye's family.

Than Than longed for a better way of life for herself and her family. Thanks to the efforts of many organizations and the Fort Wayne (Indiana) Church, Than Than and her family were able to leave the jungle and find a new home in America.

In the late 1980s, Than Than and her family lived in Burma, now known as Myanmar. Seeking sanctuary from their country's civil war, the family lived in jungle refugee camps along the Thailand border for many years during a revolution, which continues to this day.

Than Than met her husband, Kyaw Zwa Myint, while she was living in a refugee camp. She was pleased to learn of a 300-member Seventh-day Adventist congregation and school in the camp where she lived.

Than Than and Kyaw Zwa learned about the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), an organization established to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. They applied for sponsorship to leave Burma. On the application, Than Than indicated she was a Seventh-day Adventist.

In the latter part of 1999, Catholic Charities in Indianapolis

received the family's name. They contacted the Fort Wayne Church looking for someone to sponsor Than Than's family.

Church members were eager to help; they collected the necessary funds to sponsor the family's arrival and began an aggressive campaign to find and prepare a home for them.

On December 2, 1999, Than Than, Kyaw Zwa, and their children were greeted at the airport by Fort Wayne members who took them to their new home. They were overwhelmed as they viewed the three-bedroom apartment

blessed with an interpreter, Hti Mu, who has been a tremendous help communicating with the family.

The family still resides in Fort Wayne and attends the Fort Wayne Church. Than Than recently remarked, "We are very happy in Fort Wayne, and were excited with the news that the church was sponsoring us."

Than Than's family is endeared to Jeanette Griffith, Fort Wayne community services director, for her ongoing outreach to them. Jeanette has helped with many medical, legal, and educational matters.

The family has grown since their arrival, with the birth of a son and granddaughter. Fort Wayne's women's ministries held baby showers to welcome these new little ones.

The new friendship formed as a result of this outreach project has been a blessing to Fort Wayne members. They have learned a lot about another culture and enjoy special Burmese recipes cooked for them from time to time.

Fort Wayne members would like to acquire Adventist resources for outreach to other Burmese families

in the community. If you have information about Adventist Burmese resources, please e-mail the church at [office@fwsda.org](mailto:office@fwsda.org).



Back row: Kyaw Zwa Myint, father, Than Than Aye, mother, holding Haymahn Win, granddaughter. Front row: Aye Thandar Myint, daughter, Khin Aye Myint, daughter, holding Than Than and Kyaw's son, Htet Lynn Myint, and Chit Oo Myint, son.

fully furnished with food, clothes, bedding, furniture, and many other amenities.

Although there are cultural and language barriers, the family was blessed to learn Fort Wayne has one of the largest Burmese populations in the United States. God also

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*Brett McAllister is the Fort Wayne Church communication secretary.*

# A Church Gives Birth

## Encouraging Cross-Cultural Ministry

BY JOSE VAZQUEZ

The growing Hispanic population in Indiana has motivated many churches across Indiana to reach out to this people group. The Evansville First Church embarked on a mission to reach out to the Hispanic population in their community.

In February 2001, Bela Kobar, Evansville First pastor, was introduced to Marcial Camilla, who requested Bible studies to prepare for baptism. Marcial was introduced to the Adventist church by an Adventist acquaintance just across the river in Henderson, Kentucky.

In the months that followed, the Lord began to bring people together who would be instrumental in establishing the Hispanic work in the Evansville area. Marcial and other Hispanics began visiting Evansville First. A bilingual Sabbath School was started, led by John Bush, Jr. Other Evansville members joined to strengthen the group and many invited the Hispanic visitors to their homes for Sabbath lunch. Communication was sometimes a problem, but the kindness and love shown by the members was understood by the Hispanics.

Other social activities such as picnics, soccer, and basketball were coordinated by Evansville First members in order to reach out to the Hispanic population. They were

excited when Marcial became the first Hispanic to join the Evansville First Church in October 2001.

The Indiana Conference realized the new Hispanic group needed help to continue growing, so they invited Luis Evia to serve as pastor on a stipend basis in August 2002.



Luis Evia, Evansville Hispanic Company pastor



Members of the newly-organized Evansville Hispanic Company with Conference leadership

A few days after his arrival, Luis was employed by the City of Evansville as Hispanic Coordinator. This position allows him to network with the Hispanic population. As new Hispanic families move to Evansville, Luis is the point of contact for referrals to different agencies for housing, schools, and other services. Luis has made a positive impact with different city officials including Jonathan Weinzapfel, the mayor of Evansville.

In the months that followed, Luis conducted several evangelistic meetings and many people were added to the church. In November 2003, the Hispanic group was organized into an official company by Conference administrators. Attendance on Sabbath now soars

above 100. In November of this year, the Evansville Hispanic Company will be officially organized into the Evansville Hispanic Church.

The members of the Evansville First Church feel privileged to be instrumental in "birthing" this new church. There is, however, a nostalgic feeling because now the new Hispanic group meets in a separate building with plans to buy a church soon.

There is a clear lesson to be learned from this experience. No church is ever too old to give "birth" to a new church. The Evansville First Church showed that it can be done.

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*Jose Vazquez is the Indiana Conference community services director*



# A Witness to All

## NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY

**S**eventh-day Adventists have understood the personal responsibility in our Lord's promise of His soon return, to preach the Everlasting Gospel to every nation, tribe, language, and people (Matthew 24:14 and Revelation 14:6). Beginning with J. N. Andrews, our church has literally covered the globe with missionaries. In addition, we have developed ministries to many diverse groups here at home.

While I was pastor for a congregation in the Greater New York Conference, there was a great exodus from Haiti. Our church immediately activated a ministry for the Haitian refugees as a natural response. I remember visiting prisons where many Haitian people were being detained. Many churches have been just as responsive to other immigrant groups. But what about a people

who have lived in this country for, well, who knows how long? Yes, I am talking about the First Nations Peoples — the Native Americans.

You may believe, as I once did, that since the Indian people have always been among us they have had the same religious opportunities as anyone else in this country. And there is a lot of truth to that belief. But there is a history attached to the plight of Native Americans, after the arrival of the Europeans, that I believe was designed by the enemy to keep them out of God's kingdom.

My grandfather was born in Indian Territory (present day Oklahoma) to Cherokee Indian parents in 1865. He was orphaned at about five years of age and placed in a special orphanage designed to care for Indian children — a place specifically designed to strip Indian children of any Indian

culture they may have retained. They were ill-feed, ill-clothed, beaten often, and not allowed to speak their native tongue or wear their hair in a traditional way.

By the time I was old enough to understand, my grandfather had long ceased talking about the things that had happened to him as a child. Only later did I learn from my mother some of the things he experienced. After he died I discovered he could speak the Cherokee language, but it was too late for him to pass it on to me. Grandfather had learned that it was far better not to be Indian in a white man's world.

During my teen years, there was an awakening among native people desiring to be in touch with their native culture. Seeking to regain their native roots, many withdrew from the Christian church they had embraced during the times





# Nations

by Fred Rogers

when it was advantageous not to be Indian. Native American studies became popular — even required, in many universities and colleges. These classes typically associated Indian religion with astrology and spiritualism, resulting in a new-age redefinition of the culture.

Unfortunately, our church missed an opportunity to carry out our Lord's commission with Native Americans during this transition time. The Mormon Church seized the opportunity, and you will find a Mormon church at almost every Indian reservation throughout the country.

Today, there is renewed interest in returning to native roots. My own chief was once a Methodist evangelist. Now, he is what is known as a traditionalist — one who has rejected the religion brought by the Europeans and is seeking the traditional beliefs of his ancestors. Many Indian parents are seeking to raise their children in the old traditions which I believe creates a new opportunity for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

We have an edge. If you study diligently, you will discover that we have some very common

beliefs with the Native American community. Very old, recorded eye witness accounts of the ways and life of Native Americans have revealed that the number seven was a sacred number to many tribes.

There is evidence that as early as 1750 to 1775, many Native Americans made a distinction between clean and unclean foods. Some oral accounts indicate that many tribes carried and cared for arks, in similar fashion to Israel and the Ark of the Covenant. There are many other similarities such as cities of refuge that operated like the cities of refuge of Bible times.

Most Native Americans are not aware of these similarities. That's where you and I come into the picture. It seems to me that our Creator has worked with Native Americans for thousands of years (see Romans 1:19, 20). He has now given us a unique opportunity, as Seventh-day Adventists, to take the Everlasting Gospel to America's First Nations Peoples. Will you join Him?

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*Fred Rogers is the coordinator of the Southern Union Native American Initiative. He writes from Decatur, Georgia.*

## The ABC's of "One Anotherness"

- Accept one another.
- Bear one another's burdens.
- Comfort one another.
- Don't speak evil of one another.
- Encourage one another.
- Forgive one another.
- Greet one another with a holy kiss.
- Help one another.
- Involve ourselves with one another.
- Judge not one another.
- Kindly show affection to one another.
- Live in peace with one another.
- Minister your spiritual gifts to one another.
- Never become conceited, provoking one another.
- Owe no one anything, but to love one another.
- Pray for one another.
- Quickly serve one another.
- Regard one another as more important than ourselves.
- Submit to one another.
- Teach one another.
- Use hospitality for one another without grudging or complaining.
- Value one another.
- Welcome and receive one another.
- Exhort one another daily.
- Yield to one another.
- Zealously work to build one another up.

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*Rosa Banks is associate secretary and director of human relations at the North American Division.*

[www.nadadventist.org/humanrelations](http://www.nadadventist.org/humanrelations)



# Diversity and the Changing Face of the Church

BY WALTER DOUGLAS

If there was any doubt at all that we are all connected as different colored threads in the human fabric, the renewed and continuing thread of international terrorism brings home to us the reality of our connectedness and our diversity in both shocking horror and transcending nobility.

In the national imagination, nothing is more urgent and compelling than the safety and security of our nation. Osama bin Laden and his terrorist network around the world have radically and forever altered and transformed the landscapes of our lives. They have effectively put the most powerful nation in the world under high alert 24/7. They have caused us to change our ways of thinking, acting, and behaving; our ways of doing business, politics, education, and health care delivery. Even religion has been altered to protect against the invisible and deadly threats of terrorism. Our systems of justice, immigration policies, and military strategies have changed. A new cabinet position structure, the Department of Homeland Security, was created to deal with this new threat. Governments such as the United States (U.S.), Britain, Spain, France, and Germany are spending billions of dollars on homeland security to protect and preserve fundamental human rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Yet, day after

day, Americans and people all over the world worry and fret about the threat of anthrax, biological terror, dirty bombs, and new suicide squads. The rhythms of our life are frequently interrupted with terror alerts and warnings. Clearly these new threats have created dramatic cultural shifts in our country and other countries of the world.

A cultural shift is a series of responses to demographic, economic, political, and social changes impacting an organization or institution. This makes it necessary for that institution to change its way of doing business if it is to remain strong, healthy, and competitive — in order to achieve its mission.

I believe cultural and ethnic diversity are a core part of the social, political, economic, and religious engines that drive this and other countries. The impact of these forces on organizations and institutions, and public policy, profoundly effect the way they do business. The same is true of the Church both as an organization and a witnessing community.

The face of the Church is changing. And the change is the result of its missionary success. In its missionary engagement throughout the world, the Church confronts diversity in every aspect of its life. The communities in which we serve, our educational institutions,

our health care facilities, the structures of governance, etc., are all challenged by the compelling presence of diversity as a strategy for fulfilling mission. It is crucial that we embrace diversity as a mission imperative. We could do so through an awareness and understanding of diversity — not an event, but a process; not a destination, but a journey.

Diversity is about the future. Accepting, valuing, and implementing diversity initiatives will help change the organizational culture and vision of the Church to make it more intentionally inclusive. This is vital, because the successful implementation of diversity enables the Church to respond creatively and positively to demographic, ethnic, and cultural changes taking place in the world, especially in North America.

Let us be clear about one thing. Diversity is not about race and gender. It is not interested in single issue activism. It is a process for understanding cultural, ethnic, and demographic shifts that allow an organization to position itself to make sense out of our differences and to manage and leverage those differences to give it a competitive advantage and fulfill its mission. It is accepting, respecting, embracing, and celebrating differences in culture, race, national origin, and gender. It is my contention



## Institute of Diversity and Multiculturalism

The work of the Institute is to serve as a resource center for business organization, public and private educational institutions, churches, healthcare organizations, and government agencies. The Institute offers seminars, workshops, and consultations to organizations locally and nationally. For more information call (269) 471-3543 or e-mail [wdouglas@andrews.edu](mailto:wdouglas@andrews.edu).

that diversity can make us a stronger, richer, healthier, more compassionate church.

As it moves forward into the twenty-first century, the Church is challenged to be on the cutting edge and at the forefront of massive, major, millennial changes. This is inevitable. To grow, to successfully fulfill its mission, the Church will have to embrace change with vigor and honesty. This may lead to a re-examination of organizational structures, mission strategies, and methods of witnessing and discipling.

Here are some numbers that contribute significantly to the demographic shifts that will continue to change the face of the Church.

Women constitute 50% of the brain power in the U.S. today. In most professions, women represent the largest percentage. Women are taking their places in corporate offices and other high level positions not because of their gender, but because they are qualified.

The emerging majority (formerly known as minorities) constituted 19.7% of the population in 1990; in 2004 they comprise more than 30% of the population, a significant increase in about fourteen years. In the U.S., before 9/11, immigration patterns were allowing more and more foreign-born workers to enter the work force. In 2000, there were 28.4 million foreign-born people in the U.S. This figure represents 10.4% of the total population or 1 in 10

people. This number is the highest since 1930. Among foreign-born, 51% were born in Latin America, 25.5% in Asia, and 15.3% in Europe. The statistics show that the white majority is shrinking. By 2005 there will be 5 million fewer Caucasians in the work force. White, middle class people are having fewer and fewer children. One hundred fifty-eight million will be mixed work force. The Black, Hispanic, Asian, and American Indian populations are younger and growing at an incredible rate. The immigrant population is also increasing. These are numbers and statistics you cannot ignore. It is unavoidable that these shifts in population will transform America from a racial majority to a racially diverse society.

In the U.S., the Church is clearly challenged to value and embrace diversity as a strategy and a process through which it can position itself to deal with the inevitability of change. This can be done through a careful study of demographic trends, cultural shifts, structural reforms, and bottom line issues such as differences, and intentional inclusion as it seeks to remain true to its divine mandate of reaching all people with the Good News. Diversity is God's idea.

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*Walter Douglas is the director of the Institute of Diversity and Multiculturalism at Andrews University.*

## Statistics

- 1990:** 19.7% of population, people of color
- 2003:** 30%+ of population, people of color
- 2000:** 28.4 million foreign-born people in the USA = 10.4% of total population That's 1 in 10. The highest percentage since 1930.
  - 51%** Latin America
  - 25.5%** Asia
  - 15.3%** European
- 2005:** 5 million fewer Caucasians in work force; 158 million will be mixed work force

## Basketball Co-Captain Witnesses to School

**Lake Region** — In just two short years Brandon Dent, a member of the Ypsilanti (Mich.) Church, made quite an impression at Summit Academy (Summit), the charter school he attended in Huron Township.

Summit offers its students the opportunity to play interscholastic basketball in the Public School Academy League. Dent tried out for the team when he arrived and with his skills was invited to participate. He worked hard to make a contribution to the team and it paid off. A two-year letterman, Dent was co-captain of last season's basketball team helping lead it to a 5-3 record as top scorer.

Summit's coach, Leon Morehead, remembers Dent's arrival at the school and remarked in an interview with *The News Herald*, "I didn't know everything [about Dent]. I knew he was a pretty good student. At the time, I didn't know he wouldn't play on Fridays."

Morehead soon learned what Dent's convictions meant to the team. Dent was recognized by *The News Herald* in an article titled, "Uncommon Faith," for his uncompromising adherence to Sabbath observance. Pressure from teammates encouraging Dent to play on his Sabbath weighed heavily on his conscience. He was not tempted to support his team even though he sympathized with their desire to win. He was grounded — Christian education at Peterson-Warren and Oakwood Adventist academies, along with life-long training from committed parents helped him decide to stand firm for Jesus. He did not play basketball on Friday or Saturday unless it was after sundown. Morehead remarked about Dent's absence on those days, "It was like having two teams."

In addition to his athletic achievements at Summit, Dent was a member of the National Honor Society for two years. He tutored other athletes for his NHS community project, spent two years on Student Council, and played saxophone in the school's band. Working in the school office provided opportunities for Dent to witness about the eight laws of health.

Dent was the recipient of a MEAP scholarship, the United States Achievement Academy Mathematics Award and received recognition in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*. He was selected as a 2004 Detroit Frees Scholar Athlete for the State of Michigan and was the only Adventist recognized for this honor in his area.

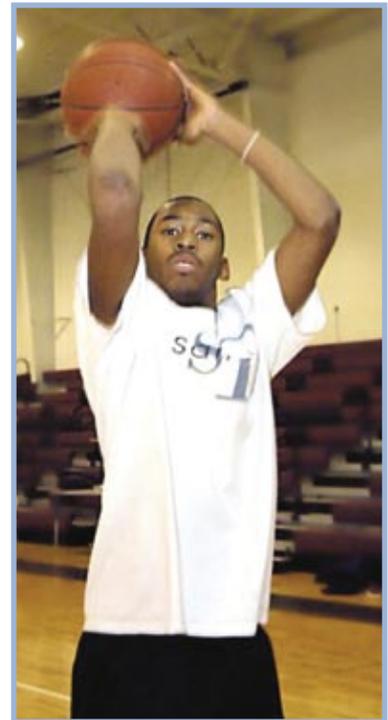
Columbia Union College (CUC) awarded him an athletic academic scholarship and the alumni scholarship in recognition of his academic achievement.

After the athletic awards ceremony Summit's principal remarked, "If we had 500 more Brandon Dents in our school, we'd be in great shape." Brandon's mother stated, "I believe he left a legacy of something good at Summit."

Dent is now enrolled in CUC where he is looking forward to playing ball with a team that competes on the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, Division II level. Dent plans to major in business finance and eventually earn a master's degree in business administration.

Dent is to be commended for taking a stand for the Sabbath. Though he missed the opportunity to play in several significant games for his school, he did not miss the greater opportunity to witness about the life of a committed Christian.

*Diane Thurber, Lake Union Herald managing editor*



*Brandon Dent, 2004 Scholar Athlete for the State of Michigan*

## Miracles Happen After 60 Years

**Michigan** — Christian education was very important to the founders of the Onaway (Mich.) Adventist Church. As soon as the congregation was established in 1902, a school was started. Unfortunately, the school was closed around 1970. With the help of the Michigan Conference disaster relief team, the facility was refurbished and reopened in 1994.

A centennial celebration was planned for September 2002. Susie Preston, a former student and current school board member, remembers trying to recall all the names and addresses of alumni and former members to invite them to the centennial program. As she began to finalize the list, she remembered Charlie Collins, who attended the school in the early 1930s. She was amazed that she remembered him because she and Charlie had not talked in over 60 years.

# Indiana Academy Begins Year With Baptism



Megan Dupont

**Indiana** — Megan Dupont, a sophomore at Indiana Academy, was baptized during the first Friday night vespers of the new school year. This may seem unremarkable until you know more about her story.

It begins in Louisiana, where Megan grew up. At her baptism, she shared the following about her journey with Jesus:

“I was born in Marksville, Louisiana, to Monica and Carl Dupont. They said I was a good baby — hardly ever cried. Growing up, my grandma taught my Sunday School class at a Methodist Church. I always knew that Jesus loved me. I knew that He died on the cross for my sins. I loved to listen to Bible stories that told of God’s love. I watched children’s Bible movies. I loved Jesus!

I went to public school all my life. And all my life, my family tried to get me to go to an Adventist academy when I became of age. I always said no. Then, two summers ago, I came to Indiana for camp meeting. I loved it! Everyone was so nice. I met Katie Paul and Katie Ferguson. They were great. I decided I wanted to go to Indiana Academy. But ... I was *never* going to become [an] Adventist. Adventists were so boring! They slept all day on Saturday and they didn’t do anything on Friday night. I didn’t like to take naps and I liked to go to the movies on Friday nights.

But during the school year something happened. I learned that you don’t automatically go to heaven or hell when you die. I learned that there is no such thing as the rapture and purgatory. I learned about the Sabbath.

... I asked Pastor Neri to give me Bible studies. Since then, my life hasn’t been carefree, easier, or without temptation. But, it has been a lot more peaceful and joyful. I have also decided to get baptized by Pastor Neri.

Baptism isn’t just a public commitment of my life to Jesus. It’s a turning point in my life. I have decided to follow Jesus. The world is behind me and the cross is before me. There is no turning back — it’s just like the hymn says.”

As you can see, Megan has grown a lot during her time in Christian education at Indiana Academy. If this story can be repeated in other young peoples’ lives, many more students will enjoy the happiness that connects them to a relationship with God. Let us encourage each other in our walk with the Lord.

*Andrew Lay, Indiana Academy communication director*



*No one can fully measure the influence of a Christian school. One student, Charlie Collins, made his decision to follow Christ more than 60 years after he attended the Onaway Elementary School.*

Charlie did not attend the centennial celebration, however that evening he did telephone Susie’s home. He apologized for not attending, but promised to send a donation. A few days later the school board received a check in the amount of \$5,000! A few weeks later, another check for \$10,000 was received!

Charlie promised that as long as he lived he would donate \$1,250 a month to the school. He remembered that his parents were active in the Onaway Church and recalled his father having a very difficult time paying his tuition to attend the small school. For that reason, Charlie wanted to make a difference and assist families today.

Susie remembers Charlie always talking about religion, but never deciding to be baptized. In the fall of 2002, Charlie attended an evangelistic series and surrendered his life to Christ in baptism. The school board sent a beautiful oak plaque to him as a way of expressing their tremendous gratitude.

Charlie moved to Texas and passed away the next spring at the age of 82. After his death, Charlie’s lawyer contacted the Onaway Church and surprised members with information that the school had been named as the beneficiary of his estate. They would receive \$200,000, plus a mobile home and all the contents of Charlie’s home in Marshall, Mich.

With tears in her eyes Susie says, “It was the prompting of the Holy Spirit that I remembered to send an invitation to Charlie.” Today plans are being made to build a new gym and to help families with tuition. “This whole experience shows the value of Christian education — its influence returned and drew him back to God even in his 80s,” exclaimed Susie.

*Christian Martin, Onaway Church pastor*

# Covering Uganda With Love

**Michigan** — Darrel and Kristina Muehlhauser had only been in the mission field a few days when there was a knock at their door. One of the guards for the compound wanted Kristina to go with him to the hospital where his wife would soon give birth to their second child.

At the hospital, each patient brings someone to take care of them — cook for them, do their laundry, bring them water or whatever they need, and tell the nurses if there is a problem. Kristina watched as the new mother, who had no sheet or baby blanket, lay down on a brown vinyl mattress covered with two small pieces of fabric. Even though it was a chilly night, there was nothing to cover her baby with.



*Holland Elementary School*



*The Holland Elementary School students (grades 1–6) and the teachers are shown holding some of the blankets and sheets they collected for the Uganda project.*

Kristina remembered her container of household goods still sitting at the dock in America, waiting to be shipped. With all her heart, she wished she had one of her sheets to give to this new mother.

A few weeks later, Darrel and Kristina were asked to give another new mother and her baby a ride home from the hospital. Arriving at the family's apartment, they found four people were living in one small room, only a little larger than a king-size bed. In this room, they had only one twin bed and one small table. The young mother asked, "Please, may I work for you so that when your shipment comes I could get a bed sheet? I only have one and it is hard when it needs to be changed."

*Yes, thought Kristina, you may have a bed sheet — even if you have mine.*

Kristina's burden for mothers to have sheets was shared in an e-mail to her brother, Homer Trecartin. Homer shared Kristina's story with Linda Fuchs, Michigan Conference assistant education superintendent. In November, the teachers in the Michigan Conference received an urgent e-mail from Linda asking if they would like to help with a Uganda Bible Lab project.

Students in grades 1–6 at the Holland (Mich.) Elementary School joined their teachers, Darlene Huckabay and Genie Philo, and Ingrid Slikkers, student teacher, in collecting sheets and baby blankets for Africa. The students had to work quickly — they had only three days — since everything collected needed to be shipped in the Muehlhausers' container to assure a safe arrival. Thirty-one sheets and fifteen blankets were collected and sent to the mission field!

When the Muehlhausers' 20-foot shipping container arrived after a nearly nine-month wait, they excitedly unpacked things they had forgotten they owned. But even more exciting was finding boxes and boxes of sheets, baby blankets, towels, and toys to share with the mothers and children in Uganda sent from schools and churches all over America.

The last thing off their container was the piano. Kristina immediately sat down in the midst of all the boxes and furniture and began to play, "How Great Thou Art."

What a blessing the Bible Lab program is to children and adults!

*Linda Fuchs, Michigan Conference associate education superintendent*

## The Gift that Keeps on Giving

**Michigan** — Viola Doering was the Investment leader for the Village Church in Berrien Springs during the late 1960s. Her personal project was to make a quilt top using five-by-eight inch blocks of material she obtained from fabrics found in wallpaper sample books. For one dollar, church members could have their names embroidered on the fabric. The quilt blocks were pieced together into a quilt, to be sold at an auction where proceeds would go toward Investment.

Andrew Snyder was the highest bidder in the silent auction. After purchasing the quilt, he generously returned the quilt to Viola. She kept the quilt for the remainder of her life.



Viola Doering



Julia and Andrew Snyder display the Investment quilt.

Rebecca Snyder Becker

The quilt was later recognized when it resurfaced at Community Services. Audrey Laman recognized the Investment quilt and took it home for repairs. When the quilt was restored, she presented it to the church. It was displayed for the church to see with the understanding it would again be sold to the highest bidder and proceeds would benefit the Village Church.

Tom Kuhlman was the highest bidder at the latest silent auction. In a recent Sabbath School program he presented the quilt to the original purchaser, Andrew Snyder, where it remains today.

Viola's commitment to Investment was inspiring. Her quilt — the gift that keeps on giving.

*Janet Miskiewicz, Village Church correspondent*

## The Wright Church With the Right Equipment

**Michigan** — The purchase of a new baptismal pool for the Wright Church in Coopersville, Mich., has paid for itself already with the baptism of three precious souls in the month of May.

These new believers and the rest of the church family are very excited about having the very first baptism *in* our church. In the past we had to take our baptisms on the road to other locations, but now we are able to baptize right here at home.

If you have ever been

to our little church you would think there wasn't

room for a baptistry, but the Lord showed us the perfect place for it to go up front. We continue to pray God will send more people searching for truth in the Scripture to bring more believers into the family of God.

*Ron Voogd, Wright Church communication leader*



From left: Ron Mills, pastor, baptized Sarah Allen, Ed Ward, and Gerri Huyser (shown with her son, Robert). They were the first people baptized in the new church baptistry.

## REACH Co-Founder Receives Outstanding Achievement Award



*Jasmine Jacob, recipient of the Association of Adventist Women Outstanding Achievement Award*

**Michigan** — Seven Adventist women who are making significant contributions to their communities, professions, churches, and families will be recognized and celebrated at the twenty-second national conference of the Association of Adventist Women (AAW) to be held at Andrews University, October 14–17, 2004.

One Lake Union Conference woman to be recognized is Jasmine Jacob, who will receive

the Outstanding Achievement Award. Jacob is the co-founder of REACH (Render Effective Aid to Children) International, a not-for-profit organization presently serving 26,000 children in 24 countries.

For 30 years, under her entrepreneurial leadership, REACH has established its own schools, hostels, orphanages, and vocational centers for destitute children. Through childhood education this organization has helped thousands of children break their inherited cycle of poverty. REACH feeds, teaches, and introduces these children to Jesus.

As head of a global team of individuals, Jasmine powerfully evidences the meaning of Christ-like leadership.

Dwight Nelson, pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, Mich., where Jasmine attends, recognizes her outstanding leadership, commitment, and courage. Nelson remarked, "Jasmine has cast her vision far and wide and today leads a global team of individuals who continue to expand this mission of mercy to Earth's kids. She powerfully evidences the meaning of Christian and Christ-like leadership, all the while neither clamoring for recognition nor climbing for position and prestige."

AAW believes Jasmine is an outstanding example of risk-taking, effective Adventist women in leadership.

For information about the AAW national conference, visit [www.aaw.cc](http://www.aaw.cc).

*Verla Michel-Kwiram, Association of Adventist Women president*

## Discovering God's Miracles in Romania

**Wisconsin** — So many times in our lives God answers our prayers. Recently I had a time filled with God's blessing in answered prayer.

It all started many months ago when my wife, Marie, told me that a mission trip to Romania was being planned. I thought that there wasn't any reason for me to go because there were seven pastors going — what would they need me for? My ministry is Christian story telling using illustrations for children.

One day Steve Aust, my pastor, asked if I would be interested in helping him with the youth in Romania. I agreed to go and began praying that God would use me in a mighty way to make a difference with the youth in Romania — just the chance to work for the Lord made me so excited and happy!

We arrived on a Friday night, and had our first youth and Vacation Bible School (VBS) meeting on Saturday night. There were only about twenty kids at VBS, and twelve in the youth meeting. On Monday, the youth were leaving to go to high school in another town about two hours away. Where were we going to get more youth for the meetings?

My interpreter was a woman who taught English and Reformed Orthodox religion classes in the public school system. She asked if I would come to her school and put on my programs for the children.

For the entire week, I went every day to the public schools in town telling stories and doing my illustrations. The kids loved it so much that both children and youth came to the meetings in the evening at our church.

As many as 100 children came for VBS, and approximately 75 for the youth meetings. I kept busy working, and all the children responded to my stories and illustrations.

I can't believe how God worked out a miracle right before my eyes! According to the Romanian Conference president, it was totally impossible to get into the public schools like that. This was truly a miracle! God is so wonderful!

*Doug Burgess, Wisconsin Academy Church correspondent*



*Doug Burgess brought colorful illustrations to youth in Romania*

Jeff Steininger

## New Hispanic Column

Included in our response to the diversity of our Lake Union members, the *Lake Union Herald* will be adding a Hispanic column beginning with the January 2005 issue. It will include items of specific interest to those involved in ministry to the Hispanic community. The editor of the column will be Carmelo Mercado, director of Hispanic Ministries for the Lake Union Conference.

The column will be in Spanish only, specifically designed for our Hispanic readers. Items of general interest included in this column will already appear in English in other sections of the *Herald*. In addition, we are exploring new technology that could allow us to convert the entire issue to Spanish for online access.

*Gary Burns, Lake Union Herald editor*

*In January, Lake Union Hispanic Ministries director Carmelo Mercado (pictured with wife Rosanne) will edit the new Herald Hispanic column.*



*En el mes de enero, el director de los ministerios hispanos, el pastor Carmelo Mercado (quien aparece aquí con su esposa Rosanne), será el editor de la nueva columna en castellano del "Lake Union Herald".*

## Columna Hispánica Nueva

En respuesta a la diversidad de miembros de nuestra Unión del Lago, el "Lake Union Herald" añadirá una columna en castellano comenzando con el mes de enero. Ésta incluirá artículos específicos de interés para la comunidad hispana. El editor será el pastor Carmelo Mercado, director de los ministerios hispanos para la Unión del Lago.

La columna se escribirá en castellano, y estará dirigida específicamente a los lectores hispanos. Algunos puntos de interés general estarán también incluidos en inglés en otras secciones del "Herald". Además, estamos explorando la nueva tecnología que posiblemente nos permita convertir la revista en castellano y que también esté en el internet.

*Gary Burns, editor del Lake Union Herald.*

## AdventSource Premieres Fully Bilingual Website

AdventSource has launched a dynamic, fully bilingual website, the first of its kind in the North American Adventist circle. The site features all ministry products online in an easy searchable access system. Users can toggle back and forth between Spanish and English. The site features all English language products as well as more than 100 items in Spanish.

AdventSource director Brad Forbes says, "AdventSource is progressing rapidly. Taking our company to this level of multilingual service was a big step, but a logical move for us. We strive to meet the needs of all church leaders, and are excited to be one of the first church organizations to have a site that reaches out to this growing segment of believers." AdventSource has already experienced success with their venture to provide service in their call center in both English and Spanish.

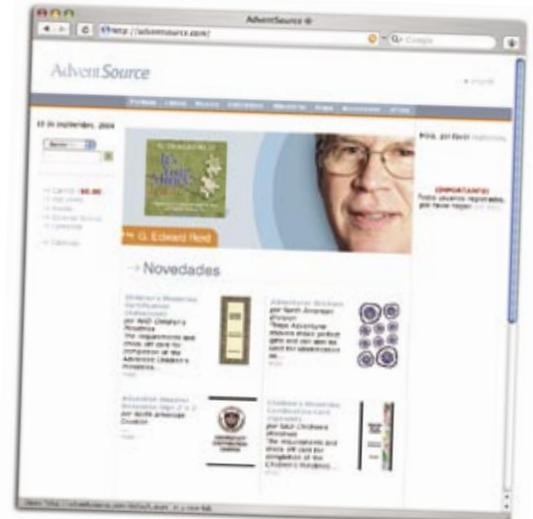
The new site is easy to navigate in either language. It recognizes user profiles and shows products in their area of ministry, based on previous purchasing patterns.

All items are available for purchase online including the books, pamphlets, uniform items, and multimedia materials featured in the catalog. The updated website

also enables users to purchase e-books, electronic files, pictures, and music online, and receive them immediately!

AdventSource is a non-profit company organized as a part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. AdventSource provides resources for church leaders on every level. For more information visit [www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org) or call (800) 328-0525.

*Carrie Purkeypyle, AdventSource communication director*



# Indianapolis Film Festival Honors Adventist Filmmaker

Heartland Film Festival was organized to recognize filmmakers whose work explores the human journey by artistically expressing hope and respect for the positive values of life. The festival will honor Terry Benedict at its Crystal Heart Award Gala, October 23, in Indianapolis, Ind., for his documentary film on the life of Desmond T. Doss. Desmond was a patriotic conscientious objector during WWII who received the Medal of Honor. "The Conscientious Objector," a film of bravery, loyalty, and faith, was chosen among 579 films to be highlighted during this year's festival.



Filmmaker Terry Benedict filmed at the escarpment on Okinawa where Desmond rescued 75 soldiers.

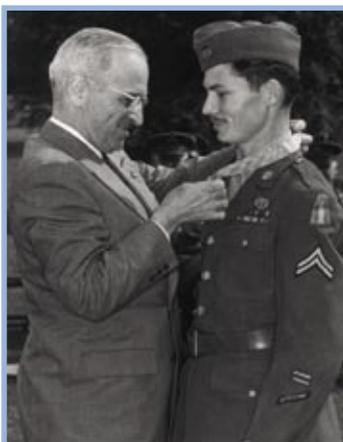
For over 50 years Hollywood has wanted to tell the story of Desmond Doss, however, he continually declined. Benedict had a lifelong dream of one day sharing the story of his childhood hero. With a promise to uphold the integrity of Desmond's convictions, Benedict was entrusted to share this important piece of history.

Benedict will receive the Crystal Heart Award for best documentary feature. "The Conscientious Objector" will be shown 12 times during the festival. For information about venues and schedule, visit <http://heartlandfilmfestival.org>.

D'Artagnan Entertainment, Inc., is sponsoring a national release of the film November 11-14, to coincide with Veteran's Day. Pathfinder clubs and schools can raise money for special projects through screenings of the film. To arrange a screening in your area, call (805) 955-7777, ext. 237, e-mail [tcosales@hotmail.com](mailto:tcosales@hotmail.com), or visit [www.camporee.org](http://www.camporee.org) to download protocols for screening and fundraising.

To learn more about Desmond Doss and the documentary film, visit [www.desmondoss.com](http://www.desmondoss.com).

Gary Burns, Lake Union Herald editor



Harry Truman, United States president, awards Desmond Doss the Medal of Honor

# Let's Talk Website Launched

The *Let's Talk* website, dedicated to promoting communication between church leaders and Adventist young people up to 25 years of age, was launched Sept. 13, 2004. *Let's Talk* provides a place for Adventist young people around the world to send questions and comments to the General Conference Office of the President where they can expect a quick reply.

Find out what young people around the world want to know and read answers to their questions when you visit [www.letstalk.adventist.org](http://www.letstalk.adventist.org). Youth may ask questions like:

How can I believe adults who say, "The youth of this church are important" when their actions show otherwise?

The Bible says to honor our father and mother, but doesn't it also say that parents shouldn't anger their children? How can I get along better with my parents?

Every day I read about acts of terror, wars, or disasters in which innocent people are killed or hurt. Why does God allow innocent people to suffer?

In today's society, there seems to be a gray area around what is right and wrong. What are some guidelines you can ask yourself to determine if an activity is right or wrong?

What efforts, if any, are being made by the Adventist world church to promote global peace and harmony? Should Adventists be involved in war? What is the church's stand on warfare?

Jennifer Stymiest, General Conference Office of the President news writer



# General Conference Session Update

## Reaching Out to the Community

A General Conference Session always presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity (well, once every five years) to connect to a local community. It's an unusual connection (how often do you have 70,000 people descend on your neighborhood?) but it definitely makes an impression. What kind of impression will we leave in St. Louis?

As nice as we like to think we are, it is actually quite easy to leave a negative impression on a town. We are often known for our thriftiness ("They come to town with ten commandments and ten dollars and break neither.") and we don't boost the local economy in usual ways of conventions. Bars, clubs, and casinos don't see any bump in their bottom line when we come to town which, in the hometown of Anheuser-Busch, is a significant statement. If restaurants stock up on clam chowder or pork chops, they're in for a rude awakening.

The General Conference staff is working with St. Louis to ensure their expectations match what we will and will not deliver. The necessary information is being shared so they are ready for our lifestyle choices. But there are also things each of us can do as a guest of St. Louis that will leave a positive impression of Seventh-day Adventists in that community.

We will have a prime opportunity to mingle with the community during the first weekend of the Session when the city celebrates the American Independence holiday, the 4th of July. It's a three-day event called "Fair St. Louis" that will involve thousands of people milling around downtown Saturday through Monday. Some of it takes place during our Sabbath hours, but remember that part about doing good on Sabbath? Friendliness is a two-way street. We are known for being polite, nice, and smiling, but we can also take time to listen and receive from people of St. Louis. It can do a world of good.

*Reger Smith, Jr., news writer for GC Session News, the official bulletin issued by the General Conference Communication Department in cooperation with the Session Planning Committee. For additional information visit [www.gcsession.org](http://www.gcsession.org).*

## GC Session Website

Visit the official Session website:

[www.gcsession.org](http://www.gcsession.org) for the following helpful information:

- ▶ **8-page, full color Session brochure**
- ▶ **Airline discounts**
- ▶ **Ground transportation**
- ▶ **Campgrounds and RV Parks**
- ▶ **Handicapped access**
- ▶ **Hotel reservations**
- ▶ **Maps**
  - ▶ **Meals**
  - ▶ **Medical services**
  - ▶ **St. Louis-area information**
  - ▶ **Special events and more...**



## MILEPOSTS

Within the Lake Union the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at [luc.adventist.org/mileposts.html](http://luc.adventist.org/mileposts.html). Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 43.

### ANNIVERSARIES



**HERALD AND DONNA HABENICHT** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 2, 2004, with a luncheon open house at the home of Larry and Debbie Habenicht in Berrien Springs, Mich. The open house featured music by family members and James Hanson. In lieu of gifts, \$3,000 was given to Andrews University's scholarship fund. The Habenichts have been members of the Pioneer Memorial Church for 34 years.

Herald Habenicht and Donna Lugenbeal were married May 23, 1954, in Berrien Springs by Pastor Judson Habenicht. Herald has been a missionary in Puerto Rico (1961-69), and a physician in Berrien Springs from 1970 until his retirement in 2001. Donna has been a child evangelism missionary (1961-1969), and a professor of education and psychology at Andrews University from 1975 until her retirement in 2000.

The Habenicht family includes Larry and Debbie Habenicht of Berrien Springs; Nancy and Bruce Schilling of Apison, Tenn.; and four grandchildren.

### WEDDINGS

**ANNETTE D. STEIGER AND CHARLES A. KNOTT, JR.**, were married July 4, 2004, in West Lafayette, Ind. The ceremony was performed by Pastors Throstur Thordarson and Larry Chonch.

Annette is the daughter of George and Karen Steiger of Attica, Ind., and Charles is the son of Charles and Linda Knott, Sr., of Lafayette, Ind., and the late Roberta Knott.

The Knotts are making their home in Lafayette.

**PERLA J. BROWN AND RICHARD D. ROBERTSON** were married May 21, 2004, in Urbana, Ill. The ceremony was performed by Pastors Keith Mattingly and Pedrilo Maynard-Reid.

Perla is the daughter of Eduardo and Perla Brown of Sierra Vista, Ariz., and Richard is the son of E. Arthur and Debi Robertson of Berrien Springs, Mich.

The Robertsons are making their home in Urbana.

### OBITUARIES

**BURNETT, JR., LEO G.**, age 65; born Feb. 27, 1938, in Petoskey, Mich.; died Dec. 21, 2003, in Crystal Falls, Mich. He was a member of the Iron River (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Betty R. (Newman); sons, Leo G. III, Larry R., and Michael D.; daughter, Tammy L. Johnson; foster children, Brian and Loretta Halbert; 16 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Duane O'Fill and George Dronen, and interment was in Hayes Twp., Mich.

**CALKINS, VIOLA (KEISER)**, age 83; born Jan. 24, 1921, in St. Charles, Mich.; died Apr. 28, 2004, in Port Richey, Fla. She was a member of the Lake Orion (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Gail Marshall, Janeen Veglahn, and Patty Fonseca; brother, Orris Keiser; sisters, Voy Bessler and Neva Davis; and four grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Roland Ruf, and interment was in Collegedale (Tenn.) Memorial Park.

**CLARK, LAWRENCE E.**, age 89; born Sept. 5, 1914, in Sparta, Wis.; died July 14, 2004, in Flint, Mich. He was a member of the First Flint Church.

Survivors include his foster child, Craig Wolverton; and half sister, Emily Axelsen.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Bruce Babienko and John Elenich, with private interment.

**CLINE, JAMES R.**, age 52; born Oct. 1, 1951, in Springfield, Ill.; died May 16, 2004, in Decatur, Ill. He was a member of the Decatur Church.

Survivors include his wife, Linda (Canull); sons, Calab and Adam; brother, Frank; sister, Marie Braker; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Art Nelson, and interment was in Walnut Ridge Cemetery, Virginia, Ill.

**DAY, ALFRED R.**, age 80; born Mar. 13, 1923, in Fairgrove, Mich.; died Feb. 22, 2004, in Fairgrove. He was a member of the Unionville (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Connie J. (Pierce); son, Roland; daughter, Karen Hawthorne; brothers, Larry, Hommer, and Ellis; sister, Crystal Day; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Jay Gallimore, L.D. Kitson, and Loren Nelson, and interment was in Brookside Cemetery, Fairgrove.

**HICKS, B. HUBERT**, age 92; born Nov. 9, 1911, in Alma, Mich.; died July 23, 2004, in Shepherd, Mich. He was a member of the Twin Cities Church, Alma.

Survivors include his sons, Darrell and William Hicks, and Harold, Walter, and Terry Braman; daughters, Ardis Meyer and Nancy Sugars; 20 grandchildren; and 32 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Galen Miller, and interment was in Bailey Cemetery, Alma.

**HILL, EARL M.**, age 94; born Jan. 29, 1910, in Six Lakes, Mich.; died July 31, 2004, in Montgomery, Texas. He was a member of the Glenwood (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his sons, Melvin and Nels; daughter, Beverly Velting Kehr; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

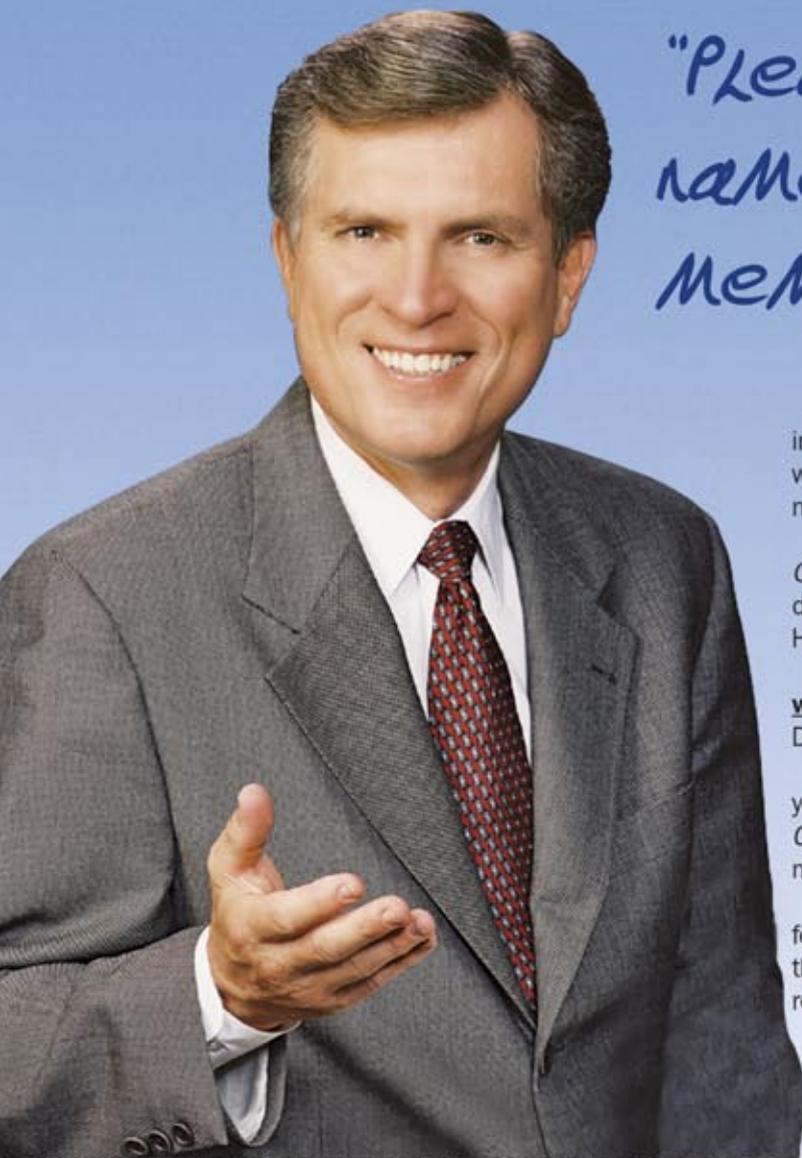
Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Steve Dayen, and interment was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Montgomery.

**LANFEAR, MARGARET G. (WILLIAMS)**, age 93; born Dec. 2, 1909, in Carbondale, Pa.; died Nov. 13, 2003, in Millington, Mich. She was a member of the Vassar (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her stepson, Robert D. Lanfear; daughter, Carolyn F. Lanfear; and sister, Katherine Shaffer.

Memorial services were conducted by Connie Ross, and interment was in Millington Twp. Cemetery.

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And if you send at least 15 names, I'll send you or your church a free copy of our new video, *The Fine Art of Connecting*. This video will help equip your church to nurture these precious children of God when they return.

Please send the names so we can join you in praying for them. Thousands have returned in recent years, but thousands more remain to be found. Please help us reconnect with them.

*L. Lonnie Melashenko*

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**P.S. *Getting in Touch* is published quarterly by e-mail. If you don't have e-mail addresses for your contacts, please send a contribution for printing and postage for the printed version. Suggested donation: \$15.**

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### HUMAN RESOURCES

**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** seeks accounting teacher, beginning July 2005. Applicants must be Adventists, hold an accounting doctorate, and be committed to research. Submit résumé to Dr. Leonard Gashugi, School of Business, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0024; phone: (269) 471-3581; or e-mail: [gashugi@andrews.edu](mailto:gashugi@andrews.edu).

**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** seeks finance teacher, beginning July 2005. Applicants must be Adventists, hold a finance doctorate, and be committed to research. Submit résumé to Dr. Leonard Gashugi, School of Business, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0024; phone: (269) 471-3581; or e-mail: [gashugi@andrews.edu](mailto:gashugi@andrews.edu).

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## Lake Union Conference Tithes Comparison Year-to-Date

31 Sabbaths ending July 31, 2004, compared to 30 Sabbaths ending July 31, 2003

Number of Members:					Increase	%	Average Tithes	
3/31/04	12/31/02	Conference	2004	2003	–Decrease	Inc. –Decr.	2004	2003
12,483	12,205	Illinois	5,330,586	5,292,728	37,858	0.72%	427.03	433.65
6,702	6,619	Indiana	3,672,084	3,522,130	149,954	4.26%	547.91	532.12
26,990	26,065	Lake Region	6,016,534	6,019,050	-2,517	-0.04%	222.92	230.92
24,632	24,489	Michigan	15,247,876	14,775,313	472,564	3.20%	619.03	603.34
<u>6,706</u>	<u>6,648</u>	Wisconsin	<u>3,416,413</u>	<u>3,193,563</u>	<u>222,850</u>	<u>6.98%</u>	<u>509.46</u>	<u>480.38</u>
77,513	76,026	Totals	\$33,683,494	\$32,802,784	\$880,710	<b>2.68%</b>	\$434.55	\$431.47
<b>Average Weekly Tithes:</b>			\$1,086,564	\$1,093,426	-\$6,862	-0.63%		

## Sunset Calendar

	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct 15	Oct 22	Oct 29	Nov 5
Berrien Springs, Mich.	7:29	7:17	7:06	6:55	6:45	5:37
Chicago	6:34	6:22	6:11	6:00	5:50	4:42
Detroit	7:16	7:04	6:52	6:41	6:31	5:23
Indianapolis	6:29	6:17	6:07	5:57	5:47	5:40
La Crosse, Wis.	6:48	6:35	6:23	6:12	6:01	4:52
Lansing, Mich.	7:21	7:08	6:56	6:45	6:35	5:26
Madison, Wis.	6:41	6:28	6:16	6:05	5:55	4:46
Springfield, Ill.	6:43	6:32	6:21	6:11	6:01	4:54

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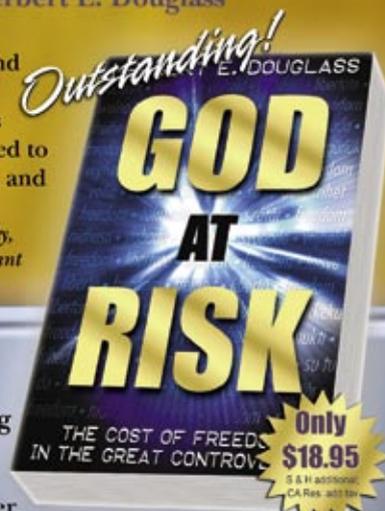
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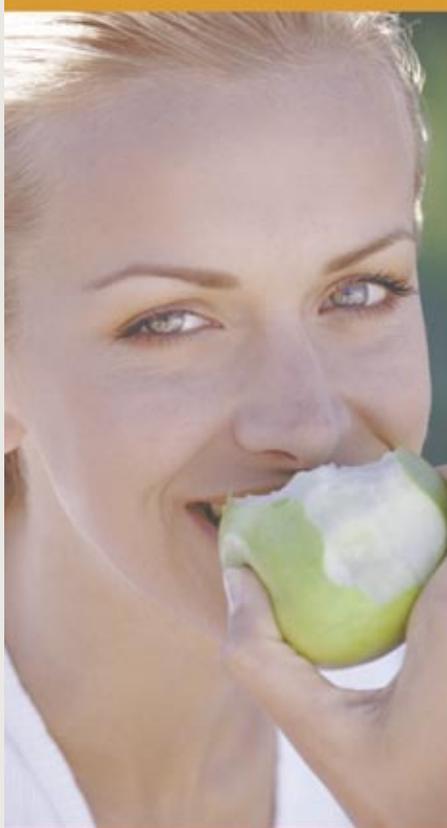
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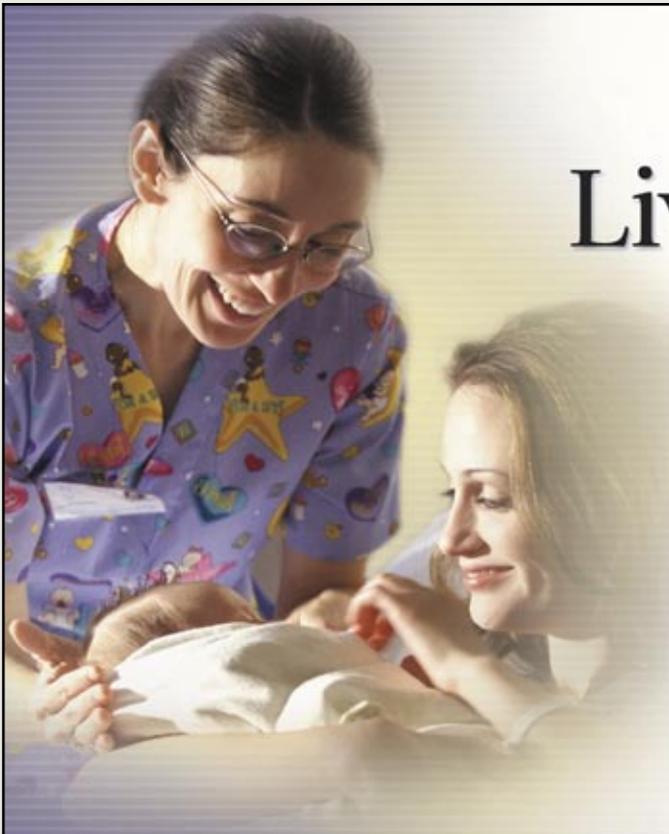
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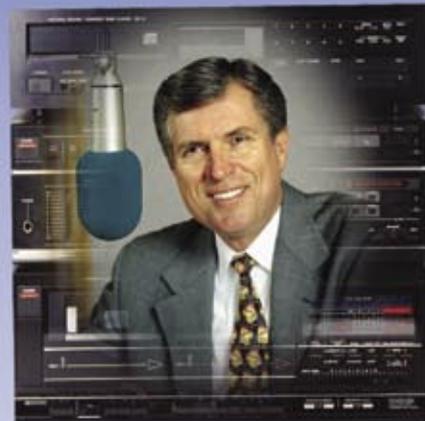
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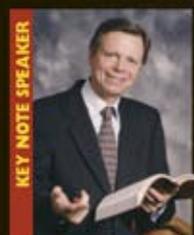
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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### ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

#### HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

**EVENTS:** **Oct. 23** — AU Wind Symphony fall concert, under the direction of Alan Mitchell, 8:00 p.m.; **Oct. 24** — Nicol Robinson's senior voice recital, 4:00 p.m.; **Oct. 25** — Voice studio recital, 7:00 p.m.; **Oct. 26** — Voice studio recital, 5:00 p.m.; **Oct. 31** — Jonathan Wall's senior voice recital, 7:00 p.m.; **Nov. 7** — The second of our Howard Series will feature The Vienna Choir Boys at 7:30 p.m. For any further information on the Howard Series, please contact the Howard Performing Arts Center at (269) 471-3561.

### INDIANA

**THE INDIANA ACADEMY (IA) ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** welcomes all graduates/attendees to the IA campus for Alumni Homecoming, **Oct. 8-10**. Honor classes are '54, '64, '74, '79, '84, and '94.

For more information contact Bill Hicks, IA development director, at (317) 984-3575 ext. 228; or e-mail: [iaalumni@nlci.com](mailto:iaalumni@nlci.com).

### LAKE UNION

#### OFFERINGS:

- Oct. 2** Local church budget
- Oct. 9** Voice of Prophecy
- Oct. 16** Local church budget
- Oct. 23** Local conference advance
- Oct. 30** Local or union conference designated

#### SPECIAL DAYS:

- Oct. 2** Children's Sabbath
- Oct. 3-9** Health Education Week (*Vibrant Life*)

**Oct. 16** Spirit of Prophecy Sabbath

**Oct. 23** Pathfinder Sabbath

### MICHIGAN

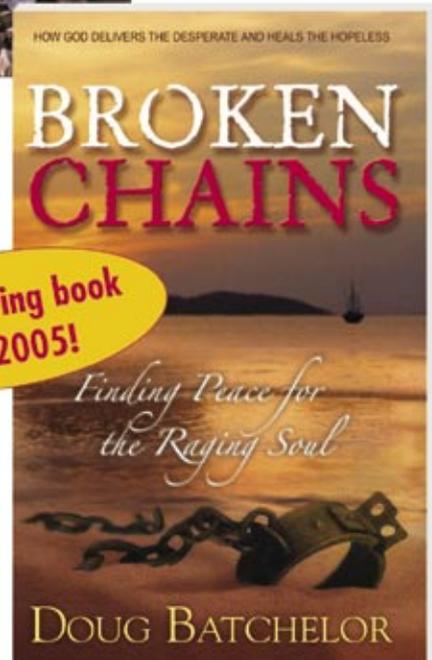
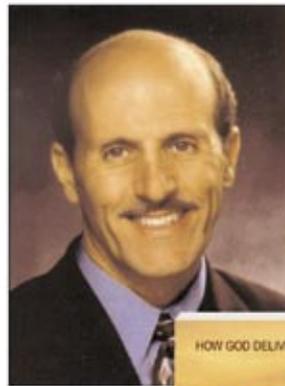
**THE GRAND LEDGE CHURCH** will hold its dedication services on **Friday, Nov. 5**, and **Sabbath, Nov. 6**. Featured speakers will include Jay Gallimore, Mich. Conference president, and Lyle Davis and Terry Coursey, former pastors. Friends and former members are invited to join in celebrating this milestone. For further information, call Shirley Grant at (517) 627-4208, or e-mail Chris James, pastor, at [cjames@misda.org](mailto:cjames@misda.org).

### NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

**HELP FIND FORMER ADVENTISTS LIVING IN THE FLORIDA 327 ZIP CODE AREA.** On **Feb. 1, 2005**, retired workers will begin visits in the Deltona, Deland, Orange City, DeBary, and Lake Helen areas. Send addresses and/or phone numbers now to: George Woodruff, 1978 Doyle Rd., Deltona, FL 32738.

**ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE'S APRIL 2005 ALUMNI WEEKEND** includes an AUC Aeolian reunion. If you are a former AUC Aeolian, please contact the Alumni Relations office to make sure we have your address and contact information. Alumni weekend notifications will be sent out soon with all the details. To update your contact information, call (978) 368-2340; or e-mail: [aandrade@atlanticuc.edu](mailto:aandrade@atlanticuc.edu) or [hpires@verizon.net](mailto:hpires@verizon.net).

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**FULL CIRCLE FAITH.** It doesn't happen by itself. That's why Andrews offers ministry opportunities of all kinds to help you. Sandy and Phil chose AU out-REACH. Each Sabbath they help to spread God's word to the kids of Benton Harbor, where they connected with siblings Michael, Andrew and Tatiana. After spending five weeks with the kids, 10-year old Michael asked, "When can I be baptized?" Michael

and Phil now spend one weekend a month hanging out together in the dorm, and Sandy and Phil have started Bible studies with the kids' mom, grandma, and aunts. "I started participating in AU out-REACH to help others...but after working with Michael, I can tell that we have grown spiritually together," Phil says. At Andrews, faith is about fellowship—why not make your faith full circle?"



## THE POWER OF ONE

BY KELLY LAUREN RAZZOUK



On January 19, 2004, I was privileged to be one of twelve young people invited to speak at the New York City Youth Nonviolence Conference. The conference was held to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr., a leader who left his mark on humanity because, instead of having the dream of power, he believed in the power of a dream.

Over 200 young people from around New York City attended the conference. Rachel Bostic, a graduate of Southern Adventist University who just moved to New York to work in our office, and I presented a workshop entitled "The Power of One: My Role in Changing the World."



*Kelly Razzouk spoke at a lecture series on human rights sponsored by Kofi Annan, secretary general for the United Nations.*

I was a little worried about how our message would be received since the students were all high-school age. I anticipated it would be hard to keep their attention for 70 minutes, but was amazed at how engaged they were. I talked to them about my work at the United Nations and about some projects I had been a part of, including raising money for an orphanage in Jordan and for the children of Iraq. They told us about the activities

they were involved in, from feeding the homeless to starting a campaign to clean up New York's streets.

We talked about the problems they saw in their communities: gangs, poverty, and lack of quality education. We also talked about solutions to their problems. I came to the conference to share insights with these students, but they ended up teaching me so many things.

Through their eyes, I was able to see the problems they face every day — drugs and gang wars in schools and the lack of positive outlets for them to express their emotions and ideas. I also saw their compassion for others and a desire to make a difference in the world.

I was a little nervous about our presentation, but God blessed. I finished the session with a quote from the television show "Everwood":

"Great change only comes from conflict, but where nature's greatest conflict consists of relentless pounding of water on rock, or collisions under the earth's crust, for people to change, it takes other people."

When I concluded my statement with the words, "be that person who brings about positive change,"



*From left: Kelly Razzouk with Queen Noor of Jordan, who Kelly met while working at the United Nations.*

one of the students blurted out, "That was the most enlightening thing I have ever heard."

It touched my heart to see how receptive these students were to the motivational message we presented. Each of us has been given the precious gift of life by our Creator, but it is up to us how we use that life. One diplomat put it well when he said, "Will you change the world, or will the world change you?"

God calls us to be His ambassadors *in* the world, but not of it. I am very thankful for the opportunity we were given to speak to these young people and to share what God has done in our lives. I was also grateful to Michelle Brumagin at *Insight* magazine, who donated over 200 magazines to be distributed at the conference. This was a tremendous witnessing opportunity, and I am so thankful God continues to open doors for me here in New York City. "... We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us" (2 Corinthians 5:20, NIV).

*Kelly Lynn Razzouk is a 22-year-old senior at Southern Adventist University. She is the daughter of Akram and Sinka Razzouk and a member of the Hinsdale (Ill.) Church. Kelly served as the General Conference United Nations Liaison Officer from August 2003 to the end of April 2004. She is an active member of the United Nations Non-Governmental Youth Committee and an avid human rights activist.*

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## Profiles of Youth

**Alicia Dellen** is a 16-year-old home-schooled sophomore and a member of the Cicero (Ind.) Church. The daughter of Michael and Robbin Dellen of Fishers, Ind., Alicia loves to serve her Lord wherever she can. For several years, she has served her local church as a camera operator for its television ministry.



Alicia Dellen

Alicia also enjoys Pathfinders — especially camping, backpacking, swimming, and Bible Achievement where she served as captain of the Cicero team. This year, her team advanced to the Bible Achievement national competition and earned a third place finish. Alicia was also invested as a Master Guide in April.

Alicia is a very accomplished classical musician, and piano practice and performance occupies much of her time. In February, she was chosen to perform with the Southern Adventist University Symphony Orchestra and the Columbus (Ind.) Symphony Orchestra. Alicia and her older brother, Christopher, played at the ASI Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio, this past August. They have traveled coast to coast giving glory to God through their music at various camp meetings and churches.

In addition to playing the piano professionally, Alicia looks forward to studying medicine and specializing in pediatrics.



Bradford Wise

**Bradford Wise** is a 16-year-old junior at the International School of Indiana. He is studying the Spanish track there, which provided him the opportunity this past March to learn more about the language while attending school in Costa Rica.

Brad was featured in the *Indianapolis Star* newspaper this year for his basketball skills.

He is a member of the Glendale Church in Indianapolis, where there is a thriving Pathfinder club and youth ministries program. He has been an active Pathfinder for eight years, serving this past year as a TLT (teen leader in training). Brad has sought to serve his community through feeding and clothing those in need and spreading God's Word through literature evangelism. He enjoys serving God as a junior deacon and teaches the youth Sabbath School lesson.

Brad enjoys drawing, video games, and playing sports — especially tennis. His ability to debate almost any subject has encouraged him to pursue a degree in law. Even though Brad realizes the importance of being a strong leader and a positive witness, his most important goal in life is to be saved in God's soon-coming kingdom.

## Address Correction

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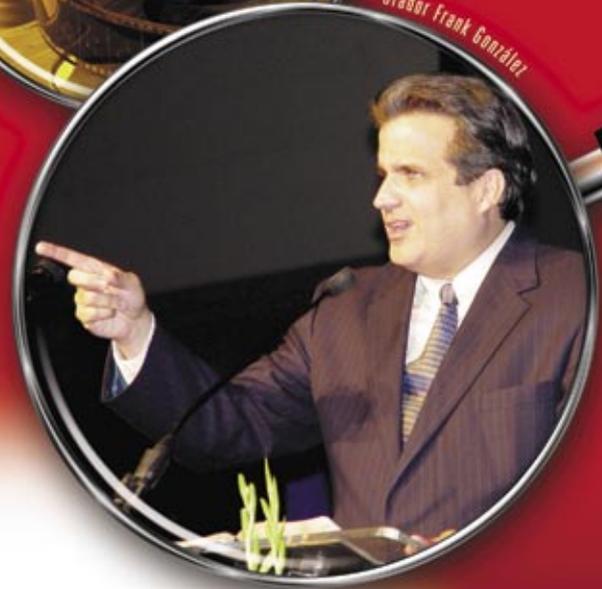
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