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COVER

Our partnership with God involves much more than time, money, or talent. The Bible uses family relationships, and the language reserved for the intimate oneness of husband and wife, to describe the partnership God wants to have with us. However it may be

described or understood, this partnership is formed by choice and consummated by action, as illustrated by Nathan Greene in our watercolor cover.

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EDITORIAL

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

Time, Temple, Talent, and Treasure

"Time, Temple, Talent, and Treasure"—I remember the first time I heard this phrase and the accompanying term, "systematic benevolence." I thought, "Yeah, the church has invented a new way to get money out of me." But the Lord is such a great and patient Teacher that He did not leave me in the dark for very long. I was to learn that the contributor to the Lord's house, whether it be his time in service, his body-temple preservation, his gifts of talent, or his treasure through tithe and offerings, always receives more than he gives. It is still true that "you just can't beat God giving."

And so it is a privilege to give to the Lord, and watch how He multiplies our meager offerings. If we give of our time, and by that I mean committing ourselves to service beyond the sacred hours of the Sabbath, we reap rich rewards.

Well-known talk show hostess, Oprah Winfrey, calls it R.A.K. (Random Acts of Kindness). This is service rendered to others, with no thought of receiving anything in return. Now that's a Christian principle if I ever heard one.

Then there is the temple. Our own bodies are to be the temple of the Holy Spirit, a place wherein God loves to dwell. In making our bodytemples a comfortable place for the indwelling Spirit by temperance, abstinence, and healthy diet, we will also be better prepared to meet and minister to others. Body-temple stewardship will also make us more loving and easier to relate to family and friends.

When it comes to talent, the biblical parable of the talents says it all. In the common vernacular of today we would say, "Use it or lose it." Good stewardship of our talents allows God to bestow more on us because we will have been proven trustworthy.

As a young boy, I remember a lady who had a marvelous talent as a pianist. But the church members and officers always had to beg her to play in church. A few years after she moved to another city she returned to visit. She was asked to play. She sadly confessed, "I can no longer play the piano. I refused so many times to use my talent for the Lord that He took it from me." What a pity! God is the giver of every good and perfect gift, and He has a right to require those talents back in useful service.

And finally, there is treasure. All right, I confess, tithing does not work out on a calculator or a computer. The only way you can have more by giving away more is in God's system. In His system we actually "add by subtracting, and multiply by dividing." If you haven't already, try it, you'll like it!



GLAA STUDENTS LIGHT FRES FOR JESUS

Y ARLENE LEAVITT

Evangelism is in the air with many *Hope for Our Day* meetings taking place. Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA) faculty are excited their students are also involved in spreading the gospel.

Christina McNeilus and Brad Smith, GLAA seniors, began an evangelistic campaign October 1, 2004, on the campus of Central Michigan University (CMU) in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Over 75 GLAA students are working with them greeting the visitors, providing music, and helping out in many ways.

So, how did this get started? Seeing examples of young people active for Christ, Denzil McNeilus, Christina's father, approached GLAA last year with the idea for a student-led evangelistic campaign. The enthusiastic staff launched plans last fall. With more than 28,000 students, CMU was fertile ground for the Bible workers who prepared the way there since July 1.



Ryan Coy, Tiffany McKenzie, and Lynnie Joseph practice taking blood pressure, preparing for the Health Expo.

Located only 30 minutes away, with many young people who need to learn about Christ, the decision was made to hold the meetings there.



Jennifer Moutsatson and Stephanie Smart prepare for the Health Expo.

The Health Expo, conducted by 50 GLAA students, preceeded the first four evangelistic meetings. Led by Cindy Peterson, Bible and health teacher at GLAA, these students trained and practiced for weeks. Guests at the Health Expo visited eight stations, each targeting one of the eight laws of health. They could also have their body fat, lung capacity, blood pressure, cholesterol, and sugar levels tested. Other stations included massage, health age analysis, and the Harvard Step Test. At the final station, an adult was available to review and explain the data.

Christina and Brad feel privileged to be a part of this awesome opportunity. "I am so excited to see everyone working together, but more importantly to see God transform the hearts of the people coming to the meetings, and to see Him make changes in my own life as I reach out to others," said Christina.



Brad Smith and Christina McNeilus, preparing for CMU evangelistic series.

"I am so amazed to see the way the kids at GLAA are supporting us. People come up to me all the time and tell me they are praying for us. That is really encouraging! I know that the Lord is going to bless, not only at CMU, but also at GLAA," Brad stated.

Christina and Brad have both been involved in the ASI *Youth for Jesus* program, giving evangelistic series in Cincinnati, Ohio, and in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Mickey Mallory, Cedar Lake pastor and outreach project coordinator, stated, "The history of our church demonstrates that God can do incredible things through young people. With the second coming of Christ very near, one would expect God to use young people in an extraordinary way to help finish His work on earth."

We know the students of GLAA will be blessed through these efforts, but we also pray that the enthusiasm these young people have for Jesus will catch on and light a fire for Him on the campus of CMU.

Arlene Leavitt is the GLAA assistant development director.

NEW MEMBERS



Oscar Ontiveros

Illinois

Oscar Ontiveros, a senior at Hinsdale Adventist Academy, grew up in Illinois. He attended an Adventist church and school until completing the fourth grade. After that year, he stopped attending his childhood church and enrolled in the public school system. This year he came back to Hinsdale Adventist Academy and had a life-changing experience.

During the annual Week of Prayer services conducted by Kent Nichols, a Hinsdale (Illinois) Church elder, Oscar responded to the compelling messages that spoke to his heart and soul. He surrendered his life to Christ because the Bible says, "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven" (Matt. 10:32 NIV).

Oscar was baptized by Hinsdale youth pastor, Kenneth Parker Jr., on May 29. By God's grace, Oscar's goal is to be an example to others and he hopes to lead at least one person into the joy of serving Jesus Christ. How thankful we are for the benefits of Christian education, which is used by God to both educate our children and lead them into a new spiritual relationship and the promise of eternal life.

Kenneth Parker Jr., Hinsdale youth pastor, as told to Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent.

Indiana

Sabbath, July 17, was a high Sabbath for the Cicero (Indiana)

Church family as they witnessed the results of the Holy Spirit speaking to two hearts in their midst.

Dawn Moore was raised in the Adventist Church and baptized as a teenager, but as she grew older her commitment to Christ and the church began to lessen. Dawn married a young man of another denomination. After the births of their three children, she and her husband, Scott, desired to raise their children in spiritual unity. Dawn attended several different churches with her husband, but nothing seemed to satisfy Dawn's need for the faith and truth she had grown up with.

Throughout her life, Dawn was blessed to have a father and grandparents who earnestly prayed for her and encouraged her to reunite with the Adventist faith.

When she and Scott moved to Tipton, Indiana, in 1993, Dawn began to attend the Cicero Church. She and her daughter, Rachel, found the church to be warm and friendly, and Rachel was baptized there in 1998.

As time went by, Dawn began to realize more fully that she had not completely given her life to Christ. She began studying the Bible with Paul Yeoman, Cicero associate pastor. Following two series of Bible studies, Dawn decided to seal her renewed commitment with rebaptism.

As Dawn was responding to the wooing of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit was also working on the heart of **Maryhelen Zegarra**. Maryhelen grew up in Battle Creek, Michigan, and attended Adelphian Academy. After graduation, she received nurse's training in Fletcher, North Carolina.



Paul Yeoman, Cicero associate pastor, and Dawn Moore



Paul Yeoman, Cicero associate pastor, and Maryhelen Zegarra

Maryhelen drifted away from the church of her youth and stayed away for 20 years. During this period of her life, she felt something was missing.

A couple of years ago, Maryhelen began visiting several Adventist churches in the Indianapolis area. When she visited the Cicero Church, she found its friendly atmosphere and spiritual leadership inviting her to start over. So she began Bible studies, also. Maryhelen wanted to recommit her life to Christ and seal it in the rite of baptism, as a result of the things she learned from God's Word.

Maryhelen works in the field of inpatient cardiac rehabilitation. And that is just what has happened to her heart—it has been rehabilitated and restored by the Spirit of God!

Ramona Trubey, Cicero correspondent, and Paul Yeoman, Cicero associate pastor

Michigan

God stepped into my life when I (Milton Partee) was about to step out of it.

After the delivery of our fourth child, I sat by my wife's bedside. Something was drastically wrong. I called the nurse and insisted she call the doctor. Upon examining my wife, the doctor's face paled and he stated, "I'm afraid your wife's uterus has ruptured." A team of specialists arrived soon to help.

Although I had not prayed before, I knelt for nineteen hours pleading with God, "Please don't let her die."

The doctors did all they could, but she hemorrhaged to death. I said to myself, "This

can't be happening. She's only twenty-three, and too young to die." I was devastated!

As I drove home, I took my anger out on God. "You don't care. I prayed, and You didn't answer. From now on I want nothing to do with You," I accused.

The next few days were a blur. At the funeral Al, an old friend, came to express his sympathy. As we stood by the coffin, he slipped a note in my pocket with his phone number on it and told me to call at any time "because everyone needs a friend at times like this."

After the funeral my children and I moved in with my parents. I went to work again only to learn the company had been sold, and the new owners wanted their own employees. I'd lost my wife, and now my job. Life was empty.

I was about to leap in front of a passing car when a voice asked, "Why don't you call Al?" I spun around in surprise, then used a pay phone to call him. I began, "Al, I'm not doing very well. Can you help me?" We agreed to meet that night.

After small talk, Al asked if I'd ever read the Bible. I hadn't, so he began to share some passages. He read Matthew 11:28, which included Jesus' invitation—"Come to me, all you who are burdened, and I will give you rest." That's what I



Milton Partee

needed—rest. I asked how I might find rest. Al said it was mine for the asking, but there was another matter I should care for first.

He took me down the Romans road: "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23); "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life" (Romans 6:23); "If you confess that Jesus is Lord, and believe God raised Him from the death, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9); and, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

The Gospel light was shining on me. I bowed, acknowledged my sinfulness, and confessed Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Immediately, I felt Christ come to fill my empty void and I wanted to shout for joy. God had stepped into my life at just the right time. He gave me a whole new life—an abundant life now, and a future life in Heaven.

I was baptized on February 7, 2004, and became a member of the Clare (Michigan) Church.

Milton Partee, as told to Bruce Babienco, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent



Discovering Your New Jamily Roots

BY ANN FISHER

mericans who know nothing about George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and the other founding fathers of this country cannot appreciate the debt we owe to these individuals. Similarly, no Adventist who is unfamiliar with names like William Miller, Joseph Bates, Hiram Edson, Uriah Smith, and James and Ellen White will fully appreciate what it means to be an Adventist. For as Kierkegaard, the Danish philosopher, once said, "Life must be lived forwards, but can only be understood backwards."

The Millerite Movement

William Miller (1782–1849) was one of the most unlikely candidates to lead a great Christian revival. Although his mother was a deeply committed Baptist and his grandfather and uncle were both Baptist preachers, young William turned away from his family's Christian faith. An avid reader who spent hours in front of the fireplace late at night with books by Jefferson, Franklin, Thomas Paine, and other early American authors, William accepted their belief in the existence of God as revealed by reason and nature alone, but not by supernatural revelation. He eventually rejected the Scriptures and became an avowed skeptic.

After serving in the War of 1812, William moved his family to Low Hampton, New York, where he hoped to live quietly as a farmer. But William was not at peace with himself. In 1816, he accepted a challenge that would dramatically change his life.

William had always argued that Christians could not "know" the Bible was the Word of God; yet it suddenly occurred to him that without a careful study of Scripture, he was in no position to "know" that the Bible was *not* God's Word. For the next two years, William made a serious study of the entire Bible, was convinced that it must be a revelation from God, and accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior.

With the aid of a concordance, William continued to study the Bible diligently for the next 13 years. Fascinated by the Scriptures' prophetic passages, particularly in the book of Daniel, he became convicted that Daniel 8:14, which he believed pointed to the second coming of Christ, would soon be fulfilled. But he hesitated to share his conclusion for fear that his interpretation might be wrong.

After years of research and prayer, William became convicted God was calling him to preach this prophetic message in the churches. In spite of his fear of public speaking, William vowed in August 1831 to preach his message only if he were specifically invited to do so. He was sure no one would invite a 50-year-old farmer with no training or experience to preach. But within an hour of the time he made his deal with God, William received a specific invitation to preach at the local Baptist church.

For the next eight years William accepted every invitation he could, and by the fall of 1839, the Millerite revival began to gain national momentum. William Miller became a household name across America. It was not unusual for Millerite camp meetings to draw crowds as large as 10,000 people.

When the Lord did not return between the spring of 1843 and the spring of 1844 as the Millerites had hoped, they reexamined their interpretation and settled on October 22, 1844, a day corresponding to the Jewish Day of Atonement, as the day that Jesus would return. The final months before October 22 were filled with prayer, sacrifice, and joy. Many quit their jobs and sold their possessions to spread the good news of Christ's return.

But like the early disciples who were devastated by crucifixion Friday, the Millerites were destined to experience what came to be known as the "Great Disappointment." (*To be continued in the next issue*)

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.

BEYOND OUR BORDERS

FLAG CAMP EXPOSES YOUNG PEOPLE TO LEADERSHIP Making Friends in Romania BY BOB WILKINS

On July 19, three Pioneer Memorial Church members left Berrien Springs, Michigan, for Romania to coordinate a FLAG (Fun Learning About God) camp for children in two REACH homes there. REACH International, Inc., is a non-profit charity operated by Seventh-day Adventists in 23 countries worldwide. Each day, over 23,000 children are served by this organization (see www.reach.org).



Romanian young people, pictured here with leadership, were a tremendous help with the FLAG camp. Left to right (back): Alin, Dan, Bob Wilkins, Glenn Russell. Left to right (front): Lumihita, Dana, Deana, Mariana, Emil.

The goal of this trip was different from previous trips. Rather than the costly transportion of American youth to assist with the FLAG camp, we wanted to expose young Romanians to camp leadership. We felt this would create a closer relationship between the REACH home in Peretu and local church members. We had no firm commitment from any Romanian young people before we arrived, but God answered our prayers with eight wonderful volunteers. These young adults were able to communicate with the children and also helped as our translators.

Glenn Russell shared themes from the Beatitudes each morning, setting the tone for each day. This was followed by a blast from his whistle, calling the children to line up for roll call. A mad scurry ensued as children anxiously ran outside to line up in five groups. The groups were arranged mostly by age and each had an adult Romanian leader. Brightly-colored bandanas were worn to give each group identity.

After breakfast, the groups rotated through five stations—Bible lessons, music, physical activity, crafts, and nature/science. Glenn coordinated the camp activities and the first three stations were taught by Romanians. Aurora Burdick taught crafts, and I taught nature/science. Aurora's son from California, Emanuel, helped with the activities. The program was fast-paced and lots of fun for the children.

The afternoons gave us time to mix with the children and staff and we forged new relationships. There were many hugs, opportunities to play ping-pong, and football (soccer in the United States) with the children. There was also time to take the children to the local swimming pool and to experience a trip to the Danube.



REACH home at Mislea, Romania

The children participated with a Peretu church choir in a vespers musical program where Narchisa Radu, age 14, recited Isaiah 53 from

memory as other children hummed softly, lending a worshipful air to the closing of the Sabbath.

Our last two days were spent at the REACH home in Mislea. While there, we went on a short trip with the older children into the beautiful mountainous region south of Brasov.

The children had an insatiable hunger for love and attention. It was not uncommon for two or three children to pile on our laps as we rode in the van. They are fortunate to be in a loving atmosphere, compared to the myriads of street children who have no home. It was hard to say goodbye, but we all look forward to seeing these children again.

Bob Wilkins is a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs.



Narchisa Radu recited Isaiah 53 from memory for a Sabbath vespers program.



When Grace Is in Place

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

hen people spend their lives trying to transform or fix their spouses and kids, the natural result is exhaustion, depression, and the hopeless sense of wanting to bail out of it all. Christian writer, Jeff VanVonderen, suggests that God's grace can transform relationships within a marriage and family. He says, "The first step is learning the simple difference between God's job and ours. God's part is to fix and change. Our responsibility is to depend on the Holy Spirit, serve our families, and help equip them to be all they can be. The Christian family's ultimate goals of harmony, obedience, and full potential can be arrived at without using legalistic and manipulative methods."1

Jeff shares his experience with a dedicated, well-meaning Christian father who often sacrificed his own comfort and needs to help someone else or to work for some higher goal. When problems came up he directed them to do what he did by saying, "Quit complaining. When you focus on a problem, you become a problem. Just do the right thing. It doesn't matter whether you like it or not. The Kingdom of God is not a democracy."

It wasn't until his wife checked herself into a mental health facility with symptoms of a physical and emotional collapse, and his children revealed that he made them feel like they were never going to be good enough, that he began to reexamine the way he was living his Christian life. He realized he had been legalistic and harsh. He believed with all his heart that the Bible was true—but there was something missing in the way he had been taught to apply biblical principles. "I always thought I was doing the loving and right thing by directing my family to just act on godly principles. I thought that doing and obedience were the simple answers to all our needs and problems. I didn't see that I was making them perform right on the outside, while inside their hearts were still aching for real compassion. If I'd given them the compassion first, as a foundation to stand on, they would have had more real power inside."

He is one of many Christian men and women who were taught that spiritual life results from performing according to certain principles. He gaged spiritual success by outward performance standards, and had not given his family the emotional and spiritual fuel to get them though life's challenges.

This father came to realize that denying a problem only prolonged it and strained relationships. He learned that "fixing" his spouse and children only led to disappointment and distancing in the relationship. By not allowing himself to submit to the discomfort of honest dialogue, he could not understand the hearts of his family members. This father accepted God's grace and began offering it to his wife and children. It was then he became free from the burden of pressuring, controlling, and manipulating his spouse and children. Praise God!

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

> ¹ Jeff VanVonderen, Families Where Grace is in Place, Bethany House Publishers, (Minneapolis, Minn.), 1992.



The Pirate, the Demon, and the Leaf Blower

BY DICK DUERKSEN

ur doorbell rang at 11:45 p.m. Sunday night. That's abnormal, even for us late-nighters. I climbed out of bed and snuck to the front door. There, standing under the porch light, was a pirate! His T-shirt featured a skull and crossbones, he was smoking a fiery cigarette, his tattoos rippled across his muscles, and his face was festooned with silver piercings. Ear, ear, nose, eyebrow ... and his red beard was a gnarly Fu Manchu. As I peered through the small "see what's out there" window, I saw him take another drag on the cigarette, flick the ash off into mom's flowers, and then smile. What to do? I reviewed the options quickly: turn off the light, call 911, or open the door and invite him in.

I called out, in as strong a voice as I could muster, "What can I do for you?" Redbeard leaned down, picked up a Toro leaf blower, and held it out toward me. "You left your leaf blower on your lawn, and I didn't want anybody to steal it from you." His words processed slowly through my worried brain. It *was* my leaf blower. I had left it out. The tanned, honest pirate had brought it home. Why had I been so quick to judge? Many "Thank You's" and handshakes later Redbeard ambled away down the street, and I returned the blower to its place.

I told the story to my friend,

Emory, as we covered Hurricane

Frances' damages on a friend's

roof. He laughed, put down his

hammer, and told me about the

demon. Emory, it seems, was taking

a theater make-up class and was on

bumper at a stoplight. Frustrated at

the delay, Emory got out to talk to

the driver, who turned out to be a

church.

90-lb., 75-yr-old lady on her way to

his way to his final test when the

car behind him slammed into his

There, under a streetlight, Emory suddenly remembered the test. The test required full facial make-up, and Emory was a demon—complete with wonderful little pointy horns! Emory was in full face, and she was terrified! He was as kind as a demon could be. She apologized (wide-

eyed) again and again, and the two of them agreed to the "no harm, no foul" rule of bumper relationships. The tiny Sunday school teacher didn't smile as she quickly retreated to her car—and rolled up all the windows.

Emory and I sat on the roof and laughed, and laughed, and laughed. Somehow it made the rest of the work easier. "So," God says, "rather than worry about what others look like, worry about the memory they take from an encounter with you" (see Romans 14:13).

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



Are the Perks Worth the Price?

BY VICKI GRIFFIN

A long with nicotine, caffeine is the most widely-used stimulant in the world. Estimates vary, but approximately 90% of Americans consume caffeine in some form every day. More than half consume over 300 mg of caffeine every day. Most get their caffeine from coffee, although caffeinated soft drink consumption is dramatically increasing.

Regardless of its source, caffeine tolerance and addiction occur quickly. Eight expert substance abuse clinicians randomly sampled 162 caffeine users for clinical measures of dependence and abuse. They found that 91% of the respondents exhibited dependence-like behavior to caffeine, with 56% reporting a "strong desire or unsuccessful attempt to stop" using it. Their results suggest "a substantial proportion of caffeine users exhibit dependence-like behaviors."

Like typical drugs of abuse, caffeine stimulates the same brain pathways by increasing dopamine in the pleasure centers of the brain although to a lesser degree. It works on every system of the body effected by the central nervous system. Its chemical action is to block two major braking systems in the body and brain that regulate excitement, wakefulness, and alertness. In short, it blocks adenosine receptors in the brain to make you feel alert, injects stress hormones into the system to induce energy, and manipulates dopamine to make you feel good.

But that quick pick-me-up has its down side. Tolerance and dependence occur quickly, even within days. The long-term effects of repeated caffeine stimulation are fatigue, depression, irritability, mental fog, the jitters, and loss of quality sleep. This leaves you craving more, quickly creating a vicious cycle of dependence. Eating right, exercising, getting plenty of rest, stress management, and drinking plenty of fresh water increase mental strength, overall energy, improve mood and mental processing, and enhance immune function and emotional health.

Caffeine addiction is a form of bondage that begins early in life, usually in the form of soft drinks. The high intake of sugar, phosphoric acid, and caffeine are not good for bones, brain, or body—and addiction is just as real in the young as in older people.

What to do:

- Admitting you have a problem is the first step to solving it.
- Get help. Beating addiction often requires a full range of medical, spiritual, and social support.
- Fight smart. Deal with all addictions. Caffeine reinforces the effects of other drugs. It increases the effects of nicotine. Tobacco use can stimulate cravings for alcohol, and vice versa.

Solomon said a threefold cord is not easily broken. In this case, the threefold cord of alcohol, nicotine, and caffeine forms a noose. But you can be free. According to Paul, the kindness and love of God frees us from being slaves to our passions and pleasures (addictions) by rebirth and renewal through His Spirit.

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 or call 866-624-LIFE (5433).



Lifestyle Seminar Draws Healthy Attendance

The Michigan Conference encouraged church leaders to use the *LifeStyle Matters* materials for community outreach, leading up to *Hope for Our Day* this fall.

When Jackson (Michigan) Church members held their first *LifeStyle Matters* seminar on diet and stress last April at their community service center, they felt successful because more than 25 people attended.

But when they held their second seminar, "Foods for Thought," in August with seminar developer Vicki Griffin as presenter, they were excitedly overwhelmed when 170 non-Adventists attended the event.

Throughout the four-session seminar the numbers remained steady. The room was so full church members were politely asked to either stand at the back or refrain from attending to make room for the non-Adventists.

Dennis Benedict, a physician and Jackson Church personal ministries leader, coordinated the effort and says he believes "having the seminar at a neutral site, securing a great group of people who worked as a 'team,' outstanding marketing/promotion, and developing a mission statement," led to its success.

The seminar was held at the county's largest medical facility, W.A. Foote Hospital, selected because it brought a degree of credibility. When approaching

by Madlyn Hamblin

hospital administration for use of their auditorium, Benedict stressed the program's mission statement—"Helping as many people as possible with their health concerns."



Connie Hackerby (right) answers a guest's questions.

The large auditorium was secured, free of charge, and then Benedict asked the church for volunteers to help. More than 20 individuals volunteered in their areas of expertise. Marketing and promotion was headed by Ray Hamblin, Jackson's head elder. Sixteen-thousand brochures were mailed to selected zip codes in the city, press releases were published, and display ads ran for three days. The area's 20-largest employers were visited by trained church members, who offered free posters and brochures for employees. Not one site refused the materials!

As calls poured in, registration reached more than 140, far exceeding

original estimates of 50 registrants. The food team had to quadruple recipes to serve everyone adequately. Gene Hall, Jackson Church pastor, actually made two trips to Berrien Springs to pick up more workbooks. On opening night the Jackson team was ready and waiting!

When guests arrived they were led to beautifully-displayed sample foods to taste, and to a display table with colorful workbooks, many cookbooks, and other health-related publications available for purchase. These sales generated funds to help with seminar costs.

Bob Ritzenthaler, seminar host, said: "I am thrilled to be a part of this successful outreach. The 'Foods for Thought' module is first-class and professional. Any church could put this on."

One attendee asked Benedict why this information was not more widely available, especially in the public schools. This idea prompted the church to consider presenting programs to other groups in the city.

So what made this seminar so successful? The Jackson team believes their mission statement says it all—"Help as many people as possible with their health concerns." The numbers speak for themselves! (See p. 10 for *Lifestyle Matters* information.)

Madlyn Hamblin is a member of the Jackson Church.



Let's Talk About the Good Life

How well did your family of origin communicate? How well does your family communicate now? Do you have the skills to help you or your family members face a personal or health-related crisis, or to offer support to a loved one in long-term care?

"Communication is a vehicle to nurture one's family, and good communication skills help family members face a crisis together. If you nurture each other, and develop communication skills in affirmative ways, talking about more serious matters becomes easier."

"The Making of the Good Life" was a seminar taught by Larry Yeagley—a retired pastor, hospice chaplain, author, and man with a heart for teaching communication skills to the family of God—during a recent Spiritual Emphasis Week at GlenOaks Hospital in Glendale Heights, Ill. His topic was well-received and worth sharing with *Lake Union Herald* readers.

"I've seen many patients come to critical or palliative care units without medical directives. I'd ask the family, 'What are your mother or father's wishes?', and they didn't know. Families should encourage loved ones to write out advance directives and talk about them." Yeagley added, "However, good communication should begin long before a health crisis occurs." Yeagley offers three steps to build better family communication:

Demonstrate Appreciation

"Appreciation is the starting point for healthy communication. Everyone needs embraces. Find the



Chatting with Larry Yeagley (second from left) during Spiritual Emphasis Week at GlenOaks Hospital are (from left): Lynda Miller, Delora Hagen, Hector Ramos, and Tricia Treft, Adventist Health System Midwest Region chaplains.

strong points in your children and work off those points, affirming them in their strengths. Appreciation is emotional nutrition. Find opportunities to give affirmation to others every day," said Yeagley. "Appreciated people show concern for others, are spiritually inclined, and more satisfied with life."

Build Trust

"Create a home where children bring their friends. Children are less likely to rebel in a home where their friends are welcome. In this atmosphere, develop trust with vour children as well as their friends. Encourage each other to express emotions in a healthy manner. Children model their parents, so parents



Larry Yeagley discusses the "Good Life" during Spiritual Emphasis Week at GlenOaks Hospital in Glendale Heights, Ill. The event served 1,731 people and received praise for its thoughtful way "to bring spirituality into the daily routine of employees." Yeagley also presented "Caring for the Dying" at several locations within the Midwest Region, which shared meaningful hospice experiences to help professionals, family, and staff make informed end-of-life care decisions.

hold the key to the emotional stability of future generations."

Spend Time Together

"Do things together. This strengthens communi-cation, provides a shared foundation, and lots of opportunities for conversation. Take time for each other and develop friendships. If you are not friends, you cannot understand each other emotionally," notes Yeagley. "Discuss the differences of being alone and lonely. Activities done in solitude can be constructive, i.e., playing music, artistic endeavors, and reading. One becomes lonely when deprived of sufficient relationships. Chronic loneliness can lead to health problems."

Yeagley encouraged listeners to remember God showers His children with unconditional love to teach us forgiveness. "Forgiveness is an eternal provision and like a water supply, if we tap into it, we have the ability to give it to others."

According to Yeagley, "communication in families and the family of God will improve when people participate in multi-generational worship and activities." He thinks churches should offer family resource centers to help families learn communication skills. Yeagley also recommends seasoning the gospel message with "therapeutic preaching" to teach families how to "express grief, show emotions, and nurture one another."

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

Andrews 🔕 University

Let's Talk ... Again

Andrews University hosted Let's Talk ... Again on Monday, Sept. 13, 2004. The "noholds-barred" conversation-style session between Ian Paulsen. General Conference president, and 50 students, ages 20–25, convened in the university's new Howard Performing Arts Center. The hour-long show was broadcast live, worldwide, via the Hope Channel and second broadcast



Hope Channel and Adventist Television Network. This is the today during Let's Talk ... Again.

instigated in an effort to increase communication between young people and the leaders of the Adventist Church. Last year, Paulsen met with 50 teenagers at the first *Let's Talk*.

Young people make up 70% of the Adventist Church, and they are concerned about what their participation in the church is supposed to look like. Paulsen opened the discussion with his answer to the skeptical question no one wanted to ask, "What's the point?" He said, "You may be asking yourself, 'Will my question even matter?'" Students waited intently for his response. He leaned in and smiled as he remarked, "Well, it depends on what your question is." They shared a laugh, and he continued. Paulsen managed to keep the discussion lively, while still maintaining the seriousness of the atmosphere.

Students offered a range of questions as broad as competitive sports, women's roles, war, race-relations, and homosexuality. Yes, these are Adventist young people and these are the cutting-edge issues they have to face at large, in their families, in the job market—all over the world. Paulsen counseled them to "look after yourself spiritually and search for creative ways to be involved in the life of your church. ... The church cannot afford to have observers. She simply cannot afford it." The students emphatically agreed with the same eager spirit that is in keeping with the very dictum of their university: Seek Knowledge. Affirm Faith. Change the World. For more information and a transcript of the conversation, log onto www.letstalk.adventist.org.

Keturah Landrum, University Relations student news writer

New University Relations Director Appointed

Rebecca L. May joined the Andrews University Office of University Relations staff as their new director on Monday, Sept. 13. Her new responsibilities



Rebecca L. May, new director of University Relations at Andrews University

encompass the areas of community, media, and church relations, as well as inter-campus communication.

Though she is taking on a new position, May is not new to Andrews. Since 1986, she has served the university as Alumni Services director, where she organized a variety of events and services for current students and 28,000 alumni.

"After 18 years, of course there is much nostalgia leaving the Alumni House," May stated. "But a new person in Alumni Services will bring some fresh energy, a healthy change, and new ideas."

May is actually making a return to the Office of University Relations, where she served as office manager from 1979–1984 and public information officer in 1985.

She is an alumnus of Andrews herself, having received a bachelor of arts in French with a journalism minor in 1977.

"Christian education at Andrews University is my passion. I feel fortunate that my new responsibilities will be closely related to my work in Alumni; [I am] still working in University Advancement, but with new challenges serving different constituencies of Andrews University. I look forward to the opportunities for professional and personal growth through these new challenges, particularly in the areas of community and church relations."

Beverly Stout, University Relations news writer

ASI: Business-Minded People with a Heart for Ministry

Barbara Taylor believes in doing good business. She also believes in sharing her faith. The Copper Mountain, Colorado, Seventh-day Adventist has found a way to do both. "We not only take care of work, we go out as Christians and share Christ," she recently told a newspaper reporter in Cincinnati, Ohio. The link to a religious Web site printed on the back of her business card sometimes opens the door for witnessing.

Taylor, the president of Between U-N-Me, Inc., a men's sportswear wholesale company, was one of nearly 2,000 people who attended the 57th Annual Adventist-Laymen's Service and Industries (ASI) Convention in August where more than \$2.33 million was collected in offering to help fund the projects and ministries of 43 organizations.

Attendees to the convention, who come from all walks of life, different parts of North America and beyond, and who represent forprofit and non-profit organizations,

BY CELESTE RYAN

have two things in common they're business- and ministryminded Seventh-day Adventists.

Mark Black, a building contractor from Seattle, Washington, looks for any opportunity to witness—carrying his Bible on plane trips, displaying religious books in his office, and offering prayer at business lunches. "Not including sending e-mail Bible studies, I give about three to four Bible studies a day," he says.

Todd Rhoades, the 23-yearold owner of T & T Masonry in Chestertown, Maryland, is a new ASI member who, while still growing in his personal faith, is already finding ways to minister to the needs of others. He volunteers with recovering alcoholics and mentally impaired patients, and is working with a group of students to start a public campus ministry at the University of Maryland.

John Chung, a dermatologist from Dalton, Georgia, began giving Bible studies to his patients after hours several years ago. He now has 20 to 50 people studying each week.

The enthusiasm of these active members, who seek opportunities to minister while doing business, is a common trait of ASI members very likely what the founders of the association envisioned when they established the organization who's motto is "Sharing Christ in the Marketplace."

Grassroots Support for Mission Work

It was 57 years ago that representatives of self-supporting ministries gathered in Cincinnati with Adventist leaders to form an organization that would promote missionary enterprises. From the beginning, the annual convention and mission work were critical objectives. In 1970, the first mission offering, which totaled \$2,017, added a new dimension to the organization. The money went to help a medical clinic, college, and ministry with financial needs. The offerings grew slowly until Tom Zapara and Harold Lance challenged fellow members to do better. They answered the call, giving \$80,000 in 1981. In 1999, a high point of more than \$4.5 million was collected and used to support mission work around the world.

The grassroots association continues to grow and thrive with nearly 1,000 members. Doreen Schmidt, of the Eastlex Machine Corporation in Lexington, Kentucky, and ASI vice president for recruitment, says that over 120 new members joined during the last year.

Program Highlights

As August rolled around, members—new and old—left their homes, schools, jobs, ministries, and businesses, and came to the convention to network at 275 exhibit booths and enjoyed vegetarian and vegan meals.

They came to learn through workshops on witnessing, giving Bible studies, customer service, and health outreach. They came to hear numerous testimonies of how fellow lay members have brought people to Christ and how those receiving funds have furthered the gospel. And they came to worship and be inspired by keynote speakers who, following this year's theme, called them to realize it's really "Christ's Power ... Our Hands" that make the difference.

Sabbath speaker, Shawn Boonstra of *It Is Written*, encouraged attendees to be ready for a divine appointment to witness for God. "You can't believe in Bible prophecy without believing that God has put you in His schedule as He moves with certainty towards the Second Coming," he preached.

Youth Do Their Part

While the adults were inspired by speakers and testimonies, the youth were not to be left behind. Several hundred from "tiny tots" to young adults accompanied their parents and enjoyed programs and various evangelistic activities.

Sixty earliteens canvassed the city, selling over \$2,000 in magabooks while 100 teens conducted a free health expo for city residents.



Debbie Young (right) interviews Kelly Razzouk about her involvement in the United Nations.

Denise Thomas-Ellis, Columbia Union chapter president, says that attending ASI really compels youth to participate in Christ's work. She points out 21-year-old Rachel Hyman of Atlanta, Georgia, who just finished a summer as a literature evangelist for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. Now she intends to become a fulltime Bible worker. "I want to help people who are looking for truth understand the Bible and God's love," she says, much to the delight of Thomas-Ellis and other ASI leaders.

"Thank you for being committed to your youth and giving them the opportunity of sharing Jesus Christ with the hearts and homes of Cincinnati," said Chester Clark III, an academy teacher from Arkansas. Clark is ASI's vice president for youth evangelism, and coordinator of the ASI-funded *Youth for Jesus* evangelism effort recently conducted in Cincinnati. "It's truly amazing to see God using young people," he told the audience while giving a project report.

Clark and his team of 28 reported that during the past year they had reached out to 400,000 people, inviting them to take Bible studies and to attend an evangelism series preached by teens as young as 15. Evangelistic efforts were conducted in seven churches, 90 people were baptized, and 40 more are studying.

At the close of the weekend,

when the reports from youth, members in action, exhibitors, and evangelists had ended, Debbie Young, ASI president, challenged members to take their experience home. "Walk away with the inspiration and motivation to share Christ in your marketplace," she said.

Next year's ASI convention will be held in Sacramento, August 3–6, 2005. For information visit www.asi ministries.org or call (301) 680-6450.

Celeste Ryan is communication director for the Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Lake Union Conference ASI Leadership

Lake Union Conference Viorel Catarama, chapter president (630) 654-4121 Carmelo Mercado, director (269) 473-8200

Illinois Ken Denslow, director (630) 734-0920

Indiana Gary Thurber, director (317) 844-6201

Lake Region Conference Leroy Hampton, director (773) 846-2661

Michigan

Paul Pellandini, director (517) 316-1500

Wisconsin

Donald Corkum, director (608) 241-5235

Giving or Tipping for Missions?

A dinner for five at a family restaurant averages about \$35. Giving a customary 15 percent tip would add \$5.25 to the cost of the meal. If the family ate out once a month, the tip would amount to \$63 over the course of a year.

Although we, in the Lake Union, gave the highest mission offerings per capita in 2003, they only amounted to an average of \$29.07, less than half of the tips given by our once-a-month dining family.

Giving to world mission offerings has remained flat for decades, while tithe and local giving have increased with inflation. In 1930, members gave 65 percent to missions as compared to tithe. That percentage has plunged to a surprising four percent in the past three quarters of a century. And last year's mission offering total was the lowest since 1985.¹ During the Great Depression, per capita giving to world mission offerings was 17 times what it is today in the Lake Union.

According to Juan Prestol, treasurer of the North American Division, "Adventist baby boomers and other younger members support the church in different ways than their parents." He goes on to say, "As world mission offerings have declined, there's been a rapid growth in direct giving, in which contributions are channeled directly to ministries for specific projects with measurable objectives."²

Although giving directly to specific projects has increased, it has not made up for the loss in giving to missions in general. The sobering questions need to be asked, "Do my Sabbath school offerings for world missions look like cheap tips?" "Am I unwilling to give unless I can maintain control over offering disbursement?"

The life of Jesus is our best example of giving with disinterested benevolence (giving with no strings attached). Giving was a part of who He was. And His giving was not dependent on how the gift would be treated, nor did He give any consideration to how He may personally benefit. David modeled that kind of giving when he gave toward the construction of the temple. He never witnessed the construction, participated in a worship service, or heard music at the temple. He just gave and gave and gave—with no personal benefit in return. Giving to the temple was a gift to God, an act of worship.

And that's how we should give to world missions. We may never see the results of our sacrifice. Our systematic support of world missions ought to be in proportion to the great resources the Lord has entrusted to us. Our giving should reflect the fact that we are privileged, and have the responsibility to include all of God's family around the world in the blessings that come to us from Him.

Paul Pellandini is the Michigan Conference Stewardship director.

¹ Carlos Medley, "A Message in Numbers," Adventist Review, (2004:6), 5.

² *Carlos Medley, "How Do Adventists Give?"* Adventist Review, (2004:1), 5.

Who Owns Your House?

A number of years ago I heard a story about a man who went to the police station and declared, "I need help with a serious problem. I need to know who owns the house I live in."

The officer on duty asked, "How long have you lived there?"

"Nine years," replied the man.

"Nine years, and you don't know who owns the house you live in? Who do you pay your rent to?"

"I don't pay rent," muttered the man, who was becoming decidedly more agitated.

Carefully, the officer eyed him and exclaimed, "Nine years in a house and no rent. Friend, you don't have a problem—you've got a gold mine!"

Angrily, the man shouted, "Oh, yes, I do have a problem! The roof is leaking and I have to locate the owner to demand that he fix it. If he doesn't, I am moving out. I am not going to put up with such stuff like that."

Amazing! Astounding! Incredible! Ridiculous! How could anyone be so dense, so out of touch?

But wait just a minute, my friend. Is it possible that if Nathan, the prophet, were alive today he might look straight at you or me and say, "You're the one!"

Are possessions important to me? Does it matter who owns the house I live in? The answer to that question may be, "Well, it depends on my attitude about my possessions. It depends on whether I need an attitude adjustment!"

In the book, *Love Unlimited*, I read that "The love of money, the desire for wealth, is the golden chain that binds [us] to Satan."¹ However, there is no question that "Money has great value, because it can do great good. In the hands of God's children it is food for the hungry, drink for the thirsty, and clothing for the naked."²

When we recognize that "All we possess is the Lord's and we are accountable to Him for the use we make of it,"³ and that, in fact, God is the owner of our house and we are just the caretaker, it allows us to put everything into perspective, doesn't it?

God is the one who has given us the means and power to get wealth—not to glorify ourselves, but to provide "for the necessities of life, in blessing others, and advancing the cause of Christ."⁴

When it comes right down to it, I'm glad God is the owner of my house. How about you?

J. Richard Terrell is the Lake Union Conference Stewardship director

¹ Ellen G. White, Love Unlimited, (Oakland, Calif.: Pacific Press Publishing Association, 1958), 44.

² Ellen G. White, Christ's Object Lessons, (Oakland, Calif.: Pacific Press Publishing Company, 1900), 351.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

The Blessing of Giving BY GLYNN SCOTT

Some of our favorite words that Jesus spoke on the subject of giving are: "If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving—large or small—it will be used to measure what is given back to you" (Luke 638 NLT). In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus describes the blessings of giving. Here are four points to consider.

Compassion

It was compassion that moved Jesus to give. It is His spirit of giving that He wants to instill in each of us. It is His chosen method for imparting blessings to us that come through no other means. Compassion giving can include food, clothing, time, talents, services, resources, and more. Compassion giving meets needs. It meets the needs of people around us, it meets the needs presented by a church active in proclaiming the gospel, and it meets our need to give. Giving protects us from the pitfalls of selfishness. It fosters a heart of compassion.

Compensation

When you keep on giving to God, He keeps on giving back to you. Give more to the Lord, and He gives more back to you. Give. Give much. Give until it helps. Give until you feel you have given your all, then give a little more. It's that kind of giving that results in full-measure-pressed-down-shakentogether-running-over blessings. God's scales of compensation are tilted toward us. That should cause us to give with excitement, enthusiasm, and anticipation remembering Christ's words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Compounding

God compounds our giving. He takes the widow's mite and accomplishes far more with her little "all" than the token riches of the reluctant wealthy. It works on the same principle as compound interest. As we make a commitment to God in our giving we also will be able to proclaim, as did David, "My cup runneth over" (Psalm 23:5). God desires to shower upon us abundant blessings, blessings that rise to the top of our spiritual cups and overflow into the lives of others. Is your giving relationship with Christ so dynamic that it overflows?

Countering

The last part of our text indicates that God counters our gift—He reciprocates. In other words, God chooses to hold back when we hold back. Or, if we choose to give more, God gives more. The more we give, the more God gives. We cannot out-give God. He measures what we give, how we give, and why we give. He measures the entire process. He looks outwardly and inwardly, individually and collectively. He is seeking partnerships.

In His appeal through the prophet Malachi, God even asks us to prove it—to put Him to the test. He is asking us to enter into a giving relationship with Him.

When my parents gave me my first allowance, they taught me the importance of returning a tithe and giving a freewill offering. It seemed hard to me since I only had a small sum to begin with. Nonetheless, a principle practiced, simply because I was instructed to do so, began to take root in my heart as I experienced God's principle of multiplying.

I continued the practice through my teen years, but it wasn't until I was married with two children that my faith was challenged. Through that challenge, I began to understand God's faithfulness and His promise to multiply our giving. There have been multiple times when returning a faithful tithe meant that we were at zero. financially. However, each time God has been true to His promises by providing unexpected blessings of which we had no prior knowledge, such as a surprise payroll bonus or wage increase from the company I worked for, or refund checks from creditors, or unsolicited cash gifts

from people praying for us, or finding over \$40 blowing in the street, and the list goes on.

God invites us to prove Him. He wants to give us evidence of the blessings that come from a partnership with Him. I can say from my personal experience that He is faithful. No matter how hard I've tried, I cannot outgive God. The more we give to Him, the more He gives back to us.

As we bring closure to the year 2004, let us resolve to enter into and deepen that partnership and giving relationship that God desires, so we might receive the blessings we need and He delights to give.

Glynn Scott is the Lake Union Conference treasurer.

- Conferences within the Lake Union have received a total of \$38,513,295 through August. This represents a slight increase of \$354,965 (0.93%) over the same period in 2003, placing us below the rate of inflation. We praise God for faithful members who continue to give during a slow performance in the economy that has effected the midwest region of America more than any other section of the country. Our commitment is to prayerfully utilize each dollar to maximize the advancement of the gospel throughout our territory.
- 2. The Lake Union Conference distributes a total of \$7.2 million from local conference tithe sharing, North American Division tithe reversions, and donations to: Education, which includes K–12 and Andrews University; **Other**, which includes Lake Region Conference capital reversions, the North American Division retirement plan, and misc. appropriations; Church, which includes general evangelism, youth programs, and multi-cultural ministries; Support, which includes auditing, group medical, Lake Union Herald, and general administration; and Special, which includes communication, computer systems, religious liberty, and trust services.

Righteousness by Faith and Tithing by GARY THURBER

No, paying tithe can't save us—no more than you or I can be saved by any other "good work." We are simply saved by grace through faith (see Eph. 4:6). However, through tithing, God has provided a living allegory to teach and reassure us of His ability to save His children. Tithing is a beautiful God-given opportunity to experience His grace. By Malachi's definition, our tithe already belongs to God. He loans it to us for an opportunity to learn of His faithfulness as we exercise our faith. God promises that if we bring our tithe to His storehouse, He will open the windows of Heaven and pour out blessings beyond our imagination. The question has always been, "Will you and I believe that God can be trusted to do what He says He will do?"

I know of a church that faced a financial dilemma. Small in number, without much money, and in the middle of a building project gone awry, members sold their old church believing they would have sufficient funds to build the new church. They rented the town hall as a temporary meeting place, anticipating they would be worshipping in a beautiful new sanctuary before long. Then, everything that could go wrong did go wrong.

Costs to develop the site began to escalate. A number of other issues began to pop up, turning the project into a financial nightmare. Suddenly, this little group was staring at an additional \$250,000 more than anticipated to finish the project.

Month after month, the project stood at a standstill. The little group became restless. Meeting in the town hall was less than desirable, and they became more discouraged.

In an attempt to rescue the project, some began to divert their tithe to the building program. After all, how in the world would it ever get finished otherwise? This continued for months, and then years.

Discouraged with their lack of progress, they came to the conclusion one day that they needed to turn this project over to God. They needed a miracle!

While studying and praying together they were impressed that if they were going to give this project over to God, they were going to have to get serious about following His counsel in Scripture. They began by encouraging each other to return a faithful tithe, according to God's instructions. This was no doubt counterintuitive since, even with the diverted tithe funds, they had been unable to make ends meet. What would happen to their bills now?

To their surprise, and with no one really understanding how it happened, the building project was soon up and running again. Within a short time it was completed and paid for!

Plain and simple, by diverting their tithe to finish the project, members had adopted a financial "righteousness by works" approach. On their own, they tried to do something that only God could do. The result was failure.

We must come to understand that we have no ability to save ourselves through good works, nor do we have the ability to fund all that God has directed His church to accomplish on our own. Both are fully dependent on God.

Without God, the members were unable to handle the church project. The adopted "works" orientation was leading the church to ruin, just as certain as it will sabotage our journey to the Kingdom. When members decided to return to God's plan to care for His church, the One who owns the cattle on a thousand hills provided all they needed. In the same way, God invites us to trust His plan to save us.

I am concerned that a growing number are missing out on God's blessing, and His plan to teach us that He can be trusted. Despite God's clear counsel on the subject, a number within the church are either not returning God's tithe, or diverting it to ministries or projects of their own choosing. They reason that they are responding to a greater need, they disagree with church management, or they feel they have a better plan for how the tithe should be used. Do other ministries need money? Are there areas where we could improve our management? Obviously the answer is "Yes." But does that justify abandoning God's perfect plan to take care of His work? Should we choose to rely on our own plans and resources instead of His? The answer is found over and over again in the stories of Scripture.

When God told Abraham and Sarah they were going to have a child and that their family would outnumber the stars in the heavens, and the sands of the seas, they laughed! Had God not noticed their age? With all sincerity, Abraham and Sarah came up with their own plan to fulfill the promise of God. They reasoned that by including Hagar, they could bring about the fulfillment of God's promise. We all know how that story turned out.

In order for God's plan to be implemented, Ishmael had to be sent away because of the threat he was to Isaac. In the same way, we must abort our own schemes and methods to fund our mission and rely on God's simple plan of trusting Him, living by faith in what He will provide.

Is it possible that you have fallen into the trap of trying to fulfill a project or ministry outside of God's plan? Not following God's plan is the surest way to ruin a project, cripple a ministry, or even miss out on the personal blessings God has in store for you or your family.

By faithfully returning God's tithe, especially when our human wisdom or perspective counters the notion, we give God an opportunity to open the windows of Heaven. As we experience God's faithfulness in providing for our financial needs, our hearts learn to trust Him at an even deeper level as "the God of our Salvation" (see Ps. 24:6).

Gary Thurber is the Indiana Conference president.

BCA Celebrates Successful Reading Program

Michigan—As the school year began at Battle Creek Academy (BCA), the summer reading program, "Read Through the Summer," ended.



Thirteen students are to be congratulated for completing the BCA summer reading program, pictured with Charlene Lavallee, 3rd- & 4th-grade teacher/reading program coordinator, (left), and Kevin Kossick, BCA principal, (right).

The program, coordinated by Charlene Lavallee, BCA 3rd- and 4th-grade teacher, was open to students in kindergarten through the 8th grade. The goal was for students to read ten out of the twelve weeks of summer. Age-appropriate guidelines describing reading time and frequency requirements were prepared for each grade level.

Participating students charted their progress each day. Thirteen BCA students successfully completed the program. Each received a Certificate of Completion and a new book at an awards ceremony where Kevin Kossick, BCA principal, spoke to the students and their families about endurance and completing the task at hand.

> Michelle Cain, Battle Creek Academy public relations correspondent

YOUTH NEWS

Fifty-Four TLTs Invested at Faith on Fire Camporee

Michigan—A special TLT investiture service was held at the *Faith On Fire (FOF) Camporee* for 54 Michigan Pathfinders, under the direction of Terry Dodge, Michigan Conference Pathfinder director. The *Teen Leadership Training* (TLT) program addresses adolescent developmental needs and promotes leadership skills, enabling and empowering teens to become full partners in the mission of the Adventist Church with adult leadership, in a shared service experience of Pathfinder ministry.



Fifty-four Michigan Pathfinder TLTs were invested at the Faith on Fire Camporee.

TLTs train for six months in the six following areas: administrative, finance/clerical, camping/activities, outreach, counseling, and AY classwork/honors. This training is accomplished alongside adult staff members and is in addition to regular AY class work.

Those participating in the *FOF* investiture service included: 18 entering the program for the first time, who received a special red and black braid; 20 who received the first level pin; 13 who received the second level pin; 10 who received the third level pin; and one who received the fourth level pin. The Pathfinder TLT is ready to be invested as a Master Guide upon completing the fourth level.

Once the training sequence is completed, TLTs begin to serve as a club staff member. Several TLTs have become Pathfinder leaders because of the training they received in this program. Others have had the opportunity to help write new AY honors for the North American Division.

The TLT pledge says:

"Loving the Lord Jesus, I promise to take an active part in the work of the *Teen Leadership Training* program, doing what I can to help others and to finish the work of the Gospel in all the world."

It is an honor for a Pathfinder to become a TLT, and it is an honor to have young people willing to go the extra mile to become a TLT for the Lord.

Terry Dodge, Michigan Conference Pathfinder director

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

One Thousand Baptismal Robes and Still Counting

Michigan—On Sept. 10, 2004, June Nafziger, a member of the Coloma (Mich.) Church, completed sewing her 1,000th baptismal robe. Since 1972, June has used 3,000 yards of royal blue material and sent robes to fifty-two churches in Michigan, plus twenty states across the United States and ten foreign countries. You'll find June's robes in countries like Austria,

Mongolia, and Cambodia just to name a few. One robe

went to a pastor in Africa, and he reports wearing it to baptize over 10,000 people.

Several years ago June heard of the need for baptismal robes for churches in Russia. She made a covenant with the Lord, "You supply the funds, and I'll make the robes." June was



June Nafziger smiles as she completes the hem on her 1,000th baptismal robe.

soon able to send 94 robes, which undoubtedly have been used to baptize hundreds. She often receives pictures and videos of the baptisms.

Robert, June's husband, encourages her to continue making robes. He faithfully maintains the sewing machines to ensure that she'll be sewing as long as she enjoys it. June owns two sewing machines, a New Home and a Singer, and she "sings" praises to God as she contemplates our "new homes" in Heaven.

June says she will keep the 1,000th robe in the family. In her spare time, June enjoys making lap robes for nursing home patients.

Sarah Heinrich, Coloma Church correspondent

The Passion of Love Impacts Indiana Communities

Indiana—Rich Uphus, personal ministries leader for the Cicero (Ind.) Church, and other members living in Arcadia, Ind., wanted *The Passion of Love* to be read by everyone in their town. They pooled resources and distributed the book, a letter, and a *Sow 1 Billion* card to community residents. The letter was personalized with the names and addresses of church members residing in Arcadia.



DuWayne Carlson (standing) and his family worked with approximately 120 Cicero members to prepare The Passion of Love packets for distribution.

After the books were mailed, the response from neighbors was so favorable the church expanded this outreach endeavor to include the surrounding towns of Atlanta, Cicero, Sheridan and Tipton.

On Sabbath, May 8, Cicero members held a special season of prayer for *The Passion of Love* books that would soon blanket these communities near their church. Over 120 enthusiastic members gathered at the elementary school gymnasium to prepare packets for their neighbors. In just over an hour, over 11,000 packets were assembled for distribution

It didn't take long for word to trickle back that

their neighbors appreciated the kindness of Cicero members. One woman read the book and then returned to the post office to see if she could obtain three additional copies for her adult children. Another woman visited the Adventist Book Center (ABC) in Cicero to see if she could purchase more books. Lloyd Jacobs, ABC manager, had exactly the number of copies she requested and gladly shared them with her. Another



neighbor searched the Internet to find the phone number of a member who was listed on the letter, and then called to say "Thank you."

Cicero members are praying for their neighbors who have received the books and claim the promise found in Isaiah 55:11: "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

The Passion of Love is a sharing book available through Remnant Publications in Coldwater, Mich.

Collene Kelly, Cicero Church correspondent

Recording Studio Built for Ministry

Indiana—Nicholas Mazzio performed with several bands at popular clubs in Greenwich Village and New York City. He and his band were in the process of being "discovered" by a reputable recording label when a friend invited him to a Bible study. Since then his life has changed dramatically, and he has dedicated his musical ability to God's work.



A Thousand Shall Fall is the first audio book project released by Solemn Appeal Ministries, an Adventist recording studio.

His wife, Lauren, had previously been preparing for

a career in Broadway acting and opera. Living near New York City, and dreaming of running away from an increasingly unhappy home life, she wanted to make a change through a successful acting and performance career. Then God became real to her and He did the real changing.

The Mazzios have shared a music ministry since 2002. Their main goal has been to produce and record quality Christian music, musical programs, and testimonies in their southern Michigan-based recording studio. Building the studio has taken years of dedication and miraculous support from generous donors.

Their ministry, Solemn Appeal Ministries, is pleased to announce the release of its first audio book project, *A Thousand Shall Fall*. The audio book project represents the first recorded work the ministry has completed for retail sale.

A Thousand Shall Fall is the exciting true testimony of the Hasel family, who dared to practice their faith in Hitler's Germany. Franz Hasel, a conscientious objector, refused to carry a weapon in the war where he spent seven years as a front-line soldier in one of Hitler's elite forces.

Future goals include creating an independent recording label for Christian music, additional Christian audio books, and testimonies.

For information about Solemn Appeal Ministries call the Mazzios at (269) 483-1533. *A Thousand Shall Fall* is available at Adventist Book Centers.

Diane Thurber, Lake Union Herald managing editor, as told by Lauren Mazzio, co-owner of Solemn Appeal Ministries, and a member of the Elkhart (Ind.) Church

SAC Unveils New Job Site

Are you looking for qualified Adventist employees or quality Christian employment in the communication field? A new tool is available for you.

The Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) has launched a job posting and résumé section on their website, designed to further facilitate the networking of employers and job seekers in the area

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of communication. SAC members may post résumés at no charge and, for a limited time, job posting is free to all SAC member employers. Registration is required to gain access to the posting section. The job listings and résumés are open to the public for viewing.

Just click on the "Job Listing" link at www. adventistcommunicator.org to take advantage of this service. For more information, visit the website or e-mail: ryteller@maucsda.org.

> Ryan Teller, Society of Adventist Communicators president

WORLD CHURCH NEWS

Hope Channel—Adventist Television's Newest Network

In January 2004, Adventist Television Network launched Hope Channel, which broadcasts a variety of programming 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Hope Channel uses six satellites to cover the world, offering the world church a wide availability of air-time to represent Adventism in culturally relevant ways.

Hope Channel currently offers English and Spanish channels for North America, and Spanish and Portuguese channels for South America, Inter-America, and Portugal. Future plans include adding Hope Channel Africa in Portuguese and French, and eventually Hope Channel Asia.

Evangelism is the number one mandate. NET evangelistic events and other outreach Bible study

programs are broadcast. Spiritual nurture programs are also given strong emphasis. Programming includes events, such as the Pathfinder Camporee and the upcoming 2005 General Conference Session.

The General Conference provides a base subsidy to cover administrative and office expenses as well as some satellite costs. Beyond this, the Hope Channel ministry is completely dependent on donations.

Individuals interested in getting Hope Channel may contact

www. AdventistSAT. com, which will provide the necessary satellite equipment. They offer a quality system, and can also arrange professional installation at a reasonable fee. To order, call tollfree: (866) 255-2651. The system



costs US\$204, but there are no monthly subscription fees. The receivers come pre-programmed to receive five Adventist television networks and three Adventist radio channels. If people already receive 3ABN on a 36-inch dish, they can call to learn how to tune their existing equipment to receive Hope Channel programming.

For more information about Hope Channel or Adventist Television Network, go to www.hopetv.org or www.Adventist.tv, or call (301) 680-6689.

Sandra Blackmer, Adventist Review news editor

General Conference Session Update

General Conference Session Dates

Days of Spiritual Emphasis June 29, 2005, 3:00–5:00 p.m. June 30, 2005, 8:00–12:00 p.m.

58th General Conference Session

June 30–July 9, 2005 America's Center 701 Convention Plaza St. Louis, MO 63101-1275

Exhibits: A Highlight at the General Conference Session

The 130,000-square-foot exhibit hall at the General Conference Session will contain more than 560 booths. The exhibit hall is a great point of interest for visitors to the General Conference Session. Some booths give away as many as 40,000 pieces of literature over the 10-day period. Here's what you can look for in the exhibit hall:

- A mini-camp meeting set-up
- An 11,500 square foot Adventist Book Center
- Adventist World Radio
- ADRA
- Colleges and universities from around the world
- Exhibits from all 13 church divisions
- A souvenir marketplace

For additional exhibit hall information, contact Dean Rogers, exhibit manager, at (301) 680-6221, e-mail RogersD@gc.adventist.org, or visit www.gcsession.org.

Meal Tickets

Currently meal tickets are being sold in books of 20 dated tickets for U.S. \$200. Individual meal tickets will not be sold until after the first of the year at \$10 per ticket. Delegates and technical staff (and their accompanying spouse, if not serving as a delegate or staff member) will receive a complete set of meal tickets at registration. Only a limited number of meal tickets will be available in St. Louis. Download the Meal Ticket Purchase Form at www.gcsession.org.

From the October 2004 GC Session News, the official bulletin issued by the General Conference Communication Department, available at www.gcsession.org/news.



MILEPOSTS

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

ANNIVERSARIES

WILLIAM EARL AND PATRICIA JOHNSON celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 27, 2004, by a dinner reception and vow renewal at Tirey Hall Heritage Ballroom at Indiana State University. They have been members of the Terre Haute (Ind.) Church for 17 years.

William Earl Johnson and Patricia Blankenship were married Mar. 20, 1954, in Terre Haute. William Earl has been a mechanic at McKee Bakery in Collegedale, Tenn., retiring in 1990. Patricia has been an employee at Southern Adventist University, retiring in 1997.

The Johnson family includes Donna and Jerry Shelton of Hendersonville, N.C.; Lester and Cynthia Johnson and William and Danielle Johnson of Orlando, Fla.; Beth and Ryan Glick of Wintersprings, Fla.; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

JOHN AND BARBARA LAWRENCE celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 27, 2004, by a dinner reception and vow renewal at Tirey Hall Heritage Ballroom at Indiana State University. They have been members of the Terre Haute (Ind.) Church for 55 years.

John Lawrence and Barbara Blankenship were married Dec. 10, 1954, in Terre Haute. John has been a factory worker at Alcan Co., retiring in 1988. Barbara is an administrator at Indiana State University.

The Lawerence family includes Camellia and Richard Setliff and Brenda and Kenneth Thompson of Terre Haute; Sherry and Ralph Willis of Mansfield, Ind.; Alohna and Glen Morrow of Brazil, Ind.; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.



DONALD AND MYRILE SIEWERT celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on July 30, 2004. They have been members of the Mio (Mich.) Church since 1966 when they began their full-time commitment to the ministry.

Donald and Myrtle were married July 30, 1949, in Bay City, Mich., by Pastor Leslie Shoup. Donald has been an auto mechanic, farmer, literature evangelist, and pastor. Myrtle has been a school teacher, homemaker, and literature evangelist. Donald and Myrtle still remain active in the church, which has been their life's work and love.

The Siewert family includes three children; five grandchildren; and five greatgrandchildren.

WEDDINGS

SARAH WOOLF AND DAVID CANADA were married July 11, 2004, in Taylor, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Glenn Russell.

Sarah is the daughter of Dan and Julie Woolf of Ypsilanti, Mich., and David is the son of Cheryl and the late Vernon Canada of Fort Wayne, Ind. The Canadas are making their home in Belleville, Mich.

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 Clonch.

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

The Knotts are making their home in Lafayette.

SARA J. WOOD AND DANIEL S. MERTINS were married June 6, 2004, in New Berlin, Wis. The ceremony was performed by Pastor David Livergood.

Sara is the daughter of Ron and Nancy Wood of Arbor Vitae, Wis., and Daniel is the son of Steve and Carol Mertins of Ixonia, Wis.

The Mertins are making their home in Watertown, Wis.

VERONICA S. ZMAJ AND GREG MINIER were married July 4, 2004, in Sitka, Alaska. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Gary Waterhouse.

Veronica is the daughter of Steve and Betty Zmaj of McDonald, Tenn., and Greg is the son of Jackie and Richard Saunders of Deerfield, Wis.

The Miniers are making their home in Sitka.

OBITUARIES

ADAIR, VICTOR R., age 72; born May 23, 1931, in Bakersfield, Calif.; died Mar. 23, 2004, in Madison, Wis. He was a member of the Madison Church.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia C. (Olson); and half brother, Edward Cobb.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor William Ochs, and interment was in Roselawn Memorial Park Cemetery, Madison.

ADAMS, SUZANNE K. (PLUMMER), age 44; born Apr. 2, 1959, in

Hinsdale, Ill.; died Mar. 23, 2004, in Palos Heights, Ill. She was a member of the Burbank (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include her father, Francis Plummer; mother, Ruth (Saidat) Plummer; and brother, Mark Plummer.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Raymond Plummer, Jr., and interment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Evergreen Park, Ill.

BOEHMKE, DONALD J., age 76; born Apr. 5, 1928, in Eau Claire, Wis.; died Apr. 23, 2004, in Eau Claire. He was a member of the Eau Claire Church.

Survivors include his wife, Emma (Foster); daughter, Betsy Sajdak; brothers, Peter and Robert; sister, Donna Barrett; and one grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Brian Carlton, and inurnment was in Lake View Cemetery, Eau Claire.

DONNELLY, ELMA E. (WINN) TODD, age 98; born Oct. 27, 1904, in Danville, Ill.; died Sept. 8, 2003, in Tilton, Ill. She was a member of the Danville Church.

Survivors include her sons, Perry and Harry J. Todd; daughter, Lois West; sisters, Doris Brooks, Marylou Yeager, and Genevieve Citizen; 11 grandchildren; three greatgrandchildren; and three greatgreat-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Larry W. Clonch, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Danville.

HERBER, DAVID, age 86; born Feb. 25, 1918, in Kind, Russia; died Sept. 4, 2004, in Arroyo Grande, Calif. He was a member of the Holly (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Rosalie (Roll); sons, Harry, Erich, and David; brother, Alexander; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Steve Wohlberg, and interment was in Arroyo Grande Cemetery. KOOTAKA, SAJEN L., age 22; born Mar. 15, 1982, in Honolulu, Hawaii; died July 23, 2004, in Sun Prairie, Wis. She was a member of the Green Bay (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her father, Sam; mother, Jeanette (Slang); brothers, Samuel and Alton; and sister, Keala.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Carol Christianson, and interment was in Maple Valley Lutheran Cemetery, Suring, Wis.

LASHER, LYDIA (GILL), age 84; born Oct. 10, 1919, in Newberry Twp., N.D.; died July 17, 2004, in Kalamazoo, Mich. She was a member of the Portage (Mich.) Christian Fellowship Church.

Survivors include her son, Lonny V.; daughter, Cheryl R. Hopkins; brother, Bill Gill; four grandchildren; and two greatgrandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Christian Martin, Brian Manley, and William Cowin, and inurnment was in Caldwell (Idaho) Mausoleum.

MAGRAY, JOYCE A. (CARLSON), age 78; born Aug. 2, 1924, in Iron River, Mich.; died July 23, 2003, in Iron River. She was a member of the Iron River Church.

Survivors include her son, John Jr.; sister, Dorothy Dickson; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Duane O'Ffill, and interment was in Resthaven Cemetery, Iron River.

MEYER, IDA (KUTZ-LANGE), age 104; born Mar. 29, 1900, in Green Grove, Wis.; died May 18, 2004, in Ashland, Wis. She was a member of the Ashland Church.

Survivors include her sons, Gerald, Dean, and John; daughters, Violet Kroll, Lorraine Peterson, Vera Stolberg, and Carolyn Malmberg; and many grand- and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Edward

Bacon, and interment was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Ashland.

POWERS, Losson A., age 92; born Nov. 8, 1911, in Otter Lake, Mich.; died July 15, 2004, in Aiken, S.C. He was a member of the Otter Lake Church.

Survivors include his wife, Ora E. (Garrett); son, Jack E.; daughter, Diane Scherer; brothers, Robert and Samuel; sisters, Christine Hunter and Elaine Sincock; four grandchildren; and nine greatgrandchildren.

Cremation services were conducted by Pastor Manuel de Jesus Vila, and inurnment was in Southlawn Cemetery, Aiken.

POWERS, ORA E. (GARRETT), age 86; born Apr. 7, 1918, in Bay City, Ill.; died July 31, 2004, in Aiken, S.C. She was a member of the Otter Lake (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Jack E.; daughter, Diane Scherer; sister, Hilda Ellis; four grandchildren; and nine greatgrandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Manuel de Jesus Vila, and interment was in Southlawn Cemetery, Aiken.

RADER, OPAL V. (GAYLER), age 92; born July 1, 1911, in Rob Roy, Ind.; died Feb. 8, 2004, in Attica, Ind. She was a member of the Danville (III.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Warren A.; daughter, Karen G. Steiger; sisters, Vivian Trietsch and Joy Nutter; two grandchildren; and one greatgrandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Larry W. Clonch, and interment was in Riverside Cemetery, Attica.

SELF JR., ERVIN W., age 68; born Jan. 16, 1936, in Memphis, Ind.; died May 30, 2004, in Fairfield, Ohio. He was a member of Connersville (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Theresa; son, John; stepson, Jerome H. Brewster; daughter, Mary Ann Raines; and 14 grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Timothy Henry, and interment was in Everton (Ind.) Cemetery.

SICKLER, STANLEY E., age 89; born Dec. 21, 1914, in Fairmont, Minn.; died May 6, 2004, in Amery, Wis. He was a member of the Clear Lake (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Annie (Rhodes); son, Gordon; sister, Elsie Ott; two grandchildren; and four greatgrandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Vassili Khrapov, and interment was in Reeve Cemetery, Clear Lake.

SMEDBERG III, WALTER G., age 39; born Sept. 18, 1964, in Munising, Mich.; died May 9, 2004, in Hastings, Mich. He was a member of the Hastings Church.

Survivors include his wife, Sandra K. (Landheer); son, Scott; daughter, Samantha; father, Walter II; mother, Minnie (Barnes); brother, Steven; and sisters, Pamela Yonkers, Shelly Robillard, and Sara Barnes.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Mark Howard, and interment was in Rutland Twp. Cemetery, Hastings.

SMITH, EDITH A. (EMERY), age 99; born July 2, 1905, in North Chelmsford, Mass.; died July 23, 2004, in Indianapolis, Ind. She was a member of the Indianapolis Southside Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Barbara A. Leacy; sister, Alice Henkel; three grandchildren; and five greatgrandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Sergio Gutierrez, and interment was in Forest Lawn Memory Garden Cemetery, Greenwood, Ind.

SUNDIN, EDITH J. (JOHNSEN), age 82; born June 10, 1921, in Brooklyn, N.Y.; died Jan. 11, 2004, in Hastings, Mich. She was a member of the Hastings Church.

Survivors include her sons, Robert A., William A., and Richard L.; daughters, Bette J. Suhrie and Donna J. Mattson; brother, Frank Johnsen; 13 grandchildren; and one greatgrandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Mark Howard, and interment was in Tranquility (N.J.) Cemetery.

WILSON, HAROLD A., age 92; born Sept. 19, 1911, in Conlogue, Ill.; died May 10, 2004, in Chrisman, Ill. He was a member of the Paris (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Helen L. (Meadows); son, Arnold K.; daughter, Linda A. Lawson; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Larry W. Clonch, and interment was in Grandview (III.) Cemetery.



CLASSIFIED ADS

All ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$25 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$35 per insertion for all others. A form is available at **luc.adventist.org/classifieds** for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order/check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors.

URGENTLY NEEDED

DONATE YOUR CAR, BOAT, TRUCK, OR RV to help Christian education at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, and receive a tax deduction at the same time. Free pickup and no title hassles. Call (866) 822-1200 today!

BOOK DONATIONS URGENTLY NEEDED, especially Adventist books, but non-Adventist are needed as well. Your donations help Great Lakes Adventist Academy students earn their way through school. Call The Cedar Reader at (800) 835-1625 to make arrangements today!

BUILD 1,000 CHURCHES IN 1,000 DAYS. Give thousands of new believers a place to worship in India, the Dominican Republic, and Peru. Build an urgently-needed church for as little as \$3,500. Sponsor a church individually or with your congregation. Call Maranatha Volunteers International at (916) 920-1900 or visit www. maranatha.org.

WANTED TO BUY/FOR SALE: 1– 10,000 used Adventist books, pamphlets, songbooks, Uncle Dan and Aunt Sue tapes, and old catalogs of Adventist books for sale. Please contact John at (269) 781-6379.

HUMAN RESOURCES

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS WANTED IN MONTANA. Live your dream and minister at the same time. Openings throughout the state for physicians, dentists, nurses, and other healthcare professionals. Call the Montana Medical Secretaries for information—Jerry Pogue at (406) 586-8775 or Jay Jutzy, M.D., at (406) 587-4101.

C.D.L. FLATBED DRIVERS NEEDED. No Sabbath work required. Home most weekends. Wellmaintained equipment. Most runs Midwest and South. Small ethical company focusing on honesty and fairness with employees and customers. Looking for drivers with similar values. Good benefit package and pay. For information, contact Commanche Express, Sellersburg, Ind., at (800) 742-5666.

Average Weekly Tithe:

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.

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.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY'S Department of Psychology has position openings-one tenuretrack senior position in clinical psychology; two tenure-track positions in clinical or general/ experimental psychology. Send letter of interest, vitae, representative reprints/ preprints, and three letters of reference to: Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Loma Linda Department of University, Psychology, 11130 Anderson St., Loma Linda, CA 92350.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks director of Alumni Services. Must be devoted to Adventist education, comfortable traveling as university ambassador, and have bachelor's degree with minimum three years experience in Alumni services. Adventists apply and find out more information about position at www.andrews. edu/HR/emp_jobs.html.

Lake Union Conference Tithe Comparison Year-to-Date

35 Sabbaths ending August 31, 2004, compared to 35 Sabbaths ending August 31, 2003								
Number of Members:				Increase	%	Average Tithe Per Member		
6/30/04	6/30/03	Conference	2004	2003	–Decrease	Inc. –Decr.	2004	2003
12,541	12,333	Illinois	6,236,880	6,207,210	29,671	0.48%	497.32	503.30
6,716	6,620	Indiana	4,101,370	4,030,959	70,410	1.75%	610.69	608.91
27,097	26,509	Lake Region	6,956,805	6,947,885	8,920	0.13%	256.74	262.10
24,525	24,538	Michigan	17,391,922	17,281,384	110,538	0.64%	709.15	704.27
<u>6,683</u>	<u>6,646</u>	Wisconsin	<u>3,826,319</u>	<u>3,690,893</u>	<u>135,426</u>	<u>3.67%</u>	<u>572.55</u>	<u>555.36</u>
77,562	76,646	Totals	\$38,513,295	\$38,158,330	\$354,965	0.93%	\$496.55	\$497.85

\$1,100,380 \$1,090,238

Sunset Calendar						
	Nov 5	Nov 12	Nov19	Nov 26	Dec 3	Dec 10
Berrien Springs, Mich.	5:37	5:29	5:23	5:18	5:15	5:14
Chicago	4:42	4:34	4:28	4:23	4:20	4:20
Detroit	5:23	5:15	5:08	5:04	5:01	5:00
Indianapolis	5:40	5:33	5:27	5:23	5:20	5:20
La Crosse, Wis.	4:52	4:44	4:37	4:32	4:29	4:28
Lansing, Mich.	5:26	5:17	5:11	5:05	5:02	5:01
Madison, Wis.	4:46	4:38	4:32	4:27	4:23	4:23
Springfield, Ill.	4:54	4:47	4:41	4:37	4:34	4:34

0.93%

\$10,142

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks assistant to full professor in Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum. Earned C&I doctorate or related field (ABD candidates considered, doctorate completed by end of 2004-2005 academic Demonstration vear). of research presentations and publications. Strong potential for developing scholarships. Teach undergraduate and graduate courses in C&I and education. Adventists apply at www.andrews.edu/HR/ emp_jobs.html.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks program director for oncampus FM radio station. Minimum five years radio experience, preferably some programming. **Bachelors** in communications, music, related field, or equivalent experience. To apply, send a letter of interest, résumé, and cassette demonstrating music announcing style to: Sharon Dudgeon, General Manager, WAUS-FM, Berrien Springs, MI 49104.

UNION COLLEGE seeks a professor of religion to serve as division chair, effective 2005. Dedication to Christ, earned doctorate, and experience both as professor and pastor are all essential. Contact Malcolm Russell, Academic Dean, 3800 South 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506; or e-mail: marussel@ucollege.edu.

REAL ESTATE

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOME FOR SALE: Three-bedroom, twobath home on wooded 2.62 acres, built in 1995, has mountain views, privacy, cathedral ceilings, spacious rooms, great room with fireplace, large master with walk-in closet, Jacuzzi, beautiful kitchen, palladium windows, brick/vinyl siding, heat pump, sunroom. Located near Fletcher, N.C., academy and hospital. For more information, call (828) 685-1995.

THREE-BEDROOM, TWO-BATH HOME FOR SALE: Architect-designed home on 1.20 acres, built in 1996, has mountain views, privacy, cathedral ceilings, spacious rooms, great room with fireplace, large master with walk-in closet, beautiful kitchen, palladium windows, brick/vinylsiding, heat pump, deck. Located near Fletcher, N.C., academy and hospital. For more information, call (828) 685-1995.

ADULT FOSTER CARE HOME FOR SALE: Six-resident family home. Income exceeds expenses. Home located less than ten miles from three Adventist churches and within ten miles of Great Lakes Adventist Academy. For more information, call Don at (989) 833-7272.

IMMACULATE HOME FOR SALE: Great opportunity! Threebedroom brick home, 2,430 sq. ft., including completely finished walkout basement. In addition, there is a 1,560 sq. ft. commercial building. Located on five acres between Berrien Springs and Niles, Mich. For more information, call Mr. Hack at (269) 471-3887; or visit website: www.WidnerRealty. com.

FOR SALE

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A crack of thunder in a cloudless sky? A brilliant flash? Saul the Slaver falls from his horse to the ground, his life changed forever. Jesus' worst enemy is about to become His best friend, and history will flow in a new channel. As Saul the Slaver became Paul the apostle, you are there, watching him and his friends-Peter, Barnabas, Silas, Luke, John-turn the world upside down. Welcome to the acts of the Apostles as you've never known it before. Flat Bible characters suddenly jump into rich 3-D. Ancient stories come alive through the eves of Bible-times children who are right there on the scene. Complete your set today! Series includes: Survivors of the Dark Rebellion, Exile of the Chosen, Victory of the Warrior King, Champions of the King, and War of the Invisibles.



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KNOWING JESUS, a four-part sermon series for Adventist Preaching by Don Schneider, NAD president, is filled with personal stories that demonstrate the joys of knowing Jesus. Call (800) ACN-1119 or visit www. acn.info before Jan. 1 for holiday prices—two-DVD set regularly \$24.95, now \$21.95 plus shipping and handling.

NAD CHRISTMAS SHOWS: Working on your Christmas gift list? NAD Christmas Shows make great gifts. Call (800) ACN-1119 or visit www.acn. info. Choose "The Greatest Gift," "God Comes Near," "Christmas in My Heart," or the 2004 show, "The Wondrous Gift," featuring Sandi Patti. Video/DVD \$24.95.

SINGING AS WE JOURNEY by Christopher Ederesinghe, a book highlighting the stories behind hymns which highlight the Christian's spiritual pilgrimage, is now available at the Berrien Springs Adventist Book Center. For more information, contact the ABC at (877) 227-4800, or call the author at (414) 774-4867.

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Death leads to rebirth of a once hopeless life.

Jackie was a patient in Hinsdale Hospital's muscular dystrophy clinic before becoming a wheelchair-mobile, enthusiastic volunteer. But the death of a cousin troubled her and she asked physical therapist, Sybil, about her spiritual beliefs.

Sybil says she appreciates working in an environment that supports spiritual as well as physical therapy. "I'm not afraid to share my faith, and if it impacts someone in a positive way,

then I appreciate that. It's helpful for them physically and spiritually."

Sybil continued to encourage Jackie, who

now works at Chicago's Hinsdale Hospital and expresses an interest in following a spiritual path—possibly becoming a pastor.

"In the last few months there's been such an enormous change," says Sybil. "There's so much joy. Even though I'm sure she was a happy person all along, the joy is just spilling over and it's quite contagious."

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2005 GREAT CONTROVERSY TOUR, June 9–23, with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt of Andrews University. See prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive. Visit Rome and the Reformation sites in the Waldensian Valleys, Switzerland, Germany, and France. A most exciting experience! For information, call or fax (269) 471-5172; or email: laurel@andrews.edu.

2005/06 OGDEN ADVENTIST TOURS: China and the Yangtze, Sept. 21–Oct. 3, 2005, extension to Hong Kong, Oct. 3–6. South America, including the Chilean Fjords, Feb. 9–Mar. 1, 2006, extension to Iguazu Falls, Mar. 1–4. For information, contact Merlene Ogden at (269) 471-3781 or e-mail: ogden@andrews.edu; or Judy Zimmerman at (269) 471-7004 or e-mail: zim41634@aol.com.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER:

Nov. 14, 4:00 p.m.—Faculty piano recital by Peter Cooper; Nov. 14, 7:00 p.m.—Senior flute recital by Amy Reese; Nov. 29, 7:00 p.m., and Nov. 30, 5:00 **p.m.**—Two piano studio recitals by students of Peter Cooper and Carlos Flores; Dec. 3, 8:00 p.m., and Dec. 5, 4:00 p.m.-The Andrews University choirs, under the direction of Stephen Zork, will present "Welcome Christmas"; Dec. 4, 8:00 p.m.-The Andrews University Wind Symphony, under the direction of Alan Mitchell, will present their Christmas concert; Dec. 5, 7:00 p.m.—A college string studio recital will be given by the students of Jose Delgado and Carla Trynchuk; Dec. 6, 7:00 p.m., and Dec. 7, 5:00 p.m.—Two voice studio recitals will be given by the students of our music faculty; **Dec. 11, 8:00 p.m.**—The Andrews University Orchestra, under the direction of Claudio Gonzalez, will present a concert; **Dec. 12, 7:00 p.m.**—A pre-college string studio recital will be given by the students of Jose Delgado and Carla Trynchuk.

INDIANA

FALL MARRIAGE RETREAT: Enjoy a weekend away to strengthen the foundation of your relationship at the Indiana Fall Marriage Retreat, Nov. 12–14, at the Brown County Inn in Nashville, Ind. Dane and Vicki Griffin will present, "Except the Lord Build the House." For more information, call Ron or Collene Kelly at (317) 984-4376.

LAKE UNION

OFFERINGS:

Nov. 6 Local church budget Nov. 13 Annual Sacrifice

- Nov. 20 Local church budget Nov. 27 Local conference
- advance
- SPECIAL DAYS:
- Nov. 6 Stewardship Sabbath
- Nov. 7–13 Week of Prayer
- Nov. 20 Human Relations Sabbath
- Nov. 27 Welcome Home Sabbath

ADVENTIST DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING: The Lake Union Conference is sponsoring a training event for those interested in Adventist Disaster Response. The event will be held Nov. 19-21 at Timber Ridge Camp in Ind. Peter Neri, Indiana Conference ministerial director, will be the devotional and Sabbath speaker. Royce Snyman, Lake Union disaster response director, will be the trainer. Subjects taught will include, "Train the Trainer" and "Disaster Response Steps 1–4." It is also a great time for fellowship and brainstorming about how to help people in times of disaster. To register, call Kathryn Ratliff at (812) 339-7891 or e-mail her at ckr@kiva. net, or call Julie at the Indiana Conference office, (317) 844-6201. There is a charge to cover lodging at the camp, meals, and materials.

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

NEW ORLEANS (LA.) FIRST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY: Nov. 12-13 is a special time to reunite with old friends and meet new ones as we celebrate our 30th year at the present location. Elder Jim Gilley will be the guest speaker. This special event is also an evangelistic tool-we plan to invite those who have stopped attending for one reason or another and hope they will reconnect with their church family. We also look forward to having some members and pastors who have moved away come back to fellowship with us. For more information, contact David Levin at (504) 885-7115; or fax: (504) 831-7363.

HELP US 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.



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Sitting in the back corner of called upon wore off, I proceeded to the classroom, I was wading give my opinion on the discussion. somewhere between boredom and As I look forward to my content. The hood of my sweatshirt

graduation, I will forever remember that as one of the defining moments in my college experience. To this teacher, I was more than just an enrollment number or an owner of her syllabus. She was willing to look past what everyone else

examination of my life I had decided to give college a second chance, despite the fact that my attitude and my actions failed to show it at the present time. Nevertheless, at this point in the semester I was content with just getting by, passing through classes undetected and somewhat unnoticed. If I could go through the entire semester with a minimal amount of effort. I would be in Then came something I didn't expect. The teacher looked into my corner of the room, past my uninterested disposition, called me by name and simply asked "What

do you think?" For a moment I was taken aback. Did she not receive the memo? Had she not been informed that I was taking it easy and should not be asked for questions and comments? Apparently not. So, after the initial shock of being

was pulled over my head. At

After some careful re-

listened anyway.

"heaven."

that moment, I didn't care what

the teacher was saying but half-

Pierre Quinn

saw and give me something that I appeared to not want—an opportunity to learn.

The Greatest Teacher of all works much the same way. Despite how we look to the rest of the world, or the facade that we put up for everyone to see, Christ looks past all things with the desire to give us what we need. He looks for us no matter where we hide: corners of classrooms, with our friends, behind the television, on the Internet. He wants to give us the opportunity to be with Him and be more like Him. Even if we don't want His love, He offers it anyway. He calls upon us and asks us to learn from Him, with the promise to remove our hoods or disguises, and covers us with His blood.

Teachers in classrooms have the ability to look at the potential of the mind. Jesus has the ability to look at the potential of the heart.

I am grateful to still be learning from both.

Pierre Quinn is a 23-year-old college senior. He is majoring in communication at Andrews University and is a member of the Pontiac Southside Church.

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DISCOVERING NTIAL

BY PIERRE QUINN

Adults Speak Their Mind

Profiles of Youth

Tyler Day, a 2004 Battle Creek Academy graduate, is an inspiration to everyone who knows him. He perseveres through trials and pushes himself beyond what would normally be expected of a young person. Tyler is battling terminal cancer that has forced him into a wheel chair and required four surgeries over his high-school years.



When most students were juggling school, homework, friends, jobs, and activities, Tyler was coping with daily physical therapy, countless doctor appointments, and a barrage of medicines and treatments. Tyler still came to school even when he was in incredible pain, and used every spare minute to do homework as he pushed toward graduation.

Through all of this, Tyler has gained an incredible faith and uplifts God in a way that touches the hearts of his family, friends, and countless others who have come to know him because of this disease. Tyler's brother, Seth, shared that "they [Tyler's family] have been able to see God's purpose for Tyler's life as letters came in from people from all over whose lives have been changed as they witnessed Tyler's hard work, persevering spirit, and love for God."

Tori Steely, also a 2004 Battle Creek Academy graduate, always pushed herself to know more. A motivated National Honor Society student, she took both Advanced Math and Calculus in the same year to better prepare herself for college, and excelled in both.



Tori was one of 30 teenagers chosen from the Battle Creek area to be a member of the Youth Alliance Committee, an organization that works "to empower and improve the lives of young people through philanthropy or learning and demonstrating the desire to help humankind."

Tori's love for her fellow students also made her

Tori Steely

the perfect choice for Student Association president; Tori made many contributions toward school spirit through this position.

Tori was involved in many different spiritual activities, including campus ministries and youth vespers at Battle Creek Tabernacle where she attends. Her love for God shows through in all areas of her life. Tori believes "the most important thing I learned is how to use my talents for God." She credits her teachers with encouraging her to use her Godgiven talents, showing her how to use them in the best possible way, and allowing her to learn and grow from mistakes.

Tori is attending Andrews University, where she is studying Biology/ Pre-medicine, and plans to be a pediatrician.

Address Correction

Members from the Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin conferences should now contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all Lake Union Herald address changes. Members of Indiana and Lake Region conferences and paid subscribers should continue to contact the Lake Union Herald office with their address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right. Illinois: (630) 734-0922, ext. 1203 Michigan: (517) 316-1568

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Members outside the Lake Union may subscribe by sending a check for \$8.50 (per year) to P.O. Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

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