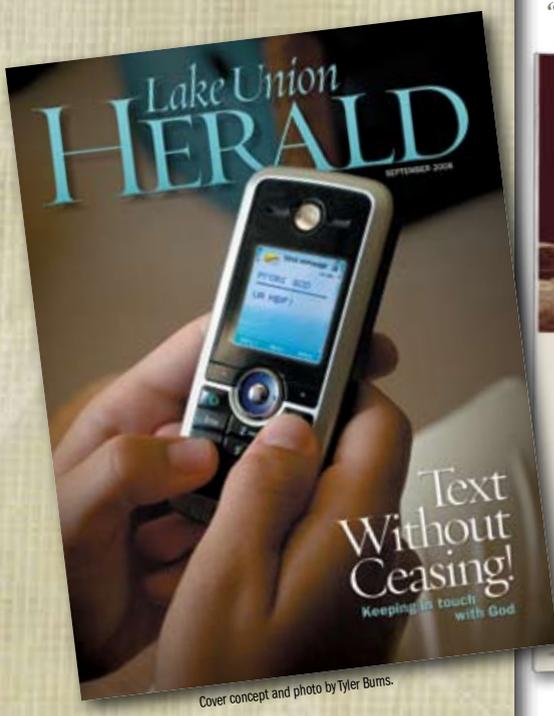


# Lake Union HERALD

SEPTEMBER 2008



Text  
Without  
Ceasing!  
Keeping in touch  
with God



Cover concept and photo by Tyler Burns.

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



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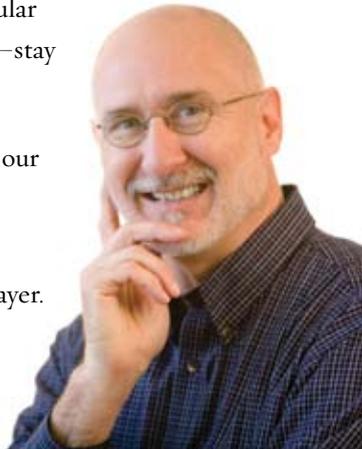
*in this issue...*

**W**e live in a communication world. We are connected, networked, blogged and messaged, even while running to and fro. Secular society has finally discovered and embraced an old idea—stay in touch.

The ultimate communication is staying in touch with our Creator. In this issue we take a fresh look at prayer.

I trust you will especially appreciate my friend Alvin VanderGriend's wisdom and practical experiences in prayer.

*Gary Burns*  
Gary Burns, Editor



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# GUEST EDITORIAL

BY RODNEY GROVE, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

We asked Rodney Grove to write the September editorial in keeping with the bylaws, which call for the executive secretary to carry out the responsibilities of the president in the president's absence.—*The editors*



## No Dead Spots

BY RODNEY GROVE

I hate it. No, that's not exactly right. I really, really hate it. In the past, fingernails scratching on a slate chalkboard was the worst sound a person could hear. For those who are too young to have experienced that agony, slate boards came before blackboards, which came before green boards, which preceded the nice marker boards we have in classrooms today. The sound of fingernails or metal or even hard chalk on a slate board was enough to make your hair stand straight out and your body involuntarily curl into the fetal position.

Technological advances, however, have aided cell phone companies in coming up with something even worse. You may never have heard it, but in the Berrien Springs, Michigan, area it happens more often than we like. Make a call and the result could be a loud, shrill, ear-piercing, sinus-clearing, eyeball-watering, spine-tingling, body numbing noise that you can't turn off or get the phone far enough from your ear to avoid. Looking at the screen to see the reason you were tormented, you simply find the words "call failed." How the tower can get that message to the phone when the phone can't get a number to the tower is beyond me!

To get help, I have even looked over my shoulder at the network that follows me everywhere (you've seen the commercials with all the people). They just look embarrassed. I inform them that it's an emergency; they just hang their heads. I tell them it's an important business call; they just shrug their shoulders. I explain that I just want to talk to my Best Friend, and they raise their palms in the direction of the nearest cell tower. But nothing changes—call failed!

Fortunately, I belong to another network. It has worked for me in the jungles of Haiti and virtually deserted islands in the Pacific, the Himalayas in Nepal and the Vatican in Rome, the wasteland of the American West and the crowded subways of our giant cities, and it has never dropped a call. The technology, though ancient, is simple to use, yet unmatched by the latest services and gadgets. Its simplicity, however, is actually so intricately complex that when used, the only explanation is, "It's a miracle!"

Just as amazing is the cost. It is so priceless I could never pay for it; yet the full, deluxe, unlimited hours, no-roaming charge service comes absolutely free. And no taxes, hidden charges or fees! Every call goes through, and I have never gotten a busy signal, voice mail recording or that terrifying "dropped signal" noise. On this network, every call is a priority and immediately gets through, from catastrophic emergencies to a child's bedtime prayer. And my Best Friend always has time to chat. The Prayer Network never fails.

# Welcome NEW MEMBERS

**Indiana** **Alison Grubb** attended church school through sixth grade, and has loved Jesus longer than she can remember. And both sides of her family are Seventh-day Adventists. But there was a problem. For some reason, Alison delayed making a commitment through baptism.

As time passed, Alison's attention to extra curricular activities with her school friends were her primary focus. Eventually,



*Shortly before a mission trip to Jamaica, Alison Grubb (left) made a decision to give her life fully to Jesus. She was excited to be baptized in the ocean while in Jamaica. Also pictured: Fernando Ortiz, pastor of the Bloomington and Bedford Adventist churches in Indiana*

she began attending a church with her friends and realized something was missing, and Alison began thinking about the fact that she had never been baptized. Not knowing how to go about it, Alison reasoned that she knew she loved Jesus and believed He was her Savior, and was once again satisfied in delaying her baptism.

During the past two years, the Holy Spirit led Alison to feel that something was still missing. There was an emptiness that she couldn't explain. Starting college only made this emptiness grow stronger, and Alison was depressed about where her life was going. Hoping to find answers to her spiritual needs, Alison began to worship at the Bloomington Church when her schedule would allow it. As she worshiped there, Alison came to believe life would continue to be empty until she made a full commitment to Jesus Christ. She kept those thoughts inside for fear of what family and others might think. Alison knew she had made some bad decisions and had lived a life apart from what she knew to be right. She was uncertain how she would be accepted. It was important to Alison that people not judge her by her mistakes, but by the kind of person she wanted to be. So Alison kept her love for Jesus inside, until she realized the judgments of others did not matter. God was the only One who understood her struggles, and He was the only One who really mattered.

Alison's turnaround came one day when the Bloomington Church pastor, Fernando Ortiz, invited her to join a mission trip to help orphans in Jamaica. Alison had always wanted to join a mission trip, but her schedule had prevented it. Now, the pastor's invitation to serve was the little push she needed to change her lifestyle and make a difference. Eliminating everything that stood between Jesus and her gave Alison the confidence to ask her parents if it was possible to go, even though she believed God would provide the funds.

Once plans for her Jamaican mission trip were finalized, God impressed Alison with the thought: "Tell someone about what you have been keeping inside—of your love for Christ and desire to be baptized." Once Alison spoke her decision out loud, she was determined to give her heart to Jesus in Jamaica, and be baptized in its beautiful ocean. She excitedly told her pastor about her decision before telling her parents and friends. Alison wanted to surprise them. But shortly afterward, she was so overwhelmed with joy and happiness, she was unable to keep the news from them.

Alison said, "Giving my heart to the Lord was the best decision I ever made. Committing my life to Christ has filled my emptiness as I continue to learn more about Christ and grow closer to Him each day. I want to be spiritually stronger so that others can see Him in me."

Alison's advice to those who desire to give their hearts to Jesus would be to speak up no matter how afraid you might be. If you love Jesus, tell someone. It's never too late to give your heart to Christ, no matter what your age. The Lord is willing to give you the gift of His love. Your greatest gift in return is to commit your life to Him. Let Jesus Christ fill your heart and lead you on the path to eternal life. Alison did, and her words can't express how incredible life has become with Jesus by her side.

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Alison Grubb, Bloomington Church member, as shared with Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*

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To read more about the mission trip to Jamaica, see page seven in this issue.

**Indiana** Who was I (**Pamela Jean Wollenmann**) and what was my mission? My quest for acceptance and a purpose in life was my first big search. During most of my life, I assumed God was a big entity somewhere in the universe.

My awareness of God grew when I was eight years old. Mother took me, my brother and sister to get baptized and "saved" at a riverside service. I went into the water, and it

confirmed something deep inside. I was later thrilled when I received a certificate that said I was a member of God's kingdom. It helped me feel Christ's love and acceptance.

Mother kept trying to influence our spiritual walk. Our family devotedly went to Sunday school. Sometimes we stayed over night at my aunt's house, and the church bus picked us up. I can still remember I was the only child to recite the Ten Commandments, and receive a ten dollar reward. I thought, *Wow! These people are nice.*

As I grew older and away from my innocence, I began experimenting with life. I had low self-esteem because of feelings of being ashamed. I felt more like a nobody when we began attending a parochial school. Because we didn't

attend worship services with the other students, they mocked and teased us; we were "heathens" to them. Worldly activities consumed my time and separated me from the spiritual.

Provisionally, my mother, Virginia Patton, received a mailed invitation to a seminar, "Prophecies of End-Time Events." It was from the Seventh-day



*Tim Thomas (left), Huntingburg Church head deacon, studied the Bible with Pam Wollenmann (right). As she got better acquainted with Tim and the other Huntingburg Church members, Pam said, "I learned these people were just the kind of church family I needed."*

Adventists. We had only heard bits and pieces about the book of Revelation so our family wanted to attend. I didn't comprehend too much, but decided to just go and listen. I was happy my mother was converted and convinced by what she learned from the Bible lectures. She became a Seventh-day Adventist and has remained one for more than 25 years.

After I married and moved away, I again experimented with various things. On that path, I didn't have time to think about God, prayer or going to church. Several times religious people came to my door and invited me to take Bible studies. Although I was thankful for their visits, I wasn't ready to give up my sinful lifestyle. Somehow, I always felt God was close by, faithfully watching over us, even though I didn't acknowledge Him.

One Sabbath in 2007, I decided to attend my mother's church in Huntingburg, Indiana. I had always believed what her church taught came closest to the truth. The members revealed the Bible in their lives and words without forcing

it on me. Soon, my husband and I started consistently attending the Adventist church. My search for God had begun in earnest. We attended their seminars and took Bible lessons from the head deacon, Tim Thomas. I learned these people were just the kind of church family I needed.

Last spring, Justin Childers, Huntingburg Church pastor, conducted a series of meetings called *ShareHim*; we decided to attend. When the meetings concluded, I requested baptism. Today I am so happy that Jesus Christ is my personal Savior. I want to share my witness to family and friends. By God's grace, I hope to have a part in introducing them to the Kingdom of God.

*Pam Wollenmann, member, Huntingburg Church, as told to Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, Lake Union Herald*

**Wisconsin** Aaron Kaplan was left questioning his belief in a loving God after having a negative religious experience as a teenager. Even after marrying Michele (who had grown up in the Seventh-day Adventist Church), Aaron was reluctant to get involved with any religion.

After coming to the realization that all creation tells of an amazing and loving Creator, Aaron eventually gave his heart to Jesus. Soon afterward, he learned more about Jesus, his loving Creator, and the gifts He intended for us. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Aaron realized that one of those gifts was the blessing of the Sabbath. Through careful study of the Bible, he discovered that God had put the Sabbath blessing in only one day—the seventh-day. Aaron began looking for a church where he could worship with others who believed the same way.

Last August, Aaron, Michele and their daughter Eleora visited The Shepherd's House in Wausau, Wisconsin, and were immediately drawn to the spirit of openness and welcoming atmosphere there. Aaron wanted to be baptized right away, but waited for the arrival of the new pastor, Rowell Puedivan. Aaron was happy to be baptized on Sabbath, February 2.

*Diana Spieth, communications leader, The Shepherd's House, with Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, Lake Union Herald*



*When visiting The Shepherd's House in Wausau, Wisconsin, the Kaplan family was immediately drawn to the atmosphere they found there. Aaron Kaplan was baptized on February 2. Also pictured (from left): Michele Kaplan and Eleora*

## Zach's Bloomers

BY GARY BURNS

Maryann and I really celebrated life this past Sabbath. Since Maryann's bout with melanoma several years ago, we have made the Berrien County (Michigan) Fairgrounds Relay for Life an annual event. If you had stopped by our booth, you would have met some highly enthusiastic and motivated high school students—Zach's Bloomers.

We had known a few of Zach's friends from previous years, but this year there were a lot of new faces. We learned from Kris Zandarski, the organizer of Zach's booth, that her niece and nephews, Ryan and Sean London, and Jeremy and Allison Zandarski, brought their high school prayer group to help raise awareness and money to fight the disease that took the life of Zach 13 years ago.



*This year Ryan London was co-captain of Zach's Bloomers, and he invited his high school prayer group to join Zach's Bloomers. They raised more than \$1,000 toward the Bloomers' total of \$5,600 for cancer research. From left: Ryan London; Jeremy, Allison, Sue and Kris Zandarski.*

Zach and his brother Ben were a couple of "my kids" when I was their youth pastor, and their parents, Paul and Rhoda Layman, are still dear friends.

Zach was one of those special kids who was full of life, had a great sense of humor, and made relationships a priority. You could usually find him smack dab in the middle of whatever was happening. His friends were like family.

Kris's son, Matt, was Zach's best friend, and her daughter, Nicole, adopted Zach's puppy at his request. Zach's friends became a major source of encouragement and support throughout his battle with the insidious disease. After his death, they have continued to support Paul, Rhoda and Ben.

With a background in nursing and a desire to do everything she could to prevent cancer from taking the life of someone else's son or daughter, Rhoda began looking for ways she could make a difference. That's when she and Kris learned of the first Relay for Life, held in St. Joseph, the summer after Zach's death.

Rhoda has taken a major role in its development from a little event at a ball field until now, where it fills the Berrien County Fairgrounds. For the past several years, they have received national recognition for having the highest participation per capita in the nation—participants like Sean and the prayer group. These dedicated teens were responsible for raising \$1,000 for cancer research in Zach's name.

They held church events, conducted a \$50 challenge to skip coffee or sodas, worked with local businesses, and they prayed.

We were curious how the prayer group got started. "When my kids were in high school," Kris said, "I wished that there was a group of students who could encourage and support each other with prayer. So I began to pray. Now I see that my prayers are being answered."

The students started meeting at the Berrien Springs High School flagpole, and it has grown to include much more than that. They also meet after school, sometimes at churches or homes, to pray for each other, their friends, families and community.

Prayer is making a significant difference in the lives of these teens, and it's made a difference at the Berrien Springs High School. Pray for them, and with them, as they reach out to their school and community this year. And remember to pray for and encourage someone you know whose life has been impacted by cancer.

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





## JAMAICA: Orphans, Evangelism and Changed Lives!

BY MELISSA KAST

**O**n May 25, a group of 27 missionaries from Bloomington, Bedford, Martinsville and Indianapolis, Indiana, boarded a plane bound for Montego Bay, Jamaica. Our goal was to share Jesus with the children in two different orphanages, and our theme for the week was “Jesus our Forever Friend.”

After six hours on two different airplanes and four hours in a bus, the mission team arrived at the East Jamaica Seventh-day Adventist Conference office in Kingston, Jamaica. Though it was late, the group received a warm and friendly welcome from conference officials, members of the Macedonia Adventist Church, the local church with whom the mission team would work, and other members of the Adventist community. Thanks to the diligent preparation of the on-site coordinator for the trip, the group was quickly divided into smaller groups and sent to seven local host homes, where they stayed during their time in Kingston.

During the next week, the mission team divided their time between several different projects in the morning. Projects included painting and tiling the Macedonia Adventist Church, painting benches, playground equipment and the surrounding walls at Glen Hope Place of Safety Nursery, and whitewashing the trees and rocks in Glen Hope Place of Safety.

Each afternoon the mission team went to Maxfield Park Children's Home, the largest orphanage in Jamaica, housing approximately 120 children ranging in ages from 0 to 18. There they taught the children songs, used puppet shows to illustrate moral lessons such as obeying the rules and the importance of forgiveness, reenacted Bible stories such as Joseph and Esther, and played games and created crafts with the children. What a blessing it was to see the children learn the songs about Jesus! Many of the children learned to pray for the very first time that week.



Short-term missionaries from Indiana pause for a photo at the Montego Bay Airport in Jamaica.

Each evening the mission team worked with the Macedonia Church in community evangelism. Seven youth from the mission team and Fernando Ortiz, mission trip leader, preached on different nights on a variety of topics. The week of evangelism culminated on Sabbath as the mission team wor-

shipped with the Macedonia Church members and visitors from the community who attended the evangelistic meetings nightly. What a blessing it was to see young people give their hearts to the Lord and choose to follow Jesus into the watery grave of baptism. Three baptized were members of our mission team, who decided in Jamaica to commit their lives fully to the Lord.

All too soon the trip was over, and mission team members said their goodbyes. No member of the mission team will ever be the same. We are grateful for the hospitality and love by the children and the members of the Macedonia Church. This trip touched our hearts, as we realized the joy that comes from sharing Jesus with those around us. Our team has returned with deeper appreciation for our families and love and support that we so often take for granted, and a new zeal to spread the gospel of Jesus with those we meet. Each soul is precious whether young or old, and it is our calling to be missionaries to everyone we come in contact with.



Melissa Kast is a member of the Bloomington Church in Indiana.

For more pictures and testimonies of the trip, visit [www.ImmersionMissionTrips.com](http://www.ImmersionMissionTrips.com).



# FAMILY TIES

## PART I

# Speaking the Truth in Love

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

**M**ost of us are often fearful. We fear being misunderstood. We fear revealing our true feelings and emotions. We don't want to overstep what is "acceptable" to say. We don't want to make anyone uncomfortable. We don't want to be rejected. Because of these fears, we find it difficult to risk talking about what matters the most in life. This is often the case when someone we love is facing a serious medical crisis.

Family members aren't the only ones who find these conversations difficult. A study of cancer patients showed that only 37 percent of doctors tell their patients how long they have to live, even when the patients ask for the information. Many doctors wrongly assume that talking about death will depress their patients, even though another recent survey showed those advanced cancer patients who discussed death with their doctors were no more likely to be depressed than others. However, only 31 percent of patients in that study even had such talks with their doctors!<sup>1</sup>

Sadly, people can suffer from far more than the ravages of cancer. More than 20 percent of Medicare patients who have advanced cancer start a new chemotherapy regimen two weeks before they die. Unfortunately, aggressive, painful therapies that have no hope of helping a person extend their life for more than a short time often overwhelm the one with the critical illness, as well as their family.

We can be both emotional and practical resources to those whom we love. For example, for someone considering continued chemotherapy, it could be helpful to share this four-point scale.<sup>2</sup> A person at 0 or 1 may be a good candidate. If a person is at a 3 or 4, they usually should not receive chemotherapy because they will have little chance of benefit and experience more adverse effects.

**0** Fully active

**1** Restricted in physically strenuous activity but ambulatory (able to walk) and able to carry out light or sedentary work, such as light housework or office work

**2** Ambulatory and capable of all self-care but unable to



carry out any work activities; up and about more than 50 percent of waking hours

**3** Capable of only limited self-care; confined to bed or chair more than 50 percent of waking hours

**4** Completely disabled; cannot carry on any self-care; totally confined to bed or chair

These should be considered along with the type of cancer a person has, what organs are affected, the person's age, health and the adverse effects of treatment.

When the prognosis is poor, most really want to know how long they will likely live, what things will likely happen to them, and if there are other things they should be doing. They want to know how to put their estate and finances in order and how to pass on to their family important things about their own life.

If we were willing to take the first steps to begin the really important conversations, I wonder if some would be better prepared to face the end of their life on this Earth and better recognize that there is much good work to do in the last few weeks or months of a life. Continuing next month we will explore how to begin the really important conversations and how to be sure that we hear, and say, the most important things ... speaking the truth in love.

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

1. Harrington, S. E., & Smith, T. J., "When Is Enough, Enough? The Role of Chemotherapy at the End of Life." *JAMA*. 2008;299(22):2667-2678. Retrieved from [http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2008-06-10-end-of-life-cancer\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2008-06-10-end-of-life-cancer_N.htm).

2. Zeller, J. L., Cancer Chemotherapy. *JAMA Patient Page*, June 11, 2008. 299:22. Retrieved from <http://jama.ama-assn.org/>.

Food additives maintain food quality for an extended shelf life.

Alphabet soup has some value but a low risk.

## Chemical Cuisine

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Strange sounding words—certainly not part of our everyday, normal household conversation. These names appear on the ingredient list on our canned food and food cartons: polysorbate 60, sodium benzoate, polydextrose, alginate, red 40, BHT, maltodextrin, potassium sorbate, sodium bisulfite and many others.

What do these food additives do? Are they safe? Do they put our health at risk?

Food additives are substances added in small amounts to our food for specific purposes. They are used to preserve the flavor of food, improve its taste and appearance, modify its texture, keep it from spoiling, or to improve the nutritional value of the food. Food additives, such as salt and sugar, have been used for centuries to preserve food. With so many processed foods available now, there are today many new food additives.

Food additives, which are regulated by the FDA (U.S. Food and Drug Administration), are classified according to their function. Emulsifiers such as lecithin and diglycerides allow water and oil in mayonnaise and margarine to keep from separating. Substances such as MSG (monosodium glutamate) and guanylates are used as flavor enhancers. Anticaking agents such as sodium aluminosilicate keep dried milk powder and salt from forming lumps.

Many food colorings are available to replace colors lost during preparation, or to make food look more attractive. Some of these are natural pigments such as annatto, beta-carotene, turmeric and beet juice. There are also a number of blue, red and yellow artificial coloring agents, some of which have been linked with allergic reactions and possibly cancer.

Thickening agents, like alginate, are commonly used to increase the viscosity of a food. Mayonnaise, yogurt and soy milk are thickened by vegetable gums such as carrageenan, or xanthan gum, while jams are thickened with pectin. Propylene glycol is a commonly used humectant that prevents a food from drying out. Preservatives like potassium sorbate inhibit food spoilage due to microorganisms.

Sometimes vitamins and minerals are added to food to improve the nutritional value of a food. Successful fortification programs include the addition of iodine to salt; the addition of B vitamins and iron to grain products; and the fortification of dairy and dairy substitutes with vitamins A and D. Sweeteners other than sugar, such as sorbitol and isomalt, and low calorie sweeteners like sucralose and aspartame, are commonly used to help to reduce calories and assist in the management of diabetes.

There is a much greater health risk from eating foods contaminated by disease-causing bacteria than from consuming food additives. One would not expect to consume excessive amounts of any particular additive, since different food additives are added in small amounts in different foods. While certain additives may be best to avoid, most appear to be safe. Eating home prepared food would greatly reduce one's intake of food additives.

There is a much greater health risk from eating foods contaminated by disease-causing bacteria than from consuming food additives. One would not expect to consume excessive amounts of any particular additive, since different food additives are added in small amounts in different foods. While certain additives may be best to avoid, most appear to be safe. Eating home prepared food would greatly reduce one's intake of food additives.

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



# EXTREME GRACE

## The Awesome Power of Listening Ears

BY DICK DUERKSEN

**One of the oldest forms of communication—listening,** is also one of the most important.

### Rich's Ears

"Call Ken," God said.

"But he can't talk to me!" Rich responded. "He has tonsil cancer and can't speak at all."

"Call Ken." God was insistent. "Call him now."

Rich sat at his desk and wondered how to have a conversation with his good friend. He thought about driving to Ken's house. After all, Ken only lived 60 miles away. But his calendar of appointments didn't allow the trip right now.

Then he grabbed his cell phone, found Ken's number and sent a brief text message. "ILvU. OK 2day?"

Moments later his cell buzzed.

"Gud 2 hear. Better. Thx."

The text-message conversation continued for months, often several times each day, never more than a few contracted words and symbols, but symbols that became an important part of Ken's recovery.

"No one will ever know how much Rich's notes meant to me," Ken says. "They gave me hope and encouragement when I needed it most. When God knew I needed support, He called Rich ... and Rich was wonderful!"

Ken and Rich. Two middle-age professionals using text-messaging to bring God's presence into each other's life.

### Amy's Ears

Cindy was a teenager in Amy's Youth Sabbath school class—a happy, gregarious, smiling girl whose sense of humor made her the life of every party. The kids in the youth group were in and out of Amy's house often, preparing Sabbath's program, making cookies for residents of a local nursing home, and talking about everything teenagers need to talk about.

Several years before, Amy and her family had accepted God's invitation to be a "safe home" for teens, "a non-judgmental haven where the love of Christ would lead all relation-

ships and where Heaven's Hope would be like air and light."

So when Cindy stood at Amy's door one afternoon, Amy immediately saw that she was "especially needed today."

Amy listened through Cindy's tears and heard the story of a young girl whose unexpected pregnancy was destroying her life. Amy listened long, and with Cindy's permission brought Cindy's parents into the conversation. Acceptance, repentance, forgiveness and love flowed freely around Amy's kitchen table.

The next day Amy called the church leader and told him she was planning a baby shower for Cindy and would need to use the church fellowship hall in about three weeks.

"This is very unorthodox," she was told. "You'll have to get permission from the Board. Cindy's not married, you know."

Amy knew. And with help from Cindy, her parents and friends, prepared a most convincing case to present to the Board. She practiced the presentation many times and gave an impassioned appeal to the Board.

And was turned down. Flat. "We would be condoning sin," they said.

So Amy called Rebekka, a soul-mate who lived three states away, told her the story, and asked if Cindy could move in.

"This afternoon would be fine!" Rebekka volunteered.

The Sabbath Cindy and Amy arrived to worship in Rebekka's church the entire sanctuary was decked out for a baby shower, the choir sang lullabies, and the platform was covered with gifts for Cindy and her child.

"The greatest gifts," Cindy remembers, "were the hugs!"

"I think everyone in the church hugged me at least twice," Cindy says. "I knew I was OK."

### Our Ears

Xtreme Grace. Maybe it's God texting us, "ILvU. Show someone how it feels."

Dick Duerksen is the official "storyteller" for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact Dick at [dduerksen@maranatha.org](mailto:dduerksen@maranatha.org).

# Prayerwalking

BY RUTHIE JACOBSEN

One Sabbath morning a friend and I were in New York, and we were out prayerwalking in Harlem. We noticed a man standing in front of his apartment building, so we approached him and asked if there was anything he would like for us to pray about for him. After we had prayed for his wife and daughter as he had requested, I sensed that he had some other needs.

“Do you know this God we’ve just been talking to?” I asked.

“No. I really don’t, but I appreciated your prayers for my family,” he responded.

He seemed open to our conversation, so I continued, “He created you, and loves you, and that’s why we’re here.”

Then I said, “God really loves you and wants you to be in Heaven, but if He should ask you why He should let you in, how would you answer?”

“Well, I don’t suppose I have any reason I could give Him. I’ve tried to do my best, but I can’t say I deserve Heaven,” he said.

“I don’t deserve to be there, either, sir,” I said.

He looked at me with big eyes, and I could see that he was ready for what I was explaining.

“No one could ever make it to Heaven if Someone hadn’t made sure there was a way,” I said. I told him that Jesus’ death was what was necessary to take care of the sins of the world—his and mine included.

“This is a gift, and there is no way we can be good enough to earn it. But we do have to choose to accept it, and to ask Him to forgive us and to come in and take charge in our lives,” I explained.

“Is there any reason why *you* wouldn’t want to accept this free Gift?” I asked.

“No,” he said, thoughtfully, “I need that Gift.”

“Then we need to pray again, don’t we?” I asked.

He repeated the sinner’s prayer after me, and I am convinced he meant it. We talked briefly about his new family—the family of God. Then he shook my hand enthusiastically, and thanked me for stopping by his home.



We invited him to come to the church, and he said he’d be there. He was beaming as we walked away, and we were thrilled to have watched the Holy Spirit transacting His great business of salvation.

Prayerwalking is warfare. It is contending with evil. We are literally stepping out from a defensive, fortress mentality and coming physically near to the people whom we know Jesus died to save.

Prayerwalking has three different approaches or levels. First, it’s just walking down the sidewalk, praying for others,

taking cues from whatever or whoever we see, and asking the Lord to guide our prayers and to open the hearts of those for whom we’re praying. You probably won’t actually make contact with them at this time, but you’re praying and taking them before the throne of the universe.

There is a second type of prayerwalking, involving some contact with those for whom you’re praying. Maybe you see someone in their yard and have an opportunity to visit and introduce yourself; you might tell them that you’re just out walking and praying. You could ask them if they have any special prayer needs so you can be specific in your prayers.

The third level of ministry in prayerwalking is to be alert for someone you can lead to Christ, as the occasion presents itself. This doesn’t happen as often, but it can make obvious that this casual walk is really Kingdom business.

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Ruthie Jacobsen has been coordinator of Prayer Ministries for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, North American Division, since 1995. She and her husband Don are semi-retired, and live in north Georgia. This article is an excerpt from *Bridges 101*, Ruthie’s eleventh book.

## Waiting for Wings

BY DIANE THURBER

*“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint” (Isaiah 40:31).*

**D**on Hales sat in a wheelchair at the Indiana Camp Meeting, greeting those who came by with one of the widest smiles and friendliest handshakes possible. He sat, because an unfortunate ultralight accident on August 23, 1994, left him a paraplegic; subsequent infections required amputation of his legs. It is a miracle Don is alive, but a more incredible story is how Don lives despite adversity.

A senior at Andrews University at the time of the accident, Don put his education on hold to rebuild his life, but eventually Don resumed classes and graduated in 1998. He sought meaning and purpose for his life. Though a fully rated pilot and aircraft mechanic, Don found many roadblocks as he pursued his dreams for an aviation career. Eventually, Don was hired as an administrative intern at the St. Joseph County Airport Authority. While there, he reviewed policies for compliance with the Disabilities Act, among many other valuable contributions.

Don still flies planes using hand controls. He is one of approximately 700 disabled pilots around the world, many of whom are members of International Wheelchair Aviators. Don also speaks at schools and churches about his experience and about disability awareness.

Recently, Don joined his mother, Barbara Hales, in a ministry. Each week, they offer a church service for residents of a retirement home. Don finds this experience rewarding: “This ministry has afforded me an opportunity to improve my computer skills as we produce a weekly church bulletin and give the sermon via PowerPoint.”

Don and Barbara meet weekly for an hour, “with an average attendance of 15-18 residents,” according to Barbara. Those who attend are predominantly members of another faith. The worship service the Hales offer includes Bible



reading, hymn singing, prayer time, special music and a sermon. Don and Barbara also offer a communion service each month. They are presenting Bible truths to the residents as they uplift Jesus. Don and Barbara are planting seeds for the Holy Spirit to water. Lives are being changed.

Though Don has experienced many miracles since the accident, he has also battled deep depression and contemplated suicide. He acknowledges that many things have been taken from him, but knows God is leading in his life. Don said the Lord has given him “peace in the midst of many storms.”

Don encourages others to realize, “you’re not just living for yourself. Many other people have a valued stake in your life and well-being. Keep God first in your life. In times of difficulty, remember to claim the promises of this faith that you hold or claim so dearly. My current situation is not the end of my story. It doesn’t matter that I don’t understand the immediate, as long as I understand God can give me the grace and strength to make it through each day. And I believe that Jesus is coming soon to ‘make all things new,’ including me.”

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Diane Thurber is the assistant communication director of the Lake Union Conference.

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To learn more about Don Hale’s ministry and how to assist, readers may contact Don at [chairpilot@embarqmail.com](mailto:chairpilot@embarqmail.com), or call 574-654-7320.



## EL LLAMADO AL MINISTERIO

POR CARMELO MERCADO

*“Los jóvenes han de entrar en el ministerio como colaboradores de Jesús, para compartir su abnegación y espíritu de sacrificio y proclamar las palabras del Maestro: “Yo me santifico a mí mismo, para que también ellos sean santificados en verdad” “...Mire bien de frente su vocación el joven que entró en el ministerio, y resuelva consagrar su tiempo, fuerza e influencia a la obra, bien enterado de las condiciones bajo las cuales sirve al Redentor” (Obreros evangélicos, p. 110).*

**M**i primer encuentro con el pastor Alejandro Delgado y su esposa Noemí fue el año pasado cuando mi esposa y yo fuimos a Perú para participar en una campaña evangelística en la ciudad de Lima. Los esposos Delgado habían viajado desde España para participar en una campaña a nivel nacional, llamada “La Caravana del Pacífico”.

Durante esa campaña viajaron a diferentes pueblos, donde él predicó e invitó a las personas que asistían a las reuniones a que entregaran sus vidas a Jesús. Después de haber concluido nuestras campañas nos encontramos otra vez en una reunión masiva de más de 35.000 adventistas en el coliseo nacional de Perú, donde se celebraron los bautismos de más de 30.000 personas en los primeros seis meses de ese año. Al meditar en nuestra experiencia comprendí cómo Dios llama y utiliza a pastores que tienen dones especiales para evangelismo para así avanzar más su obra.



Pastor Alejandro Delgado y su esposa Noemí

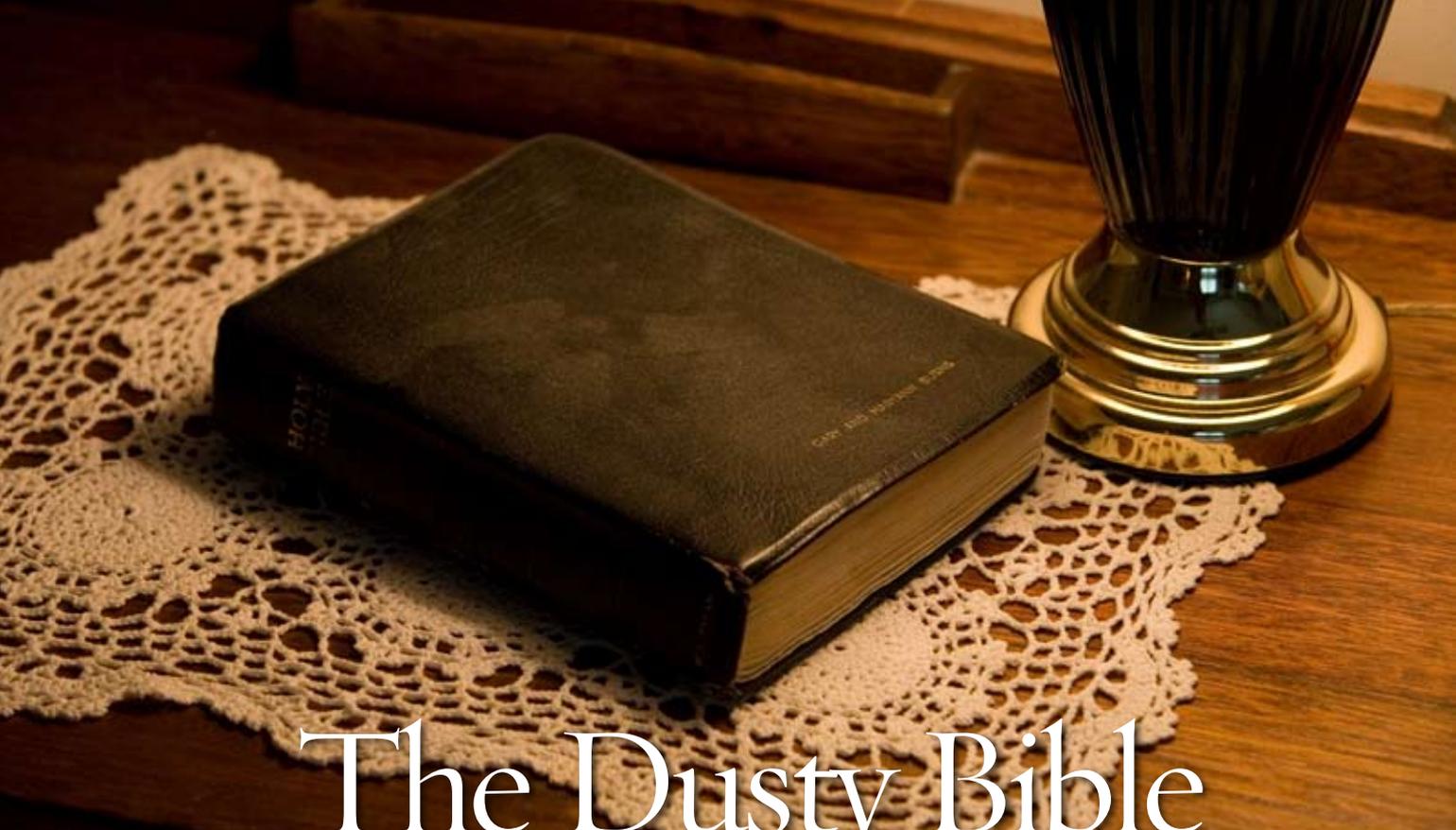
En el caso del pastor Delgado, el Señor lo llamó al ministerio en un encuentro juvenil en Valencia, España. Después de terminar sus estudios de teología comenzó su trabajo pastoral en el distrito de Alicante, en España, donde trabajó con el pastor Antonio Gascón. Permaneció seis años en ese distrito y llegó a establecer tres nuevas congregaciones. Luego fue trasladado a las Islas Canarias donde estuvo seis años más, y durante ese período estableció cuatro nuevas congregaciones. En marzo de 2007 los

esposos Delgado recibieron un llamado de la Asociación de Michigan para pastorear las congregaciones hispanas de Ann Arbor y Pontiac. El Señor ha bendecido el trabajo del pastor Delgado pues en un año se han bautizado más de 40 personas. Al ver la manera en que el Señor ha prosperado su ministerio, no tengo la menor duda de que en los años venideros la obra seguirá avanzando en ese distrito.

Hoy más que nunca el Señor está llamando a jóvenes para que entren en la obra del ministerio, especialmente en el área de evangelismo para seguir impulsando la predicación del

evangelio. Bien me acuerdo el momento cuando yo respondí al llamado ministerial y nunca me he arrepentido de haber seguido ese camino. Si al leer este artículo hay alguien que siente ese mismo llamado, le aconsejo que no tarde en responder. Invito a todos los hermanos a orar como el Señor nos pide que oremos: “Rogad, pues, al Señor de la mies, que envíe obreros a su mies” (Mateo 9:38).

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



# The Dusty Bible

BY GARY BURNS

**T**he phone rang. “Gary, it’s for you. I think it’s the church secretary.” My heart skipped a beat—and not in a good way. I knew what she wanted. It was the third time she had called.

I had agreed to preach the sermon for our pastor who had been called out of town. I wasn’t a preacher and had only preached one sermon in my life. That was the summer we worked in Philadelphia with Doug and Carole Kilcher. That had been nine years earlier.

Fresh out of college, Maryann and I were given the opportunity to serve as the receptionist and media director for the Better Living Center and the youth ministries coordinator for Bucks County—positions that were in line with our long-range career goals and for which we both had experience. Doug and Carole were wonderful mentors, but after five months of seeing ministry close up, and from the inside out, we decided it was not the life for us.

We left Philadelphia to return to Ohio, where Maryann continued in administrative secretarial work and I pursued my interest in television as a producer/director. My experience of being one of the first medical reporters for a local news broadcast gave me confidence in public speaking. Now, as the president and CEO of a television production company, recording studio and advertising agency in South

Florida, I thought, *How difficult could it be to preach a sermon?*

The secretary was on the phone, for the third time, and I still didn’t have a sermon. I lied and told her that I hadn’t quite finalized on the title to my sermon yet, and would call her first thing in the morning. It was Wednesday night, and no sermon. Not even an idea of a sermon.

I had been thinking about what to preach for the past two weeks, but had yet to pick up the dusty Bible on the table at the end of the couch. Since my own imaginations had come up empty, I brushed the dust off the black, pure-grain cowhide and flipped through the pages during commercials. Sometime during one of the late night shows I realized the urgency of the situation and turned off the TV.

For the next several hours I turned the pages looking for a sermon—page after page of strange stories and hard to pronounce words, and nothing—not even one idea. The blank half-page at the end of Revelation glared at me like a whitewashed billboard waiting for a new ad. I had literally turned every page and found not a single sermon in the entire Bible. How could that be?

“I had been thinking about what to preach for the past two weeks, but had yet to pick up the dusty Bible on the table at the end of the couch.”

By 2:30 in the morning, I realized my inability to accomplish this simple task with my own resources. I was desperate and offered up a quick prayer.

“God, Your people are going to be at church on Sabbath expecting a sermon. I don’t have one. I know we haven’t been very close, lately, but if You want them to hear a sermon, You’re going to have to give me one. I’m going to open the Bible again. Show me what to preach. Amen.”

I held the Bible in my hand, the dry leather absorbing the moisture from my sweaty palms. Cautiously, I let my thumbs overlap on the golden edge of the pages and slowly pulled them apart. My eyes immediately fell on the words, almost as if highlighted by a mysterious light.

“Stand at the crossroads and look: ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, ‘We will not walk in it’” (Jeremiah 6:16).

Instantly, a movie clip appeared on the big screen in my mind—the image of my granddad sitting in his favorite chair by the window, Bible opened in his lap. His gnarled and calloused carpenter’s fingers gliding gently across the page—his eyes following slowly line by line. He’d stop and gaze out the window as if savoring every thought. After some time, his eyes would drop back down to the page and he’d read it again, or move on as the Spirit directed.

I could see my granddad sitting there every morning, noon and night. He wasn’t just reading through his Bible; he was having conversations with God—intimate, deep and unhurried. His closeness to God and his devotion to time and word stood as an indictment on my own life.

“But you said, ‘We will not walk in it.’”

‘Tis I! Not that I had actually said it! I just lived it.

I realized I was standing at a crossroads. I was troubled and conflicted. My faith and my work were in constant tension—compromise for cash. You have to make payroll, right?

“Ask where the good way is and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.”

Rest! That’s what I needed. That’s what I secretly longed for. Relief!

The rest of the night, we just talked—God and me. Going over some old paths—some not so old. It was an arduous journey, but by morning I was feeling at rest—not my eyes, mind you—my soul.

I called the secretary at eight and blurted out, “I have my title! ‘Consider the Ancient Pathways.’”

Sabbath morning I stood before God’s people with a sense of euphoria—like one feels after a good cry, fresh and clean on the inside. It was the easiest and simplest thing to share my 2:30 a.m. encounter with God a few nights before. And I didn’t just share it with the church, I called family and friends, too.

That night at the crossroads, I made a turn. Who would have thought, certainly not I, that a couple of years later I would be giving a sermon to God’s people three times every Sabbath—before lunch?

My family and close friends had come up to our district for the weekend to kind of initiate our ministry. It was a long day—full of emotions. I was sitting alone on the family room floor, reflecting on the path my life was now taking. Mom was still up, and she came in to join me.

We talked a bit about the day, the people in our churches, and how good God was. Then she asked, “Do you remember that time you had to preach, and couldn’t find anything to preach about?”

“I sure do,” I replied.

“Do you remember when that was, exactly?” I wondered where her question was going.

“Sure.” I reached for my executive calendar book on the shelf in front of us. Flipping through the pages, I landed on the date with the notation, “preach,” and pointed it out to her.

“I thought so,” she said with a smile.

“Why?” I asked.

“Well, the Lord woke me up one night and urged me to pray for you. I didn’t know why, or what to pray. So I opened my Bible (her Bible was never dusty) and when I came to Jeremiah 6:16, I got the strongest message, ‘Pray this for your son!’”

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



# Childlike Prayers of Faith

BY DIANE THURBER

Arriving at the campground by the beach, I looked forward to a grand adventure with family and friends. We children burst from the cars as they came to a stop. It didn't take long before the boxes of food, bug spray, flashlights, camp stoves, sleeping bags, lanterns and more camping supplies that we would need were unloaded. It was then that we began to plead with our parents to let us go for a walk on the beach while they settled the camp and fixed our first meal. They agreed we could go, if we would "stay together on the beach."

Emerging from the tree-lined walkway to the beach, our eyes scanned the sandy shores each way. We headed off in the direction of a fishing pier further down the beach, pausing to pick up shells as we skipped along and avoided mysterious foreign objects that washed up on the shore earlier that day.

The pier. It stood high above the Atlantic Ocean, and it beckoned us. I could just imagine the breeze from up there, and wondered what it might look like to gaze into the ocean from the vantage point at the end of the pier.

It wasn't long until we collectively reasoned we would be safe up there, if we would all stick together. We made our way further and further out onto the pier. It was as glorious as I had imagined.

Soon, we tired of the view. I remember a conversation

that went something like this as different voices chimed in:

"Why don't we jump off?"

"No, we can't do that!"

"Well, we all know how to swim."

"It's not safe."

"It's too far down."

"What if we all hold hands?"

"I dare you. On the count of three, let's jump in together."

Wide-eyed, we all glanced at each other. It did sound like an adventure. I wasn't that worried, even though I was only six or seven at the time. My parents had enrolled me and my two sisters in swimming classes, several summers in a row. I was a confident swimmer, and during free swim time at the pool I was even bold enough to climb the tall ladder and jump off the high dive.

## It is childlike faith that reaches for what we cannot see, with confidence He will respond to our cries of despair with loving favor.

I really wasn't a risk taker, but if everyone was going to do it, I didn't want to miss out on the fun. I knew it might be a pretty hard fall when we hit the water, but we'd be holding hands and could pull each other to shore.

We held hands, and laughed a little.

"Are you ready? One ... two ... three," someone shouted. We swung our arms back and forth with each count and prepared to sail through the air into the crashing waves below.

I didn't know I was the only one who was really planning to jump until the count of three, when I found myself sailing through the air with arms outstretched, and no one attached to me. I held my breath and soon slammed into the water like a flyswatter squashing a menacing fly. I kicked my way to the surface and looked up at my sisters and friends peering over the edge. It was too noisy to hear their cries clearly, and the big waves that soon washed over my head silenced any noise from above.

With each wave, I kicked to the surface again, and I was still confident I'd soon be able to swim to shore. That's when I felt the strong tug that pulled against my lower body in between the rhythmic waves that crashed over my head. I had been warned about the riptides in oceans, and sensed I was in trouble. I gave it all I had, but it wasn't long before I knew I wasn't strong enough to get to shore by myself. And I knew my companions weren't going to be able to help me.

Since it was late afternoon, the beach crowd had thinned out. A few families dotted the shore, but no one was close to the pier to hear shouts for help. As each wave carried me out a little bit farther, I knew there was only One person who could help me to shore. And so I called on Him. My eyes didn't close, but I sent simple messages heavenward to a God I knew loved me and cared for me.

I recalled Bible stories, like Daniel and the lions' den, Jonah and the whale, and Peter and the storm (I am so thankful my parents shared stories of faith with me from the time I was able to look at pictures, and now they came quickly to my mind). I reminded God of those stories and pleaded with Him to save my life, too. And He did. Instantly.

The next big wave that came was enormous. It lifted me up higher and pushed me farther than any of the other

waves had—and I found myself hurtling directly toward one of the pier pylons. I reached for it as it came close, and squeezed my arms around it, hanging on as though my life depended on it. "Thank you, Jesus," escaped from my lips. And then I realized what I was touching.

Barnacles. Seaweed. Crushed shells. It was nasty. But I was safe. My companions ran to the other side of the pier as they saw me washed forward. "Hold on," they said, "we'll go get help."

My prayers continued.

"Jesus, please help me get to the next pole." And He did. And then to the one after that, and the one after that. Pretty soon, I felt sand under my feet. I waited until the tug on my legs subsided and the next wave came, and then I made a dash for the shore. Waist-deep in water, I saw a man wading toward me with an outstretched arm.

"Do you need some help," he called.

I do not know where he came from, and I had not seen him before. He may have been a beach walker, but I like to imagine he was my guardian angel, sent from Heaven that day in response to the prayer of faith of a little girl who disobeyed her parents and accepted a foolish dare.

There have been other times in my life since, when I have felt like I was drowning and times I disappointed my Parents. Whether by circumstance or my own doing, there is Someone who is attentive to my calls. I don't hesitate to call either, because each time I call, my faith grows and I have greater confidence to come boldly "unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20).

It is childlike faith that reaches for what we cannot see, with confidence He will respond to our cries of despair with loving favor.

"You must have faith as you ask Him. You must not doubt. Anyone who doubts is like a wave which is pushed around by the sea" (James 1:5-6). The loving embrace of the Father is so much more comforting than the storms of life we find ourselves in. I know. I have felt His touch.

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Diane Thurber is the assistant communication director of the Lake Union Conference.



# Love to Pray

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

BY ALVIN VANDERGRIEND

## PRAYER STARTS WITH GOD

I want to share a radical thought. It has transformed my way of praying and my way of thinking about prayer.

For years I believed that my prayers started with me. I had to think them up. I had to get God's attention. Not surprisingly, with this frame of mind, prayer was often a chore.

I learned that I was wrong. Prayer doesn't start with us. Prayer starts with God. That's the radical idea that changed my prayer life. God is the initiator. He moves us to pray. He gives us prayer ideas. He holds out the promises we claim in prayer. When we pray, we are God's instruments.

God is at work in all our praying. He makes His will known to us so that we will ask for the very things He longs to give us. Out of love He burdens us to pray for others so that, in response to our intercession, He can pour out blessings on them.

And it's the Spirit, says Paul, who makes our prayer possible. We don't know what to pray, but we don't have to. The Spirit is there, revealing God's will to us in the Scriptures and bringing God's prayer concerns to life within us. He is nudging us through circumstances and opening our eyes to the needs around us. He is searching our hearts and trying our ways so that He can bring us to true repentance. He is revealing the glory and the goodness of God so that our prayers will be filled with praise and thanks. »

We can be confident that God will hear when we come to Him. God answers every prayer that starts in Heaven, every prayer born in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, every prayer based on a sure promise from His Word.

If prayer starts with God, then the first order of business as we learn to pray is to listen to God's whispers, to tune our hearts to Him, to respond to His promptings. Perhaps the first prayer of each day should be, "Lord, teach me to pray. Help me to understand Your purposes, to feel Your burdens, to see what You see, to hear the groans You hear, so that my prayers may be pleasing to You and may accomplish Your purposes."

## PRAYER AS A CONVERSATION WITH GOD

It's clear from Genesis 3:8 that God regularly met Adam and Eve in the cool of the evening in order to spend time with them in conversation. It was part of Adam and Eve's regular, perhaps even daily, experience. So on this day when they heard "the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden," they knew it was time for another talk with God.

Prayer is conversation with God. What regularly took place in the Garden of Eden—conversation between God and humans—was prayer. This "prayer" was clearly not a stilted, formal, cliché-filled monologue. I can only imagine it to be a relaxed, uninhibited, informal, two-way conversation. That, I think, is the first and best picture of prayer in the Bible.

What happened there in the garden instructs us about prayer. It shows us first, that God takes the initiative in prayer. It's the Lord who comes to Adam and Eve and calls out. When you feel a desire to pray, it's God who is stirring up that desire in you and inviting you to meet with Him. Prayer is essentially a relationship that begins with God.

This garden event also shows us what sin does to prayer. After they sinned, Adam and Eve were reluctant to meet with God. Instead of skipping out to meet their beloved Friend, we see them hiding in the bushes, feeling ashamed and guilty. Fear has replaced freedom. Sin put a gulf between God and the first human beings. Conversation couldn't happen with Adam and Eve hiding in the bushes. Sin hinders prayer.

Have you ever felt reluctance in coming to God? At times we are like Adam and Eve—afraid of God, hiding behind excuses and hesitant to meet Him. Unconfessed sin, harbored in the heart, cancels out prayer.

But grace restores prayer. Notice that God doesn't walk away and leave Adam and Eve in their hiding place. Instead He calls them out and graciously helps them come to grips with the sin that has estranged them from Him. God initiates the process that leads to forgiveness, to restored fellowship, and to opened channels of communication—to prayer.

From the beginning God intended prayer to be restful, two-way conversation with Him, like that in the garden before sin. God brings us back to that again and again as He comes in grace to meet us each day. God wants to walk and talk with us and to enjoy our company.

When God comes to meet you today, don't hide. Welcome Him! Grace has prevailed. In Christ your sins are forgiven. Go out to meet God laughing and skipping. And have a relaxed, informal dialog that will be a joy for both of you.

## LIVING PRAYERFULLY

Praying continually does not mean we are to do nothing but pray. It means that we live all of our hours and days so conscious of God that we are actually, at one level or another, keeping company with Him always.

It means *walking and talking with God*. When Enoch, an Old Testament hero of faith, "walked with God," it meant that God was his conscious companion in all of his daily activities (Genesis 5:22). When you travel with a friend, there's a lot to talk about: sights to see, experiences to share, and decisions to make. When you travel through life with God, there's just as much to talk about. And although you cannot physically see or touch God, He is really with you—a thinking, feeling, willing, communicating, listening person.

Praying continually means making it a habit to talk to God about our everyday *experiences*. Repeated activities can become triggers for God-consciousness. The famous American general Stonewall Jackson once commented, "I have so fixed the habit in my mind that I never raise a glass of water to my lips without asking God's blessing, never seal a letter without putting a word of prayer under the seal,

never take a letter to the post without a brief sending of my thoughts heavenward, never change my classes in the lecture room without a minute's petition for the cadets who go out and for those who come in."

You probably already have some prayer triggers in your life: rising in the morning, sitting to eat a meal, or lying down to sleep. A friend of mine prays every time he gets behind the wheel of his car. Others have learned to pray for every person they meet, every needful situation that comes on the news, every time they enter their place of work, every time the phone rings, every time they hear a fire siren or see an accident, or every time they pass a church.

Praying continually means sharing our *thoughts* with God. Our minds never lie dormant. No matter what we are doing from morning till night, our minds are always working. The morning news, breakfast on the fly, traffic on the way to work, challenges on the job, dealing with children, connecting with a spouse, relaxing in front of the TV—all engage us mentally in some way. God wants to be in on our thoughts.

Praying continually also means sharing our *feelings* with God. Feelings are spontaneous inner reactions to things we are experiencing in life. God wants to be in on our feelings. That's why the Spirit prompted James to write, "Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise" (James 5:13).

Try to develop the habit of filling your day with little prayers. Every fresh prayer will bring a sweet inflowing from God.

## PRAYER AS A WAY OF LIFE

### REFLECT

Is prayer a chore or a joy for you? Do you sometimes feel reluctant to pray? If so, what is it that blocks your desire to meet God? Let God help you identify and deal with it.

When you pray, are you aware of meeting a real person—thinking, feeling, willing, acting, talking, listening God?

Are you comfortable talking with God in plain language and in ways that are relaxed, informal, and uninhibited?

What more could you do to be sure that you truly know God's will when you pray?

What "prayer triggers" are already present in your life? What triggers will you try to add today?

Do you dare believe that God really wants to keep company with you? It's true! How does that make you feel?

### PRAY

Praise the Lord as the prayer-initiating, prayer-hearing God who is present with us through His Spirit and eager to converse with us, who enjoys your company and gives you His joy.

Confess anything that has distanced you from God, including the bad habit of leaving God out of your thoughts, feelings, and experiences.

Ask God to make prayer a joy in your life, for a prayer life built around relaxed, enjoyable, uninhibited daily conversations with Him—continually and naturally.

Thank God for dealing with your sin and eliminating it as a barrier to your relationship with Him, and for the privilege of knowing His thoughts and praying them back to Him.

Intercede for loved ones who may be weak in prayer, for people around you whose prayer lives are constricted because they are hiding from God. Pray that they may have an increased consciousness of God and a desire to walk and talk with Him.

### ACT

The next time you set aside time to pray, start by saying, "Lord, help me right now to know what you want me to pray." Be open to praise, thanks, confession, and supplication. Wait for impressions or promptings from the Spirit. When they come, pray them.

Take a pleasant walk at the end of your day and be conscious that Jesus is walking with you. Talk to Him as you would to a friend about your day—about things you are thinking, feeling, and doing. Try to imagine what He would say to you.

Try to add at least one new prayer trigger each day during the next week.

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Alvin VanderGriend is co-founder of the Denominational Prayer Leaders' Network and a member of America's National Prayer Committee. He currently serves as Evangelism Associate for Harvest Prayer Ministries, Terra Haute, Indiana. This article is an excerpt from his book, *Love to Pray*. Reprinted with permission.



## Hospital baker brings smiles for more than 50 years

Most teenage boys can be found playing sports or crafting model cars, but not Bill Mulske. During his teenage years in the 1940s, Mulske spent his time in the kitchen dutifully baking with his mother, where his lifelong love for preparing treats began.

The 80-year-old Willowbrook, Ill., resident can still be found in the kitchen each week at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, where he has worked for the last 53 years. Hospital employees and visitors flock to the cafeteria to indulge in Mulske's famous pecan rolls and other delicacies.

Mulske started his career at the hospital in 1955. Although he left Hinsdale for another hospital, he returned less than two years later as a cook, but was soon promoted to supervisor. In 1993, Mulske decided to put away his baking sheets for the last time, and he retired. But the lure of the kitchen was far too great, so he decided to return to the hospital on a part-time basis. Today, he works once a week at the hospital preparing such treats as sweet rolls, fresh strawberry pie, carrot cake and delectable fruit breads.

Mulske's creations are a big draw for employees and patients alike. One patient, who comes in several times a year, looks forward to his famous pecan rolls. Even when they're not on the menu, Nutrition Services staff will ask him to make a special batch for this patient.

"A hospital can be a scary place for some patients," said Mary Belino, morning tray line manager. "If something as simple as a pecan roll will make their stay that much better, we feel humbled to be able to provide that for them."

In addition to his baking career, Mulske annually prepares special event midnight meals and holiday feasts for



*Bill Mulske is truly a servant of the Lord who has made it his mission to be about his Father's business.*

hospital employees. He also prepares and serves a buffet meal for the School of Nursing alumni each year. It's this level of service to the hospital that earned Mulske the hospital's Living Our Mission award in 2004. The award recognized his years of dedication and faithful service.

Combining his faith with his vocation, Mulske prepared and supervised the food service operation at the Seventh-day Adventist Wisconsin Conference's annual camp meeting for 41 consecutive years. Mulske enjoyed his work so much, he referred to the venture as his vacation.

Mulske's love for God has been made manifest not only through his work at the hospital, but also through his ties to Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church. Mulske has been a dedicated member of the church since

1955. One year after his arrival, he was chosen to be a deacon, a position he has maintained for 53 years. Mulske heads such jobs as filling the baptistry pool, discharging duties for funerals, weddings and communion services, and odd jobs such as turning the lights of the church off and on.

"He is truly a man who can be described as a faithful doorkeeper in the House of the Lord," said John Rapp, regional vice president of Ministries and Mission, at Adventist Midwest Health. "Bill is a dependable, dedicated and faithful man who exemplifies the commendation 'well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

*Demia Tunis, public relations intern,  
Adventist Midwest Health*

## Bruce Wrenn returns to Andrews as the first Colson Endowed Chair of Marketing

After a hiatus of nearly 20 years, Bruce Wrenn has returned as a professor of marketing in the School of Business Administration at Andrews University. His return marks the initiation of the first Colson Endowed Chair of Marketing, an endowment made possible by a large donation from Bonnie and the late William Colson.

Wrenn first came to Andrews University in 1978 where he taught in the School of Business Administration until 1989. He then spent a year teaching at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., before accepting becoming professor of marketing at Indiana University South Bend (IUSB).

Wrenn's return to Andrews marks the completion of a goal set by the Colson family, who live in the Pacific Northwest, when they gave the largest single personal donation in Andrews University history in 2007. William Colson gave instructions for part of the donation to be set aside for endowed chairs in the School of Business Administration with annual interest paid to the chairs in addition to a full professor salary. The endowment also provides the chair with extra funds to travel and hold seminars as well as a book and equipment account.

"Andrews University seeks to attract and retain a committed, high-quality faculty of teacher-scholars who impact and inspire students," says senior development officer Chris LeBrun. "Endowed chairs help energize those faculty who have demonstrated best practices in teaching and research."

"It is very humbling to have been blessed as the first recipient of the Colson Endowed Chair of Marketing. I am indebted to the Colson family for

their generous endowment that makes it possible for me to serve the university and its constituents in this capacity. I hope to honor that choice by advancing my scholarship into the use of marketing practice by religious organizations and by teaching marketing courses in my areas of expertise. Andrews' School of Business Administration has a well-deserved reputation as a center for excellence in business education and I'm honored to once again be part of that tradition," says Wrenn.

Wrenn brings a wealth of educational and real-world experience to Andrews. He holds a B.S. in business administration from Auburn University and a Master of Management degree from J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University in Chicago where he studied under Philip Kotler, one of the most influential thinkers in the world of marketing. Wrenn later earned his Ph.D. in marketing from Northwestern University.

From 1989 to 2008, Wrenn taught as a professor of marketing at IUSB. During his time at IUSB, Wrenn published numerous scholarly articles and made many academic presentations. He received the IUSB School of Business Excellence in Research Award each year since it was initiated in 1998, through 2007.

Throughout his teaching career, Wrenn has also taken on a number of consulting clients, both corporate and private, including Biomet Inc. of Warsaw, Ind., the South Bend/Mishawaka



Bruce Wrenn

Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and Adventist Health Systems.

Wrenn currently serves or has served on a number of professional journal boards including the *Journal of Business Research* and the *Journal of Ministry Marketing and Management*, among others. Often a professional resource for media, Wrenn has been interviewed and/or quoted by a number of regional and national media including WNDU-TV, *Baltimore Sun*, *Talk of the Nation* and *Christian Management Review*.

"Dr. Wrenn's extensive teaching and research in the field of marketing, with particular emphasis in the field of not-for-profit marketing, will be invaluable to our business students and seminary students alike," says Allen Stembidge, dean of the School of Business Administration.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist,  
Integrated Marketing & Communication

## [ EDUCATION NEWS ]

### God's hand seen in the Door Prairie Duathlon

Indiana—The catalyst for the Door Prairie (Adventist School) Duathlon was three close friends and long-standing members of the LaPorte Adventist Church. To say that Justin Sanders, Lars Rishaug and Thor Thordarson are passionate about challenging outdoor activities would be an understatement. So it was not surprising that they skillfully directed their love of sports into what has now become the Door Prairie Duathlon, a fund-raising event that benefits the school.



The Door Prairie Duathlon consists of a 3.1 mile trail run, a 12-mile road bike ride, and another 3.1 mile trail run. Craig Neidlinger was first-place winner in the male 25 to 29 age group, and fourth overall.

Putting this event together took a huge amount of organization, and several local business sponsors came forward. The event was advertised in the church and local papers, and participants were invited to enter. The format was a run-bike-run event that was to start off with a 3.1 mile trail run, followed by a 12-mile road bike ride, and finish with a 3.1 mile run on the same trail.

Thordarson planned to obtain T-shirts, badges and trophies for the participants. However, when it came time to purchase these items, he was disappointed to find that only 12 had registered. It was left to him to decide whether to acquire just a few more

than those registered or to order the quantity he had sincerely prayed would come to the event. He decided to step out “in faith” and purchase a supply of 60 for the event.

On the morning of the duathlon, 60 individuals arrived to participate—some of whom were elite age group competitors! “God surely had a hand in this—He never disappoints!” was Thordarson’s conviction.

Next year’s event is set for May 31, 2009, in the same location, and the three friends have their sights on more sponsors and a greater increase in participants, which of course



Sixty individuals participated in the Door Prairie Duathlon, an annual event to benefit the Door Prairie Adventist School. Pictured in the back is Kirsten Hock, the eventual female overall winner.

translates to a larger contribution to the Door Prairie school.

Mary Wadsworth-Cooke, communication secretary, LaPorte Church

## [ LOCAL CHURCH NEWS ]

### Plymouth dedicates new church

Indiana—The Plymouth church members recently completed Phase I of their new church project—2,736 square feet consisting of a fellowship hall, two classrooms, handicap-accessible bathrooms and an office.

When the church was accepted as one of Maranatha International’s projects, church members were told that they’d be lucky to get 20 people to volunteer. So, in prayer, they submitted an article for publication in the April 2007 *Lake Union Herald* asking for help. As a result, Maranatha had to limit the volunteers who responded! They came from all over to help build a house for the Lord in Indiana’s unpredictable May weather.

Phase I is completely paid for, and the fellowship hall (which is currently being used as the sanctuary) was overflowing with people on the day of the dedication program. Gary Thurber, Indi-

ana Conference president, and Don English, then pastor of the Plymouth Church, gave the dedicatory messages. George Crumley, secretary/treasurer of the Indiana Conference, closed the service with a special prayer of dedication and a challenge to bring the good news of our Lord’s soon return to the area around the church.

In 2010, the members hope to complete Phase II, which will include a sanctuary. Their goal is to have Phase II paid in full by the time it is finished. Your prayers are appreciated, and Plymouth Church members want to thank all who donated their time, money, talents and materials to this project. May the Lord be praised!

Delmae Carterman, member, Plymouth Church



Volunteers came from many surrounding sister churches in the Lake Union to assist Plymouth Church members who built the new church.

## “Go Little Pennies” song inspires giving

Michigan—Taking the words of the children’s song, “Go Little Pennies,” to heart, Esther Jones and Debbie Simpson’s Cradle Roll/Kindergarten Sabbath school of the Buchanan Church announced in January that they were going to collect pennies. The pennies would be used to purchase Bibles for people in Africa. For the next three months pennies could be brought to the Sabbath school classroom in jars, boxes, rolls, Ziploc bags or even socks, said Jones. The children’s goal was to buy 100 Bibles, which cost just \$2 apiece to print and ship.

These \$2 Bibles are a part of Remnant Publication’s Bibles for Africa project, which plans to collect and ship 4 million Bibles to Africa. Owning a Bible in Africa is a real treasure. “Thirsting for His Word, they don’t have enough Bibles to go around! In fact, many will sacrifice three days of food just to save enough money for a single Bible!” ([www.YourBibleSaves.com](http://www.YourBibleSaves.com))

this project. So Jones decided to continue collecting pennies through June and reset the children’s goal at 200 Bibles. Announcements and reminders in the church bulletin kept pennies rolling in to the Sabbath school as well as larger coins and dollars filling the Lamb’s Offering plate each Sabbath. By the end of the second quarter the total pennies had reached \$502.56, and the Lamb’s Offering totaled \$834.83.

On Sabbath, July 12, the church held a special dedication service for the pennies collected. While the congregation sang “Go Little Pennies,” children and teachers from the Cradle Roll/Kindergarten Sabbath school class dumped pennies out of jars and boxes into a large yellow wheelbarrow on the platform. Kenneth Leak from



*Jim Symonds, who is physically challenged, was honored for faithfully collecting pennies as he rode his four-wheel bicycle around town each week. From left: Esther Jones, Sabbath school class leader; Jim Symonds; Kenneth Leak of Remnant Publications; and Charles Jones*

the coins in the wheelbarrow (which hadn’t been counted at that time). The children and their leaders were excited to know that they had passed their goal of 200 Bibles and would now be sending 668 Bibles instead! Leak expressed that just one Bible would impact at least 20 people.

This is not the first time the Buchanan Church has sent Bibles to Africa. Two years ago Kathleen DeLand, women’s ministries leader, asked the ladies to bring in used or new Bibles to the church, and then she and her husband Carl DeLand delivered the boxes full of Bibles to Remnant Publications, which is located nearby in Coldwater, Mich. Besides the Bibles given, there was also a \$500 gift given directly to Remnant Publications from a member.

The Buchanan Church members hope the Bibles they sponsored will impact the lives of many in Africa and will tell them of the love of Jesus. That is especially true for member Jim Symonds who was honored during the dedication service for his faithful donations every week. Being physically challenged, he would collect as he rode his four-wheel bicycle around town. He would often say as he dropped off the coins on Sabbath, “This is somethin’ I can DO!” He said the reason he collected pennies is because he is wanting LOTS of people to go to heaven!



*Children and teachers from the Cradle Roll/Kindergarten Sabbath school class dumped pennies out of jars and boxes into a large yellow wheelbarrow. Emma Sue Scott, Michael Marotz and Kelsey Brown try to count the pennies after the dedication.*

Along with the Sabbath school’s penny project, the church board voted to set aside the Lamb’s Offering for the second quarter of 2008 to also benefit

Remnant Publications was presented with a check from the Lamb’s Offering—enough for 417 Bibles—and then he offered the dedication prayer for

Judi Doty, Buchanan church member, and back pages editor and circulation manager,  
*Lake Union Herald*

To learn more about Bibles for Africa, visit the website: [www.YourBibleSaves.com](http://www.YourBibleSaves.com).

## Meal-time evangelism helps church grow

Wisconsin—The Wisconsin Rapids Church family once had 30 to 40 worshippers each Sabbath and the building was more than adequate to accommodate the little group. However, the design of the building was not very friendly to those in wheelchairs. The church had no restroom or fellowship hall on the main floor, and wheelchair-bound people were carried down a scary set of stairs. After much research and prayer, it was decided remodeling or building an addition would be too expensive, so church members voted to build a new church.

The members prayed for God's guidance and blessings on the project, and stepped out in faith by putting their church up for sale. It sold almost immediately, and the congregation soon had no place to worship. Some members offered the use of their pole building as a temporary sanctuary for the spring and summer months. It was a little farther to drive there and sometimes chilly, but just what the church members needed. Amazingly, the attendance did not drop off, even though some had to carpool. Finally, in November, they were able to move into their brand new church.

For their opening Sabbath, the church family decided to have a potluck dinner following the service. They had a number of guests visit the new church that first Sabbath, and



When a new sanctuary was built in Wisconsin Rapids, members looked for ways to get better acquainted with visitors who dropped by. Weekly fellowship meals proved to be an inviting way to form lasting friendships.

some had driven long distances; the dinner provided was a welcomed treat. Visitors were delighted they could feed their children and have time to get acquainted with new friends at church. The next Sabbath, the members planned another potluck. Again, a number of guests stayed for the meal. In the past, the church had a potluck once a month, and if anyone suggested doing it more often, it was always opposed. Now, in their new church, the members wanted to get to know their visitors and have them join the congregation, and it didn't take long for the members to realize how easy it was to bond over a meal or across a table.

The weekly potluck idea was presented to the church board, and the motion passed. The rest is history. They have just passed a landmark with a whole year of weekly potlucks behind them. The weekly meal has changed the church culture in many ways. People become acquainted sooner and at a deeper level. They keep in touch with prayer needs and do not rush home from church, but linger to talk and pray. Others gather around the piano to sing. It's a joyful mix, and the payoff can't be tallied.

Attendance at church has doubled. Instead of printing 40

bulletins each Sabbath with enough left over to send to missing and absent members, now 100 bulletins are printed and sometimes it is not enough. There have been baptisms. The children's department has grown from two to three classes, and the Pathfinder club is dynamic and active. Now there are two well-attended adult Sabbath school classes where before there was only one with just a few of the faithful attending.

At a ShareHim meeting with



These ladies are known as the "Potluck Angels" at Wisconsin Rapids Church: Charlene Presney, Arleva Fellows, Jean Burhite and Judy Olstrum.



From left: Anne Whetstone and Jacquelyn Guerrero enjoy the weekly fellowship meals at Wisconsin Rapids Church.

Robert Folkenberg Sr., it was suggested the church members look with new eyes for opportunities for evangelism and "think outside the box!" Some believe these weekly meals are indeed evangelism at its most elemental level. They meet basic needs for body, mind and spirit, and they are building friendships for eternity. The blessings are beyond measure!

Barbara Tesser, Wisconsin Rapids Church member, as shared with Bruce Babienco volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*



Each Sabbath, members and visitors alike look forward to the weekly fellowship meal. Sometimes members linger to exchange prayer requests or to sing by the piano. The "meal evangelism" plan has been a way to help the congregation grow.

## Fairhaven Church members promote health to community

Lake Region—Fairhaven Church, in cooperation with local government and health agencies, recently offered the Flint community an opportunity to improve its physical, mental and spiritual health by conducting a Health Fair, focused on helping the whole person.



Esther Mattox (right) signs up a prospective new student for the Fairhaven Church's school.



Fairhaven Church pastor, Charles Osborne III, stands in front of the food distribution line and tables.

Health Fair visitors could be tested for AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), high blood pressure and diabetes, and were offered information on how to deal with and prevent these conditions and diseases. Visitors received samples of healthful foods and school supplies. Fairhaven's Seventh-day Adventist academy was on site to sign up prospective new students, and offered information about the well-

rounded Christian education available at the church's school.

Children could be fingerprinted for I.D. badges by the Genesee County Sheriff's Department. Representatives from a fire house from the City of Flint were on hand, and instruction on fire prevention and safety in the home was offered. Helping Hands For Seniors, a leading companion service that strives to improve the quality of life for the elderly and their families, informed seniors of services available to them. Hamilton Clinic and the Black Nurses Association offered diabetes and blood pressure screenings.

Genesee County's Departments of Health, Human Services, County Food Bank, and other agencies like the YMCA and YOUR Center of Flint, each had a part in making the Health Fair a success. The best benefit of all was that all the aforementioned services, information and screenings were completely free.



Joseph Mance and Nathaniel Washington distribute free food to fair visitors. In the background, visitors are being screened for cholesterol, diabetes and high blood pressure.

Fairhaven's pastor, Charles Osborne III, said, "I am very thankful that we had the opportunity to be of service to the Flint Community. My desire was that our neighbors would know we are concerned about the issues which they are facing."

The Health Fair was held July 17 on the Fairhaven Church campus. Due to the fair's success, another fair is being planned for October.

Trevor Schluter, communication leader,  
Fairhaven Church

## Church plans for the future

Indiana—It was an exciting Sabbath morning in June 2007, when Richmond's head elder, William Fisher, announced from the pulpit that there was a good offer to sell their old church building. Those who were members in 1979 when the school was built say the plan always was to build a new church on the same grounds of the school—and now it was finally going to be a reality!

In preparation to begin the new sanctuary, Richmond Church members, conference administrators and construction representatives were all on hand for

the ground-breaking ceremony, held May 20. Dwight Kruger, Richmond Church pastor, says that "it is with great anticipation that the Richmond Church members look forward to their new church building, expected to be completed in November 2008."

Margie Barnes, communication secretary,  
Richmond Church



Church members and conference administrators participate in the groundbreaking ceremony.

[UNION NEWS]

## Polly's Place benefits from fundraisers

After the Niles Westside and Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist churches held a fundraising car wash Sunday, July 13, there were a lot of cleaner cars around Niles. And one very grateful beneficiary.



At a July 13 car wash to benefit Polly's Place, a shelter for abused women and children, \$502 was raised. The car wash was organized by the Niles Westside and Philadelphia Churches.

The money raised, a total of \$502, was to benefit Polly's Place, a shelter for abused women and children.

"They had so much fun doing it," said Margaret "Peggy" Cain, chair of the board at Polly's Place.

"And they raised more than \$500, so they are going to do it again next month."

The car wash was originally planned to help the shelter in funding a new roof, but the money comes after a fire destroyed a computer lab and affected the entire shelter earlier this month.

Juveniles were suspected of setting the fire at the shelter, as well as breaking into the shelter's home. The



Best friends Jordan Rohl and Chelsie Pysklo wanted to do something to help the women and children who reside at Polly's Place, so they coordinated "Sole Friends," a shoe drive.



"Sole Friends," a shoe drive for Polly's Place shelter, resulted in 134 pairs of shoes women and children in need.

fire wiped out electricity and a water-pump. The garage, Cain said, has no electricity, "and there's no water for the caretaker's cottage."

Cain said she didn't have any information on what was happening with the juveniles suspected of committing the crimes.

She added "we have people willing to help" in rebuilding and fundraising for the shelter, but Polly's Place is still waiting on insurance specifics to be ironed out.

Asked if Polly's Place was able to offer its services to women and children suffering from domestic abuse now, Cain answered, "we're not at this time, no."

The Niles Westside and Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist churches [held] a second car wash on Aug. 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Advance Auto in Niles "generously donated all the necessary equipment including soap, cloths, water and buckets and the facility," to which Cain offers a very special thanks.

On Friday, Jordan Rohl and Chelsie Pysklo, the two best friends who were responsible for "Sole Friends," a shoe drive for the shelter, presented Cain with 134 pairs of shoes to benefit those in need.

Jessica Seiff, reporter, Niles Daily Star, Leader Publications. Originally published Friday, July 18. Reprinted with permission.

For additional information about Polly's Place, visit [www.pollysplacenet.com](http://www.pollysplacenet.com).

## Choosing a leader: Lake Union seeks new president

When former president Walter L. Wright announced his retirement, Don Schneider, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, began the process of selecting a replacement. Schneider met with Lake Union officers and conference presidents on Monday, July 7, to get their input regarding the selection of a new president. The following day Schneider met with the Lake Union Conference Executive Committee.

After leading the committee in a devotional and prayer, Schneider asked the committee about their expectations, what they were looking for in a new leader, and how they would like to proceed.

Each person submitted names on a piece of paper, and every name was registered and shared with the committee, including a brief bio on each. After questions and discussion, members chose their top five names. After tallying the results, the committee voted to go into executive session and invitees were dismissed. The committee was free to discuss the results and speak to the names in confidence. Members were able to speak freely as nominees present were temporarily dismissed for discussion.

After several more rounds of voting, with prayers offered before each vote, the field narrowed to one name, Max Torkelsen II, president of the Upper Columbia Conference. Schneider contacted Torkelsen, who has met with the Lake Union officers and staff. As this issue goes to press, we are awaiting Torkelsen's decision. Check the Lake Union web site at [www.lakeunion.org](http://www.lakeunion.org) for updates.

Gary Burns, communication director, Lake Union Conference

## [NAD NEWS]

## Oakwood University president goes the extra mile for students

Oakwood University president Delbert W. Baker finished the Desert Salt Lake City Marathon in four hours and 19 minutes on Thurs., July 24, checking off Utah as number 23 on his 50-state marathon goal that began as a personal fitness challenge some years ago. This puts Baker right on schedule for 2008, having completed seven marathons in seven months since the year began.

That personal challenge took on a much broader scope on July 1 when the Division of Advancement & Development at Oakwood University (OU) officially launched the institution's 50 States for Students Annual Fund Campaign. The campaign runs through June 30, 2009.

To date, alumni, friends and supporters of OU have donated more than \$28,000 toward the 50 States for Students campaign by sponsoring



Oakwood University president Delbert W. Baker, a marathoner, turns a personal fitness challenge into scholarships for students.

the marathons in amounts ranging from \$1 to \$1,000 per mile (a marathon is 26.2 miles). Expenses related to the marathons are underwritten by Florida Hospital (in Orlando) and the CREATION Lifestyle Model. This sponsorship allows 100 percent of donations to go directly to student scholarships and endowment.

Anyone can get in on the race to turn miles into scholarships by sponsoring a marathon. Call in your pledge today at 256-726-7584, or go online to [www.oakwood.edu](http://www.oakwood.edu). All pledges are tax-deductible and will go toward supporting Christian education and tomorrow's leaders.

Michele Solomon, director of public relations, Oakwood University (adapted)

## SDALink networking platform launched

BiggyTV is pleased to announce the launch of SDALink for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. SDALink is a "trusted social networking" platform that combines MySpace and YouTube functionality with the services of BiggySafe Social Networking.

BiggyTV has been providing the online video distribution platform for The Adventist Channel with the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventists for almost two years. We are pleased to introduce our latest product to the Adventist Community.

SDALink was introduced to attendees at the 2008 Adventist GIEN (Global Internet Evangelism Network) convention in Denver, Colo., with great excitement, and the launch team immediately received approval to provide SDALink as a limit license technology for all Seventh-day Adventist organizations.

SDALink is a subscription service that is operated by BiggyTV; all content is uploaded and managed

by individual group administrators. Groups include churches, schools, colleges, hospitals and outreach ministries in the Adventist Church.

BiggySafe, a product of BiggyTV, operates as a monitoring service that provides verification of group administrators. SDALink parallels the values of the SDA community structure putting elders, mentors, teachers and other leaders of the church as leaders online.

As a trusted technology provider for The Adventist Channel, SDALink allows every ministry to "broadcast" their messages within the Adventist Church and beyond.

We invite you to visit SDALink (<http://link.biggytv.com>), look at the videos, take a look at the "Learn More" videos and watch as the Adventist Church leads the way in trusted social networking and video evangelism. We hope that you will take advantage of



this opportunity to strengthen the ties of the Adventist Church and get your group, church, Bible study, school on SDALink.

Also, please take a look at The Adventist Channel ([www.biggytv.com/sda](http://www.biggytv.com/sda)), which includes a lineup of outstanding Adventist programs on-demand.

SDALink Launch Team, BiggyTV, LLC

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 [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org). Conference addresses and phone numbers are listed in the masthead on the inside back cover.

## Birthdays



**Lovina M. (Videto) Benjamin** celebrated her 100th birthday on July 14, 2008, by an open house at the Battle Creek (Mich.) Tabernacle on July 13. Lovina has been a member of the Battle Creek Tabernacle for 84 years.

Lovina was married to the late Ernest Benjamin.

Lovina and her husband started The Benjamin Press in their Battle Creek home on Champion Street and Lovina worked part-time with her husband. The press later moved to Van Buren Street, and is now owned and operated by their son, Robert Sr. Over the years, Lovina has been an active member of the Battle Creek Tabernacle, singing in the choir and holding a number of leadership positions. She was also active in her community serving for 46 years as a Red Cross volunteer at the Battle Creek Sanitarium Hospital and Battle Creek Health System. She still attends church and has a sweet smile and friendly comment for her fellow church members.

Lovina has two children: Beverly and Ralph Benedict, and Robert and Patricia Benjamin, all of Battle Creek; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; four step-great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and one step-great-great-grandchild.

## Weddings

**Gabriela Spinosa and René Scarone** were married Sept. 7, 2008, in Lansing, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Daniel Scarone.

Gabriela is the daughter of Salvatore and Elvira Spinosa of Winchester, Mass., and René is the son of Daniel and Cira Scarone of Lansing.

The Scarones are making their home in Winchester.

**Heather L. Herrmann-Cronin and John E. Terry** were married June 22, 2008, in Tell City, Ind. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Justin Childers.

Heather is the daughter of the late Harold W. Herrmann Jr., and Kathy and Steve Lawalin of Cannelton, Ind., and John is the son of Steve and Suzanne Terry of Tell City.

The Terrys are making their home in Tell City.

## Anniversaries



**Edwin and Elsie Buck** celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on June 22, 2008, by a celebration with friends and family at the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University. They have been members of the Pioneer Memorial (Mich.) Church for more than 40 years.

Edwin F. Buck and Elsie Landon were married June 6, 1943, in Berrien Springs, Mich., by Pastor Walter Straw. Edwin has been a teacher, pastor, evangelist and inventor before his retirement in the 1990s. Elsie has been a music educator and a member of Andrews University Board of Trustees as well as serving on many other committees and boards, and chair of the committee for the restoration of Sutherland House on the Andrews University campus before her retirement in the 1990s. The Bucks spent many years in evangelism in India, and are world travelers. They also keep very active in their church.

The Buck family includes Pat and Frank Dominguez of Chapel Hill, N.C.; Edwin L. and Linda Buck of Gwinn, Mich.; Elizabeth and David Zumbrunnen of Seneca, S.C.; and five grandchildren.



**Chester and Charlotte Stuart** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 22, 2008, by a family reunion at Camp Wagner, Cassopolis, Mich. They have been members of the Shiloh (Chicago) Church for 57 years.

Chester Stuart and Charlotte Underwood were married June 8, 1958, in Chicago by Pastor Eric Dillett. Chester has been an employee of Waste Management, Inc., in Chicago for 32 years, retiring in 1999. Charlotte has provided catering services for Chicago Academy and Lake Region Conference Camp Wagner for more than 28 years, retiring from the Academy in 1994, but still providing catering service for Camp Wagner.

The Stuart family includes Shawna and James Campbell of Harvey, Ill.; Cynthia Stuart, Sonja Stuart and Chester B. Stuart all of Chicago; and three grandchildren.

## Obituaries

**BUTCHMA, Eugene T.**, age 93; born Jan. 24, 1915, in Laveal, Ukraine; died June 27, 2008, in Byron Center, Mich. He was a member of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Central Church.

Survivors include his wife, Elvia L. (Ewart); sons, James T. and Olaf Z.; daughter, Helene Emilie Mattenson; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by David Glenn, Angel J. Rodriguez and Gerald Mattenson, and interment was in Georgetown Cemetery, Georgetown Twp., Mich.

**HEINER, Ralph T.**, age 86; born June 13, 1921, in Columbus, Ind.; died June 10, 2008, in Sebring, Fla. He retired as pastor of the Columbus Church in 1985. Elder Heiner served the church 35 years in the Ind., N.Y. and Northern New England Conferences. He and his wife operated the American Servicemen's Center in Germany for nine of those years.

Survivors include his wife, Karoline (Grasserbauer); and sisters, Tavia Heiner and Ruby Reder.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Almado Luzbet, and inurnment was in U.S. Military Cemetery, Bushnell, Fla.

**KLOOSTER, Audrey M. (Van Beukering)**, age 85; born July 10, 1922, in Oshkosh, Wis.; died Feb. 28, 2008, in La Porte, Ind. She was a member of the La Porte Church.

Survivors include her son, John C.; daughter, Janet L. Klooster; brother, Anthony Van Beukering; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Joshua Lizarraaga, and inurnment was in Salem Cemetery, Salem Heights, Ind.

**LAMBERTSON, Agnes E. (Marks)**, age 92; born Apr. 22, 1916, in Boon, Mich.; died June 7, 2008, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Marvin; daughter, Darlys Nordvick; brother, Howard Marks; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Arne Swanson, and inurnment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

**LOGE, Irma (Renner)**, age 93; born Jan. 18, 1915, in Berlin-Zehlendorf, Germany; died Jan. 30, 2008, in East Lansing, Mich. She was a member of the Lansing Church.

Survivors include her son, David D.; daughters, Ursel U. Loge and Doris Dee Loge-Wacker; three grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by David Glenn and Chuck Hanlon, and interment was in Cadillac Memorial Gardens, East, Mausoleum, Clinton Twp., Mich.

**MAQUERA, Alfred E.**, age 78; born Jan. 11, 1930, in Juliaca, Peru; died July 7, 2008, in Sebring, Fla. He was a member of the Hinsdale (Ill.) and Waukesha (Wis.) Churches.

Survivors include his sons, Alfred Jr., Wernher and Kurt; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services with military honors were conducted by Chaplain Harold Johnson, and interment was in Prairie Home Cemetery, Waukesha, Wis.

**SHERWOOD, Patricia A. (Parish)**, age 68; born May 9, 1939, in Augusta, Mich.; died Mar. 8, 2008, in Cleveland, Ohio. She was a member of the Boyne City (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Leonard G.; son, Leonard Jr.; daughter, Connie Dunlop; brother, John Parish; sister, Susan Cain; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Jim Hord and Jim Roos, with private inurnment.

**SMITH, Mary (Blunt) Mapp**, age 106; born Mar. 31, 1902, in Crawfordsville, Ark.; died July 3, 2008, in Gary, Ind. She was a member of the Mizpah Church, Gary.

Survivors include her sons, Tyrone Boyd and Richard Crockett; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Jerome Davis, and interment was in Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery, Hobart, Ind.

**STANFORD, Jeffery S.**, age 51; born May 7, 1957, in Stoughton, Wis.; died June 8, 2008, in Stoughton. He was a member of the Madison East Church, Monona, Wis.

Survivors include his son, Jeffery Jr.; daughters, Amanda and Meagan Stanford; brother, Ray; sister, Debbie Stanford; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors William Ochs and Nestor Soriano, and interment was in Maple Hill Cemetery, Evansville, Wis.

**VETNE, Dagny (Lowik)**, age 87; born Aug. 30, 1920, in Haugesund, Norway; died June 5, 2008, in Chattanooga, Tenn. She was a member of the Battle Creek (Mich.) Tabernacle.

Survivors include her sons, Erik and John; daughter, Anne Kari; brother, Andreas Lovvik; 13 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Bruce Moore, and inurnment was in Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Battle Creek.

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: \$28 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$38 per insertion for all others. A form is available at [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org) for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order/check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors.

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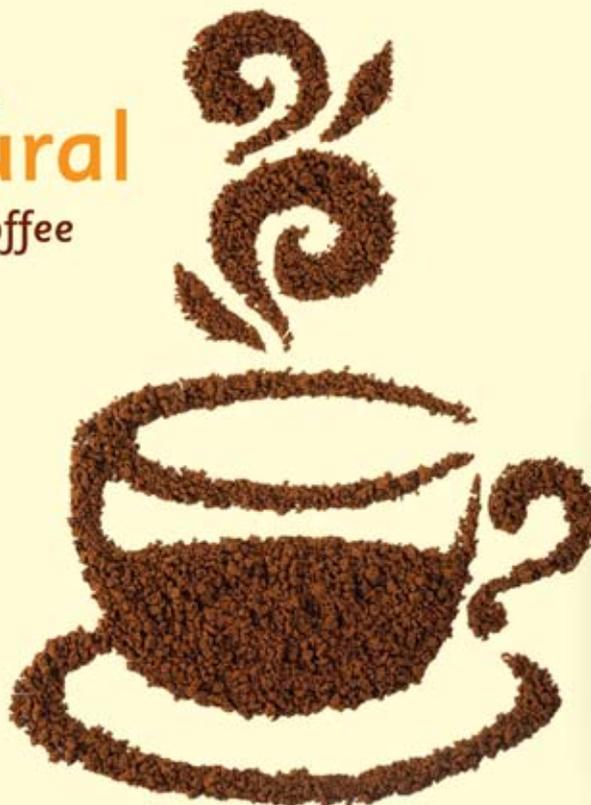
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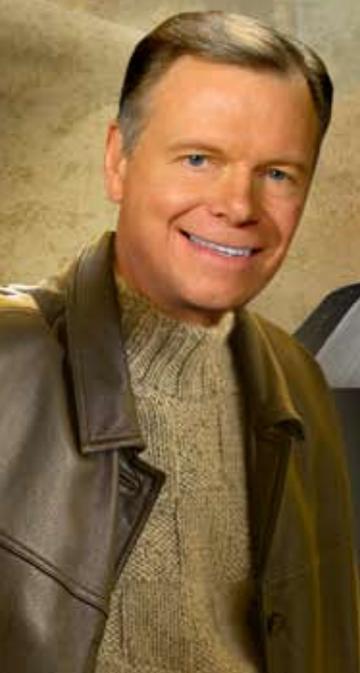
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## Sunset Calendar

	Sep 5	Sep 12	Sep 19	Sep 26	Oct 3	Oct 10
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:14	8:02	7:50	7:38	7:25	7:13
Chicago, Ill.	7:20	7:08	6:56	6:43	6:31	6:19
Detroit, Mich.	8:02	7:50	7:37	7:25	7:12	7:00
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:12	8:01	7:49	7:38	7:25	7:14
La Crosse, Wis.	7:36	7:23	7:11	6:58	6:44	6:32
Lansing, Mich.	8:08	7:56	7:43	7:31	7:18	7:06
Madison, Wis.	7:28	7:16	7:03	6:50	6:37	6:25
Springfield, Ill.	7:26	7:14	7:03	6:52	6:40	6:28

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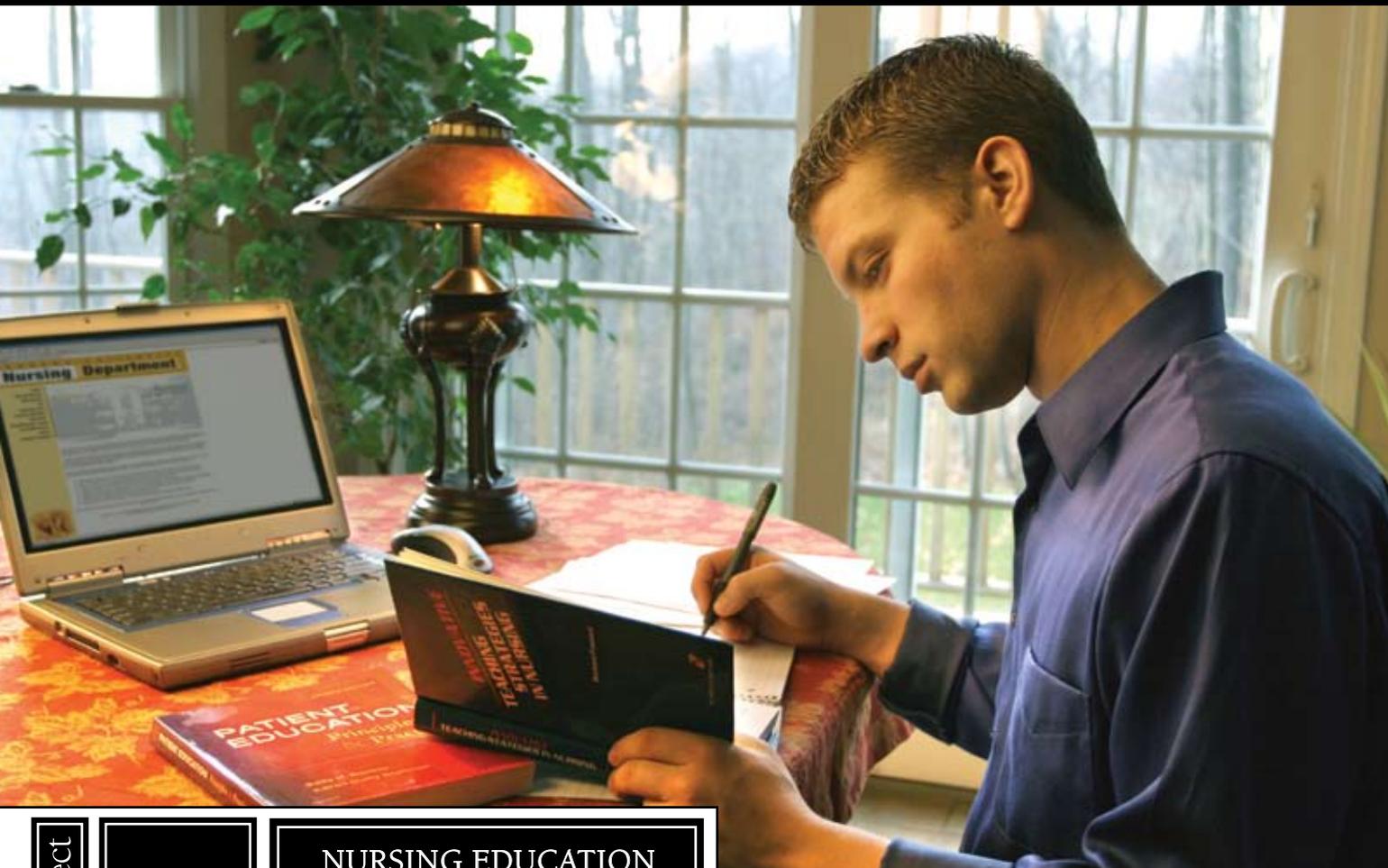
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# Announcements

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 [www.lakeunionherald.org](http://www.lakeunionherald.org) and submit the announcement online. Readers may verify dates and times of programs with the respective sources, as these events are subject to change.

## Illinois

**Women's Ministries Retreat**, "Legacy: An Aroma of Grace," will be **Oct. 3-5** at Wyndham Lisle-Chicago, 3300 Warrenville Rd., Lisle, Ill. Featured speaker will be Karen Holford, associate director of family and children's ministries for the South England Conference. For more information, visit [www.illinoisadventist.org](http://www.illinoisadventist.org) and select Women's Ministries under Departments.

## Indiana

**One-Day Health Seminar** with speakers Dr. Hans Diehl, developer of CHIP; Dr. Caldwell Esselstyn, author of *Reversing Heart Disease*; and Dr. Antonia Demas, a leading authority on children's nutrition is slated. Indiana Healthy Choices is sponsoring this event, **Sept. 19**, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., in Anderson, Ind. For registration information, contact Susan Landess at 765-621-7557 or [susan\\_landess@yahoo.com](mailto:susan_landess@yahoo.com).

**Women's Ministries Fall Weekend Retreat** is **Sept. 19-21** at the Embassy Suites Indianapolis North with guest speaker Sally Streib, author of several books including *Heart Mender* and *Summer of the Shark*. To attend, you must register by Sept. 1. To register, contact Linda Reece at 317-844-6201 or [lreece@indysda.org](mailto:lreece@indysda.org).

**The Indiana Academy (IA) Alumni Association** welcomes all graduates/attendees to the IA campus for Alumni Homecoming, **Oct. 10-11**. Honor classes are 1958, '68, '83 and '98. In addition, the classes of 1978 and 1988 will be recognized. Special recognition will be given to the golden-age classes of 1929-1957. For more information, contact Jimmy Arnett, alumni president, at 219-629-1177 or [jimmy\\_arnett@vfc.com](mailto:jimmy_arnett@vfc.com). As part of the weekend activities, the 18th annual Alumni Golf Classic and Auction will

be held Fri., Oct. 10. For information regarding the golf/auction event, contact Lawrence Johnson at 765-649-7256 or [ljohnson@mustinbuilders.com](mailto:ljohnson@mustinbuilders.com).

## Lake Region

**The Peterson-Warren Alumni Association** (PWAA) annual homecoming celebration is fast approaching! Save the date: **Sat., Sept. 20**. Our divine worship keynote speaker is Pastor Corey Jackson of Northwest Church. Our theme is *Ready for Sacrifice & Service!* At 8:00 p.m. PWAA will be hosting a gala in **Celebration of Project Faith**. This black-tie affair will be held at Burton Manor Banquet & Conference Center, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich. The evening will include a delicious meal, networking, fellowship and entertainment. Honorable Judge Gregory Mathis will be honored as distinguished alumnus of the year. For more information about the homecoming or tickets for the gala, call 313-565-5808.

**National Operation Reachback Annual Thinktank** conference coming to Detroit **Oct. 16-18** at The Double Tree Hotel, 5801 Southfield Freeway. "Empowering Young Black Males at Risk to Succeed" will help support Operation Reach Back's "Boys at Risk." Featured speakers include Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu, Rupert Bushner, Kwame R. Vanderhorst, Errol Liverpool, Ralph Shelton, Larry Folmar, Wendell Jeffrey, Edward Green, Paul Musson, Carl Dade, Roland Gresham, Sharonlynn Harrison, Calvin Rock, Rosa Banks and many more. Banquet Black Tie Affair \$60. For further details, contact City Temple at 313-897-0506, or Helen Bryant at 313-610-3704.

## Lake Union

### Offerings

**Sept 6** Local Church Budget  
**Sept 13** Fall Mission Appeal

**Sept 20** Local Church Budget  
**Sept 27** Local Conference Advance  
**Thirteenth Sabbath Offering**  
**Sept 27** North American Division

### Special Days

**Sept 6** Men's Day of Prayer  
**Sept 7-13** Nurture Periodicals  
(*Adventist Review, Insight, Guide, Primary Treasure, Little Friend*)

**Sept 14-20** Family Togetherness Week  
**Sept 21-27** Hispanic Heritage Week

## Michigan

**The Michigan Boarding Academies Alumni Association** invites all alumni from Adelphian Academy, Cedar Lake Academy, Grand Ledge Academy and Great Lakes Adventist Academy to Alumni Weekend, **Oct. 10-11**, on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy. This year's honor classes are 1958, '68, '78, '83, '88 and '98. Come join us for a memorable weekend. For more information, visit [www.glaa.net](http://www.glaa.net), or call the Alumni office at 989-427-5181.

### Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend:

All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Fri. evening and all day Sabbath, **Oct. 17-19**. Honor classes are 1939, '44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99 and 2004. For more details, contact the Academy Alumni office at 269-471-6140 or e-mail [acadalum@andrews.edu](mailto:acadalum@andrews.edu).

**Adult Singles Retreat:** Mark your calendar and join fellow adult singles (over 21) for a relaxing retreat at Michigan's beautiful Camp AuSable, **Oct. 23-26**. Gail Micheff, Family Ministries director, and staff have planned a Christ-centered, uplifting program with plenty of fellowship, spiritual enrichment and fun. This is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends as well as renewing previous acquaintances. Registration forms are available at [www.misda.org](http://www.misda.org). For more information and prices, contact Alyce Blackmer at 517-316-1543 or e-mail [ablackmer@misda.org](mailto:ablackmer@misda.org).

**Grand Rapids Adventist Academy** is having a one-day-only Alumni Sabbath on **Nov. 1**. An overview of the day includes: Sabbath school, 9:45 a.m.; church service, 11:00 a.m.; fellowship dinner following church; vespers, 4:45 p.m.; and student/Alumni games, approximately 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact the school at 616-791-9797 or e-mail [graa@misda.org](mailto:graa@misda.org).

## North American Division

**Oak Park Academy Alumni:** Return to Gates Hall, Nevada, Iowa, **Sept. 19 and 20**, for a great time with classmates and friends. The honor classes are 1933, '38, '43, '48, '53, '58, '63, '68, '73, '78 and '83. For more information, go to [www.opainiowa.com](http://www.opainiowa.com).

**Whitecoat Veterans Reunion** will be held at the Frederick Seventh-day Adventist Church the weekend of **Sept. 19-21**. All 2300 veterans welcome to attend this spiritual, social, educational reunion with tours of Fort Detrick and Mt. Aetna Nature Center. Bring memorabilia for display. For more information, contact Dr. Frank Damazo, 700 Montclair Ave., Frederick, MD 21701; phone 301-662-4502; fax 301-695-3139; or e-mail [thedamazos@aol.com](mailto:thedamazos@aol.com).

### Sunnydale Adventist Academy Alumni

**Weekend:** To be held **Oct. 2-5** in Centralia, Missouri. Honor classes are: 1948, '53, '58, '63, '68, '78, '83, '88 and '98. Activities start with the Silver Showcase, Thurs. evening, Oct. 2. For additional information, call 573-682-2164 or visit website [www.sunnydale.org](http://www.sunnydale.org).

### Health Summit West-English, 2008, Loma

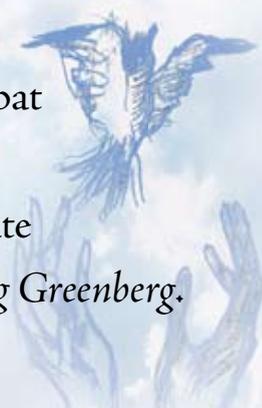
**Linda University:** The North American Division, Pacific Union and Loma Linda School of Health announce the 4th health certification training program **Oct. 17-28**. "Tell the World Christ Brings Health and Wholeness" will present featured speakers Pastors Jose Rojas and Hyveth Williams. Six "train-the-trainer" seminars will be conducted. For more information, go to [www.nadhealthsummit.com](http://www.nadhealthsummit.com).



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## PARTNERSHIP with GOD

### I Don't Pray

BY GARY BURNS



I don't pray as well as I should. I don't pray as often as I should. Worse yet, I don't even want to pray as often as I should.

I don't know how to pray. I don't know how prayer works. I don't know why prayer works. But it works.

Quite a confession from one who has been involved in the national and global prayer movements since their beginnings. But I have discovered that the more I pray, and the more experience I have in prayer, the more the above statements are true.

I used to think I prayed pretty well. I thought I knew all about prayer. It finally dawned on me that I didn't even have a clue, and it has changed everything.

Every genuine prayer is first born in the heart of God. Even my *ought* comes from Him.

The call to prayer comes from Him. The subject of prayer comes from Him. The blessing of prayer comes from Him. The words to pray come from Him. Even the non-words to pray come from Him.

Just as Adam and Eve heard God walking in the cool of the evening, we can hear God approaching at the time of prayer. He initiates the conversation. He fellowships with us. He knows our heart and mind, and puts into our desires and thoughts the very things He is eager to accomplish.

I don't pray, God prays for me! What an amazing thought! What an amazing partnership! It's all about Him!

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

# Snowstorms

BY EUNICE MARPAUNG

**T**he words on the computer screen brought a deep pain to my chest—"Eunice, I miss you! How's Michigan?" I could feel it climbing up my throat, threatening to flow out of my eyes as tears.

"I miss you too," I slowly typed back to my friend. I looked out the window, watching the snowflakes fall endlessly to the ground, creating a sky of white dots. The scene sickened me. I knew that once the snow stopped falling, I'd have to go out in the biting cold to shovel the driveway, a chore I deeply loathed.

"I can't stand Michigan," I finally typed. "What I'd give to be in California with you right now!" After clicking the send button, I collapsed on my bed in confusion. I remember the day my parents asked me the question that would change my life.

"We want to move to Andrews University to continue our education. Do you agree to this move?" It didn't take me long to answer. There was just too much drama in California. I thought that by moving, I'd be able to run away from my problems. So I gave my parents a cheerful, "Yes!"

But on my last week in California, as my friends tearfully hugged me farewell, I realized how important they were to me. I took them completely for granted, and as I lay on my bed, six months after the big move, I did nothing but regret agreeing with my parents to move here. I had been crying

almost every night, praying to God that some good would come out of my loneliness. I was awakened from my daydreaming when the phone started ringing.

It was a Michigan friend. "Hey, Eunice, do you want to go snowboarding with us tomorrow?" And then it hit me. All those times I had cried out, God had listened. He sent me many new friends, gave me good grades in school, and opened up so many other opportunities for me. God has blessed me! I was just too blind with the negatives to see the positives.

I may never see most of my friends in California again, but there is one Friend who is always there, no matter how far away I go. He's my Lord, my Savior, and my Best Friend. I looked out the window with new eyes. The snow had stopped falling. I smiled. Snowstorms may come, but soon, the sun will shine again.

---

Eunice Marpaung, 15, is a junior at Berrien Springs High School. She attends Pioneer Memorial Church. Eunice will receive a \$100 scholarship since her submission was selected for publication.



**Bradley Bennison**, 17, is a senior at Battle Creek Academy (BCA). Bradley is the son of Bruce and Edelbis and is a member of the Battle Creek Tabernacle.

A talented musician, Bradley plays the trombone in BCA's award-winning concert band. He also plays the acoustic guitar, bass guitar, and has his own home music studio. Bradley also loves to play basketball and is the center for the Battle Creek Tabernacle team.

Bradley's favorite subject in school was chemistry. He said, "It was really interesting learning about things that we can't even see. I think that science helps prove that there is a God."

His favorite experience at BCA was the concert band tour to Florida in 2007. "The trip lasted about two weeks, and it was loads of fun. ... A lot of people were blessed with our music, and in return we got blessed."

Bradley has held many class and organizational offices, including Campus Ministries In-Reach Coordinator, concert band pastor, and junior class pastor, and is a National Honor Society member. Eric Velez, BCA principal, says that every accomplishment Bradley receives is well deserved. "He is always very involved and willing to step up and help. He will serve the student body well as this year's campus ministries director."

After graduation, Bradley plans to attend Southern Adventist University to pursue a degree in the medical field.



Bradley Bennison



Jessica Eberhard

**Jessica Eberhard**, 18, is a senior at Battle Creek Academy (BCA). Jessica is the daughter of Russell and Betty Lou, members of Battle Creek Tabernacle.

Determined to achieve, Jessica is a member of the National Honor Society, plays flute in the concert band, and has held a class office every year of academy and is currently senior class president. This summer Jessica also took Human Anatomy at Kellogg

Community College.

When asked about BCA, Jessica said, "I appreciate how safe and spiritual BCA is. The teachers know us each so personally and help us with our weaknesses and our strengths. The staff at BCA truly cares about our earthly goals, but most of all our eternal goals in preparing us for Heaven."

Jessica does not limit her accomplishments to school. She has been involved in the 4-H horse program for ten years and is a four-year member of the Battle Creek Central equestrian team. "I enjoy showing horses and going to the county fair with my horse and various other projects that I have made throughout the year."

After graduation, Jessica says that she'll miss the intimate class sizes, band trips and close friendships. Jessica plans to pursue a degree in nursing with a minor in photography.

## Address Correction

Only paid subscribers should contact the *Lake Union Herald* office with their address changes. Members should contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all *Lake Union Herald* address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right.

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