

Lake Union
HERALD

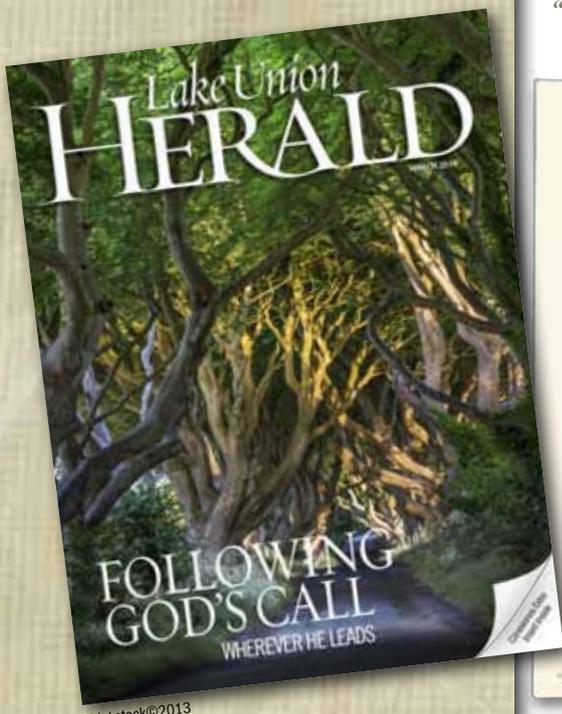
MARCH 2014

**FOLLOWING
GOD'S CALL**

WHEREVER HE LEADS

Conexiones Extra
Insert Inside

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



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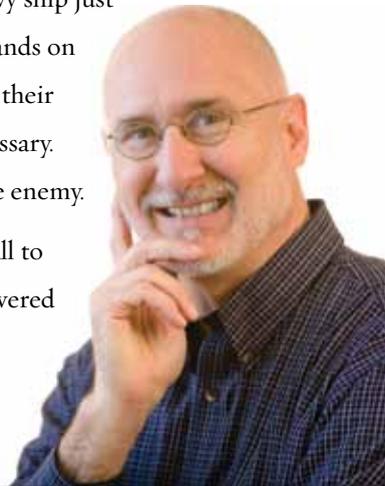
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In this issue...

You may recall the two-note whistle signal on a Navy ship just before the announcement on the loud speaker: "All hands on deck! All hands on deck!" All sailors then scramble to their assigned positions and prepare to do whatever is necessary. In times of war, it often means direct contact with the enemy. Joel 2's trumpet blast is God's all-hands-on-deck call to action. This edition focuses on how women have answered that call in the Lake Union.

Gary Burns, Editor



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The Lake Union Herald (ISSN 0194-908X) is published monthly by the Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs, MI, and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription price is \$12.50. Vol. 106, No. 3. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: Lake Union Herald, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287.



A Call for Fasting and Prayer

A central theme of biblical leadership is intercession by and for God's people. Abraham interceded for the few righteous in Sodom, Moses for the "stiff-necked people"¹ in Israel, Nehemiah for Jerusalem that lay in ruins, and John 17 shows Jesus' profound intercessory ministry. Their prayers made a powerful difference.

If you discern that I have a specific concern in mind, you are correct. There are elements in God's cause that continue to polarize. The pathway to the kingdom is described as straight and narrow. Straight and narrow paths often have significant ditches on both sides.

I've worked with rebellious churches and individuals — both extremely conservative and liberal — who were very legalistic and so focused on side issues that the main mission of the Church was lost. Both were often very critical of those who did not agree with them, frequently sending varying kinds of volleys, through whatever means available, at those who were "wrong." That unChristlike spirit always does great spiritual damage within and even beyond the bounds of those congregations.

Then there are wonderful individuals and groups who handle disagreement in spiritually-productive ways. I have seen these differing groups come together in attitudes of humility, with much prayer, seeking to understand each other in an attitude of Christlike love, and finding a deeply productive, spiritual unity in spite of contrary viewpoints.

The ten days of prayer and unity before Pentecost (see Acts 1–2) and the controversy about circumcision (see Acts 15) are examples. Even when the people of God made the wrong decision at the border of the Promised Land, Joshua and Caleb did not quit in "holy disgust," they stayed with God's people, wrong as they were, and they were ready when God called them to take important leadership 40 years later. These men were consistent with Corrie ten Boom's statement: "When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer."

I have the privilege to see many great things in God's Church but, unfortunately, also see developments that threaten our important mission. While we reach millions of people with the everlasting gospel, care for and serve the broken and disenfranchised with the power of God's transforming Spirit, the winds of strife are bearing down on the Church.

I hear rhetoric from both sides on the issue of ordaining women that is concerning. One test of a godly church, of godly people, is can we strive together in a way that honors God and keeps us on mission? Will we honor Christ's John 17 prayer for unity?

God has raised this Church at an apocalyptic time and for an apocalyptic reason. We are to bring the message of salvation and Christ's soon return to redeem his people from a dying world. It has and always will take a miracle for this mission to continue to the end. God called this Movement into existence for a purpose. We must remain focused on God's mission.

So here is a call for the Lake Union membership: Each week find specific times to intercede before God through fasting and prayer that this Church, with its wide and rich diversity, will stay united to fulfill our mission. Let's be a part of a miracle!

¹. See Exodus 32:9.



180° Symposium Seeks to Revive Youth Sabbath Schools

BY ESTEPHA A. FRANCISQUE

The purpose of the E.L. Minchin/Center for Youth Evangelism 180° Symposium is to address and discuss current issues facing youth ministries. The symposium brings together administrators, academics and practitioners, providing the unique opportunity for those working directly with youth to share ideas with local pastors and world church administrators. The goal from these discussions is to facilitate effective, healthy change. In the case of this year's symposium, held October 15–17, 2013, at Andrews University, the mission was to address and discuss issues facing youth and young adult Sabbath school, with the goal being to determine and implement effective action steps that will afford our youth a richer experience within their local Sabbath schools.

Given the current situation of youth and young adult Sabbath school, a number might feel that it is a relic of the past that is better off simply being done away with. The logic may be that if nobody is going, it should be shut down. However, in this year's symposium, we were greatly benefited by presentations from Gary Swanson and James Zackrison, Sab-



Martin Weber, SDA product manager at Logos Software, moderated the 2013 180° Symposium on youth and young adult Sabbath school.

is the most far-reaching, effective tool for teaching our members and visitors. There are things Sabbath school does that a sermon never could do.

Sabbath school is one of Adventism's greatest assets, yet it faces many challenges, especially as it seeks to reach youth and young adults. Many of these challenges were pointed out by our presenters.

bath school administrators from the General Conference and North American Division respectively, who reminded participants of the history of Sabbath school and its purpose.

Sabbath school is the only ministry in our church that is mainly participatory in nature and also widespread among SDA churches large and small worldwide. Furthermore, it

Kathleen Beagles, a professor at the SDA Theological Seminary, notes that Sabbath school is dying, in part, because of a need for an educationally-sound structure. Teachers currently are not being trained and equipped to teach a curriculum in a way that fosters learning similarly to how youth learn in school.

Darren Heslop

Petr Cincala, director of the Institute of Church Ministry, stated in his paper that we face the challenge of youth disengaging from and leaving the church, which also naturally affects Sabbath school. He notes that our challenge with youth is not that they are running to the attractions of the world, but that we are failing to notice or meet their changing spiritual needs.

Denton Grady, youth director of the Potomac Conference, pointed out the challenge that local youth leaders face of not having the resources regularly to provide consistently-engaging content that dynamically reaches fellow youth. These are only some of the challenges facing Sabbath school.

While youth and young adult Sabbath school faces these challenges and more, there are already some success stories. In the youth Sabbath school class at Washington Brazilian Church, the small congregation puts on dynamic Sabbath school, featuring mission stories via Skype from mission fields worldwide. Special music is also Skyped in from places like Sao Paulo, Brazil. Lesson studies also are taught by experts on the topic via Skype.

Another success story comes right from the campus of Andrews University at Pioneer Memorial Church, where the "Something in Common" Sabbath school, led by Steve and Karen Nash and Duane and Lori Covrig, uses video series on marriage and other relevant life topics to facilitate engaged learning and discussion. This Sabbath school is still strongly attended after 18 years! These are only a couple of the powerful success stories that were shared at the 180° Symposium.

Sabbath school faces many challenges, but it is far from dead. Based on the challenges we face as a church and the success stories we've heard so far, maybe what we need is what Anna Romuald, a pastor, calls "a new way to do 9:30."

Please visit <http://cye.org/180> for all presenters' papers and teacher training material provided by the General Conference Sabbath School Department.



Darren Heslop

Estepha Francisque, 180° Symposium graduate assistant, guest presented Petr Cincala's paper titled "Sabbath School: Connecting with Young People."

Sabbath school is one of Adventism's greatest assets, yet it faces many challenges, especially as it seeks to reach youth and young adults.

Estepha A. Francisque is a graduate assistant with E.L. Minchin/CYE 180° Symposium.



Margin: Rx for Overloaded Lives

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

Years ago, I had the opportunity to learn about creating margin in my life. Physician Richard Swenson identified margin as the space between our load and our limit. It has to do with our reserves. He said if our load is 80 percent filled up (with work, duty, busyness, activities, commitments and obligations — all good things), we still have some margin, some buffer. But if we are 100 percent filled up, we are overloaded.

I immediately identified with the concept of margin. I visualized a sheet of three-ring notebook paper with the fine-lined margins around the outside. Aha! My “life” should be planned to fit within the margins, and the space outside the margins offered buffer. For me, buffer meant leaving five to ten minutes earlier than absolutely necessary, not scheduling appointments right on top of each other, and remembering that things often take longer than we anticipate! Today, I still hold that visual in my mind, and it helps me to allow for and stay committed to keeping margin in my life. Countless times God has used that margin in significant ways!

This is not to imply there aren’t challenges! In a culture that sends the message we should maximize everything and that stress and overload are “normal,” where are we supposed to fit in things like rest, love, caring, giving, empathy, service, compassion, friendship and neighborliness? I believe it depends on our actual, real-life priorities and making choices not to over-schedule our lives.

A few of the other insights I received from Richard are:

- Everything we own owns us, and everything we own will demand a certain amount of our attention, energy, time and finances.
- Saying “yes” to something always means saying “no” to something else.

- We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God.

Paul advised us, *Be very careful, then, how you live — not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is* (Ephesians 5:15–17 NIV). Paul is encouraging us to walk intelligently and not in ignorance, looking around carefully so we don’t stumble. He’s saying we need to be purposeful in our life every day because we live in a sinful world. All around us there are things that interrupt us from our desires to live in balance and to serve wisely and responsibly.

This isn’t to say there aren’t times for doing and daring, for attempting and achieving, for taking risks. We should beware of moments and hours

of ease when we can fall most easily. Paul’s counsel illustrates the importance of Christians having practical wisdom, and Richard illustrated for me the practical wisdom of margin as it relates to time, finances, emotional energy, physical energy and spiritual energy. What a blessing!



Susan E. Murray is a professor emerita of behavioral sciences at Andrews University, certified family life educator, and licensed marriage and family therapist.

*A 2004 revised version of the book *MARGIN: Prescription for the Pain of Overloaded Lives*, by Richard A. Swenson, is available at <http://www.richardswenson.org>.

**Raw food diet
is helpful for
losing weight.**

Going Raw

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

**Cooking unleashes
some phytonutrients.**



Some people are switching off their ovens. Instead, they are turning on blenders, food processors and dehydrators to prepare their food. A raw food diet has surged in popularity once again.

Nutritious wild berries, along with organic whole foods, are preferred to commercially-produced food. Green smoothies, made from juicing raw vegetables and fruits, provide the consumer a good dose of antioxidants.

For a raw food diet, fruits and vegetables dominate the menu. Sprouted peas and beans, nuts and seeds, nut butters, grains, cold-pressed extra-virgin olive oil, raw virgin coconut oil and herbs are common fare. Some even include unpasteurized dairy foods and raw eggs. It is claimed that raw food contains live enzymes to assist with digestion. Heat-



ing food above 118° Fahrenheit destroys the enzymes in food, and lessens the nutritional value they claim. In reality, enzymes are inactivated by the acidic environment of the stomach, rendering them non-functional.

Some people believe a raw food diet is the healthiest diet, having curative and health-promoting properties such as providing more energy, boosting immune function, reducing allergies, slowing down aging and purifying the body of toxins. They claim that heating vegetable oils produce measurable levels of unhealthy trans fats. Scientific evidence to support these claims is difficult to locate.

Eating a raw food diet does help you lose weight, since many raw foods are low in fat and calories, and high in fiber. The raw food diet is rich in health-promoting phytochemicals and has little saturated fat and salt, resulting in lower cholesterol and blood pressure levels. However, following a raw food diet for a number of years is often associated with a lower bone mineral density.

Raw food diets are inappropriate for infants and children since the low caloric intake does not sustain appropriate

growth. Consuming only raw foods will limit the variety of one's diet and certain food groups would be under-represented. One has to ensure getting enough protein, iron, zinc, vitamins B12 and D, calcium, and other nutrients. A vitamin supplement may be necessary to make up for nutrient gaps in the diet.

There are actually some advantages to using cooked foods. Cooking unleashes two to three times more lycopene and other carotenoids (the pigments in red, yellow-orange and green vegetables) for the body to absorb. These carotenoids protect against heart disease and cancer. Baking bread with yeast activates the enzyme phytase, which breaks down phytic acid. This process greatly increases the absorption of zinc and calcium. The availability of these minerals from uncooked grains is low. Cooking also destroys dangerous bacteria such as salmonella and *E. coli*, associated with foodborne illnesses. Food poisoning can result from eating raw or unpasteurized milk and raw eggs.

While eating raw fruit and vegetables is a healthy plan, eating only raw food may not be the best plan. Due to the risk of food poisoning, a raw food diet isn't recommended for pregnant women, young children, seniors, people with weak immune systems, and those with chronic medical conditions like kidney disease.

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



PRESENT TRUTH

Following the Lamb wherever he goes

The Work Is God's

BY THE EDITORS

“While extensive plans should be laid, great care must be taken that the work in each branch of the cause be harmoniously united with that in every other branch, thus making a perfect whole. But too often it has been the reverse of this; and, as the result, the work has been defective. One man who has the oversight of a certain branch of the work magnifies his responsibilities until, in his estimation, that one department is above every other. When this narrow view is taken, a strong influence is exerted to lead others to see the matter in the same light. This is human nature, but it is not the spirit of Christ. Just in proportion as this policy is followed, Christ is crowded out of the work, and self appears prominent.

“The principles that should actuate us as workers in God's cause are laid down by the apostle Paul. He says: *We are laborers together with God* [1 Corinthians 3:9 KJV], and *Whatever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men* [Colossians 3:23 KJV].

“When these principles control our hearts, we shall realize that the work is God's, not ours; that He has the same care for every part of the great whole. ... It is selfishness which leads persons to think that the particular part of the work in which they are engaged is the most important of all.

“It is selfishness also that prompts the feeling, on the part of workers, that their judgment must be the most reliable and their methods of labor the best or that it is their privilege in any way to bind the conscience of another. Such was the spirit of the Jewish leaders in Christ's day. In their self-exaltation the priests and rabbis brought in such rigid rules and so many forms and ceremonies as to divert the minds of the people from God and leave Him no chance to work for them. Thus His mercy and love were lost sight of. My brethren, do not follow in the same path. Let the minds of the people be directed to God. Leave Him a chance to work for those who love Him. Do not impose upon the people rules and regulations, which, if followed, would leave them as destitute of the Spirit of God as were the hills of Gilboa of dew or rain.

“There is a deplorable lack of spirituality among our people. A great work must be done for them before they can become what Christ designed they should be — the light of the

world. For years I have felt deep anguish of soul as the Lord has presented before me the want in our churches of Jesus and His love. There has been a spirit of self-sufficiency and a disposition to strive for position and supremacy. I have seen that self-glorification was becoming common among Seventh-day Adventists and that unless the pride of man should be abased and Christ exalted we should, as a people, be in no better condition to receive Christ at His second advent than were the Jewish people to receive Him at His first advent” (*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 726–728*).

This column is designed to promote searching the Scriptures on current topics — in community, through prayer. Invite others to join you in a prayerful response to these thoughts:

- To what degree is my love for self swallowed up in love for souls?
- How is my love for souls manifested?
- Is selfishness the root of oppression?
- In what ways do I oppress fellow believers?
- In what ways do I oppress non-believers?
- Do my impositions deny God a chance to work in the lives of others?
- Describe the condition of one's heart who was ready to receive Christ at his first advent.

The Lake Union Herald editors



How Does God Speak Today?

BY ALVIN J. VANDERGRIEND

The primary way God speaks to us today is clearly through the Bible. The psalmist writes: Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105 ESV). The apostle Paul reminds us that the God-breathed Scriptures are *useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that all God's people may be thoroughly equipped for every good work* (2 Timothy 3:16–17 TNIV). It would be foolish for anyone to seek to hear God's voice and neglect the Word of God. The Bible is the surest and best and safest place to hear God speak.

Wise Christians will fill their minds with words from the Word. But let me caution you! It is possible, however, to read, study and memorize the Scriptures and never hear the voice of God. Jesus took issue with Jewish leaders who had diligently studied the Scriptures all their lives — the Scriptures that testified of Christ — but never had seen him there (see John 5:37–40). In other words, they had never really heard God speak from the pages of holy writ. There is a difference between absorbing knowledge about God and actually hearing him speak. Don't assume that simply reading the Bible is listening to God speak.

God also speaks through his Spirit in our spirits. In Romans 8:16, Paul writes, *The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children* (NIV). The Spirit's witness gives us an inner awareness and assurance that we are God's children and belong to his family.

Another way that God speaks to us is through circumstances. Many of the events in our lives seem to be nothing more than a set of random occurrences. The truth, however, is that God often uses circumstances to teach and guide us. If we view and interpret the circumstances of our lives, guided by the Spirit and the Word of God, we will often see and understand God and his ways with us.

Paul also indicates that God speaks to everyone through his works of creation. *For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine*

nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse (Romans 1:20 TNIV).

Something to Think About

- Why do you suppose God chooses to speak to us in several different ways?
- Can you think of times when God spoke to you personally through the Scriptures? By his Spirit to your spirit? Through circumstances?

Something to Pray About

- Praise God for revealing himself to you so that you can know him, love him and trust him.
- Thank him for all the ways he has made himself known to you, including the Bible, the Spirit's testimony in your heart, and circumstances.
- Confess any patterns in your life that have kept you from hearing God.
- Ask the Spirit to give you ongoing confirmation in your spirit that you are Abba's child (see Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6).

Something to Act On

Whenever you read the Bible, begin with a prayer that you will actually be able to “hear” God speak to you personally.

Alvin J. VanderGriend is co-founder of The Denominational Prayer Leaders Network and currently serves as evangelism associate for Harvest Prayer Ministries in Terre Haute, Indiana. This article is an adaptation from his book *Joy of Prayer*. Reprinted with permission.

Short-term Missions, Long-term Partnership

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

In 1990, Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion, led a group of Andrews University students and Pioneer Memorial Church members in a mission trip to Romania, where they put on a FLAG (Fun Learning About God) camp for children in partnership with REACH International, a local nonprofit that helps children. Twenty-four years later, Glenn is still carrying on the tradition.

During winter break, a group of two dozen students accompanied Glenn to Hogar de Niños, a children's home in Honduras operated by REACH, where they coordinated FLAG camp for more than 150 children, led out in Sabbath school, held evening worship services, and generally assisted the regular staff.

"I always try to make sure it's meaningful for the students," says Glenn, "but this year, more than ever, had a profound effect on me."

The team not only conducted the camp but also put together large Christmas baskets for local families, containing enough food to last a family for close to a month plus toys for the children and more.

"The night we passed out Christmas baskets we all enjoyed a delicious dinner, and we all had seconds," recalls Glenn. "We were full of food and the Christmas spirit."

Glenn drove the truck with the baskets in the back, and while they were delivering them, at least a dozen people came up to the truck and said, "We put our children to bed tonight, and they haven't eaten all day. Please, do you have some food for us?"

"You feel so helpless," says Glenn. "We do what we can, but we can't solve this problem. I sat there thinking about Christmas back home, people giving presents to people who don't need them, and how much we have. It makes you wonder, *Why am I so blessed? Why do I have so much?* And it reminds



Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion at Andrews University, baptizes a student in Honduras who was introduced to Jesus through the REACH program there.

you that we are part of a global church family — they are our brothers and sisters, and we have a responsibility to help them."

Having coordinated this trip to Honduras for 13 years now, Glenn has watched many of the children in the REACH program grow, both physically and mentally. It's what he calls a "mixed experience," as you see both the joy of one who has graduated from college, and then visit another in jail.

"The choices they make are just like our own children's choices," he says. "Young people make choices as they grow. It's painful when those choices are moving away from God and the good things in life, and it's wonderful when they make positive choices. But they never would have had the opportunity to make the positive choices without the REACH program."

Glenn says he never has to advertise much for these trips. Those who have participated before share their experiences with their friends and family, and he never has trouble finding volunteers.

"Last time we were there, the director came to me and said, 'Do not ask if you can come back; just tell us when you're coming,'" he says. "We're blessed to be able to serve alongside the dedicated staff at REACH, and we hope we're a bit of a blessing, too."

Becky St. Clair is media communications manager in the Department of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.



¿Cuál es su fuerte?

POR CARMELO MERCADO

Cada iglesia debe ser escuela práctica de obreros cristianos. Sus miembros deberían aprender a dar estudios bíblicos, a dirigir y enseñar clases en las escuelas sabáticas, a auxiliar al pobre y cuidar al enfermo, y trabajar en pro de los inconversos. Debería haber escuelas de higiene, clases culinarias y para varios ramos de la obra caritativa cristiana. Debería haber no sólo enseñanza teórica, sino también trabajo práctico bajo la dirección de instructores experimentados. Abran los maestros el camino trabajando entre el pueblo, y otros, al unirse con ellos, aprenderán de su ejemplo. Un ejemplo vale más que muchos preceptos. —El ministerio de curación, pp. 107–108

Al principio de este año tuve el privilegio de asistir a la Iglesia Hispana de Berrien Springs, la iglesia hispana más cercana a la Universidad Andrews. Ese sábado la Escuela Sabática y el Culto de Adoración fueron dirigidos por estudiantes de la universidad. El énfasis en la Escuela Sabática fue la salud, y tres estudiantes de la universidad hicieron presentaciones acerca de la buena nutrición. Fue también un placer ver a un grupo de jóvenes organizados en un praise team dirigir los cantos en una manera profesional e inspiradora. Otro joven dirigió el momento de oración en el cual se oró por las necesidades que existían. La historia de los niños, relatada de una manera muy interesante por uno de los jóvenes cautivó la atención de los niños y animó su participación.

Gocé mucho ese sábado en la iglesia, no solamente por las presentaciones tan interesantes e inspiradoras sino porque al estar sentado en esas bancas recordé cuando yo asistía a esa iglesia en los años 1977–1979. Yo estudiaba en el seminario y comenzaban a llegar más jóvenes hispanos para estudiar en la Universidad Andrews. Varios de nosotros asistíamos y participábamos en la iglesia hispana. Aunque no lo sabía en aquel tiempo, comprendo ahora que los años que asistí a esa iglesia me ayudaron mucho en mi desarrollo como miembro y líder activo de iglesia. Esos años contribuyeron también a que yo mantuviera mi identidad como hispano y apreciara la manera en que como hispanos adoramos a Dios. Aunque vivimos hoy en una época muy diferente a la de los años 1977–1979, me alegra mucho ver que la Iglesia Hispana de Berrien Springs mantiene su misión de involucrar a los estudiantes de la universidad y de desarrollar sus talentos.

Por supuesto no todas las iglesias hispanas están cerca de una universidad como Andrews en la que hay un ministerio



Jóvenes dirigen el servicio de cantos en la Iglesia Hispana de Berrien Springs, Michigan.

especial dirigido a los estudiantes hispanos. Pero pienso que sería saludable que cada iglesia hispana tuviera por lo menos un ministerio fuerte que ganara y preparara discípulos para Cristo. Por ejemplo, sé de varias iglesias que tienen un ministerio que ayuda a personas de recursos limitados. También varias iglesias en Grand Rapids tienen un ministerio que se preocupa por ayudar a familias hispanas en su comunidad. Además, sé de una iglesia en Indianápolis cuyo ministerio se centra en ayudar a otros a mejorar la salud. Asimismo, hay también iglesias que mantienen un lindo y activo Club de Conquistadores.

Quisiera animar a los líderes de las iglesias a que traten también de organizar un ministerio para ayudar en el avance de la obra del Señor.

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.

GOSPEL EVANGELISTS

BY ELLEN WHITE

The work of God is to go into all the world, vindicating the claims of Christ, and writing his name on hearts. As laborers together with him, we must never get above the simplicity of his work; for unless we walk humbly with God, the Holy Spirit cannot attend our efforts.

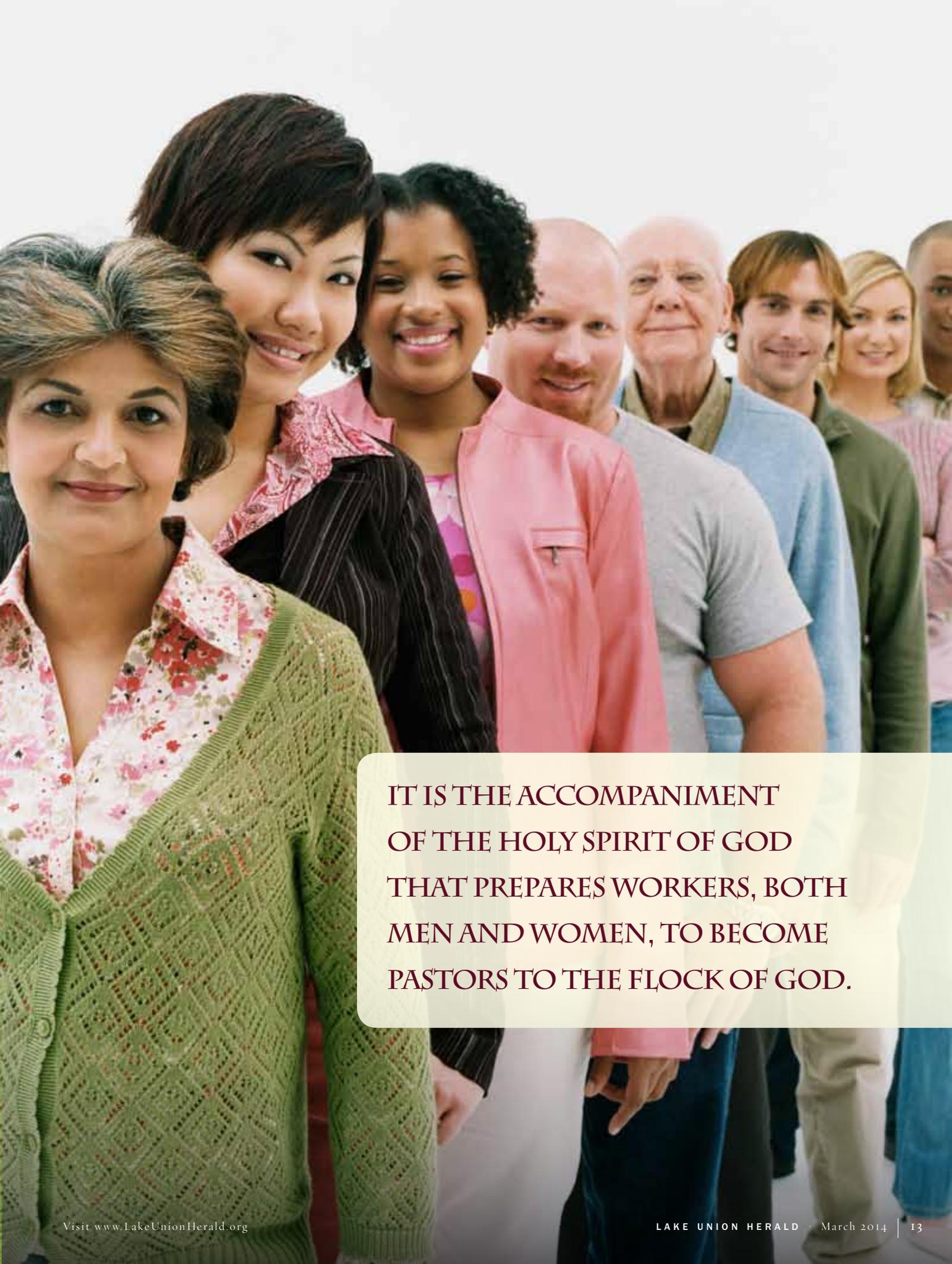
The canvassing work is an important field of labor, and will do much toward carrying the gospel to all the dark corners of the world. The intelligent, God-fearing, truth-loving canvasser should be respected, for he occupies a position equal to that of the gospel minister. Many of our young ministers and those who are fitting for the ministry would, if truly converted, do much good by entering the canvassing field. They would there obtain an experience in faith. Their knowledge of the Scriptures would greatly increase, because as they endeavored to impart to others the light given them, they would receive more to impart. By meeting people and presenting to them our publications, they would gain an experience that they could not gain by simply preaching. As they go from house to house, they should converse with those with whom they meet, carrying with them the fragrance of Christ's life. The most precious ministry that can be performed is by ministers working in the canvassing field.

All our ministers should feel free to carry books with them, to dispose of wherever they go. Wherever a minister goes, he can leave a book in the family where he stays, either selling it or giving it to them. Much of this work was done in the early history of the message. Ministers acted as canvassers and colporteurs, using the money they obtained from the sale of books to help in the advancement of the work in places where help was needed. These can speak

intelligently regarding this method of work, for they have had an experience.

Let none hold the impression that it belittles a minister of the gospel to canvass; for by doing this work, he is doing the very work as did the apostle Paul, who says: *Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews; and how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, and have showed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ* [Acts 20:18–21 KJV]. The eloquent Paul, to whom God manifested himself in a wonderful manner, went from house to house with all humility of mind, and with many tears and temptations.

All who wish an opportunity for true ministry, and who will give themselves unreservedly to God, will find in the canvassing work opportunities to speak upon many things pertaining to the future immortal life. The experience thus gained will be of the greatest value to those who are fitting themselves for the work of the ministry. It is the accompaniment of the Holy Spirit of God that prepares workers, both men and women, to become pastors to the flock of God. As they cherish the thought that Christ is their Companion, a holy awe, a sacred joy, will be felt by them amid all their trying experiences and all their tests. They will learn how to



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CHRIST, WEARING HIS
YOKE, YOU WILL DAILY
LEARN OF HIM HOW
TO CARRY MESSAGES OF
PEACE AND COMFORT TO
THE SORROWING AND
DISAPPOINTED, THE SAD
AND BROKEN-HEARTED.

pray as they work. They will become educated in patience, kindness, affability, and helpfulness wherever they may be. They will practice true Christian courtesy, bearing in mind that Christ, their Companion, will not approve of harsh, unkind words or feelings. Their words will be purified. The power of speech will be regarded as a precious talent, lent them to do a high and holy work. The human agent will learn how to represent the divine Companion with whom he is associated. To that unseen, holy One he will show respect and reverence because he is wearing his yoke, and is learning his pure, holy ways. Those who have faith in this divine Attendant will develop. They will be gifted with a power to clothe the message of truth with a sacred beauty.

There are some who are adapted to the work of a colporteur, and who can accomplish more in this line than by preaching. If the Spirit of Christ dwells in their own hearts, they will find opportunity to present his word to others, and to direct minds to the special truths for this time. Men suited to this work undertake it; but some injudicious minister flatters them that their gifts should be employed in the desk, instead of in the work of the colporteur. Thus they are influenced to get a license to preach, and the very ones who might have been trained to make good missionaries to visit families at their homes, to talk and pray with them, are turned away from a work for which they are fitted, to make poor ministers, and the field where so much labor is needed, and where so much good might be accomplished for the cause, is neglected. The canvassers in the field, if consecrated to God, will learn every day by practice how to reach the souls for whom Christ has died.

May the Lord help every one to improve to the utmost the talents committed to his trust. May he help all to study the Bible as they should, that its teachings may have a practical bearing upon their lives. Whatever your work may be, dear brethren and sisters, do it for the Master, and do your best. Do not overlook present golden opportunities, and let your life prove a failure, while you sit idly dreaming of ease and success in a work for which God has never fitted you. Do the work that is nearest you. Do it, even though it may be amid the perils and hardships of the missionary field; and when tempted to complain of hardship and self-sacrifice, look at Christ, and behold the sacrifice that He has made that the light of the gospel might shine into benighted minds.

The preaching of the word is a means by which the Lord has ordained his warning message to be given to the world. In the Scriptures the faithful teacher is represented as a

shepherd of the flock of God. He is to be respected, and his work appreciated. Genuine medical missionary work is bound up with the ministry, and the canvassing work is to be a part both of the medical missionary work and of the ministry. To those who are engaged in this work, I would say: As you visit the people, tell them you are a gospel evangelist, and that you love the Lord. Do not seek a home in a hotel, but stay at a private house, and become acquainted with the family. Christ sowed the seeds of truth wherever he was; and as his followers, you can witness for the Master, doing a most precious work in fireside labor. In thus coming close to the people, you will often find those who are sick and discouraged. If you are pressing close to the side of Christ, wearing his yoke, you will daily learn of him how to carry messages of peace and comfort to the sorrowing and disappointed, the sad and broken-hearted. You can point the discouraged ones to the word of God, and take the sick to the Lord in prayer. As you pray, speak to Christ as you would to a trusted, much-loved friend. Maintain a sweet, free, pleasant dignity, as a child of God. This will be recognized.

Canvassers should be able to give those with whom they stay instruction in regard to the way to treat the suffering. They should be educated in regard to the simple methods of hygienic treatment. Thus they may work as medical missionaries, ministering to the souls and bodies of the suffering. Now, just now, this work should be going forward in all parts of the country, that many might be blessed by the prayers and instruction of God's servants.

We need to realize the importance of the canvassing work as one great means of finding out those who are in peril, and bringing them back to Christ. The truth must go forward. The Church militant is not the Church triumphant. Canvassers should never be prohibited from speaking of the love of Christ, from telling their first experience in their service for the Master. They should be perfectly free to speak or to pray with those who are awakened. The simple story of Christ's love for man will open doors for them, even to the homes of unbelievers. Of all the gifts that God has given to man, none is more precious than the gift of speech; if it is sanctified by the Holy Spirit. It is with the tongue that we convince and persuade: with it we offer prayer and praise to God, and with it we convey rich thoughts of the Redeemer's love. Those who are fitted to enlighten minds will often have opportunity to read from the Bible or from books that teach the truth, and thus bring the evidence to enlighten souls. When canvassers discover

those who are interestedly searching for truth, they should hold Bible readings with them. These Bible readings are just what the people need. God will use in his service those who thus show a deep interest in perishing souls. Through them he will impart light to those who are ready to receive instruction.

Some have a zeal that is not according to knowledge. Such should not attempt this work; they should not try to converse with those whom they meet; for they would be unable to enlighten them. Because of the lack of wisdom on the part of some, because they have been so much inclined to act the minister and theologian, restrictions have almost had to be enforced upon our canvassers. When the Lord's voice calls, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" the divine Spirit puts it into hearts to respond, "Here am I; send me." But bear in mind that the live coal from the altar must first touch your lips. Then the words you speak will be wise and holy words. Then you will have wisdom to know what to say, and what to leave unsaid. You will not try to reveal your smartness as theologians. You will be careful not to arouse a combative spirit or excite prejudice, by introducing indiscriminately all the points of our faith. You will find enough to talk about that will not excite opposition, but that will open the heart to desire a deeper knowledge of God's word.

The Lord desires you to be soulwinners; therefore, while you should not force doctrinal points upon the people, you should "be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." Why fear? — Fear lest your words should savor of self-importance, lest unadvised words be spoken, lest your words and manner should not be after Christ's likeness. Connect firmly with Christ, and present the truth as it is in him. Hearts can not fail to be touched by the story of the atonement. As you learn the meekness and lowliness of Christ, you will know what you should say to the people; for the Holy Spirit will tell you what words you ought to speak. Those who realize the necessity of keeping the heart under the control of the Holy Spirit, will be enabled to sow seed that will spring up unto eternal life. This is the work of the gospel evangelist.

Ellen White was a co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She published this article in the *Review & Herald*, January 15, 1901.

God Changed My Heart

BY LISA ISENSEE

God was very close to me through my preteen and teenage years. I cherish oh-so-many experiences with him during those growing-up years, the most dramatic of which happened the summer after I graduated from high school when I sold Christian books door-to-door. I was a mediocre saleswoman, yet I genuinely cared for the people I met in each house. Many times, they told me, “No, I don’t want anything.”

Then we’d talk and I would pray for them. I’d turn to leave, and they’d shout out, “Wait! Wait! I want your books!”

Our leader often would say, “Lisa, you’re not a colporteur; you’re a Bible worker.”

That fall I planned to attend Andrews University to obtain some sort of college degree. The problem was that I didn’t know which field I should enter. So, I talked to the Lord about it each morning. I’d pray, study my Bible and routinely ask God, “What should I study in college? What do you want me to do?”

One day, I sensed his quiet voice say, “Lisa, would you be a teacher for me?”

That was easy, “Yes, Lord, I’d like that.”

But the next day and the next, I’d sense him asking me again and again, “Lisa, would you be a ... for me?”

Sometimes I was delighted with the question and answered, “Yes!” Other times it took me several days or even a week until I’d haltingly answer, “Yes, Lord, if that is what you want me to do, I will do it.”

One of those times he asked, “Lisa, would you be a colporteur for me?” That was a hard one! I saw God work mightily in that summertime experience. It was satisfying



to pray with and sometimes have the opportunity to study the Bible with the people I met. Still, I really hated knocking on the doors of people I’d never met. I definitely did not want to be a colporteur for the rest of my life! But, even in this, I came to the place where I said, “Yes, Lord, I know you can change my heart and my desires. You can give me greater boldness and confidence if you want me to go down that path.” However, you can imagine my relief when another question came the next day!

God led me through a whole gamut of possible career choices in the quiet of my room as I talked with him. His voice was still and small — not exactly audible, more like a thought in my head — but one which I knew came from him.

Later that summer, I was sitting in the packed young adult tent at Wisconsin Camp Meeting, intently listening to the speaker. I don’t remember who the speaker was, but I was engrossed in the message. Suddenly, I heard a voice. It was audible and loud, and it simply asked, “Lisa, would you do this for me? Would you be a pastor?”

I am sure that if someone had taken a picture of me at that moment, I would have had the look of a deer

surprised by the headlights of an oncoming truck — eyes wide open, head tipped slightly back. I was terrified! In all my years as a preacher's kid, I never had considered that as an option, despite the fact that I do recall coming into the cafeteria after helping the pastors during camp pitch, and hearing the ministerial secretary saying to all present, in his booming voice, "I give Lisa another ten years, and she'll be right here with us as one of us pastors!" I simply dismissed his statement as kind but foolish teasing.

Was this God's answer to my life-goal questionings? With fear, I realized this was likely going to be God's answer. First, it was not the still, small voice I was accustomed to hearing. It was not at a time of quiet devotion, when I was seeking God's will for my life. It was loud and pointed, and God had my attention.

I was not aware of anything else the speaker said. "No," I argued, "God, I don't want that job! Not that. You know how hard people are on pastors. Also, it can't have escaped your notice that the ordination of women in ministry has again been hotly debated and dismissed. I don't want to be part of that struggle. You know I don't like controversy. I don't even like knocking on doors, largely because there might be controversy lurking behind that door. You can't mean it, Lord."

I went on and on in my mind like this, but there was just a deep silence from God. The tent emptied out, and I was largely unaware of it. But in my mind, I kept arguing with the Lord. "No, Lord. No. Not that...."

At some point in my mental argumentation, I noticed Richard Isensee walking toward me, smiling pleasantly. I was glad to see him, both for the expected diversion from an unpleasant subject and, honestly, because he was someone I respected and admired greatly.

Immediately, I thought, *Well, I'm certainly not going to tell him about this!*

Richard and I became friends while taking turns driving my Dad's pick-up truck filled with mission trip supplies on the way down to Mexico. I found in him someone I could talk to openly and deeply with about many subjects and, most beautifully, about our Lord Jesus. Richard had been baptized the year before, after fully surrendering his life to the Lord. He was eight years older than I



and, at this point, his friendship was that of a spiritual big brother. When I saw him, I realized still another reason to argue with God about his question: “Lord, who wants to be a pastor’s husband? There goes any chance for this relationship to develop into more than friendship.”

I was rattled about the whole thing, but smiled as Richard came up to me and sat down. Again, I thought to myself, *I’m not telling him!* After chatting a little bit, he looked at me directly and said, “Lisa, what’s the matter?” I thought I was putting on a pretty good show. What I didn’t realize is that one of Richard’s spiritual gifts is discernment. He saw right through my pretenses.

I rarely have trouble chatting with people, but neither do I have trouble keeping my own confidences. It went through my mind how I could divert his question,

without lying and, indeed, I opened my mouth to do so. But to my great surprise, I said, “I think the Lord may be calling me to be a pastor. Isn’t that the craziest thing you’ve ever heard?” I was shocked by what I heard coming out of my mouth, while the words I intended to say were stuck in my brain.

Richard paused and, for a moment, looked down at the sandy ground. He then quietly and confidently said, “Lisa, why is that so crazy? If that is what the Lord wants you to do, he will give you all that you need to be able to do it.” Neither of us knew, at that time, that Richard would indeed be an integral part of his own words. In fact, despite his spiritual assurances, Richard, too, was upset by this conversation. He surely had no desire to be a pastor’s husband.

Certainly, at this point, neither of us thought we would marry later. Many times, I’ve thought, *What a gift it was that God made it possible — in fact, arranged — for Richard to be the first person with whom I verbally shared this call to ministry.* Years later, Richard told me, “Lisa, I knew soon after I met you that God would call you to be a pastor.” I asked him how he knew that when it had never even crossed my mind, and he replied simply, “I don’t know. It was just obvious to me.”

Of course, at the time, I hoped — desperately hoped, in fact — that it was not really “God’s call.” *It couldn’t be his answer to my questionings, could it?* Deep down, I knew it was. But I didn’t like his answer. So, I’d ask and ask in my devotions, and nothing, not even a still, small voice relating to this matter. Finally, at the end of the summer, I told God, “Okay, Lord, I will go to Andrews University and enroll in the Religion Department, but you will have to change my heart and make me want to do this, because I don’t want to do it.”

I went to Andrews and, of course, loved my Bible classes. But I still didn’t want to be a pastor. *Was it possible God had meant “minister” instead of pastor?* I told God I could live with that. I would enjoy being a hospital chaplain, academy chaplain, Bible teacher or even a Bible worker.

There was another thing I did during that first year at Andrews. I studied deeply into the question of women in ministry. At the time, I thought my only motive was a desire to know and follow biblical truth. I did not want to



I had walked with Jesus for a number of years, and we talked often. I knew my Savior’s voice.

God is so good. He really does know best.

be involved in anything contrary to the Word of God. I had walked with Jesus for a number of years, and we talked often. I knew my Savior's voice. *But what if it wasn't his voice that I had heard that warm evening in June?* After all, I knew the enemy could do supernatural things as well. And while it didn't make sense that the enemy would encourage me to preach the good news of Jesus Christ, I wanted to make absolutely certain I was in God's will.

Now, more than 20 years later, it strikes me that I may have had another motive. If I could have found a "biblical out," that would have served my personal preference nicely. So I searched the Scriptures thoroughly, night after night, with my Bible before me and a prayer on my lips. I read books and articles both for and against women in ministry. I opened my Bible to each text that was mentioned and read the surrounding context, referring to the Hebrew or Greek. Week by week, month by month, I became more and more convinced of the biblical foundation for women in pastoral ministry.

However, when it came time for senior interviews with the nearby conference personnel, I prepared thoroughly, but only because it was a graduation requirement. I knew none of the local conferences were hiring, so I wasn't worried — especially since I intentionally left "pastor" off any of the materials I prepared. I had other possible ministry directions listed on my resume and applications, but never once "pastor."

Later, I received a call from the Religion Department secretary, who informed me that the Ohio Conference (who usually did not come to Andrews University to interview students) wanted to interview two students, and I was one of them. That was fine. I still was happy in my supposed knowledge that I wouldn't be hired as a pastor.

I had gone off to college thinking, *I need to find someone like Richard.* Instead, I ended up finding my soulmate in Richard, himself. His steady, wonderful friendship developed into the love of my life, and Richard and I were happily married between my junior and senior years. He found an engineering job in South Bend, Indiana, shortly before we married and, with our one car, took me to school in the morning and returned for me after work.

Richard, although in his field, realized that what he was doing was not exactly what he desired to do. One day at

work, he told the Lord, "Lord, before you, I quit my job. I'll keep working here for now, but I am officially looking for work elsewhere." That night, for some reason, he did not come directly to pick me up in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Instead, he went to our home first. Seeing a phone message, he listened to the recording on the machine. The message was from the Ohio Conference president who offered me a job and, later, their sponsorship through the Seminary.

Richard came to pick me up. On our way home, he said, "I stopped at home, and there is a message on the machine for you." It didn't cross my mind to question that statement, since we often had messages, and I assumed it was regarding Vacation Bible School or some other similar communication. I was so surprised when I heard the message! *As a pastor?* Richard said, "Honey, we need to go for a walk. I have something I need to tell you." As we walked, he shared how that very morning he told the Lord, "I'm looking elsewhere." It seemed too providential to be anything but the Lord's leading.

But the beautiful miracle came for me about a week into pastoral ministry: I realized I loved it! God indeed knew what I would enjoy, and changed my heart accordingly. I remember calling my Dad to say, "I love what I'm doing! In fact, so much of it is what I did with you through all the years growing up. God was preparing me even then."

God is so good. He really does know best. Thank you, Jesus!

Lisa Isensee is the church planting coordinator for the Wisconsin Conference. She and Richard are the happy parents of five children, who range in age from 10 months to 14 years.



Sacred Spaces

BY CINDY R. CHAMBERLIN WITH DEBBIE HILL

Debbie Hill, a chaplain for Adventist Midwest Health (AMH), works in Chicagoland, and serves a variety of people, from every religious background, on any given day.

Reaching for her report, Debbie reads whether the person behind the door is a trauma case, critical illness, suicide attempt, child, elder or other. Debbie believes her visitations are defined in the threshold of that interim space between the clipboard and the door to the patient's room. She prays for wisdom at this intersection between true life and trauma.

"Chaplains bring calm to chaos," she says. Health care chaplains are called into a variety of situations, including full arrests, accidents, suicide attempts or any type of medical emergency — places where survival chances may be very minimal. Debbie might also ease a patient's anxiety about being sedated, meet with a family doting over their newborn in Obstetrics, or help patients with advanced directives and work with non-medically-related portions of living wills.

Debbie says, "Trauma involving a child is hardest. Suicides or any sudden death is especially difficult, as the family's world is instantly turned upside down. ... These bring out a whole list of emotions for the family, and many questions."

A chaplain constantly studies and anticipates reactions, responses and emotions, and assesses multiple religions, cultures, rites of passage, etc. "You must be very respectful of a patient's faith tradition," she says. Because many are anxious when they hear the word "chaplain," Debbie looks for ways to put the patient and/or family at ease. This may mean providing an extra blanket for the patient or refreshments for the family. "Hospitality is vital to ministry; the two cannot be separated," she says.

Debbie rejoices when the Holy Spirit opens doors for her to pray with non-believers and members of alternative religions. "Since becoming a chaplain, Christ's sacrifice and love for human beings and his yearning to reach them with his saving compassion is more real to me," Debbie says. "The Holy Spirit really is most powerful in these sacred spaces."



Debbie Hill, chaplain, is based out of Adventist Hinsdale Hospital in Illinois, and serves four hospitals in Chicagoland.

Cindy R. Chamberlin

Chaplains can be affected physically during crises, so she starts praying, "God, go with me." If she is called in the middle of the night, Debbie imagines the family being contacted about something that will result in drastic, instant changes for them. "Then my heart starts to calm down," says Debbie. "It is an honor to serve those who need help during a crisis."

Chaplains also minister to the medical staff. "No matter the state of an employee's spirituality, a staff member generally is relieved to see

a chaplain because it helps them focus on the tasks at hand," Debbie says.

Sometimes chaplains host special ceremonies at AMH hospitals. One example is the annual "Blessing of the Hands" event where the AMH staff is invited to have their hands dedicated to medical work by anointing with oil. "Blessing of the Hands ... serves as a way to reach out to our staff and help them think of their individual roles. It also serves as a connecting piece for people of all faiths," says Debbie.

"God owns my job. I will work as long as he allows me to be in this position. Chaplaincy offers the patient the power to accept or reject spiritual care while being served in our health care facilities. The Holy Spirit opens the doors; we do not push. But when I go to work, God goes with me, and he does powerful things," says Debbie.

Cindy R. Chamberlin is the communication director of the Illinois Conference. Debbie Hill, chaplain, is based with Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, one of the four Adventist Midwest Health hospitals in Chicagoland. She serves at all four hospitals and also Hinsdale Surgical Center.

CONEXIONES EXTRA

ASI: Un año lleno de oportunidades

EVENTO LOCAL PRECEDE CONVENCION INTERNACIONAL

POR DEBBIE YOUNG

Grand Rapids, Michigan, recibirá una doble dosis de ASI este año. El grupo de ASI de la Unión del Lago tendrá su reunión anual de primavera el 18 al 19 de abril en el hotel Crowne Plaza cerca del aeropuerto. El tema será “Entrega Total.” Este evento está diseñado para inspirar y motivar a los participantes con maneras creativas, para hablarle a otros acerca de Cristo y su pronto retorno. Habrá oradores, música, seminarios, programa de niños, exhibiciones y testimonios de miembros entusiastas que llenarán el horario del fin de semana, junto con ideas y herramientas para mejorar su testimonio cristiano. El grupo fenomenal de presentadores incluye al pastor Rodlie Ortiz, miembro del equipo pastoral de la iglesia Pioneer Memorial en la universidad Andrews, el viernes en la noche y el pastor Dan Jackson, presidente de la División Norteamericana, en el culto de la mañana del sábado. Rich Aguilera, fundador de Un Grano de Mostaza, traerá una presentación dinámica para el programa de jóvenes.

Este fin de semana será más que sólo sermones inspiradores. Podrá escuchar testimonios de personas con diferentes estilos de vida y de todo tipo de industrias sobre lo que ellos están haciendo para hablarle a otros de Cristo. Aprenderá a través de seminarios cómo mejorar sus negocios y una propuesta creativa de cómo testificar a personas de diferentes culturas. Recibirá herramientas prácticas e ideas para usar inmediatamente en sus negocios o ministerios para alcanzar almas más efectivamente. Todo esto y mucho más, le proveerá un evento inolvidable que cambiará su vida.

Todo esto se repetirá, pero en una escala mayor, cuando la convención internacional de ASI esté en Grand Rapids en agosto. Este evento se llevará a cabo en el centro de convenciones DeVos del 6 al 9 de agosto este año.

Adicional a las características de la convención regional de la Unión del Lago, habrá reportes de los jóvenes involucrados en el programa “Jóvenes por Jesús” en Grand Rapids; este es un programa de evangelismo residencial para jóvenes de 15 años en



Debbie Young es presidente de ASI de la Unión del Lago y está invitando a hispanos en nuestra unión a ir al retiro de ASI que tendrá lugar el 18 al 20 de abril en Grand Rapids, Michigan. Se ofrecerá traducción al español.

adelante. En sus 15 años de existencia, cientos han sido bautizados después de haber oído la palabra de Dios a través de estos jóvenes. El programa “Jóvenes por Jesús” se lleva a cabo cada verano justo antes de la convención internacional de ASI, típicamente en la ciudad donde se lleve a cabo el evento.

ASI (Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries), o Servicios e Industrias de Laicos Adventistas, es una organización de laicos que son dueños o directores de organizaciones con o sin fines de lucro. Su meta es usar los dones y talentos a su alcance para apoyar la misión global de la iglesia Adventista: decirle a otros las buenas nuevas de Cristo y su pronto retorno.

Para más información acerca de ASI y la próxima convención regional de la Unión del Lago o la convención internacional visite <http://www.asilakeunion.org> o <http://www.asiministries.org>.

Debbie Young es presidente de la organización local de ASI en la Unión del Lago.

Uniendo Familias

He aquí, yo os envío el profeta Elías, antes que venga el día de Jehová, grande y terrible. El hará volver el corazón de los padres hacia los hijos, y el corazón de los hijos hacia los padres, no sea que yo venga y hiera la tierra con maldición. — Malaquías 4:5-6

POR JORGE MATA

Un sencillo análisis del texto anterior muestra que la desintegración de la base de toda sociedad enfrentará dificultades en los últimos días. La Iglesia Adventista cree en la familia y hace esfuerzos para ayudar a mejorar la vida de los hogares.

La Fundación DeVos de Grand Rapids, en conexión con iglesias de esta ciudad, ha desarrollado por tres años el programa llamado “Iniciativa de Liderazgo Familiar” (FLI por sus siglas en inglés), que consiste en responder a las necesidades de las familias hispanas y afroamericanas con hijos en edad escolar de esta ciudad importante del estado de Michigan. El programa se enfoca en estas familias porque no cabe duda que la desintegración familiar no es sólo una de las principales causas de que estos jóvenes abandonen la escuela, sino la principal.

La fundación proporciona medios didácticos y económicos para que cada iglesia desarrolle el programa adecuado a las necesidades de las personas a quienes ministra. La dinámica del programa incluye:

1. Momento de meditación usando las Escrituras: Lo primero que hacemos es tener un momento de estudio de la Biblia con el grupo completo, padres e hijos, para lograr acercarlos a Dios que es la fuente de toda unión verdadera y felicidad familiar.

2. División en grupos: Los jóvenes van a tutorías, que son dirigidas por miembros de iglesia y estudiantes graduandos de secundaria. Hasta el momento, todos los jóvenes que han participado han mejorado sus calificaciones en la escuela. Mientras esto sucede, los padres reciben orientación en diferentes áreas como: salud, crianza de los hijos, auto-



Familias de Grand Rapids, Michigan, participan del programa de tutoría de la “Iniciativa de liderazgo de familia.”

estima, relaciones matrimoniales y temas espirituales.

3. Comida en Familia: Toda reunión finaliza con una comida preparada por la iglesia, con el propósito de que las familias se sienten juntas a comer. Por simple que parezca, esta parte es una de las más importantes cada noche. Esta práctica es llevada a los hogares y está marcando una diferencia importante en el diario vivir de estas familias.

4. Noches de Diversión: Cada trimestre se ofrece una noche de juegos y comida en la que son combinadas la espiritualidad, diversión y vida en familia.

Este evento se ha convertido en el programa evangelístico de nuestra congregación y por la gracia de Dios ya tenemos frutos, no sólo de personas nuevas que están uniéndose a la iglesia, sino, que los miembros de iglesia están involucrados en el programa.

Este programa puede ser sencillo, pero la efectividad y la organización es la que demuestra su potencial. Sólo Dios conoce el alcance que este proyecto tiene y tendrá en la vida de aquellos que asisten, pero mientras esperamos el momento en que el Señor nos lo revele, seguiremos trabajando en armonía por las familias de nuestra comunidad.

Jorge Mata es el pastor de las Iglesias Hispánicas de Holland y Pullman en Michigan.

Noticias

POR CARMELO MERCADO

José Rojas Prepara a Indianápolis para evangelismo

El fin de semana del 22 y 23 de noviembre del 2013 fueron dos días muy especiales para los hermanos hispanos de Indianápolis porque el Pastor José Vicente Rojas predicó sobre evangelismo y como ganar almas para Cristo. Más de 800 personas vinieron de todas partes de Indiana y hasta de Chicago para escuchar los mensajes del Pastor Rojas.



El pastor José Rojas predicando sobre evangelismo en Indianápolis en preparación para los esfuerzos evangelísticos del 2014 en esta ciudad.

Este programa es uno de los eventos que se ha desarrollado en preparación para la campaña del Pastor Shawn Boonstra del programa Voice of Prophecy que comenzará el 14 de marzo y la campaña del Pastor Omar Grieve del programa La Voz de la Esperanza en octubre de este año.

El Club 10,000 Pasos completa 17,000 millas

El Departamento de Salud de la iglesia central de Indianápolis, organizó el Club de los 10,000 pasos al día, siguiendo el patrón que la Conferencia General sugiere: de animar a nuestros miembros a hacer ejercicio.

Comenzando la primera semana de octubre hasta el 4 de enero un grupo de 46 personas; de los cuales algunos son amigos de la iglesia, se alcanzaron a recorrer 17,000 mil millas.

Dos de los participantes, Maria Torres y Jesús Beltré, llegaron a sobrepasar 800 millas en estas 13 semanas. También hubo un grupo de niños participando. Kevin López de 8 años



El grupo de 46 participantes del club 10,000 pasos en la graduación del programa despues de completar 17,000 millas en total.

completó más de 500 millas en las 13 semanas.

Los participantes vieron varios beneficios del ejercicio, como bajar de peso, dormir mejor, mantenerse activos y compartir con otros en la meta de mantener un cuerpo saludable.

El 18 de enero hubo una ceremonia de graduación para los participantes. La

iglesia central de Indianapolis se propone a continuar haciendo este tipo de eventos, quizás atrayendo más participantes en el futuro o proponiéndose una meta de 50,000 millas en total.

Eventos de entrenamiento en Illinois

Los maestros de escuela sabática y los directores de comunicación de las iglesias de la Asociación de Illinois tuvieron la oportunidad de asistir a seminarios de entrenamiento en esta área en los últimos meses.

Por primera vez la asociación de Illinois ofreció en sus instalaciones un seminario de entrenamiento para los maestros de escuela sabática, que aunque no sean profesionales de la educación han sido llamados a servir en esta capacidad. Este seminario de entrenamiento consistió de cuatro partes. La primera se llevó a cabo el pasado 25 de enero. Los 30 participantes que asistieron a esta primera sesión serán

invitados a regresar en una próxima ocasión para completar el entrenamiento.

Los directores de comunicación de las iglesias de Illinois también pudieron beneficiarse de un seminario de entrenamiento el pasado 8 de febrero. Este seminario fue diseñado con el propósito de educar a los directores de comunicación en diferentes áreas de su trabajo en la iglesia, incluyendo cómo mantener una comunicación abierta con la asociación, cómo contestar preguntas de los feligreses y cómo utilizar al máximo herramientas como páginas web, medios sociales, correo electrónico, publicaciones locales, entre otras.

Certificación de ancianos en Illinois

Los ancianos de la asociación de Illinois participaron de la certificación anual de estos líderes de iglesia el 23 de febrero en el hotel Lisle/Naperville Hilton en Lisle, Illinois. Cada año varios ancianos regresan a este programa de certificación

para refrescar la mente y renovar sus espíritus como líderes de iglesia. Este año el pastor Daniel Scarone fue el orador principal para este evento.

Asociación Regional del Lago

El Ministerio Hispano de la Asociación Regional de Lago fue elegido para ser una sede de prácticas pastorales para alumnos de Teología de la Universidad Adventista de Colombia en Medellín.

Los graduandos de la promoción 2013 estuvieron apoyando diferentes iglesias en las variadas áreas desde capacitación de

Líderes y en algunos casos como oradores en Campañas de Evangelismo.

Este año seis estudiantes, Álvaro Orozco, José Guevara, Elmer Saavedra, Christian Barrera, Christian Roncancio y Edison Rengifo, participaron en este convenio. Como producto del trabajo realizado por estos estudiantes, las iglesias de esta asociación vieron una rica cosecha de almas.

El Seminario Adventista Laico continúa entrenando líderes

Por quinto año consecutivo la Asociación Regional del Lago y la Universidad Andrews patrocinarán clases en el Seminario Adventista Laico. Este año el enfoque será en las áreas de la familia y la salud con la intención de formar Laicos expertos en ambas áreas. El S.A.L. ha graduado en promedio

95 personas por año. Agradecemos a Dios que ha bendecido esta actividad que nos permite tener líderes de iglesia maduros y trabajadores.

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.

Anuncios

POR CARMELO MERCADO

Evangelismo comienza este mes en Indianápolis

El 12 de marzo comienza una campaña masiva que incluye a todas las iglesias adventistas en Indianápolis. Más de 12 congregaciones han estado haciendo preparaciones para este evento por más de dos años. El evento tiene el apoyo especial de la División Norteamericana y la Unión

del Lago. El orador para este evento es el renombrado evangelista y director de The Voice of Prophecy el Pastor Shawn Boonstra. La campaña se llevará a cabo en el Indiana State Fairgrounds. Pedimos las oraciones de todos para que haya una gran cosecha de almas.

Está abierta la Inscripción para Conéctate 2014

Los jóvenes de nuestra unión ya se pueden inscribir para la convención de jóvenes de la Unión del Lago que se tendrá el 6-8 de junio en la universidad Andrews. El costo de inscripción temprana es \$75, la cual se mantendrá hasta el 15 de abril. El costo de inscripción regular, después del 15 de abril, será \$85 y ese precio se mantendrá hasta el 30 de mayo. El costo de inscripción después del 30 de mayo será \$95. La inscripción incluye asistencia a las presentaciones

principales del Pastor Jonatán Tejel, seminarios, 3 comidas el sábado y el desayuno el domingo, actividades de servicio a la comunidad y actividades de recreación. El hospedaje es un costo aparte. Para inscribirse pueden ir al sitio web <http://www.jovenul.org> o a la página de Facebook Conéctate 2014. Para reservar hospedaje en la universidad pueden llamar al 269-471-3360.

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.

Stepping from the Known Into the Unknown

BY DEENA BARTEL-WAGNER

With almost six years of teaching experience and a master's degree in curriculum education nearly completed, things looked good for Adrienne Townsend. "It was a remark by my professor, Robert Kennedy, that began to tilt my world," says Adrienne. "We were discussing some final points on the completion of my degree when he challenged me with something that I wasn't expecting."

During the conversation, Robert told Adrienne she should enter the ministry. "I was ready to finish a master's degree that I had worked hard to earn," recalls Adrienne. "I was happy teaching but, as the days slipped by, Dr. Kennedy's words kept repeating themselves."

Adrienne turned to fasting and prayer, surrendering completely to God. *How could she give up an established career to enter unknown territory? What was she supposed to do?*

Finally, Adrienne decided to apply to Andrews University, and began the application process. "As I was filling out the paperwork, I wrestled with the idea of studying for a doctorate in religious education," says Adrienne. "That brought no peace, and I finally settled on studying for a Master of Divinity degree."

Seven days later, Adrienne received an acceptance letter. "I moved ahead in faith and sold or gave away everything I owned," she says. "I told God I only wanted ties to Him and that He would have to lead me. With just \$200 in my pocket, I left for Andrews."

For the next year, Adrienne continued to be unsure why she was attending the Seminary. She attended class, knowing she was where God wanted her. *But why?*

"Several classmates who were Navy chaplain candidates encouraged me to participate in the Navy's summer training programs for chaplains," says Adrienne. During those summer training programs, Adrienne began to feel enthusiastic about her work and ministry. "When I returned to the classroom to study, I waited for that feeling every morning," she says. "I realized I had a passion for military chaplaincy ministry."



Lieutenant Adrienne Townsend, CHC, USN, willingly followed God's plan even though it took an unexpected turn to ministry in the military.

There were no other Seventh-day Adventist women in military chaplaincy who could mentor her. "Chaplain Tanya Bindernagle, U.S. Army, and I were going through the process at the same time," says Adrienne. "We would compare notes and encourage each other."

Since her commissioning in 2008, Adrienne has served as a chaplain to the Marines based at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina; the command chaplain on the USS *Tortuga*, based in Sasebo, Japan; and currently as the command chaplain at the Great Lakes Naval Training Support Center.

"My life has been deepened on several levels through my chaplaincy ministry," says Adrienne. "Spiritually, I've learned to go to a deeper place in God. I never know what my day may throw at me — a suicidal recruit, an injured Marine or a family death notification of a sailor. I can't do this without God by my side."

Professionally, Adrienne has grown through the discipline required by being in the military, various educational opportunities, and being able to operate in a professional environment. Relationally, her worldview has expanded through travel and meeting individuals from many walks of life.

An unexpected remark, a willingness to surrender all, and the courage to follow God's plan have taken Adrienne on a road she never expected to travel. She stepped from the known into the unknown and is glad she did.

Deena Bartel-Wagner is publications editor and webmaster for Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Women in Leadership and Ministerial Positions in the Lake Union

This is a limited list of female ministry professionals in the Lake Union. We recognize there are countless others who volunteer or are paid at local churches or schools, or who serve in valuable support paid positions in the conferences or Union. We acknowledge all their contributions to the mission of our Church, and express appreciation for the many ways they serve our Savior. —The Editors

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE

Departmental

Lori Aguilera⁴, assoc. superintendent, Education
Deborah Bodden³, coordinator, Human Resources/asst. treasurer, Treasury
Lucinda Chamberlin², director, Communication
Elizabeth DeLeon¹, assoc. treasurer, Treasury
Ruth Horton⁴, superintendent, Education
Paula Saint-Villiers², church/school auditor, Treasury

Ministers

Jennifer Ogden⁶, assoc. pastor, Hinsdale Church
Trudy Strombom⁶, pastor, Galesburg Park View, Moline and Sauk Valley churches

INDIANA CONFERENCE

Departmental

Erney Poenitz², director, Shepherdess
Kyla St. Hilaire-Spooner³, asst. director, Treasury

Bible Worker

Toni Minikus²

LAKE REGION CONFERENCE

Administration

Yvonne Collins⁶, treasurer

Departmental

Joan Bauer¹, assoc. director, Human Resources
Elynda Bedney⁹, president, Shepherdess
Pamela Daly⁹, director, Children's Ministries
Doris Gothard⁹, director, Women's Ministries
Kim Logan-Nowlin⁹, co-director, Family Ministries
Valerie Reid¹, assoc. treasurer, Treasury
Michelle Shelton¹, asst. treasurer, Treasury
Debbie Young⁹, director, ASI

Minister

Tricia Wynn⁶, pastor, Tabernacle of Hope

Bible Workers

Evelyn Robinson² Alma Vaught²
Shirley Smith² Elaine Wilson²

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

Administration

Laura Im¹, vice president/director, Human Resources
Wendy Welsh¹, executive secretary to Administration

Departmental

Michelle Ance², auditor, Treasury
Diane Barlow¹, assoc. director, Education
Diana Bruch¹, director, Community Services
Karen Fellows², auditor, Treasury
Linda Fuchs¹, director, Education

Linda Gallimore¹, director, Children's Ministries
Vicki Griffin¹, director, Health & Temperance
Flossie Gilbert¹, assoc. treasurer, Treasury
Jane Harris¹, director, Women's Ministries
Dorothy Johnson¹, asst. treasurer, Treasury
Lisa Jensen¹, assoc. treasurer, Treasury
Evelyn Kissenger¹, assoc. director, Health & Temperance
Gail Micheff¹, director, Family Life
Tammy Micheff¹, asst. to the director, Youth
Staci Osterman², coordinator, Bible Workers
Lira Scarone¹, asst. to the director, Ministerial
Kimberly Shin², asst. director, Public Campus Ministries
Laurie Snyman¹, asst. to the director, Ministerial
Carol Thomas², assoc. director, Human Resources
Patsy Towar², director, Shepherdess
Connie Vail¹, asst. to the director, Personal Ministries

Minister

Sharon Terrell⁶, associate pastor, Pioneer Memorial Church

Bible Workers

Petra Ferraz² Sandi Stewart²
Collene Kelly² Sadako Tokuno²
Nancy Larsen² Patsy Towar²
Jessica Rios² Andrea Walechka²
Vicki Skinner²

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

Departmental

Juanita Edge¹, director, Communication/Health Temperance
Lisa Isensee⁵, church plant coordinator, Ministerial
Linda Rosen¹, superintendent, Education/coordinator, Children's Ministries
Jean Schwark², assoc. treasurer, Treasury

Bible Worker

Marly Grant⁷

LAKE UNION CONFERENCE

Departmental

Barbara Livesay¹, director, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, Ministerial Spouses Association, and assoc. director, Education (Early Childhood), HR and Risk Management

Diane Thurber¹, assoc. director and web manager, Communication/managing editor and display ad manager, *Lake Union Herald*

CHAPLAINS (NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION)

Londa Bishop⁵, community chaplain, Covenant Health Care

Lisa Clouzet⁵, health care chaplain/counselor, North American Division Evangelism Institute
Alyssa Foll⁸, health care chaplain, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital
Cristina Gry⁸, health care chaplain, Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital
Keren Graves⁵, health care chaplain resident, Covenant Health Care
Sherri Headen⁵, health care chaplain, Sunrise Senior Living /U.S. Air Force Reserves military chaplain
Debbie Hill⁶, health care chaplain, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital
Gillian Howard⁸, health care chaplain resident, St. Joseph Regional Medical Center
Maria T. Maestre⁵, health care chaplain, Adventist Midwest Health Mission & Ministry Dept.
Carolyn Strzykowski⁵, health care chaplain, Borgess Medical Center and Hospice at Home
Aleksandra Tanurdzic⁶, health care chaplain, Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital
Adrienne Townsend⁵, military chaplain, Great Lakes Naval Training Center
Tricia Treff⁵, health care chaplain/manager of Pastoral Care, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital

PROFESSORS AT SDA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT ANDREWS UNIVERSITY (GENERAL CONFERENCE)

Kathleen Beagles⁴, asst. professor, Religious Education
Lisa Clouzet⁵, asst. professor, Ministry and Chaplaincy
Jo Ann Davidson⁴, professor, Theology
Cheryl D. Doss¹, assoc. professor, World Mission
Constance E.C. Gane⁴, professor, Archaeology, and curator, Siegfried H. Horn Museum
Teresa Reeve², assoc. professor, New Testament Contexts
Hyveth Williams⁵, professor, Homiletics

¹ Administrative Ministries Credential

² Missionary Credential

³ Licensed Missionary

⁴ Commissioned Ministry of Teaching Credential

⁵ Commissioned Minister Credential

⁶ Licensed Commissioned Minister

⁷ Credential not designated

⁸ Working on Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Endorsement

⁹ Lay Missionary Credential

The Wrong Turn

BY JUDY L. SHULL

Tired, Donald Pratt slid behind the wheel of his car. He just wanted to go home, close his eyes, and fall asleep. Mechanically, Donald turned out of his work parking lot, thankful he had been able to find an apartment just a couple miles away. After driving a truck all day, he had not wanted to spend the rest of his time driving home.

Stopped at the traffic light, Donald contemplated his life. *What do I do now?* He questioned. *How do I start over?* The light changed to green; with his mind still on automatic, Donald turned and, without realizing it, headed in the opposite direction from home. Things did not look familiar, and he realized he mistakenly had turned the wrong direction. Shaking the fatigue from his head, Donald caught sight of a bright light. He stared at the numbers on the edge of the sign. Surprised, he wondered if he now was imagining things.

The next day, as Donald was leaving work, he turned the other direction again, but this time purposely. Turning onto St. Joseph Highway, in Lansing, Michigan, Donald slowed and studied the building with the address that caught his attention the night before. He had not imagined those large numbers. He was still stunned that the building numbers were identical to those on his own apartment building. The numbers were attached to the sign in front of the Lansing Seventh-day Adventist Church. *Was this God's answer to his questions? Was God really listening to him?* Donald questioned as he slowly continued to make his way home.

Years before, Donald had wondered about the meaning of life. During his childhood, he had never attended church but, in the mid-1990s, things changed. While ice skating one evening, Donald met a young lady who, after visiting with him, invited Donald to her Friday evening Bible study. He became a faithful member of this study group as well as Sabbath school and Church. He fell in love with the Lord, and wanted nothing more than to be a soldier in God's



Donald Pratt

army. In 1996, Donald committed his life to the Lord and was baptized.

After joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Donald quit his truck-driving job because he wanted to be able to keep the Sabbath. A year passed and no other employment opportunities appeared. Finally, his friends told him he had to find a job and support himself. Donald found

a job driving a truck, but he no longer had his Sabbaths available to worship the Lord. He promised himself that he would keep looking for work that would give him Sabbath off, and for the next 15 years he looked for that job.

Around this time, a friend offered to set Donald up on a blind date. The woman turned out to be the woman of his dreams. She had been married before and had two lovely children, a boy and a girl, ages 10 and 11. Before long, Donald had fallen in love with this little family. He was finally going to have the life partner he had longed for and two children he adored. The only problem, in his mind, was *What would this new family do about religion?* Donald still wanted to be a member of the Adventist Church, but his new wife wanted nothing to do with it. The two decided they would put religious convictions aside while they raised the children. It seemed like the best solution to Donald at that time.

Seven-and-a-half years passed, and then Donald's life fell apart when his wife left him. Now his family was gone. Donald began to rebuild his life as best he could. He found a new job, one that gave him weekends off, and proceeded to work 70 hours a week, hoping to exhaust himself enough

that he could sleep at night. Day after day, the routine was the same. Get up, go to work, drive the truck, go home, sleep.

Donald felt like he was a deserter. He had allowed the devil to distract him with the hope of having a perfect family life. Donald willingly abandoned his post as a soldier for the Lord. *Would God take him back? Would the Adventist Church accept him?* But on the other hand, Donald felt that God clearly led him to the local Seventh-day Adventist Church.

It was as if God said, "I'll give your physical home and your spiritual home the same address so you won't get lost this time."

Without hesitation, Donald's membership to the Lansing Seventh-day Adventist Church was voted in at his rebaptism on November 30, 2013. Since then, Donald is finding many ways to be of help to his church family.

Judy L. Shull is principal of Greater Lansing Adventist School in Michigan.

Making a Difference

BY DEIDRA OLSEN ROAT

I work with people who are dying. Most have six months or less to live. Some die peacefully. Some linger on and on. I assist a woman on Thursdays and Fridays. She can no longer speak. She's forgotten how; she has dementia. I put lotion on her hands and read to her. She almost always falls asleep. I help another woman who wanders the halls of her small facility for most of the day. I hold her hand and walk with her for an hour. I smile at the people where she lives when we pass.

I help another man who says that every day is a gift, and every moment a miracle. I soak his feet and lotion them. He says that no one has ever done that for him before. He loves songbirds and recites poems about June and trees with praying hands.

Another woman I assist is 99 years old. She has a hard time believing she is almost 100. She can't hear very well, and every time I bend down to say something in her ear she thinks I want a hug. I get so many hugs when I am with her.

Then there's this other woman who used to teach piano. At one time in her life, she could play the piano as well as a concert pianist. Now, she can't even remember how to walk. She says things like "Gee whiskers," and always asks what her boys will think of things.



Deidra Olsen Roat (right) hugs Lettie Cockrell, her best friend who passed away just before her 99th birthday. Lettie inspired Deidra to start working with hospice patients. She now encourages those who usually only have six months or less to live.

Another woman has a rare cancer. She woke up one morning and could no longer walk. Another had an awful infection in her leg and was losing her foot. Another had an amazingly sharp mind, but a body diseased by Parkinson's.

It can be hard helping those who are dying. Sometimes I think it's hard because our minds can't comprehend the concept of death. I've come to realize that each of us has a dying heart no matter what our

age. So, each morning I beg the Lord to take my soiled and dying heart, and do with it what He can to make a difference in the lives of others. That's how I live the mission.

Deidra Olsen Roat is a member of the Wisconsin Academy Church in Columbus, and lives in Rio, Wisconsin



Chris LaFortune

Photographer Bruce Powell, right, takes a portrait of Adventist Hinsdale Hospital Labor and Delivery Clinical coordinator Chris Martin and her son, Jake, during the I Am Who I Am photo shoot.

Art display celebrates children for who they are

To celebrate children with special needs, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital installed a new art display featuring portraits and stories from Chicago-area families.

The “I Am Who I Am” display opened in February with a special reception at the hospital. The display includes photos of children with special needs as well as their family members, all etched onto tin plates. There also is artwork by the children hung with the photos and short stories about each.

Children from the surrounding community, as well as children of hospital staff, are featured.

The entire project, from the day photos were taken to the opening of the display, has been extremely moving, said Shawn Tyrrell, chief nursing officer at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital.

“I look for God every day in the things we do,” she said. “Working with these families, I can see his influence.”

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital put together this project in partnership with Chicago resident Holly Simon, who started the I Am Who I Am program. Holly’s son Nathaniel was born with Down syndrome. When her son was born, she said, the doctors and nurses at her hospital apologized. This left a dark cloud hanging over his birth.

“We’re trying to erase the ‘sorry’ in the delivery room by educating nurses and doctors, family and friends,” Holly said. “The first thing parents need to hear is ‘Congratulations,’ not ‘I’m sorry.’”

I Am Who I Am is designed to make people more aware of how they treat all children, said Chris Martin, clinical coordinator in Labor and Delivery at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. As a part of this effort to raise awareness of special needs families, the hospital has started to give out blankets that read “I Am Who I Am” to any baby born with special needs. Special needs students at a Chicago-area high school make all the silk-screenings for the blankets, Chris said.

“We want to be able to treat these special patients with the same respect

and dignity we would any other patient,” said Chris.

For many years, Chris has worked with families whose children are born with Down syndrome. Her own son, Jake, was diagnosed with Down syndrome, so the issue is very important to her.

As a community hospital, the nurses and staff must walk alongside these families, not judge them, Chris said.

“Accepting and loving people, no matter who they are, is exactly what Christ’s mission was all about,” she said, “and that is what our hospital’s mission is focused on.”

Every child’s birth should be a celebration, Holly said. “It’s a super simple message, and yet it’s so profound that it leaps to every child and adult: ‘Accept me for who I am,’ and with that acceptance will come every other gift — the love, the nurture, the future.”

Chris LaFortune, public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health



Katie Kerr

Jake Martin constructs a paper flower at the I Am Who I Am photo shoot.



Christa McConnell

Students work with communications professor Debbie Michel (left) as they prep for a filming of "AU News" in the Andrews University production studio.

Andrews changes the world through media

As the flagship institution of higher education in the Adventist Church, Andrews University has set the standard in many areas, including quality teaching, diversity, online education and more. Rachel Williams-Smith, chair of the Department of Communication, has a vision for Andrews to become the flagship school when it comes to cultivating young people who can produce media content that will revolutionize Adventist media.

"I believe the time has come for Adventist media to begin to appeal to young people as opposed to just the 40 and above crowd," Williams-Smith says. "The only way to get young people to watch Adventist television is to have young people producing it, communicating to and for other young people."

Andrews is well on its way to making this vision a reality. In 2013, two journalism classes partnered with Andrews University Student Association-run AUTV to begin producing "AU News," a broadcast featuring student anchors and reporters who, in conjunction with a faculty mentor,

choose the stories they wish to cover in each episode. AUTV debuted additional programs such as "The Profile," highlighting individuals on campus; "Moods," a series of silent short films; and "Devotion," a series created in partnership with students from the Seminary featuring devotional thoughts created specifically for those in the Andrews community.

"Part of our tagline at Andrews is 'Change the World,'" says Williams-Smith. "One of the best ways we can reach the world is through media."

The current broadcast studio at the University provides adequate space for the productions, but there are many challenges with the outdated space. For example, the lighting grid is very old, and the space is not sound-proof — voices from neighboring offices, a flushing toilet or even rain can cancel or delay production. The studio also still produces analog programs rather than high-definition (HD). Though they have HD cameras, they do not have the necessary switchers.

"I'm excited because the University is interested in and poised to renovate the existing studio space we have here on campus," says Williams-Smith. "The

next step will be to launch a fundraising campaign for the purpose of equipping and furnishing it properly and to the highest level."

The Hope Channel has donated its former set at a value of around \$25,000. Rather than the \$3 million they could spend building a new studio, this donation allows the University to plan for renovations at an expense of around \$200,000.

"We're not waiting for something better to come along," says Williams-Smith. "We're using what we have to make happen what we believe should happen, doing so to the best of our abilities. We're stepping down into the 'Jordan River,' believing that it will part."

Debbie Michel, professor of communications and award-winning former producer from NBC News' "Dateline," has worked with students on AUTV news broadcasts.

"I'm really excited about the prospects for a professional studio and the opportunity to help students hone their media production skills," she says.

Michel also has mentored students working on the department's magazine, *Envision*, which already has won several awards.

"Having Debbie on a faculty that already features excellent communication researchers and scholars brings a great deal of possibility for our department and the studio we work from," says Williams-Smith. "We will maximize what we have; and if God wants to give us more, we'll gratefully accept."

Becky St. Clair, media communications manager, Division of Integrated Marketing & Communication



Christa McConnell

Students and supervisors do behind-the-scenes work during an "AU News" segment filming.

[EDUCATION NEWS]

God sent a camera to Downers Grove

Illinois—At noon on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013, two employees from the Oakbrook (Ill.) OfficeMax walked into the lunchroom at Downers Grove Adventist School. They brought with them a bouquet of flowers, a foil balloon, a very comfortable office chair, a special certificate and a huge orange box filled with more than \$1,000 worth of classroom supplies. The OfficeMax representatives presented Kristen Landfare, an astonished, tearful kindergarten teacher, with all of the gifts they brought, including a Kindle tablet, and many other valuable, useful items.

The occasion was OfficeMax’s annual “A Day Made Better” event, and Landfare had been the selected recipient. The



An astonished, tearful Kristen Landfare, Downers Grove (Ill.) Adventist School Kindergarten teacher, receives valuable, useful gifts to recognize her dedication as part of Oakbrook (Ill.) OfficeMax’s annual “A Day Made Better” event, Oct. 15, 2013.

certificate cited Landfare’s dedication to the success of each one of her students, pedagogical expertise, and determination to create an environment where students become lifelong

learners. For Downers Grove Adventist School, it truly was “A Day Made Better” as Landfare shared the contents of the treasure box with the other classrooms.

There is more to the story, though. For several years, the teachers struggled whenever they desired to take pictures of students and events at the school. They used a nice but “capricious” camera. Since it took good pictures, when it “chose” to cooperate, and since there were other items the school needed more, purchasing a replacement camera was low on the priority list. The photography struggles became a routine part of picture-taking. All thoughts of schoolwork were suspended on “A Day Made Better” when it was discovered that in the box of school supplies was a brand new camera! God is so good.

Patricia Williams, principal, Downers Grove Adventist School

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Jackson reminds educators their work is not in vain

Lake Region—When you’ve prepared the best study materials, spent your own resources on effective learning aids, listened to the countless news reports indicating that your efforts are not producing results fast enough, ignored stereotypes about the learning capabilities of kids who easily memorize the lyrics of rapper 2 Chainz and, yet, fumble at reading the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, and then have to face a bunch of seemingly-ungrateful kids five days a week in an inner-city classroom, you may ask yourself, *Is it all worth it?*

If you were present at the 8:00 a.m. worship celebration service at the Marriott Renaissance Hotel in downtown Detroit, on Sunday Nov. 17, 2013, you would have heard Cory Jackson Sr. respond to this often-familiar situation faced by educators with a message titled “It’s Not in Vain!”



G. Ian Fisher-Curley plays the keyboard and directs the Burns Worship-Praise Aggregation at the ecumenical service of the National Alliance of Black School Educators, Nov. 17, 2013.

Jackson, pastor of the Burns Seventh-day Adventist Church in Detroit, was the guest of honor and keynote speaker at the ecumenical service of the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE). He was accompanied by the Burns Worship-Praise Aggregation under the direction of G. Ian Fisher-Curley. The morning interfaith service closed out NABSE’s 41st Annual Conference held that week (Nov. 13–17) in Detroit.

Commencing the service, the gospel music renditions of the Burns Worship-Praise Aggregation quickly helped the spiritual temperature rise. More than 200 worshipers of varied denominations filled the Ambassador Ballroom, waiting for a word from the Lord. For many of the participants, it was their first exposure to a worship celebration service led by an Adventist pastor and choir. This experience proved an immense witness, bringing together people who love and seek

Christ over that of continued separation through differences in worship styles.

Educators, especially those tasked to teach inner-city kids, often are made to feel they need to step up their efforts. Jackson reminded the listeners that Christ himself faced a similar situation and was surrounded by a group of 12 dysfunctional men (who, in many situations, acted like kids). Privileged to be close to him for a number of years, the disciples still did not act in the way Christ taught them. However, Christ never gave up on them, and constantly set an example of expected behavior.

Sharing his personal understanding of the experiences of the inner-city kid, Jackson passionately emphasized that the teacher, for many kids, is the only mentor they can trust and allow to have a positive influence in their lives. The teacher is an invaluable asset in the inner-city community, and their positive influence, while seemingly going unnoticed by many news channels, has saved many a young mind from ultimate ruin.

Closing out the message, Jackson reiterated that the influence and all the work teachers do, “is not in vain,” and at this exhortation, worship participants rose to their feet in rapturous applause, giving glory to God and were fired-up to “keep on, keeping on” educating the nation’s children.

Ministering at this auspicious event was made possible through the efforts of Gloria P. Davis, an educator herself and member of the Burns Church, and an executive member of the NABSE Local Conference Planning Committee. It was the first time in 41 years of NABSE Annual Conferences that a Seventh-day Adventist pastor and choir hosted the ecumenical service. The Burns Church offers their appreciation to Gloria P. Davis for realizing this witnessing opportunity.

NABSE is a non-profit organization devoted to furthering the academic success for the nation’s children, particularly children of African descent.

Oliver Page, communications director, Burns Adventist Church



Cory Jackson Sr. (left), pastor of the Burns Church in Detroit, was the guest of honor and keynote speaker at the ecumenical service of the National Alliance of Black School Educators, Nov. 17, 2013, at the Marriott Renaissance Hotel in Detroit. Sharing his personal understanding of the experiences of an inner-city kid, he passionately emphasized that the teacher, for many kids, is the only mentor they can trust and allow to have a positive influence in their lives. Also pictured is Gloria P. Davis, a Burns Church member and an executive member of the NABSE Local Conference Planning Committee.

Melrose Park Church members plant new church

Illinois—Members of the Melrose Park Church envisioned a new church plant in a neighborhood where 41 percent of the population is Hispanic. At the end of June 2013, two elders, leaders and a few members of the church left their mother church and moved to Addison, Ill., to plant the new church.

This new group of 25 believers began to meet every Sabbath in a room at the Addison Romanian Church. After two months, they had an average attendance of 60 people. From the beginning to now, they have baptized five people and five others are studying for baptism.

Efrain Villa, former elder at Melrose Park, remarked about the experience: “I have many years as a Seventh-day Adventist, but I’ve never felt so



A new group of 25 believers began to meet every Sabbath in a room at the Addison Romanian (Ill.) Church. After two months, they had an average attendance of 60 people.

happy, accomplished and spiritually strong as now. I could say that if the Lord picked me up now, I would go so happy after having participated in the

planting of a new church. This experience has given me a vibrant spiritual life and has filled my heart with gratitude.”

The other former elder at Melrose Park, Abel Landa, stated: "Brothers who were inactive in the Melrose Park Church are now working for God with power and full of spiritual strength. Brothers who also lacked faith are supporting the church with their tithes and offerings, and giving with a spirit of sacrifice. The last Sabbath, after the children's story, I was touched when a

four-year-old girl, Edén, daughter of a non-baptized sister, said to God as a part of her prayer: 'Senor, my church is small, but I love her. I ask that you make the church grow.' I believe that God's power and His love give life to this group."

The church plant in Addison is part of a strategic plan of the Illinois Conference administration to grow

churches everywhere in Illinois. For more about "GO AND TELL," the home mission initiative, visit the Conference website at <http://www.illinoisadventist.org>.

Justo Morales, associate director of ministerial and Hispanic ministries, Illinois Conference

Burns Church hosts 12th Peace and Healing Rally

Lake Region—The "Thou Shalt Not Kill" peace and healing campaign is an initiative of United Communities of America (UCOA), headed by Ovella Andreas, founder. Based on the commandment in Exodus 20:13, "Thou shalt not murder," the initiative seeks to promote peace, healing and positive change in Detroit communities.

On the 22nd day of each month, a Peace and Healing Rally is held at a church venue in the Metro Detroit area. On Dec. 22, 2013, Burns Church partnered with UCOA to host the 12th Peace and Healing Rally.



Ovella Andreas, founder of United Communities of America, and Cory Jackson Jr., Burns Church senior pastor, collaborated on the 12th "Thou Shalt Not Kill" Peace and Healing Rally held at the Burns Church, Dec. 22, 2013.

The event attracted representatives from Detroit community groups, Burns Church members and friends. During the rally, Germany Bennett, pastor of True Oracles of God Ministries; Songs of Yahweh, a mime ministry; and Forever Illustrating Real Entertainment (F.I.R.E.) ministered to those present. Pastors Andreas and Cory Jackson Jr., Burns Church senior pastor, empowered the congregation to be active witnesses and promoters of peace in their neighborhoods and precipitate positive change.

For more information about UCOA, email theucoa@yahoo.com or call 313-358-7009.

Oliver Page, communications director, Burns Church

Michigan churches and ASI Youth for Jesus to unite in evangelism

Michigan—On Sabbath, Jan. 18, a city-wide rally was held at the Wyoming Church to brief a standing-room-only audience of the upcoming evangelism thrust in the Grand Rapids area. The "Keys to Revelation" series will be held this summer simultaneously in 15 churches in the Grand Rapids area as part of a comprehensive evangelistic initiative of the Michigan Conference. The 2014 ASI (Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries) Youth for Jesus (YFJ) program also will be held in Grand Rapids, which offers a great opportunity



Leasa Hodges, ASI Youth for Jesus coordinator, explains the program to attendees at the Grand Rapids, Mich., city-wide rally.

for partnership in this evangelistic thrust. Presentations during the rally came from church leaders organizing the series, coordinators for various aspects of its promotion, and ASI leaders who

described the YFJ program and its role in the Grand Rapids initiative. During the next few months, activities and programs will be available for church member participation and support

provided to invite neighbors, friends, family and the community to one of the participant sites.

YFJ is a four-week residential evangelism field school for youth ages 15 and up. Youth participants are instructed on the rudiments of public evangelism and given hands-on experience conducting Bible studies, offering special music, leading children's programs, greeting, ushering and even presenting the nightly messages! During YFJ's 15-year existence, there have been tremendous outcomes for the kingdom of God. Church members have been reinvigorated through active participation in evangelism, youth participants have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior, and hundreds have been baptized after hearing the Word of God declared by young people through the Holy Spirit's power! YFJ will team with four of the Michigan Conference churches conducting the series as well as a congregation in the Lake Region Conference.

YFJ culminates at the ASI International Convention with reports of God's miracles and how youth were used to bring people to Jesus. The convention will be held at the DeVos Convention Center, Aug. 6-9. In addition to the

YFJ reports, speakers, music, seminars, a children's program, exhibits and enthusiastic member testimonies will pack the weekend with ideas and tools to enhance your Christian witness.

Grand Rapids will receive a double dose of ASI this year! The ASI Lake Union Chapter will hold its annual Spring Fellowship, April 18-19, at the Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids - Airport hotel. Themed "Ultimate Surrender," this event is planned to inspire and motivate attendees with creative ways to tell others about Jesus and his soon return. Speakers include Dan Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, for the Sabbath morning worship service; Rodlie Ortiz, a member of the pastoral team at Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University, as the Friday evening speaker; and Rich Aguilera, founder of One Mustard Seed, who will bring a dynamic presentation for the children and youth program.

ASI is a collaborative organization of Seventh-day Adventist laypersons who own or direct for-profit or not-for-profit organizations. Their goal is to use their gifts and talents in their sphere of influence to support the global mission



Dan Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, will speak Sabbath morning, April 19, at the ASI Lake Union Chapter Spring Fellowship in Grand Rapids, Mich.

of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, proclaiming the good news about Jesus' love and his soon return.

For more information about YFJ and the ASI International Convention, visit <http://www.asiministries.org>. More information about the upcoming ASI Lake Union Chapter Spring Fellowship is available at <http://www.asilakeunion.org>.

Debbie Young, president, Lake Union Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries chapter

[NAD NEWS]



NAD identifies six building blocks as the focus of mission

The North American Division (NAD) officers have identified six building blocks as the focus of mission:

- 1) Transformational Evangelism,
 - 2) Retention of Young Adults,
 - 3) Women in Pastoral Ministry,
 - 4) Education for Everyone — Online,
 - 5) Emerging Immigrant Populations and
 - 6) Media.
- The following information is an adaptation of *Women in Pastoral Ministry*, a publication from the NAD Secretariat.

The Women in Pastoral Ministry building block is based on a human resource platform. It is very specific — increase the number of female pastors in the North American Division. Of the approximately 4,000 pastors throughout North America, only 107 pastors are women. Studies show that 50 percent of the current pastors will be eligible for retirement in the next ten years. The goal is to double the current number of female pastors in the next five years. Part of this would involve creating a more positive environment in

the minds of SDA church members that God calls both men and women into his service for pastoral leadership. This will be accomplished through four focus activities:

Communication/Education: 1) Educate local churches of God's call to men and women; 2) Publish articles in union papers; 3) Create and distribute the theological support in laymen's language; 4) Distribute the NAD Theology of Ordination Report throughout the division; 5) Create and distribute videos of members' responses to female pastoral leadership; 6) Develop a special edition of the *Adventist Review* to be mailed to every home; and 7) Create an assessment tool to determine local church receptivity

Recruitment: 1) Actively recruit females who have graduated from the Seminary but are working in other professions; 2) Actively recruit females

on Adventist college and university campuses who sense God's call to ministry; 3) Compile and maintain a list of highly-qualified females who are available for pastoral leadership; and 4) Create a website for women to register their interests and be identified

Mentoring/Nurturing: 1) Identify female students who sense God's calling; 2) Partner those identified with current female pastors; 3) Develop a curriculum that would train current female pastors as successful mentors; 4) Sponsor an annual conference for female pastors; and 5) Organize regional partnerships through teleconference and online communication

Funding Support: 1) Create a funding formula to encourage the hiring of female pastors; 2) Structure the formula with participation from the division, union and local conference; 3) Promote the funding formula and its availability throughout the division; and 4) Review the funding initiative after five years

The recent appointment of Esther R. Knott as associate director of the NAD Ministerial Department and formerly associate pastor at Pioneer Memorial Church is in keeping with this initiative. Knott is based at the Adventist Theological Seminary on the campus of Andrews University. One of

Knott's responsibilities is to function as an adviser for women clergy issues.

In order to finish God's work, we need the women who are called of God to work alongside the men who also are equally called. Join us as we provide a partnership to support females who feel called by the Lord from college level through the seminary, leading to full employment into the local conference.

For more information, contact: Alex Bryant, NAD executive secretary, at GAlexander.Bryant@nad.adventist.org, or Brenda Billings, NAD Ministerial associate director, at Brenda.Billings@nad.adventist.org.

Women in Pastoral Ministry, NAD Secretariat (adapted)



Leona Glidden Running (Aug. 24, 1916-Jan. 22, 2014)

Leona Glidden Running leaves a legacy of learning and giving

Leona Glidden Running, 97, professor emerita of biblical languages at Andrews University, died January 22, in Berrien Springs, Mich., after nearly six decades of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and Andrews University.

Niels-Erik Andreasen, president of Andrews University, says, "Dr. Running broke new ground in the University and in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She was the first female professor at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Takoma Park, Md., and later here at Andrews. ... She was an

inspiration to many and an example to us all."

Jiří Moskala, dean of the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, says: "Dr. Running holds a special place in the hearts of her Old Testament and Seminary colleagues and former students."

Born on Aug. 24, 1916, in Flint, Mich., Running showed an early attraction to languages. She graduated from Andrews University (then Emmanuel Missionary College) as valedictorian in 1937 with a Bachelor of Arts with a concentration in modern languages. She earned a M.A. in Greek and Hebrew from the Adventist Theological Seminary in 1955, and a Ph.D. in Semitic languages from Johns Hopkins University in 1964.

Running married Leif "Bud" Running on May 17, 1942. On Aug. 20, 1946, he died while undergoing his third lung operation.

From 1944-1948, Running worked for the "Voice of Prophecy" radio ministry, translating programs and typing scripts in German, Spanish and Portuguese. In 1950, she moved to Washington, D.C., to become the copy editor for *Ministry* magazine. During these early years, Running often earned far less than her male counterparts for doing the same amount of work. Nevertheless, she continued to do God's work.

Running began working for the Seminary in 1955, teaching Greek and Hebrew. The president was skeptical about a woman's ability to teach male students and their willingness to be taught by a woman. She began on a trial basis, but in 1956 was granted regular status and full tenure, shortly thereafter. Her guidance helped countless individuals find their voice. Her strength and determination during a time when women were not always treated as equals with men, even within the Church, were an inspiration to many.

When the Seminary was moved from Takoma Park, Md., to Berrien Springs, Mich., in 1960, Running continued as a valuable, dedicated professor of biblical languages. She also collected articles, journals and books on women in ministry, and donated the collection to the Center for Adventist Research in the James White Library.

She retired from full-time teaching at 65, but for 21 years continued to teach Egyptian, Akkadian, Syriac, Hebrew, Aramaic at the Seminary, finally quitting in May 2002. At the May 2012 Commencement ceremony, Running was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Andrews.

Becky St. Clair, media communications manager, Division of Integrated Marketing & Communication, Andrews University (adapted)

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 <http://www.herald.lakeunion.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. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>.

Andrews University

Ellen G. White Issues Symposium: You are invited to attend this event sponsored by the Center for Adventist Research, the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office, and the Seminary Church History Department. It will be held on Monday, **March 24**, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., in the chapel of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary on the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. The purpose of this symposium is to break new ground in understanding Ellen White and issues relating to her life, ministry and prophetic gift that have current importance. There is no charge for attending the symposium. Speakers this year are Mike Oxentenko, Ron du Preez, David Williams, Tim Poirier, Jerry Moon and Denis Fortin. For more information, contact Katy Wolfer at 269-471-3209 or shoemakk@andrews.edu.

Illinois

Broadview Academy Alumni Association Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend is **April 25-26**. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars! Call your classmates and start planning now for this weekend to be held at North Aurora (Ill.) SDA Church. Honor classes: 1944, '54, '64, '74, '84, '89, '94 and 2004. Friday night vespers; Sabbath school and church. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, we need your email addresses; postage is too expensive. Email to Ed Gutierrez at edjulie1@att.net or call 630-232-9034. More information to come. Don't miss it!

Lake Union

Offerings

- March 1** Local Church Budget
- March 8** Adventist World Radio
- March 15** Local Church Budget
- March 22** Local Conference Advance
- March 29** Illinois Local Church Budget
Indiana Timber Ridge Camp
Lake Region Camp Wagner Improvements
Michigan Good News Farm
Wisconsin Outdoor Education

Special Days

- March 1** Women's Day of Prayer
- March 2-8** Adventist Youth Week of Prayer
- March 15** Disabilities Awareness Sabbath

Thirteenth Sabbath

- March 29** West-Central Africa Division

ASI Lake Union Chapter will hold its annual Spring Fellowship, **April 18-19**, at the Crown Plaza hotel by the airport in Grand Rapids, Mich. Themed "Ultimate Surrender," this event is planned to inspire and motivate attendees with creative ways to tell others about Jesus and his soon return. Speakers include Dan Jackson, Rodlie Ortiz and Rich Aguilera. For more information, visit <http://www.asilakeunion.org>.

Michigan

Battle Creek Tabernacle Sacred Concert Series 2014: Concerts will be held at

264 West Michigan Ave., Battle Creek. For more information, visit <http://www.battlecreektabernacle.com>.

March 1, 7:30 p.m., Buddy Houghtaling, singer and songwriter. Free concert. Houghtaling is from Battle Creek and well-known in Michigan. He also can be seen on Three Angels Broadcasting Network as a solo artist as well as on the 3ABN show "Kid's Time."

April 5, 7:30 p.m., Michael Card, singer, songwriter and musician. Admission charged. Card has recorded more than 31 albums and has written such favorites as "El Shaddai," "Love Crucified Arose" and "Emmanuel." He has sold more than 4 million albums. Card's concert will celebrate Easter and include choir and string ensemble accompaniment.

Urbandale SDA Church in Battle Creek is celebrating its 40th anniversary **May 2-3** at its present location. We invite former members and friends to help us commemorate. Friday evening will be an open house for visitation. Sabbath services will be at their regular time. See <http://www.urbandalesda.org> for all updates as time draws near. A salad, sandwich and dessert fellowship luncheon will be held after the morning service. If possible, please bring a salad, sandwiches or dessert to share. A mid-afternoon musical program of inspiration and a trip to the Hinman Church site, our former home, is planned.

"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion will take place **June 6-8** for alumni

and schoolmates of 1964 and earlier at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich. Honor classes: 1934, '44, '54, '64. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181 or visit <http://www.glaa.net/>.

North American Division

The 25th Lake Union Academies Reunion potluck will be held on Sabbath, **May 3, 1:00 p.m.** Come to the Loma Linda University School of Nursing West Hall, 11262 Campus St. (1/2 block north of Barton Rd.) in Loma Linda, Calif. For more information, call 909-748-5178 or 909-799-8039.

All Lake Union members who are former students, friends or staff of Kona Adventist Christian School are invited to its 50th Anniversary celebration, **July 26-27**. For more information, contact Valerie Oskins at 808-960-2406 or Cyndi Kiyabu at 808-896-8646. The 50th Anniversary celebration will be held at 82-1013 Kinue Rd., Captain Cook, Hawaii.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Academy 2014 Upcoming Events: For more information on these events, contact the school at 920-623-3300.

- April 3-5:** Elementary Music Festival
- April 25:** Alumni Golf Classic
- April 25-27:** Alumni Homecoming 2014
- May 10:** Spring Concert
- May 23-25:** Graduation Weekend

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Mar 7	Mar 14	Mar 21	Mar 28	Apr 4	Apr 11
Berrien Springs, Mich.	6:42	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:13	8:21
Chicago, Ill.	5:47	6:55	7:03	7:11	7:18	7:26
Detroit, Mich.	6:28	7:37	7:45	7:53	8:01	8:08
Indianapolis, Ind.	6:42	7:50	7:57	8:04	8:11	8:18
La Crosse, Wis.	6:00	7:09	7:17	7:26	7:34	7:43
Lansing, Mich.	6:34	7:42	7:51	7:59	8:07	8:15
Madison, Wis.	5:53	7:02	7:10	7:18	7:26	7:34
Springfield, Ill.	5:56	7:03	7:11	7:18	7:25	7:32

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 <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>. Conference addresses and phone numbers are listed in the masthead on the inside back cover.

Obituaries

BURD, Ervin L., age 92; born July 16, 1921, in Danville, Ill.; died Jan. 7, 2014, in Alvin, Ill. He was a member of the Danville Church.

Survivors include his brother, Ed.

Funeral services were conducted by Raymond J. Plummer, and interment was in Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery, Danville.

CURRENT, Bertha "Beth" (Feldbush) Hiiter, age 92; born April 29, 1921, in Clifford, Mich.; died July 27, 2013, in Waterford, Mich. She was a member of the Owosso (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Gary Hiiter; stepson, Donald Current; daughters, Judith (Hiiter) Anderson, Linda (Hiiter) Davis and Pamela (Hiiter) Gray; sister, Dorothy Engel; seven grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; 12 step-great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by John Hood and Ilko Tchakarov, and interment was in Hillcrest Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Owosso.

GARDNER, Roger L., age 67; born June 19, 1946, in Clare, Mich.; died Dec. 23, 2013, in Clare. He was a member of the Clare Church.

Survivors include his wife, Beth Ann (Heiser); son, Roger L. Jr.; daughter, Kimberly Welch; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Private inurnment has taken place, Clare.

GATEWOOD, Billy M., age 82; born Feb. 17, 1931, in Dresden, Tenn.; died Dec. 29, 2013, in Cottonwood, Ariz. He was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Audrey V. (Woods) Lamon; son, William J.; stepson, Kevin Lamon; daughters, Carol Gatewood and Linda Martin; stepdaughter, Belinda

Hofer; sister, Nancy Biscardi; 11 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by David Hakes, with private inurnment, Cottonwood.

HOLDEN, Frederick, age 38; born Sept. 19, 1975, in Tucson, Ariz.; died Oct. 27, 2013, in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was a member of the Shelby (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Jennifer (Gideon); son, Frederick J.; stepson, Rek R. Luedtke; daughters, Micheala A. and Gabriella F. Holden; stepdaughters, Jaeleen W. Luedtke and Breana L. Bair; father, Fred L.; mother, Cynthia (Cain); sister, Kristina Tabaczka; grandparents, Alfrieda Holden, and Olin and Faye Cain.

Funeral services were conducted by Ronald Mills, and interment was in Brookside Cemetery, Scottville, Mich.

HUMMEL, E. Loren, age 82; born Aug. 11, 1931, in Sonora Twp., Ill.; died Dec. 27, 2013, in Niles, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy (Payne); daughter, Connie Jackson; stepdaughters, Debera Schutter and Suzann Lewis; four grandchildren; and four step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Don Dronen, and inurnment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

KERSHNER, Naoma M. (Young), age 86; born July 31, 1927, in Indiana; died Jan. 3, 2014, in Bridgman, Mich. She was a member of the Chikaming Church, Chikaming Twp., Mich.

Survivors include her husband, David; daughters, Joyce Edwards and Gail Laughtman; brothers, Lloyd and Gail Young; sister, Jackie Conrad; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by William Dudgeon Sr., and interment was in Graceland Cemetery, Bridgman.

KNIGHTS, Kathleen L. (Lorenz), age 81; born Dec. 18, 1931, in Anderson, Ind.; died Nov. 20, 2013, in Kokomo, Ind. She was a member of the Kokomo Church.

Survivors include her sons, Terry, Jeff and Steve; daughters, Jennifer Camp and Diane DeCastro; sister, Delores Lorenz; and eight grandchildren.

Private memorial services were conducted, and interment was in Sunset Memory Garden Cemetery, Kokomo.

MOORE, Sandra K. (Williams), age 72; born Aug. 31, 1941, in St. Elmo, Ill.; died Dec. 26, 2013, in Urbana, Ill. She was a member of the Stewardson (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Robin Righter, Lori Cole, Lisa Foster and Kelly Jo Easton; father, Murl E. Williams; brother, Larry Williams; sisters, Jeanne Summers and Shirley Williams; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Jerry Weiland II and Brett Murphy, and interment was in Greenhill Cemetery, Sullivan, Ill.

OETMAN, Ella L. (Schaap), age 92; born Oct. 18, 1921, in Holland, Mich.; died Jan. 11, 2014, in Bridgman, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Harold, Harvey and Roger; daughters, Arlene Graham and Shirley Lehmann; brothers, Edwin, Louis, Ken and Lloyd Schaap; 12 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Dwight K. Nelson, and interment was in Riverside Cemetery, Hamilton, Mich.

PLEASANT, Kenneth V., age 61; born Oct. 24, 1952, in Chicago, Ill.; died Dec. 8, 2013, in Gary, Ind. He was a member of the Mizpah Church, Gary.

Survivors include his brothers, Thomas and Andre; and sisters, Decorah Mims, Leoneed Pleasant and Kimberly Clemons.

Funeral services were conducted by Jerome Davis, and interment was in Cedar Park Cemetery, Chicago.

ROLLINS, Charles, age 94; born Aug. 16, 1919, in Detroit, Mich.; died Nov. 24, 2013, in Novi, Mich. He was a member of the Waterford Riverside Church, Waterford, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Isabel (Weber); sons, Charles, Stephen and Daniel; daughters, Sharon Provo and Diane Joki; sister, Francis O'Guin; 19 grandchildren; and 45 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by John Hood, and inurnment was in Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Novi.

SUSENS, Virginia (Ebeling), age 86; born May 28, 1927, in Battle Creek, Mich.; died Dec. 19, 2013, in Bridgman, Mich. She was a member of the Battle Creek Tabernacle Church.

Survivors include her son, David; daughter, Elizabeth Osborne; seven grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Bruce Moore, and interment was in Ft. Custer National Cemetery, Augusta, Mich.

WALKER, Scott W., age 88; born May 31, 1925, in Memphis, Tenn.; died Dec. 14, 2013, in Hobart, Ind. He was a member of the Mizpah Church, Gary, Ind.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy (Cockrell); and brother, Robert.

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

WATERHOUSE, L. Allen, age 42; born July 30, 1971, in Millersburg, Ohio; died Dec. 23, 2013, in Benton Twp., Mich. He attended Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his sons, Raistiin and Tyler; daughters, Byre, Olivia and Calla; father, Douglas; mother, Rosemary (Witt); and brother, Guy.

Funeral services were conducted by Mike Schoeplein, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

WITZEL, Ray S., age 94; born July 23, 1919, in Viola, Wis.; died Jan. 13, 2014, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his son, Tom; daughters, Judy Lim, Geraldine Buttler and Nancy McCall; 10 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Allen Freed, with private inurnment.

All classified 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: \$36 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$46 per insertion for all others. A form is available at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org> for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order or 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. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>.

Real Estate/Housing

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE is an Adventist community in a rural Okla. setting but close to Oklahoma City medical facilities and shopping. Made up mostly of individual homes, the village has a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, independent living, nursing home and transportation as needed. For more information, visit <http://www.summitridgevillage.org> or call Bill Norman at 405-208-1289.

PROPERTY FOR SALE IN THE BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA. Located near the Black Hills Health & Education Center. Water and electricity provided, view of Mt. Rushmore, pine trees. Reasonably priced. For more information, call 605-255-4579.

FOR SALE NEAR WILBURTON, OKLA.: Country ranch home on 7 acres of land, with 2 baths, 3 bedrooms and a big garden spot. It is a fixer-upper. One small pond. One outbuilding. For pictures and more information, call 734-740-1439 or email cvail@misda.org.

SECLUDED, SELF-CONTAINED HOME FOR SALE ON CUMBERLAND PLATEAU above beautiful Sequatchie Valley, Tenn. Home includes 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, exercise room, shower, swimming pool, sun deck with bedroom, Elmira Ontario cook stove, Buck Stove, butane/wood heat, well, pump. 9.5 acres includes two 3-acre lots. Asking \$146,999. For more information, call owner weekdays at 423-881-3986.

PISGAH VALLEY is a Seventh-day Adventist retirement community tucked in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina — one of the most desirable retirement locations in the country. You'll be able to pursue an active, independent lifestyle while enjoying our gentle four-season

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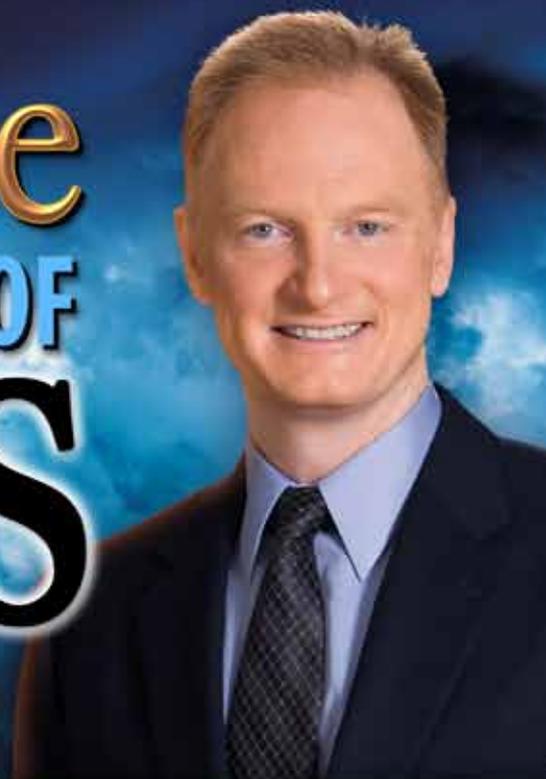
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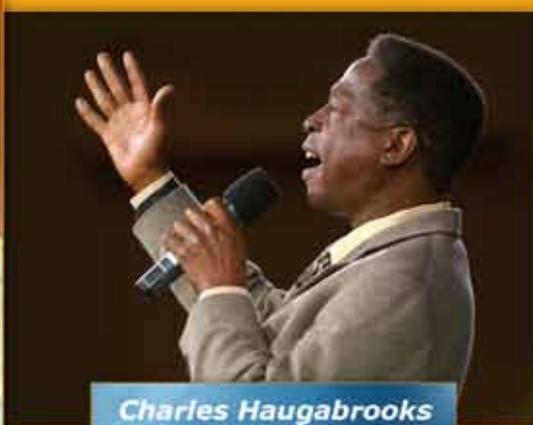


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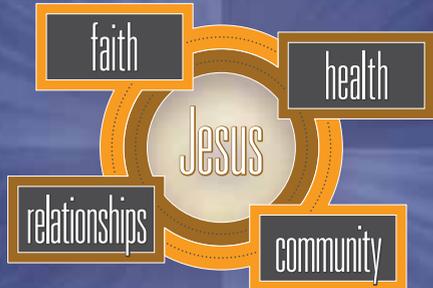
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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Don't Limit God

BY HAZEL BURNS



When I was asked to consider accepting the position of an elder back in the '80s, I wasn't sure I was the one to break new territory. I prayed earnestly for more than a month that God would show me what I should do. God gave me the idea to go talk to Grandma (Willa Lee) Wright, who had served as a Bible worker for E.E. Cleveland and C.D. Brooks during many of their evangelistic campaigns.

When I called, she enthusiastically invited me to come, even though she was in the last few weeks of her life. When I walked into her bedroom, her smile made me feel so welcome. She had a true pastor's spirit. You could hear it in her voice and see it in her eyes as she talked about how much she enjoyed

working for Jesus. I knew she would give me good advice.

I explained my dilemma and asked her if she believed I, a woman, should serve as an elder. She took her time, quietly meditating on my question.

"Hazel," she said, "we don't want to ever limit God. We don't know what his plans are for your future. Don't close a door that God may be opening. I think you should do it!"

Grandma prayed a beautiful prayer of surrender and commitment, and asked God to fill me with his Holy Spirit. God continues to open doors for me to serve him. There is no limit to service if we are willing to serve in partnership with God.

Hazel Burns is a retired pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at Kettering, Ohio, and mother of the editor.

Lessons from the Classroom

BY VIMBO ZVANDASARA-ZHOU

After years of working at camp, taking education courses, and helping in classrooms, you'd think that I would have seen it all! However, I've been learning a lot in a short amount of time since I began full-time student teaching this month. As my responsibilities in the classroom have increased, so has my prayer life! I teach at a public school, and each day I pray that God shines through me to my students.

One snowy afternoon last week, I had just finished teaching my second-graders, and the school day was almost done. I dismissed them to go to their lockers and collect their backpacks, coats and boots. They hurried back to the classroom, and sat on the carpet in a line while we waited for the buses to arrive.

While they were sitting there, I imitated what I had seen my mentor teacher do, and we practiced multiplication facts together.

"1 times 3 is..."

"3!" they shouted in reply, looking up excitedly.

"2 times 3 is..."

"6!" they roared back, some of them squirming on the carpet in their spots.

Most of the students were participating, but as I walked down the line, I saw two kids picking on one of my students toward the back. I separated the boy being picked on from the other two bullies, and didn't think much of it.

The bell rang, and my students popped up off the floor and followed me out to the buses. When the last boy, who had been bullied a few minutes earlier, was walking toward his bus, he stopped abruptly on the sidewalk. I was about to say goodbye when suddenly, he threw his boots into the snow and cried, "Everybody hates me!"



Vimbo Zvandasara-Zhou

Pieter Damssteeg

He began to sob, waving his hands frantically as he stood there. Teachers and students were walking by, but I kept my eyes on him, and my heart sank. I murmured a quick prayer, and whispered, "I don't hate you. Here, let's pick up your boots and get you on the bus."

I knelt down next to him as he picked up his boots. I then gave him a quick hug and watched him saunter up the bus stairs and disappear.

As I walked back inside the school, I thought about how I sometimes treat God the way my student treated me. I throw a fit, throw my hands in the air, and declare that everything and everyone is against me. Yet, God patiently approaches me time and time again. He gently reminds me that he really loves me, and he is on my side even when others aren't. I had thought that I was the one teaching, and that I would have to handle all of this on my own, when God has been by my side all the time. The longer I teach, the more I realize God actually is teaching *me* about his love through my students. And here I was, thinking I was the teacher.

Vimbo Zvandasara-Zhou was born in Zimbabwe. She is currently a senior elementary education major undergraduate student at Andrews University. Vimbo grew up in and currently resides in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

ON THE EDGE ... where faith meets action

Youth Ministry in Lebanon

BY ASHLEIGH JARDINE

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. — Proverbs 22:6 ESV

Don Magbanua enjoys traveling and youth ministry. The theology student at Andrews University has been on two short-term mission trips where he helped construct churches in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. In 2012, Don went as a student missionary to Lebanon for the summer. It was there where he learned to “love people better” and “trust God without needing tangible evidence” that he is at work.



Don Magbanua and friends

That summer, Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion at Andrews, was taking a class to the Middle East SDA University. Don saw the trip as a ministry opportunity, and signed up just one month before take-off.

When the group arrived in Lebanon, each took part in leading week of prayer meetings. Don also worked with a classmate to teach Bible classes at the local school. When classes ended for the summer, Don began a youth group with several local teenagers. Together, the group created and operated a summer camp for children of the church members and missionary families.

“We made it similar to FLAG (Fun Learning About God) Camp,” says Don. “We started every day with worship and spent the rest of the day playing games, making arts and crafts, and swimming with the kids.”

The camp ran for nearly six weeks that summer. During that time, Don noticed children outside the University gates “just playing in the streets.” He wanted to include them in the ministry, and shared his concerns with Glenn. With the help of the Niles Westside Church in Michigan, nearly \$2,000 were raised to sponsor 20 community children at camp for a week.

Don says he learned a lot from his experience in Lebanon. “Sometimes, I wondered if I was making a difference,” he remembers. “But the experience helped me realize that the way God works isn’t always explicit, ... it can be subtle. I can never disqualify what God is doing in those people’s lives now.”

Don hopes to work in youth ministries some day. He currently is involved in several clubs on campus, and serves as a youth pastor at a nearby church.

Ashleigh Jardine is a freelance writer from Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she is a physical therapy major at Andrews University.

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Lake Union HERALD

Official Publication of the Seventh-day Adventist Church/Lake Union Headquarters

<http://herald.lakeunion.org>

March 2014

Vol. 106, No.3

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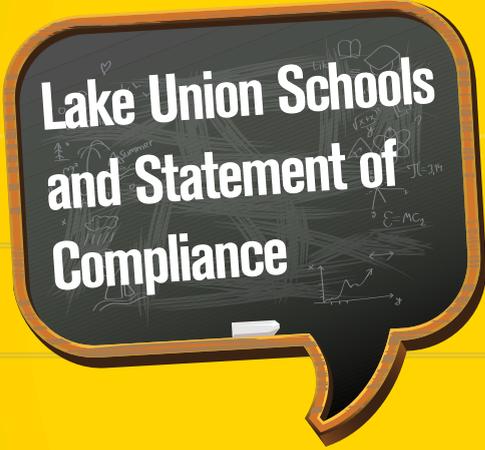
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