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Lake Union HERALD

MARCH 2018

WHEN GOD CALLS
WOMEN IN MINISTRY AND HIGHER ED LEADERSHIP






It has been my privilege to work with a number of women in ministry in the Lake Union. In the early days, when I was the youth pastor on the Pioneer Memorial Church staff, I partnered with Carol Turk, art teacher and counselor at Andrews Academy. She had a pastor’s heart for her students, and we often collaborated and prayed for specific students who were in need of spiritual support. Although it wasn’t an official title or position, I referred to her as my associate pastor. Today, Carol is a licensed hospital chaplain serving in the Denver area.

I also had the privilege of working with Lisa Isensee, in the Dakota Conference where she served as an amazing youth leader in the Rapid City Church and also as camp director at Flag Mountain Camp. She then moved to Wisconsin where she served in the area of church planting. You may recall seeing her on the cover of the April 2011 issue of the *Lake Union Herald*.

In this issue, we pleased to celebrate the way God is advancing His Kingdom through a number of women who serve in a variety of roles and settings in the Lake Union. ■


Gary Burns
Editor

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When God Calls

Women in Ministry and
Higher Ed Leadership



Jim Svetha

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A More Excellent Way

The Book of Judges contains a story that aptly illustrates how important it is for women to hold prominent and impactful roles in ministry.



▲ Maurice Valentine

There, in one of the opening chapters of the book often renown for the exploits of men in leadership, is the story of a woman who was governor of the people in that day. After 20 years of oppression by a king who had 900 chariots of iron, the Bible records in Judges, chapter 4, that the people cried to God for deliverance. God had, squarely in His view, a woman whose name was Deborah.

She was not only a governor in Israel, but she also was a prophetess to whom the people went to adjudicate their issues. But Deborah was much more than the sum total of these two roles. Her most important role was that of being a type of Christ, as are all Bible personages called into leadership. As the people went to her in mass, we can deduce that she was balanced, wise, humble and affable. Holding the military leader in Israel, whose name was Barak, accountable for his responsibility to bring about deliverance for Israel, Deborah asserted, *Hath not the Lord God of Israel commanded, saying, ‘Go and draw toward mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun? And I will draw unto thee to the river Kishon Sisera, the captain of Jabin’s army, with his chariots and his multitude; and I will deliver him into thine hand?’* (Judges 4:6, 7 KJV).

In making this statement to Barak, I really like Deborah’s tact and wisdom. While attempting to nudge another leader to perform the task God had assigned him, she does so very wittingly, without being pushy. It is often thought that it is okay for men to be pushy, but not women. The fact is, it is not appropriate for either. Christ is our example who holds out to us His nail-scarred hands as the compelling reason that we should come to Him with our heavy-laden thoughts and burdensome loads, yet He never forces the individual. In

Christ’s example, we see our way to respect all leaders in their respective roles, whether they fall under the aegis of our organization or that of another. Deborah, in Christ’s stead as leader in Israel, although she might have spoken in a commanding way to Barak and her title alone likely gave her the right to do so, she shows many of us who are male leaders the more excellent way. To provide a compelling argument is always better than making demands. And what is more compelling than to say, “Didn’t God say...?”

She simply asked him to remember — a duty to which we as Adventist also have been called. We are called to never be pushy, yet still be faithful to our call to provide a compelling reason for people to come into the ark of safety. We may redirect someone’s course or thinking with a Scripture here and there. But we can often lose a friend by the way we treat them when we have chosen an unChrist-like aggressive approach, rather than an assertive posture that keeps the dignity and value of the one to whom we witness, uppermost in mind. Jesus died for all of us, and from that we are able to derive that everyone is important to Him. Therefore, we, too, just like Deborah, are types of Christ. In fact, we all, as children of God are priests, first and foremost, who are called to pursue a ministry of reconciliation, calling a world into account by asking them to remember God as Creator who is sending His Son to judge our world. Aggressiveness often wins the battle, but just as often loses the war. Holy and sanctified assertiveness is God’s way; therefore, it also should be ours if we truly belong to Him.

Deborah’s Christ-like way of approaching leadership still remains on display. In this passage, I also clearly see that Barak is not willing to go anywhere unless he has the promise of Deborah’s presence. It is most

Every Church Needs a Junior

By Andy Im



JUNIOR VERTUS IS A JUNIOR at Michigan’s East Kentwood High School, a school of about 3,000 students. He isn’t your everyday high schooler. He eagerly anticipates waking up at the crack of dawn to have his devotions at 5:30 a.m. He also gives four or five Bible studies per week and, during Unlock Revelation series, he preached a handful of the evening messages.

But that’s not all. Junior also started a school club his sophomore year called, “Youth in Action.” Their motto is simple: “We’re the future, but why wait until then?” He says, “We’re told [by adults] we’re the future, but we need to start now!” True.

The club meets every Tuesday at 2:45 p.m. for Bible studies in one of the classrooms. In addition to Bible studies, the group also is very active in their community. They go downtown and distribute *GLOW* tracts; provide sleeping bags, pillows, and Bibles for the homeless; and hand out food baskets for the hungry.

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He recently brought 10 of his club members to the event Public HI-C held at Camp Au Sable. Only two of them are Seventh-day Adventists. What motivates Junior is undeniable. Sometime during his sophomore year, he was struck by Christ’s words: *...everyone who confesses me before men, I will also confess him before my Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies me before men, I will also deny him before my Father who is in heaven* (Matthew 10:32-33 NASB).

The words convicted him, and he thought to himself, “I’m not telling people about Jesus! I need to confess him!”

From that moment, the young man was on a mission: “People need to learn who Jesus is!”

He also felt overwhelmed at his school of thousands and prayed, “Lord, I can’t really do anything at such a big school, so I’m gonna need you to send me people!”

It wasn’t long after, God did exactly that. He currently has 10-15 students attending his Bible studies.

Also, their community service trips became “the thing” to do. Before long, they didn’t have enough vehicles to transport everyone, so God opened another door for them to receive free vans. “We don’t pay gas; we don’t pay anything for the field trips!” he says with a beaming smile.

Pray for Junior and the ministry that God has entrusted to him. His dream is to become a pastor. His passion is for everyone to fall in love with Jesus. ■

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pronounced where he states, *I will not go, unless you come with me* (see Judges 4:8). That's how I feel, too. I don't want to go anywhere, unless Jesus is going with me. To go anywhere without God's Spirit leading us is simply dangerous!

But look with me just a little further. Deborah responds to Barak's appeal for her presence by saying *I will surely go with thee: notwithstanding the journey that thou takest shall not be for thine honour; for the Lord shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman* (Judges 4:9 KJV). Although God was using Deborah before this passage, she makes it clear that it was never her intent to over-run Barak's position as military leader, as she had not planned to go on this military exercise. Yet, because of his insistence, she was willing and did indeed go, but only after warning him of the possibility that people would likely sing her praises when they returned victorious, rather than his. Note also, he did not change his mind.

I would like to suggest that there are many capable women featured in this issue of the *Lake Union Herald* — very talented, gifted, balanced and affable people who, just like Deborah, God is already using for His Glory. I would like to further suggest that just because they are in leadership roles, does not mean that they are attempting to do anything other than perform the task that God has assigned to them do. Obviously, Barak saw something special in Deborah that caused him to have tremendous respect for her and he felt more capable with her nearby. I feel the same way when it comes to my very gifted and talented wife, Sharon. I have learned so very much from her. Even my business acumen is greatly enhanced by things I have learned from her as a competent professional in today's corporate world. Accordingly, I encourage you to look deep within the pages of this issue of the *Lake Union Herald* and, when you do so, think of the words of Ellen White who wrote in this same news organ, the *Herald*, almost 110 years ago.

"A message has been given me for our responsible men throughout the field, and I dare not remain silent. Words were spoken to me in the night season, that brought a heavy burden on my

soul. The messenger said, 'Arouse the watchmen to set at work many laborers who will diligently strive for the salvation of souls. Let the light shine forth to every place. It is not so much expensive facilities that are most needed now, but humble, faithful men and women, who have the fear of God before them, and the spirit of revival in their hearts'"

(Ellen G. White, "A Revival Needed", *Lake Union Herald*, Nov. 4, 1908).

Let's move forward, going on to victory as the armies of Israel did in Deborah and Barak's day. A song of victory is recorded in the very next chapter. It says in its first verse: *That the leaders led in Israel, that the people volunteered, bless the Lord!* (Judges 5:2, NASB). Wow! What an example! The leaders led, and the people observing it caught that same cooperative spirit and followed voluntarily. It all started with a man and a woman working together and, thereafter, an army of people followed their example. Ladies and gentlemen, servants of God, thank you for your ministry to the Lord and your service to your church. Yet for this issue of the *Herald*, I want to give special attention to the Deborahs of our day whom God has called to employ in the finishing the work. ■

Maurice Valentine is president of the Lake Union Conference





▲Cynthia Burrill

Jean-Ires Michel

Opportunities Abound for Compassion

By Cynthia Burrill

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, I had the opportunity to visit my son, Jim, and his family in Florida. What fun I had, going to school plays, walking around the neighborhood and lake with my family, going to church together, cooking with the grandkids, immersing ourselves in the woods, beach and preserves in nature. What a joy!

When it was time for me to go home, my son drove me to the airport early on his way to go to work. Well, actually, it was out of his way. But I was glad to arrive at the airport early, knowing that I would not then take away from his time at work, so I knew I would have to wait awhile before my plane boarded. I leisurely

went to the ticket counter, checked my baggage, got my boarding pass, went through airport security and headed toward the gate.

I then looked at my pass for the number of the gate. No gate number was listed!

I worried, *How am I going to find out which one is my gate? Should I go back to the ticket counter to find out my gate?*

I was close to where you board a tram to the gates. Which tram you boarded depended on to which gate you needed to go.

Just then a lady frantically asked me, "How am I going to find my gate?"

"I am looking for my gate, too," I replied. "The problem is that, I don't know my gate number. Do you know your gate number?"

"I do! I have the number," she said, "but I don't know how to get there. Could you help me?"

I glanced at my watch. I had plenty of time. I was familiar with that airport. Many of the gates could be reached by taking the tram where we were. I was pretty sure we could quickly get to her gate by taking the tram.

"I'll go with you on this tram to your gate, and maybe the people there also will be able to tell me which gate is the one that I need to go to."

We took the tram to her gate. On the way, I told her that I was going home after a lovely vacation with my son and his family. Then she told me that she was going to Colorado. My heart just ached when she told me why.

"I am going there to attend the second trial of the murderers of my son."

"I am so sorry," I replied,

"Could you come with me to my gate and wait with me there? It would help so much to have someone with me."

We found the gate and I asked the attendants if they could tell me where my gate would be. Why should I have been surprised, when she answered, "It's right here."

It was the same gate. I only had to wait an hour or so more. God had arranged it so I could be there to listen, comfort and minister to her on her way to Colorado.

I heard the whole sad story. She brought out a scrapbook featuring her son's life. I saw adorable pictures of him as a baby, with his sisters when they young, of better times with the whole family together at his wedding, at his funeral, and of her new little grandchild born after the funeral. I heard how her son grew up with so much potential. I saw a very good-looking young man whose life was now ended.

I heard about her own failed marriage, of her own challenges raising the children on her own, of her hopes and fears for her son, and the thrill of the wedding. Then she disclosed the sad facts of his later unfaithfulness to his young wife which precipitated hatred in his wife's family that led to his very violent

murder. She told me about the subsequent birth of her newest grandchild — not the child of her son's new wife, but his child with another woman who was not his wife. She still loved and kept a close relationship with her new daughter-in law, the new grandchild and his mother. They were all together in their grief.

Then I heard the effect of the murder, how it had affected not only her, the mother, but also each of her other grown children. Now, as she was anticipating another murder trial, she was beside herself in pain, dreading to have to go through all the sordid details all over again, having to relive the same feelings in court for the second time. There were three people who had murdered him, which meant that this trial was not the end. There was one more to face in the future.

Her story was hardly coherent. Her purse where she was searching for items from the funeral was in disarray. She was clearly in grief. She became frantic just before she boarded as she searched her bags looking for her ticket. Thankfully, she found it. Then I asked her, "Would you like me to pray for you before I go?"

"Oh, please do," was her reply.

We bowed our heads and prayed together that God would be with her throughout the whole trial and through the rest of her trip. I also prayed that our merciful Father would be with all of her children and through all that they had to endure.

Just before we parted, she fished again in her cavernous purse. "I'll keep praying for you as you are going through this trial and beyond," I said.

"Yes, keep praying, but most of all, please pray for my son," she said as she handed me a card with the name and picture of her son.

I sensed her heart as only a mother can sense it, and knew that she longed for his salvation. "I'll keep praying for you and your whole family in this whole ordeal each time I see his picture and think of all of you," I assured her.

What compassion our God has, to arrange a meeting like this. His heart breaks for those who are carrying such unbelievable pain. ■

Before her retirement, Cynthia Burrill spent many years in ministry with her husband, Russell Burrill, pastoring small and large churches, doing full-time evangelism and teaching at Andrews University. She's mother of two children and grandmother to six, four of whom currently attend Andrews University.

Meet Them Where They Are

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord (Ephesians 6:4, NLT).



▲ Melissa Ponce-Rodas

How your parents deal with you when you are most vulnerable can impact you forever. Jesus knows this, and gives us an example of what to do when He met the woman at the well in John 4. The well was a public place, where we can assume the woman suffered much ridicule, stigma and isolation. She was not there in the morning when other women were present, but in the afternoon, when the noonday sun made gathering water that much more of a chore. But that's where Jesus waited for and found her, when she was most vulnerable. How He responds to her is where the lesson is to be learned.

When reaching out to others, we often respond like Jesus. We go to the broken, telling of Jesus' forgiveness and lovingly calling them to His feet. However, when it comes to our own children, we forget to respond like Jesus at home. Sad, but true. Many families suffer, because while a parent was carrying the gospel to others, he or she forgot to live it at home. This is a factor in so many broken homes and broken children. As a psychologist, I can tell you the adage is true — it is easier to raise healthy children than to fix broken adults.

Ephesians 6:4 explains it well. God would not admonish us as parents, NOT to provoke our children to anger by the way we treat them unless He knew that in our sinful state, we would imitate the world's example which is opposed to His. While our heavenly Father treats us with patience, calm and loving admonishment, we yell, scream, threaten and teach our children to fear our wrath. Then, we justify our actions, by saying they cannot learn any other way.

They can! God tells us to discipline them, but with *instruction from the Lord*, not by *provoking them to anger*.

When are our children most vulnerable? Maybe when they make a mistake, spill the milk, have an accident, disobey us, get a bad grade, or come home late. Do we meet them in their failure, in their fear, in their shame with the Lord's discipline and instruction? Or do we berate them, critique them, compare them to others, tell them they are a failure, and maybe even threaten to disown them, provoking their anger?

I offer this advice: Every behavior has a reason. To meet someone where he or she is at, you need to be a good detective and try to find the reason for the behavior. This is where you find their vulnerability and learn to respond like Jesus. Jesus did not berate the woman for her marriages; He didn't shame her or yell and scream at her. He told her what she did, and then she believed. Be like Jesus. Understand that we often default to "provoking our children to anger" by the way we react. We must overcome in Jesus' name. Acting like Jesus leads to results like He had with the woman at the well. She and others believed and followed Him. May our actions result in our families believing and following Him. In each person's most vulnerable place, may they find a kind and loving Jesus in us. ■

Melissa Ponce-Rodas is an assistant professor of Psychology at Andrews University. She and her husband, Segundo, have twin boys, Samuel and Jonathan. Her research and advocacy revolves around the intersections of religion and domestic violence.

Preventing Obesity in Children

Childhood obesity is epidemic, affecting one-third of children worldwide.

With obesity comes many preventable health problems — high blood pressure, diabetes, high levels of fat in the blood, fatty liver, degenerative joint disease and sleep apnea, to name a few. Children develop their lifestyle habits when they are young, and parents are role models to their children whether they realize it or not. While there are many factors that contribute to childhood obesity, there are several remedies that are simple and can be started immediately at home.

Breakfast — Children need a nutritious breakfast every day. Breakfast raises the blood sugar and kick-starts the metabolism in the morning. The rate of metabolism determines how fast the body uses the food that is eaten. When children eat a healthy breakfast, it means that they will actually burn calories at a higher rate and have the energy needed to make it through the day.

Sweetened Beverages — Sweetened beverages include fruit juice, sports drinks, soda, lemonade and, sometimes, milk. Youth in the United States from two to 19 years of age consume 10 to 15 percent of their average daily calories from sweetened beverages. Most of these do not contribute nutritionally to the body. The best beverage to drink is water. Often parents don't know how much water their children should be drinking. A good starting point is to take the child's weight in pounds and divide it in half. That is how many ounces of water a child should be drinking in a day. For example, if a child weighs 50 pounds they should drink approximately 25 ounces of water per day. The urine should be clear and without odor.

Sleep — Lack of adequate sleep contributes to obesity. Typically, school-aged children

need 10-11 hours of uninterrupted sleep per night. When children (or adults) don't get enough sleep, it changes the hormones in the body that determine appetite. These hormones shut off the "switch" that tells the body it has eaten enough, slows the metabolism and makes your body think it is hungry when it isn't. Children should go to sleep without media sources in their bedrooms that can delay or interrupt healthy sleep patterns.

Exercise — Children need one hour of brisk exercise daily. This helps to burn calories and increase energy. Exercise can be fun and children can exercise without realizing they are exercising. In winter, outdoor family activities can include sledding, making snowmen and ice skating. Summer activities can include riding bicycles, playing Frisbee, swimming and going on nature hikes. It can be a time that the family can look forward to and enjoy together.

Media — Watching television or computer screens lowers the metabolism to a rate lower than when the body is sleeping. Snacking and eating meals often accompanies screen watching, which is a double whammy. Unfortunately, watching screens interferes with exercise and sleep for many people.

With God's help, we can all make some healthy changes in our lifestyle, starting with these few simple steps. They are easy to do and can make a big difference to you and your child's health! ■



▲ Susan Allen



Susan Allen is a family nurse practitioner and director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program (DNP) at Andrews University.

The Relationship Between Doctrine and Christian Love

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. . . . If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us (1 John 4:11,12, NASB).



▲ George R. Knight

I suppose that if we could earn salvation under our own steam, we might have reason to be proud of our accomplishments and even treat each other “lesser beings” with a bit of disgust since they hadn’t managed to reach our high level of accomplishment.

But that’s not the way it happens. All have failed and continue to do so. It is only the love of God that rescues us. Given that fact, the only possible response is love to Him and our fellow beings. Love is the only proper response to a God who has saved us in spite of ourselves.

It’s not that doctrine isn’t important. Elle White, for example, had a profound interest in the correct understanding of the Bible and Christian doctrine. Yet she was even more concerned that Bible study and doctrinal discussion take place in the context of Christian love.

Back in 1887, when she saw the cruel spirit of Minneapolis on the horizon, she had written that

“there is danger of our ministers dwelling too much on doctrines . . . when their own soul needs practical godliness” (Letter 37, 1887).

Again in 1890, D. T. Jones (secretary of the General Conference) wrote to W. C. White that “your mother and Dr. Waggoner both say that the points of doctrine are not the matters at issue at all, but it is the spirit shown by our people in opposition to these questions which they object to. I am perfectly free to acknowledge that the spirit has not been the Spirit of Christ. It has not been so in my case, and I think I can discern enough to be safe in saying that it has not been so in the case of others. I have often thought over the matter and wondered why it was that such in unimportant matters, practically, should cause such a disturbance, such a division . . . The point in your mother’s mind and in the mind of Dr. Waggoner was not to bring in these questions and force them upon all, but to bring in the doctrine of justification by faith and the Spirit of Christ, and try to get the people converted to God.”

There’s the crucial point! Let’s face it — when our “Christianity” makes us unloving, we obviously don’t have the real thing, even if we are correct on all the doctrines. But when we realize that Christ, through the grace of God, has truly presented us from the pit of sin, our response will be love. A lack of it indicates that we have yet to be rescued ourselves.

Help me, Father, to accept Your saving grace so that I might become a channel of Your love. ■

George R. Knight is a retired professor of Church History at the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. This article is from his book, *Lest We Forget*, a daily devotional, published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, page 267, printed by permission.



Step Into the Light

I just returned from the combined annual meetings of the Denominational Prayer Leaders Network (DPLN) and the National Prayer Committee (NPC) in San Antonio, Texas.

I was privileged to bring greetings from Ruthie Jacobsen, former North American Division director of Prayer Ministries and to announce her replacement, James Black.

My first DPLN meeting was in 2004, and I was amazed at what I observed. Denominational prayer leaders shared what was happening in prayer ministry in their churches and then the entire group prayed for the coordinator, his or her ministry and thanked God for what He was doing through them in prayer. I was surprised when one denominational prayer coordinator confessed the history of arrogance and pride that his denomination had projected in the Christian community and asked for our forgiveness and our prayers that God would cleanse them of that spirit. I was not prepared to experience that level of vulnerability and thought that I could have confessed the same thing on behalf of my own church.

DPLN came into being in 1989 through the efforts of a familiar friend to our *Herald* readers, Alvin VanderGriend, author of *Love to Pray* and *The Joy of Prayer*, who also provided content for our “Conversations With God” column from January 2011 through April 2017. The thought of bringing denominational prayer leaders together was on Alvin’s heart, but he wasn’t quite sure what to do about it. So he mentioned it to a friend who replied, “You need to talk to Henry Blackaby (author of *Experiencing God*). He’s trying to do the same thing.” So the two combined their resources and began calling various denomination headquarters and invited them to send their prayer

coordinator to the first gathering. That’s how Ruthie became a part of DPLN.

Following the DPLN meetings, Maryann and I had a wonderful time with our friends on the National Prayer Committee. So many came up to us, curious to find out how their prayers for us are being answered.

We spent the next couple of days in small groups, praying for direction and sharing ways that we might encourage the Church to seek the Lord in prayer so the Holy Spirit can bring about a much needed transformation of God’s people. As we prayed, the Holy Spirit led us to plead for His transforming and sanctifying power — that we might truly become His holy people who will rightly represent Jesus to a lost world. I was reminded that we recently began that journey as Dwight Nelson led our Pioneer Memorial Church family to seek the daily baptism of the Holy Spirit.

I sense that God is inviting *all* of His people to a new dimension of faith, directed and empowered, not by our own abilities and creativity, but through the power and direction of the Holy Spirit. Our friends at DPLN and the National Prayer Committee sense the same thing.

The booklet, *Steps to Personal Revival, Being Filled with the Holy Spirit*, by Helmet Haubeil, has been a great guide for this journey, available for free download at <https://www.pmchurch.tv/stepstopersonalrevival>. ■

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Prayer Ministries coordinator.



▲ Gary Burns

Let's Get Social

By Andres Flores



Courtesy of Epic Church

▲ Ed Artiga (holding mic), is the discipling leader at Epic Church Suburbs.

REACHING OUT TO OUR COMMUNITY does not have to be a daunting task. On the contrary, it can be an amazing opportunity for growth in Jesus, and we can use social media to reach people with the love and message of Christ.

Case in point was when Ed, from our Epic Church, decided to connect with the community Facebook group “Lombard Happenings.”

Ed simply started to interact with people there, “liking” and commenting on their posts. He also shared information about our weekly Sabbath services. He noticed a post from a local lady, Teresa, who was seeking a donation for a single mother who needed a learning toy for their toddler. This single mom, Madison, had been facing a difficult life crisis and was in need of support. Ed interacted with the post, offering to help by purchasing the learning toy for the single mom on behalf of our church. Teresa was impressed by Ed’s willingness to serve and became interested in learning about our new church plant, so she decided to join our Sabbath Christmas concert. She would attend the concert, then

pick up the toy, and deliver it to Madison. And she did.

The very next day, she posted an excellent review of our church on the “Happenings of Lombard” Facebook group and delivered the toy to Madison. What happened next was astonishing!

Madison searched for the Epic Church Facebook page and messaged us, inquiring about Ed. She wanted to thank the church and him for such a timely gift for her toddler. She explained how this came at the right time for her family and was a blessing, given their circumstances.

Madison and Ed established communication. She requested prayer support and shared a bit of her story with Ed and his wife, Ruth. They promised to pray with and for her, and are making plans to meet and pray in person. This new connection could develop into Bible studies or a small group. But it has already developed into a new relationship that God will use to write a new discipleship story.

Discipleship is, by nature, “other-centered.” Its focus is to reach out to those outside of our social circle. But initiating relationships outside of our social circles can be challenging. Yet Jesus’ calling in Matthew 28 to *Go and make disciples* implies “going” outside of what we know. It implies going and talking to strangers, starting friendships with those whom we would not normally try to associate.

Action Steps:

1. Find the local Facebook support groups in your city.
2. Interact consistently with your Facebook group, respond to posts, offer help, and visit events promoted there.
3. Meet people in real life and follow-up with them in order to start a new relationship with them. ■

Andres Flores, pastor, Epic Company. For more on Epic, you may visit: <https://www.epicchurchsda.com>

El propósito de la verdadera educación

Recuerdo cuando llegué a la Universidad Andrews con el propósito de comenzar mi preparación para ser médico misionero.

Hacía solamente tres años que me había bautizado y ésta sería la primera vez que estudiara en una institución adventista.

Algunos de los profesores que tuve en los primeros años en clases como religión, inglés, biología y química me impactaron mucho. Pero, en realidad, lo que recuerdo no es tanto lo que enseñaron sino la manera en que vivían su fe en Cristo, tanto dentro como fuera de clase. A un profesor en particular le gustaba invitar a sus alumnos a su casa para comer juntos, conversar y orar.

Me alegra mucho saber que la Universidad Andrews continúa con el mismo propósito en la misión de apoyar a los estudiantes en su crecimiento espiritual y en la elección de sus carreras. En la actualidad existen muchas opciones de estudio. En la universidad hay profesores de diferentes culturas y más de veinte de ellos son hispanos. Conozco a muchos de estos profesores y veo en ellos un gran deseo de animar a los jóvenes en sus aspiraciones académicas.

Al dialogar con algunos profesores y administradores de la universidad se decidió tener una reunión para establecer una asociación de profesores hispanos. Esta reunión se llevó a cabo el 25 de enero del presente año y en ella se decidió organizar esta asociación con el objetivo de apoyar a los profesores en su crecimiento profesional, en ser mentores para los estudiantes hispanos y establecer una conexión con los padres de los alumnos.

Sabemos que hay padres que desean que sus hijos asistan a una universidad adventista y que en la actualidad lo ven muy difícil. El Departamento Multicultural de la Unión del Lago, la Universidad

Andrews y la nueva Asociación de Profesores Hispanos desean unir sus esfuerzos para ayudar a los padres y a sus hijos a lograr ese objetivo. En este momento los estudiantes hispanos componen un 16 por ciento del total de alumnos. Nuestro deseo es que en dos años ese porcentaje aumente a por lo menos un 25 por ciento.

Nuestro deseo es ver crecer a nuestros jóvenes al tener *“una educación tan elevada como el cielo, ...una educación que asegure al estudiante de éxito su pasaporte de la escuela preparatoria de la tierra a la superior, la celestial”*.

Invito a los hermanos de nuestra Unión para que nos unamos para orar y así poder ayudar a los jóvenes a obtener esa educación elevada. ■

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.



▲ Carmelo Mercado



▲ Ingrid Slikkers y Pedro Navia, miembros del comité ejecutivo de la nueva Asociación de Profesores Hispanos de Andrews.

Thrift Store Ministry Goes the Extra Mile

SECOND MILE CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF
MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

By Cari Haus



Daniel Jean-Francois

▲ Mona Nessen, Thrift Shop manager for many years, behind the counter in the Second Mile.

IT'S BEEN 20 YEARS since the Second Mile Thrift Shop, a ministry of the Cedar Lake Church, opened its doors in Edmore. The thrift shop ministry was actually inspired by a video about a thrift shop in Tennessee. Several church members began talking about how something similar should be started locally. Soon a small group consisting of Margie Conner, Ken Dyer, Cari Haus, Greg Leavitt and Berwyn Rogers swung into action.

The committee's vision was to provide inexpensive clothing for people in need at prices they could afford, in the heart of Edmore. Since the committee members were all members of the Cedar Lake Church, a request was made, and granted, to run under the church umbrella. Next, clothing donations were accepted and several fundraisers were held to get things rolling. Within a few months, a historic downtown building was rented and the ministry, after some discussion, chose a name based on Matthew 5:41 — Second Mile.

Numerous volunteers from area churches helped prepare for the store's Grand Opening, which took place during the Edmore Potato Festival of 1997. During its first three days of operation, the Second Mile took in nearly enough money to pay a month's rent, and never looked back.

The original plan called for the store to be open limited hours and run by volunteers. That changed when Leona Newburg, a Frost Church member with a passion for soul-winning and handing out literature, started volunteering five days per week.

The efforts of Leona and others bore fruit, as at least five baptisms and numerous Bible studies have resulted from the ministry, in addition to literally hundreds of people helped. The Second Mile also has given free clothing to many in need.

"One time, we outfitted an entire family, including the bride and groom, for a wedding," says Mona Nessen, the current manager. "Another time, a man needed clothes for a job interview. After getting the job, he insisted on paying for the clothes we gave him."

The Second Mile was always meant to be more than a store, but taking things to the next level involved buying the building. A major step in that direction was taken just one year into operation. Once again, the spark to action came from an inspirational video showing how Danny Shelton moved forward in faith on a \$50,000 project for 3ABN. Although Danny only had \$200 on hand at the time, he got out his backhoe and started digging anyway.

Second Mile, which needed \$10,000 for its project, had \$2,000 in the bank.

"What are we waiting for?" committee members wondered, and stepped out in faith with a vote to purchase the building. That vote was taken on a

Sunday night. An inquiry to the conference office the next morning revealed that to move forward, Second Mile would need approvals from the church finance committee, church board and church constituency, followed by conference executive committee approval. Each of the needed meetings “just happened” to be scheduled that very week, but committee members felt that time was needed to develop a proposal. God, however, had other plans.

Peter Neri, the Cedar Lake church pastor at the time, called on Friday afternoon to report great news. He had told the conference executive committee about the project during the meeting that morning and, despite the fact that no formal request had been made and the project wasn’t even on the agenda, the committee had voted their permission subject to local approval.

The same sort of thing happened the following night at the church business meeting. The meeting was basically over, and one of the elders stepped to the mic for closing prayer.

“Before we close,” he asked, “is there anything else that we should discuss?”

“Could we have an update on the Second Mile?” a member requested. Berwyn Rogers, who has chaired the committee since its inception, reported how the group had been inspired to move forward in faith, what had happened at the conference office just the day before, and how church approval was now needed for further progress.

“Why don’t we give approval right now?” church members wanted to know. And they did.

And so, for the second time in two days, progress was made without even a formal request! Thus the equivalent of four permissions, which could easily have taken several months to obtain, was obtained in less than a week!

With these encouraging confirmations, the project moved rapidly forward. Renovating the upstairs of the building was no easy task as the upstairs had been severely damaged by a fire seventeen years earlier. But volunteers of all ages area churches donned dustmasks, wielded sledge hammers, hauled away debris, framed new walls, spackled, painted, and more. A user-friendly stairway was built to the upstairs, which was named the “Upper Room.”

In the months that followed, the Upper Room hosted several events. Highlights included cooking classes and a week-long art gallery featuring the paintings of Nathan Greene. The thrift shop committee wanted to hold more events, but overflow crowds and handicapped accessibility posed real challenges. Eventually the vision for events in the Upper Room fell by the wayside as the upstairs gradually merged into the store. Meanwhile, Second Mile, which had been inspired two times by other ministries, became a blueprint of sorts for several other outreaches of the Cedar Lake Church. While the missions, names and committees are different, each of the ministries shared several features in common:

- Oversight by a standing committee (four of the five founding members for Second Mile are still serving today)
- Ability to run under the tax-exempt umbrella of the local church as one of its ministries
- Operation that is somewhat independent (e.g. separate checkbook) while retaining accountability to the church
- Financial self-sufficiency

One of those ministries, Daniel’s Kitchen (daniel-skitchen.org), is now working with the Second Mile to open a healthy, and helpful, eatery in downtown Edmore. This opportunity opened up when the building adjacent to Second Mile became available for a third of the original asking price. Second Mile was able to purchase the building and renovate the upstairs with funds on hand. Daniel’s Kitchen obtained a commercial kitchen permit, and is now preparing the eatery to open sometime in 2018. The vision for the Upper Room can now be fulfilled on the main floor, with a food ministry serving the people of Edmore. It remains to be seen what God will do with the ministry of the Second Mile, Daniel’s Kitchen and other community outreaches in Edmore, but it is the hope and prayer of those involved that the ripple effect of energy, ideas and blessings will positively impact the lives of people in Edmore and beyond, until the soon return of our Lord! ■

Cari Haus is a member of the Cedar Lake Church in Michigan and enjoys writing Bible stories for children and on other topics, including marketing and accounting.



When

Women in Ministry and
Higher Ed Leadership



God Calls

They're college and Seminary professors, chaplains and pastors.

They're chief financial officers and university administrators.

These are the voices of women answering the call, *Here I am, send me.*

Andrews

In the summer of 1902, a major barrier to learning at Emmanuel Missionary College (EMC), now Andrews University, was mosquitos.

Since moving the year before from Battle Creek, Michigan, the residents of this new campus needed a well-ventilated, yet sheltering, new building. So Ida May Bauer Magan, wife of EMC administrator Percy Magan, donated her entire family inheritance of \$500 to build a screened pavilion in the Grove. A "...gift of love from Mrs. Magan," said one student.

The history of Andrews University is filled with stories of women who dedicated themselves to Christian education within the accepted norms of their time. Some women pushed boundaries to open new opportunities to serve their Church and University. Certainly, today is no different. More than 50 percent of Andrews' employees are female. Of that total, 31 percent hold administrative positions, and 47 percent are department chairs or departmental directors.

Of course, these numbers reflect the continued expansion of women in leadership throughout American society. This societal change toward equality and opportunity for women allows Andrews to pull talent from a larger and more diverse work force. Women in the church are seeking training for leadership, believing that



leadership positions will be available to them. The apex of this evolution came for Andrews University on October 25, 2016, when **Andrea Luxton** was installed as its sixth president. "I absolutely feel called," says Luxton during an interview in 2018. "I feel that my calling is to combine education and ministry by helping others find the best potential for their lives," she said.

Like Luxton, other women interviewed for this article experience a strong sense of calling and mission as they serve a new generation of Adventists. The purpose of this article is to examine the experiences of Andrews women who currently lead and serve every day.

IN THE BEGINNING WAS CALLING

When it came time for college, a young Andrea Luxton attended a public university to study English. She found her educational experience to be immensely shallow. "I was missing the depth and value elements of Christian philosophy," she said. "I decided to study and work in a Christian environment. That was when I transferred to Newbold College. The quality was so completely different," said Luxton.



As a little girl, **Susan Zork**, assistant professor of religion, would preach a sermon at a tree stump in the woods by her home in rural Maine. "With my Bible and a copy of *Messages to*

Young People, I would visit that tree stump, which was the perfect size pulpit for me, and preach my sermon day after day," said Zork. After all four of Zork's children were in school, she decided to return to school herself. "I was sitting in an Andrews parking lot, praying about my future vocation, when my sermon at the stump came to mind. I had not thought of that in more than 20 years," said Zork. She felt a calling to minister as an adult and applied to graduate school in the Seminary at Andrews. Zork found local inspiration for her calling. "I looked at Esther Knott and thought, 'If Esther can be a minister, maybe I can, too,'" she recalls.



For **Connie Gane**, associate professor of Archaeology in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, her calling intersected with her highest and first priority, motherhood. Many women

interviewed for this article discussed the relationship between vocational calling and the calling of motherhood.

“My number one responsibility was to raise my daughter in God’s grace,” said Gane. “My opportunities and calling came when my daughter was 4 years old. I remember praying by the lake at my parents’ house when I received a job offer from Andrews. I needed to know that this was from God, beyond a shadow of a doubt,” she said.



Esther Knott’s calling into ministry was a natural progression of her dedication to Christ. “It never occurred to me that I was doing something unusual or that there were not many women

in this field. I’d always been involved in spiritual leadership from the time I was in elementary school, so I was just following the natural progression of my life,” she said.

However, the first barrier came for Esther during her undergraduate years at Andrews when she interviewed to be a pastoral intern. “The interviews were interesting. I was asked if I wanted to be a Bible worker. ‘No.’ I wanted to be a pastor. I was told about a young man, the son of an administrator, who needed a wife. Was I interested in being a pastor’s wife? ‘No.’ That was a different job than the one I felt called to,” remembered Knott, who

is now the associate director for the North American Division Ministerial Department.



Rahel Wells, assistant professor of Hebrew Bible, has two degrees in biology. She always felt called to teach, but the content of her curriculum took a dramatic turn. “God did an about-face

in my life and made it very clear through my passions, dreams, trusted mentors, open doors and a host of other means that He was leading me to teach Old Testament,” said Wells.

Like so many women interviewed for this article, Wells experienced the gradual process of God’s guidance. “I feel, every day, the weight of the calling, and the privilege, and the joy. I am blessed beyond belief to get paid to fulfill my calling by God, and to use my biology training to teach bioethics, as well as contribute to the Church in the relationship between science and religion,” she said.



Several women at Andrews said their vocational choices were bound by history. **Teresa Reeve**, associate professor of New Testament contexts, and associate dean of the Adventist

Theological Seminary, discussed limitations. “It never occurred to me that I could go into ministry. But I think that God has a calling for everyone. I found Him leading me step by step in my life by opening doors and giving me opportunities that I never sought. I felt His leading to each new step,” said Reeve.



Leona Running

First full-time female seminary professor



Marsha Collins

Illinois Conference’s first female pastor

1956

1989



Alayne Thorpe, dean of Graduate Studies and dean of the School of Distance Education & International Partnerships, was building a teaching career in public edu-

cation when a friend and pastor encouraged her to work for the Church. She did so but always assumed she would return to public education after completing a PhD. Then, an encounter with an Adventist teacher changed the course of her career. "...I remember being in a classroom at an Adventist school talking to another teacher, giving advice, sharing resources with her. I gave her my contact information and was getting ready to leave when she thanked me profusely and said she felt less alone. I remember something clicking then. I felt as if the Lord was telling me, 'This is what I want you to do. You need to be here, in My garden, supporting teachers and students.' I felt called from that moment on. This is not just a career for me. I am clear on that," reflected Thorpe.

BARRIERS TO MINISTRY: FIGHTING INEQUALITY

Hyveth Williams, professor of Homiletics at the Adventist Theological Seminary, and lead pastor of The Grace Place, holds an important and unique position in Adventism — theological higher education.

"I know I'm called to serve as pastor and professor. When the invitation to teach was extended, I was experiencing a lot of success at my church, so I turned



it down. But when a friend from Boston, who was unaware of the offer, called and said she was compelled during prayer to tell me to go teach at Andrews University, all reservations melted

away. It was clear that's where God wanted me at such a time as this in my life, and my positive experience here has affirmed it," she said.

Currently, Williams is the only woman of color teaching at the Seminary. She also is the only female in her position without a husband in close, professional proximity. These combined elements give her a unique voice to speak for diverse populations.

"I have faced overt and covert prejudice, not because of my race, but as a woman in ministry. By the grace of God and strong support of many, I have overcome to the point of no longer processing the pain of such experiences," said Williams. "I'm delighted to say those days are long gone. I am trusted and respected by faculty, staff and students at the Seminary."



June Price was the first female appointed as a head university chaplain in the North American Division. She began her service at Andrews in 2014, where she is currently the only female on

the chaplaincy staff. With this milestone event come the challenges of change in a traditional institution and community. "My personal experience of overcoming

Hyveth Williams

Prior to teaching at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, was first female senior pastor in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, in California. Currently a lay pastor in the Indiana Conference.

Cindy Tutsch

First female pastor in Michigan Conference

Esther Knott

First female pastor at Pioneer Memorial Church

1990

1990

1997

gender barriers includes consistently facing, and pressing forward through, systematic frameworks and ideologies which have shaped the way women are viewed — ideologies which breed beliefs such as men are more capable and more intelligent than women, or men are ‘godlier’ than women. While at times it is a struggle to walk alongside others who have accepted and function out of such ideologies, it also is a great honor to serve God in this capacity and to learn from, as well as educate, those who have been shaped by false and unhealthy gender constructs,” reflected Price.

Like Price, both Reeve and Gane face barriers of communication styles that favor the male voice. “An additional challenge I still face at times is the unconscious tendency many people have of not hearing or giving equal credence to the words of women,” said Reeve. Gane reflected on a similar experience. “There can be a prejudice at the colleague level that may illuminate itself in contexts such as committee meetings,” she said. “There is a distinction between the way men listen to each other and the way they listen to females. Suggestions are not always taken seriously, and sometimes there is the need to be overly aggressive to get my point across. I feel that much of this is unintentional among males who have a great desire to be supportive, but it’s hard for them,” Gane added.

Lorena Bidwell is the chief information officer for Andrews. In this position, she leads the University’s complicated and quickly evolving technology agenda. “In the field of IT, gender stereotypes can cause people to think that if you are a woman, you don’t have the technical knowledge they need,” said Bidwell. “In a small number of group/committee situations, I have



experienced people who do not recognize females to allow them to participate or who do not seem to hear their ideas unless they are expressed by a male member of the group,” Bidwell said. “I have had a few situations where individuals were not willing to take direction from a female supervisor which, of course, made my work pretty difficult for a time.”

After a career that now spans 37 years, Thorpe reflected on the female journey in Adventist higher education. “I have faced many of the same barriers that other women my age have faced — questions about whether a woman can be serious about a career when she should be more concerned about a husband or children, assumptions about my interests, limitations, talents, that have nothing to do with me as a person. In the early years, I was often the only woman on the committee, task force or team. This always made me feel as if I had to represent more than myself until I realized you can never represent others well unless you are true to yourself. I also feel that I have been lucky to have one or two female mentors who helped me navigate through some of the more difficult challenges and a number of male cheerleaders who also provided support,” said Thorpe.

TELL IT TO THE WORLD

“Andrews has embraced women in leadership and in pastoral roles,” said Luxton.

Embracing this type of diversity allows new voices to communicate about the future of Andrews University and how it will serve a 21st-century Church. “The quality of leadership greatly increases when diverse voices are represented at all levels. Women need to be encouraged



Sabine Vatel

First woman to serve as campus chaplain for an Adventist institution of higher learning in North America



Lorena Bidwell

First female Information Technology director/chief information officer at AU



Lisa Isensee

First female pastor in Wisconsin

1999

2003

2004

and reassured that there is a place for them in Church leadership. I have spoken to too many young women who feel that there is no place for them,” said Thorpe.

For Reeve, the opportunity to be a student of theology, and then pursue teaching and leadership in the Adventist Seminary, was a joyful affirmation of her calling. “If I see an opportunity to serve, I’ll do it. It’s not a question of whether I’m a man or a woman,” said



Reeve. “To serve is the Christ-like way of going about things.”

Frances Faehner, vice president for Campus & Student Life, has served as an administrator at Andrews for more

than 30 years, first as dean of women and then in her present role. Her career represents newer opportunities for women who hold positions once only held by males. Faehner reflected on the importance of spiritual guidance in the accomplishment of her calling. “The wisdom found in Micah 6:8 has been a beacon to me. It reminds me that I (and all others around me) am mortal and flawed. And still, no matter what challenges swirl around me, I am called to boldly do what is right — to treasure mercy and to always walk humbly with my God.”

Wells summarized her philosophy of service, which is mirrored in the work of many other women at Andrews. “Focus on what He has called you to do rather than on whether others are recognizing it. Ask Him to shine out through you in mighty ways for His glory.” ■

T. Lynn Caldwell, associate professor of Communication, Andrews University

Chaplains

On any given day, four extraordinary women can be found in Chicagoland hospitals — rejoicing with those who rejoice and weeping with those who weep.

They are never certain what they will encounter moment to moment, room to room, but they trust that God knows. They are Adventist medical center chaplains Alyssa Foll, Cristina Grys, Aleksandra Tanurdzic and Tricia Treft, each one called by God to bring peace, hope and comfort where fear, suffering and pain can overwhelm the soul.

Whether on daily rounds or responding to an overnight page, they rely on the Holy Spirit to help them share the love of Christ with each person, regardless of need or faith tradition.

Will one be called to pray over a woman with Down syndrome passing away with no family at her bedside? Or to comfort a mother crying out for healing for her



Yvonne Collins

First female administrator in the Lake Region Conference

2007



Tricia Payne

First female pastor in the Lake Region Conference

2011



Teresa Reeve

First female associate dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary

2014

young daughter? Perhaps one will hold the hand of a terrified teenage girl in the emergency room whose parents couldn't arrive before she was sedated. Or another may calm a man distraught that his room is next to one where his wife passed away the year before.

These women have ministered in all of these situations. In each experience, they believe God is using them to create a sacred space — a place where patients can talk about their doubts and fears, where someone will spend time listening to their story without judgment, a realm where patients, family members and chaplains alike experience the overwhelming love of God.

Because Adventist Health's mission is to extend the healing ministry of Jesus, chaplains don't play an ancillary role in these facilities; they are a critical part of the clinical team. Each has earned a master's degree and must complete four units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in order to be eligible for board certification. The training program calls for hours similar to a medical residency, with long days and nights on-call. Although the work can be emotionally grueling, for these four women, it's an honor to be included in what God is doing in the lives of the individuals they meet.



ALYSSA FOLL

Alyssa works in outpatient services including oncology, day surgery and behavioral health care. "It's a privilege to sit with someone who is trying to make meaning out

of their life and their current experience," she said. "I often talk to people who are trying to determine how to cope with pain, grief and distress. I let them know, 'I'm in this boat with you, even if it's far out.'"

She considers herself a good "story holder" — hearing someone's story, holding it for them and asking where they believe the plot line is going. "I join with a person to look for signs of hope and resources that will help them cope."

As a member of a research committee, Alyssa is working with other staff to demonstrate the quantitative or qualitative value of chaplaincy. "For instance, we might study whether there is a correlation between chronic pain and recent loss in a person's life," she said. "We can then design interventions or screenings for people seeking pain treatment."



CRISTINA GRYS

A combination of degrees in music and theology means that Cristina uses the gift of music to soothe and engage with patients. She leads staff choirs at all four Adventist hospitals

who perform two concerts a year within the facilities. On Sabbath evenings, she leads a worship service in the lobby of one hospital, and sings or plays for patients privately. "Music is an instant connection," she said. "Many will be drawn to it, and that gives me a chance to talk and pray with people. Just being God's instrument in that moment is mind-blowing."

Christina has opportunity to bring joy and peace in the most trying of situations. "One young woman had incredible anxiety and struggled with self-injury, so I brought a guitar to her room and we sang praise songs for an hour," said Chaplain Cristina. "By the end of that hour, her anxiety was low and she asked me to come every day until she was discharged."



June Price

First female Andrews University chaplain



Andrea Luxton

First female president of Andrews University

2014

2016



**ALEKSANDRA
(ALEKS) TANURDZIC**

Committed to accompanying people at the most vulnerable moments in their lives, Aleks allows God to use her in many creative ways as an instru-

ment to serve those in need. "To connect with someone in trauma or their last moments is humbling," she said. "In that encounter, God has put you in someone's sacred story, exactly where He wants you to be. I always feel like I'm stepping on holy ground, and it's amazing."

In collaboration with nursing leaders, she brought the "No One Dies Alone" program to Adventist Health facilities, training volunteers to be with people who are dying without family or friends nearby. "I believe God wants us to be as whole as possible at different stages of life. Therefore, my commitment is to enhance the healing of body, mind and spirit in every patient's journey."

She creates a safe place where people can cope with their reality and allow God to unfold their stories. "God makes my journey a fulfilling adventure."



TRICIA TREFT

Working in Medical Oncology, Tricia believes, "God's grace invites us to walk alongside those who are suffering."

The health system's commitment

to wholistic care means addressing spiritual needs with as much passion as physical ones. The interdisciplinary team members work together to offer spiritual support for patients in the hospital and determine what form they would like the approach to take. In addition, clinical staff know that they can come to chaplains for prayer and a listening ear, "so they can build resilience and hope to cope with extremely stressful situations," said Tricia.

Each chaplain is quick to say that their faith has grown in innumerable ways because of this work. Tricia summed up this transformation: "I've seen through people's experiences that truly nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus," she said. "I see people who lean completely on God, experience His presence and His peace. I want nothing less." ■

By Julie Busch, associate vice president of Communications, AMITA Health.

Ministers

I remember standing in line my first day to register for college. The student just in front of me had just stated that he was signing up to become a pastor.

My mind reacted to the possibility - great for him, but not for me. I would never be allowed as a female to study such a course. No one had ever done it in our day. Only males were granted the privilege to serve as pastors. But I do remember that women could be Bible workers. But

this was in the 1950's and we are living now in 2018. We've come a long way since and it's my privilege to see the women who are now practicing as pastors in our union.

Cynthia Burrill ministered alongside her husband, Russell, for many years and today are the head elders at Pioneer Memorial Church.



YVONNE COLLINS

LAKE REGION
CONFERENCE

*Chief Financial Officer
and licensed minister*

On Sunday, August 14, 2005, I received a call that the Executive Committee of the Lake

Region Conference had voted my name as its assistant treasurer. I was very surprised. I told Theodore Brown, the chief financial officer of the Lake Region Conference who had called, that I needed to pray about it and talk to my husband before giving him an answer. He agreed.

Now, this call came shortly after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city of New Orleans and the golf course area. At that time, I was working as a surety bond underwriter with the Eustis Insurance Company. I was making money, my position with the company was in high demand, and Katrina had brought about such an influx of work that I would definitely be earning more income than before.

I had to really think about it. That night I wrestled with God and, like Jacob, I would not let go until I got an answer from Him. This was going to take me out of my comfort zone, in more ways than one: the location, away from my children and grandchildren, my job, new friends to make, I would need to acclimate to a new church, adjust to winter weather, the income . . . Oh my, just so much to think about! Sometimes people think it is an easy decision when the Lord calls you, and you recognize it as such. That is not always so — it can be a challenging journey. For some, God gives a tangible sign — like Gideon, they need evidence. *Prove it to me in this way. I will put a wool fleece on the threshing floor tonight. If the fleece is wet with dew in the morning but the ground is dry, then I will know....* (see Judges 6:33–40).

As I was wrestling with the Lord, I saw the many times He had called me to full-time ministry, and I did not follow. I was 10 years old when I first realized the Lord was calling me to ministry, but I thought His call on my life was as a full-time evangelist, not in the finance department. But, as I looked back over my life, I realized that,

all along, God was preparing me. Even my job with the insurance company was a preparation for this call. The next day at work I told my supervisor of my decision and that I would be leaving in two weeks. I will never forget what he said — and it touched me more because he was not a Christian. He looked me in the eyes and said: “I cannot beat God’s choice, but I will hold your job for three months so, if you change your mind, your job will be here for you.”

There were many things I was not sure about, but one thing I knew: God was calling me. My job security was my wet fleece.

Traditionally, the financial world is dominated by men. In the church, it is no different. I was invited to the Lake Region Conference to serve as the assistant treasurer/office manager at a very challenging time for the conference. They were deeply in debt and operating at a great financial loss. For two years I understudied with Brown. I learned a lot and was able to firmly and lovingly initiate things that would help change the financial culture in the office.

In 2007, I was elected as chief financial officer and learned that, with that responsibility, the need to be bold increased. As women, we are sometimes tempted to be timid because we think that as women in ministry we should not be too bold; it may come across as being pushy. But sometimes we need to be pushy. We need to go to God ourselves. When Aksah asked her husband Othniel (who became one of the judges of Israel) to ask her father Caleb for a double portion (see Judges 1:14, 15), he did not. We are not told why he did not ask, but we do know that it was Akash who broke tradition and, boldly but respectfully, asked her father, Caleb, for more than the land he had given them as a wedding gift. It took courage. There are many who see her as a pushy daughter who was not satisfied with the dowry her father had given her and wanted more, but that was not the case.

As daughters of the King, we have to know that it is God who has called us, and He will give us everything we need to serve Him — whether it is in the church or not. ■

A native of Jamaica, Yvonne Collins is married to William Collins; they are blessed with five adult children, 17 lovely grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



TRICIA PAYNE

LAKE REGION
CONFERENCE

*Pastor of the Tabernacle
of Hope and Muncie
Philadelphia churches*

I entered the chapel
at the hospital to pray,
as was my custom

before treating patients. Right then, I heard the voice of the Lord speaking to my heart, telling me my current occupation as a physical therapist was not “it.” I told the Lord He would have to tell me what He wanted me to do because I was not going to ask. I was, after all, living in my “utopia.” I was working at my dream job, in my hometown, close to family and all of my childhood friends. I was working as a full-time physical therapist for less than a year before this unexpected interruption. I spent five years working hard at school to achieve this dream. I did not want to quit without a clear word from the Lord. I could not imagine what else He would have me do, although, in the back of my mind, I wondered if He was calling me to ministry.

At that time, I was often called upon to preach in various churches in Toronto. And I would gladly do so. (I began preaching as a 16-year-old, and continued to preach in college.) I had witnessed so many miracles. I was very involved in my local church, both in youth ministry and leading the Personal Ministries department. I loved the Lord, and I loved to serve Him. However, growing up in a conservative West Indian culture, both at church and home, there was no way, as a woman, I considered being a pastor.

Yet surprisingly, within a year of the Lord showing me that what I was currently doing was not “it,” He revealed, in that still small voice again, that I needed to study theology. Through circumstance and miraculous provision, He led me to return to Andrews University, this time to study at the Theological Seminary. I still did not assume I was there to become a pastor. Many laugh at me now; however, I wanted to be sure of what God was calling me to do. I was very active in ministry, not just to complete the class requirement, but I continued to serve in preaching, giving Bible studies and leading in young adult ministry. As a result, many gave their life to the Lord and deepened their commitment to serve Him.

I completed Seminary studies in 2008, while continuing to work as a physical therapist and contract teaching in the Andrews Physical Therapy program, as needed. Still, I continued to preach regularly on weekends. Soon my passion for pastoral ministry exceeded that for physical therapy. I felt a special burden for young adult ministry.

I was invited to interview for a pastoral position by the Lake Region Conference in 2010. I had not even applied. It was divinely ordered, and the timing was precise for, by that time, I knew God was calling me to be a pastor. By that time, I had learned for myself in the Word that being a woman does not disqualify me from serving as a pastor. God calls whosoever He wills. The Holy Spirit uses men and women, young and old alike. Not only had others in our church community recognized this call on my life, including the late Dr. Kenneth Mulzac, but I realized there was nothing else I would rather do and finally yielded.

This is God’s work. He calls whosoever He wills, and He gives them His Spirit and the gifting of the Spirit as He sees fit (see Eph 4:11–16). *There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus* (Gal 3:28 NIV). ■

Tricia Payne, commissioned as minister in 2016, lives in Indianapolis with her husband, Shawn Payne.



DARLENE THOMAS

LAKE REGION
CONFERENCE

*Pastor of the Beacon of
Joy Church in Chicago,
Illinois, and Bethel
Church in East Chicago,
Indiana.*

Growing up in Chicago, Darlene Thomas often heard the voice of God telling her, “I’m going to use you.”

When she enrolled in the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University in 2007, she expected that she would enter full-time ministry in whatever direction God would take her. She had imagined possibly working with a non-profit business — something she had done before entering Seminary and found rewarding.

However, after graduation from the seminary in 2010, Darlene, at times, found herself doubting God’s call to ministry. Everywhere she looked for

employment, from chaplaincy to even secular jobs, doors were closed.

"It was a wilderness experience," she recounted of those six years after graduation. Darlene found comfort in Ellen White's writings on prayer and searched the Scriptures for how God had delivered the patriarchs and matriarchs. "I realized I had a lot to learn," she said. "It got me to where I can understand what it means to be a servant leader. It's all about God and Him being glorified."

During those days of unemployment, Darlene continued to serve, never losing faith that God would make a way.

Ministerial director for the Lake Region Conference, Michael Horton, said he was aware of Darlene as she "worked consistently and faithfully in the local church and wherever she was invited." In the end, he said, "Pastor Thomas was hired because of her deep spirituality and devotion to ministry and soul-winning."

R. Clifford Jones, president of the conference, said Thomas exudes authenticity and genuineness, and is in love with Christ. "She's passionate about ministry and skilled in working with people one-on-one. She's dedicated and committed to unpacking Scripture with people and deepening their walk with God."

It's a walk Darlene said she's happy to take. "Like Abraham, God will show us where we are to go and what we are to do," she said. "God opens doors; and when He does, we must walk through them — wherever it leads." ■

(This portion of this article is adapted from the March 2017 Lake Union Herald.)

Debbie Michel, Lake Union Conference associate director of Communication.



SHARON TERRELL

MICHIGAN
CONFERENCE

*Pastor of Stewardship/
Financial Administration
for Pioneer Memorial
Church*

A number of years ago, in the early '90s, because of our positions in the Conference in which we served (my husband was in financial administration and I was a departmental director), we sometimes traveled on

the weekends to speak for Sabbath worship services. On the Sabbaths we traveled together, if he preached, I told the children's story, and when I preached, vice versa.

On one Sabbath we got up early and drove between five and six hours to the church where I was to speak. We got there during Sabbath School, so my husband and I hurriedly took a seat in the second row from the back of the church.

When Sabbath School was over, an elder came to speak with me about where we would meet before the worship service for prayer; after he left, someone from the pew behind me, tapped me on the shoulder. I turned around and a woman asked me, "Are you speaking today?" When I said, "Yes," she got up, put on her coat, tied a scarf around her head, and left the church, slamming the squeaky doors behind her.

My heart was pounding! My husband put his arm around me and encouraged me to not let what that woman said rattle me — that God had sent me here with a message! He added, "Let's go sit on the front row!" which we did until I went to meet with the elder and platform personnel. I was concerned that perhaps the rest of the church agreed with the woman's actions. I was wrong. The congregation was very kind.

A couple of weeks later, my husband and I had separate speaking appointments — mine in the southern part of the state and his in the north. After the potluck for the second service, a young woman asked to speak with me. We had a lengthy conversation regarding some issues with which she was dealing. Then I left for the long drive home. As I drove, I was thinking about the conversation with the young woman and how hard it was to leave her. I wanted to be there for her! It was not enough just to be a Sabbath "preacher!" That's when I had a strong impression that God said to me, "That is what I want for you, too, Sharon!" My reaction came in an instant, "Are you kidding me?!"

Several years later, I had a conversation with my husband when he received the call to serve at the Lake Union, and I chided him, saying, "Why would you want to leave the pastoral ministry? That's where the 'rubber meets the road!'" He had said something to the effect, "That's because you would be perfect in that role!" I never said this to him, but I prayed, "Lord, if you want me there, I won't say, 'No.'"

Soon thereafter I had an opportunity to say, “Yes.” I was traveling in North Carolina and I received a phone call. An associate pastor from Pioneer Memorial Church was calling me on behalf of the pastoral team, inquiring if I would have any interest in serving as an associate pastor for stewardship and financial administration, the position my husband had previously held. The pastor was a personal friend, and I told her, “Just a minute, I need to pull off the road.” As I cried, I told her that story.

There is no question in my mind that God had called me to pastoral ministry and gave me another chance to accept. And, so I did! ■

Sharon Terrell is in her 15th year at Pioneer Memorial Church. She's married to Richard; they have two grown children and four grandchildren.



SABINE VATEL

MICHIGAN
CONFERENCE

*Pastor of Pioneer
Memorial Church, over-
seeing Discipleship and
Grow Group Ministries*

God gives us hints
along the way. Nursing

or teaching is a calling, or a ministry. Yet, I sensed the call to pastoral ministry sometime while pursuing other paths.

In nursing school, and while the professor was lecturing, I looked out of the room's open window and had a fleeting thought: If you could do anything, anything with your life, what would it be? I was sitting in a “Life and Teaching of Jesus” pre-requisite class at the time. I answered internally. *I would do this: I would study and live and teach about Jesus, and be at the crossroads of people's spiritual decisions. A sort of spiritual mid-wife, I supposed.*

It was a fleeting thought, yet I remembered it 10 years later. While alone in my office, as I was about to deliver my first message to the congregation, I remembered that fleeting moment and stopped shaking. I walked out in the confidence of God's leading.

I want to be real when people ask me about the barriers I have faced. I think the answer should hopefully encourage other women in pastoral ministry who are facing all kinds of obstacles. The truth is, I have to think hard about barriers. They are vague in my memory.

Part of a situation that comes to mind is this one: I was interning for an evangelistic event while still attending seminary. The local pastor came inches away from my face and, while seething, asked me, “How dare you step out and do this work?!”

Yet, the face I remember most clearly is that of my colleague, David, who has since passed away before he turned 30. He quickly came and stood between that angry man and me, and asked firmly, “Why shouldn't she follow what God has called her to do?”

When I try to remember the roadblocks, my mind shines a spotlight on the faces of the men and women to whom I owe so much for their prayers, affirmation of me as their pastor or colleague, and their reminders to turn to Jesus.

The most important message I'd like to share with others when it comes to women in ministry is: Go and preach the Word. The platform we have been given is for nothing else. The fight for your place there belongs to God and for other voices He will use. You, pastor, go about your Father's business. God ordains the messenger He chooses, even when the messenger is His daughter. ■

Sabine Vatel has served as pastor and chaplain in various churches and universities. She earned a Doctor of Ministry degree and her interests include generational studies, people's stories, and one day speaking Spanish fluently.

The most important message I'd like to share with others when it comes to women in ministry is: Go and preach the Word!

Still Missed program helps families

Overjoyed to be pregnant with her second child, Christina Fischer went to her doctor's office for a routine ultrasound during her 21st week. But, after reviewing the images, her physician returned to bring Fischer devastating news — her son, Charlie, would not likely live outside the womb. Suddenly, what should have been a day of excitement and anticipation quickly turned to one of heartbreak and shock.

Then Rosmarie Roose, clinical coordinator for the Still Missed program and an OB nurse navigator with the Maternal Fetal Medicine Center, entered the treatment room.

"She sat with us and walked us through every question we had, and told us about other parents who have been in this situation," said Fischer. "She said we had options, and when I broke down, she began to cry, too. It was like talking to a family member."

Roose knows this kind of pain all too well, having lost her own baby in 1988 when working as a labor and delivery nurse at Hinsdale Adventist Hospital. At the time, she learned about the hospital's "Still Missed" program, designed for families experiencing loss prior to or shortly after birth. Now in its 30th year, Still Missed is an evidence-based, multi-faceted program offered at all Adventist medical center locations, customized to the needs of each parent.

Dave Pflederer



▲ Rosmarie Roose, clinical coordinator for the Still Missed program, spoke at the group's memorial service last October.

Staffed by Roose and other trained nurses, a social worker, chaplain and many volunteers, the program offers everything from pre-birth planning to bedside counseling, support groups and more. Together, the team is available 24/7 to surround families with support and assess how to best serve them, whether by counseling, planning a funeral service or providing written materials. Each October, they hold a special memorial service in conjunction with National Infant and Pregnancy Loss Month. It's a time for parents to gather together to honor their children and support one another. Each receives a dove cutout with their child's name, which is added to a banner that is hung year after year.

For chaplain Liz Hulford, providing care and compassion comes in the form of spiritual support and empathy — and "bearing witness" to what someone may be experiencing. "I validate their pain, help them feel less alone and offer hope that God is with them during these painful times," she said. "I think of Isaiah 49 where the Lord says, *See, I have engraved*

you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me. The Lord's promise here is that we are always close to God's heart and never forgotten, even when grief is overwhelming and isolating — God cares for their pain, seeing and desiring to wipe away every tear."

Even after tremendous loss, parents use their shared grief for good. Charlie Fischer's story is far from over — in fact, it's changing others' stories to this day. Recently, Fischer held a fundraiser for Still Missed as a one-year celebration of her son's life.

"We have so many families who give back because of how the program has helped them," said Roose. "It's healing for them to honor their babies by comforting others. The love and care for one another goes on and on." ■

Julie Busch, associate vice president of Communications, AMITA Health

Pancakes and problem solving

NEW MATH PROFESSOR JOINS FACULTY

Anthony Bosman, who joined Andrews University as assistant professor of Mathematics in July 2017, first connected with Andrews as a guest.

"Over the last few years, I have visited Andrews a number of times to give talks and attend conferences," he says. "During these visits, I was impressed with the strength of the academic programs and the global reach of the campus, offering an unparalleled opportunity for students to learn to engage in contemporary issues from an Adventist commitment."

Bosman earned his B.S. in mathematics from Stanford University in 2012 and completed his Ph.D. in mathematics from Rice University in May 2017. He researches properties of knots and links in three- and four-dimensional settings.

Andrews students have quickly recognized Bosman's passion for teaching. They approached him with a request to sponsor them for the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition, an annual, notoriously difficult mathematics marathon with universities in North America. Bosman agreed to prepare the students for the event, a first for Andrews, making Andrews only the second Adventist university to participate.

Bosman met with the team of seven on Sunday mornings throughout the fall semester. He prepared pancake breakfasts for the students while helping them develop their problem-solving skills.

Traditionally, the Putnam takes place on the first Saturday of December. The Andrews team was given a special Sabbath exemption, allowing the students to take the exam after sunset

— from 5:30 p.m. to midnight. The team spent Sabbath together in worship and took a brief hike on campus. Christon Arthur, provost, shared a devotional thought before the team started the exam.

Mykhaylo Malakhov, sophomore mathematics major, says, "Many years ago, long before I reached high school age, my dad told me about his experience in mathematical olympiads in the Soviet Union. The creative and unusual problems, the long hours spent in preparation and, above all, the thrill of doing something very difficult captivated me, and ever since then I dreamed about participating in one myself. Now the unceasing dedication of Dr. Bosman and others in the Department of Mathematics has made my dream a reality. I relished every moment of the process from the first of many 'Pancakes and Problem Solving' sessions to the actual competition, during which six hours flew by so quickly they seemed like minutes."

Bosman and the team are still waiting on the exam results, but he is confident the students did quite well. He notes, "There was no class credit for the exam. I believe our students were simply drawn to the idea of working together to accomplish something incredibly challenging that called forth their best efforts."

Bosman appreciates that, at Andrews, he is free to help students integrate their faith into their studies and professional goals.

He says, "Moving students to a place where they can solve problems they never thought themselves capable of helps

remind them that they are Divine Image bearers. Introducing students to the inexhaustibility of mathematics awakens in them a longing for eternity. As such, teaching allows me to play a small role in the plan of redemption. Students often stop by my office, and I ask them what they're learning in their classes and how it relates to their faith in Christ. Nothing brings me more joy than to see students develop a mature, robust faith where they love God with all their hearts and minds."

Gillian Sanner, Media Communications manager, Andrews University



Courtesy of Anthony Bosman

Anthony Bosman (bottom right) with Putnam participants (bottom, L-R) Lucinda Ford, Christiane Gallos, Dorothea Gallos, Mark Kent, Devin Garcia, Mykhaylo Malakhov, (top, L-R) Darrick Horton and visiting friend, Isaac

CONFERENCE NEWS

New Michigan Conference president elected

MICHIGAN — Jim Micheff, formerly the executive secretary of the Michigan Conference, accepted the invitation to serve as its president.

The process for selecting the new president in this context, as stated in the constitution, calls for the nominating committee from the past constituency to coordinate with the current executive committee under the chairmanship of the Lake Union president, Maurice Valentine, who presided over the meetings.

The committees met on January 21 and 28, to best assure sufficient time and a thoughtful, prayerful process. On Sunday, Jan. 28, the decision was made to extend an invitation to Micheff, which he prayerfully accepted.



▲ Michigan Conference President Jim Micheff (right) with outgoing president Jay Gallimore.

Micheff entered the ministry as a pastor for the Rocky Mountain Conference in 1994. After several years, he accepted a call to pastor for the Michigan Conference in 1996. In 2000, he was invited to serve as director of the Youth Department and served in that capacity

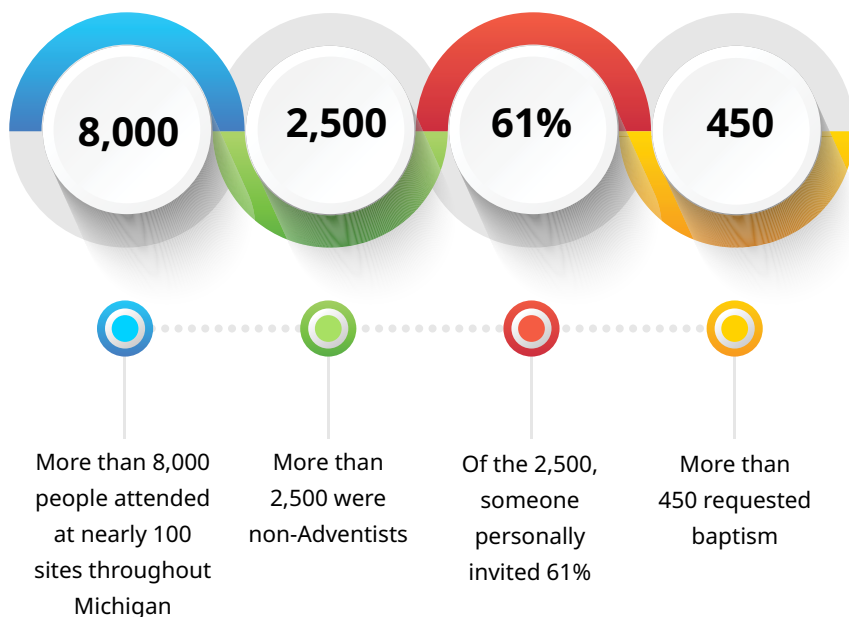
for about seven years. Micheff has served as executive secretary for the Michigan Conference since 2007.

We thank God for His guidance and leading in the selection process, and welcome our new president.

Michigan Conference Communication Department

The Word of God reaches thousands in Michigan

Public Evangelism Unlock Revelation Prophecy series



Testimony: Autumn is a young adult in Saginaw. Jordan, her friend from the Clio Church (also a young adult), invited her to the series. After the first meeting, she was hooked and didn't miss a night. She loved the Christ-centered, Bible-based messages, and they transformed her life. She made her decision to give her life to Christ. Jesus has changed her life in so many ways, and He has become everything to her. Addictions have been broken; sins have been forgiven, and new life has been given. She is now walking in the fullness of God's light and truth for the last days.

The next conference-wide series will begin March 2019.

Bible Study

BibleStudyOffer.com

5,100

In 2016, the website, Biblestudyoffer.com, offering free Bible study, was introduced; to date, more than 5,100 requests for study guides were made.

4,400

More than 4,400 people were personally visited

2,700

2,700 are actively studying the Bible

48

48 people were baptized

Testimony: Jeremiah from Pullman received a BSO card in the mail and threw it away! He thought it was a scam, even though he had recently become interested in studying the Bible. Having been a Muslim for 13 years, the religion did not seem to answer the questions he had or satisfy the longing of his heart. He continued thinking about the card and couldn't get it out of his mind. He later pulled it out of the trash, logged online, and made a request for studies. A few days later, a family showed up at his door to deliver the lessons. They studied weekly and, after several months, he discovered the truth for which he had always been looking. Rejecting Islam, he found life in Christ, truth in His Word, and peace in His salvation. He was baptized on Nov. 4, 2017, and is already active in sharing his faith with others.

Wes Peppers is Michigan Conference's Personal Ministries director.

ADVENTIST RISK MANAGEMENT NEWS

Why your church needs to be part of Safety Sabbath this year

As church leaders, there are many things we do to safeguard and grow the church. We organize and lead evangelistic programs, install building alarms to prevent theft, and mount fire extinguishers in various areas of the church. But if we do not have a designated emergency plan, and if we do not practice this procedure, the reality is that we could quickly lose all that we have protected in a matter of minutes.

Safety Sabbath is all about preparation and practice. It is a day set aside for churches to emphasize emergency and safety planning. It is a day to practice the plan you have prepared, and make sure the congregation is ready for emergencies. It is an opportunity for churches to learn about the risks and potential incidents they may face, and prepare themselves to navigate those incidents.

So why does your church need to be part of Safety Sabbath this year?

Because you never know what you will do in a situation until you are in it

It's easy to say you know what to do if a fire or other emergency occurs in your church. Many people know the necessary steps needed to evacuate a building when a fire alarm sounds. But what happens when the flames and smoke materialize? Or an attacker enters your facilities? Or you feel a sudden rumble in the ground?

Because a fire is not the only risk you may face this year

In the past few years, news coverage and testimonies report of increased kinds of emergency situations happening in



schools and churches. Whether the location of your church is an open countryside or the middle of a city, various types of emergencies may occur at any time. As church leaders, we need to make it a priority to conduct a variety of emergency drills.

Your church could experience a fire emergency, natural disaster or an active shooter incident. Each crisis requires a different response or reaction. Some may require an efficient evacuation, where others may call for individuals to shelter-in-place. It is always best to prepare for various types of risks rather than to be well prepared for only one type of emergency.

Because it's important to know what to do after you have evacuated the building

When we think of an emergency drill, we may envision finding the exits and evacuating safely and efficiently. However, it is important to remember that an emergency drill doesn't end when the congregation has safely left the building. There is still more work to be done after everyone reaches the evacuation point.

Be a part of Safety Sabbath — be ready for emergencies!

Adventist Risk Management, Inc. (ARM) invites you to join churches across the North American Division in conducting a drill on Safety Sabbath: March 24. This annual safety event is your opportunity to learn about the risks your church faces, prepare for those risks and confidently be ready for emergencies before they occur. Get started at SafetySabbath.com.

Elizabeth Camps, Adventist Risk Management, Inc., writer and Public Relations specialist.

Emergency planning made easy: how local first responders can increase the safety of your emergency plan

As a ministry leader, you are responsible for the safety of all those who enter your building or participate in an event under your supervision.

If this is the first time you have created an emergency plan for a large group or facility, you may not know where to start. Fortunately, you have some friends close by who can help make emergency planning for your ministry easier — local first responders, police officers, and firefighters help keep your community safe. They also can be a great asset in helping make the emergency planning process easier.

What can local police and fire departments do to make emergency planning easier?

Local police officers and firefighters can use their emergency response experience and training to help you plan the best way to protect your members during an emergency. Your local first responders may help you with:

- **Identifying** threats and creating an emergency plan to respond to them.
- **Assisting** your ministry with safety drills to practice how to respond to an emergency.
- **Provide** training for your emergency response team and members of your church, school, or Pathfinder club.

What should I do before I invite my police and fire departments to visit? Before inviting local first responders to your facility, make sure you have taken some basic steps to be ready.

Inspect your facility using the Adventist Risk Management, Inc. inspection forms designed specifically for your ministry and correct any issues you find. Some specific items of which to be aware include



non-functioning smoke detectors, blocked exits or out-of-date fire extinguishers.

Create copies of your building blueprints, current emergency plan and emergency contact information. Sharing this documentation with your community safety partners allows them to know exactly where to go or whom, to contact when an emergency takes place.

Alert your members beforehand. If you are inviting local first responders when members will be present, such as during a school day or following a church service, it's

a good idea to let your members know they will be coming and tell them why so no one gets worried.

For your ministry to be ready for emergencies, you have to plan ahead. Partnering with your local police and fire departments can make planning easier and more thorough, so you can protect your members and continue to minister to your community.

Anna Bartlett, Adventist Risk Management



LAKE UNION OFFERINGS

- Mar. 3** Local Church Budget
- Mar. 10** Word Budget
(Emphasis: Adventist World Radio)
- Mar. 17** Local Church Budget
- Mar. 24** Local Conference Advance
- Mar. 31** NAD Evangelism

Thirteenth Sabbath

- Mar. 31** Inter-American Division

Special Days

- Mar. 3** Women's Day of Prayer
- Mar. 3-10** Adventist Youth Week of Prayer
- Mar. 17** Disabilities Awareness Sabbath
- Mar. 17** Day of Hope
- Mar. 24** ARM Safety Sabbath



Jessica Condon

▲ Panelists explored different facets of how America may be "speaking as a dragon" today.

UNION NEWS

PARL symposium explores prophecy, religious liberty and biblical justice

In January, an audience of more than 300 people gathered on the campus of Andrews University to explore themes around Adventist prophecy, religious liberty, and biblical justice.

Sponsored by the Lake Union Conference and Pioneer Memorial Church, the event titled "Speaking as a Dragon? Religious Liberty and Biblical Justice Today" featured special guest speaker, Ganoune Diop, General Conference Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL) director. Diop spoke about God's value of religious freedom. "When God created the world, one of the first things that He created was freedom." He stated that the Fruits of the Spirit are the fruits of a free person and describe love in action. "As we embrace love, we work for other people to be free."

The event also featured a panel of experts, each exploring a different facet

of how America may be "speaking as a dragon" today.

Nicholas P. Miller, Lake Union PARL director, explained how our pioneers viewed speaking as a dragon as applicable then in the fight against slavery, racism, injustice and militarism, not just as a future event. "If we're really concerned about making America great or keeping America great, then maybe we need to be concerned with both religious freedom and the fair and equal treatment of people under our rule of law."

Gwendolyn Powell Braswell, Andrews University general counsel, discussed the book, *The New Jim Crow*, by Michelle Alexander. "Today there are more black men in prison or on probational parole than there were enslaved in 1850... [Michelle's] main point in the book is to show how, historically, both our conscious and unconscious biases and anxieties have played a role in moving us from slavery to Jim Crow to, now, mass incarceration."

Michael Nixon, Andrews University vice president of Diversity, commented on the racism he witnessed in New York where some members of the community had

to pay more for an apartment than their white counterparts. He also touched on some of the racial divides that remain in our church today, and the University's plans to confront the "wall" of racial separation that still exists inside the church.

Dwight K. Nelson, Pioneer Memorial Church lead pastor, reviewed the prophetic imagery of the dragon, the sea beast and the land beast. He noted the often-overlooked influence of paganism promoted by Hollywood. "The young of this generation are perfectly positioned to be engulfed by [paganism's] dark shadow because it comes in the form of entertainment."

Former ambassador John R. Nay, Pioneer Memorial Church PARL director, talked about ambassadors for religious freedom and the differences they had made. "Remember the phrase: think globally, act locally. I think that each of us — even if we can't [make a] change [globally], we can make a difference individually in trying to advance religious liberty, the dignity of everyone and social justice."

Diop added that human rights are connected. "If you are really advocating for one right, to be consistent, you also have to be aware of the other rights. No nation has ever succeeded to bringing in a reign of righteousness... I am a Seventh-day Adventist because I believe that Christ is going to come and establish a kingdom of justice, peace, harmony and righteousness. But that does not push us not to [advocate for others in the meantime]."

A lively question-and-answer session with the audience followed the formal presentations.

To view this program in its entirety visit: <https://www.facebook.com/1943951535882199/videos/2007556739521678/>

Janna Quetz is the Lake Union PARL administrative assistant.

INDIANA

March 3-4 ▪ *Pathfinder Bible Experience (State)*

March 4 ▪ *Dental Clinic, Indiana Academy Gymnasium, 8:00 a.m.-5 p.m.*

March 9-11 ▪ *IPATI (Training), Timber Ridge Camp*

March 15-25 ▪ *Indiana Academy Spring Break*

ILLINOIS

March 1 ▪ *Social Studies Fair — Alpine*

March 3 ▪ *Conference Level Bible Experience, 8:00 a.m.*

March 8-10 ▪ *Illinois Band Festivals*

March 9-10 ▪ *Hispanic Children's Leader Certification*

March 11 ▪ *Pathfinders Honors Academy*

March 16-23 ▪ *Youth Mission Trip (Puerto Rico)*

March 31 ▪ *Southern Youth Rally*

LAKE REGION

March 3 ▪ *PBE Conference Testing — Michiana Area*

March 9-11 ▪ *Super Youth Weekend & CFL/ CYF Sweet 16 & Elite & Tournament at Shiloh Church Chicago, IL*

March 17 ▪ *Motor City Youth Federation/ GLOBAL YOUTH DAY*

March 17 ▪ *Motor City Youth Federation — Detroit, MI*

March 17-24 ▪ *GLOBAL Youth Week of Prayer*

March 22-25 ▪ *Championship Weekend — Burns Avenue Church, Detroit, MI*

MICHIGAN

March 1 ▪ *Michigan Camp Meeting Registration Begins*

March 2-4 ▪ *Personal Ministries Weekend — Camp Au Sable*

March 3 ▪ *Pathfinder Bible Experience — Conference Level*

March 9-11 ▪ *Marriage Commitment — Camp Au Sable*

March 1 ▪ *AY Summit*

March 31 ▪ *Youth Rally at Great Lakes Adventist Academy*

WISCONSIN

March 2-4 ▪ *Pathfinder Bible Experience (State), Camp Wakonda*

March 3 ▪ *JAHWI (Hispanic) Youth Rally*

March 21-9 ▪ *Wisconsin Youth Department Mission Trip*

LAKE UNION

March 16-17 ▪ *Pathfinder Bible Experience (Union)*

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

GENERAL EVENTS

March 1-7 ▪ *2018 Wellness Fest, andrews.edu/wellness*

March 11, 11:30 a.m. ▪ *Andrews University March Preview, Buller Hall Lobby*

March 25-26 ▪ *Exploring the Composition of the Pentateuch Conference, Seminary Chapel*

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER EVENTS

For more information on the following events and to purchase tickets, call 888-467-6442 or 269-471-3560, or visit howard.andrews.edu.

March 2, 7:30 p.m. ▪ *Andrews University Wind Symphony Vespers Concert*

March 3, 4 p.m. ▪ *Andrews University Music Festival Concert: Choir & Orchestra*

March 10, 8 p.m. ▪ *Andrews University Symphony Orchestra*

March 11, 4 p.m. ▪ *Sunday Music Series Community Choir Festival*

March 14, 7 p.m. ▪ *Michigan SDA Elementary Band & String Festival*

March 18, 4 p.m. ▪ *Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra: Majestic Mahler*

March 26, 7 p.m. ▪ *SW Michigan Middle School Honor Band Festival*

March 30, 7 p.m. ▪ *Department of Music Easter Choral Concert*

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>.

ILLINOIS

BROADVIEW ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND, April 27-28, 2018. Mark your calendars, call your classmates, and start planning for this weekend now! Honor classes: 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, and 1998. Friday night vespers, Sabbath School, church, lunch and afternoon musical program to be held at N. Aurora Church, N. Aurora, Ill. All ideas and information welcome. For communication purposes, *we need your email addresses*. Send questions or information to Natanja and Kerry Hensley, bva.alumni.cte@gmail.com, or call Dale Rollins at: 224-407-0233. For more information, visit: www.broadviewacademy.org.

LAKE REGION

LAKE REGION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS LEGAL NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the regular Quadrennial Session of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on Sunday, **May 20, 2018**, beginning at 9:00 a.m., E.D.T., at the Pioneer Memorial SDA Church, 8655 University Blvd., Berrien Springs, Mich. The purpose of the session is to elect officers and departmental directors for the ensuing term and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates to this 28th Quadrennial Session are duly appointed representatives of the various churches of the conference. Each church is entitled to one delegate for each 35 members or major fraction thereof. R. Clifford Jones, president
Timothy P. Nixon, secretary

LAKE REGION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS LEGAL NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the regular Quadrennial Session of the members of the Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., a corporation, will be held on Sunday, **May 20, 2018**, in connection with the 28th session of the Lake

Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at the Pioneer Memorial SDA Church, 8655 University Blvd., Berrien Springs, Mich. The first meeting of the Association will be called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m., E.D.T. The purpose of the meeting is to restate and amend the articles of incorporation and bylaws, to elect trustees for the ensuing term, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates from the churches in attendance at the 28th Quadrennial Session of the Lake Region Conference comprise the constituency of the association.

R. Clifford Jones, president
Timothy P. Nixon, secretary

ATTENTION PATHFINDER DIRECTORS, MASTER GUIDES, PATHFINDERS! Please plan to attend the 13th Annual Pathfinder Honors Retreat, **May 4-6**, held at Camp Michawana in Hastings, Mich. This event is sponsored by the Motor City Directors and Clubs. This year's theme is "Come to the Altar." The honors offered this year include Basic Rescue, Drilling & Marching, Amphibians, Bubbles, and more. For more information on where to send club registration and fees, please contact Robert Jackson Jr. at 248-877-8300, Weata Powell at 248-904-2675 or Angie Gardner at 313-915-8758.

APRIL 5-7 WILL MARK THE 15TH ANNUAL ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MUSIC AND WORSHIP CONFERENCE. Featured presenters will include Gerardo Marti and L. Richardson King, professor and chair of Sociology at Davidson College and editor-in-chief of the journal *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review*. His presentations will be based on his influential books, *Worship Across the Racial Divide: Religious Music and the Multiracial Congregation* and *Latin Protestants in America: Growing and Diverse*. Registration will be open until the start of the conference. Non-credit registration is also available through www.cye.org/mwc. We hope you'll join us as we learn and worship together!

MICHIGAN

"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION will take place **June 8-10** for alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich. Honor classes: 1938, '48, '48 and '68. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181 or visit <http://www.glaa.net>.

BOSTON OR BUST! After 35 years of taking students to Boston, Bruce Reichert, Great Lakes Adventist Academy's history teacher for 30 years, is planning the first ever Family Summer Trip to Boston that will last for 9 days. It will be open to former or current students, families, church members from any conference, or friends that wants to join that are 8 years and older. The trip will be Sunday, **June 24, through Monday, July 2**. One non-academic credit will be awarded for re-certification for any Adventist teacher that attends. For more details and for reservations, see the Great Lakes Adventist Academy website at www.glaa.net.

LAKE UNION

ASI LAKE UNION SPRING FELLOWSHIP will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Benton Harbor/St. Joseph, **April 20-21**. Sessions begin Friday afternoon, so plan to get there early to get the most out of the weekend! The theme is "Spirit Led, Spirit Fed;" the main presenter is Lake Union Conference president, Maurice Valentine. Business-related seminars take place Friday afternoon with Ralph Trecartin, Brian Von Dorpowski and Esther Knott. Come, enjoy and fellowship with us as we share testimonies and profound gratitude to our Savior. You will have the opportunity to enjoy exhibits or request to bring your own. For more information, call 269-473-8200 or email communications.luasi@gmail.com.

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Laurelwood Adventist Academy: Members of the Class of 1968 will meet at the Adobe Resort in Yachts, Ore., the weekend of **Aug. 3-5** for the 50-year class reunion. Call and make your reservations now. Reference Laurelwood Academy's 50th Class Reunion. For more information, call Jacquie Jenkins Biloff at 605-295-0040 or email her at sky-jaky@gmail.com.

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

FARDULIS, Laura E. (Cooper), age 99; born April 28, 1918, in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; died Dec. 15, 2017, in Candler, N.C. She was a member of the Peoria (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Loren and David; daughter, Ginger Small; 11 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

In the spring, private memorial services will be conducted by Clarence Small in Jasper, Fla., with private inurnment.

MOORE, Bernard, age 68; born Sept. 5, 1949, in Vasquez, Cuba; died Nov. 28, 2017, in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.

Survivors include his wife, Felicita "Daisy"; sons, Bernardo, Adrian and David; brothers, Miguel and Benjamin; sisters, Martha Walwyn, Elsie Williams and Noemi Diaz; and one grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Bob Stewart, and interment was in Chapel Hill Cemetery, Grand Rapids.

MORAVETZ, Alice (Niemeyer), age 83; born Feb. 3, 1934, in Chicago, Ill.; died Sept. 24, 2017, in Coldwater, Mich. She was a member of the Burlington (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, David; daughter, Julie Wise; and five grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Bayani Pastrana, and inurnment was in Lakeview Cemetery, South Haven, Mich.

PUFFER, Elizabeth Ann (Greenfield), age 78; born Sept. 12, 1939, in Taylor, Penn.; died Nov. 19, 2017, in Columbia, Mo. She was a member of the Niles Westside and Hastings (Mich.) Churches.

Survivors include her husband, Larry R.; sons, Larry G. and Guy R. II; daughter, Louisa J.

Doyle; sister, Susan Greenfield; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were conducted Nov. 20 by Seth Coridan in Otterville, Mo. Memorial services were conducted Dec. 3 by Seth Coridan in Sedalia, Mo. Interment was in New Lebanon Cemetery, Otterville.

SHADEL, Debbie L. (Grosboll), age 58; born Oct. 7, 1959, in DeKalb, Ill.; died Nov. 9, 2017, in Willowbrook, Ill. She was a member of the Hinsdale (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Charles; sons, Chad E. and Brandon A.; mother, Sonja J. (Smith) Grosboll; sister, Tammy Norton; and one granddaughter.

Private memorial services and inurnment were held.

WINKLER, Barbara J. (Kagels), age 91; born Dec. 29, 1925, in Danville, Ill.; died Oct. 27, 2017, in Danville. She was a member of the Danville Church.

Survivors include her son, Ronald; sister, Catherine J. Thomas; five grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Ray Plummer and Peter Iwankiw, and interment was in Sunset Cemetery, Danville.

DORNER, Nancy L. (Willbrant), age 86; born Oct. 6, 1931, in Battle Creek, Mich.; died Dec. 18, 2017, in Grand Rapids, Mich. She was a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.

Survivors include sons: Jeffrey, David and Brian; brother, George; sisters, Judy Brown, Carolyn Amodeo; six grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Bob Stewart and interment was in Ft. Custer National Cemetery, Augusta, Mich.

HORNER, Thelma M. (McKim), age 97; born March 19, 1920, in Rising Sun, Ind.; died Dec. 2, 2017, in Fishers, Ind. She was a member of the Columbus Church.

Survivors include her son, David; daughters, Jane E. Dickerson, Gail A. Coridan, Karen J. Arnold; 10 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial service was conducted by Dean Coridar, and interment was in Garland Brook Cemetery, Columbus, Ind.

MILLS, George W., age 79; born Dec. 9, 1937, in New Smyrna Beach, Fla.; died Nov. 7, 2017, in Ann Arbor, Mich. He was a member of the Ann Arbor Church.

Survivors include his wife, Elaine (Brown); son, Mark; daughter, Diana Merrell; brothers, Rupert and Leon; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Dan Hall, and interment was in United Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Plymouth, Mich.

JONES, Beverly J. (Brown), age 66; born Oct. 19, 1950, in Frankfort, Mich.; died March 4, 2017, in Copemish, Mich. She was member of the Mesick Church.

Survivors include sons: Clinton (Norma) Kibby, Ronald Kibby, Jr., Paul Kibby; daughters, Renee Lalarsh, Dawn (Bob) Ford, Tonya (Ron) McWain; brothers, Virgil (Marianne), Michael (Sue); sisters, Brenda Joyce (Tom) Northup, Kerry Lynn (Steve) McPherson; 12 grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Robert Benson.

VAN DUINEN, Donald E., age 91; born Nov. 8, 1925, in Hudsonville, Mich.; died Nov. 5, 2017, in Grand Rapids, Mich. He was a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.

Survivors include sons: Keith, Loren; stepsons Jack Thrall, Larry Thrall, Dennis Thrall; daughter, Judy Shull; stepdaughters, Donna Thrall Lampe, Kathy Thrall Schmoling; seven grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 12 step-grandchildren; 13 step-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Roy Castlebuono, and interment at Oak Hill Cemetery, Grand Rapids, Mich.

PLANK, Gary G., age 73; born Jan. 11, 1944, in Traverse City, Mich.; died Nov. 1, 2017, in Buckley, Mich. He was a member of the Mesick Church.

Survivors include his wife Karen (Carmean); sons, Gary and Troy; sister, Gladys (Robert) Tison; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Jonathan Chitwood, and interment was in Carnell Cemetery, Mesick, Mich.

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>.

FOR SALE

SDA BOOK SALE, April 8, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Village School in Berrien Springs, Mich. 5,000 books for sale! Cash/check only. There will be cook-, song-, EGW, story- and doctrinal books. Anything special you want, I can bring it on that date. I will give the school 25% of all sales except sets/books \$20 or more and then it will be 20%. I also will be buying up to 10,000 SDA books at this time. For more information, contact John Segar at 269-781-6379.

PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER CLUB NAME CREST: Order your Pathfinder and Adventurer club name crest at <http://www.pathfinderclubnames.com>. For more information, call 269-208-5853 or email us at pathfinderclubnames@gmail.com.

LOSE WEIGHT, FEEL GREAT – and other **health materials** such as tracts, magazines, books and cookbooks for your church, health fair or personal use. For a **free sample**, call **800-777-2848** or visit <http://FamilyHeritageBooks.com>.

Black Hills Lifestyle Medicine Center – Tired of diabetes medications, migraine headaches, and not feeling your best? Then come to Black Hills Lifestyle Medicine Center to find the fountain of youth and the secrets to well-being. We offer a health program each month, so call 605-255-4101 for information and to reserve your space. Find more details online at bhlmc.org. *BHLMC—Your Wellness Retreat*.

ESCAPE THE COLD and take a wellness retreat to the Sunny South! Uchee Pines (Alabama) is offering flexible sessions now! 877-UCHEEPINES or ucheepines.org.

AT YOUR SERVICE

THE CLERGY MOVE CENTER™ at Stevens Worldwide Van Lines is The Way To Move from one state to another! Through our national contract with the General Conference, we extend our moving services to all Adventist families. Quality

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AUTHORS: Call TEACH Services at 800-367-1844 for your free manuscript evaluation. Let us help you make your book a reality. We publish all book formats, including eBooks, and provide worldwide distribution. Find our new titles at <http://www.TEACHServices.com> or ask your local ABC. Look for Used SDA Books at <http://www.LNFbooks.com>.

TRAVEL/VACATION

COLLEGE DALE, TENN., GUESTHOUSE: Fully equipped condo with kitchen and laundry, 1-1/2 bedrooms, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. "What a find!" say guests, "Delightful!" \$70/night for two (two-night minimum). For information, call 423-236-4688 or 423-716-1298. See pictures at <http://www.rogerkingrentals.com>.

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MISCELLANEOUS

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE \$5,000 Scholarship! Feed the world with a degree in Agribusiness. Change the world with a degree in International Agriculture Development. Beautify the world with a degree in landscape design. For more information: <https://www.andrews.edu/agriculture>, agriculture@andrews.edu, 269-471-6006.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S DEGREES in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit <https://www.southern.edu/graduatestudies>.

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FREE VOCAL MUSIC CONCERTS WITH PERSONAL LIFE EXPERIENCES. A former voice instructor from Andrews University with his family will give free Sat. evening vocal music concerts with testimonies. Two music CDs and a DVD music video are available after the concert. For more information, contact Vladimir Slavujevic at 269-473-2826, or email him at vladoslavujevic@yahoo.com.

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Mar. 2	Mar. 9	Mar. 16	Mar. 23	Mar. 30	Apr. 6
Berrien Springs, Mich.	6:36	6:44	7:52	8:00	8:08	8:15
Chicago, Ill.	5:41	5:49	6:57	7:05	7:13	7:21
Detroit, Mich.	6:22	6:31	7:39	7:47	7:55	8:03
Indianapolis, Ind.	6:37	6:44	7:52	7:59	8:06	8:13
La Crosse, Wis.	5:54	6:02	7:11	7:20	7:28	7:37
Lansing, Mich.	6:28	6:36	7:45	7:53	8:01	8:09
Madison, Wis.	5:47	5:56	7:04	7:12	7:20	7:29
Springfield, Ill.	5:51	5:58	7:06	7:13	7:20	7:27

Philanthropic Service for Institutions Presents:

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DATE: June 26 – 29, 2018
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

CHART YOUR COURSE TO SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING

NAD sponsors this event every three years, to provide fundraisers at Adventist organizations a unique opportunity to learn key strategies from the nonprofit sector's brightest minds at the lowest price, and to discover tools that make an immediate difference. Networking breakfasts and roundtable lunches help attendees to forge strong relationships with new friends who have conquered the challenges they face, and reconnect with old friends. Senior professionals will also be available for 30 minute complimentary consultations by appointment. Topics for workshops, sessions and forums include:

Creating and Fostering a Culture for Philanthropy * Transformative Gift Development * Board & CEO Giving * Strategic Donor Retention * Hosting Profitable Events * Generational Capacity * Digital Fundraising * Fundamentals of Fundraising

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EMPLOYMENT

THE EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY

DEPARTMENT at Southwestern Adventist University invites applications for a full-time faculty position. Preferred candidates will hold a doctorate in Educational Psychology or Secondary Education and have university teaching experience. Master's degree considered. Must have or be able to obtain a Texas teaching credential. Send CV and cover letter to Donna Berkner at dberkner@swau.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time Systematic Theology faculty member for 2018-2019. Ph.D. preferred; master's degree considered. Successful candidates will have teaching and pastoral experience. Send CV and cover letter to Amy Rosenthal at arosenthal@swau.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is looking for a full-time English professor with a Ph.D. Candidates with a degree in any literature or writing specialty will be considered. Send a CV to Judy Myers Laue, chair, Department of English, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest St., Keene TX 76059, or lauej@swau.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY's Nursing Department seeks a full-time nurse educator. Doctorate desired; MSN considered. Experience in medical/surgical or critical care nursing required. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal (arosenthal@swau.edu)

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY IS HIRING! To see the list of available positions, go to <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>.

OB-GYN AND PEDIATRICIAN NEEDED for Adventist-owned/operated Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, Calif. Competitive pay. For more information, call Randall Steffens at 615-604-0142.

UNION COLLEGE seeks an Adventist OTA Academic Fieldwork Coordinator. This faculty position is responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining students' fieldwork education, and includes teaching responsibilities. An OTA degree with a minimum of three years of clinical experience required. Send CV and references to Cami Hollins, cami.hollins@ucollege.edu. Further information, www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks Assistant/Associate Professor of Nursing. The Assistant/Associate Professor of Nursing holds a faculty appointment and has academic, service and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the Nursing Department. This individual demonstrates competence in didactic, clinical education, teaching and curriculum development at the graduate and undergraduate levels. For more information, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_6

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks an Instructor of Architecture. The Instructor of Architecture holds a faculty appointment and has academic, service and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the School of Architecture & Interior Design. This individual demonstrates competence in design studio education, teaching of construction technology and curriculum development at the graduate and undergraduate levels. For more information, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_2

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a Director of Human Resources. The Director of Human Resources is the chief human resources officer of the University and serves as an advocate regarding benefits, policies and practices that

would have a positive impact on employees and as an advisor and strategic partner to University administration. Provides leadership through the management of a comprehensive human resources department, ensuring that all HR programs and initiatives are integrated and effective in supporting the overall mission, goals and objectives of the institution. For more information, visit <https://www.andrews.edu/admsvs/jobs/manage/approve/1600>.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Director of Clinical Education (DCE) for Physical Therapist Assistant Program to hold a faculty appointment and administrative, academic, service and scholarship responsibilities. Must demonstrate competence in clinical education, teaching and curriculum development. Primary responsibilities include planning, administering and monitoring clinical education activities and in coordination with academic and clinical faculty. Send letter of application, CV, and three references to Dr. Christopher Stewart, cbstewart@southern.edu, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. For full description, visit: www.southern.edu/jobs

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks professor for History and Political Studies teaching American History, developing courses and advising students. Must be able to teach Atlantic



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Location: Andrews University

September 6-8, 2018

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People of the Book and Muslims

Friday, April 6 at 7pm | Sabbath, April 7 at 8:30am, 11:20am, 2:30pm and 5:30pm.

RSVP for Sabbath lunch at www.villagesda.org/PeopleoftheBook or 269-471-7795.

Speakers:



Dr Petras Bahadur, Director of GC Adventist Muslim Relations



Dr Samuel Lumwe, Associate Director of GC Adventist Muslim Relations



Dr Oscar Osindo, Associate Director of Institute of World Mission



Gabriela De Phillips, Director of NAD Adventist Muslim Relations

Village Seventh-day Adventist Church
635 Saint Joseph Ave, Berrien Springs, MI 49103

history, African history, and African-American and/or Latin American pop culture; with a combination of expertise in one of two regional/cultural areas. Ph.D. in History preferred. Two openings for this position (one part-time and one full-time professor). When applying, please indicate preference. Send cover letter, CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and references to Dr. Mark Peach, peach@southern.edu, and Dr. Robert Young, ryoung@southern.edu, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. For full description: www.southern.edu/jobs

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time faculty to join the School of Nursing Graduate Program. Candidate must be doctorally-prepared with an advanced practice nursing specialty. Acute care or pediatrics is preferred; other certification may be considered. Teaching responsibilities include graduate classes, practicum oversight, and Capstone (MSN) or Scholarly Project (DNP) guidance. Send CV or inquiries to Dr. Barbara James, bjames@southern.edu, SAU School of Nursing, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. For full description: www.southern.edu/jobs

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time faculty to join the School of Nursing to teach core classes at the undergraduate and graduate level. Doctorate preferred; MSN required. Requisite qualities include successful teaching experience, interest in research, flexibility, and commitment to nursing and SDA education. Send CV or inquiries to Dr. Barbara James, bjames@southern.edu, SAU School of Nursing, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. For full description: www.southern.edu/jobs

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC) OF SDA'S OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL is seeking a law student for an 8-10 week paid summer clerkship. This position is not a full-time, hire-track position and is best suited for 1Ls. Duties include legal research and other projects; emphasis is on religious liberty and First Amendment work. Must be SDA church member. Interview and/or relocation expenses will be applicant's responsibility. Send resume, writing sample and transcript to Karnik Doukmetzian at karnikd@gc.adventist.org.

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING in Nampa, Idaho, is seeking an Associate Editor to join our Product

Development team. Successful candidates will be creative, detail-oriented and self-directed with the ability to work independently and exercise excellent judgment. Educational requirements are a graduate degree in Religion or Theology. Course work in Communication, English or Journalism preferred. To submit an application or for more information, contact Michelle Sinigaglio, Human Resources director at 208-465-2568 or michelle.sinigaglio@pacificpress.com

NURSE ANESTHESIA FACULTY: ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES seeks Faculty for the Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Program, to be responsible for classroom, simulation and clinical instruction of students. Qualified candidates must be CRNAs with an appropriate Doctoral degree and have three years of recent clinical practice as a CRNA with current NBCRNA Recertification and eligibility to obtain Florida ARNP licensure. The ideal candidate also would have experience in nurse anesthesia education. Please send resumes to alescia.devasher@adu.edu.

Adventist Health System

Attention Doctors!

Save the date for the first Lake Union Providers Well-Being Conference (physicians, dentists, optometrists), Friday, Oct. 5 and Saturday, Oct. 6, near Hinsdale, Ill. (Chicagoland).

Keynote speaker: Dr. Ted Hamilton, Adventist Health Systems chief mission integration officer and senior vice president.

Email heather.hoffman2@amitahealth.org for updates and registration information.



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Jailhouse Confession

By Michael Wayne Robbins-Wellman

WHEN I FIRST CAME TO PRISON in 2008, I thought my life was over. I remember wondering if I would survive being in prison 10 years. *Would I get murdered? Would I take my own life? Or would I be beaten up all the time? What would happen to me and when?*

I was housed in a single-man cell with lots of time to think and cry, and so I did just that — all the time. The cell was dark and cold, and the water came out of the sink rusty and undrinkable, for at least 10 minutes. That's how long we had to let the water run before we could drink it. Again, I asked myself, *Will you survive this nightmare? "God, please help me."*

I had a neighbor we called "Red." He was an older man with a cane, always friendly and always giving me advice and trying his best to look out for me, never asking for anything in return at all. I am sure he heard me crying all the time.

One day, while returning from the yard, Red stopped me and spoke about God, saying that he could see God in me and that I should always remember God's love for me. I stood there with tears streaming down my face, sobbing profusely. "God, what have I done to my life . . . what purpose do I have? How can I serve in this prison I am in?"

God's answer took a few years, but it came at a time when it was real clear that He wanted me to work for Him — to go out and reach the one lost sheep (Matthew 18:12). Many a night I sat in that lonely, dark prison cell in Jackson, Michigan, crying, praying, asking God for help and, at the same time, thanking Him for His love and mercy.

I spent 45 days in Jackson before being transferred to a level four max prison in Muskegon, Michigan, where I began serving a 10- to 15-year prison term for a crime I truly wish I could go back and change. I often ask myself, *How could I ever hurt a person I was supposed to love and care for? I*



never understood until later on in my prison term that there was more than just one victim. God was hurting, too.

We had some real loving, kind and true men of God coming into the prison on Sabbaths to teach us about God and His love for us. Walt Reagan and Jim Kowalski from the Muskegon Church devoted a lot of their time teaching us.

I was there in that prison just 30 days when a man I had been sharing food and the truth about God with, snuck up behind me and cut my throat with a razor blade. I still do not know why he cut me — I should have died, yet God saved my life. You know, all I could really think about while at the hospital getting stitches was forgiving the man for trying to kill me. People around me thought I was crazy. In fact, I remember a guard asking me what kind of meds I was taking? I told him I was not on meds, that God takes care of me, and that forgiving others is the first step in changing lives, including my own. Through the years, God has continued to heal me and all my past hurts. ■

Michael Wayne Robbins-Wellman was released from prison last summer.

Why Not Me?

By Danielle Barnard



Valerie Sigamani

▲ Danielle Barnard

IT WAS A QUIET SABBATH MORNING. The sun poured through my window and filled my living room like the friend whose personality just takes up extra space. I sat on my couch, feet resting on the colorful ottoman in front of me, Bible open on the seat to my right, pen twirling through my fingers as I read these words:

“Vocation does not come from a voice ‘out there’ calling me to become something I am not. It comes from a voice ‘in here’ calling me to be the person I was born to be, to fulfill the original selfhood given me at birth by God...”

There is a Hasidic tale that reveals, with amazing brevity, both the universal tendency to want to be someone else and the ultimate importance of

becoming one’s self. Rabbi Zuysa, when he was an old man, said, “In the coming world, they will not ask me, ‘Why were you not Moses?’ They will ask me, ‘Why were you not Zuysa?’ ”

Sitting on my couch on that warm, quiet Sabbath morning, that final question rang through my mind, “Why were you not Danielle?” It was at that moment I realized my true answer to the question: “How do you know you are called?”

In previous years, my answer would have been a long story, starting with a dream God gave me when I was eight years old, then having the same exact dream years later at the age of 17. In previous years, my answer would have included preaching my very first sermon at twelve and spending lots of time involved in church as a kid. In previous years, my answer would have included all of the affirmation I received from others concerning this call to full-time ministry.

But, now, having read these life-changing words from Parker J. Palmer, I know I am called because “Pastor” is not a title I receive as part of a job, but pastor is who I am. Whether I am an office coordinator at a nonprofit, bringing peace and light in every interaction with a coworker, or preaching in a pulpit on Sabbath and visiting members in the hospital — I am a pastor because my life says so. I am called to ministry because to do otherwise would be untrue to myself. I know I am called because I allow my life to speak every day and daily it tells me, “You are right where you should be.”

Danielle Barnard is a second-year MDiv student at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. She currently serves as the president of the Black Student Association of the Seminary and as the creative pastor for One Place Fellowship on the campus of Andrews University.