

Lake Union HERALD

APRIL 2018



FOR ILLINOIS MEMBERS
ILLINOIS FOCUS INSIDE


GOD ENCOUNTERS
IN THE CLASSROOM

DEVELOPING SKILLS AND
REALIZING POTENTIAL





My Adventist education began in Bremerton, Washington, when my parents moved to the other side of the bay, just a few blocks from the eight-grade school on the hill. From that first-grade experience (I had flunked kindergarten in public school) to receiving my MA in Religious Education at Andrews University, I have attended a total of seven Adventist schools from coast to coast to coast (America’s second West Coast here in Michigan) over a period of 40 years. And they all had this one thing in common — I was educated by a village, a community. It was often difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish what part of my education came from the school, the church or the community, or the families represented by both. That broad experience of education in isolated public communities, as well as communities with Adventist institutions, has given me a deep appreciation for Adventist education in all its forms. I have made it a point to keep in touch with and thank those who have contributed to my educational growth and ministry. ■


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Editor



Amanda Walter

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COVER PHOTO: ANDREWS ACADEMY STUDENT CHRIS WON READY TO BEGIN HIS CLASS PRESENTATION WITH A SMILE. PHOTOGRAPHED BY JEAN-IRÉS MICHEL.

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Looking around the room were a group of faithful prayer warriors. **Not many were under the age of 60; the majority were aged 70 and up.** There was something that God could use them to do.

— “How Prayer Changed Our School,” **page 13**

Children often face challenges that are beyond their ability to process. They need to be in a safe, Christ-centered environment where God-fearing teachers can direct their students to Jesus — the One Who understands, the One Who cares, the One Who wants to be their Friend.

— “A Matter of Choice,” **page 7**

Choosing to be transparent with our students about the work that God is doing in our hearts helps them see that each person is a work in progress. God never gives up on us, and He wants nothing more than to help us develop the traits that He wants in the people who represent Him.

— “New Bible Curriculum Sparks God Encounters in the Classroom,” **page 17**

*While we often highlight the many professionals in our denomination, it turns out success stories abound from tradesman, artisans, farmers and ranchers who have been long known for innovation, each in their own field of expertise. **That creative edge is linked to Sabbath-keeping.***

— “Blessings Unbeknownst,” **page 4**

When is the last time you turned to your own child and asked, “If you were in trouble (not just physical trouble), who could you call outside of our family for help or emotional support and prayer?”

— “Mentors Wanted,” **page 8**

OUR MEDIA MATTERS

Was Hawai'i ready for the nuclear option? The April issue of *Adventist Review* has lessons you will want to learn. Find more at <http://www.adventistreview.org> <http://www.adventistreview.org/>



WYLY covers Wabash Valley in Indiana and Illinois



89.7 Grand Rapids
91.9 FM Cadillac
97.9 FM Newberry
90.7 FM Harrison
102.7 FM Alpena
89.7 FM Grand Rapids
90.9 FM Escanaba

93.9 FM Mio
91.3 FM Decatur, Illinois
91.3 FM Ironwood
104.7 FM Lansing
1540 AM Lansing
TV23 Cadillac

School of Thought

One of the greatest blessings enjoyed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church is Christian education. In our short existence, we have grown immensely.



▲ Maurice Valentine

A neighbor who regularly traveled internationally stated that, wherever he went in the world, he consistently found three things: Catholics, Coca-Cola and the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

While I was conducting an evangelistic meeting in England, people were present from all over the globe: Africa, India, Scandinavia, Eastern Block countries and, of course, the traditional people of Great Britain. I was told they came because of my American accent, but I believe it was something much more special than how I enunciated my words — and I was correct. As I visited the guests who were coming, I asked them what brought them to the meeting and heard a constant sweet refrain. “I was invited to an Adventist church as a young person,” or, “I was in an Adventist hospital in my country,” or, “I went to an Adventist school.”

Adventist education is truly a reaping experience. In verity, it is evangelism that wins both our children and many who are not of our faith. Not enough can be said regarding the commitment of our teachers and professors at all levels! While other churches that began roughly the same time as the Adventist Church have shrunk in size, we continue to grow, largely in part to our faithful members who are sharing their faith, and are doing so through our many institutions of which our schools are an integral part. Today, those who are members of this movement enjoy one of the highest levels of educational attainment achieved by any class of people on the planet.

While we often highlight the many professionals in our denomination, it turns out success stories abound from tradesman, artisans, farmers and ranchers who have been long known for innovation, each in their own field of expertise. That creative edge is linked to Sabbath-keeping.

God said, *I will cause you to ride the high places of the earth!* Christian education has indeed provided a polish, much like Daniel and the three Hebrews enjoyed. They stood out for their emotional and intellectual prowess. So it is today. Many of our young adults excel and are commended over and over for their leadership skills, their ability to think critically, problem-solve, innovate and articulate.

Those little one-room schools are a success story in and of themselves. In those multi-grade classrooms students are learning a skill known as networking. This comes as a result of working in a mentor/mentee constellation where as younger children they looked up to older students for help, or to their same-grade peers, and in turn to others in lower grades to assist them with difficult problems, even as they themselves were helped by older students. When they enter the workplace they are confident, yet humble, competent, yet friendly, equipped by the environment they enjoyed their entire education process. Collaboration comes naturally because it is what they observed not only in the school, but also in the Godhead.

Our church also has grown by leaps and bounds because Christian education has formed strong families as many a spouse has been found at the academy and collegiate level, and even a small portion of married individuals in our church found their life's partner in grade school, the editor of this magazine being a case in point. From these unions have come a steady stream of children who, seeing their professional parents, also choose to pursue a trade or profession of excellence from carpentry to computer software development. And, because the health message is the right arm of the gospel, probably no other group in the world has produced more healthcare workers.



▲ Peterson-Warren Academy students

Lynette Jefferson

We live the life of Daniel, who seemed to always rise to the top, not just because he was highly educated, but also because his relationship with God developed him into a man of integrity. I hope you realize what a blessing it is to have the wonderful institution of Christian education so highly valued in our church. If it were not for our Divinely-inspired schools of learning, where would we be?

As I put the final touches on this article, I am leaving one of our universities on my way to another institution of higher learning. One bit of information I gleaned while here is that their students have the highest level of satisfaction of all schools in the country. That's because, at this school, they also are taught one more thing strongly emphasized in Adventist education: service! Having been

here for a board meeting for the past three days, I was privileged to close out one of the meetings with prayer during which I thanked God for the blessing of Christian education, one of Adventism's best kept secrets — even within the church.

If you would like to know more about enrolling your child in one of our schools, speak to your Conference Education superintendent or any professor, teacher or school administrator. They will be happy to share more with you about one of Adventism's greatest success stories: our Blessing unbeknownst. ■

Maurice Valentine is president of the Lake Union Conference.

A Matter of Choice

THE CASE FOR SCHOOL VOUCHERS IN INDIANA AND WISCONSIN



▲ Nicole Mattson

WHEN PEOPLE HEAR THE WORDS “School Choice Program,” many don’t understand that, for Indiana, those words have opened opportunities for students to partake in Adventist education that normally would have had to “sit this one out.” After all, funding a private school education is something that requires a significant amount of financial investment for the long haul.

The dollars behind the program are the same dollars we pay to our state for the purpose of education; however, through this program, parents can choose where they want a large portion of those dollars spent, which includes private Christian education. Over the last five or so years, these transplanted dollars have allowed for hundreds to attend our Adventist elementary schools, as well as Indiana Academy for the high school years.

It’s been more than beneficial — it’s truly been miraculous! Just ask Amber Bower, principal at Southside Christian Academy. The precious students in her room come from numerous Burmese refugee families from the surrounding area. These beautiful people appreciate and desire to have an Adventist education, but their circumstances never would have allowed the financial pieces to come together if it wasn’t for the “voucher” money that can be applied to Adventist education. These dollars, teamed with a wonderful teacher, an excellent program, a hugely supportive church and extremely devoted parents provide a blessed opportunity! It’s no wonder that the school is making plans for expansion.

Aboite Christian School in Fort Wayne shares a similar story. The outreach here to the refugee students has been so beneficial to all involved. Through the hard work on the part of teachers, staff and students, those attending are then encouraged to extend their education to Indiana Academy, where vouchers also are accepted. Indiana Academy currently has approximately two-thirds of its student body enrolled in the voucher program. Blessings abound!

Currently, eight of our 13 existing schools accept vouchers; the process for a school’s enrollment and participation in the program is actually quite extensive. Not only does the school need to have the school board and staff in agreement that they will adhere to the rules and requirements of the program, but it is imperative to have the encouragement and support of the pastor and church board. After completing the paperwork-laden process for school acceptance, the school must adhere to the other requirements of the program. Probably the most stringent requirement is the state testing in which the students must participate at least twice per year. The testing allows the state to require some degree of accountability on the part of the schools which is reasonable considering that they, too, are seeking excellence in education. Parents also must apply for the voucher program. A family must meet financial qualifications to receive the voucher money, but they also have to meet one of several other criteria called “pathways” in order to be approved. Once these criteria sets are met, parents may choose to enroll their student in a school that accepts voucher money.

It is true that several of our Indiana Conference schools have chosen not to participate in the program, and that’s okay. God blesses Adventist education in so many amazing ways. The School Choice Program is just one of the ways we see God providing means for His children to attend our Adventist schools.

Many question what the future of the program will be, or how long we will be able to continue participation before the rules begin to infringe on our mission and philosophy of Adventist Education. Those are answers we don’t have. For now, all we do know is that the School Choice Program is an amazing blessing to many families who participate throughout the Indiana Conference. We’ll walk in faith as God writes the rest of the story. ■

Nicole Mattson, Indiana Conference, superintendent of schools.

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin has led the voucher movement and is the longest running voucher program in the nation. With the addition of the statewide voucher program, more families who meet the financial qualifications can choose where their child(ren) will be educated.

Initially, we had concerns with the idea of parents directing their state education tax dollars to our Adventist schools. Since gaining a better understanding of how the program works, we feel confident that God has opened a door for hundreds of students to receive an Adventist education. We are not willing to compromise our Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and values so, if the time comes when state regulations conflict with our beliefs, Wisconsin participating schools will no longer accept vouchers.

Each school determines how many “seats” they want to make available in each grade. Schools are required to accept qualifying students, while they are not required to keep students who do not comply with school policies and rules. Having a school handbook carefully spelling out school procedures and policies is imperative. A more recent accountability piece came about when opponents argued that the students using vouchers in private and parochial schools were doing no better than the public schools. As a result, participating students are required to take part in the state testing.

Three of our nine schools are participating in the choice program. The Milwaukee Seventh-day Adventist School, with three campuses, has benefited the most from the Choice program. English as a second language, and the challenges some inner-city children face, impact learning. Placing these children where dedicated teachers put forth a great deal of effort to help students have a successful learning experience in a safe environment is extremely important to parents.

The paperwork for entering the program, registering students and continued accountability is rigorous. Making an impact in students’ education and growth of Christian characters are responsibilities our teachers face daily. Is it worth it? Children often face challenges that are beyond their ability to process. They need to be in a safe, Christ-centered environment where God-fearing teachers can direct their students to Jesus — the

One Who understands, the One Who cares, the One Who wants to be their Friend. Serving God’s children and drawing them to Jesus is definitely worth it, in spite of the ample government paperwork.

Having been one who was apprehensive about involvement with the Choice programs, my thinking has changed as I have come to understand how the program works. God has blessed families by providing a pathway to Adventist education through vouchers. Their children can now have the same opportunity to an Adventist education as traditional students. When students say things like, “I want to follow Jesus and want to be baptized (or rebaptized,” or, “My life has changed because I am at this school,” you know God is blessing the students and the schools. ■



▲ Linda Rosen

Linda Rosen, superintendent of schools and Children's Ministry director, Wisconsin Conference.



Joyce M. Tschetter



Joyce M. Tschetter

Mentors Wanted

The latest school shooting has raised so many issues, suggestions and strong emotions, and unanswered questions for teachers, parents, community and lawmakers, not to mention the Church.



▲ Ingrid Slikkers

Is there something I can immediately do with my own sons or kids in my circle of influence?

I remember attending a training early in my career where the presenter remarked that every child needs six adults that are crazy about them to grow in a healthy emotional way. Sounds like God's ideal plan, doesn't it? Two parents and two sets of grandparents sound heavenly. It is sometimes easy to think that children have many adults that care for them in school or church and somehow we fall prey to thinking, *Someone else has this covered*. Have we looked around our church, school, or even neighborhood, and actually counted how many kids had more than one adult that truly had their back? When is the last time you turned to your own child and asked, "If you were in trouble (not just physical trouble), who could you call outside of our family for help or emotional support and prayer?" Many of our children, sadly, can't think of any, or maybe only one adult, that thinks they are amazing — regardless of their behavior, even if they are surrounded by adults.

This last February, my sister-in-law invited me to a women's retreat in Traverse City, Michigan. The focus was on discipleship. The weekend ended with a prayer during which the older women placed their hands on the younger women and, in solidarity, asked for the courage to mentor others and also allow oneself to be mentored. I let this simmer in my thoughts for a few days. Professionally I provide mentoring for young therapists entering the field and also students at

Andrews, but this is a part of my employment expectations. Am I providing mentoring for someone on my own time — out of my comfort zone? Did my sons have someone outside of our family praying for them by name and for the battles they may be confronting? If someone asked my boys, "Do you have a mentor?", what would they say and what could I do about that? Could it be that mentoring is not as complicated as I was thinking it was?

So I brought these thoughts to my family. After the initial eye rolling that happens when mom approaches with some new and uncomfortable idea that she has read or heard about, it was decided that we would do something intentionally. My sons each have searched out an older male that they admire and have requested prayers from them and connection at least once a month, granting permission to be asked about their spiritual life, successes and struggles. This was hugely out of their comfort zone and took a lot of courage. Then they each selected a younger boy in the community to intentionally connect with and pray for. My husband and I also are in the process of asking individuals to check in with us on our spiritual walk and then specifically choosing those we would like to seek out and mentor. This is pushing us in unexpected ways. Would you be willing to join us in this? Can we decide to be crazy about a younger person out there? ■

Ingrid Weiss Slikkers is assistant professor of Social Work at Andrews University, a Child and Family therapist, and is constantly learning more about God because of her sons.

Be Careful, Little Eyes

Does it really matter what people watch on TV or personal electronic devices? Does it really matter what kinds of video games children play?

Often people say that it is simply entertainment and they can differentiate between what is real and what is not. But, is it really as simple as that?

In the 1990s, scientists were studying monkeys as they ate raisins. The monkeys had very fine electrodes attached to their heads, measuring neurons which fired when they picked up a raisin and ate it. When the scientists took a break for lunch, they put the raisins on a shelf. The monkeys were still hooked up to the electrodes while the scientists ate their lunch. A monkey was intently watching the scientist. When the scientist started eating the raisins, the monkey's brain reacted the same way it did when the monkey was eating the raisins itself. The monkey's brain could not distinguish between observing an action and doing it. This was the beginning of a breakthrough on "mirror" neurons. Scientists have spent the past two decades researching mirror neurons, their effects on both monkeys and humans, and found that humans also have mirror neurons. Mirror neurons actually do mirror the behavior and emotions of those who are observing it. Scientists also found that if they added sound and participation to their study, the mirror neurons and the reactions in the brain and body increased even more.

This study has been applied to people watching movies. Watching a movie can actually cause a physiological response such as increased heart rate, sweating and body tensing, even though the person is not in any danger as they sit in their living room. Scientists also found that in human participants, muscles would actually twitch when watching a person throw a baseball. Facial expressions of people watching movies mirrored the emotion of the movie. There were physical reactions to what was being observed. These neurons make

us share the experience of others, while also triggering a tendency for us to do the same thing. With mirror neurons, scientists have used the phrase: "your actions become my actions."

This brings a heavy responsibility to parents when it comes to what their children watch and the video games they play. Many popular movies today focus on the supernatural, violence, carnal activities, murders, lust, dishonesty, etc. Science indicates when you observe these portrayals, "their actions become your actions." The brain interprets these activities as if you, yourself, are doing what is being observed. Video games use observation, sound and interaction. It requires a higher level of participation. It requires interacting and reacting over and over. The story lines in the games are often violent, not a model of how we would want our children to behave.

As early as 1870, Ellen White warned to be aware of the universal principle: "by beholding, we become changed" (Appeal to the Battle Creek Church, p. 61). Science is starting to catch up and validate that concept. From the first century A.D., Paul instructs us: *Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things* (Philippians 4:8 KJV). ■

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



▲ Susan Allen



Flood Lights

BATTLE CREEK STUDENTS EMBARK ON SENIOR TRIP TO HURRICANE DAMAGED TEXAS

By Michele Stark

ON A COLD JANUARY MORNING, eight seniors and two sponsors from Battle Creek Academy started a trek to Houston, Texas. This group of students has always wanted a senior trip that was mission-minded. Several class meetings were spent debating where to go, and then Hurricane Harvey made the choice for them.

“The opportunity to help people — really *help* people, was compelling,” said senior Joel Williams. “Instead of making the class trip an inherently selfish venture, I

wanted to reach the unreached and touch the untouched. Rebuilding Little Cambodia was exactly that.”

The project, based in Rosharon, came about after a conversation with Michigan Conference associate youth director, Chad Bernard, and with the help of Michigan’s Adventist Community Services department. Our host in Texas was the Metropolitan Church in Missouri City. The kind members shared their homes with us, and cooked several delicious meals.

After we arrived in Texas, our project manager, Shane Perry (Rebuild South Texas Ministries), met with us to brief us on our mission. He told

the story of the little boy wandering on the beach filled with thousands of stranded starfish. He picked up one at a time and tossed it back into the ocean. An older man just laughed at the boy, taunting him by saying he couldn’t really make a difference. The boy picked up

another and tossed it into the ocean responding, “For that one, I made a difference.”

That was our purpose — to make a difference for one person. “After the trip, I felt that I, along with my classmates, had made a difference in the area that we served,” said class president Logan Bateman. “No lesson would have been learned if we had just gone to have fun.”

Our project was based in the Cambodian community in Rosharon, a Buddhist community hit hard by Harvey. The community survives on the crops it grows and sells locally. A number of their greenhouses were left more tattered than the houses. After Harvey, the community worked to rebuild the structures into livable conditions. One house was used for cooking, one for bathing with the bathtub actually outside, and one toilet for the entire community.

The students worked hard to rehabilitate a fairly large home that will be used to house volunteers over the coming months. This will help with the goal of rebuilding the entire community. Over 3,000 volunteers are expected to reside here in the months ahead. Our students worked to bring this house together by hanging sheetrock, learning to apply mud and tape, sand, trim out windows, and hang trim. A couple of them worked with another volunteer who was an electrician to restore safe, consistent power to the building.

One student summarized the trip in this way: “Seeing the people on the site that we were helping really made the work worth it. I would, in a heartbeat, do it again. And this trip, in reality, has created a desire to go on more mission trips!” ■

Michele Stark, Battle Creek Academy teacher



Michele Stark

▲ After a hurricane devastated parts of Texas, Battle Creek Academy students, including Chloe Smith, pictured here, helped with rebuilding efforts.

Conéctate - Strength in Numbers

Éste será el Quinto año en que se celebra Conéctate, el congreso de jóvenes auspiciado por la Unión del Lago.

Cuando se estableció este evento en el año 2010 me sorprendí al enterarme que era la primera vez en la historia de la División Norteamericana que una unión organizaba un congreso de jóvenes bilingüe. En los últimos cinco años cientos de jóvenes han asistido a cada congreso. Ha habido oradores excelentes, seminarios inspiradores y los jóvenes han tenido la oportunidad de compartir el amor de Dios en diversas actividades misioneras. Como resultado, los jóvenes salen inspirados y más comprometidos con Cristo y la iglesia.

Los jóvenes son una gran preocupación para los líderes de las asociaciones de nuestra Unión. La triste realidad es que en muchas iglesias de habla inglesa se nota con demasiada frecuencia la ausencia de jóvenes. Doy gracias a Dios que en las iglesias hispanas existen aún la Sociedad de Jóvenes y la Federación de Jóvenes en donde vemos a jóvenes participar en las actividades de iglesia. Para apoyar los esfuerzos de las iglesias el comité de Conéctate 2018 está desarrollando un programa excepcional. El lema de este congreso es "Strength in Numbers" que traducido al español sería "La fuerza en los números". Hace ya más de 150 años un grupo de jóvenes sintió el llamado de Dios de establecer la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día. Dios bendijo sus esfuerzos y la Iglesia Adventista en la actualidad tiene más de veinte millones de miembros en 215 países. Necesitamos hoy más que nunca que los jóvenes mantengan su fe en Dios y lo demuestren en su

compromiso con la iglesia. El propósito de Conéctate es promover el crecimiento espiritual de los jóvenes que asistan al evento.

El orador principal este año será el pastor Armando Miranda, Jr., Director Asociado de Jóvenes de la División Norteamericana. Habrá también varios seminarios en los que se presentarán temas como

justicia social, evangelismo en grupos pequeños y cómo ayudar a jóvenes que estén en crisis. Se seguirá también la costumbre de ofrecer una variedad de actividades misioneras. Lo que será diferente este año es que se hará énfasis en misiones. Se ha invitado a un ministerio adventista de sostén propio llamado ASAP que nos ayudará a entender la realidad de los refugiados que viven en diferentes partes del mundo y la necesidad de animar a jóvenes para que compartan las Buenas Nuevas en tierras lejanas.

Conéctate 2018 se llevará a cabo en la Universidad Andrews del

viernes 1 de junio al domingo 3 de junio. Animo a los jóvenes que no se han inscrito todavía que lo hagan lo antes posible en el sitio web www.conectateluc.org.

Mi deseo es que este evento cumpla el deseo descrito en el libro Educación: "Con semejante ejército de obreros como el que nuestros jóvenes, bien preparados, podrían proveer, ¡cuán pronto se proclamaría a todo el mundo el mensaje de un Salvador crucificado, resucitado y próximo a venir!" (p.244). ■

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.



▲ Carmelo Mercado

When Prayer Changed Our School

By Phyllis Washington



Malissa Martin

▲ Students in front row, left to right: Josiah Moore, Tiara Richards, Jakailyn Claiborne, Mekhi Forward, Miguel Williams, Martino McCullum, Adrian Claiborne; Adults in back row, left to right: Quentis Singleton, Esther Mattox, Barry Williams, Shelton Davidson, Dexter Clarke, Timothy Gibson, Nathaniel Washington

THREE YEARS AGO, OUR SCHOOL YEAR

STARTED with a change in the student population that presented some behavioral challenges in the classroom. To say that the situation for our new teacher, fresh out of college, was quite overwhelming would be an understatement. After all, this was a church school and we didn't expect the problems that we hear of so often that exist in our public school system to be present in our small (very small) multi-grade classroom.

For a month, I watched as she became more frustrated and the students postured to rule the classroom. Of course, my first reaction was to say that we just had "bad kids," but God checked me on that. Particularly when what we think and speak, Satan could take that opportunity to make it a reality. God reminded me that

studies had shown that negative words and actions of adults and parents have a lifetime effect on children. Scripture tells us, in Matthew 12:34-37, the condition of our heart is revealed by our words and Proverbs 18:21 says the tongue can bring death or life. So I accepted the rebuke and determined not to be a part of the problem.

A closer look at our students revealed children that had learned how to survive in an environment that required them to mask their true feelings and fears by being rough and tough. I had to acknowledge that God loved these students and wanted them to be a part of His kingdom. I began to pray earnestly for each child and for their teacher.

At our midweek prayer service, I heard others also praying for our young people and our church school.

I questioned God: “Why aren’t you answering our prayers?” From what I could see, the behavior of the children was just getting worse at school. In a flash, it came to me. You know how you have those God moments when He tells you what you need to do? Looking around the room, I saw a group of faithful prayer warriors. Not many were under the age of 60; the majority were aged 70 and up. There was something that God could use them to do.

The next day I approached our teacher and shared with her an idea of assigning each child to a senior member for the specific purpose of prayer. After all, within our school mission statement, we state that we want to create a nurturing environment to prepare students spiritually. What better way to enhance her biblical teaching than with intergenerational one-on-one prayer? Our children would benefit from the experiences and faith of their elders. She loved the idea! The next week, I presented the idea at mid-week prayer meeting and asked for volunteers. As expected, I had a few of the ladies volunteer, but no men. I needed men. I wanted to match the little boys with men, so I went to the men individually. Praise the Lord, we ended up with all of our children matched.

We are starting our third year with the prayer partner initiative. I asked our teacher the following questions:

Question: Did you notice any change in behavior or spirituality of the student after the assignment?

Answer: There was definitely a positive shift in classroom behavior; students were more willing to pray and were more caring toward each other.

Question: When do the partners pray with the children?

Answer: Partners stop by the school, catch up with them at church, and even call.

Question: Have you received any feedback from the prayer partners?

Answer: There was a period when we hadn’t seen any of the partners at school so I had the children write a letter to them, showing the students we didn’t have to wait on the partners to communicate with them. A third-grader wrote his partner and let him know he was praying for him. When I gave the card to his partner,

his face lit up. His wife told me later that when he read it, tears came to his eyes.

Question: Do you think this program is beneficial, and how has it supported you as the teacher?

Answer: It is so beneficial. It is helping to bridge the gap between the school and the church, children and the adults. It supports me as a teacher by having others support the spiritual growth of my students.

I believe God is blessing. Our students who have graduated from eighth grade and no longer at our school are still praying with their prayer partners. There is nothing that bonds us closer together than prayer. 2 Chronicles 7:14 promises that if we humble ourselves and pray and seek His face, He will heal our land. I believe God has healed our school.

This year, the students are learning to incorporate the Word of God into their prayers, understanding that His Word has priority over everything. They are searching the Scriptures for relevant texts that relate to challenging situations and include these Scriptures in their prayers. ■

Phyllis Washington is coordinator of a multi-generational mentoring program at the Flint Fairhaven School.



◀ Esther Mattox (right) and Tiara Richards often pray together.



◀ Dexter Clark (left) with his prayer partner Adrian Claiborne



New Bible Curriculum *Sparks* God Encounters in the Classroom

By Jody Seigal and Amanda Walter

Iwalked into my classroom with a beautifully wrapped gift, gorgeous with its gold stripes and coordinated navy blue accents. I set it on my desk for everyone to see. Of course, the kiddos oohed and aahed at my present, and a few even asked if it was my birthday.

▼ Colton Duis, fourth-grader from Niles Adventist School, wearing the "Armor of God."



Jody Seigal



Jody Seigal

◀ Cali Demler and Anna Bell, third- and fourth-graders, respectively, from Niles Adventist School, completely focused as they look up texts in their personal Bibles to complete an activity.

"No," came my reply with a slight smile.

The afternoon could not come soon enough. You could tell the students were at the edge of their seats, just waiting to know what could be in that pretty gift and what the occasion was.

When Bible class started, we discussed salvation and how God loves us so much that salvation is not earned, it's a gift — something we accept and receive.

Their eyes brightened.

"That's why you brought in the present, isn't it," they exclaimed loudly.

"Well," I replied, "it's the package I got from my husband for my birthday back in May; it's just so beautifully wrapped that I haven't opened it yet. I love to look at it, so I don't need to see what's inside. I'm actually thinking about just leaving it on my shelf forever."

It didn't matter that only the first part was true, and I did not have to wait long for a response. The groans that followed were priceless.

"Nooooooo! You HAVE to open it!" "It was a special gift for you!" "How can you even stand not opening it? Oh, I could NEVER do that!"

I let them agonize over it for a few more seconds, settled them, and then said quietly with a serious, yet sorrowful voice, "Did you know that this is how some people see God's beautiful gift of salvation? They never open it to really see how wonderful it is."

The room, for once, was quiet; the little minds wrapping their thoughts around my statement.

"So, you mean that some people don't want God's gift of salvation?" The question broke the silence and the class erupted again.

"They don't even know how wonderful God's gift is! We need to tell them!"

I smiled as we brainstormed ways to share the good news of salvation to those around us.

Such are the scenes in my classroom almost every day. My students love worship; they love singing and praying together, and Bible class. They never know what kind of exciting activities are going to be done next and, even though the schedule is posted all over the room, they always ask, "Is it time for Bible yet?"

Earlier this year, during the first semester, I needed to pause my teaching for eight very long weeks as I dealt with some immigration complications. The issue with my visa was that I needed to prove that my work was religious and not merely the teaching of Math and English. It truly put what we do in perspective and serves as a good reminder that our encounters with our students should always bring them closer to Jesus. We don't just teach subjects and add Him as a side note. On the contrary, everything we teach stems from the realization that God is our Creator, our Sustainer, our Friend.

This is why I enjoy our Bible Encounter curriculum. It allows the students to really think about how to apply the lessons of the Bible to their everyday lives and the world around them.

When I learned that a new Bible curriculum was in the development process for North America, I was so excited. The Bible curriculum we currently had included well-written Bible stories that helped students learn about the Bible and about God, but it didn't necessarily help them grow in their relationship with God. The *Encounter Adventist Curriculum* was described as a discipleship program. I recognized immediately that discipling students was something our current program was missing.

This past summer, the Lake Union teachers were in-serviced so we would be certified to teach the *Encounter*



► (Top row from left to right) Claire Johnson, Paige Brockman, Allie Leker, Evan Huffman, Samuel Knowlton
(Bottom row from left to right) Samuel Cruz, Eliel Silvestre, Jonas Yonlisky, Gedeon Niyongabo

► Fifth- and sixth-graders at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy learn about God's amazing sacrifice.



The Encounter program doesn't only touch students' hearts, but teachers' hearts as well.

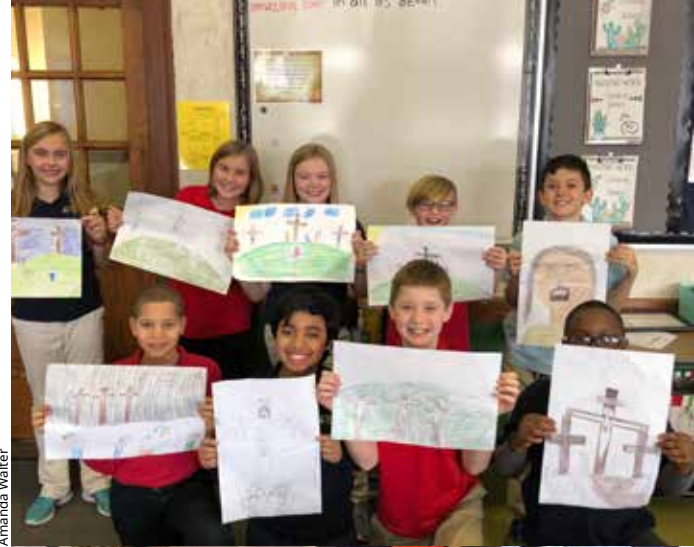
curriculum. We were given the choice to pilot it this year or wait until next year. After seeing the program and recognizing the difference that it could make with our students, the vast majority of the teachers chose to implement it this year.

Encounter follows Ellen White's advice that, "The teaching of the Bible should have our freshest thought, our best methods, and our most earnest effort" (*Education*, p. 186). Each lesson includes a variety of ways to help students connect with the lesson in a fun and meaningful way.

The curriculum is set up so that each grade level has some Old Testament stories and some New Testament stories each year. By the end of sixth grade, the students will have gone through all of the Bible stories once. In seventh grade, they begin going through the Bible again with a different focus. Each Bible theme includes about four Bible stories that fit the theme. This allows the students to learn the stories in depth while understanding how each one supports the theme. Each theme includes the academic knowledge of the theme, but then takes knowledge and asks the students to reflect on what it means to them. During their reflection time, they are guided to see that worshipping God is the logical response to thank Him for what He does in our lives and for us each and every day. Each theme includes ways to demonstrate how to apply the theme to their own lives. Finally, there is a celebration of the learning they have done as well as sharing how it will impact their lives now and in the future.

This program recognizes the Bible as the only textbook. Students should have a Bible of their own. Rather than the teacher reading verses out of the Bible, the students are invited to look up texts in the Bible. They love finding texts in the Bible and reading them with their classmates. Because the Bibles belong to them, they are free to underline verses that are meaningful to them. Looking verses up in their own Bibles not only helps the students learn how to find the texts quickly, but it also helps them notice where to find the Bible stories to read them later independently.

Beyond that, our Bible topics have overlapped with nearly everything we've been learning in other subjects. I always have to chuckle when the students get a bit confused as to what "bin" to hand in their work because it dealt with something biblical, and it's fun to see topics building on each other without me even saying a word.



Amanda Walter



Amanda Walter

For example, to watch the eyes of the students widen in history class to see the name "Nebuchadnezzar" in our textbooks is a delight.

They exclaim, "Wait! We just learned about him in Bible! You mean, he's not *just* in the Bible?"

I smile back, and we launch into a discussion about the validity of the Bible through other sources.

Denise Kidder, a first- and second-grade teacher shared how meaningful one of the lessons was for one of her second-graders. The little girl realized that God was real and that He loved her. She sat with tears trickling down her face, telling her teacher that she wanted to give her life to Jesus.

To help a child recognize that we encounter the truths of the Bible in every area of our lives makes it come alive for them. They begin to realize that the Bible does not only apply to them in a church or worship context. They start to explore and go deeper into the stories of the Bible, finding that the lessons the characters learn can be applied to their own experiences. Most importantly, they begin to search for and establish a relationship with the Creator Himself coming to understand that He is a God of love, a God who cares for them personally, and a God who hears and understands the troubles of their little hearts.

The *Encounter* program doesn't only touch students' hearts, but teachers' hearts as well. I was ending a unit on King David with the overarching theme "God Strengthens." Because David was being strengthened under the pressure of King Saul's anger, these strengths were called diamond strengths. As we finished the unit, each student chose two diamond strengths that they could see in another classmate. Then we each chose a diamond strength that we wanted God to continue developing in us. I decided that calmness was a good choice for me. I shared that even when I appeared calm on the outside, I may not feel that way on the inside. Later that week, I could feel the peace and calmness that God gives so that I could rise above any frustration and easily treat each of my students with the unconditional love that they all deserve.

Choosing to be transparent with our students about the work that God is doing in our hearts helps them see that each person is a work in progress. God never gives up on us, and He wants nothing more than to help us develop the traits that He wants in the people who represent Him.

The *Encounter* program is a powerful, Bible-based program that I see God providing for teachers and students in the entire North American Division. Its ability to help students and teachers connect with God on a much deeper level already is seen after only a few months of use. I am excited to continue observing how God uses this program to build a relationship with each individual person it touches. ■

Written jointly by Niles Adventist School teacher Jody Seigal and Grand Rapids Adventist Academy teacher Amanda Walter.

Bible Encounter at the Secondary Level

In our Seventh-day Adventist schools across the nation and around the world, we have the unique opportunity of ministering to both the church and the unchurched — the fifth generation Adventist pastor's daughter, and the teen that is the first of his family to ever attend a Christian school. But with this opportunity comes a challenge, especially in terms of a high school Religion class. We must be able to both nourish the newborn Christian and engage the experienced, to comfort the yearning heart and to challenge the comfortable.

As I reflect on four semesters of teaching *Encounter Adventist Curriculum* at the secondary level, I find that four facets seek to address this challenge:

The Textbook. When I asked this year's crop of students how many had read the book of Hosea for themselves, not one could raise their hand! What a privilege and a necessity it is to open the Word daily and dig deep instead of reading merely a human interpretation.

The Journal. The full-size artists' journal that I give to each student becomes an artifact of their spiritual journey in which I challenge them to take pride. And they do! "I like being able to express the story in my journal and understand the books of the Bible more," says freshman Enoch Ringstaff. I, too, am inspired and convicted as I listen to their thoughts, ponder their questions, and interact with their creativity.

The Varied Instructional Style. I can often detect a slight glimmer of expectation and curiosity as we begin class. Each day it's something different, something fresh in a way that reflects a dynamic relationship with God. It may be a video clip or an object lesson combined with a discussion, a deep Bible study or the beginnings of a project, a physical activity or a chapter from *Unlikely Leaders*. Learners of all modalities are given a platform from which they can learn and grow.

The Applicability. *Encounter Adventist Curriculum* deals with real issues faced by our young people today — from Christ-centered study on relationships, to the opportunity to grapple with topics such as the reality of God or the origins of our world. Most importantly, each topic is presented in a context that is relatable. According to sophomore Myah Riggs-Wright, "[*Encounter Adventist Curriculum*] encourages personal growth and helps you to think deeply about the many stories and teachings of Jesus."

In my own experience, *Encounter Adventist Curriculum* has risen to the challenge of addressing the needs of the students we meet in our Adventist schools. I look forward to seeing how this generation of young people will be impacted by the genuine *encounter* they have had with Christ. ■

Emily Knott-Gibbs is teacher/principal at Greater Lansing Adventist School.



Developing Skills and Realizing Potential

The positive, nurturing influence of SciFEST, ArtFEST and Music Festival

Clarissa Carbungco

By Hannah Gallant Once every year, Andrews University hosts SciFEST, ArtFEST and Music Festival. Each festival is a specialized opportunity for Adventist academy students and others to experience an immersive, educational weekend with multiple opportunities for enrichment and growth.

The festivals are set up in a way that allows attendees to have a full university experience while also learning more about their areas of interest. These festivals are geared toward anyone of high school age who has the appropriate parental permission, sponsors and school permission. Many students who attend a festival also are eligible for future scholarships upon attending Andrews University and pursuing a related degree.

In order to streamline transportation for the surrounding academies, SciFEST and ArtFEST are typically held simultaneously each year. In 2017, both were held from September 21–23, while Music Festival was held from March 1–4. All of the festivals have different types of workshops, activities, masterclasses, performances,

labs and games that allow attendees to be exposed to a wide variety of skills and knowledge in the field.

The theme of the 2017 SciFEST was cells. Each STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) department planned according to this theme so the students could experience a wide array of activities. In biology, the students looked at plant cells. Agriculture and animal science focused on bees and honey cells. Physics educated the students about fuel cells, while mathematics implemented breakout problems around a jail cell. All of these scenarios provided a unique, hands-on learning experience for the students who attended. “Our goal is to inspire high school students to study one of the STEM fields, but it’s also to share with them the connection



Clarissa Carlungco



Heldi Ramirez

“While Music Festival is rigorous and tiring at times, it is one of the most memorable experiences you could have.”

between being a Christian and being a scientist,” says Monica Nudd, Andrews University STEM enrollment coordinator. “Many times, in our society, it’s one or the other. At Andrews, we show that you can be both a Bible-believing Christian as well as a good scientist.”

In the five years since its beginning, SciFEST has enriched the lives of attending students as well as inspired them to consider degrees and careers in the STEM fields. Kara Shephard, a current senior at Indiana Academy, shares her experience of attending the 2017 SciFEST. “Before attending SciFEST, I had been considering going into physics; SciFEST helped establish that choice. While at SciFEST, I had the opportunity to observe Saturn and the Sun through the observatory. Seeing them up close was my favorite part of the trip and helped make me want to study astronomy and astrophysics even more.”

ArtFEST 2017 attendees worked under the theme, Building Blocks. Students had the opportunity to explore photography, ceramics, graphic design, documentary film and more. The weekend culminated in a gallery exhibition of the finished work. Paul Kim, chair of the

Department of Visual Art, Communication & Design, and professor of Documentary Film & Communication, shares his observation that art education is a need in the lives of most academy students. Due to the large amount of time most students spend with visual art, media and digital technologies, he says, “It’s essential that we educate our students to become more critically informed consumers and viewers in this space, as the alternative is to fail miserably in teaching them how to thoughtfully engage with culture.”

Kim also has seen numerous students choose career paths that do not suit them — this is often due to their lack of knowledge about viable career opportunities in the creative arts field. “The most rewarding part of my job is encountering that lost student and seeing the amazing transformation and sense of fulfillment as they realize that they are in the perfect place for them, with the right mentors to help guide them into a promising future.”

David Sherwin, assistant professor of Photography, echoes Kim’s sentiments. Four years ago, he helped



Clarissa Carbungco

“Many times, in our society, it’s one or the other. At Andrews, we show that you can be both a Bible-believing Christian as well as a good scientist.”



Darren Heslop



Darren Heslop

“ArtFEST takes a practical approach to this by focusing on skills, such as photography and yearbook design.”

establish ArtFEST as “something that would show the students they had an alternative to traditional career paths.” ArtFEST takes a practical approach to this by focusing on skills, such as photography and yearbook design, used frequently by academy students. In this way, students are not only exposed to new skills but are also better equipped to actually practice and develop these skills beyond ArtFEST. So far, this approach is working. Sherwin describes one 2017 ArtFEST attendee who did not know that she could obtain a degree in photography and actually make a living. Attending ArtFEST helped her realize this possibility, and currently the student is attending Andrews University and doing well.

In addition to SciFEST and ArtFEST, Andrews University holds the annual Music Festival. This festival has a long history. It began in the 1950s as a recruitment event to celebrate the ongoing music programs at constituent academies. It was created as a general music festival for band, choir and orchestra, which continues today. Consequently, the 2017 Music Festival focused on band and keyboard, while the 2018 theme is choir and orchestra. With a mixture of master classes, side-by-side rehearsals with select Andrews music majors and a final concert, Music Festival effectively helps students develop their skills. “The high-level performing experiences positively strengthen the mission and focus of music programs at the academies,” says Stephen Zork, professor of Music and conductor of the Andrews University Singers. “It teaches students the importance of creative expression, discovery and mastery, within the context of submission and vulnerability.”

Music Festival has a lasting impact on the students. Justin Johnson, who plays alto saxophone, attended the 2017 Music Festival as a senior at Andrews Academy. Now he is a sophomore medical laboratory science major at Andrews University and a member of the Andrews University Wind Symphony. He said, “While Music Festival is rigorous and tiring at times, it is one of the most memorable experiences you could have. You meet a lot of people who share the same goals and interests

as you, you attend master classes that broaden your musical horizons and, best of all, you play fun music for a weekend.”

SciFEST, ArtFEST and Music Festival each play an important role in providing a meaningful, hands-on educational experience for attendees. Exposure to the various departments helps students recognize their potential in STEM, art and music fields. Ultimately, the goal is to help each attendee find their passion and skills while they interact with university professors and fellow students in the midst of a Christ-centered atmosphere.

For more information about SciFEST, email stem-connect@andrews.edu or visit andrews.edu/cas/stem/scifest/. To receive information about ArtFEST, email visartndes@andrews.edu or call 269-471-6314. To learn more about Music Festival, email music@andrews.edu or visit andrews.edu/cas/music/musicfestival/. ■

Hannah Gallant, IMC student writer, Andrews University.



Clarissa Carbungco

Holistic health for patients and physicians alike

What if you went to the doctor's office and, as part of your treatment, you were asked how you were doing spiritually? Imagine if your doctor offered to pray with you, or asked if you had a faith-based support system or religious beliefs which might affect your medical decisions. Would you feel as if you were being treated as a whole person — body, mind and spirit?

If you've been blessed with such an experience, it was likely because your physician participated in the Adventist Health System "Faith in Practice" study. The year-long study explored the integration of spiritual practices in the physician-patient relationship.

In the Chicago area, 22 AMITA Health Medical Group outpatient practices and 46 providers participated in the nationwide study. Results confirmed that addressing a patient's faith in the doctor's office, not just in the hospital, is essential to extending the healing ministry of Jesus throughout the health system. More than that, feedback showed that physicians were as blessed by such encounters and welcomed the prospect of helping to meet the spiritual needs of patients.

It was clear to AMITA Health that "Faith in Practice" would benefit patients and clinicians alike in outpatient settings. To that end, Heather Hoffman, who has worked in Adventist health care for over a decade, has been named as the system's regional director of Clinical Mission Integration.

"This is such a significant initiative in the lives of caregivers and those they

care for," said Hoffman. "Our mission is to extend the healing ministry of Jesus in every clinical setting, and this will bring us closer to complete fulfillment of that mission."

Hoffman and four clinical mission integration specialists will act as mission liaisons to all employed physician practices. The team also will provide support to freestanding imaging centers, a cancer institute and laboratory locations.

Their work will be customized to meet the needs and desires of each physician office, and available services include:

Faith in Practice – training physicians and "spiritual ambassadors" within a practice to ask about a patient's spiritual needs and to pray with the patient if desired. Physicians can refer a patient for a spiritual consultation through the Adventist Health System call center in Florida.

CREATION Health – a health and lifestyle program created by Adventist Health System. A variety of resources such as Bible studies, devotionals and a smart-phone app help everyone to adopt a holistic approach to health and well-being.

"Physician well-being is very important in clinical mission integration," said Hoffman. "These caregivers put so much into their work; it's our role to make sure that their spiritual needs are met, regardless of faith background." Hoffman also will be involved in mission activities such as Physician Well-being committees, Physician-to-Physician Mentoring programs and Meaning in Medicine small groups.



Bruce Powell

▲ Heather Hoffman

"What I love about supporting the spiritual health of clinicians and patients alike is that we are not asking for anything from physicians," said Hoffman. "We are giving: offering ourselves as a resource to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to tap into faith as a source of strength and healing. We will be the hands and feet of Jesus, encouraging discussion of spirituality in places where it is not often discussed." ■

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

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.

Tragedy that empowers: Sharon Risher's story

On Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018, Sharon Risher spoke in the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University. She shared her personal journey through and since June 17, 2015, when the lives of nine people were abruptly and horrifically ended in a church shooting at the Mother Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.. This event irrevocably changed the course of Risher's life as her mother, Ethel Lee Lance, two cousins and a childhood friend were among those who died. As a result of this tragedy, Risher describes herself as "an accidental activist — someone who finds themselves in a life-altering experience and then springs into action for whatever specific cause or issue."

She recounted being nine years old, hearing Martin Luther King Jr. speak and thinking she wanted to learn to speak like him. In 1976, both Risher and her mother became the first people in her family to receive high school diplomas.

These moments all helped to shape Risher. "I didn't ask for this journey that I'm on . . . but here I am," she said. And now, her mission is to help other people understand that hate and violence will not win.

Risher emphasized her struggle with forgiveness. "There comes a time in our lives when we have to stand up for what we believe and be in that space for however long it takes. I had to feel what I felt. I was not going to hop on the forgiveness bandwagon," said Risher. Her process of forgiveness was complicated, lonely, hard and full of never-ending prayer. Ultimately, she expressed the importance of actually forgiving and continuing toward that end goal, even when the journey is long and



▲ Sharon Risher shared her story at the Howard Performing Arts Center.

riddled with anger. Risher described her experience of forgiving as coming to a place of peace and feeling God say, "You're strong; you've been faithful; now is the time."

The idea of forgiveness especially resonated with the audience. R. Deborah Weithers, dean for Student Life at Andrews University, says, "Her journey of forgiveness was raw and honest, and helped us put ourselves in her shoes."

Not only did Risher call the audience to embrace forgiveness, but she also stated, "As people of faith, messengers of God, we have a duty to begin the conversation about race . . . to truly understand the call to be a community." She addressed the importance of accountability and responsibility, particularly with gun control laws. Her dream is that people will escape this "heart condition" within America that places too much emphasis on hate and not enough

on the understanding that "no matter what, we all are people." She continued, "We all are made wonderfully and beautiful, my faith tells me, in the sight of God."

Natalie Hwang, a second-year English literature major, appreciates Risher's perspective on hate and valuing others. Hwang said, "It was truly humbling to hear a woman who didn't let trauma distort the way she saw others."

At the conclusion of Risher's talk, she received a standing ovation from attendees. Garrison Hayes, a third-year Master of Divinity student, reflected on his response to Risher's story. He said, "I am thankful for her commitment to truth-telling and her ability to seamlessly intertwine her lived experience and her desire to see equity and justice everywhere."■

Hannah Gallant, IMC student writer, Andrews University

EDUCATION NEWS

Academy students commended for their "Caring Heart"

In the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we believe that teaching young people to be actively involved in witnessing and service activities is central to the educational goals of the school and the mission of the church. For this reason, the secondary student "Caring Heart Award" for Christian service has been established to give recognition to those secondary students who have demonstrated a personal commitment to active service and witnessing activities.

Through the Caring Heart Award for Christian service, the importance of witnessing and service activities is emphasized and given appropriate recognition along with academic, athletic, music, and other school awards and honors. It is the purpose of this award to not only give appropriate recognition, but to foster increased awareness and participation in witnessing and service activities by all students. To be eligible, the student should be a full-time junior or senior student with a strong citizenship record, who has given evidence of a personal commitment to witnessing and service activities by exhibiting initiative and responsibility for carrying through, serving as an overall example on the campus. Criteria also might include significant and varied participation in service-type activities, witnessing experiences and mission trips (inside and/or outside the country).

The North American Division (NAD) Office of Education provides one Caring Heart Award to each NAD-accredited senior academy that has selected an eligible candidate. The award will consist of a special scholarship award certificate with a value of \$500, which is paid by the Union and accompanied by a

plaque and engraved Bible provided by the North American Division Office of Education. The scholarship award may be used by the student award recipient for either funding a mission trip experience, or as tuition assistance at the Adventist school of their choice.

This year's recipients are:

ANDREWS ACADEMY



Emmaleigh Gustfason
("Emmy") expressed a desire to be a part of the student leadership at Andrews Academy long before she was chosen to serve as social vice

president of the Student Association. She has a clear vision of what is needed for an event to be doable within budget and time constraints. She makes a point of getting other students involved by encouraging them to invest their time and skills in a team effort. Emmy is quick to speak up when plans or circumstances threaten to overlook or place another student in an awkward position. She is positive, punctual and energetic, which is not easy while juggling all the other interests and responsibilities of being close to the end of her senior year. Emmy has spent four years at AA where she has served on the social committee, sophomore vice-president and is currently serving as the SA social vice president. She plans on attending Andrews University after she graduates. When asked what was her life credo or motto, she answered, "The Golden Rule."

BATTLE CREEK ACADEMY



Kayleigh Hilyard is a senior at Battle Creek Academy who began attending last school year. She was hungry for what the Bible taught and decided to

follow the truth that she was learning. She was baptized on Easter Sabbath 2017. She loves Jesus and wants to see all her family and friends in heaven with her. Kayleigh wanted to make a difference in her school, so she ran for and was elected as Student Association pastor for the 2017-2018 school year. Kayleigh has planned chapels and vespers, and has led out in organizing the student-led week of prayer. She also organized and taught the Sabbath school lesson for the Battle Creek Academy Bible Camp. She also put together and led out in a week of prayer for the Charlotte Adventist Elementary School. She loves sharing Christ and involves others in doing so. Kayleigh is a wonderful model of a caring heart.

GRAND RAPIDS ADVENTIST ACADEMY



Mica Aldridge, born in Missouri, is a junior at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy (GRAA). Since coming to Michigan, she has been an exemplary student, both spiritually and

academically. Her quiet spirit and kind words for everyone she encounters attest to her loving spirit. Eric Velez, Bible teacher, says she has the "heart of Jesus." Mica

helps in her local church where she was baptized Sept. 9, 2017. She has been on three mission trips, helped at Habitat for Humanity, and volunteered at the Indian Creek Camp in Tennessee.

GREAT LAKES ADVENTIST ACADEMY



Christina Rogers

Destini Hufnal

has been a blessing to Great Lakes Adventist Academy since she arrived her freshman year. She has lived out her faith in Jesus most vividly through her ac-

tions, as she has always exhibited a spirit of kindness and willingness to serve. Most recently, she has served in the dormitory as the Flamekeepers (student-led spiritual movement) leader, working closely with the deans in planning spiritual growth experiences for the girls in the dorm. Destini's high integrity, strong and dependable work ethic, her love for Jesus, and her compassionate heart for others have richly blessed our school.

HINSDALE ACADEMY



Kym Parker

Isabella Tessalee

is a senior at Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA) where she has attended since first grade.

Throughout her academy years,

Isabella has been involved in a number of ministry groups through both her church and school. At church she is a youth leader, a TLT in Pathfinders, been on the PBE team, and is part of the Rondalla Music Group. At school, she has been in the drama group,

Act in Faith, participated in the handbell choir, band, concert choir and chamber singers. She also served as class treasurer for three years. In addition to her many ministry activities, Isabella has made service a high priority. As an active member of the HAA National Honor Society chapter, "Difference Makers," she has logged over 100 community service hours and gone on domestic mission trips to both Kentucky and Arizona. She currently serves as the Student Association pastor where she organizes and leads out in weekly chapels, two Weeks of Prayer, and the annual Bible Camp. Isabella plans to spend spring break on a mission trip to Belize this year and hopes to have the opportunity to aid communities affected by natural disasters in her college years.

INDIANA ACADEMY



Lifetouch

Cing Nuan

has been attending Indiana Academy since August 2016, and anticipates graduating in May 2018. Cing was recently inducted into our local chapter of the

National Honor Society. She voluntarily participates and leads out in a student-led ministry team on campus called "Christ on Campus." This group meets weekly for Bible study and to discuss different ways to implement spiritual events on- and off-campus. Cing preached during a Youth Sabbath at our local church and has been seen helping other students on campus both with homework and encouraging them in their spiritual growth. Cing plans to become a nurse, so she can help people here in the U.S. and eventually in her home country of Burma. Cing Nuan has been a blessing on campus, and we know she will be a blessing to those she encounters in the future.

PETERSON-WARREN ACADEMY

Edward

Binford has been at Peterson-Warren Academy since elementary school and is now a graduating senior. As the school's chaplain, he is responsible for planning and



Larry Key

coordinating the weekly chapel programs. Edward also was a speaker for evangelistic meetings held at the school and Detroit City Temple Church. Last school year, he participated in a Habitat for Humanity mission trip and helped build a home in Washington, D.C. Edward is member of the National Honor Society and the Conant Gardens Church in Detroit. He is very helpful and kind to our student body, faculty and staff. In the fall, he plans to attend Oakwood University.

WISCONSIN ACADEMY

The best word to describe

Ana Elisabeth

Carreño is bubbly. She has a bright personality that always makes those around her smile, and her habit of helping out whenever and



Sara Gardner

wherever she can only goes to further that impression. Service-oriented, she has been a class officer for two years and an SA officer for another. Although undecided in what career she wants to pursue, it is more from having too many options than too few. Wherever God takes her in the future, He is sure to make the most of her energetic nature and caring heart. ■



▲ Seniors Hugo Qin and Colin Schmeling work with junior Harry Baek to sand the hull and joints.

Students build boats in English class to support missions and outreach

Andrews Academy students are building a boat. Actually, they are building four boats — Shellback dinghies — as part of an English class called Nautical Arts.

English teacher David VanDenburgh conceived the idea in 2016 as a way to engage students in an innovative, exciting and unique synthesis of language arts and practical, hands-on learning as they work in groups to build — from the keel up — an attractive and functional sailing dinghy. Emphasizing teamwork, short- and long-term planning, project management, writing and documentation via an online blog, construction skills and techniques, and, of course, developing an appreciation for great nautical texts, the course has at its core a service component: the students' completed project boats will be auctioned, and the proceeds will support outreach and mission.

Although the build is ambitious, four groups of 17 students are committed to

finishing the dinghies by May, and they have already begun shaping rudders and masts, fitting hull planks, and sewing sails.

Student reaction to the class (via their blogs) has been positive.

"There are a lot of moments when we mess up ... however, we always get things fixed. At first, I was pretty worried when I messed things up. But then I figured out that there are always methods to fix things up. So just be relaxed when things are not flowing smoothly in your boat-building project or your life."

Sometimes the learning is painful but necessary — this excerpt from their teacher's blog:

"For some reason, there is the occasional — and apparently overwhelming and irresistible — desire to improvise on this project, it would seem. [The student and I] discussed possibilities [to remedy the mistake] and ultimately decided that it was best to remove the (epoxied) plank and start over. While the crew member carefully removed the plank and sanded away the pieces of ply epoxied to the joint, another member cut a new plank. Although the setback was just that, the

young man handled it with grace. I was proud of his calm ownership of the mistake and his quick and pleasant readiness to make it right. Mistakes happen. That's just part of life. How we deal with our mistakes is what makes the difference. If this young man continues to apply that kind of humility and positivity to life's exigencies and inevitable setbacks, he'll do well."

And some of the lessons were prosaically practical:

"A warning to anyone who builds this boat: wear clothes that you aren't deeply sentimental about or anything that your grandma made for you because it is a very messy job and you will get epoxy on your clothes and it won't come out." (Apologies to grandmas.)

Boatbuilding requires attention to detail, doing things right (or paying the penalty to fix it later), following the plan, keeping your eye on the goal, staying motivated, working together. These are all important life lessons — lessons that are all too often untaught in our modern society. Ideas are important and data is necessary, but the ability to turn a vision into a reality is also an essential life skill, and how better to teach it to kids than by a hands-on experience that takes them from plans and boards and glue to launching and sailing a boat on Lake Michigan? Follow their progress this semester via the Waypoints blog: <https://nauticalarts.wordpress.com/>. ■



▲ Junior John Kent chisels away hardened epoxy in preparation for adding gunwales to his group's boat.

Illinois school seeks to meet growing demand

Of the 53 Alpine Christian School students, 24 are from refugee families. These children in the pre-K to 8th grade school are there because of the caring sponsorship of a loving Rockford Church family and generous donations from ACS alumni. The other reality is that there are approximately 25 children on a waiting

list, who are eagerly awaiting news that a sponsor has come forward so they, too, can attend the school.

Alpine Christian School has educated youth for the past 94 years. During the last six years, they have been overwhelmingly blessed with refugee children from the Karen group in Myanmar (Burma) and the Rwandans in Africa. These children have miraculously escaped death and the severe living conditions of refugee camps.

These precious children and their families came to Rockford with nothing but the clothes on their backs and a fire of faith burning in their hearts, a faith that sustained them through all the torturous years they spent in fear. Yet, they come with radiant smiles. They come with eager minds. They come with hearts filled with joy. Their story seems like science fiction and yet every word is true.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 25:40, *Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.* As you contemplate your daily life and how God has richly blessed you and your family, consider the school and the precious children. Their parents, while in refugee camps, prayed that God would bring them to a place where their children would have the privilege of attending an Adventist school where their faith would continue to grow. ■

Teresa Smith, principal, Alpine Christian School



Teresa Smith

◀ Students in grades 5-8

Battle Creek students minister in neighboring town

A group of high school students at Battle Creek Academy (BCA) were given a wonderful outreach opportunity. For a full week, last October, eight students from various grades and leadership roles traveled to Charlotte Adventist Christian School (CACS) and presented a week of prayer for their students. CACS in Charlotte, Mich., is a small, one-room, elementary school with seven students.

BCA students began each day getting to know the students at CACS, then they sang songs together. Following the songs a different student, or group of students, shared a



James Davis

▲ Battle Creek Academy students presented a week of prayer at the Charlotte Adventist Christian School.

worship thought or object lesson and prayed with the group. On several days, the BCA students were able to stay and play games with the CACS students. During this week, there were many close bonds formed between the students. After the last meeting, many hugs were exchanged and a few tears were shed.

Like most high school students, BCA students have very full class schedules and busy days. Participating in this week of prayer meant they would miss classes and have to make up the work at another time. All of the

participants were volunteers and made the choice to be a part of this program. In the end, all felt that what they gave up in time was more than made up for in the blessing they received. The CACS students to which our students went to minister also ministered to our students in return. It was such a blessing for all involved. When it was all over, there was discussion about which other small schools were within driving distance. Our students would like to visit all the schools in our region and provide a similar program.

It is a great blessing to see our young people give of their time and talents to spread their love for Christ. The result was a group of students, from both schools, drawn closer together and closer to Christ. This is Christian education that can't be experienced from books or lectures alone. There is no question that God is at work in Adventist education. ■

James Davis, Battle Creek Academy principal



Juliette Horton

▲ Some of the young readers at the Ruth Murdoch Elementary School literacy awareness event.

Reading in a winter wonderland

On Thursday, Feb. 15, Ruth Murdoch Elementary School held its first family literacy night themed "Winter Reading Wonderland." During this event, parents and children from kindergarten through fifth grades participated in a variety of interactive literacy activities which gave them an opportunity to bond as a family while practicing reading, writing and listening skills together. The purpose of this literacy night was primarily to increase awareness of the importance of parent

involvement in their children's literacy development, and to give parents an opportunity to learn simple literacy activities to implement in the home environment.

The school advertised this family activity through weekly school newsletter announcements, Facebook posts and posters on the school grounds. Students were encouraged to attend the literacy night through classroom visits by "Mr. Flurry," a community member dressed as a polar bear. There were approximately 25 volunteers, including parents and teachers, who dedicated their time and talents to make the winter reading wonderland a successful and memorable experience for the school families. As parents arrived that evening, they were welcomed and given an overview of the night's activities followed by a prayer and some light refreshments.

There were 10 literacy stations through which families had the opportunity to rotate. In some stations, families were able to listen to a story, read a story together, write quotes about reading on a graffiti wall and make a bookmark to take home. Other stations provided games such as the book walk, giant word scrabble and a snowball sight word game. Additionally, students were able to spell words with magnetic letters, practice reading fluency through a Reader's Theater and swap books with other students in the

school. In order to make sure families had enough time to visit all stations, an average of 7-10 minutes was allowed per station. Parents and students shared positive comments at the conclusion of the event.

A second-grade mother said, "The literacy night was a successful way to combine fun activities with actual learning and practicing of literacy skills. My son had a great time and didn't even realize he was learning! I hope this becomes an annual event." Another parent expressed, "It was a fun experience; it was nice that parents, grandparents, students, little brothers and sisters came to participate and enjoy different activities. I enjoyed playing games and being able to read books with other families."

The event lasted one-and-a-half hours and concluded with closing remarks from the principal, Evelyn Savory, followed by prayer and handouts for families on what they can do at home while they read to and with their children. When schools and homes partner together in the education of a child, great things can happen. The love for reading and learning can start at home, and it will continue to strengthen through our home and school partnership. ■

Iveth Ortiz, Reading Intervention teacher, Berrien Springs non-public schools.

Junior high students get a spiritual LIFT

LIFT (Lifestyle Improvement For Teens) is designed to provide biblical and practical solutions to Michigan's 7th- and 8th-grade Adventist school students. The "interactive retreat," held last October at Camp Au Sable, served to both inspire and equip attendees to face multifaceted challenges at the spiritual, social and physical levels.

There were breakout sessions on Bible studies, devotions, witnessing, relationships, hydrotherapy, cooking and auto care, to name a few! Sprinkled in were special features, such as the talk that exposed the physical and spiritual dangers of drug use.

One of the highlights this year was having Michigan Conference's associate Youth director, Chad Bernard, as the keynote speaker. Asher, a 7th-grader, appreciated that Chad's sermons were simple, in-depth and short. He also learned, "If anything is blocking your relationship with God, you need to take it away, and get closer to Him." Reflecting further, he added, "I have a few things I need to do when I get home!" On Tuesday night when Chad made an appeal for baptism, 57 youngsters responded. ■

Andy Im, Michigan Conference Communication director



Photography by Andy Im



LAKE UNION NEWS

New executive secretary appointed

Lake Union Conference President Maurice Valentine announced that Indiana Conference President, Steven Poenitz, agreed to serve as the Lake Union's executive secretary, effective this month.

"I am deeply pleased that Dr. Poenitz has again answered God's calling on his life," said Valentine. "He is considered by many to be a consummate Christian gentlemen, family man, counselor and deep thinker who has been noted for his people skills, evidenced by his willingness to meet the needs of varied people groups in the Christ-like garb of servant leadership."

In addition to serving as Indiana Conference president, Poenitz has been



▲ Steven Poenitz

the Ministerial secretary of the Indiana Conference, and served as pastor in Tennessee, California, Oregon, Kansas and New Jersey.

He completed a theology degree at Southwestern Adventist University, and a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.

As Poenitz readies himself for the role of helping provide leadership to the more than 500 congregations in the Lake Union, he said that he and his wife, Erney, are encouraged by the words to a gospel hymn which gives direction to their future. "Day by Day" is the hymn. A line of the verse states: 'He Whose heart is wise beyond all measure, gives unto each day what He deems best.' This is a very real message for the journey of Erney and me." ■

Debbie Michel is associate director of the Lake Union Conference Communication Department.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

GENERAL EVENTS

April 2 ▪ *Ellen White Issues Symposium, Seminary Chapel*

April 8 ▪ *Andrews University April Preview, Buller Hall Lobby*

April 12-14 ▪ *Reaching Millennial Generations Conference, Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary*

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.

April 7, 8:30 p.m. ▪ *"Street Scene" Opera*

April 8, 4 p.m. ▪ *"Street Scene" Opera*

April 14, 8 p.m. ▪ *Collegiate Choral Invitational Concert*

April 15, 4 p.m. ▪ *Sunday Music Series...Chi Yong Yun*

April 21, 8:30 p.m. ▪ *The Aeolians of Oakwood University*

April 22, 4 p.m. ▪ *Andrews University Wind Symphony Spring Concert*

April 29, 4 p.m. ▪ *SMSO: featuring Jiji Kim, Award-Winning Guitarist*

MICHIGAN

April 6-8, 13-15, 20-22 ▪ *Women's Ministry Retreat, Au Sable*

April 27-29 ▪ *VBS Workshop, Au Sable*

April 29 ▪ *Adventurer Fun Day, Great Lakes Adventist Academy*

INDIANA

April 4-7 ▪ *Music Festival, Indiana Academy*

April 7 ▪ *Sabbath Celebration with Larry Blackmer (NAD), Indiana Academy*

April 14 ▪ *Hispanic Symposium: Spirit of Prophecy*

April 22: *Hispanic Lay Institute (ICTLAI)*

ILLINOIS

April 8 ▪ *Adventurer Fun Day*

April 13-15 ▪ *Adventist Christian Fellowship Campus Catalyst, Camp Akita*

April 15-18 ▪ *Pastor/Teacher Spiritual Retreat, Camp Akita*

April 27-29 ▪ *Pathfinders Spring Camporee, Camp Akita*

LAKE REGION

April 6-8 ▪ *Young Adult Retreat, Fair Lake Bible Camp*

April 27-28 ▪ *Illiana Youth Federation, Ephesus, Marion, Indiana*

WISCONSIN

April 5-7 ▪ *Wisconsin Academy Music Fest*

April 16 ▪ *Spelling Bee, Wisconsin Conference*

April 22 ▪ *Adventurer Fun Day, Camp Wakonda*

April 27-29 ▪ *Hispanic Men's Retreat, Camp Wakonda*

LAKE UNION

April 8 ▪ *LUC Medical Evangelism, Camp Wagnor, Cassopolis, Michigan*

April 15 ▪ *LUC Medical Evangelism, Hinsdale Fil-Am, Chicago, Illinois*

April 20-21 ▪ *ASI Lake Union Spring Fellowship, Hilton Garden Inn, Benton Harbor, Michigan*

April 22 ▪ *LUC Medical Evangelism, Oakhill, East St. Louis, Illinois*

April 28 ▪ *LUC Medical Evangelism, Racine, Wisconsin*

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. Mark your calendars, call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now! Honor classes: 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, and 1998. To be held at N. Aurora Church, N. Aurora, Ill. Friday night vespers, Sabbath School, church, lunch and afternoon musical program. 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 this year's 13th Annual Pathfinder Honors Retreat, **May 4-6** held at Camp Michawana in Hastings, Mich. This event is sponsored by the Motor City Directors & Clubs. 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.

MICHIGAN

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. Open to former or current students, families, church members from any conference, or friends that want to join who are eight years of age and older. The trip will be Sunday, **June 24, through Monday, July 2**. For more details visit www.glaa.net or email Bruce Reichert at breichert7@yahoo.com.

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" and 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. For more information, call 269-473-8200, email communications.luasi@gmail.com, or visit <http://www.asilakeunion.org>.

FAMA: 2018 Fellowship of Adventist Missionaries to Africa Biennial Reunion will take place **June 21-24** at Indiana Academy, 24815 State Road 19, Cicero, IN 45034. Missionaries, potential missionaries, missionaries' kids, and friends are welcome to attend. Registration will begin at 3 p.m., June 21. The first meeting will be at 7:00 p.m., June 21 in the Home Ec. Room. For details, contact FAMA president Wil Clarke at 951-231-5402 or wil.clarke@gmail.com or Chuck Schlunt at 812-814-4445 or theschlunts@cs.com.

THIRTEEN-DAY EUROPE REFORMATION TOUR with AU Seminary Professor John Reeve. Two trips this summer and fall **June 10-22** for \$2,995.00. **September 30-October 12** \$3,195.00. Includes all accommodations, transportation entrance fees taxes, air, and two meals daily. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles, Other departure cities available. Call Pan de Vida at 248-275-1050. Ask for discount code LUC2018.

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

ANNOUNCING ACADEMY DAYS AT OKLAHOMA ACADEMY! If you are a student who is serious about your walk with the Lord and His mission for your life, Oklahoma Academy may be just the place for you. Come **April 13-15** for our Academy Days weekend and find out! Call 405-454-6211, to make your reservations today! Also visit www.oklahomaacademy.org.

ENTERPRISE/GREAT PLAINS ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND, April 13-14, at Enterprise Church, Enterprise, Kan.. Honor Classes — Graduating Years ending with '3s and '8s. For more information, email: ea.gpa.alumni@hotmail.com, call 620-640-5740, or check school website: www.ea-gpa-alumni.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.

ANNIVERSARIES



Harold and Sandra Krull celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 26, 2017, by a three-week trip to Hawaii, staying in a condo in Oahu for a week, going on a Norwegian cruise to Maui, Hawaii and Kona, and finishing the trip at Seaside, Ore., with their son Paul's family. They have been members of the Eau Claire (Mich.) Church for 26 years.

Harold Krull and Sandra Todd were married Nov. 26, 1967, in Hinsdale, Ill., by J.E. Cleveland. Harold has worked in a machine shop in Wisconsin, done landscape lawn maintenance, custodian, warehouse, and been district mailman at Benton Harbor (Mich.) schools. Sandra has been a keypunch operator at Hinsdale Hospital, worked in data entry for Zenith, earned an Associate in Accounting degree in 1985, retiring in 2008. The Krull family includes Paul and Lucy Benson of Portland, Ore.; Douglas and Charity Engelkemier of Berrien Springs, Mich.; Sheila and Timothy Moser; and six grandchildren.

OBITUARIES

KELLOGG, Geneva (Clover), age 88; born Sept. 15, 1929, in Mio, Michigan; died Nov. 25, 2017, in Owosso, Mich. She was a member of the St. Charles Church. Survivors include sons: David (Kathye), Dennis (Theresa); daughters, Marilyn (Alan) Bledsoe, Carolyn (Marc) Nykerk; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The funeral service was conducted by Terry Dodge.

SWANSON, Mildred (Jamieson), 90; born July 2, 1927, in North Yarmouth, Maine; died Nov. 25, 2017, in Berrien Springs, Michigan. She was a member of Pioneer Memorial Church. Survivors include her husband, Arnold Swanson; daughter Linda Fuchs; brother, Judson Jamieson; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. The funeral service was conducted by Dwight Nelson, with a private inurnment.

FRANKLIN, Vernon, 90; born February 27, 1927, in Denver, Colorado; died January 25, 2018, in Peoria, Illinois. He was a member of the Peoria Church. Survivors include his wife, Ailene (Cansler); sons, Brent (Christy), Kevin (Debbie), Darryn (Judy); brothers, Bill, Wayne, John, Alman; and sister, Mary Ann Bruce; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted by Don Lewis and burial was at Meadow Lawn Cemetery in Manito, Illinois.

For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

Therefore encourage one another with these words.

—1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 NIV

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Apr 6	Apr 13	Apr 20	Apr 27	May 4	May 11
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:15	8:23	8:31	8:39	8:46	8:54
Chicago, Ill.	7:21	7:28	7:36	7:44	7:51	7:59
Detroit, Mich.	8:03	8:11	8:19	8:27	8:34	8:42
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:13	8:20	8:27	8:34	8:41	8:48
La Crosse, Wis.	7:37	7:45	7:54	8:02	8:10	8:18
Lansing, Mich.	8:09	8:17	8:25	8:33	8:41	8:49
Madison, Wis.	7:29	7:37	7:45	7:53	8:01	8:09
Springfield, Ill.	7:27	7:34	7:41	7:48	7:55	8:02

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

BOOK SALE: For the fourth year in a row, I will have SDA books at Michigan camp meeting, about 5,000. I also will be buying books there. Bring them to the ABC and I will connect with you. If you want certain books, I can bring and save them for you. If you have questions, call John Segar at 269-781-6379.

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TRAVEL/VACATION

ISRAEL TOUR WITH PASTOR JIM GILLEY, 3ABN'S PASTOR C.A. MURRAY AND FRIENDS. Two trips this fall, November 11-19, \$3,095; November 18-27, \$3,395. Includes all tips, taxes, air, and breakfast and dinner buffets daily. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles, Other departure cities available. Call Jennifer at 602-788-8864.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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

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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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>.

TESTIMONIES FROM FORMER EAST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST COUNTRY: Vladimir Slavujevic and his family have testimonies to share with you through music and spoken word. Come celebrate God's blessings past and present through heartfelt songs of victory in Christ. In addition to being an active musician/educator in Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, and Andrews University as an adjunct voice instructor, he has recorded/appeared on 3ABN and performed as soloist at the 2010 GC in Atlanta. For more information, contact Vladimir at vladoslavujevic@yahoo.com or call 269-473-2826. Appointments accepted through May 31.

EMPLOYMENT

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY Seeks Curriculum and Learning Design Specialist. This full-time staff position has half-time teaching responsibilities in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum. The Curriculum and Instructional Design Specialist for the Department of Digital Learning and Instructional Technology (DLiT) provides highly skilled professional service to meet the instructional design needs of online faculty by providing a) online teaching training and support; b) instructional and curriculum design for online and blended courses; c) oversight of the learning design process. The Curriculum and Instructional Design Specialist will report to the online Course Manager in DLiT and the chair in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY Seeks Underwriting Director for WAUS. The Underwriting Director is responsible for soliciting corporate support

for WAUS. Responsibilities include cultivating relationships, maintaining accounts and following up with billing and renewals, writing copy, and scheduling spots to air. Compensation consists of a base salary plus commissions. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job9

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. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job_6

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES in Orlando, FL, seeks candidates





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MEET KAYLA & JANESSA

These two have become great friends since meeting at Great Lakes Adventist Academy.

They are both involved in many extracurricular activities and enjoy studying together. The team of experienced staff provides them with many opportunities to grow, not only in the classroom, but in their knowledge and understanding of their Friend, Jesus Christ.

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for a Department Chair, beginning summer of 2018. Applicant must possess an academic doctoral degree (PhD, EdD, or equivalent). Candidates need leadership, teaching and research experience in higher education with six years full-time higher education experience, three years in a physical therapy program, and eligibility for licensure as a physical therapist in Florida. Send CV to: don.williams@adu.edu

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CORRECTION

The first female pastor in the Lake Region Conference wasn't Tricia Payne. It was Judy Crawford who served from 1998-2005. We regret the error.

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Why We Homeschool

By Joseth Abara Howell

WHEN I BECAME A MOTHER, I began exploring the option of homeschooling my two boys, now ages two and five, when they would join the estimated 2.3 million children who receive education at home.

Families such as mine are opting to homeschool for a myriad of reasons. We worry that in the regular school setting, our children may not be academically challenged or that the curriculum may be dumbed down. Some of us are concerned that not enough time is allotted to play, creativity development, exploration of the natural environment and development of critical and logical thinking. We also fear the discriminatory practices to which our children may be subject that could cause them to develop inferiority complexes and may impede them from realizing their full potential. Still others of us choose the homeschool path for religious reasons and safety/security concerns at schools.

Although I'm new to the homeschooling arena, I am appreciating the benefits. Homeschooling allows me to build and shape my children's spiritual foundation, especially critical in the formative years when they are most impressionable. It allows for the practical teaching of service to others by doing. My children are taught to appreciate, assimilate and memorize Scripture to facilitate development of resilient characters. On many controversial issues where the discourse in regular school settings can be one-sided, biased or narrow, I can teach and explain these issues in alignment with my religious philosophy while examining alternate points of view. The flexibility of homeschooling allows me to customize a well-rounded curriculum that is challenging and top-notch to meet the needs of my children.

Despite the growing population of homeschoolers, critics argue that those who are homeschooled could turn out to be socially misfit due to potentially limited social interaction. Although a valid concern, there are many things I do to avert this problem. I take my children to the parks and playgrounds to interact and



Jonathan Logan

▲ The Howell family

play with others. We are involved in many church and community events and programs, such as Adventurers, which foster socialization. Once they're school age, I plan to enroll them in a parent partnership program, which offers a wide range of free classes, not limited to field trips, swimming, music, home economics, plumbing and carpentry.

Homeschooling is not a new phenomenon. In fact, while one could argue whether nobles like kings David and Joash were homeschooled, we know for sure that Mary educated Jesus at home. When done properly, homeschooling can produce children who are firm in their faith, able to rebut theories that go against the biblical worldview and excel at the best colleges, demonstrating resiliency in character and not easily giving in to peer pressure. ■

Joseth Abara Howell resides in Michigan and, along with her husband, homeschool their two boys, Samuel and Nathan. She is a graduate of Rutgers and Columbia universities.

What's Wrong with My School?

By Asia Kirkland



Martha Benko

▲ Asia Kirkland

AS I SET MY BOOK BAG DOWN ON THE TABLE,

I hurried to my older sister's room to share the troubling news. "My teacher believes that man once had a tail and that a horse stepped on a square and somehow the earth became round," I blurted out. "I can't go back to that school!"

My sister was in disbelief. "You can't give up the gifted school and all the opportunities," she said as she pleaded with me to rethink my decision. "Sixth grade is your last chance at this gifted program."

Undeterred, I told her, "Schools without God are nothing!"

Let me back up and explain how I found myself in this situation.

I attended Adventist schools until fall 2010 when I stopped because of my family's financial situation. My mom reluctantly enrolled me in one of the best magnet public schools in Bronxville, New York.

Before starting the school, my mom and I prayed. This was a blessed opportunity to concentrate on

acting and academics — or so I thought. The first day of school, I was assigned to the Math and Science department and given a teacher, as well as three teachers' aides, just in case I needed them. There were even perks such as free shuttle bus, free lunch, weekly trips to universities and causal dress every Friday. I was elated.

It wasn't long before an uneasiness began to set in. The teacher presented the book *Binocular*, a story about a vampire bunny. Then there were those bizarre beliefs that I shared with my sister. I wanted none of this. I thought of my former Adventist schools — worship and Bible, and I began to plot my return.

That Thursday my mom proudly attended PTA meeting. She inquired about my obviously empty cubby and desk. I told her that I had returned the teacher's demonic books and took my stuff home. Confused, my mom asked what I meant. I explained that my most important gift comes from God and I no longer wanted to attend public school. She explained that she had no money and couldn't even afford a uniform for my old Adventist school. "God will provide," I told her (suggesting that she rip the top from my old jumper, use the bottom as a skirt and I would wear my old fifth-grade shirts). Touched by my determination, my mom prayed with me for a financial miracle.

That same weekend, we attended the Greater New York camp meetings and a stranger heard my story. She contacted the school, paid the registration fees and January's tuition. God surely provided and He has continued providing for me to this day!

Parents, education is not just for now. You should educate your children for the Kingdom. We might not have all the resources in Christian schools, but, as I told my sister, we have God and that is what really matters. ■

Asia Kirkland graduated from Andrews Academy last year and received a \$100 scholarship for this article.

If you're a young adult interested in submitting an article for consideration, please email: herald@lakenion.org.

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'Those People Needed Help'

By Konner Dent



Jonathan Logan

▲ KhaiKhai Cin

A JUNIOR RELIGION MAJOR AT

Andrews University (and before that, Grand Rapids Adventist Academy), KhaiKhai Cin recently completed a two-year internship with the Hope Adventist company in Indianapolis. As he worked closely with the Burmese refugees in Indianapolis, KhaiKhai's ministry took many different forms, each one a witnessing opportunity. Along with evangelistic seminars, vacation Bible schools (VBS) and assisting with the Zomi Burmese camp meeting, KhaiKhai also regularly helped refugees (most of them not yet Adventists) with translation services and job hunting opportunities. "A lot of social work was needed," reflected KhaiKhai. "I didn't ask why we did it because I understood — those people needed help. I know what it feels like to be in need, whether it's [because of] a language barrier, financial aid, stress or anxieties. We helped because it was 'Christ's method alone' (see Ellen White, *Ministry of Healing*, pg. 143; *emphasis supplied*).

A refugee himself, KhaiKhai came to America with his family in 2012. "Currently,

our country [Burma] is moving towards a democratic government. It has a president now, but back then it was a military dictatorship. Because of that, there are a lot of people fleeing."

This tumultuous landscape has engendered a close-knit Burmese community, yet varied in belief systems. Often, traditional ministry has to be adapted for both size and worldview.

"[In 2016] we did a VBS in three different locations. This summer we did it at five," said KhaiKhai. "We had 135 students, and close to 95 were not Adventist [members] — some Buddhist, some [others] Christian." To adapt, KhaiKhai stated that they kept the ministry aspect, but held it where the refugee kids were. "We held it in a community center, under a tree, and at some people's houses!"

KhaiKhai is encouraged by Jesus' words: *For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in* (Matthew 25:35 NIV). "Refugees coming here really need help," he said. "Within the church, the refugee ministry is just starting, and I would like to see it supported more."

He hopes to further his ministry by continuing to work with the Myanmar Community Services, setting up a Pathfinder Club for local Zomi Burmese youth, and is currently working on completing his Master Guide requirements. ■

Konner Dent is a Journalism major at Andrews University.

ADDRESS CORRECTION Only paid subscribers (see below) should contact the *Lake Union Herald* office with their address changes. Members should contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all Lake Union Herald address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right. Online subscriptions can be made at <http://herald.lakeunion.org> under "Subscription Change."

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