

Lake Union HERALD

NOVEMBER 2006



Forgiveness

(pass it on...)



Forgiveness is a gift...pass it on! Photo by Tyler Burns.



20

in every issue...

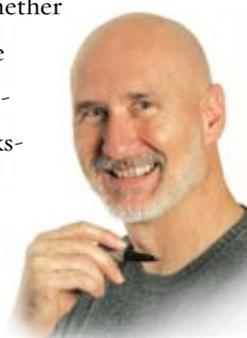
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Of all our personal needs, I can't think of anything we need more than forgiveness. For without forgiveness, we have no hope—no possibility of eternal life. Then why is it so difficult for us to apologize and ask for forgiveness? Why is it so difficult to grant forgiveness to one who has hurt us or done us wrong?

As you make plans to sit at the Thanksgiving table this year, whether you are traveling home, entertaining guests, or eating alone, make certain that forgiveness is on your menu—both asking for forgiveness and granting forgiveness. Then you will be filled with Thanksgiving. (And it won't add a single pound!)

[Signature]
Gary Burns, Editor



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The Gift of Unlimited Mercy and FORGIVENESS



"To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him" (Daniel 9:9).

The inability to forgive is a toxin. It poisons the heart and mind with bitterness, distorting one's perspective on life. Anger, resentment, and sorrow begin to overshadow and overwhelm the unforgiving person. It's a sort of soul-pollution that inflames evil appetites and evil emotions. Forgiveness is the only antidote.

I think it is very significant that Jesus Christ made a follow-up commentary on only one portion of The Lord's Prayer. In Matthew 6:12, He says, "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Then in verses 14 and 15 our Lord expands the idea by supplying this extra comment, "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

The apostle Paul picks up the theme in his letters to the Ephesians and the Colossians. "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32). "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye" (Colossians 3:13).

If my need of forgiveness from God is thwarted by my unforgiving spirit toward a brother, then I have actually made grudge-holding more important than my salvation. My desire to hold a charge against someone becomes more sacred to me than a relationship with Christ.

So why do we hold out? Why are we so reluctant to forgive? It has to be a matter of personal pride. At that point, pride has become our god, and self-justification has become our redemption.

In one sense, forgiveness is Christianity operating at its highest level, and it is absolutely essential for smooth, interpersonal relationships. Let me be the first to admit that it is only possible through God's intervention.

To forgive is actually the ministry of forgetting self for the benefit of others. Have you ever heard the old adage, "I will forgive, but I can't forget?" That kind of forgiveness is no forgiveness at all. And it is not a godly principle. God, Himself, is willing to forgive and forget. Listen to His voice: "... for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" (Jeremiah 31:34). And in another place: "I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins" (Isaiah 43:25).

Forgiveness is bearing the suffering of another's wrong and letting the wrongdoer go free from our retaliation and grudge-holding. Offered unconditionally, just as we have experienced it from God, forgiveness restores the peace of the wounded one and paves the way for a response from the offender.

Although some consequences may be so irreversible as to prohibit full restoration, when the offered forgiveness is accepted in a spirit of repentance and change, the relationship stands at the threshold of a new beginning.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Illinois Since I (**Chris Vokaty**) was a young child, I have believed in God as a person, but did not understand how He wanted me to respond to His will in my daily living. Sometimes I attended church with my family on Sunday morning, but it wasn't because I was being religious. It was just my desire to be accepted by them and be where I thought they wanted me to go. I didn't become involved in an active church life or give too much thought as to what my obligations should be. I guess I was just "playing church."



Chris Vokaty says Jesus is the center of his life.

Then something began to happen inside of me. I began to feel a strange drawing to church and desired to really know what it meant to be a Christian. I didn't understand it then, but now I believe it was the Holy Spirit calling me to follow Jesus. I began discussing my feeling with my mom, who was raised a Seventh-day Adventist. During our talks, she

told me I needed to understand the truth about worshipping God on the seventh-day Sabbath. She even suggested that until I understood God's true Sabbath, nothing else I studied from my Bible would make sense. So I decided to attend the Adventist church near Hinsdale Hospital, and went the very next Saturday morning.

It may sound strange, but after I found a place to sit, and during the entire service, I felt very emotional as I responded to the worship service's songs, prayers, and sermon. When it was over, I walked up to the pastor and told him, "I want to be baptized." He was kind and thoughtful to me. After learning my name and address, he passed it on to Kenneth Parker, the youth pastor. The very next week we began to study the Bible together, and after five months we both agreed I was ready to be baptized in the service on April 8.

My parents and brothers came to church the day the youth pastor baptized me, and they joined in the celebra-

tion of my spiritual re-birth. I began asking God in my daily evening prayers to use me to witness and inspire others to follow Jesus. My brothers started to ask questions about the Bible and baptism, and they wanted to know if they could be baptized someday. As I helped them understand Christ's desires for their lives, I began to realize the Holy Spirit was using me to be a witness not only to them, but to my friends and others I met.

It's just amazing how, in less than one year, Jesus became the center of my life, and I am seeking to be like Him. It's wonderful to sense God's awesome power as I witness and better understand each day how He is working both in and through me to reach others.

Chris Vokaty with Bruce Babienko, Lake Union Herald volunteer correspondent

Indiana When I (**Bob Cain**) was three years old, my mother divorced my dad, and I was placed in an orphanage. It was a happy day when my grandparents took me out of the orphanage to live with them! A short while later, they attended the Adventist Church in Rensselaer, Indiana. That was the beginning of my introduction to Adventism!



From left: Bob Cain, Throstur Thordarson, and Terry Verhoeven, who was also baptized the same day Bob was.

When I was in the fifth grade, my mother remarried. She and my step-dad took me to live with them. I was not happy there, and I was in trouble frequently. During this time, my Aunt Evelyn was a good influence in my life. When I was a little older, I was given the choice to attend a boy's school or Indiana Academy. I chose the academy, but I rebelled against authority and carried a chip on my shoulder. I left the academy during my junior year. After graduating from high school, I joined the Air Force. My

thoughts of God were far away. Smoking and drinking became a part of my life.

When I returned from the Air Force, I married Carolyn. A few years later, she joined the Lafayette Seventh-day Adventist Church. I took her to church and picked her up when the services were over, but I would not attend church with her. My attitude toward God was not good; I was still against any kind of structure or rules. However, my wife and I sent our children to church school. I wanted the children to have the opportunity of a Christian education.

In 1986, I had a brain aneurysm. God brought me through it, but I still was not ready to turn my life over to Him. After my recovery, I had to quit working because of health problems.

My wife and I attended a seminar in 2005, the same year our son passed away. I felt I really needed God more than ever after we lost our son. I realized anyone could be gone at any time.

Following the seminar Throstur Thordarson, former Lafayette Church pastor, studied the Bible with me. He was always there to answer my questions. I decided to give my life to the Lord, and I was baptized February 11.

Bob Cain with Rebecca Pfeifle, Lafayette Church communication leader

Michigan **Michael Elm** grew up in an Adventist home and was educated in Adventist schools. The last one he attended was Wisconsin Academy, where he graduated. Michael felt a call to the ministry back then, and the next year enrolled in the theology program at Andrews University. However, because he had not matured and did not dress as the staff felt was representative, he was asked to improve his appearance. Discouraged by the conflict, he left school thinking he had been treated harshly. Worse than that, he turned his back on his Christian training and church membership. In an attitude of rebellion, he found himself lured into the world of rock and roll music. He spent the next twenty-four years managing various rock groups that took him all over the world.

Michael says he always felt an inner tugging on his heart to return to the Lord, but the lure of the drug culture and a fast life in the night clubs' world seemed to overpower him. Years later he began to attend a one thousand member church in Florida whose mission was to target former members of the Adventist church. It became the first stepping stone back into a Christian life.



Michael Elm (left) was re-baptized in Lake Michigan on July 15, with Lee Grady, a visiting pastor, and the St. Joseph Church family present. He plans to use his life to serve God and bring others to Jesus Christ.

A small group Bible study and prayer group in St. Joseph, Michigan, was given his name by Janelle Cornforth, an old classmate, and they began to pray for his conversion. Six months later, Janelle invited him to come visit her, and when he arrived she introduced Michael to the prayer group. He shared with them his new desires to be a born again Christian, and they felt it was an answer to their prayers.

Michael visited the Adventist Book Center and purchased a book about the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to begin his search for truth. More books were read and studied, and his conviction grew that it was time for him to be re-baptized.

When Michael was introduced to Lee Grady, a visiting pastor, the pastor discovered Michael had an excellent understanding of the teachings of the Bible as taught by the Adventist church. Thus plans were made with the church pastor and the St. Joseph congregation to have a baptism on the beach of Lake Michigan on Sabbath afternoon, July 15. The church family came to observe Michael's baptism and celebrate his new life with Jesus Christ. It was a glorious afternoon!

Since then, Michael has spoken to some of the instructors at ARISE (A Resource Institute for Soul Winning and Evangelism) in Troy, Michigan. He plans to attend fall classes there to prepare himself to reach out to others and lead them to Jesus. With his successful background as an insurance sales manager, Michael wants to transfer principles of gaining decisions for sales to gaining decisions for Jesus Christ. His lifelong desire to serve God by ministering to others will finally be fulfilled in the years ahead.

Lee Grady, pastor, with Bruce Babienco, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

Hope for Haiti

ANDREWS STUDENTS FORM MINISTRY FOR ORPHANS

BY DIANE THURBER

A 2003 mission trip changed the lives of Brian Ladiny and Jean Florvilus forever. Visiting Haiti, they “could not believe the desolation of human life.” Children are perishing in a country that Jean says has been consumed with the influences of evil practices and superstitions for many years.

In Haiti, children who are unable to find someone to help them live a miserable existence. “Five- or six-year-old children walk down the street holding a plate and begging for food just to survive,” Jean said. There is no one to care for them. One in four children die before age five because food is scarce and diseases run rampant among children.

Returning to the States after the mission trip, Brian and Jean fasted and prayed for an answer to the plight of the Haitian children they had encountered. Jean says a few months later God sent some wonderful people who shared their burden for orphans and destitute children worldwide. Soon, their ministry, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, was formed with a seven-member board of directors.

Enrolled in Andrews University, Brian and Jean have very large education expenses; however, at the end of each semester they scraped together what little money they had left and sent it to Haiti for a small feeding program. They started with five children in Bombardopolis, which Jean says is “the most desolate part of Haiti.” Brian and Jean shared their vision with friends and classmates, and soon they also contributed to the feeding program. Professors also joined in. By the end of 2004, their program had increased to feed 213 once daily.

In 2005, the ministry was officially named “Orphans International Helpline.” Currently, the ministry is the sole



Three children wait for food in a poverty-stricken area of northwest Haiti where there isn't any hope.



A recent trip to Haiti inspired Brian Ladiny (left) and Jean Florvilus (right) to form Orphans International Helpline.

support for 60 Haitian children in an orphanage. They are fed three meals daily. In addition, 275 community children are fed one meal daily and are offered free education and other services.

How do Brian and Jean operate their ministry while full-time students and student workers on campus? It is a challenge to manage all their responsibilities, but involvement with the ministry makes their religious education at Andrews more practical. Jean said, “Everything we learned from our classes we put in practice, and we never fail any class.” Brian says, “We believe that it is a perfect time to do such ministry while in school.”

Orphans International Helpline hopes to become a member of Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries; however, they seek a sponsor to partner with them, since the little they have is sent to Haiti for the ongoing feeding

and education program.

Brian and Jean want to “plant a seed of hope in the hearts of each child around the world so [they] can pass it on to the next generation.” It is also their desire to reach orphans for Jesus Christ. They invite you to help provide hope for Haiti. Their vision is broad and the ministry's needs are abundant. Visit www.oionline.org, e-mail info@oionline.org, or call 1-800-704-7611 to learn more.

Diane Thurber is the *Lake Union Herald* managing editor.





God's Unfolding Miracles in Brazil

BY FERNANDO ORTIZ

Delays, re-routing, and sickness challenged the participants of the Brazil mission trip, sponsored by the Bloomington and Bedford (Indiana) Adventist churches, in July. Through the challenges, these short-term missionaries experienced blessings and unexpected miracles.

The saga started as our group's plane approached a landing strip in Brazil. A serious accident on the runway forced a detour to a small city in the middle of the Amazon. After a long wait in "Lost Town," our group traveled to Fortaleza (which means "strength") where the passengers finally found connecting flights.

Despite delays and difficulties at the airports, the group praised, laughed, sang, and prayed. The reason? We held a mission in our hearts. Actually, there were three mission groups on our flight. Although we represented different denominations, we all had the goal to serve and preach the gospel in a country that desperately needs Jesus. The participants believed our difficulties were due to the fact that the enemy of God was attempting to prevent the groups from reaching their destination.

Our mission: to build a 400-seat church in an extremely poor community in Brasilia, the capital, while lodging in the homes of the local people. In the evening, two members of our team (a church elder and a 20-year-old) preached the irresistible gospel to as many people as possible.

God's miracles started to unfold on opening night; the building filled with nearly 400 persons. This number grew to 500 in attendance, forcing local leaders to rent chairs and squeeze people into the already packed building. Even so, at least another 100 persons stood. The Vacation Bible



Short-term missionaries gathered for a picture while traveling by boat on the Amazon River.



These are some of the 63 precious individuals who gave their lives to the Lord while the mission team was in Brazil, including two of the team's young people.

School also grew in attendance from 50 to 100 enthusiastic children.

At the construction site, our group laid 12,000 bricks to finish the modest church. By the end of the week, 63 precious souls gave their lives to the Lord through baptism, including two of our own youth.

The Lord continued unfolding His miracles as we moved our "tent" to the Amazon River. Our medical team was able to provide medical and dental attention to more than 500 people. The trip participants divided into groups that took blood pressure readings, assisted the doctors, and distributed literature, clothes, and toys. We also held a Vacation Bible School at the four communities visited.

We wondered, *Is this all possible due to our rough start?*

Our 33 missionaries prevailed in prayer and accomplished our mission as we claimed the words of 1 John 5:14-15: "This is the confidence that we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of Him."

Yes, indeed, God is working in Brazil. We were there; we saw it; we lived it.

Fernando Ortiz is pastor of the Bedford and Bloomington churches in Indiana.





The Anatomy of an Apology

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

An apology is often the beginning of a process toward healing and forgiveness. It is not always a long process, since the situation may be remedied by the apology.

While our homes should be homes of peace and healing, and we desire to live by biblical principles, it is sometimes all too easy to let our selfishness, upbringing, gender differences, personal choices, and lack of knowing how to handle conflict well stand in our way.

Some believe Christian couples and families should never have trouble getting along. But, even with the best of intentions, our humanness gets in the way.

“Part of reaching Christian maturity is accepting the reality of our imperfection while striving to become holy. Truth is, we will never perfectly understand another person this side of heaven, even when we are doing all the right things. The important thing is to take responsibility for your own behavior, even when your partner [or family member] doesn’t seem to want to get along.”¹

Ephesians 4:29 reads, “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

The truth is, in all intimate relationships there is some conflict. When there is conflict, we often shy away from it or try to solve the problem immediately, often deciding our way is best.

Two concepts seem central: “Seek first to understand and then to be understood” and “Begin with the end in mind.” Beginning with the end in mind gives extraordinary opportunities to make meaningful apologies.

A dictionary definition of the word apology is “An expression of regret offered for some fault, failure, insult, or injury.” An apology is *not* saying “I’m sorry.” An apology is when we assume responsibility for our actions, our own behavior. It is based on truth, not lies. We

state our own intention or motives (our dark side) and also an intention to repair. An apology is not for score-keeping in a relationship.

Consider these five steps in making a meaningful apology:

1. We acknowledge specifically what happened. This takes the burden of fear from the other. It is a gift of generosity.
2. We acknowledge that we owe the other person an explanation. We may say, “This isn’t the person I want to be,” or “This is not how I want to behave.”
3. We express genuine remorse. This involves exposing our motives; it is not to make an excuse.
4. We state intention to repair. We may say, “I want to be in relationship with you. Will you accept my apology?” This sometimes involves dialogue.
5. We accept the other person’s acceptance of our apology. And we choose to let go.

I believe that when we don’t heal hurts of the past, we just bleed into the future. God desires us to live lives of joy and continued growth. R.T. Kendall shares, “Relinquishing bitterness is an open invitation for the Holy Spirit to give you His peace, His joy, and the knowledge of His will.”²

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

1. Stanley, S., et al. (1998). *A Lasting Promise: a Christian Guide to Fighting for Your Marriage*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

2. Kendall, R.T. (2002). *Total Forgiveness*. Lake Mary, Florida: Charisma House.



HEALTHY CHOICES

Whole grains protect us against cancer, heart disease, and diabetes.

Kasha, Quinoa, and King Oatmeal

TO ENERGIZE YOUR LIFE

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Eighty percent of Americans eat whole grain products less than once a day.

Whole grains are on a roll. Many food products now boast about their “whole grain goodness.” Whole grain muffins, breads, and cereals are commonplace. The new dietary guideline admonishes us to “make half your grains whole.” We are told to select whole grain products at least three times a day. Why the big push for whole grains?

Whole grains can lower your risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes, obesity, and bowel problems. In the Nurses’ Health Study of 75,000 women, those who ate three servings of whole grains a day had a 25 percent lower risk of heart disease and a 36 percent lower risk of stroke compared to those who ate no whole grains. In a similar study of male health professionals, those who ate 1.5 ounces of whole grains every day experienced an 18 percent lower risk of heart attack compared to those eating no whole grains.

In three large population studies, people who consumed at least three servings of whole grains per day had a 20 to 30 percent lower risk of diabetes than those who ate only one serving of whole grains a week. Compared with those consuming few whole grains, those with a high consumption of whole grains had 30 percent less cancer and lower overall mortality.

Whole grains, which are rich in dietary fiber, cause an increase in stool weight, improve bowel function, and may reduce constipation. The fiber-rich whole

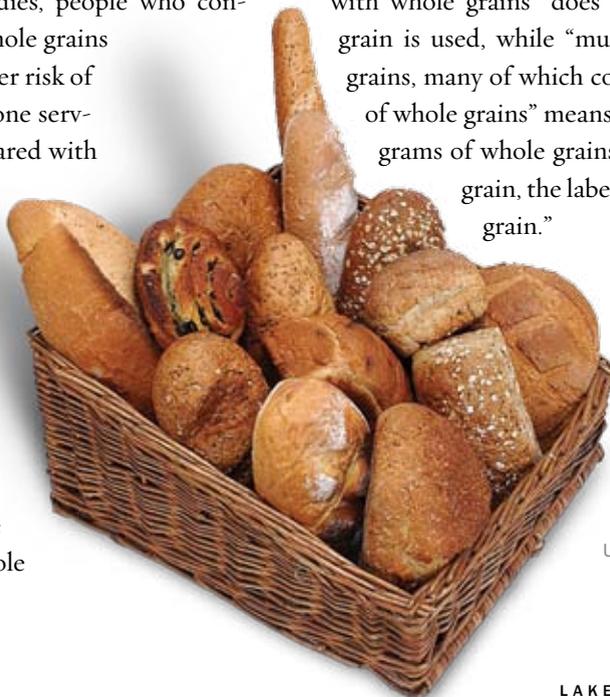
grains help provide a feeling of fullness with fewer calories. Eating whole grains may therefore help with weight management.

Grains are low in sodium and fat, high in fiber, contain no cholesterol, and provide a number of important vitamins and minerals. Whole grains are more nutritious than refined grains because about 75 percent of the B vitamins, minerals (such as iron and magnesium), and phytochemicals (such as ferulic acid) are lost when the nutrient-rich bran and the germ are removed during the refining process. Only four B vitamins and iron are added back to refined grains, while none of the trace minerals, fiber, or health-promoting phytochemicals are returned.

What companies list on the package or wrapper could be misleading. For example, “whole grain” simply means that at least 51 percent of the flour is whole grain. “Made with whole grains” does not reveal how much whole grain is used, while “multigrain” means a mixture of grains, many of which could be refined. “Good source of whole grains” means there may be as little as eight grams of whole grains per serving. For truly whole grain, the label must say “100 percent whole grain.”

Tired of rice and pasta? Try cooking some quinoa, millet, couscous, buckwheat, or bulgur. For those with wheat allergies, spelt is normally well tolerated.

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



It's All About the Heart

BY DICK DUERKSEN

Paquito Vazquez was 35 when the American doctors came. A leading businessman in his mountain village, he hosted the missionary team and guided many patients their way. He was proud of his village, proud of their small clinic, and pleased to help neighbors receive personalized medical care. The visit was going to be a great success, and Paquito was a very happy man!

Then his stomach began hurting, ruining everything. At least he thought it was his stomach, so he drank the liquid Mama always prescribed for “dolor del estómago,” and tried to get some rest. Nothing helped.

Two days later one of the visiting doctors saw him wince as he stood up from the dinner table.

“You okay?” the doctor asked.

“No,” Paquito answered honestly, and then immediately added a string of words about how “I sometimes hurt just here above my belt, but it will be okay soon.”

After some questioning and probing, the doctor took Paquito to the clinic for an emergency appendectomy. It was “just in time, un milagro de Dios,” Paquito said.

The next morning three very serious American doctors joined Paquito’s wife at his bedside. “We discovered something very dangerous with your heart last night,” the surgeon began.

The next hours were filled with diagrams and discussions about “what is, and what might be...”

“They said that maybe I might live three to five years without surgery,” Paquito remembers, “but that if they cut open my chest and do the necessary heart repairs I would probably be able to play with my great-grandchildren.”

That week, twenty years ago, Paquito Vasquez agreed to the doctors’ offer and received a whole new lease on life.

“It was all gratis!” his sister Cecilia cheers. “My brother would have died if the mission doctors hadn’t come to our mountain town. And now, he’s 55 and has grandchildren bouncing around the house. Even better, Paquito went back to school and has become the doctor for our town clinic!”

Yesterday, while waiting in the Denver airport, I realized my shoes had more mountain mud than polish. Deciding that they could use a little TLC, I took my place in the shoeshine line and waited for one of the workers. A shoeshine woman looked up and said, “Next?” I’ve never had a woman shine my shoes, and it felt a bit odd to have Cecilia transform scuff marks into shining brown.

After a moment, she asked what kind of work I do. I mumbled something about working at a hospital that does medical mission trips around the world. That’s when I learned about her brother Paquito.

“Keep going on those trips,” she said with a last flourish of the buffing cloth. “There are many more Paquitos who need you.”

It was the best shoeshine I’ve ever had.

Dick Duerksen is the “storyteller” for Maranatha Volunteers International.



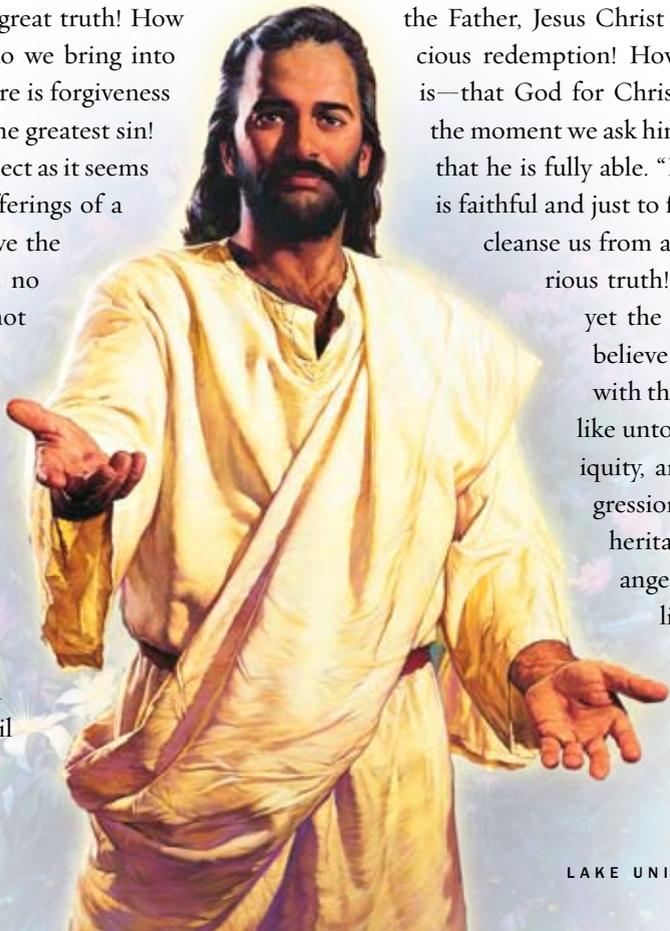
Forgiveness Through Christ

BY ELLEN WHITE

God has wonderfully led us. There have been sins among us as among ancient Israel; but, thank God! Christ has been to us an open door which no man could shut. Men may freely extend to us forgiveness for all injuries done them; but that will not blot out one sin from the great record book. There is but one channel of forgiveness, and that is ever open; and through it comes pouring a rich flood of divine mercy and forgiveness.

Many have expressed wonder that God demanded so many slain victims in the sacrificial offerings of the Jewish people; but it was to rivet in their minds the great truth that without shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. A lesson was embodied in every sacrifice, impressed in every ceremony, solemnly preached by the priest in his holy office, and inculcated by God himself—that through the blood of Christ alone is there forgiveness of sins. How little we as a people feel the force of this great truth! How seldom, by living, acting faith, do we bring into our lives this great truth, that there is forgiveness for the least sin, forgiveness for the greatest sin!

I wish I could present the subject as it seems to me. Justice demanded the sufferings of a man. Christ, equal with God, gave the sufferings of a God. He needed no atonement. His suffering was not for any sin he had committed; it was for man—all for man; and his free pardon is accessible to all. The suffering of Christ was in correspondence with his spotless purity; his depth of agony, proportionate to the dignity and grandeur of his character. Never can we comprehend the intense anguish of the spotless Lamb of God, until



we realize how deep is the pit from which we have been rescued, how grievous is the sin of which mankind is guilty, and by faith grasp the full and entire pardon. Here is where thousands are failing. They do not really believe that Jesus pardons them personally, individually. They fail to take God at his word.

I would I might sound the glad note to earth's remotest bounds. "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." Oh, precious redemption! How broad this great truth is—that God for Christ's dear sake, forgives us the moment we ask him in living faith, believing that he is fully able. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Glorious truth! Just to his own law, and yet the justifier of all them that believe! Well may we exclaim with the prophet, "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth in mercy."

Portions from "Christ Our Sacrifice," *Review and Herald*, Sept. 21, 1886.



SHARING *our* HOPE

FREEDOM on PARADE

THOUSANDS LEARN ABOUT TRUE FREEDOM

BY JOY HYDE

Have you ever wondered how to hold 80,000 people's attention while informing them of the activities, resources, outreach, and locations of your church and school all on one sunny, summer morning? That is exactly what happened when Metropolitan (Metro) Seventh-day Adventist Church members marched in the Northville, Michigan, Fourth of July parade.

Bruce Higgins, a Metro member, suggested the idea to the church board as a way to announce to Northville area residents the existence of the Metro Church and its junior academy. He also shared his idea with Robert Black, who became quite excited about the idea as he saw Bruce's passion for getting involved. Robert and Bruce spearheaded socials where members designed and built floats, crafted banners, decorated cars, wheelchairs, electric scooters, and red wagons with whatever they felt passionate about relating to the church or the school. All these carried the overall theme of true freedom more than just the freedom our country offers.

The morning of the Fourth was bright and glorious. Parade viewers showed up by the thousands. Metro members readied to march down the parade route. Ninety-five-year-old Leota Botimer and eighty-eight-year-old Mary Christner merrily waved from festively decorated wheel chairs, promoting the longevity of so many Adventists as the result of our health message.

Arthur Weaver, a physician, and his wife Natalie, Plymouth Church members, waved from an antique convertible decorated with information about their Better Living Seminars. People helped by their seminars marched alongside the car. They wore T-shirts emblazoned with "Freedom from Smoking," "Freedom to Eat Well," "Freedom to Exercise," "Freedom from Stress," and "Freedom from Obesity." Though these individuals are not yet Adventist church members,



Metro members enthusiastically shared the freedom given through Jesus Christ.

they felt privileged to participate.

The Metro Rangers Pathfinder Club members carried the Pathfinder banner and flags, promoting freedom to serve and participate in fun social activities. Other members and school students distributed water bottles from a float that displayed the phone numbers and websites of the junior academy and church. Promoted

here was the freedom to learn in a religious setting. The water bottles had a church business card attached with pertinent addresses, websites, and phone numbers, and dates for the upcoming evangelistic series and Tasting Extravaganza.

Handsomely decorated red wagons displayed the church name and Bible texts like John 8:32, "The truth will set you free." Leading the Adventist entourage was an Adventist Health Services van, exhibiting the freedom to reach out to help others.

The local newspaper promoted the Metro church when it carried a story about the parade. A picture of Leota was included with a caption stating her age and church affiliation. Metro members put the church and school on the Northville map during the parade. The members passionately demonstrated a fun-filled, happy, and delightful face of the Adventist church and its well-established educational system, with its beautiful and happy youth, a life-saving health message, and the freedom given to us through Jesus Christ: "If the son sets you free, you will be free indeed." All this was displayed for thousands to see on a lovely summer morning.

Joy Hyde is the Metropolitan Church correspondent.





CENTROS DE INFLUENCIA

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“E l Señor insta a los que ocupan posiciones de responsabilidad, a quienes ha confiado sus preciosos dones, a que utilicen sus talentos intelectuales y sus medios en su servicio. Nuestros obreros deberían presentar delante de estos hombres una explicación clara de nuestro plan de trabajo, mostrándoles lo que necesitamos con el fin de ayudar a los pobres y menesterosos, y para establecer esta obra sobre una base firme. El Espíritu Santo impresionará a algunos de ellos para que inviertan los medios del Señor de tal modo que su causa prospere. Cumplirán su propósito mediante la creación de centros de influencia en las grandes ciudades” (*Consejos sobre la salud*, p. 552).

Jacinto Flores, pastor de tres iglesias en Chicago, estaba deseoso de abrir un centro comunitario para hispanos. Al ver los grandes desafíos que existían en la comunidad se convenció que un centro que pudiera suplir las necesidades tanto físicas como espirituales de las personas sería una gran bendición. Un día leyó una cita de Elena de White en la cual ella recomienda buscar la ayuda de personas de recursos para poder abrir



De izquierda a derecha, José Cortés, Sayda Johnson y Jacinto Flores en el nuevo centro comunitario en Chicago.

“centros de influencia en las grandes ciudades”. Al leer esto el pastor Flores decidió pedirle un local a José Cortés, quien es dueño de varias propiedades en la ciudad de Chicago. Al oír la petición el señor Cortés le mostró un local que estaba desocupado y se lo ofreció sin costo de renta para uso de la comunidad. Aún más, ofreció pagar los gastos de agua, electricidad y luz y hacer conocer el centro en la comunidad por medio de anuncios en el periódico y la impresión de volantes para ser distribuidos. El pastor Flores se encontró luego con Sayda Johnson, una MÉDICA/MÉDICO adventista proveniente de la República Dominicana quien se ofreció para dar consejos prácticos de salud en dicho centro. El centro se abrió en abril de este año y desde entonces se han ofrecido clases de cocina, consultas de

salud y se ha invitado a la comunidad a que asista a algunas actividades sociales que se han realizado en ese local. Lo que impresiona de todo esto es que el pastor Flores y los hermanos en sus iglesias tenían el deseo de alcanzar a las personas de la comunidad, y al seguir el consejo de Elena de White tuvieron buenos resultados.

Lo que me anima también es que los miembros de estas iglesias continúan haciendo planes y que desean, además,

ampliar los servicios del centro, programar actividades como ferias de salud y ofrecer servicios para familias hispanas de la comunidad.

Mi pregunta es ésta: ¿no será posible que Dios haya abierto este centro para que nosotros pudiéramos ver la posibilidad de abrir más centros de influencia en nuestras comunidades? Otra cita de Elena de White nos afirma que para Dios nada es imposible:

“No tiene límite la utilidad de aquel que, poniendo el yo a un lado, deja obrar el Espíritu Santo en su corazón, y vive una vida completamente consagrada a Dios” (*Deseado de todas las gentes*, p. 216).

Carmelo es el vicepresidente general de la Unión del Lago.

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Forgiveness in the Family

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT

My dad had two sisters, Iona and Rowena Wright. Both sisters were deceased before I was born, so I never knew them. I did, however, hear enough to know that theirs was a very dysfunctional family. I'm told that at my grandfather's funeral these three siblings were not speaking to each other. They sat on the front row of the funeral chapel in stony silence, never casting a glance at each other.

Iona never married and died childless. Rowena married and gave birth to one daughter, my cousin, Mildred. In my early years, I can remember Mildred visiting our family, and it was always a bit strained. She was a beautiful woman, and the family resemblance between her and my dad was easy to see. She always seemed a little loud and rough, which also resembled my dad.

As years went by, we grew further apart. Mildred stopped visiting. When seen in public, she would turn away to avoid speaking to us. Once, my brother called out to her, "Hi, Cousin!" She responded, "I don't have any cousins or family!" We discussed it in our family, and no one seemed to know why this dysfunction had transferred to our generation.

One evening I visited a tent meeting being conducted by a close friend in Dayton, Ohio. When the choir stood to sing, there to my surprise was my cousin, Mildred! She was a baptized Seventh-day Adventist, and our family wasn't even aware of her conversion! I knew that something must be done.

I sat down to write to her, and asked God for the words to reach my precious relative. I explained to her that none of us, including her, knew what the old family feud was about. It seemed to me that there was no earthly reason for



us to be at odds. I pleaded that we are so close to the end of time that we should allow nothing to divide us and prevent our entering the Kingdom of Heaven as a united family. I closed my letter with an invitation to her to attend the upcoming

Wright family reunion.

Well, prayer truly changes things. Not only did Mildred attend, but she brought along a huge roasting pan of delicious spaghetti that she had prepared for her newly reconciled cousins. I don't eat spaghetti, but I ate lots of it that day.

Words of love and affirmation spilled from all our lips toward each other. We sang together, we prayed together, and we shared pictures of deceased relatives. It was a wonderful healing time. I know for sure that the Spirit inspired me to write that letter. I knew there was a good chance that I would be rebuffed, but how could I not take the opportunity to reach my own flesh and blood?

There was forgiveness all around, and it didn't seem important that none of us were sure what we were forgiving. The only thing that mattered was that we had been made whole by the love of God.

Do you need to do this, my friend? If so, don't put it off another minute.

Walter L. Wright is the Lake Union Conference president.

Trusting God to Forgive

LESSONS FROM A 1938 FORD

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT



The year was 1952, and I was a junior in high school. One of Daddy's very rich employers had given him a 1938 Ford two-door sedan. It was that anonymous gray color so common in the 1930s. The little car was immaculate, without spot or wrinkle.

The radio, with its tiny dial and speaker, was a joy. The squeaky little horn made you think of Henry Ford every time you heard it. This was a classic car—a real treasure! The most shocking part of all was that Daddy gave it to me!

There were not many rules. Curfew of 11:00 p.m. did not change just because I was now the proud owner of an antique car. I had to purchase my own gasoline. I must always let either Momma or Daddy know where I was going to be. And finally, "Don't let anybody drive your car."

Well, that last directive was totally unnecessary. I wasn't about to let anyone drive my car. My close friends either couldn't drive, or they didn't have a driver's license. No, I wasn't about to let anybody drive my car. No siree, Bob!

I was driving home one afternoon with a girlfriend. It was a beautiful Sabbath afternoon. She said, "Please let me drive!"

I broke out into a cold sweat. "Do you know how to drive?" I asked.

"No, but I want you to teach me," she replied.

I would like to say that I'm not sure how it happened. In this day and time no one seems to take responsibility for their own actions. We always look for another person to blame, but I know exactly how this happened. I was too weak to say no to a young lady who I was still in the process of trying to impress. She was a lovely person—not at all evil—and there is really nothing wrong with a guy teach-

ing his girlfriend to drive his car, unless he has made a promise to his father as a condition of ownership.

We were less than a mile from my home. Daddy was likely to see her driving my car in direct disobedience to his instructions. I was willing to incur the wrath and displeasure of my Daddy, the giver of this wonderful gift, just so I could please my girlfriend. It is amazing how bold and brash we can be in disobedience.

I parked the car on the side of the road and exchanged seats. It was a special joy to put one arm around her as I gently gave instructions on the clutch, the brake, the gearshift knob, and the accelerator, but I'm sure it didn't do much for her efficiency or focus in learning to drive.

She pressed the clutch, eased the shift into first gear, raced the engine a little more than was necessary or safe, quickly released the clutch, and we lurched off down the road. She really did pretty well until we rounded the bend near my house.

She made the bend, but on the wrong side of the road! By the time I grabbed the steering wheel to right us, we were off the left side of the road and into the ever-waiting tree. Crunch!

I banged my head on the rear-view mirror, drawing blood. If I had not been sitting so close to the driver, I probably would have escaped injury, as she did.

My head was bleeding, my heart was pounding, the left front fender of my pride and joy was horribly crumpled, and I had to walk the rest of the way home to get Daddy to come and pull me out of the ditch.

I told Daddy I had run off the road. He allowed how I had been driving since I was 15, had driven trips of hundreds of miles taking him and Momma to camp meeting, and that it was very unlike me to have such a silly mishap. It was a long time before I told Daddy the truth about what really happened that day. Of course, he already knew and was just waiting for me to confess so he could tell me he had for-

I thought I
had lied to Daddy
to keep from
hurting and
disappointing him.
I had only
compounded
his hurt and
disappointment.

given me. He went on to explain that his disappointment included not only my disobedience but also my lie, which indicated I did not trust him enough to tell him the truth.

Do you see how illogical sin is? I thought I had lied to Daddy to keep from hurting and disappointing him. I had only compounded his hurt and disappointment. Satan is tricky. He makes a perfectly illogical thing seem absolutely plausible if we listen to him. My girlfriend had done nothing wrong. She had made no promise to her father about the car. She had made a reasonable request, and I had given a totally unreasonable and irresponsible reply.

Isn't it astounding that once you start lying, you must continue to cover the previous lie? Jesus said, "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in

him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

Here is one instance when we can choose our father. When we confess our sins, we choose God as our father. We reject the devil and all his sleights of hand. And when we confess, we discover God already knows our infractions and has just been waiting for us to come to Him so He can show us He has forgiven us. He is disappointed when we disobey Him, but He is hurt very deeply when we attempt to cover up rather than come to Him for the forgiveness, cleansing, and healing He longs to give.

When we refuse to come to Him, we are saying He can't be trusted to be just and fair and kind and good to us. Satan will repeat his oldest of lies to you: "God is unjust and a tyrant." We really know better, but it sounds so logical. Trust in God, follow Him, and obey the rules. There aren't many, and they are not grievous. And by the way, when He puts you in charge, don't let anybody else drive your car.

Walter L. Wright is the Lake Union Conference president. This story is an excerpt from his book, *My Daddy Told Me So*, to be released later this month.



Total Forgiveness

BY GARY THURBER

A few years ago I was honored to be asked to perform a wedding for a couple of young people whom I had much love and respect for. I gladly agreed to be part of their very special day and looked forward to it very much.

Soon the wedding day arrived, and I contemplated when I needed to leave my home to arrive an hour early at the wedding site. Thankfully, I remembered there was a time change between Indiana, where I live, and Michigan, where the wedding was to take place. Unfortunately, I somehow reversed in my mind which way the time changed and thought Michigan was an hour behind instead of an hour ahead. I realized my mistake when I was about an hour from the wedding chapel.

Picture this: the chapel was full of family and friends, the musicians were ready, the wedding party was in place, but the preacher was nowhere in sight. I can't express the feel-

ings of embarrassment and pain I felt the moment I realized what I had done. I knew I had let this couple down in a very profound way. Before I could even think of what to do next, my cell phone rang. All I could do was express my humble apology since I was still an hour away.

As it turned out, they were able to find someone else to step in for me at the wedding. I finally arrived just as the ceremony was finished. To face the bride and groom and their families was, without a doubt, one of the most humbling moments of my life.

Have you ever been going along and unexpectedly an experience is brought to mind that triggers a feeling of guilt or

embarrassment from something in your past? For me, even though everyone involved in the wedding was more than willing to forgive, I can't hear about a wedding, go through a time change, or see a member of the wedding party without those feelings rushing back.

Sometimes our remembrances are from honest mistakes, but sometimes they are from moments in our lives when our decisions truly let our friends or family, and certainly our Savior, down. And sometimes, even if those whom we have hurt or offended forgive us, we have a hard time forgiving ourselves.

Not long ago I visited a church where the pastor asked me to meet with a man who had asked for special prayer. As he shared his story, he revealed all the horrible things he had done in the past, including ways he had hurt his parents, his wife, and his children. Though he had asked for their forgiveness and received it, he could not forgive himself. For years, he had been on a self-destructive path of drugs and alcohol to try to take away the pain he felt from his past.

To really understand and experience forgiveness the way God wants you to, you must first experience God's forgiveness, be willing to forgive those who have wronged you, accept the forgiveness of others, and finally forgive yourself. By not forgiving yourself, you become vulnerable to the temptation of succumbing to self-punishment, which in no way can bring you peace. It can leave you in a state of uncertainty about your standing with God and how He relates to you. It can also lead to a sense of unworthiness, which can ultimately paralyze you in your Christian walk.

So how do you move forward when you find yourself struggling with self-forgiveness, when disappointment in yourself confuses your thinking about your self-worth?

When Israel crossed over into the Promised Land after wandering around the wilderness for 40 years, God instructed Joshua to build a monument to commemorate that moment. "So Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the sons of Israel, one man from each tribe; and Joshua said to them, 'Cross again to the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Israel. Let this be a sign among you, so that when your children ask later, saying, "What do these stones mean to you?" then you shall say to them, "Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off." So these

stones shall become a memorial to the sons of Israel forever'" (Joshua 4:4-7 NASB).

If ever there was a bad decision made, it was 40 years before when Israel turned its back on God's leading and, as a result, nearly a whole generation died in the wilderness. Why would God want to make a memorial out of that very painful experience? The truth is, the memorial was something that brought much hope, peace, and healing to the children of Israel. When the Lord cut "the waters of the Jordan," it was a miracle that demonstrated His continual love and care for the Israelites.

I can only imagine that when the memorial site was visited throughout the years, each one must have been reminded of the grace and forgiveness offered them by God. They must have been reminded that despite their disobedience, God never turned His back on them. They must have also been overwhelmed with the marvelous way God sustained and preserved them during this difficult time. And finally, despite their failures, they must have been amazed that God had a future planned for them, He had in no way given up on them, and He was still leading in their lives.

Are you struggling with self-forgiveness? Once you have done all you can to make things right with God and those whom you have hurt, I invite you to remember how the Lord took one of Israel's greatest failures and turned it into a memorial of His love for us. Whatever it is you might be struggling with, rather than make it an unbearable burden, turn it into a memorial of God's forgiveness, His grace, His sustaining power, and His hopes and dreams for your future. This memorial you build will help you understand for years to come the truth about God and how He relates to us.

Ellen White says this about forgiving yourself: "This feeling of guiltiness must be laid at the foot of the cross of Calvary. The sense of sinfulness has poisoned the springs of life and true happiness. Now Jesus says, 'Lay it all on Me; I will take your sin, I will give you peace. Destroy no longer your self-respect, for I have bought you with the price of My own blood. You are Mine, your weakened will I will strengthen; your remorse for sin, I will remove'" (*This Day with God*, p. 63).

Experiencing total forgiveness is what the Lord wants for each of us. This is no time for us to be paralyzed in our Christian walk. Soon and very soon there is going to be another wedding when Jesus comes to claim His bride. And trust me, you don't want to be late to that wedding!

Gary Thurber is the Indiana Conference president.



Forgive to Live

A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

BY DICK TIBBITS

“IF YOU DON’T DO SOMETHING RIGHT AWAY, YOU COULD DIE.”

Several hours after his unsettling doctor’s appointment, Lester still felt shaken by the ominous words that continued to ring in his ears: *You could die*. His thoughts raced back to his late father, who had died at age 47 from heart disease. And he grimly noted his own blood pressure, already measuring an alarming 154/102 and climbing. Would he follow in his dad’s footsteps to an early grave?

Lester’s stressful job—“rush, rush, rush,” as he summed it up—didn’t help matters. And he felt even more pressure when a recent promotion to supervisor caused many of his former friends to make nasty comments about him behind his back. The backstabbing also made Lester angry, although he never called it that. He didn’t see himself as angry, since he was not an explosive person and did not easily lose his temper. Even so, the test results his doctor had just gone over with Lester indicated that he harbored a high degree of resentment and inner bitterness. Apparently, rather than showing his true feelings, Lester had simply learned to stuff them. He’s not alone.

In a world riveted by conflict, everyone has a “grievance story”—we’ve all been hurt or rejected by someone who

mattered to us. From the legacy of 9/11 to the man or woman who broke your heart, to divorce, to random violence, to the boss that holds you back—we all have experienced pain in the past. Too often, that damage leads to negative emotions such as anger that linger for years because your grievance story gets refreshed over and over again in your mind. This rehashing of the grievance story results in many negative health consequences including: increased risk of disease, a lack of mental and emotional peace, feelings of loneliness, social isolation, and a shorter lifespan.

Unfortunately, while most of us have been told to forgive, we’ve never been told how or why to forgive.

ANGER KILLS

Today, it is a clinically proven fact that anger kills. Recently I conducted a study with Stanford University and Florida Hospital that demonstrated a link between practicing forgiveness and better health. The results of the study are published by Integrity Publishers and Florida Hospital in a new book entitled *Forgive to Live: How Forgiveness Can Save Your Life*.

When you refuse to forgive (or don't know the proper way to forgive), your grievance story produces a complex range of emotions consisting of resentment, bitterness, hatred, hostility, residual anger, and fear.

How widespread is the problem? There probably isn't a person in the country who hasn't tried to forgive at one time or another and failed. Most people have tried to forgive the offender and forget the pain—but it's still there. "Forgive to Live" isn't just a catchy title or memorable slogan; it describes an effective way to function in an unfair world that can give you peace and joy that so far may have eluded you.

For all of these reasons, Lester knew he was in trouble—but what could he do?

Fortunately, his physician had an idea. "Would you be open to taking part in a study that teaches participants who suffer from high blood pressure a new way of managing their disease?" he asked. Lester didn't see what he had to lose, so he joined an eight-week forgiveness training program.

Within two months, Lester's blood pressure dropped back to a normal reading, and his anger scores fell well within the normal range. He felt as though he had reclaimed his future. Forgiveness had literally saved his life!

While Lester's story may be more dramatic than most, it is just one of hundreds from ordinary men and women who have discovered the healing power of forgiveness.

WHAT FORGIVENESS IS NOT

"But I've tried forgiveness," you say, "and it didn't work for me." The problem may not be forgiveness itself, but your understanding of forgiveness. Forgiveness does not mean that you:

Forgive and forget—Forgiveness does not wipe out your memory, nor is it a delete key for reality. The test of genuine forgiveness is not whether you remember the event in question, but how you remember it.

Forgive to make the wrong right—Forgiveness never makes a wrong act right, nor does forgiveness condone or excuse the wrong act. Forgiveness defines who you are; it does not redefine the other's wrongful act as right.

Forgive and make up—Often forgiveness can lead to reconciliation, but not always. It takes two people to reconcile, but only one to forgive. You can forgive whether the other participates or not.

So if forgiveness is not pardoning, condoning, excusing, forgetting, or denying, then what is it? How can genuine forgiveness best be defined so that it can do its amazing work of healing in your life?

WHAT FORGIVENESS IS

Forgiveness is the process of reframing your anger and hurt from the past, with the goal of recovering your peace in the present and revitalizing your purpose and hopes for the future. Forgiveness has three distinct dimensions: Relational Forgiveness, Spiritual Forgiveness, and Personal Forgiveness.

Relational Forgiveness—Relational forgiveness focuses on what happens between two people when a conflict arises. For relational forgiveness to take place, one person has to ask for forgiveness and the other person has to grant it. In this way, the conflict gets resolved so the two can continue working and living together.

Spiritual Forgiveness—Researchers have found that the most frequent way the term "forgiveness" gets used is in asking God for forgiveness and for the strength to forgive others—and yet one does not need to be religious in order to see the value of forgiveness and to successfully put it into practice. The spiritual dimension of forgiveness deals with the broadest and biggest issues of life and can help you find personal meaning and purpose, regardless of where you may be on your spiritual journey.

Personal Forgiveness—At the personal level, forgiveness is for your own healing. You recognize your need to let go of resentment. You realize it is burning a hole in your soul and ruining your life. You come to understand there is no value in holding on to your grudge so, through forgiveness, you let it go. This aspect of forgiveness has the most therapeutic and healing value, for it can assist you in your journey from hurt to healing, from victim to victor, and from bitter to better.

The only effective response to the past is forgiveness, the only effective response to the present is love, and the only effective response to the future is hope. Begin your journey of forgiveness today. You can truly forgive to live.

Dick Tibbits, Ph.D., is a licensed mental health counselor, an ordained minister, and chief people officer at Florida Hospital.

See "Ten Principles of Forgiveness" online at www.lakeunionherald.org.



Adventist Midwest Health Announces New President/CEO

David L. Crane has been appointed the new president/CEO of Adventist Midwest Health.

Adventist Midwest Health is a member of Adventist Health System, the largest not-for-profit Protestant Christian health care system in the country.



David L. Crane

Adventist Midwest Health is comprised of Adventist Hinsdale Hospital in Hinsdale, Ill.; Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital in La Grange, Ill.; Adventist GlenOaks Hospital in Glendale Heights, Ill.; Adventist Bolingbrook Medical Center in Bolingbrook, Ill.; and Chippewa Valley Hospital in Durand, Wis. Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital is anticipated to open in 2007 as the first new hospital built in the state of Illinois in 25 years.

"I'm thrilled to be joining the team of caring and compassionate caregivers at Adventist Midwest Health," said Crane, "and I look forward to serving and being a part of the community."

Crane, who most recently served as president/CEO of Littleton Adventist Hospital in Littleton, Colo., has an extensive health care leadership background, much of which has been within the Adventist Health System. Other institutions for which Crane has served include St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center and Mercy Health Partners in Toledo, Ohio, and Centura Health in Denver, Colo.

"I am delighted that David has accepted our invitation to provide lead-

ership to Adventist Midwest Health," said Richard Reiner, president/CEO of Adventist Health System's Multi-state Division. "He brings a wealth of experience to the community and is committed to advancing the mission of Seventh-day Adventist health care in the region."

Crane is an alumnus of Union College, Lincoln, Neb., and holds a Masters in Business Administration degree from the Crummer Graduate School of Business at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla. Crane replaces Ernie W. Sadau who has accepted an executive position with CHRISTUS Health as senior vice president for Patient and Resident Care Operations. Crane assumed leadership of Adventist Midwest Health on Oct. 1.

Crister Delacruz, director of public relations for Adventist Midwest Health

Breast Cancer Survivor Is a Guide Through Troubled Waters

Just as we have the faith that Christ is with us through our joys as well as our trials, breast cancer patients at Adventist Midwest Health can have the reassurance that they are not alone. Rexine Hamill understands the needs and concerns of breast cancer patients—she's a breast cancer survivor herself.



Rexine Hamill

Today, Hamill helps other women through their journey following a diagnosis of breast cancer.

A maze of tests, appointments, and paperwork can be overwhelming, and the emotional shock requires an enormous amount of support, Hamill said. That's why DuPage Imaging Center, a part of Adventist Imaging Network, initiated the Patient Navigator program in January 2006. Hamill schedules follow-up appointments, biopsies, surgeries, and other procedures. She is a resource for questions, concerns, or worries about their test results. Most of all, she is a constant support for patients every step of the way.

"I enjoy reassuring patients and guiding them along the road to recovery and through the red tape of the medical system," she said. "When a patient hears 'biopsy,' most fear a diagnosis of breast cancer. I understand these feelings, and if the result is positive, patients will see me as a survivor and symbol of hope."

A former ultrasound technician, Hamill has worked for DuPage Imaging Center and Adventist Hinsdale Hospital for 18 years. Patients have thanked her for her compassion and sensitivity. Most say: "I felt you understood. You made a terrific difference."

"The response has been overwhelmingly positive," said Sandra Mueller, technical manager, DuPage Imaging Center. "Rexine provides a continuity of care, and we want all our patients to have this hand-holding experience. DuPage Imaging Center always took extra care of our patients, but the Patient Navigator provides a higher level of care and personal connection."

Julie Busch, public relations specialist for Adventist Midwest Health

National Science Foundation Awards Large Research Grant to Andrews University

On Sept. 15, the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a research grant totaling \$300,000 to Andrews University and Walla Walla College in College Place, Wash., in collaboration with the University of Arizona. The award funds a study involving the prediction of animal behavior, specifically that of Glaucous-winged Gulls, on Protection Island National Wildlife Refuge in Washington state. The project is led by two Andrews professors, James Hayward, professor of biology, and Shandelle Henson, professor of mathematics, along with Joe Galusha of Walla Walla College (also an Andrews alum, M.A., '72) and Jim Cushing from the University of Arizona.

The three-year grant is a renewal of one initially received from the NSF in 2003; however, this is a project that has been in process for more than sixteen years.

"Receiving this grant from the NSF is great for Andrews," Henson comments. "It enables us to buy computers and supplies for the research and to hire lots of students. The research experience for both undergraduates and master's students is wonderful. The grant also gives Andrews a chance to collaborate with other universities."

Each summer, the investigators spend ten to 12 weeks on the island, counting the birds and studying their behavior. They are joined by groups of both undergraduate and graduate students from Andrews and Walla Walla, who participate in the research for two-week stints. Undergraduates participating in the summer study receive the Research Experience for Undergraduates fellowship from NSF, as well as the chance to co-author papers that are published in peer-reviewed journals.



Michael G. Scott, a physics major, and Brianna Payne, a biology major, count gulls from a high vantage point on Protection Island, Wash.

The goal is to develop mathematical models that will enable the prediction of animal behavior in these habitats. An understanding of the group dynamics of animals can help prevent some of the conflicts that arise between animal movements and humans, such as collisions between birds and aircraft. It can also be useful in learning about the patterns of animals that may be carriers of diseases such as bird flu.

"In terms of the science itself, we're forging a new field—the mathematic theory of animal behavior," Henson states. "We're breaking new ground, and we're proud of that."

Beverly Stout, University Relations
media relations coordinator

Andrews Offers Preparing for College Seminars at Lake Union Academies

Each year the Student Financial Services and Enrollment Management departments at Andrews University collaborate to conduct two seminars regarding the financial aid and admissions processes for colleges. The November Preparing for College 101 (PFC 101) seminar covers the types of documents families need to gather to properly fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form, along with general information helpful to funding college costs.

The Preparing for College 202 (PFC 202) seminars cover spe-

cific financial aid questions as well as Andrews University scholarship and application information. Both seminars are particularly helpful to senior high school students and their parents. Younger students, as well as students from any secondary school and their parents, are equally welcome to attend. These seminars will contain useful information applicable to any institution of higher learning.

Lake Union Academies Seminar Schedule for PFC 101 and PFC 202

Andrews Academy

Nov. 8, 2006 (7:30 p.m.)

Jan. 31, 2007 (7:30 p.m.)

269-471-3138

Battle Creek Academy

Nov. 7, 2006 (7:00 p.m.)

Feb. 6, 2007 (7:00 p.m.)

269-965-1278

Broadview Academy

Nov. 11, 2006 (after sundown)

Jan. 14, 2007 (TBA)

630-232-7441

Grand Rapids Adventist Academy

Nov. 9, 2006 (7:00 p.m.)

Feb. 7, 2007 (7:00 p.m.)

616-791-9797

Great Lakes Adventist Academy

Nov. 18, 2006 (6:00 p.m.)

Jan. 14, 2007 (1:00 p.m.)

989-427-5181

Hinsdale Academy

Nov. 13, 2006 (5:30 p.m.)

Feb. 24, 2007 (6:30 p.m.)

630-323-9211

Indiana Academy

Nov. 19, 2006 (1:00 p.m.)

Feb. 18, 2007 (11:00 a.m.)

317-984-3575

Peterson-Warren Academy

Nov. 14, 2006 (6:00 p.m.)

Feb. 13, 2007 (6:00 p.m.)

313-565-5808

Wisconsin Academy

Nov. 18, 2006 (6:30 p.m.)

Second date TBA

920-623-3300

To verify dates, times, and the location of the seminar you may call the respective academies.

Enrollment Management News Release

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Lafayette School Receives Grant

Indiana—On a summer evening in late June, the Lafayette Seventh-day Adventist Church family celebrated the dedication of new playground equipment for the daycare center and Pleasantview Christian Elementary School. Throstur Thordarson, former pastor of the Lafayette Church, gave a presentation and shared some of the history and stated how much the church and school appreciated the McAllister Foundation grant to help continue the school's goal of excellence. With this grant, Pleasantview School was able to obtain enough playground equipment to increase the the playground's capacity to accommodate 60 children.

With grateful hearts, Michele McCaw, school principal, and Ginny Harmon, daycare director, cut the ribbon to complete the dedication of the playground equipment.

McCaw works tirelessly each day as principal to improve the school and provide quality education for its students. She also tries to make school

fun for the children. Two years ago the school and PreK had a total of 17 enrolled. This year there are 26. Each year the number grows.

The daycare center was started as a part of a community outreach program. It also provides potential students for the PreK program. Through Harmon's efforts as director, the daycare is now one of the top daycare programs in Indiana and provides an excellent preschool program.

Because these two educators wanted to provide a first class facility for their students and children at the church also, they looked for ways to raise funds for a quality playground. They both submitted a grant request to McAllister Foundation, and the grant was approved. The combination of available funds and church members' help has resulted in a quality playground.

The Nas-Trike Raceway is part of the daycare playground area. The current trend is to make a concrete tri-cycle riding area where 20 laps makes a mile. This enables the youngest daycare children to form healthy exercise habits early in life.

Rebecca Pfeifle, Lafayette Church communication secretary

Students' Poems and Essay Selected for Publication

Indiana—Terre Haute Adventist School students and teachers were thrilled to learn that not only were some students selected to be published, but also two students placed in the top ten in Creative Communication contests for young poets and writers.

This past school year, 12 students in grades 1–10 submitted poetry or essays. Ten students were honored to have their poem or essay selected to be published in *A Celebration of Young Poets* or *Celebrating What Is Important to Me*.



From left: Camille Morrow and Keiko Ito placed in the top ten in their grade division in nationwide contests.

Camille Morrow's poem, "Our U.S. Flag," was selected from thousands of entries as one of the top ten in her grade division. Keiko Ito's poem, "Forgotten Treasures," and essay, "The Power of Music," were selected from thousands of entries as one of the top ten in each category in her grade division. These top ten students receive the honor of their poem or essay printed at the beginning of the anthology, and only one poem is printed on each page.

Morrow was in fourth grade and Ito was in sixth grade. Morrow received a \$50 savings bond for her poem, and Ito received two \$50 savings bonds for her poem and essay. Poems were selected for their literary merit, creativity, and social significance. To view Morrow's poem or Ito's poem and essay, go to the November *Lake Union Herald* issue online at www.lakeunionherald.org.



The new playground equipment was only one of the initiatives for quality education envisioned by the school's principal and daycare director.

As teachers we realize all the extra effort to think and rethink, write and rewrite, edit and re-edit, was worthwhile when you see the students' faces as they peer at the published poem or essay in the books. We thank God for our students at Terre Haute.

Bev Amlaner, Terre Haute Adventist School principal

[MEN'S NEWS]

Male Involvement Day Serves Community

Lake Region— On Sunday, Aug. 27, the Robbins (Ill.) Seventh-day Adventist Church held its first annual Male Involvement Day. The Youth department, the Men of Robbins Church group, and other male volunteers spon-



Stan Culp (foreground) supervised basketball games.

sored the day. Male Involvement Day was a free community event centered around a back-to-school theme.

Upon arrival, every child received an opportunity to enter a drawing for



Male Involvement Day staff included (from left) Zakia Reese, Phillip Echols, Angela Hikes, Stan Culp, Valerie Bradley, and Jonella Echols.



Robbins Church members and volunteers hosted the church's first annual Male Involvement Day for their community's men and boys. The free event was centered around a back-to-school theme and helped build bridges with families in their community.

a free book bag. From there, they could visit activity stands or a concession stand where hot dogs, chips, and cold drinks were served. Activity stands included the prize stand (for our game



Tito Tucker (far left) supervised the bean bag toss game, during Male Involvement Day.

winners), face painting, Bozo buckets, egg toss, basketball, tug of war, the bean bag toss, horse shoes, the Dyno jump, Twister, and martial arts instruc-

tion. Additionally, inside the church there was an area where three experienced barbers gave back-to-school haircuts. Many of the fathers who brought their sons received haircuts as well. All in all, about 35 men and young men received haircuts.

Gregory Wright, superintendent of the Posen-Robbins School District, District 143, also attended our event. Wright made sure

our Male Involvement Day flier was distributed to the school children during their first week of classes. Several weeks before, church members also distributed fliers during our Vacation Bible School parade, and we publicized our event through the Robbins Cable Channel.

Positive male role models supervised most activities.

However, this was definitely a team effort since our ladies and young adults helped out as well. Our pastor said, "This shows you what a small church can accomplish when everyone works together." Robbins



The Twister game brought a lot of laughs.

Church may not be great in numbers, but our common goal that day was to serve our church community. As a result, 60 or so community children participated, as did several families.

Upon their departure, each child received a packet of school supplies, furnished by our Children's Ministry department, and a note thanking them for coming.

This event allowed us to just hang out and have good, old-fashioned fun with the kids, as well as converse with the parents. We plan to do Male Involvement Day bigger and better with each coming year!

Zakia Bradley, Male Involvement Day coordinator

[YOUTH NEWS]

Thousands of Pathfinders Convene for Union Camporee

Michigan— Cars, vans, and buses loaded with Pathfinders and camping gear converged at the Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds for the Lake Union Pathfinder Camporee, Sept. 14–17. Eager faces from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ohio scanned the campground as the vehicles stopped at



Terry Dodge (center), Michigan Conference Pathfinder director, was honored for coordinating the past four LUC camporees. The baton was passed to Jeff Deming (left), Illinois Conference youth director, who will coordinate the 2011 camporee. Also pictured: Ron Whitehead (right), LUC youth ministries coordinator

the first checkpoint. A total of 2,005 registered, representing 115 Pathfinder clubs.

“The Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds is the most convenient place in the world to have a Union camporee,” said Ron Whitehead, Lake Union Conference (LUC) youth ministries coordinator. “There is easy access to water, electricity, restrooms, showers, parking, food, ice, shopping, and medical support. The buildings offer excellent all-weather programming options. We are very blessed,” he continued.

Held every five years since 1996 (every four years before that year) for LUC Pathfinder clubs, the camporee is appreciated and enjoyed by many. Terry Dodge, 2006 LUC Camporee director, said, “The Lake Union Camporee gives local clubs an opportunity to get together on a smaller scale



A total of 2,005 Pathfinders registered for the camporee, representing 115 Pathfinder clubs.

when they may not be able to attend a division-wide camporee like the ones at Oshkosh, Wis. It also provides a good opportunity for conference leadership to work together as a team while club leadership and Pathfinders witness this teamwork.”

The Pathfinders participated in field events and drill performances, visited a sanctuary display, toured the Pathfinder Museum, and made many new friends. An Induction Service was also held for TLTs (Teen Leaders in Training) and Master Guides were invested. More than 40 TLTs were inducted into the TLT program and received their braid. About 50 TLTs and three



More than 40 TLTs were inducted and received their red braids.

Master Guides were invested in the various levels of the TLT/Master Guide program.

Central to the event were devotional times and joint worship services. The camporee theme this year was “One Step Closer,” chosen to remind

Pathfinders that “we are one step closer to the coming of Jesus,” said Dodge. He also reminded Pathfinders in the program remarks that “Soon Jesus will come to take His Pathfinders home to Heaven for the largest camporee possible.”

Anthony Kelly, Lake Region youth ministries director, said, “From the perspective of one who has seen camporees from just about every angle except that of a Pathfinder, I believe it is critically important that we continue to have camporees as long as we have Pathfinders. I have taken Pathfinders to every major camporee since Camp Hale ... and the results have always been the same. Pathfinders have something positive to say every time about the great time they had at the camporee. The most important reason for having camporees, however, is that young people get an opportunity to get to know Jesus up close and personal.”

Friday night everyone stood in response to a recommitment call by speaker James Black, North American Division youth ministries director, and Sabbath morning hundreds responded to an altar call by speaker David Asscherick, ARISE director. More than 100 cards were returned requesting baptism and/or Bible studies.

Charlie Thompson, Indiana Conference youth director, said, “I was so blessed by the response of our Lake Union Pathfinders as they came forward twice over the weekend to make or renew their commitment to Jesus

Christ. I wish that every young person in our Union could have been present to receive the blessings and challenges laid before them at this camporee.”

On Sabbath afternoon, a baptismal service was held in the main arena. Jonathon Benson of Linden, Mich., Genisses Ortega, of Berwyn, Ill., and Jamie Chandler, of South Flint, Mich., were baptized.

A special tribute was given to Dodge, who has directed the past four LUC camporees. Whitehead said, “This was the best organized Union camporee I have ever seen.”

Pathfinders from the Ohio Conference participated in the LUC Pathfinder Camporee again this year. Mike Stevenson, Ohio Conference youth director, said, “Thanks to Terry Dodge and his [team], the 2006 Lake Union Camporee was a great place to bring young minds and hearts in contact with the Spirit of God.

“Not too much to do, not too little to do ... just the right amount of spiritual, social, intellectual, and physical interaction made for an enriching 2006 camporee at the Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds. The kids had a ball, and so did the adults—a feat not easily achieved!! Kudos to Terry Dodge and his team!!!”

Whitehead remarked, “The LUC and Ohio Pathfinders were so easy and fun to work with. They were very willing to help keep the campground clean and were respectful at all the meetings.”

Jeff Deming, Illinois Conference youth director, was impressed with the collegiality he saw. He said, “Saturday night as I stood by the stage and watched the drill and marching, they were amazing. But what caught my attention was the enthusiasm of the groups waiting for their turn or having just completed as they watched and cheered. It was awesome to see the family of God lifting each other up.”

Another key program component were service activities coordinated by Patrick Murphy, Andrews University chaplain. Pathfinders sorted and pack-

aged clothing at an Adventist Community Services Center in Berrien Springs, Mich. Other young people picked up refuse along a river. The Salvation Army opened its doors to Pathfinders who helped sort clothes and clean their facility. At the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, our young people were appreciated for their hard work spreading fertilizer. Many other young people combed neighborhood streets for litter.

“It is so clear to me that this is the generation of youth who will use their passion and gifts to usher in our Lord’s return. They are so creative. They are so passionate. They are so gifted. They have so much energy. Now is the time for us older adults to mentor and empower the youth to take more evangelism ownership for this church moment,” Whitehead said.

Throughout the camporee, guest speakers reminded the Pathfinders that they are living in challenging times and emphasized they have an urgent responsibility to tell the world about Jesus. The Pathfinders responded to this challenge by giving \$1,124.84 for youth evangelism and outreach during an offering call. Walter Wright, LUC president said, “That amount is being matched by the Lake Union, giving our young people [more than] \$2,000 for this worthy cause.” You may contact Whitehead to inquire about use of these funds.

The 2009 International Courage to Stand Camporee was officially announced Saturday night. The LUC will host this event in Oshkosh, Wis., Aug. 11–15, 2009. For information, visit www.camporee.org, or call the Center for Youth Evangelism at 800-youth2u or 269-471-8380.

On Sunday morning, Pathfinders convened for an impressive parade

by conferences. The parade was a visual reminder of the organization’s strength. “Pathfinder ministry is the largest and strongest congregation-based youth ministry in the Adventist church,” said Whitehead.

Many people made this event possible. Mike Edge, Wisconsin Conference youth ministries director, said, “My hat is off to the many Pathfinder staff members who have committed themselves to the salvation of our youth, choosing to rough it with their kids rather than the comfort of un-involvement.”



Will Titus, a Lansing Capitals Pathfinder, participated in the sailboat trough race.

Diane Thurber

Throughout the camporee, clubs participated in activities. At each station, participants earned points for their club total. On Sunday morning, an awards ceremony was held to acknowledge the participation and skills of the young people. Each club received a special trophy, and Pathfinders received a patch and pin in memory of this camporee. No doubt, they’ll take many excellent memories home also.

The next LUC Camporee is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 15–18, 2011, at the same location.



Diane Thurber, *Lake Union Herald* managing editor, with Terry Dodge, 2006 Lake Union Conference Camporee director/Michigan Conference Pathfinder director, and Ron Whitehead, Lake Union Conference youth ministries coordinator

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Church Members Extend a Warm Welcome to Academy Students

Indiana—As young men and women arrived on the campus of Indiana Academy (IA) in August, registered for a new year, and proceeded to the dormitories to settle in for another year of Christian education, Cicero Church members were waiting for them. Some of the members remembered

a time when they were students at IA and reminisced about what it felt like to be young and filled with confidence and energy! And now they were ready to assist arriving students and their parents as they unloaded their cars and carried the students' belongings into their rooms.

It was a hot day, and bottles of cold water were a welcome treat! The water was provided by Cicero Church members, as were the dorm survival kits students discovered upon entering their room for the first time. Cicero Church members contributed many school supplies, snacks, and personal care items for the kits. Other items, such as water bottles, pens, and lanyards,



Judith Yeoman

Dickson Tenga appreciated the dorm survival kit provided by Cicero Church members on registration day.

were donated by Andrews University. Indiana Conference provided "To Do" note pads created by Sheri DeWitt and printed by Sam Zacharias.

One of the items in the dorm survival kit was a devotional book donated by Southern Adventist University. Beth

Bartlett, IA registrar, said these books were very timely since there is a new focus on private devotions at the academy this year. A 20-minute time period was added to the schedule for personal devotions each morning. The deans have been excited to see students study their Bibles quietly during this allotted time while others formed Bible study groups.

As I moved about the dorms on registration day,

I heard excited "oohs" and "ahs" as the students opened their brightly-colored dorm survival kits! Several said they had forgotten to bring some of the items they found in their kit, so it was a lifesaver to them! Dickson Tenga, an IA senior, said the kits made him feel so welcome at the Cicero Church! As the church members said good-bye to the students in their rooms, they had prayer with them and wished them a great year at IA!

These initiatives were coordinated by the Academy-Church Relations Committee, which has provided activities for a number of years now. Several IA staff members reported a positive impact the committee's initiatives have had on the students. Collene Kelly is the coordinator of this year's committee. Its members are Beth Bartlett, Kelly Fivecoate, Melody Hoover, Devra Macko, Diane Thurber, and Gary Thurber.

Some of the upcoming activities planned to build community between the school and the church this year are joint Sabbath fellowship meals, a Sunday morning brunch, a fall social, a miniature golf tournament, caroling in the dorms, gift stockings, and a prayer warrior program.

Won't you join me in praying that each young person's life at IA will not only be blessed through these activities this school year, but God will also make each student a blessing to someone near them?

Judith Yeoman, Indiana Conference correspondent

Farmington VBS Program Supports Mission of the Church

Michigan—Great things are happening at the Farmington Church, located in Farmington Hills. Besides welcoming our new pastor, Cory Jackson, this summer, Farmington Church held Vacation Bible School (VBS) from July 31 through Aug. 4. This was a well-attended VBS, with more than 35 children participating. In addition, parents, planners, and volunteers rounded out the participants. The primary volunteers and planners were Sumiko Capeling, who was instrumental in organizing the Japanese contingent, the pastor, Stacey Jackson, Kirklyn Kerr, Carlton Bucknor, and Andrew Bailey.



Many of the mothers who brought their children to VBS did not speak English well. Sumiko Capeling (far right) was able to translate for the mothers during a spiritual workshop.

Farmington Church conducts VBS annually as an outreach to children and parents. The groups reflect the diversity of cultures at the Farmington Church. Besides learning about Jesus, the children enjoyed crafts, games, and healthy food.

Capeling was a translator for the Japanese children, and she conducted



Gilbert Goodall and Peter Sabol, Cicero Church members, helped students unload their cars and move into the dorms.

spiritual and fellowship workshops with the Japanese mothers. During these meetings, she discussed cultural differences, and child rearing counseling was provided by a professional who was invited to the session. Bailey and Jackson were also instrumental in entertaining the children with Bible stories.

This year's VBS supported the mission of the church by leading little children to Jesus. Jesus said "Make disciples of all men, baptizing and teaching everything I commanded of you" (see Matthew 28:19).

Barry Carter, Farmington Church
communication leader

Members Plant a Church and Discover an Exciting and Rewarding Mission

Michigan—In 1998, a movement began in the Grand Rapids Central Church to start a third church plant. The majority of members present at a specially called meeting expressed their desire to plant a church in the Ada-Lowell-Cascade area.

A small group of seven families explored how to make this happen. It took one year of weekly meetings with prayer and study to establish the mission and goals to form the Lowell Riverside Fellowship Company. Three of the original seven families stayed with the company to nurture its growth to the present time.

David Glenn, pastor, and an intern oversee the company. Church services are held each Sabbath followed by a vegetarian potluck. There is a Bible study/prayer time on Wednesday evenings and a women's and young women's Bible-marking/baptismal group study that meets during the day. Currently, eight people are taking Bible studies, and six of them are preparing for baptism.

One of our goals is to reach out to the community. We started the

outreach venture by asking each of the three community governments what the church could do to help them build a better community. A reply came from Ada township requesting help with Woodland Gardens in Ada Park. Now we clean and maintain the wooded garden area and build relationships as we work. The township erected a permanent sign with the group's name on it as the garden's caretakers. Take a walk around Ada Park sometime and check up on us!

The main emphasis of the group is "Evangelism Through the Health Message." We have seven annual *Taste of Vegetarian* sessions under our belts. Those lectures spawned a *Healthy You* group that led to *Cook N Eat*. *Cook N Eat* is a hands-on approach that includes preparing and consuming the meal, whereas

Healthy You provides prepared samples and mini-lectures on the importance of healthy eating. Some ladies from these groups regularly attend our monthly *Ladies Night Out*.



Lowell Riverside Fellowship Company members participated in the Lowell Community Health & Fitness Fair.

When the Lowell Wellness Center director learned about the *Taste of Vegetarian* program, she asked us to provide a diabetic-friendly meal during the Center's Senior Wellness Week. We had met the director at the Lowell Health Fair, where we had a very active booth the past few years. There were many compliments on the positive presentation and benefits rendered with our booth. We are now given the choice spot to set up each year. Paul

Adams sets up his compelling temperance booth, and community youth are properly "grossed out" with the results of smoking and its effects on the body. We hesitated to participate in the fair the first year because it was held on Sabbath hours. After counsel and prayer, we decided that this was a vital part of the Lord's work, and God has blessed us abundantly ever since.



The Lowell Riverside Fellowship Company did not simply break ground for their new church on May 24, they threw dirt into the air. This group is committed to see God's work go forward in the Ada-Lowell-Cascade area.

Our current church attendance has settled into an average of 30–35 people. We still meet in a home, but we have recently started excavating for our brand new church building. We are excited about this because we have been storing supplies in various homes. The "home church" bulges when everyone attends at the same time, which can swell to almost 50 people.

Everyone in the little church works. We all do what we can to help each other out. Our speakers are from our congregation. That helps us all to be supportive of the presenters each Sabbath. We are not pastor dependent, though we love having our pastors join us from time to time! We have all grown and are still growing so much as we study the Word together.

Those who belong to the fellowship group consider it a privilege. We miss our friends at the Grand Rapids Central Church, but believe we are a part of a real mission that is exciting and rewarding. We look forward to the time everyone can visit us in our brand new church!

Carol Clay, Lowell Riverside Fellowship Company
personal ministries leader

Adventist Church Joins Faith Groups to Build a Home

Indiana—On Sunday, Aug. 13, members of the Evansville First Seventh-day Adventist Church joined members of ten other local congregations and The Potter's Wheel, a faith-based ministry, for "How Firm a Foundation," a special service hosted by members of the First Baptist Church.



Photos by Debbie Burns

Bela Kobar, Evansville First Church pastor, offered the opening prayer in the "How Firm a Foundation" service.

As everyone gathered, they were reminded in prayers, songs, and speeches about the monumental task before them—Habitat for Humanity of Evansville's first ever Apostle Build*—a project that

would unite the groups as they built a home for Patricia Richardson, a member of their community and a school social worker at Washington Middle School. Richardson will share the home with her two children.

The Evansville First Church pastor, Bela Kobar, opened the service with prayer. Another Evansville First Church member, Joseph Choi, led a multi-church choir with more than 70 singers during the program. Choi is principal conductor of the Evansville Philharmonic Chorus. Also present was Jim Prickett, a "founding father" of the national Habitat for Humanity program. Attendees learned that Evansville has one of the strongest Habitat for Humanity programs in the country.

The *Evansville Courier & Press* quoted Sister Jane Michele McClure, Habitat for Humanity of Evansville's develop-



Joseph Choi, Evansville First Church choir director and Evansville Philharmonic Chorus principal conductor, directed a mass choir made up of members from the churches of the Apostle Build.

ment director, who said, "Part of the essence of the [Habitat] ministry is to bring people together.

"A lot of the churches are very engaged in mission work overseas, but they loved the idea of helping a family right here in our community," she said.



Eastminster Presbyterian Church members joined forces to raise the first wall of the Apostle Build house the first Saturday of the project. Evansville Adventists will also play an important role in the house's construction by installing drywall mid-week instead of on Sabbath.

Each church contributed an equal share toward the \$47,500 sponsorship cost, and The Potter's Wheel contributed an in-kind donation by providing food during work sessions.

Habitat for Humanity of Evansville's goal is to eliminate poverty housing in Evansville, a community with nearly 18,000 persons who live in poverty. Since 1984, more than 18,000 volunteers have built more than 284 houses in Evansville.

Richardson and families like hers who benefit from a Habitat for Humanity home contribute 300 hours of "sweat equity" toward construction.

Groundbreaking for Richardson's house took place on Aug. 26. Twelve build dates were scheduled on subsequent Saturdays, except Labor Day weekend. The Adventists installed drywall, which is usually hired out, during the week instead of participating on the Saturday build dates.

The anticipated dedication service was scheduled for the last Saturday of October. Evansville First Church member Debbie Burns, official photographer of the Apostle Build and dedication service coordinator, provided photo CDs for each church and two photo memory books, one for Habitat for Humanity and the other for the Richardsons. The books were signed by everyone who worked on the home.

The *Evansville Courier & Press* plans to feature a news story about the Adventists' involvement in the project since they didn't build on Saturday. The church's pastor said, "We are honored to be a part of such a unique commitment to our community with this Habitat Apostle Build. We have already had several opportunities to share our faith and beliefs with others....

"Habitat for Humanity soon will begin work on New Haven, a subdivision for the survivors of the deadly tornado that ripped through our community last Nov. 6, 2005, and left 25 people killed. We hope to be a part of this project as well."

Diane Thurber, *Lake Union Herald* managing editor, with Debbie Burns and Diane Kobar, Evansville First Church members

*Apostle Build provides congregations, which seek to build a Habitat home but lack the fiscal or physical means to sponsor an entire home, the opportunity to participate with a community of churches on a building project. Twelve churches or faith groups team to sponsor an Apostle Build. Contact your local Habitat for Humanity office for more information.

Young People Experience Leadership and Service

Lake Region—Sabbath is a happy day, and this Sabbath was no different. The Capital City Church Pathfinders and Adventurers filed into the church bus to go to the grand opening of Anna's House in Indianapolis, Ind., for a service project. Anna's House is a clinic and learning center that opened on July 29 to offer food, dental care, medical help, and educational services, including tutoring and computer train-



Teaching the Capital City Church Pathfinders and Adventurers to serve has been an ongoing process. Service projects have included painting benches in community parks in 2004.

ing for Indianapolis children in need. Before the event, the *Capital City Guards* Pathfinder club leaders were contacted by Bob Haverstick, founder of the Indianapolis-based Never Too Late organization that makes dreams come true for senior citizens, and Lucious Newsom, a senior who, for 18 years, has provided hands-on care for the poor in Indianapolis. The Pathfinders were to assist Haverstick and Newsom as they distributed 1,000 grocery bags filled with bread, cereal, canned vegetables, and beef stew to senior citizens at the grand opening.

By the time we got there, they were already an hour into the special program. News reporters, volunteers, and the organizers were there. Mitch Daniels, Indiana's governor, was there,

too. It was a very hot day, and the event was held outside.

Just before the group began to serve, they were pulled aside to meet someone important—the governor himself. He personally chatted with each of the young people and even commented that they had beautiful names. The governor said he had heard of the Pathfinder and Adventurer organizations, and he wished all young people could belong to such organizations.

Each young person was assigned an area and capacity in which to assist. They assisted senior citizens by helping them select food items needed and

then the young people carried the food to their cars. More than 1,000 individuals were served that day. The service project went very smoothly and gave the young people an opportunity to be of service yet again.

Each month, a service project is planned for the young people at the Capital City Church. Other service projects have included visiting area nursing homes and sick church members, cleaning and stocking the Adventist Community

Service Center, and helping to beautify two community parks. Future plans include involvement with Youth as Resource, sponsored by United Way. In this program, community youth plan activities to benefit the community and execute the plans. The adults only mentor and give guidance.

“It is extremely important for the children to be involved in service because children who serve will be adults



Areisa Peters, a Pathfinder, is editor of the Capital City Guards Pathfinder club newsletter.

who serve,” said Sibhekile Washington, Pathfinder director.

In December, the Pathfinder and Adventurer Club leaders will host a speech contest. Each person participating receives a consolation prize, and winners are named for first, second, and third place prizes. Topics are suggested, and the young people do research and write their speeches. Last year's winner was Kaydra Bailey, who presented a speech entitled, “HIV in the Black Community.”

Leaders look for a variety of ways to teach leadership skills. The *Capital City Guards* Pathfinder club publishes a newsletter, *The Pathfinder Pinnacle*. The newsletter is edited by one of the Pathfinders, Areisa Peters.

Whether it's serving those less fortunate, honing speaking skills, or editing a newsletter, we hope our young people use their skills and talents for the Lord throughout their lives.



Kaydra Bailey won first prize in the Capital City Church speech contest for her presentation entitled “HIV in the Black Community.”

Sibhekile Washington, Capital City Pathfinder director, and Gurlene Durosier, Capital City Adventurer director

Glendale Church Family Celebrates Renovation and Renewal

Indiana—The Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church had its beginning in a little group of believers who worshiped together for some months in a small church on Central Avenue before becoming, in 1888, the first organized Seventh-day Adventist Church in Indianapolis. Over the next seventy years, the congregation met in a number of different facilities and locations to accommodate its growing member-



Extensive renovations were made to the exterior and interior of the Glendale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Indianapolis, Ind.

The completion of the two-year project was celebrated on Sabbath, Sept. 9, with an overflow crowd which included former members and guests; all were treated to a special hospitality dinner. Former pastor, Lou Toscano, presented “Stone Stories in the Bible,” a special feature during Sabbath school.



Completed in 1961, the 569-member Glendale Church houses a multicultural community of believers with more than 30 different ethnic groups.

ship and outreach ministries. They purchased 15 acres of land in 1959 and moved into their newly-constructed church in 1961. The following year they added a ten-grade school, which became Indianapolis Junior Academy, operated by three constituent churches.

The small congregation has grown to a membership of 569, representing 30 different ethnic groups. This blend of believers is committed to sharing the good news and making their church a welcome place for all. That spirit of openness and hospitality was behind their recent renovation that amounted to a complete overhaul of the church facilities from top to bottom.

Leah Bryant presented “A Look at Glendale Memories, Mission, and Ministry” on the big screen.

“Favorite Memories of Glendale” included reflections from the early ‘60s by some members and former members who

participated in the process of building the Glendale Church.

Special guest participants in the celebration included worship speaker Barry Black, a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy and the 62nd Chaplain of the United States Senate. Black’s opening remarks expressed his delight to stand before such a diverse and unified church. He said, “Glendale is a very special church. The weekend divine worship [service] is one of the most segregated hours of the week. You can not say that about a church with 30 ethnicities. You are a model for other churches to follow. ... Every time you come together Heaven smiles, because

this is what Heaven is going to look like. You are to be congratulated.”

Following the hospitality dinner, there was an afternoon musical concert with special guest artists: Adrian Westney, pianist with the Voice of Prophecy; Nancy Dudley, pianist and music minister



Barry Black, Chaplain of the United States Senate, was the guest speaker.

with the First Seventh-day Adventist Church of Huntsville, Ala.; David Mannell, tenor soloist and director for Educational Shows for the Indianapolis Opera Company; and Angela Brown, soprano soloist with the Metropolitan Opera.

DVDs of the “Celebration of Renovation and Renewal” are available. Please contact the church office for information at 317-253-3711 or by email at contact@glendalesda.org.

“I was glad when they said to me, Let’s go into the house of the Lord” (Psalm 122:1).

Gary Burns, Lake Union Conference communication director

Historical information contributed by Barbara Bryant and Clare Yelvington.

[UNION NEWS]

Lake Union Participates in Native Camp Meeting

The Lake Union Conference was invited to participate in the Native Camp Meeting hosted by the Dakota Conference, July 28–30. Representing the Lake Union was Mary Bukowiec (Chippewa), a newly-baptized member of the Mt. Pleasant (Mich.) Adventist Church.



Mary Bukowiec (center back row) is photographed with her new brothers and sisters from a number of different tribes and nations.

The camp meeting was held at Flag Mountain Camp in the Black Hills of S.D., about 24 miles from Crazy Horse Monument. Flag Mountain Camp is one of two youth camps owned by the Dakota Conference. Local residents and merchants of nearby Hill City say it is the best camp location in all the Black Hills.

The camp meeting theme was “The King Is Coming: Being a Disciple for Him.” Fred Rogers (Cherokee Nation), Native Ministry coordinator for the Carolina Conference, presented a new perspective on the “Invasion of America,” and revealed some very interesting facts about biblical theology in the roots of the “Seventh Sacred Direction” and the “Prophecy of the Peacemaker.” Fred is an ordained pastor and evangelist, and he and his wife Linda have done extensive research on native history and the similarities between some of the ancient traditional beliefs of Native Americans and the Bible. Participants were amazed at his discoveries

and offered new insights from their own experiences and traditions.

The weekend provided many social opportunities for Native Americans from different tribes and regions to get acquainted and share their experiences and perspectives with one another. Sabbath afternoon was a time for personal presentations by some of the participants. Bukowiec was asked to share her personal testimony of how God led her to the Adventist church and how He provided healing to her through following His principles for health. Several

who shared how God had miraculously worked in their lives were a source of encouragement to all. The testimonies provided a rich dimension to the weekend.

The event was organized by Debra Claymore (Cheyenne River Sioux), Dakota Conference Native Ministry coordinator. Claymore has her master’s in education administration and is a program developer and director of substance abuse programs. She also serves as a consultant to many tribal groups across the country.

Our trip to the Native Camp Meeting included a tour of the Black Hills, the impressive Crazy Horse Monument (the largest sculpture in the world), and of course Mt. Rushmore. The Lake Union Native Ministry department is co-sponsoring the Native Camp Meeting next year at the same location, July 26–29, 2007. Plans are underway to provide transportation via coach from the Lake Union office to



Mary Bukowiec shared her personal testimony of finding healing through the Adventist principles of health.

the Black Hills. The trip will include a tour of the Black Hills and other Native American sites as part of the camp meeting experience.

For further information, call the Lake Union Native Ministry department at 269-473-8200, or send e-mail to editor@luc.adventist.org.

Gary Burns, Lake Union Conference
Native Ministry department director

[NAD NEWS]

Adventist Church Produces Fifth Christmas Program for Network Television

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America is releasing its fifth Christmas program, entitled “Love’s Pure Light.” This hour-long program will be broadcast during the month of December on many local affiliate stations in the United States, Canada, and Bermuda, as well as nationwide on the Trinity Broadcasting Network and the Hallmark Channel.

The story takes place on Christmas Eve when a widower’s life is changed by an unopened gift his wife gave him five years ago. Joseph Campanella, Ruta Lee, and Patty Cabrera star in this musical drama which the whole family will enjoy. Special musical guests are four-time Grammy winner Deniece Williams, Rudi Micelli, and Sandy Wyman Johnson.

“Love’s Pure Light” is the sequel to “All Is Bright,” which was last year’s Christmas special produced by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. The production was recorded on a closed set at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, Calif., on Sept. 12 and 14.

Check your local listings to find out when “Love’s Pure Light” is scheduled to air, or visit www.nadadventist.org. You can also call your local television station and ask them to air “Love’s Pure Light.”

George Johnson Jr., associate director, North American Division Office of Communication

Within the Lake Union, the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at www.lakeunionherald.org. Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 43.

Anniversaries



Albert "Don" and Joan English celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 11, 2005, by a reception with many friends and relatives and a renewal of vows by Elder Douglas English at Orchard Hills Country Club, Niles, Mich. They have been members of the Cicero (Ind.) Church for 18 years.

Don English and Joan Covert were married Sept. 11, 1955, in Michigan City, Ind., by Elder Wayne Byers. Don has been a pastor and Trust Services/Stewardship director for the last 18 years in the New Jersey and Indiana conferences, retiring in 2003. He is now a stipend pastor of the Plymouth and Community churches in Ind. Joan has worked for Cinery Public Service, retiring in 1996.

The English family includes Jeffrey and Joy English of Buchanan, Mich.; Douglas and Susan English of Centralia, Md.; Richard and Phyllis English of Elkhart, Ind.; and six grandchildren.

James and Patricia Stephan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 12, 2006, by celebrating with their children at their home in Lansing, Mich. They have been members of the Grand Ledge (Mich.) Church for several years.

James Stephan and Patricia Clemons were married Aug. 12, 1956, in Hinsdale, Ill., by Chaplain D.W. Anderson. James has been an Adventist educator for 44 years, serving as principal, teacher, and missionary in Beirut, Lebanon, before retiring in 1999. Patricia has been a homemaker, a cook at the Southfield Jr. Academy in Detroit, Mich., and worked in Medical Records at Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver, Colo.

The Stephan family includes Melody Stephan of Loma Linda, Calif.; James

Stephan II of Lacombe, La.; William (Bill) and DeAnn Stephan of Lincoln, Neb.; and six grandchildren.

Obituaries

BIERSCHBACH, Rebecca J. (McCartney), age 39; born Aug. 27, 1966, in Portsmouth, N.H.; died Aug. 7, 2006, in Epping, N.H. She was a member of the Maranatha Bible Fellowship Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Allen G.; father, Patrick McCartney Sr.; mother, Jeanne (Daigle) McCartney; brothers, Patrick Jr. and Daniel McCartney; and sisters, Jacqueline Grace and Jennifer Fuller.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Cory Jackson, with private inurnment.

COLLIER, Beatrice E. (Wood), age 91; born May 18, 1915, in Keene, Texas; died Aug. 2, 2006, in Niles, Mich. She was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Eldon, Larry, Keith, Ronald, and Gary; daughter, Karen Andrus; 13 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Paul Cannon and Bruce Hayward, and interment was in Mission Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Niles.

COX, Barbara L. (Walkowiak), age 83; born June 2, 1923, in Detroit, Mich.; died July 24, 2006, in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. She was a member of the Troy (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Donald G.; son, Harold; daughters, Mary Verhelle and Martha Parker; brothers Leon and Paul Walkowiak; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Mike Conley, and interment was in White Chapel Memorial Cemetery, Troy.

FRANK, Florence E. (Euler), age 98; born Feb. 22, 1908, in Sugar Ridge, Ohio; died July 17, 2006, in Tecumseh, Mich. She was a member of the Tecumseh Church.

Survivors include her sons, Irvin G. and Wayne; daughters, Rosalyn Roberson, Renita Bethell, Mary Lou Crutcher, and Bev-

erly Baughey; half brother, Lyle G. Euler; 20 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Stevan Mirkovich, and interment was in Fairfield (Mich.) Cemetery.

GOSS, John C., age 74; born July 14, 1932, in Mondovi, Wis.; died Aug. 13, 2006, in Eau Claire, Wis. He was a member of the Eau Claire Church, Altoona, Wis.

Survivors include his sons, Terry, Thomas, Ronald, and Steven; daughters, Dixie Duffey, Cynthia Otto, and Kim Barnfield; brothers, LeRoy and Ralph; sisters, Ione Boshier, IdaMae Best, and Peggy Olson; 25 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Don Corkum and Brian Carlton, and interment was in Rest Haven Cemetery, Eau Claire.

LUNGU, John V., age 79; born Sept. 19, 1926, in Youngstown, Ohio; died July 27, 2006, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his wife, Helen (Constantine); son, Jack; sister, Eleanor McKay; and one grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dwight K. Nelson, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

OXENDER, Elta L. (Barrett), age 83; born Apr. 3, 1923, in Scammon, Kan.; died June 6, 2006, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Buchanan (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, David and Allen; daughter, Carol Boyd; ten grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors David Tenold and Karl Tsatalbasidis, and interment was in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Buchanan.

SMELTZER, Carolyn J. (Ferguson), age 59; born Apr. 22, 1947, in Frankfort, Mich.; died July 20, 2006, in Blaine Twp., Mich. She was a member of the Frankfort Church.

Survivors include her husband, Thomas W.; son, Steven T.; daughters, Hope A. Smeltzer and Amanda L. Harner; brothers, Lee and James Ferguson; stepsisters, Norma Johnson and Debbie Blehm; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Robert Quillin and Art Covell, and

interment was in Gilmore Twp. Cemetery, Elberta, Mich.

SMITH, Eileen A., age 90; born Jan. 1, 1916, in Frankfort, Mich.; died Aug. 1, 2006, in Fremont, Mich. She was a member of the Manistee (Mich.) Church.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Monte Landis, and inurnment was in Crystal Lake Twp. Cemetery North, Frankfort.

SWEENEY, Delbert H., age 71; born July 17, 1935, in Evansville, Ind.; died Aug. 15, 2006, in Umatilla, Fla. He was a member of the Irvington Church, Indianapolis, Ind.

Survivors include his son, Samuel A.; daughter, Evelyn M. Irmischer; brother, Robert; half brother, Dick Thomason; sisters, Mary Raymer, Sue Hamilton, and Linda Hemphill; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Fred Troxell and Adrian Peterson, and interment was in Washington Memorial Cemetery, Indianapolis.

TUINSTRAS, Sue Ann, age 62; born Dec. 10, 1943, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died July 17, 2006, in Wyoming, Mich. She was a member of the Wyoming Church.

Survivors include her mother, Irene; brothers, Robert, Richard, Donald, and Edward Tuinstra; and sisters, Mary Rhew, Patricia Potter, and Carol Cecil.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Kent Walters, and inurnment was in Myrtle Park Crematorium Mausoleum, Rockford, Mich.

Correction

SYMONDS, Angeline "Annie" (Lee), age 82; born Sept. 29, 1923, in Story City, Iowa; died June 30, 2006, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her sons, James, Ronald, Dan, and Bob; daughters, Deborah Brown and Mary Pearcy; brother, Orland Lee; sister, Isabelle Drews; ten grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Sheldon Seltzer, and interment was in North Shore Memory Gardens Cemetery, Coloma, Mich.

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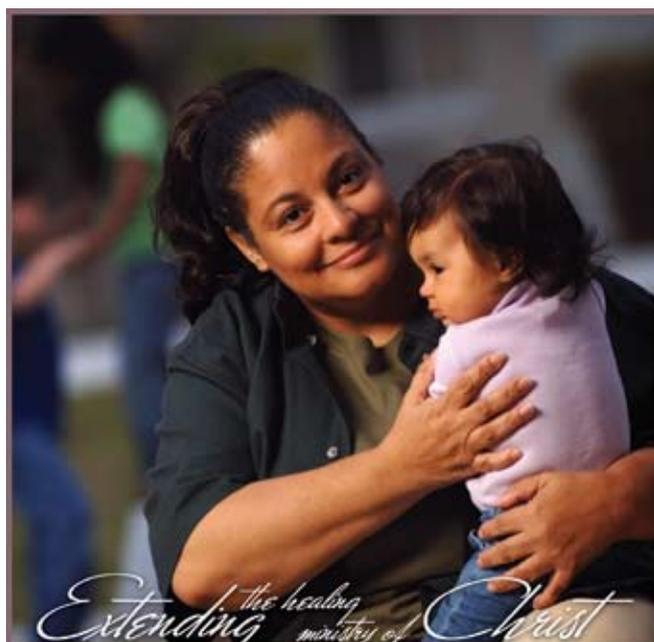
Miscellaneous

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	Nov 3	Nov 10	Nov 17	Nov 24	Dec 1	Dec 8
Berrien Springs, Mich.	5:39	5:31	5:25	5:19	5:16	5:14
Chicago	4:44	4:36	4:29	4:25	4:21	4:20
Detroit	5:25	5:17	5:10	5:05	5:01	5:00
Indianapolis	5:42	5:35	5:29	5:24	5:21	5:20
La Crosse, Wis.	4:55	4:46	4:39	4:34	4:29	4:28
Lansing, Mich.	5:31	5:22	5:15	5:10	5:06	5:04
Madison, Wis.	4:49	4:40	4:34	4:28	4:24	4:23
Springfield, Ill.	4:56	4:49	4:43	4:38	4:35	4:34

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tax deduction (if you itemize). To arrange pick up, call 800-975-1822. Title is needed.

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ALASKA CRUISE/TOUR aboard *Celebrity Summit*, Aug. 30-Sept. 11, 2007. Overnight Seattle, shuttle Vancouver. Ports: Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Hubbard Glacier, Icy Strait Point. Anchorage train, Denali wildlife tour, train to Fairbanks, city tour and paddle wheel cruise, northern lights. Super deal! For information, call Bob and Kathie Foll at 863-453-7196, or e-mail bobkatfoll@earthlink.net.

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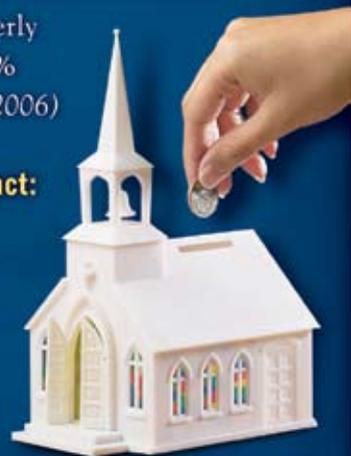
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Announcements

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

Indiana

A Marriage Maintenance Seminar with Walter and Jackie Wright will be held **Nov. 17-18** at the Cicero Church. This special seminar is being presented by the Indiana Family Ministries department at no charge. Elder Wright's first presentation will begin Fri. evening at 7:00 p.m., and he will speak for the 11:00 a.m. Sabbath morning worship hour. This will be followed by a fellowship dinner and a final afternoon presentation at 2:30 p.m. For additional information or to register, call Collene Kelly at 317-984-4376.

Tri-Town Christmas Program: Enjoy the wonderful music of the Christmas season with an adult mass choir, the full choir from Indiana Academy,

the Keynotes, the bell choir, and the concert band under the direction of Andrew Lay, on Fri., **Dec. 1**, 7:00 p.m. This annual community sacred musical program will be held at the Cicero Adventist Church, 2445 State Road 19 North, Cicero.

Lake Union

Offerings:

- Nov 4** Local Church Budget
- Nov 11** Annual Sacrifice
- Nov 18** Local Church Budget
- Nov 25** Local Conference Advance

Special Days:

- Nov 4-25** Native Heritage Month
- Nov 4** Stewardship Sabbath
- Nov 5-11** Week of Prayer
- Nov 18** Human Relations Sabbath
- Nov 25** Welcome Home Sabbath

THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA PRESENTS

Love's Pure Light

A heartwarming holiday story for the whole family

On Christmas Eve, a widower's life is changed by an unopened gift his wife gave him five years ago.

Joseph Campanella and Patty Cabrera star in this musical drama, with special guest star **Ruta Lee**, which the whole family will love. Special musical guest is four-time Grammy winner **Deniece Williams**. "Love's Pure Light" is the sequel to "All is Bright" which was last year's Christmas special produced by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.

Check www.nadadventist.org and also your local listing for airing times or call your local station and request them to air Love's Pure Light.





Tony and
Emmie Nominee
**Joseph
Campanella**



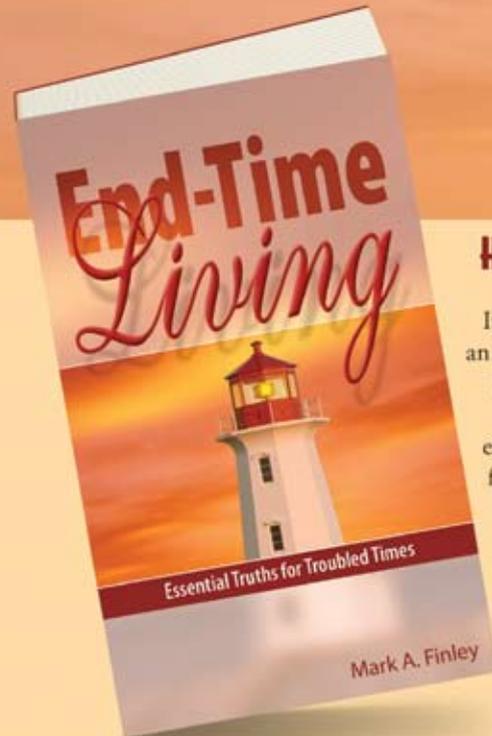
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Paperback 128 pages. ISBN 11: 978-0-8163-2174-2. ISBN 10: 0-8163-2174-4. US\$14.99. Quantity pricing available.



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North American Division

Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia (MTSA) has been awarded a \$500,000 grant by The Memorial Foundation for capital support to develop a new Simulation Skills Lab. The new Simulation Skills Lab is part of the MTSA master development plan included in the *Building the Future* \$3.0 million campaign. The second largest school of anesthesia in the U.S., MTSA is a place for Adventist nurses to come with assurance of a quality Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist education while not facing Sabbath con-

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flicts for classes, testing, and boards. The new Simulation Skills Lab and new "SimBaby" will significantly aid to better provide an increased level of hands-on learning for the anesthesia students. To learn more about MTSA's *Building the Future* campaign, call the Advancement office at 615-868-6503.

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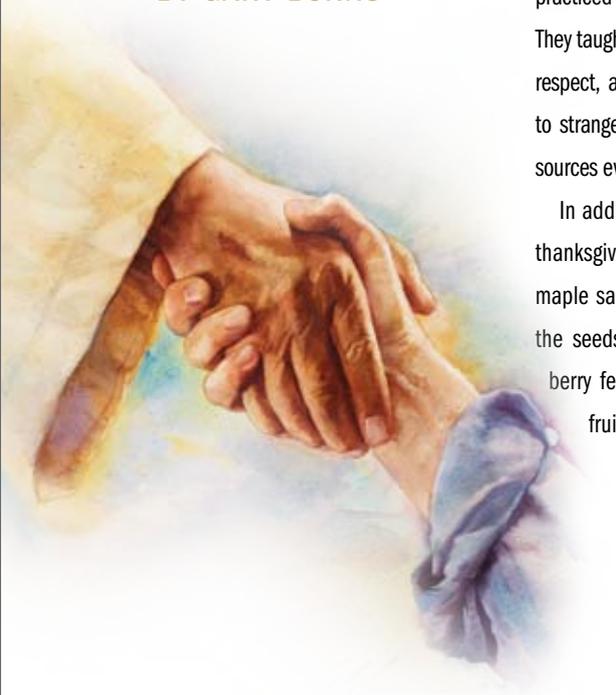
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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

The First Thanksgiving

BY GARY BURNS



Thanksgiving is a celebration of our partnership with God. I was taught, and maybe you were too, that the first Thanksgiving was celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621 during a feast shared with the Indians at the Plymouth Plantation. Recently I learned, through my association with Native Ministries, that the Wampanoags (members of a widespread league of Algonkian-speaking peoples) practiced some beliefs that are very familiar. They taught that others should be treated with respect, and they should provide hospitality to strangers. They shared from their own resources even if they were meager.

In addition, they began their year with a thanksgiving festival to the Creator when the maple sap began to flow, another to bless the seeds at planting, and then a strawberry festival to give thanks for the first fruits of the season. In midsummer the Creator was honored again for the ripening corn, and then a harvest festival was held to give the Creator thanks for food provided for the long winter.

When the new strangers arrived on the Mayflower, they were the beneficiaries of God's blessings expressed through the Wampanoan people. The Pilgrims were treated with courtesy and hospitality as prescribed by the beliefs of their American Indian hosts.

For centuries, the Algonkian people had recognized the Creator as the source of life and all blessings, and they believed sustenance came from the Creator's hand. So, when was the first Thanksgiving celebrated in America?

You provided that we inherit your creation

You said: I shall make the earth on which people shall live

You said that we should always be thankful

For our earth and for each other

So it is that we are gathered here

We are your children, Lord of the Sky.

From an Iroquois (Seneca) Thanksgiving Prayer translated by Chuck Larson

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

GOD GIVES MORE Than You Bargain For

BY ASHLEIGH JARDINE

It was the beginning of a hectic school year. As a sophomore at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, I had quite a busy schedule lined up. Chemistry, Algebra II, basketball practices, and class-officer meetings were at the top of my long “To Do” list for the upcoming year. To top it all off, the dean invited me to become a girl’s dorm *Flamekeeper*.

The *Flamekeeper* program consisted of a small group of girls who would lead a half-hour Bible study every Monday and Wednesday nights. Two *Flamekeepers* were assigned to each hall to work together to make the meetings fun and uplifting for the girls who attended. To me, this meant less sleep and less study time—further complicating my homework problems. Not only did I have to go, I had to plan them! But knowing that God would work everything out, I decided to pray and think hard about this invitation. In the end, I decided to step out in faith and join *Flamekeepers*. I had no idea how rewarding the experience would prove to be.

We usually had between six and eleven girls from our hall attend the Bible studies on a regular basis. Some nights, instead of discussing Bible texts or going through Ellen White quotes, we did something different with the girls. Once, I got out my guitar and we sang praise songs for our worship that night. On other occasions, we made cards for girls we thought needed encouragement or a reminder that someone cared.

My favorite memories are of the girls sharing what they were thankful for through prayer requests. When someone mentioned the *Flamekeepers*, it made all the planning and efforts worthwhile. Knowing the girls were appreciative of what we were doing was a tremendous blessing.

Unfortunately, *Flamekeepers* didn’t always seem exciting. I recall times when a heavy assignment or report was due the following day. Giving up study time seemed like quite a sacrifice for a little meeting, but God worked it out every single time. One time an entire class period was canceled, giving me more than enough time to study for an approaching test. Another time our teacher let us work in class together before our assignments were due. God handled every circumstance better than I ever could have thought possible! I witnessed His power on a daily basis.

Being a *Flamekeeper* taught me so much. I learned how to be open with others about my faith, when to talk and when to listen, and how to better connect with people I considered “hard to reach.” But most importantly, I learned that God really does work for the good of those who love Him and have been called according to His purpose (see Romans 8:28). Asking God what we can do for Him is basically the same as asking God what He can do for us! I know now that if we give our abilities to Him and dedicate our time to Him, He will give us back more than we ever could have bargained for.

Ashleigh Jardine is a junior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy. She will receive a \$100 scholarship because her article was selected for publication.



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Contributors: All submitted copy must be channeled through your local conference or institution's *Herald* correspondent. Stories submitted online at luc.adventist.org are automatically e-mailed to the local conference communication director. When submitting stories by direct e-mail, copy your local conference correspondent into the address. Writers' Guidelines are available online.

Member, Associated Church Press
Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

Michelle Lynn Roderick, 18, is a four-year senior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA). Michelle radiates happiness! She says she has long ago discovered the secret: "True happiness comes from serving and loving God." Michelle is a member of the Cedar Lake Adventist Church, and is the daughter of Steve and Kathy Roderick of Edmore, Mich.



Michelle Roderick

Michelle shares God's love through music. An excellent musician, she has played clarinet in the orchestra, participated in the choral program, and sung on 3ABN's *Kids Time* program for five years.

Inducted into the National Honor Society, Michelle ranks number two in her class. Her natural gift with children and her love for them played a major role in her desire to pursue a career in elementary education.

Michelle was Sophomore Girls Sports coordinator, AYBL (Adventist Youth for Better Living) president, and Student Association secretary. She has also been active in community service. "Michelle has a passion to help people enjoy the benefits of healthy living, both physically and spiritually," says Mickey Mallory, Cedar Lake Church pastor.

"Michelle is an exceptional Christian young lady whose walk with God shows in everything she says and does," says Arlene Leavitt, Alumni/Development assistant director.

Michelle also enjoys playing sports, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Brockton "Brock" Richard Willey, 17, is also a four-year senior at GLAA. Born in Calif., Brock has lived all his life in Peoria, Ill., with his parents, Rod and Donna Willey. He is member of the Richland Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Brock Willey

At GLAA, Brock says he learned "to really own my own beliefs. This school teaches you everything you'll ever need to know about God, from personal devotions to Bible studies, outreach programs, and witnessing."

Brock witnesses through the *Aerokhanas* gymnastics team. On the team all four years, and captain this year, he enjoys promoting a drug-free, healthy lifestyle and sharing what God has done for him personally.

He was a Week of Prayer speaker when the *Aerokhanas* visited Fletcher Academy in North Carolina and also spoke for an evangelistic series this fall. On campus, he is a group leader in *Flamekeepers*, a student-led dorm Bible study program. Mickey Mallory, Cedar Lake Church pastor, says, "Brock has a burden to help people find Jesus and strives for them to increase their relationship with God."

Brock enjoys snowboarding, gymnastics, basketball, and spending time with family and friends. His ambition is to become a dentist like his father.

Address Correction

Members of the Lake Region Conference and paid subscribers should contact the *Lake Union Herald* office with their address changes. Members from the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin conferences should now contact their local conference membership clerks directly for all *Lake Union Herald* address changes. Contact phone numbers are listed below for your convenience, and addresses are listed to the right.

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Native Ministry in the Lake Union

Two Events:

NATIVE MINISTRY SUMMIT

"The 7th Direction"
March 9-11, 2007
Camp Wagner
Cassopolis, MI



NATIVE MINISTRY CAMP MEETING

July 13-15, 2007
Flag Mountain Camp
In the Black Hills
of South Dakota
(See pg. 33 for the story
on the 2006 camp meeting.)

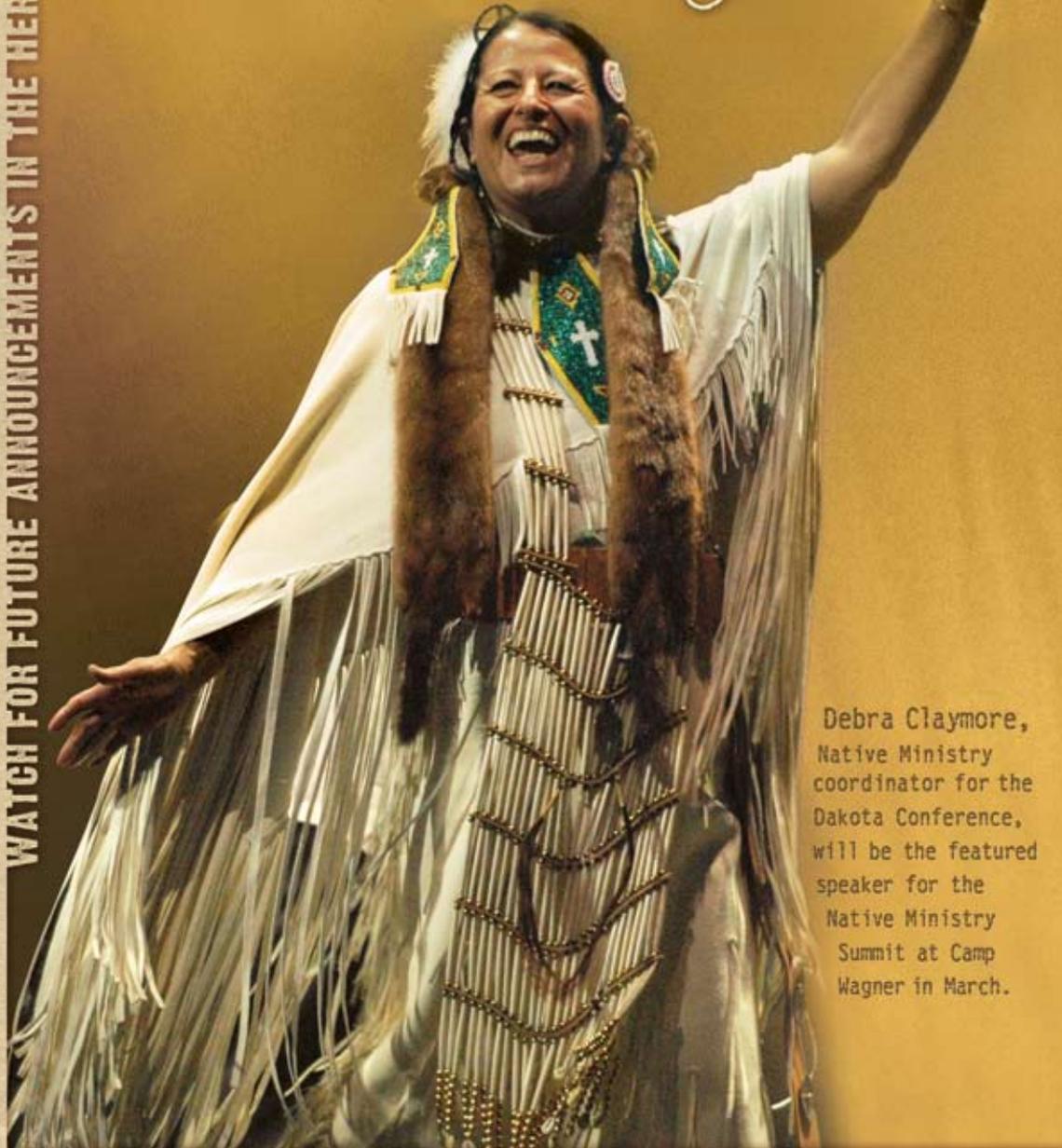
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Gary Burns, director
Lake Union Native Ministry
Box C
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www.7thDirection.org

WATCH FOR FUTURE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE HERALD!

*The Wind of the Spirit
is Still Moving...*



Debra Claymore,
Native Ministry
coordinator for the
Dakota Conference,
will be the featured
speaker for the
Native Ministry
Summit at Camp
Wagner in March.

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