

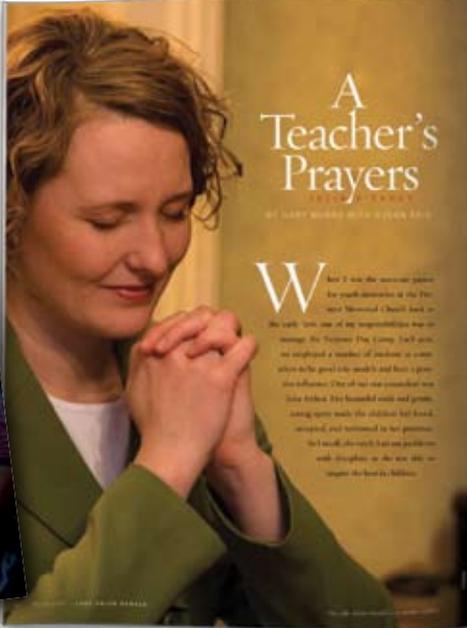
Lake Union HERALD

MARCH 2007

The Gift of
TEACHING



This month's cover, "Storytime," is a Nathan Greene painting. His artwork can be seen at www.hartclassics.com. © Hart Classics, all rights reserved.



A Teacher's Prayers
 by Gary Burns with Susan Reid

When Julie graduated from Andrews Academy, I wasn't assigned to one but to do so as well as the elementary education program at Andrews University. I spent my first teaching assignment, Julie was hired to be the teacher and principal of the soon-to-be renamed East Adams Elementary University School. She was excited about the school because the pastor, Paul Hill, and the school board had shared with her that they were preparing the school with the goal to reach children for Christ, including children from the economy. They shared their expectations and prepared artwork for God to send the students He wanted to be there. She had no idea when God was going to accomplish through her as her first assignment.

The story began a year before the arrival. Susan Reid was an educated professional who wanted the very best for her daughter, Kaitlyn, who was the second grade in the local public school. As the year progressed, her daughter became more frustrated with her teacher and school. Things were just not right.

Because of her work schedule, Susan had also enrolled Kaitlyn in the "before and after" school program at the Little Lamb Day Care & Nursery at the Ann Arbor Seventh-day Adventist Church. Susan had never met the teacher, but she had heard that the students were preparing for a play at the church and school. "I would just go and see if we will have any part in the church and school for her to do."

David wasn't really about having a play at the church. He was about having a play at the church and school. He thought it might help Kaitlyn and so he decided to reach the end of his daughter's prayer. While the children were and when they play something happened—something great!

When Susan got home, David used to explain to her as he checked back the man. "I don't know what it was. I don't know what happened. I don't know what I was thinking but I felt the hand of God on my shoulder." Susan didn't know what to think.

David contacted the pastor and learned that the church was providing arrangements to see the play at the church and school. He began to attend every night. Within a few days, David had a thick envelope in his hand, and he was not even in his car. When he went to work, he was at the church attending the coverage or talking with the pastor or one of the members. David just did things that were best for the church.

Now you might think that this would make Susan very happy that her husband had finally acted on all of these years because he was with David. But her husband was not the same. She just pulled back. Susan couldn't believe that this...

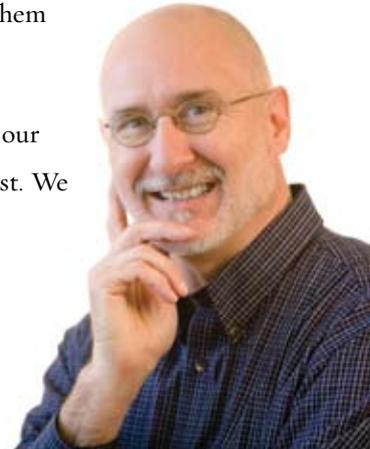
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in this issue...

As I talk to people from time to time about those who have made a significant impact in their lives, some instantly reminisce about a special teacher who "saved" them from what they are convinced would have been a tragic outcome. Occasionally, I find those who had a negative experience, yet somehow God's grace was sufficient, not only to help them through, but to turn them into a Joseph or an Esther.

In this issue, we celebrate a few stories that touched our staff—stories of teachers who modeled the life of Christ. We trust they will inspire us all to follow their examples.

Gary Burns
 Gary Burns, Editor



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Teachers Partnering with Christ

I learned many, many years ago that Jesus makes a wonderful partner. After I partnered with Him in stewardship, I became financially able to support my family and the cause of God. After partnering with Him in my academic pursuits, a clear path was laid out for my preparation. After partnering with Him as a pastor, He led me to pastoral and evangelistic success. Now I believe that any partnership we form with Christ is bound for complete and satisfying success.

What a privilege then for our dedicated, Christian teachers to partner with Christ in preparing our children and youth for useful service to the Kingdom of Heaven. These stalwarts are to be admired, encouraged, and prayed for as they lead out in this most important work.

A classmate of mine from more than 50 years ago sent me a story by e-mail the other day. I want to share it in this column as a reminder of the value of our teachers.

The chief executive officer of a corporation was with dinner guests one evening, and he decided to explain the problem with education. He argued, "What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided that his best option in life was to become a teacher?" He reminded the guests what they say about teachers: "Those who can, do. Those who can't, teach."

To stress his point, he said to another guest: "You're a teacher, Bonnie. Be honest. What do you make?"

Bonnie, who had a reputation for honesty and frankness, replied, "You want to know what I make?" She paused for a second and then began, "Well, I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I make C+ feel like the Congressional Medal of Honor. I make kids sit through 40 minutes of class time when their parents can't make them sit for five minutes without an iPod, GameCube, or movie rental.

"You want to know what I make?" She paused again and looked at everyone at the table. "I make kids wonder. I make them question. I make them criticize. I make them apologize and mean it. I make them have respect and take responsibility for their actions. I teach them to write, and then I make them write. I make them read, read, read. I make them show all their work in math."

She continued, "I make my students from other countries learn everything they need to know in English while preserving their unique cultural identity. I make my classroom a place where all my students feel safe. I make my students stand to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, because we live in the United States of America.

"Finally, I make them understand that if they are obedient to God and use their God-given gifts and work hard and follow their dreams, they can succeed in life."

Bonnie paused one last time, and then continued, "Then, when people try to judge me by what I make, I can hold my head up high because I know something. You want to know what I make? I MAKE A DIFFERENCE. What do you make?"

Amen, Bonnie, Amen!

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Illinois In just four short weeks, the lives of 19 people were turned upside down. They were baptized as a result of a prophecy seminar organized by the brand new Adventist church in Naperville. These new members doubled the church's membership, making a total of 41 members. The Naperville Seventh-Day Adventist Church was officially started in April 2006 with a small group of 19 members (seven of the 19 are youth) for the purpose of reaching out and being a light to the community of Naperville.

In a report at a meeting of pastors several weeks later, Michelle Catarama explained how the group had contacted

Hiram Rester, an ordained minister working on an advanced degree at Andrews University, to preach for their series. Rester had been highly recommended, and Catarama told how hard the group worked before, during, and after the meetings. "We didn't know what to do in every situation, but found help just a phone call away."



Photos by Rachel Terwilliger



Viorel Catarama (left) and Hiram Rester (right) welcome Louise "Grandma" Nettleton.

In her report, Catarama displayed photos of the candidates who were actively following in their Bibles during the seminar as well as their baptism pictures. The group continued with a Bible marking class after the prophecy seminary was completed. "They are so very excited about what they have learned," she continued. "They each have thanked us over and over again for bringing the truth to Naperville."



Recalling his decision to be baptized, Jared Passley said, "I couldn't do anything else. Truth is truth."

Many visitors expressed their interest in studying the Word of God and indicated they were not interested in "entertainment." They also shared their excitement about the amount of information and instruction they received during the seminar.

You can be sure there were many interesting stories about each candidate's search for truth. One such story involved three generations in one family who lived together in Naperville. The youngest, **Cathy Nettleton**, had searched for truth for some time. When the flier announcing the meetings arrived in her mailbox, she decided she must go. She invited her mother, **Alice Nettleton**, and her grandmother, **Louise Nettleton**, to attend with her.

Getting home late from the meetings each evening was tiring for 97-year-old Louise "Grandma" Nettleton, so after the first few meetings Grandma stayed home. Cathy and her mother were so excited about what they learned; they shared every detail with Grandma. The last week of the meetings Grandma insisted she should attend. She made her decision to be baptized by immersion, as did her daughter-in-law and granddaughter. Portable baptistries are a little more difficult to get into, but that didn't deter Grandma. With some help, she climbed the stairs to the top and stepped down into the baptism.

Twenty-nine-year-old **Jared Passley** travels a lot as a truck driver. When he couldn't attend the meetings, he took his lessons on the road. "I couldn't do anything else," he stated. "Truth is truth," and he, too, was baptized.

Kristine Spaletto's and **George Prada III's** decision for baptism included a wedding with their new church family. In just five days, a wedding was held—complete with a three-tiered cake, flowers, bridal gown, and a fully-decorated church. The new members, including 97-year-old Grandma, joined in to put together a first-class wedding. The couple



Kristine Spaletto and George Prada III were married less than a week after their baptisms. Their new church family helped make the wedding a memorable experience.

was overwhelmed with gratitude for their new church family.

“We’ve been involved in all kinds of projects,” continued Catarama at the pastors’ meeting. “This experience, by far, has been the most gratifying. We have been blessed beyond anything we could ever imagine. We are more committed now, than ever before, that the work of the church will go forward when lay people get involved. It is not the responsibility of pastors

to do the work. They must empower and support laymen, training them and guiding them each step of the way.”

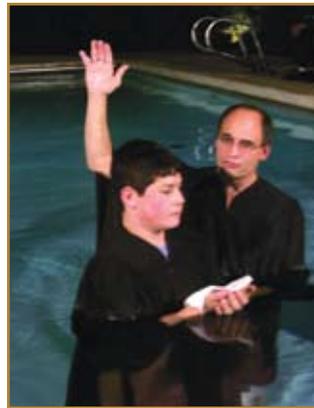
If there are those seeking a new venue to attend church, they would find the charming, little church a blessed place on Sabbath. The new church meets in the Naperville Women’s Club’s historic building, and church members invite everyone to respond to the call to minister and to “Touch Every I for Jesus.”

Rachel Terwilligar, Illinois Conference assistant to the president for communication

Indiana Is there such a thing as triple joy? I would say there is. Let me explain. The arrival of our triplets—Daniel, Melissa, and Vanessa—brought joy to our family, triple joy that is. It has been a joy to see them grow in the Lord.

Recently, the Lord blessed the Anderson Church with the birth of three “spiritual babies.” **Christina Arnett**, **Christian Rhodes**, and **Billy Kellermeyer** were baptized into the church on Oct. 15, 2006. It was truly triple joy.

Although babies don’t choose where they will be born, Christina, Christian, and Billy wanted their baptisms to be special. They wanted to be baptized outside in the pool at the Arellanos’ home.



Christian Rhodes, Billy Kellermeyer, and Christina Arnett committed their lives to Jesus and made a decision to be baptized. Following the baptismal service, individuals who wanted to recommit their lives to God or be baptized were invited to float flowers in the pool to signify their decisions.

If you had the opportunity to be there, I’m sure you would agree that it was truly a special service. There were several musical selections performed by their friends. Words of encouragement were shared by parents and friends. The presence of the Holy Spirit was evident as the candidates and the Indiana Conference ministerial director Peter Neri and I descended into the water.

A basket containing purple and white flowers was placed beside the pool. At the end of the service, a call was made for those who wanted to recommit their lives to God. They picked purple flowers and floated them on the water. There was also a call for those who wanted to make plans to be baptized. They picked up the white flowers and floated them on the water.

The chill of the night settled in, but there was a warm glow that could be felt all around us. This was a service that we will never forget. The joy of seeing a new baby come into the world brings an awesome responsibility to a family; the same is true for a church family. Each of us are called to be spiritual guardians of these three young people. Let us pray for them, let us encourage them, and let us mentor them into spiritual maturity.

Jose Vazquez, pastor



From left: Billy Kellermeyer, Christian Rhodes, and Christina Arnett were baptized recently. They were excited to let others know about their decisions to put their lives in Jesus’ hands.



Judith Yeoman

Joel Willett was also one of the youth speakers. He presented sermons on Daniel 7 and the Spirit of Prophecy.

The Elijah Project

BY JOYCE BLAKE

In December 2005, Jeremy Wong attended the General Youth Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He came back inspired, and talked about his experience in his Sabbath school class. The fire was lit, and it began to burn as he approached the church board with the idea that church youth could hold an evangelistic series. He was encouraged to pursue his idea.

Since Jeremy lacked experience coordinating an evangelistic series, he sought his mother's help. She asked for my assistance, also, since my son, Tim Blake, had assembled what came to be known as "The Spartanburg Seven," a group of young Pathfinders who held two evangelistic series in Spartanburg, South Carolina, and continue to preach in area churches. The Spartanburg Seven inspired ShareHIM, a ministry of the Carolina Conference, which is now a great laymen's movement in the Southern Union.



Youth speakers from ages 12–23 used their gifts and talents for the Lord during the New Albany series. From left: Jenelle Wong, Jaylon Porterfield, Marcos Giordana, Jeremy Wong, Prentis Washington, Andy Haub, and Joe Russell

Tim was invited to speak to youth who wanted to be involved. After listening to his presentation, our pastor, Jerry Higgs, asked Tim to speak again to the congregation the next morning. "The Elijah Project" was born in the New Albany Seventh-day Adventist Church that Sabbath morning!

We met after church beginning in July 2006. We discussed the seriousness of the project, the dedication of our time to the project, and Jesus' instructions to the disciples in Matthew 10. We particularly dwelt on verse 20: "For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you."

After much discussion and prayer, we narrowed it down to nine young people who were willing and able to dedicate the next four months of their life to the project. Jeremy Wong, Janelle Wong, Joe Russell, Joel Willett, Andy Haub, Marcos Giordana, Jaylon Porterfield, and Prentis

Washington were speakers, and Paula Giordana was in charge of music.

Tim donated the materials and DVDs, and the youth selected the subjects to present. They practiced three to four nights a week during August and September. We discussed every possible scenario and

how to handle whatever would happen. We knew Satan would try to stop us at every turn, and he did. However, we learned that He who is within us is much stronger than he who is in the world.

It was exciting to watch the young people practice. Their eyes lit up with excitement as they absorbed the truth and began to preach it from their heart—and not from a script.

As they preached each night of the series, the youth laid aside the script for their appeal and gave a tear-filled one from their heart. Each message was presented as though preaching to someone who was hearing it for the last time. Many came forward in response to their appeals.

We jumped with joy when a young mother was baptized who had attended regularly with her newly-baptized husband. She said she wanted to be a member of a church that had such truth that their youth wanted to preach it! Several more baptisms are scheduled.

I fear not for the future of the New Albany Church. I can see that it will be in the good hands of our youth!

Joyce Blake, New Albany Church communication secretary



Palawan Island Mission Team Becomes a Family

BY AMY DEMING

Jeff Deming stopped by the parked “tricycle” to toss coins in the cut-off plastic bottle. Melvin had wired the bottle into place to collect the fares for rides in his motorcycle-sidecar contraption. “What’s that for?” I asked. “Oh, just because...” Jeff said. “I drop money in here about every time I go by when Melvin’s not looking!”

Melvin, with his wide smile and helpful ways, had worked alongside our building team, shuttling us into town for construction supplies and water. When he talked about the new church we were building, he said, “I never dreamed this could be for us.”

Taytay lies at the northern tip of the island of Palawan in the Philippines. From there, it was two bumpy bus-ride hours to the nearest paved highway and four more hours on to Puerto Princesa where we landed from Manila. Our 51-member team came to Taytay with a threefold mission—evangelism, medical outreach, and a construction project.

My husband Jeff, aka “PJ,” is a youth pastor currently serving as youth director for the Illinois Conference. He began planning the mission trip four years ago. “My desire for this mission trip was to target college students to give them mission trip opportunities to serve in the field of their upcoming career. I wanted to help them see the possibilities of continuing to serve in the mission field after graduation,” he said.

To do this, these soon-to-be-professionals needed to be very involved in every aspect of the trip, with the guidance of professional mentorship. Brett Maynor, a Walla Walla College junior, plans to be a dentist, and Deanne DeLeon, a dental assistant, also intends to apply to dental school. Under the guidance of Herman Liem (a dentist from Oregon), Brett, Deanne, and other team members got hands-on experience, even helping with extractions in the dental clinic



Fifty-one individuals, from states across the United States, participated in the “Promise 4 Palawan” mission trip, an evangelistic, medical, and construction outreach project to the Philippines organized by the Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists’ youth department.

where 50–100 patients were seen each day.

Christina Hack, a junior theology major at Southern University, worked with Jeff as the main speaker for the evangelistic series, presenting talks on alternating evenings. Chase Hendrickson, a Walla Walla University junior engineering major, designed the church and saw his plan implemented with the supervi-

sion of four professional building contractors.

High school- and college-age team members led out in the evening meetings for children and youth. Many team members reflected that spending time with the kids was the highlight of their time in Taytay. Celeste Maldonado, a Hinsdale Adventist Academy senior, said, “Children’s ministries was my favorite part. It was awesome to see kids learn the songs and sing their hearts out.”

Lauren Brooks, an 11th grader from Bloomington, Illinois, said, “The kids were so adorable. I realized I was there for them to see God through me. By the time we left, I didn’t want to leave.”

On our final Sabbath in Taytay, singing filled the mostly-completed structure we had built bucket by bucket and brick by brick. Sand, cement, and stone had become a sanctuary. As we sang “I’m So Glad I’m a Part of the Family of God,” I realized we had, in fact, become family.

Amy Deming was a “Promise 4 Palawan” mission team member.





FAMILY TIES

Success Can Be Spelled S-U-P-P-O-R-T

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

As Seventh-day Adventists, most of us make large financial commitments to educate our children. When the home and school are in partnership, children learn best—no matter what schools they attend.

Here are some ideas to consider as you continue to invest in your child's education:

Focus on the Positive

Your child's teachers and the school administrators are human beings with their own dreams, goals, concerns, and feelings. Remember that the school is filled with professionals who have dedicated themselves to furthering the positive development of children. Speak of teachers in a positive way, learn their names, become personally acquainted with them, and pray for them by name at family worship.

Get Involved

Don't assume that "no news is good news." Take time to find out what's going on at school. Ask for an appointment with your child's teacher, even if there are no major concerns. Many times the only contact parents have with teachers is if there are complaints or criticism. Ask if there are ways you can contribute to the classroom—as a room parent, supervising a field trip, providing specific supplies, or by using your own professional skills.

Read Everything that Comes from the School

Young children must depend on you to follow through on the school's written requests. Be sure to return information needed immediately. Don't put things off until you have "more time."

Mark Your Calendar

When you receive information about school events, enter them into your appointment calendar. Consider school appointments to be as serious as any important business meetings. This goes for both dad and mom.

Don't Bear a False Witness

Often statements about school include gossip and even lies about teachers and staff. By simply agreeing with others,

including your child, you foster a negative attitude. Remember every situation has both facts and feelings. Check out the facts before you come to any conclusions. Help others relate the facts and their feelings to the appropriate people. Help build bridges instead of barriers.

Honor Children's Efforts

Carefully look at what your child brings home, and discuss what your child has learned. Have a bulletin board or space on the refrigerator for displaying children's work. Set aside a large envelope or box to store your child's work for each school year.

Consider Your Own Expectations

Some parents push beyond encouragement to the point of pressure. Rather than nagging your child to "do better," work with them to plan and reach goals that are meaningful for them.

Take Homework Seriously

Time has certainly changed. Homework is here to stay! Your child deserves your support, including the physical and emotional environment to accomplish their tasks.

Attend Parent-Teacher Conferences

Be on time. Be aware of those waiting after you. Refrain from complaining that you "don't have time" to go. Remember that you and your child's teachers are colleagues in your child's education.

Celebrate

Find ways to celebrate the personhood of your child. Some families go out to eat breakfast before school the first day of each month; others celebrate by rewarding good grades.

Remember You Are Your Child's Most Important Teacher

Even though teachers and others at school have a tremendous impact, your child is still looking to you. He or she needs your support and consistent love.

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



Nuts can lower your risk of heart disease by 50 percent.

GOING NUTS

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Nuts are high in fat, but it's a good fat.

Nuts and seeds are high in both fat and calories. So how could they ever be considered a healthy food? Well, not all fat is created equal. The majority of the fat in nuts and seeds is a healthy unsaturated fat, which produces a favorable effect upon both one's blood lipid and blood glucose levels.

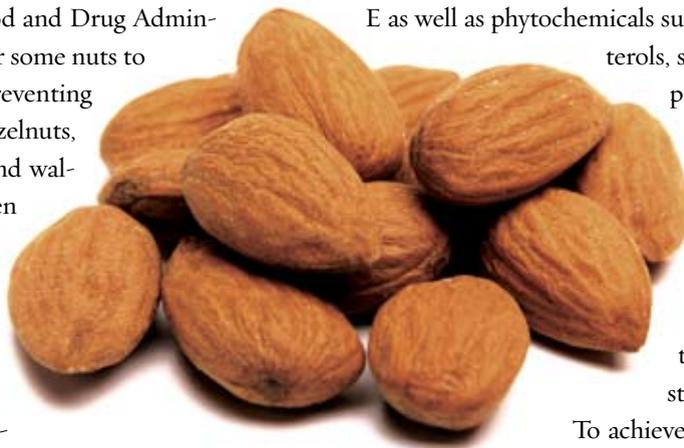
Recently, a number of human studies have reported that a frequent consumption of nuts is associated with a reduced risk of heart disease. In the Adventist Health Study, people who ate nuts one to four times per week had a 25 percent reduction in risk of heart disease while those who ate nuts five or more times per week experienced a 50 percent reduction in risk, compared to people who ate nuts less than once a week. Furthermore, in the Nurses' Health Study, women who ate nuts frequently had a 39 percent lower risk of fatal heart disease compared with those rarely eating nuts.

As a result, the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) approved a claim for some nuts to be designated as useful for preventing heart disease. Almonds, hazelnuts, pistachios, peanuts, pecans, and walnuts were all given the green light since they contain only one to two grams of saturated fat per ounce. On the other hand, Brazil nuts, cashews, and macadamia nuts, which have slightly more saturated fat (three to five grams per ounce), did not receive the FDA approval, although they are still considered healthy food. To date, no nut has been proven to be better than another.

Clinical trials have demonstrated the effectiveness of diets containing about two ounces of almonds, pecans, pea-

nuts, pistachios, hazelnuts, macadamia nuts, or walnuts to significantly lower LDL (low-density lipoprotein) cholesterol levels about ten to 15 percent. A study done at Harvard showed that a consumption of nuts or peanut butter five or more times a week may also reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes by 20–25 percent.

In addition to containing good fat, nuts also contain a significant level of potassium, magnesium, folic acid, copper, and dietary fiber, all of which are important for cardiovascular health. Most nuts also contain significant levels of vitamin E as well as phytochemicals such as flavonoids and phyto-



terols, substances known to provide protection against cancer and heart disease. Walnuts are different from other nuts in that they provide a rich source of omega-3 fat. This makes walnuts also useful for lowering triglycerides and the risk of stroke.

To achieve the health benefits of nuts, one should increase consumption of nuts to about one ounce a day, at least four times per week. Nuts can be sprinkled on your favorite salad, casserole, or dessert, or added to your breakfast cereal, bread, or stir-fry.

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



The New Teacher

BY DICK DUERKSEN

We received an odd gift that Christmas, a surprise package that arrived the first day of school rather than on Christmas Eve. Our gift was a short, muscular man dressed in dark slacks, loafers, an aloha shirt, and an ear-to-ear smile. He was sitting on the old, gray, steel Bible classroom desk, greeting each high-school junior as we clumped into the room.

Our expectations were low, and our entrances even slower, since we had endured many months of “Bible” that was starched, bound, limited, forced, and unfriendly. Bible class was the period just before lunch, and we often left with indigestion. Bible was not our favorite academy class.

We sat in our “commanded” seats, wondering what had become of the old teacher and what to expect from the new guy, fearful of the worst.

“Good morning, kids,” his voice was unremarkable, except in its kindness. Every word came as if filtered through his smile, each enhancing a genuine friendliness that slowly transformed our apprehensions into expectations.

“I’m Jake Duran, and the school has asked me to be your Bible teacher for the rest of this year. I’ve never been a Bible teacher; in fact, I’ve only recently graduated from the Andrews University seminary and hoped to spend my life as a youth pastor. Instead, I am a Bible teacher, and I’m going to need your help to be sure I do a good job. Any questions?”

Someone in the back raised his hand. “So, have you ever had a real job?”

“Well,” Jake’s smile was like the rising sun, “for the last few years I was a Marine Corps drill sergeant.”

That brought nervous laughter, and then silence. Jake shifted positions, and answered our unasked question.

“I don’t know much about teaching Bible classes, so

I’ll just use this time each day to introduce you to my best friend, Jesus Christ.”

The rest of that year and the next, Bible was our favorite class. Jake told stories from his own life. He turned us into a drama class, and together we gave new life to ancient Bible stories. His drill sergeant logic gave practical meaning to doctrines, his humor kept us laughing, and his love for Jesus reformed Bible from a study of *truth* into a study of *relationships*. He taught us that judgment rhymes with hope.

Jake hauled us into the mountains for Bible conferences. He joined us at the beach for Surfer Campfires and Sunset Bible Stories. He and his wife brought incredible enchiladas to class, celebrated our birthdays, and modeled Christ-centered love before infatuated teenagers.

Jake changed our lives by giving us a new picture of God. That wasn’t what he set out to do; he was just there to “teach Bible.” But as he shared his love for Jesus and as he lived as God’s friend, he taught us to “love being loved by God.”

We left academy to become husbands and wives, moms and dads, pastors, engineers, physicians, dentists, teachers, and stock brokers. We were all better because of Jake’s God—the God who smiles, encourages, and forgives—the God whose character is defined by Grace.

Dick Duerksen is the “storyteller” for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact the author by e-mail at dduerksen@maranatha.org.



A Special Gift

STORIES OF ELMSHAVEN

BY GARY BURNS

I had a very special teacher in fifth grade. I had no idea how special she was at the time, and I'm afraid I wasn't always appreciative of what she was doing for us. I had no idea what an impact she had made on my life until years later. What clued me in was how my attitude about Ellen G. White was so different than my peers and even some of the older folks. You see, my fifth-grade teacher was Grace Jacques, Ellen's granddaughter.

Grace grew up at Elmshaven, near St. Helena, at the northern end of California's Napa Valley. It was a lovely Victorian home built by railroad developer, Robert Pratt, during California's Gold Rush days.

Elmshaven was the new name Ellen gave this haven of rest in the elm trees after moving there in 1900. She lived there until her death in 1915.

Grace often told us stories from "Grandmother's home." As I recall, they were fun and delightful stories of a dear, sweet grandma who loved children, and they loved her. Grace described how she and the neighbor children would play in the yard with Grandma joining in the fun. Her home was a place where children were welcome—a place where they delighted to be.

Those images of laughter and play, and the kind and gentle grandmother, were locked in my mind. We had recently moved away from my own grandmother, and the stories reminded me of her. When I was in college, many of my classmates, even theology majors, had this strange picture of who Ellen was. They saw her as a stern, unpleasant, and judgmental woman whose main mission in life was to ruin all possibility of people having fun. I wondered where they got such a far-fetched idea.

While at Elmshaven, Ellen wrote some of my favorite books: *Christ's Object Lessons*, *The Ministry of Healing*, *Acts of the Apostles*, *Gospel Workers*, revised *The Great Controversy*, plus



This is Elmshaven, the home of Ellen G. White from 1900–1915, located in St. Helena, California. Ellen's granddaughter, Grace Jacques, is pictured with children on the front lawn.

penned many articles and pamphlets. The books, *Education* and *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, were also authorized for publication at that time, and she completed *Patriarchs and Prophets* was published two years after her death.

While at Elmshaven, Ellen put much emphasis on education and helped establish a worldwide education system. No wonder

her granddaughter, Grace, chose to become a teacher.

After Grace retired, she moved back to her childhood home and became the tour guide for the Elmshaven compound. I had a chance to visit while she was there, and I told her how grateful I was that she had shared those wonderful stories of her grandmother. I was given a very special gift. I was allowed to see Ellen through her granddaughter's eyes—to see her for who she truly was—not some distorted view by those whose hearts are rubbed the wrong way by what is true, noble, and good, nor by some whose self-proclaimed mission is to inflict her words upon others in some sick quest for importance or control. I am forever grateful to my fifth-grade teacher and the beautiful gift she gave me.

Elmshaven was designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service in 1993. You can plan your visit at <http://elmshaven.org>.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

Signs of the Times photo

More Blessed to Give

BY RAY YOUNG

The crinkling of wrapping paper, snapping of tape, and clipping of scissors were the sounds that filled the air. Once wrapped, the gifts and toys provided by the Ecorse (Michigan) Church and other volunteers were arranged under a Christmas tree laden with ornaments and sparkling lights. This was the final task before welcoming neighborhood children and their parents to the special Christmas program hosted at the Detroit Better Living Center on Christmas Eve afternoon in 2006. One by one, more than 60 children and their parents filed in and sat in the double line of chairs set in a half-circle.

Go-Tell Productions, a puppet troupe based in Ypsilanti, Michigan, brought cheer and laughter as they gave a light-hearted presentation about the symbols of Christmas. By the end of the production, they had reminded those present of the real meaning of Christmas—that Jesus came as a babe to this earth long ago to save us from our sins.

Go-Tell's director, Roberta Perry, challenged attendees' memory of Christmas songs with a table game that enlisted their spelling skills. Several rounds of musical chairs with Christmas carols gave everyone a chance to participate. Older children and even smaller ones carried by their parents were part of the festivities. There were prizes for the winners, and every child received a gift. There were also enough toys and gifts for grandparents to take home for their grandchildren and for children to take for their siblings at home.

Snacks, including pretzels, apples, juice, and treats, were enjoyed by all after the activities. For that moment in the holiday season, all were happy and grateful. One woman stayed to



Nicole Perry (right), Go-Tell Productions president, helped distribute gifts to the children at the end of the program.



This young lady was the happy "winner" of the musical chairs activity.



More than 60 children and several parents attended the special children's Christmas program at the Detroit Better Living Center.

help clean up and stack chairs. She said "I really appreciate what you guys are doing. I can always count on getting some help here if I need it, so I want to help when I can." Another woman remarked, "This is so wonderful! The kids really enjoyed it, and I'm glad my four children can get a gift. I didn't know what I was going to do for Christmas!" Still another said she had spent all her check to get groceries, and now her kids would have at least one Christmas gift.

Hope for the Greatest Gift was given as 16 attendees signed up for Bible studies. One of the two adults who signed up said she wanted her children who were not there to take Bible studies, too.

Volunteers from the Ypsilanti, Ecorse, Conant, and Highland Park Adventist churches stayed by a long time to share their observations of children with broad smiles, bright eyes, and happiness spilling over as they took their gift—at least one they would be able to open on Christmas day. Is it more blessed to give than receive? It was on that Christmas Eve.

Ray Young is the Lake Region Conference communication director and Detroit Better Living Center director.





EL VALOR DE LOS GRUPOS PEQUEÑOS

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“La formación de grupos pequeños como base de esfuerzo cristiano, es un plan que ha sido presentado ante mí por aquel que no puede equivocarse. Si hay un gran número de hermanos en la iglesia, organícense en grupos pequeños, para trabajar no solamente por los miembros de la iglesia, sino también por los no creyentes” (Evangelismo, p. 89).

El último sábado del año 2006 tuve el privilegio de adorar a Dios en la iglesia hispana de Eau Claire. Durante la hora de la Escuela Sabática los asistentes fueron divididos en grupos pequeños para discutir lo que habían aprendido de la lección de esa semana. Me uní a uno de los grupos y empezamos a comentar acerca de lo que más nos había impresionado de la historia de José. Para mí fue interesante notar que a pesar de las diferencias de personalidades y edades en mi grupo todos nos unimos con un solo propósito: el de conocer y acercarnos más a Dios. Aunque conversamos sólo unos 20 minutos me pareció que todos recibimos verdadero ánimo espiritual.

En el año 2004 se hizo una encuesta con el propósito de averiguar las razones por las cuales la gente en este país usa el Internet. Fue interesante descubrir que la mayoría respondió que utilizaba el Internet para conversar con otras personas. No hace mucho, mi esposa y yo encontramos en el sitio web de Yahoo a un grupo de personas que se reúnen regularmente porque tienen algo en común: Todos ellos tienen un familiar que sufre de una enfermedad mortal llamada “Lewy Body Dementia”. Sucede que mi suegro padece de esta misma enfermedad y mi esposa y yo somos los responsables de su cuidado. Al descubrir dicho sitio pensamos que quizás este grupo, con sus experiencias, nos podría dar más información. Así que nos unimos al grupo y ahora recibimos correos electrónicos de ellos, todos los días. Lo interesante es que no sólo recibimos mucha información, sino también nos ha dado mucho ánimo y hemos sido incluidos como parte de este grupo especial.



El grupo pequeño que visité en la iglesia de Eau Claire.

En un mundo de dolor y desánimo, el ser humano necesita el apoyo de otros. Cristo mismo buscó ánimo de su pequeño grupo en su hora oscura, cuando estaba en el jardín de Getsemaní. Basado en lo que dicen la Biblia y el Espíritu de Profecía, Dios nos encomienda que animemos a nuestro prójimo, no sólo en el tiempo del culto, sino también en el contexto de un grupo pequeño.

Mi pregunta es la siguiente: ¿Cómo está su vida espiritual? ¿Siente necesidad de un reavivamiento en su vida? Le animo a que asista a un grupo pequeño para orar, estudiar y dialogar. Si no existe un programa de grupos pequeños en su iglesia hable con su pastor y presénteles su disposición de ayudar a formar uno. Mi oración es que se puedan ver en nuestra Unión muchos grupos pequeños reuniéndose semanalmente para acercarse más a Dios y apoyar a sus prójimos.

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



A Teacher's Prayers

JULIA O' CAREY

BY GARY BURNS WITH SUSAN REID

When I was the associate pastor for youth ministries at the Pioneer Memorial Church back in the early '90s, one of my responsibilities was to manage the Summer Day Camp. Each year, we employed a number of students as counselors to be good role models and have a positive influence. One of our star counselors was Julia Aitken. Her beautiful smile and gentle, caring spirit made the children feel loved, accepted, and welcomed in her presence. As I recall, she rarely had any problems with discipline, as she was able to inspire the best in children.

When Julia graduated from Andrews Academy, I wasn't surprised to see her do so well in the elementary education program at Andrews University. Upon completing her teaching degree, Julia was hired to be the teacher and principal of the soon-to-be-reopened Ann Arbor Adventist Elementary School. She was excited about the school because the pastor, Dan Hall, and the school board had shared with her that they were reopening the school with the goal to reach children for Christ, including children from the community. They advertised everywhere and prayed earnestly for God to send the students He wanted to be there. She had no idea what God was going to accomplish through her at her first assignment.

The story began a year before she arrived. Susan Reid was an educated professional who wanted the very best for her daughter Kaitlyn, who was in the second grade in the local public school. As the year progressed, her daughter became more frustrated with her teacher and school. Things were just not right.

Because of her work schedule, Susan had also enrolled Kaitlyn in the "before and after" school program at the Little Lamb Day Care & Nursery at the Ann Arbor Seventh-day

Church life had been a big part of Susan's childhood. Raised in a typical German family in Wisconsin, right across the street from a church, she attended youth league, Sunday school, and anything else the church had for her. So Susan was pleased her daughter was able to attend a school associated with a church, though she knew nothing about Seventh-day Adventists. Susan thought having Sabbath on Saturday was a little weird, but it didn't bother her because she knew Kaitlyn was getting a great education.

An involved parent, Susan attended all the activities and was a strong supporter of the school, and especially of Julia. She found everyone associated with the school was wonderful, including the pastor. They had such a successful year that Susan was eager to enroll Kaitlyn again the following year.

One of the reasons for such success was prayer. Julia kept a prayer journal, and on its pages were prayers like, "Lord, please touch Kaitlyn, David, and Susan Reid's hearts, and work a miracle in their lives." She wondered how God was going to answer her prayer.

Susan did a considerable amount of traveling with her job and needed David to pick Kaitlyn up after school one day. She

GOD ANSWERED JULIA'S PRAYERS.

Adventist Church. Susan became acquainted with the director, Jodi Denton, and one day shared her frustration about Kaitlyn's experience, "I don't know what I'm going to do with my daughter next year for school."

"Sue, you're not going to believe this," Jodi replied, "but the Seventh-day Adventist Church is thinking about reopening their school."

Susan had noticed the church campus included a building that looked like a school and learned from Jodi that it had been closed for several years. If it reopened, that could be the answer for her daughter. Susan began praying that the church would decide to reopen the school. Jodi prayed too.

One May day Jodi greeted Susan with great news, "They are going to open the school, and you're going to love the teacher."

Susan's husband David was a little frustrated with the prospects of an additional expense, but he didn't say no. Susan and Kaitlyn were the first in line at the Open House. Kaitlyn liked Julia, and Susan just knew this was going to be the right move for them.

When school began, Kaitlyn fell in love with her new teacher. She began to thrive immediately under Julia's instruction. Julia was just the kind of teacher they had been hoping for. Susan could hardly believe the growth that she saw in Kaitlyn.

explained that the students were preparing for a play at the church and asked, "David, would you please pick her up? You will have to go into the church and wait for her to finish."

David wasn't thrilled about having to go into the church. You see, he was an atheist and had been most of his life. He begrudgingly slipped into the church and sat down to watch the rest of his daughter's practice. While the children sang and rehearsed their play, something happened—something incredible.

When Susan got home, David tried to explain it as he choked back the tears. "I don't know what it was. I don't know what precipitated it. I don't even know what I was thinking, but I felt the hand of God on my shoulder." Susan didn't know what to think.

David contacted the pastor and learned that the church was providing an evangelistic series via satellite called *Net '99*. David began to attend every night. Within a few days, David had a Bible in every room in the house, in his car, and even in his office. When he wasn't at work, he was at the church attending the meetings or talking with the pastor or some of the members. David just absolutely threw himself into the church.

Now you might think that this would make Susan very happy that her husband had finally, after all of these years, become in touch with God. But her reaction was just the opposite. She just pulled back. Susan couldn't believe that this

man she had married—who was an atheist, who refused to go to church with her when for years she had tried, and who had made her stop wanting to go to church altogether—had now turned into this person she didn't know.

Susan's greatest objection was David keeping the Sabbath. She didn't appreciate the weekly reminder that she had been wrong about church all these years. David's love and enthusiasm for the church was not well-received.

Within months, David began to make plans with the pastor for his baptism. He wanted Susan to be present, so he tried to work with her to arrange it on a weekend when she would be home. As it turned out, Susan ended up going on another trip the week of his baptism and refused to come home early as he requested. David was baptized, and afterward some friends of theirs had a celebration in his honor. He enjoyed the support of all his friends at church but not his wife.

During the next two years, David's life was centered in the church. He became active in Bible studies and even became an elder and the men's ministries leader. On a consistent basis he would say, "Susan, I really wish you'd go to church with me today." But the more he pushed, the more she pulled back.

Meanwhile, Kaitlyn continued to thrive with Julia as her teacher. She became confident and comfortable with herself as a Christian and knowing Jesus. Julia applied the principle that children learn more when they are involved. So, for Bible class, she had the students actively share what they were learning with those around them. Kaitlyn loved the weekly Bible labs, and she learned more about the Bible than her mom had learned in all those years of going to church. Susan had enjoyed the sermons at her church, but not once did they ever open a Bible, reference a verse in the Bible, or explain what Jesus was trying to tell them in the Bible.

When *Net 2002* came around, David urged Susan to attend. "No, I do not want to go. Please stop asking me," Susan shot back at him. Kaitlyn had observed the conflict between her parents and suggested, "Mom, why don't you just go this one time?"

"Okay, I'll go one night," Susan agreed.

Something happened to Susan—something incredible—as she sat there looking at the projection screen where the image of Jesus with His hands over the world was displayed. On the way home that night she said to David and Kaitlyn, "I don't want to hear any laughing after I say this, but I am not going to miss one meeting—not one! So, whatever we have on our schedule, and I don't care where I am traveling to,



The Reid family began an exciting journey with Jesus after enrolling Kaitlyn in the Ann Arbor Adventist Elementary School. From left: David, Susan, and Kaitlyn

things are going to change, because I don't want to miss one meeting."

She didn't miss a one. After the meetings, Susan started Bible studies with the pastor. One Sabbath, he said what he frequently says at the end of his sermon, "Is there anyone here who is ready to give your life to Jesus?"

Susan didn't plan it; she didn't know the pastor was going to ask that question,

but it was time. She stood up. When the pastor saw her stand, he was ecstatic. David began to sob, and people all around her were crying tears of joy.

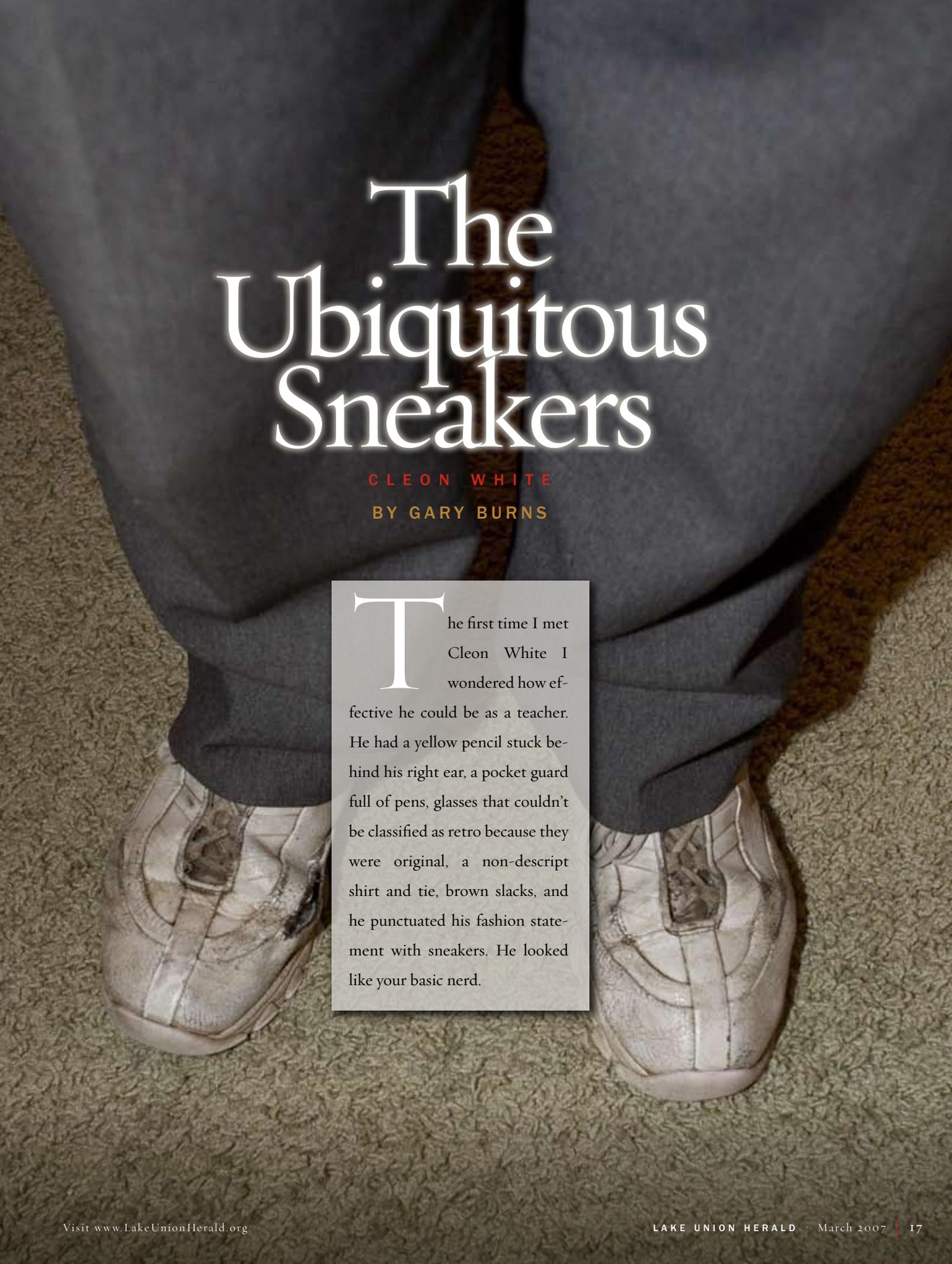
God answered Julia's prayers. Kaitlyn became the school's student Bible Labs coordinator. David is now the first elder and serves on the Michigan Conference Lay Advisory Committee, and Susan is not only the church treasurer, but she is now the school board chair.

Julia married A.J. O'Carey in 2000 and moved to Janesville, Wisconsin, where she taught lower elementary at the Woodland Christian School. In 2002, Kaila May was born and Julia chose to stay at home with her. She completed her master's degree in education from Andrews University with an emphasis in reading and continued to stay at home with Kaila while she did private tutoring. In 2003, they moved to Berrien Springs where Julia served as part-time vice principal at Ruth Murdoch Elementary.

Born to missionary parents, Julia grew up in Thailand. As a child, she made weekly visits to the refugee camps for the Laotian, Vietnamese, and Cambodian people. As she witnessed their suffering first-hand, she developed a lifelong burden for the people of Southeast Asia. In 2006, she became the associate director of Adventist Southeast Asia Projects (ASAP), where she is making a difference for thousands of children in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

One of Julia's favorite projects is the literacy schools program. In the worst areas of Phnom Penh, ASAP-supported literacy teachers are changing the lives and futures of at-risk girls and illiterate women by teaching them to read and write. By sharing their faith every day and using the Bible as one of the textbooks, more than 60 percent of the students become baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Instead of ending up in slave labor or as prostitutes, they are able to make a decent living for themselves with the basic skills they acquire through the literacy program.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director, and Susan Reid is a member of the Ann Arbor Seventh-day Adventist Church and school board chair.



The Ubiquitous Sneakers

CLEON WHITE

BY GARY BURNS

The first time I met Cleon White I wondered how effective he could be as a teacher. He had a yellow pencil stuck behind his right ear, a pocket guard full of pens, glasses that couldn't be classified as retro because they were original, a non-descript shirt and tie, brown slacks, and he punctuated his fashion statement with sneakers. He looked like your basic nerd.

I, on the other hand, was the new youth pastor in town; I played the guitar, drove a vintage VW bus, and had the ever popular mullet hair cut. But after about five months of observing his success and my failure, I began to take notice of this cool man.

I began to appreciate how effective, and popular, this humble, unassuming gentleman was the night before graduation as we sat in a half-circle with the senior class on the floor of the Commons at Andrews Academy. Richard Orison, the principal, sat on the bench under the words, "To recreate in man the image of his Maker is the object of education." After a few songs, and some well-chosen words of inspiration, Richard invited members of the class to share anything from their experience at Andrews Academy during their past four years.

The seniors had a lot of good things to say, and we laughed as they shared some rather humorous experiences. I was surprised to hear student after student refer to Cleon and how he had helped them, encouraged them, challenged them, and even made them laugh. He blushed with embarrassment as they singled him out.

The rest of the faculty, myself included, secretly wished someone would mention our name. Then it was Cleon's turn, and he redirected our attention to this incredible class and the grace and mercy of God.

I walked away from that experience amazed and with a great sense of admiration for this incredibly popular yet humble "nerd" of a man.

The next school year I studied his interaction with the students. He knew all 320 of them and greeted each student by name. Cleon often laughed with them, either at himself or some clever joke they'd shared. From time to time, he came up with one of his own, which he could hardly get through without chuckling before the punch line.

Cleon asked thought-provoking questions that challenged the students—and not just about math, but about life and God. He taught a full load, yet at every free period and after school he was available to tutor and give assistance to those who struggled. Cleon took it on as a personal challenge to ensure their success.

He took the role of student advocate when they were in trouble. And Cleon's advocacy was always directed at the most effective and meaningful discipline designed to teach and redeem, rather than discourage. They felt loved while they faced their consequences, and they didn't get off easy.

For years, Cleon was the Student Association sponsor, and I watched with amazement as he developed leadership. His style was unique. Cleon clearly outlined their responsibility, then he stepped aside to let them work it out. He listened patiently when their discussions went in a wrong direction.

Finally, he would speak and say, "Your plans are very interesting. Have you thought about what you might do if...?" and then he described a potential scenario that certainly was not their desired outcome. Then he'd leave them to correct the situation and continue with "their plan." It was pure genius!

One of my responsibilities as youth pastor was to supervise and instruct eight to ten seminary students in youth ministry. Each year, the new crop was excited about what they might get to do for the youth. They had dreams of being on stage, singing and playing their guitars, wowing the teens with their captivating sermons, and of course, showing their manhood on the basketball court.

When I arrived at my new assignment, one of the first pieces of advice offered to me by a student was, "Pastor Gary, whatever you do, don't bring any seminary students over here to help us."

I was taken aback. "What do you mean? Don't you like having them come and plan fun things for you?"

"No," the student replied. "They just come over here to show off. They think they're so cool. And they have bad sportsmanship on the basketball court. Last year there was a big fight."

So, I shared what the student had told me with my class of seminarians. I told them I would not be asking them to preach or be up front. I would ask them to mingle with the students, get acquainted with them, learn their names, find out what's going on in their lives, pray for them, and encourage them whenever they could. I even told them that they could treat a group to ice cream during the week, keep the receipt, and I would reimburse them. It was like pulling teeth.



The next week I asked for a report of their ministry. Not one could give me a name of a young person they had gotten acquainted with. Since they were not on stage, they just showed up, put their time in, and left.

So the next week I told them about the most effective youth pastor I knew—Cleon. They didn't believe me. They had seen him at Sabbath school. He was always there opening the doors of the academy, turning on lights, smiling, and greeting the youth, but they were not impressed. During the six school years that I worked with the seminarians, a few of them got it. I've followed their ministries, and they are still effective today.

We left the community of Berrien Springs to go to work in North Dakota. We were happy to learn that Cleon had roots there, and he occasionally came for a visit. We talked of our time working together for some incredible young people who are now successful with careers and families of their own. As I had the opportunity to encourage teachers and other youth pastors, I told them about Cleon, the most effective youth pastor I had ever met, and I shared the secrets to his success.

In February 2003, I came back to Berrien Springs as communication director for the Lake Union. At the end of the school year, my family moved back with me, and I was happy that my son, Tyler, would be a sophomore at Andrews Academy. He had a wonderful experience there, and connected with a number of the faculty. Tyler's senior year he was a Student Association officer, and Cleon was still the sponsor. I was glad Tyler was able to learn from the one who had taught me so much.

The end of school came none too soon for the seniors, and once again they closed the Sabbath before graduation in the Commons sitting half-circle on the floor. And once again, given the opportunity to share, the students had many good things to say about their academy experience, including some humorous stories, and yes, about the incredible Cleon. He still has that yellow pencil stuck behind his right ear, but the pocket guard on his non-descript shirt is cov-

ered up by his brown suit (he's the vice principal now), and his fashion statement is still punctuated by his ubiquitous sneakers.

As a tribute to their love and affection for this incredibly popular yet humble "nerd" of a man, the class of 2006 asked Cleon to have their commencement address. He strode down the aisle in the required regalia as he had done dozens of times before with that ever-engaging smile. And when it came time for the commencement address, he was true to form.

Amazed that the students desired him to speak, and honored by their request, he shared a few humble remarks. Then, before proceeding, he turned to pick up a brown bag and placed it on the pulpit. He had their attention and their curiosity. *What was in it?* they wondered, as he continued to describe the treasure in the brown paper bag and how the contents were valuable to him and were necessary for his talk. One by one, I watched faces break into knowing smiles as they figured out what was in the brown paper bag. Knowing the students now knew the contents and the rest of us didn't have a clue, he reached in to pull out his sneakers.

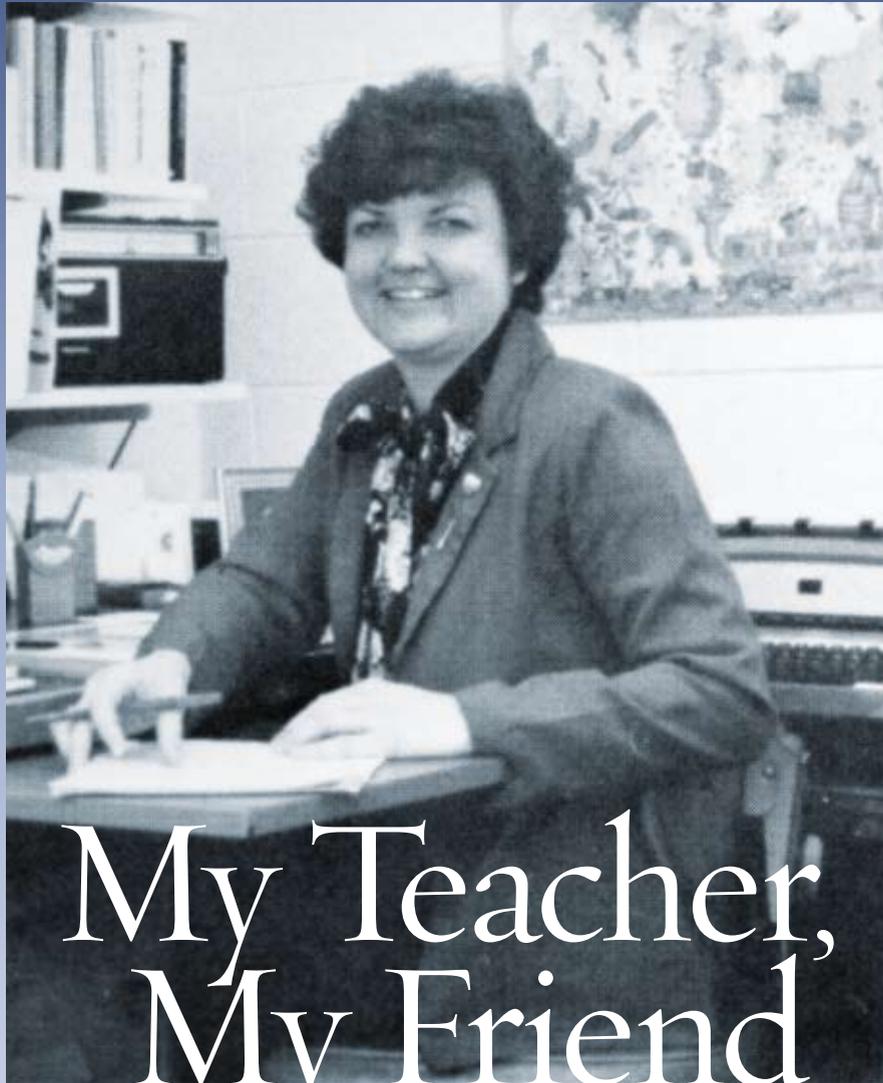
Cleon continued with the most love-filled, encouraging, and endearing challenge and affirmation of the class of 2006 using his sneakers as his illustration. As he concluded his remarks, the class leapt to their feet to applaud the one who had applauded them so many times. Cleon humbly accepted their affection, then sat down and put on his sneakers. Now comfortably attired, despite his regalia, Cleon was ready to assist in handing out their diplomas.

I can't wait 'til we get to Heaven, seated half-circle around the throne, to listen as one by one students from Andrews Academy tell how they are there because the life of Jesus was lived out in the life of one incredibly popular yet humble "nerd" of a man who loved them.



Tyler Burns

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.



Pamela Harris was a positive role model for Mark Bond as his English teacher at Forest Lake Academy during the early '80s.

My Teacher, My Friend

PAMELA HARRIS

BY MARK BOND

When I reminisce about my school days, I consider myself blessed to have been taught by many kind, Christian teachers. My Adventist education has served me well, but there's one teacher in particular who stands out in my memory.

When I was an eighth grader at Orlando Junior Academy, I wasn't one of the popular kids in school. In fact, I was one of the least popular kids in my class. I was interested in art, music, and reading, and wasn't at all into sports or cars. The "cool" guys in my class called me every derogatory name in the book. And, of course, I was always picked last for any sports team during recess or P.E.



Pamela Harris



Mark Bond



I really wanted to be part of the “in” crowd, but the harder I tried, the worse things became. For the most part, I felt unloved and alone.

Only my daily visits to the school library made my eighth grade year bearable. I had a friend there—a young librarian named Pamela Maize Harris.

Mrs. Harris made me feel important and special. When I entered the library with a dark rain cloud over my head, she pointed out the silver lining, and she always loaded me up with good books that stretched my imagination and fostered my desire to look upward. She was a good listener, and could gently point me in the right direction with a simple, well-placed question. She might have preached to me, but instead she became a confidant and friend.

I remember one hard day in particular. I was standing outside. A guy in my class crouched behind me while an accomplice gave me a shove from the front so that I sprawled backward over the first guy. My books flew in all directions, and I ended up in an embarrassing heap on the ground. In a rage, I lashed out at my aggressors. We all got in trouble with the principal.

Later that afternoon, I walked into the library, shoulders sagging low. Mrs. Harris was waiting with a sympathetic ear.

“I hear you’ve had a rough day,” she offered.

“Yeah,” I let out a heavy sigh. “Why do they have to be so mean?”

“Perhaps they just don’t know how much they’re hurting you,” she gently replied. “Perhaps they’re hurting inside, too. They probably think that making you feel small will make them feel big.”

She reminded me of Jesus’ words, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34).

As the year drew to a close and I realized I would be going to Forest Lake Academy the following year, I started to mourn the fact that I would no longer have access to my trusted librarian. I vividly remember the day I went into the library and blurted out to her, “What am I going to do next year without you?”

She leaned forward with a twinkle in her eyes and whispered, “Can you keep a secret?”

“Sure I can. What?”

“Well, I’ve just accepted a position to teach freshman and sophomore English at Forest Lake Academy!” she triumphantly shared. “We’ll both be freshmen next year!”

I was elated! Suddenly, the idea of going to academy was no longer quite so daunting.

Sure enough, Mrs. Harris was waiting for me in her classroom at Forest Lake Academy the next fall. She made learning prepositions and participles fun and challenging, but more importantly, she mentored me in creative pursuits that would one day pave the way for my career. Somewhere along the way, I learned to like myself. And others started liking me too.

After graduating from Forest Lake Academy, I went on to Southern College (now Southern Adventist University). I was pleased to learn that Mrs. Harris and her family would be moving to Southern so she could teach in the English department while working on her doctorate.

Providence made it possible for my librarian, teacher, mentor, and friend to be a consistent, positive role model during my formative years. I will always be grateful that she looked past the awkward, lanky, unloved kid who hung out in the library at Orlando Junior Academy to see a diamond in the rough.

Today, “Dr. Harris” is a professor and coordinator of the graduate program in the Department of Communication at Andrews University, where she is described as a person who “has a passion for the power of communication to change people’s lives” and “is a cheerful, helpful lady that reaches high, and then reaches higher.” Clearly, she has continued her legacy of encouraging students to look upward for creative inspiration.

I’m certain the Lake Union Conference is blessed by the contributions of many great teachers. But I can personally testify how one of them has blessed my life!

Mark Bond owns a graphic design firm, and is the head elder of his church. In his “spare time,” he’s a volunteer fireman and EMT. He lives with his wife and four children in Swan Valley, Montana. Mark designs the *Lake Union Herald* each month, and dreams of one day earning his master’s in communication under the direction of Professor Harris.



Mission Trip Proves Life-Changing Experience for AMH Employees

“Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God our Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress” (JAMES 1:27 NLT).

Exemplifying and living the true mission of Adventist Midwest Health in their personal lives, two employees spent their vacation sharing God’s love with orphans in Central America. Julene Fletcher, coordinator of special events in human resources, and Russ Soliman, regional director of information systems, traveled to Guatemala to minister to orphans and to share the gospel with them.

Soliman said he and his wife Deborah had been praying for a mission opportunity for more than a year. While listening to the Moody Bible Institute radio station, he heard about a trip co-sponsored by the radio station and Buckner Orphan Care International, a Christian not-for-profit organization which provides care to children in other countries. Individuals who wanted to join the trip were asked to submit an application. “Working with orphans sounded like an amazing opportunity to share God’s love and bring these kids hope,” he said.

In an office 20 minutes away, Fletcher was listening to the same radio station. She was inspired for mission work after reading an online journal of a radio announcer who had undertaken a similar trip. “I was awed at the impact this had made on him,” she said. “I’d never been on a mission trip before, and thought ‘here’s my chance,’” Fletcher added.

Fletcher convinced her husband Mike and 18-year-old son, Dean, to join her. It wasn’t until she received a



Not a day goes by when Julene Fletcher doesn’t think about the children she met in Guatemala. She said, “I pray for them every day.”

list of participants from Moody that she realized Soliman would also be on the trip. She e-mailed him so the two could exchange thoughts before their adventure. To finance their trip, which cost \$2,200 a person, Fletcher said she sought donations from friends, co-workers, and members of her congregation. This also secured a strong prayer base for personal prayer requests for the trip.

Arriving in Guatemala in October was literally a culture shock, Soliman said. “There was such a large military presence and what seemed like chaos everywhere,” he remarked. Throughout the trip, they were accompanied by interpreters and were never allowed to leave their group since kidnapping is one of the chief sources of income.

“There were so [many] people praying for us that I was not anxious once,” Fletcher said. As in other third world countries, many families in Guatemala give children to state-run orphanages because they cannot afford to care for them. Many other children are found practicing prostitution and are sentenced to the orphanage by a court. “These children have very little hope. They have their basic needs met, but there is no one to hold them or play with them,” Soliman said.

During the day, the group of 40 visited two different orphanages, distributing aid and gifts which included soccer balls, underwear, T-shirts, and writing supplies. At each orphanage they also conducted a Bible lesson. “We

went to share God’s love and the good news of the Gospel. Six young children accepted Christ into their hearts,” Soliman said.

Traveling throughout the day was difficult. They would set off in mini-vans early in the day and wind through hilly, country roads taking up to three hours to reach their destination. “When I first saw our itinerary, I wondered why we were only visiting two orphanages [a] day, but once we started driving, I realized we couldn’t do more than that,” Soliman said.

The ride back at the end of the day brought time for reflection. “The bus was silent for at least 15 to 20 minutes after leaving as we all thought about leaving these children behind,” Fletcher said, recalling how the gates would clank together after their vans pulled out.

A self-proclaimed non-adventurous type, Fletcher was relieved to find they were staying in hotels. “It brought a touch of familiarity and made the nights easier,” she said.

After seven days, returning to normal life in the United States was an adjustment. “It was shocking coming back. We can walk away, and they can’t,” Soliman said. Leaving the children behind was particularly difficult. “It was definitely hard hearing the doors close behind you. They can’t walk outside. They can’t leave, yet we’re free to leave,” Fletcher said.

For Soliman, the trip was an eye-opening experience, and he is ready to take on another mission trip. “Before [when] people said, ‘mission trips change your life,’ I didn’t realize how true that is,” he stated. “Now I know. You think you’re ministering to them, but they are ministering to you. I will definitely look for other opportunities.”

Not a day goes by when she doesn’t think about the children, Fletcher said. “I pray for them every day,” she added.

Victoria Tedeschi, public relations specialist for Adventist Midwest Health

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University Hosts Passion Play 2007

On April 7–8, Andrews University will host the fourth annual Easter Passion Play. This year several changes have been implemented to ensure a smoother production. Ticket registration is now available online, using a confirmation number to assure places on the tour. A registration form is available on the official website: <http://passionplay.andrews.edu>.



John Hood portrayed Jesus at the Triumphal Entry during the 2006 Easter Passion Play.

Registration includes a wristband, which acts as a pass for the buses and the tour. “Be sure to keep your wristbands on throughout the entire play,” advises Richard Parke, director of this year’s play. “Roman guards may ask to see your ‘pass.’” Also new this year, guests will begin the tour in the Howard Performing Arts Center, instead of Pioneer Memorial Church, in order to allow for a better rotation flow and to accommodate those in wheelchairs or strollers. As a result, parking at the church will no longer be available. The marketplace location will move to the west side of the Seminary, but will still include crowd favorites such as the live animals and miscellaneous, interactive booths. The new Last Supper scene will be entirely contained in a 48-foot semi trailer, and Parke reported that a new resurrection scene will be constructed for “authenticity as well as structural improvements.”

There have also been changes in Passion Play administration. Richard Parke, director; Krystal McKenzie, assistant director and marketing director; Saba Gashugi, drama director; and Ean Nugent, assistant drama director, are amassing volunteers using an online volunteer database. This allows potential participants to see what positions are available and will be an organized source of information for visitors on the website. The fund-raising director position is new this year, “created to help us keep the play improving from year to year,” Parke explained. Overall, Parke wants to “raise the level of quality and communication with what we are doing.”

For more information about tickets and times, visit the official website: <http://passionplay.andrews.edu>. Questions may also be directed via e-mail: passionplay@andrews.edu.

Bonnie McLean, University Relations
student news writer

Teacher in the Spotlight: A. Allan Martin

Andrews University faculty are known for their dedication to students and higher learning, and A. Allan Martin is no exception. As the newly-hired associate professor of discipleship and family ministry in the Christian Ministry department at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, Martin’s passion for both youth and God fits his job title. Previously, Martin served as senior pastor of the Celebration Seventh-day Adventist Church in the heart of Central Florida’s tourism district. However, moving wasn’t Martin’s original plan. “All we knew was that God was asking us to prepare for a new adventure,” he explained. So he, wife Deirdre, and their daughter Alexa, who



Andrews University welcomes A. Allan Martin, the new associate professor of discipleship and family ministry.

had a longing to see snow, relocated to chilly Berrien Springs, Mich.

Martin’s educational background demonstrates not only a passion for Christ, but a desire for academic excellence. He received a master’s degree in theology, specializing in Christian formation and discipleship. He also holds master’s and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif. Martin is co-founder of *GODencounters*, an annual discipleship conference for young adults, focusing on spiritual disciplines. With Deirdre, he also co-founded *dre.am VISION ministries*, a non-profit agency which centers on “empowering new generations in Christian lifestyle and leadership.” Together, they have also served as columnists for the *Adventist Review* and still present for *From This Day Forward*, a North American Division Family Ministries-sponsored touring marriage conference.

Martin has eased the transition from conference to classroom by focusing on interpersonal relationships. “I am enjoying teaming up with students in making a difference, especially beyond the classroom,” he notes. But getting to know students is only one of his goals. “I believe God’s vision is for young adults to transform the world and build the Kingdom,” Martin says, adding, “I see Andrews as one of the epicenters for that revolution for Jesus.”

Bonnie McLean, University Relations
student news writer

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Seeing God in Nature: Christian School Builds Wildlife Area

“Let the children learn to see in nature an expression of the love and wisdom of God.”
—Ellen G. White

Indiana—With this philosophy in mind, tiny Aboite Christian School in Roanoke is in the midst of an ambitious project to create a wildlife habitat that will serve as its fourth classroom.

Since the groundbreaking in May, a group of parents, staff and students has created a wetlands area, planted 90 trees and several sections of prairie grass seed and built a small observation shed.

But they’re not finished yet. They want to add a greenhouse, weather station, observation deck and barn—as well as trails, benches and bird and bat houses.

“If you stop and take a close look, there are a million lessons in nature. God has provided them; we should use them to teach our children,” said Chris Roberts, a parent who is the project



Chris Roberts is project coordinator for Whitewood Habitat at Aboite Christian School, 14615 Winters Road, Roanoke (Ind.).

ect coordinator and president of the school’s Home and School Association.



The school, at 14615 Winters Road, is affiliated with First Fort Wayne Seventh-day Adventist Church and is

open to students of any denomination. It has two dozen students in pre-kindergarten classes through eighth grade and three full-time teachers.

The nature area, on the school’s seven acres, is named Whitewood Habitat, after Ellen G. White (1827-1915), a prominent woman in the church.

The professionally designed wetland area includes plants and trees that are native to Indiana. It’s also dotted with hollow logs, tree stumps and boulders that will provide shelter for a variety of critters.

And it’s surrounded by upright black tubes that protect the small saplings planted in October—13 species, including bald cypress, black oak, dogwood, tulip and white oak. There already was a buckeye tree on the property.

The students are excited by the project and have been using the habitat regularly, Roberts said.

Last summer, they released tadpoles. In the fall, they had a nighttime pumpkin walk with flashlights during the school’s fall fair.

In warmer months, they’re out there during the school day for science class, worship and recess.



Alex Akins and Alexis Chambers examine tree bark in the Whitewood Habitat.

“We go out there to observe and listen,” said Alex Akins, 10.

They note the birds and the wind and look for animal tracks. They’ve spotted evidence of deer and raccoon as well as “a giant frog,” he said.

“When you’re outside, then you get to see some of the things you’re talking about [in class],” said Alexis Chambers, 12.

Her class has done Bible study in the habitat and discussed topics such as “why God told us to make this,” she said.

The seeds for the project were planted about two years ago, when the school board was faced with the decision to either grow or close the school. They were looking for ways to boost enrollment—there were only 12 students.

Roberts came up with the habitat-building idea, a trend that’s growing around the country, as an antidote to the massive indoor “screen time” that today’s kids tend to accumulate instead of venturing outdoors.

The habitat is an important educational and marketing tool that ties in perfectly with the school’s mission, said parent Brian Akins, who’s also a school board member and chairman of the curriculum committee.



Alexis Chambers and Alex Akins look at a bluebird house at the habitat, built specifically so students can view nests without disturbing them.

“My personal belief is, you’re closer to God in nature than you are anywhere else,” he said, adding that the habitat presents a safe, controlled environment, where kids can get dirty and explore.

What better example of God’s work, he asked, than the chance to admire a different flower up close every day?

“Faithwise, that is an enormous thing. There’s nothing more beautiful than what God has built for us. [The habitat] is a great way to showcase that,” Akins said.

The area will be used by the church for picnics and also will be open to the community at times. Roberts would like to see a summer camp someday.

Roberts says another goal is to get it certified by the National Wildlife Federation and to create a monarch butterfly way station.

The project has been financed by private donations and in-kind services. So far, staff from

Trees Indiana, EarthSource Inc. and Neuhouser Nursery have helped in various ways.

Organizers are trying to raise money for the second phase of the project, now ongoing, which will ultimately include the greenhouse, weather station, observation deck, habitat boxes, soil and water monitoring equipment, cameras, benches and books.

The last phase of the project will involve construction of a barn for maintenance equipment, exhibits, and perhaps small animals.

The total project has a budget of about \$20,000.

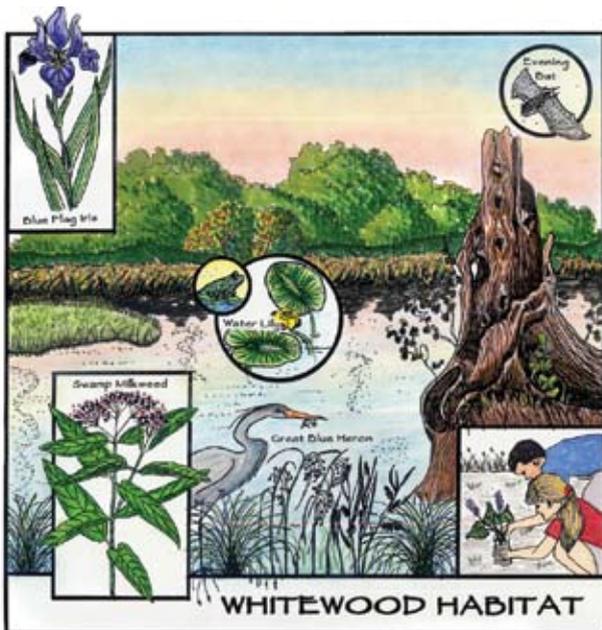
It’s been a labor of love that highlights the school’s philosophy of love and respect for God, for others, and for the earth, Roberts said.

And there is plenty of room for expansion, to watch more dreams grow.

“Faith and nature go hand in hand,” Roberts said. “It’s here for all of us to share.”

Stefanie Scarlett, *The Journal Gazette*; this article was originally published on Jan. 20 and is reprinted with permission

Note: For additional information about Whitewood Habitat, please contact Chris Roberts, project coordinator, by e-mail at: whitewood@aboitechristianschool.org, or call 260-672-8544. To view a Whitewood Habitat wish list, visit www.aboitechristianschool.org and select link to Whitewood Habitat.



GLAA Students Respond to Needs Overseas

Michigan—In 2004, the staff at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA) decided to try to inspire the students to think beyond their world by making them aware of a specific mission project, giving them the chance to respond and take ownership. The results have been amazing!

Because of the unique Sabbath school situation at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, where students meet in the academy chapel and the school covers Sabbath school expenses, students have the opportunity to take on some unique mission projects.

Normal student participation in projects in the past was approximately \$100 per year, but when the first project was launched in 2004 to raise money toward an Adventist Frontier Missions truck, the students gave a remarkable \$500. Next, the students teamed up with Maranatha for the \$10 Church Project in Peru, raising \$667. In December 2004, disaster struck in the form of a tsunami in Indonesia. Students responded generously, giving \$730 to the Indonesia Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund. At the conclusion of the school year, an amazing \$1,897 was raised for these projects by enthusiastic students and staff!

The plan was carried into the 2005–2006 school year, and the results were just as amazing! The first project was helping a young couple with their mission in Bolivia. This couple came and shared personally with the students about their mission. The students raised more than \$780 to further God's work in Bolivia. Next, a total of \$255 was raised to help send a group of students and their parents on a mission trip to Africa to share food and water with starving people there. The final project was for a mission group who went to El Salvador in July 2006, and \$242 was raised to help the Adventist



Great Lakes Adventist Academy students and staff raised \$875 to buy cows for victims of the genocide in Rwanda. Some students who participated were (from left) Brooke Durst, Nadine Betat, Sarah Crowe, Kurtis Gaitan, Ryan Williams, and Chett Clayton.

church in El Salvador. The 2005–2006 total was remarkable once again—\$1,277.

God had been working on the students' hearts. As an aid to these special mission projects, goal devices were displayed and reminders were given out, such as Lifesavers candy with a note attached for the Tsunami fund,

the men who were killed. The purpose is threefold: first, the women can drink the cow's milk and gain nourishment; second, they can sell the extra milk for income; and lastly, they can use the fertilizer for their gardens, thus enabling them to survive in a very difficult time. Each cow costs \$200, and students were challenged to raise enough for



BE A LIFE SAVER!
Remember your Sabbath
School Offering to support the
Tsunami Disaster Fund



encouraging students to be a "Lifesaver" and remember their money for the tsunami mission fund. Paper airplanes carrying a reminder message flew into the students' mailboxes to encourage support for the Bolivia mission.

At the beginning of the 2006–2007 school year, the father of one student came and shared his story of going through the genocide in Rwanda, losing his wife, and running and hiding with his two children. Instead of just leaving those memories and experiences all behind, he has a passion to help those who are still there. He raises money to buy cows for the widows of

three cows. Instead, \$875 came in for this project in Rwanda.

Currently, students are raising money to purchase four airfares to send a missionary family from Adventist Frontier Missions to Ireland.

The staff at GLAA is seeking to teach the students the joy of giving. These special mission projects are just one way for them to see how God can do great things when we work together for the good of others.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Arlene Leavitt, assistant development director at Great Lakes Adventist Academy

Students Help Habitat for Humanity

Michigan—It started as a day of fun and excitement. We all packed into three cars which took us to our destination—Benton Harbor. Fifteen junior high teens from Village Adventist Elementary School had volunteered to spend the school day at a Habitat for Humanity site. Habitat for Humanity is an organization which helps low income families acquire houses. Though this house had already been built, there was plenty of work to be done.



Fifteen junior high teens from Village Adventist Elementary School spent a school day at a Habitat for Humanity site in Benton Harbor. One of their projects was to build a storage shed.

We met someone named Bryant who had quit his job to work for Habitat. He explained that to acquire one of these houses, you had to meet their low income standards and put in 300 hours into building the house.

“A lot of people get the wrong idea about Habitat,” said Bryant. “We don’t



Some of the Village Adventist Elementary School students built a storage shed for the home's occupants.

give away these houses; people have to work for them, and someday pay for the house. By working, they develop a sense of ownership. It makes them want to take care of it more and not let visitors junk it up.” He also said, “For a lot of these people, without Habitat, they would never own a house of their own. By getting help from volunteers like you, and by partnering with businesses, we can get quality materials cheaper.

We can build houses for \$70,000, and the occupants can pay us later.”

After a short tour of the house, we set off to work. Some of us laid gravel on the driveway, and others helped build a storage shed for the occupants. By the end of the day, we had the shed’s frame up and the driveway ready. I got a chance to talk to

the lady who is receiving the house. She said that she was very thankful for an organization like Habitat and thankful that teens like us were willing to help.

Besides the fun we had, we also got the satisfaction of helping make someone’s life better, which is the best thing one can do for someone else.

Steven Mann, Village Adventist Elementary School eighth-grade student

[PATHFINDER NEWS]

Pathfinders Spread the Love of Jesus

Indiana—The Anderson Church Pathfinder club is committed to serving the community in an effort to spread the love of Jesus. Generally, the



After collecting food items, the Anderson Church Pathfinders personally delivered Thanksgiving baskets to the recipient families and took time to visit with them.

club participates in one to two hours of community service each month. During the month of November 2006, the club donated eight hours of their time to benefit others.

It is an annual tradition for the Anderson club to conduct a food drive in November each year. The club acquires paper grocery bags from local stores, attaches a letter of purpose to each bag, and distributes the bags door to door in the community. The letter attached to the bag not only identifies who the Pathfinders are and what they are doing, but also lets the bearer know that club members will return to collect the filled bags.

Although the food drive activity requires a lot of work, it is very rewarding and even fun. The Pathfinders enjoy competing with each other to see who can collect the most bags or number of items, which only benefits the drive more. This year, the club successfully collected an abundance of food items. The club normally distributes 12 Thanksgiving baskets from their efforts, but this year they were able to supply 18 baskets to families in need.

The Pathfinders were rewarded further by personally delivering the baskets and visiting with the recipient families. It was a joy to see the attributes of Jesus demonstrated by 16 young people.

Any Rhodes, Anderson Pathfinder Club director

[YOUTH NEWS]

Indiana Hispanic Youth Make a Date with Jesus

Indiana—More than 150 Hispanic youth from across Indiana met at Timber Ridge Camp Nov. 17–19, 2006, for a Hispanic Youth Congress entitled “Let’s Make a Date.” Laffit Cortes, New Jersey Conference youth director, spoke about making a date with Jesus,



Francina Tejada's baptism took place on Sabbath afternoon.

using parallels with dating in human relationships. He described various dating stages and told how to date and fall in love with Jesus. He also spoke about “breaking up” with the world. The message was presented in an innovative, powerful way, all the while leading the youth to focus on the most important thing—Jesus.

Sabbath dawned cold and cloudy, but hearts were warm and happy, especially in the afternoon when Francina



Several youth who responded to an appeal at the retreat are now ready for baptism.



The “date corner” decorated the stage at the “Let’s Make a Date” Hispanic Youth Congress.

Tejada from the Indianapolis Hispanic Church gave her heart to Jesus in baptism. Many were blessed and inspired a year ago at “Encuentros,” the Lake Union Hispanic Youth Congress. At that event, Cortes promised that if anyone got in touch with him he would return for their baptism. Tejada decided to take him at his word. Cortes later commented that this would be a retreat he would never forget, since he had never before performed a baptism in a freezing lake.



Laffit Cortes, New Jersey Conference youth director, enjoyed a meal between activities and meetings at the youth congress.

others. Some who came forward had previously visited our churches or small groups a few times, others had known the church for a while longer. Several are now ready for baptism.

The Indiana Hispanic Youth Federation (H2O) worked hard to bring about this event. However, it wasn’t human effort that made it a success. The youth leaders and H2O

Later, during an appeal, six youth decided to give their lives to Jesus. In the next appeal, the same six came forward again and were joined by several



Youth came forward when an appeal was extended, many with tears in their eyes.

members fasted and prayed for this event at Cortes’ request. After the retreat, the youth testified about their experience in their own church. Praise God for His amazing work during this event!

Nelson Silva, Indianapolis Hispanic Church youth leader

Youth Open Their Eyes and Flex Their Muscles for the Ultimate Workout

Every year dozens of young people from North America strike out on their own to find out what life and mission are all about. This year was no exception. The two-week extreme adventure—Ultimate Workout—is designed to challenge teens to build up their spiritual muscles with high energy service projects, and an intense spiritual experience. The 16th annual Ultimate Workout for teenagers was a smashing success in Chiclayo, Peru.

The experienced leadership team from Maranatha Volunteers International, and a time-tested system, allows young adults 14–18 years old to independently take a step toward spirituality and mission on their own terms. And the results might surprise you.

Erin Houda from Glen Ellyn, Ill., saw the life-changing power of reaching out to others. “We are sharing Christ with others,” she said. “So we’re helping spread the Word faster. We’re kindling a new faith here. Maybe we’ll



Tom Paul Wheeler

Students and sponsors from the Lake Union states were excited to be a part of the 16th annual Ultimate Workout for teenagers.

start something new, and maybe when we leave things will change. We're making a difference, that's what we're doing. We're making a difference."

Courtney Tait from South Lyon, Mich., agrees that her experience at the Ultimate Workout changed her more than she thought it would. "It makes you more willing to do things for other people because you know how good it's going to make you feel."

This year the adventure began as kids came off separate planes to a rowdy Ultimate Workout greeting party in the airport. Teens boarded five travel buses for the 12-hour overnight ride to their respective towns. Groups started in as soon as possible, mixing mortar and laying brick for the church structure.

Each of the sites had a special spiritual leader as well as the site leader,



Carrie Purkeypile

Anna Woodhams from Berrien Springs, Mich., was one of the 182 unlikely construction workers building churches on the Ultimate Workout.

construction superintendent, and other support staff. The teens at all five sites learned to see God, themselves, and the world in a new way. "I love sharing God with others," says Houda. "I mean, this is what I want to do, and this is amazing for me. I can't wait to go home and tell all my friends and have them come next year."

The coastal area around Chiclayo gained five brand new churches, built by 182 Maranatha volunteers from Canada, Peru, and the United States. The five groups lived in varying conditions, but all were roughing it! Some slept on concrete floors, others in tents under the stars.

The days consisted of building, cooking, cleaning, medical clinics, Vacation Bible Schools, free shoeshine stands, passing out literature, singing in the streets, hugging kids, playing soccer, and much more.



Carrie Purkeypile

Justin Neu from Allendale, Mich., slept on a concrete slab inside an elementary school. Close by, families lined up around the block for the free medical clinic.

The projects attracted a lot of attention in town. Women watched, children teased, and some men even volunteered to help out with the construction. Many of the Ultimate Workout volunteers were able to make friends and connect even without speaking Spanish!

"On Saturday, we went out and did outreach in the community," said Tait. Church members have an added advantage to their outreach with the conspicuous group of teenagers at their new church site. "They get to bring people in from the community because we're here, and we publicize it."

Five communities received a church, a dignified house of God. But their influence on the young mission-



Carrie Purkeypile

Ultimate Workout participants live the adventure 24 hours a day. Jessica Weaver from South Lyon, Mich., checked her solar water heater to see if she would get a warm shower that night.

aries was worth just as much. Lives were radically changed.

Houda said, "Everything that I've seen in pictures and books is real. You see pictures of little kids on the street, you know. You see all their ribs and things, and you don't understand that it's actually real until you see it. It shouldn't take that,

to see it, to believe it. But that's what it took for me. And I believe it now. I want to be a missionary now when I grow up because of all this. I want to come to different countries, and I want to share Christ with others. I want to help and build churches and fix homes and do everything. I mean it's changed my life [dramatically]."

The Ultimate Workout has been challenging teenagers to take a real look at spirituality and the world for 16 years. The 2007 Ultimate Workout experience will be in Ecuador, July 17-30. Contact Maranatha Volunteers International today for your application. For more information, visit www.maranatha.org or call 916-920-1900.

The Ultimate Workout is a mission project especially for teens that challenges them toward a more mature and dynamic relationship with Christ.

Carrie Purkeypile, communication specialist for Maranatha Volunteers International



[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Members Shed a Little Light on the Subject

Michigan—The St. Charles Church may be small, but its members want people to know where to look for Light. On a recent Sabbath afternoon, they prepared light bulbs with a sticker on each one that said, “Jesus is the light of the world. Compliments of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.” They also included a *Pocket Signs* special issue with each bulb.



From left: Jean Hirschenberger, Bob Burns, Bob Tebo, Audrey Burns, and Sandy Bowman, St. Charles Church members, helped label the light bulbs their church distributed. The label said, “Jesus is the light of the world. Compliments of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

The next Sabbath they delivered the bulbs and pamphlets to residents of three apartment complexes. They hope the people who received the bulbs were blessed as much as the members who gave them.

Dottie Tebo, St. Charles Church member

Radio Station Brings Hope to Henry County

Indiana—Members of the New Castle Seventh-day Adventist Church are excited to report that after several challenges, which they met with much prayer, God has allowed them the privilege and responsibility of having a local Christian radio station! They are so grateful to be able to reach their community through WHHC-LP 107.5 FM radio! They believe this is

quite an accomplishment since they are such a small church!

Ron Myers of France, who is president of Radio 74 International, offered to give the New Castle Church a relay station in 2004. Now the members of the church take turns keeping a daily log and seeing that the Radio 74 programming is on the air everyday. Paul Yeoman, interim pastor at New Castle, reported that he received good reception as he listened to the station while driving ten miles west of the church.

The identification letters of the station, WHHC, stand for: With Hope for Henry County! And that’s exactly what the New Castle members have—hope for the people of their county! They look forward to improving their opportunity with the radio station, and their desires and plans for other possible additions await God’s opening the door with more knowledge and ability.

The Indiana Conference communication department has already received a call from a man who has been listening to the station and wants to take Bible studies! Several of the daily programs offer Bible studies to listeners. The New Castle members ask God to help them make the best use of this exciting outreach endeavor to touch people’s lives for eternity in New Castle and the Henry County areas.

Hope Longwell, New Castle Church member



On an average Sabbath, there are about 6–8 in attendance at the New Castle Church. Members hope to fill the pews of their church with listeners of their local radio station!

Vegetarian Chili Cook-Off Shared with Community

Michigan—On Sunday, Oct. 22, 2006, the St. Johns Seventh-day Adventist Church women’s ministries department hosted their first Chili Cook-Off. The public was invited to come and sample a total of seven vegetarian chili recipes submitted by six church members.

The best chili, by popular vote, was submitted by Amanda Jammer. Her entry, appropriately named “White Vegetarian Chili” was the only white chili entry, and it stole the show. She won an official “Chili Cook-Off Champion” apron and the title “2006 Chili Cook-Off Champion.”



Amanda Jammer posed wearing the official Chili Cook-Off Champion apron she won for entering the contest with her “White Vegetarian Chili.”

“My sister twisted my arm to submit this entry,” Amanda explained. “I’ve never made this recipe before—I can’t believe I won! There must be a mistake.”

As an added bonus for the event, copies of the recipes were offered to those who attended. Brenda Roys, women’s ministries director and coordinator of the event, assured Amanda, “It was no mistake. It was an awesome chili. I even counted the ballots twice.”

Due to attendees’ responses, the Chili Cook-Off will become an annual event. Look for the second annual Chili Cook-Off in October 2007.

Brenda Roys, St. Johns Church women’s ministries leader

Note: Amanda Jammer’s “White Vegetarian Chili” recipe is available online at www.lakeunionherald.org following the Web version of this article.

[LAKE UNION NEWS]

Andrews University Press Releases New Book About the Sabbath

Michigan—The Andrews University Press announced the release of *In Granite or Ingrained? What the Old and New Covenants Reveal about the Gospel, the Law, and the Sabbath* by Skip MacCarty, long-time associate pastor for evangelism at Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University. The book was unveiled at the annual winter worker's meeting of Michigan Conference pastors held at Camp Au Sable in Grayling, Mich., on January 21.

"We deliberately chose to launch the book at a pastors' meeting because Dr. MacCarty is first and foremost a pastor," explained Ronald Knott, Andrews University Press director. "He has written this book with a pastor's heart. He's seen people leave the Adventist Church over confusion about the covenants. So even though his book is a serious, in-depth work of careful scholarship and is published by an academic press, its bottom-line value to the church will be found in how practicing pastors and informed lay people use it to advance a complete gospel message, particularly in reference to the Sabbath truth."

MacCarty's work addresses the basic issue of the covenants as the foundation for a proper understanding of the relationship of the gospel and the Sabbath. And on this understanding of the unity of the two covenants, he has received strong support from other evangelical quarters.

"Skip MacCarty has caught the spirit and the intent of the covenants and their relationship as well as anyone



Skip MacCarty

I know," writes Daniel I. Block in a back-cover recommendation. Block, a well-known evangelical scholar, is professor of Old Testament at Wheaton College in Ill., and previously held the same position at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

"MacCarty offers a brilliant defense of the fundamental unity of the Scriptures," Block continues. "After helpfully distinguishing between the historical and experiential old and new covenants, he invites his readers to celebrate with him the glorious fact that in the old covenant, as much as in the new covenant, God offers a 'grace-based, gospel-bearing, and mission-directed' covenantal relationship with Himself. Until Christians grasp this message, the Old Testament will remain a dead book to the church."

"*In Granite or Ingrained?* is just the kind of book Andrews

University Press is well-positioned to publish," said Knott. "The Press is the only established academic publishing house serving the entire world church. MacCarty's book is a landmark because it is the first serious, book-length work dealing substantively with Sabbath issues that the Adventist Church has published

in more than 20 years. Our church's historic emphasis on higher education means we have an educated membership who appreciates serious books—books that mine scripture and at the same time have powerful practical application for advancing the remnant

message. That's just what MacCarty's new book does, and we're proud to be the publisher."

The 344-page book makes its case in twelve chapters, sequentially addressing such topics as: the core truths of the covenants, how God defined the new covenant, the new covenant DNA in the old covenant, history and experience in the two covenants, understanding difficult texts, and a chapter on the practical, spiritual ramifications of living the covenants. In addition, the book includes several appendices containing practical tables and charts that allow for an easy grasp of key concepts. The Press anticipates releasing a companion study guide for individuals and small groups later in the spring.

MacCarty has been a pastor for 38 years, serving in Utah and Michigan. For more than 20 years, he has

pastored at Pioneer Memorial Church (PMC) on the Andrews campus, working closely with Dwight K. Nelson, senior pastor, to organize PMC's major public and media-based evangelistic initiatives. He holds a doctor of ministry degree from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. He is also a recognized authority and seminar

presenter on the relationship between stress and spiritual life.

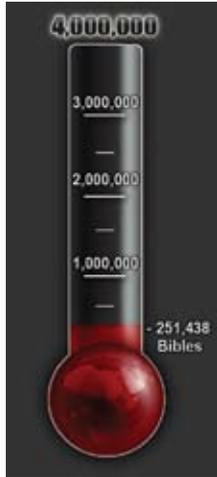
In Granite or Ingrained? is available through Adventist Book Centers or on-line at www.universitypress.andrews.edu.



Andrews University Press

Remnant Publications Organizes Bible Drive for South Africa Division

Michigan—In South Africa, the hunger for God's Word far outweighs the supply. These dear people thirst for the knowledge of God and His word. But sadly, there aren't enough Bibles to go around! That's why Remnant Publications has agreed to head a powerful movement to collect and send 4 million Bibles to southern Africa. Yes, that seems like a big number, but Remnant believes if we work together we can ensure it happens.



It is estimated that 251,438 Bibles will be received at Remnant Publications by March 1.

Dwight Hall, Remnant's president, said, "How many Bibles are in your home? We all have them—Bibles that aren't being used. You have the opportunity to take that extra Bible or two or three and put it into the hands of

someone who will use and cherish it forever."

Remnant Publications is partnering with the South African Division. The Division president, Paul Ratsara, promises that every Bible will be given to a South African Christian who has pledged to lead at least one person to Christ during the next year. That's an awesome pledge, but Hall says they can't do it without Bibles. "How will

they give Bible studies? How will they share hope in discouragement without God's Word?

"That's where you and Remnant get involved! Will you make a commitment to share a Bible or two or three—and even make a financial gift for more Bibles? We have worked out an incredible deal to purchase even more Bibles for just \$2 per Bible."

With so many people involved in this project, the ways people collect Bibles vary as much as the different Bibles we receive. Here are a few ideas that have been shared with Remnant.

- ▶ Look for extra Bibles in your home.
- ▶ Set up a drop box at your church.
- ▶ Set up a drop box at your school.
- ▶ Set up a drop box at your work.
- ▶ Hold benefit concerts.
- ▶ Collect pop cans to refund.
- ▶ Donate the price of a meal.
- ▶ Give sacrificially.

Please share any additional ideas you have to collect Bibles. Visit www.africabibles.com to view a video appeal and to download bulletin inserts for your church. You may call 800-423-1319 for additional information, or send e-mail to: africabibles@remnant-publications.com.

Send Bibles or your tax-deductible donation to: Bibles for Africa, 649 East Chicago Road, Coldwater, MI 49036.

Remnant Publications

[NAD NEWS]

A Collaborative New Evangelism Initiative Is Announced

The president of the North American Division (NAD) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Don Schneider, along with the two NAD publishing houses—Pacific Press and Review and Herald—have teamed up in a bold new evangelism initiative to blanket North America with Adventist literature. The initiative is called *Seven in Seven in 2007*.



Seven in Seven is a simple plan to spread the gospel by encouraging each Seventh-day Adventist church member in the NAD to distribute seven pieces of literature in seven days. *Seven in Seven* will take place April 7–14. Schneider says, "Please join me in being a part of *Seven in Seven in 2007*. I'm going to give at least one piece of literature each day during April 7–14. If every church member in North America shares just one piece of literature a day for seven days, we could distribute 7 million pieces of literature. That means 7 million contacts for Christ in just one week! Imagine what God can do with that."

At recent meetings, NAD leadership announced that church growth in the NAD has declined to only 1.4 percent. Literature evangelism is one way we can help grow the church membership in the NAD.

Dale Galusha, president of Pacific Press, said, "Our church has produced some fantastic literature designed to be shared with friends, co-workers, family, and neighbors. Visit your local Adventist Book Center to see the sharing materials available to you. Then begin each day during April 7–14 with prayer, asking God to direct you to someone who needs encouragement, and He will bring someone into your life that needs the literature you have."

To find your local Adventist Book Center, call (800) 765-6955 or visit their website at www.AdventistBookCenter.com.

Nicole Batten, Pacific Press Publishing Association
director of publicity



SONScreen Film Festival Will Showcase Adventist Filmmakers' Work

When was the last time you laughed, cried, and even cheered ... all in one night? At the SONScreen Film Festival, attendees have been known to experience a range of emotions while watching films made by young, Adventist filmmakers. Now in its fifth year, the SONScreen Film Festival will be held at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, Calif., April 12–14.

Films screened are by students as well as by Christian professionals. Attendees also have an opportunity to network with industry professionals, attend seminars, and fellowship with other Christians, all with one common goal—to minister through film.

Festival organizers include new executive producer, George Johnson Jr., and producer and founder, Stacia Dulan, of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, and Adventist industry professionals, Jonathan Dulan, Stephen Eyer, Paul Kim, Nathan Nazarrío, April Rushing, and Rik Swartzwelder.

Entries will be accepted until Mar. 13. Cash prizes will be awarded and range from \$250 to \$3,000 for the SONNY, Best in Festival award.

For more information visit www.SONScreen.com

George Johnson Jr., associate director for communication for the Seventh-day Adventist church in North America, and SONScreen Film Festival executive producer

[WORLD CHURCH NEWS]

General Conference and ASI Team Up to Train Laymen

The weekend of Jan. 12–14, Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) officers, members, and friends joined General Conference (GC) leadership at the close of their annual retreat in St. Petersburg, Fla. A first for the two groups to join together in this setting, they enjoyed Friday vespers, Sabbath worship, and fellowship together before the Sabbath afternoon training session began for the ASI group. Conducted by Mark and Ernestine Finley, Mike Ryan, and ASI leaders, the GC-ASI partnership initiated the *Train Them Now* program to multiply



A few ASI officers, members, and friends met with General Conference leadership.



Mark Finley (right) demonstrated how to work with a translator with ASI member Manuel Alva.

lay-led evangelism in countries around the world. The ASI group received instruction on how to train lay people to use the *New Beginnings* DVD sermon presentations in their own locales.

At the end of the session, lay people who were selected by their pastors for the training received a DVD player and a *New Beginnings* DVD of sermons provided by ASI for use in home-style or larger meetings to spread the gospel.

Retired GC secretary, G. Ralph Thompson, now in Naples, Fla., and GC vice president, Pardon Mwansa, sat in on the Sabbath afternoon session. They were excited with what they witnessed. Mwansa was so delighted with the program that he pledged his support to assist in working with countries in Africa.

Viorel Catarama, ASI vice president for evangelism, works with GC vice president for Global Evangelism, Mark Finley, to oversee the project and assign the newly-trained ASI attendees to countries in Europe, Africa, and Inter-America to pilot the project on a larger scale. It is anticipated that this next wave of training will empower more than 2,500 lay people to preach the gospel in their home territories during the next year, reaching thousands for Christ!

Almost 2,000 lay people, including 400 youth, were trained in early 2006 in Moldova,

Panama, and Cambodia by a GC-ASI team—Mark Finley, Denzil McNeilus (past ASI president), and Leasa Hodges, ASI vice president for Youth Evangelism—who piloted this initiative. Pray that God will direct and lead the new trainers as they teach others to go out and preach about Jesus.

Debbie Young, Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries president

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.

Weddings

Kimberly Z. Smith and James R. Shumaker were married Nov. 19, 2006, in Berrien Springs, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Gary Burns.

Kimberly is the daughter of Roger and Connie Smith of Eau Claire, Mich., and James is the son of Robert and Sue Shumaker of Parker, S.D.

The Shumakers are making their home in Louisville, Ky.

Obituaries

ALEXANDER, Juanita M. (Norman), age 73; born Apr. 9, 1933, in New Orleans, La.; died Nov. 20, 2006, in Eau Claire, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Russell Banister; and brother, Herman Norman.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Oliver Archer, with private inurnment.

BEKOWIES, Herbert F., age 78; born June 9, 1928, in Detroit, Mich.; died Nov. 24, 2006, in Detroit. He was a member of the Warren (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his sons, Bradley and Kurt; brother, Erich; sisters, Edna Bekowies and Nancy Learned; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Glenn, and interment was in Cadillac Memorial Cemetery, Clinton Twp., Mich.

BORG, Norma J. (James), age 70; born July 28, 1936, in Sioux City, Iowa; died Nov. 16, 2006, in Green Bay, Wis. She was a member of the Green Bay Church.

Survivors include her husband, Dale; son, Bryson; daughter, Brenda Robertson; brothers, Russel and Ernie James; sister, Judy Smarizer; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Delmar Austin, and interment was in Graceland Cemetery, Clintonville, Wis.

BROWN, Ardys (Bodtker), age 84; born Jan. 1, 1922, in Watertown, S.D.; died Mar. 22, 2006, in Columbus, Wis. She was a member of the Beaver Dam (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Douglas; sons, Douglas and Steve; daughters, Julie Mowry and Kathleen Bricker; brothers, Kenneth and Max Bodtker; and 11 grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Steve Aust, and interment was in Bethany Cemetery, Calamus Twp., Wis.

DUNN, Robert D., age 78; born Mar. 4, 1928, in Haiti; died Oct. 25, 2006, in Holly, Mich. He was a member of the Holly Church.

Survivors include his wife, Violet P. (Lentman); son, Alan; daughters, Roberta Dunn and Janice Coggeshall; brothers, Kenneth and Gilbert; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Benson, Elder Earl Zager, and Ken Finnell, and inurnment was in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly.

EWERS, Artys A. (Weeden), age 80; born July 1, 1926, in Hillsboro, Wis.; died Nov. 14, 2006, in Richland Center, Wis. She was a member of the Richland Center Church.

Survivors include her sons, Orville, Blaine, Sam, Branson, Duane, and Wayne; brother, Marvin Weeden; sisters, Shirley Anderson, Patty Karrercker, and Beatrice Joseph; and 11 grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Scofield, and interment was in Richland Center Cemetery.

GRAY, June A. (Tinkey), age 94; born Dec. 12, 1911, in Walkerton, Ind.; died Dec. 7, 2006, in Marcellus, Mich. She was a member of the Glenwood Church, Dowagiac, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Harry, Lowell, and Warren; daughter, Joyce E. Klein; 12 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Tim Perry, and inurnment was in Mater Funeral Home Cemetery, Marcellus.

HOLBROOK, Chester D., age 80; born May 8, 1926, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Oct. 22, 2006, in Lowell, Mich. He was a member of the Lowell Riverside Fellowship Church.

Survivors include his wife, Shirley A. (Denton); son, James; daughters, Debra L. Holbrook, Vicki L. Childs, Stephanie J. Carlisle, and Donna M. Jousma; sisters, Evelyn Warner and Elsie Johnson; 14 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Arthur Covell, Justin Ringstaff, and David Glenn, with private inurnment.

HOLMAN, Kirsten M., age 41; born Nov. 4, 1965, in Niles, Mich.; died Nov. 18, 2006, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of

the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her mother, Aurelia Rae (Constantine) Holman; and sister, Karen Cervera.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Esther Knott and Edwin Buck, with private inurnment in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

HORNE, Franklin E., age 61; born Sept. 27, 1944, in Miami, Ariz.; died June 22, 2006, in Ann Arbor, Mich. He was a member of the Eau Claire (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Eileen (Moon); son, Steve; daughter, Sarah Horne; and sister, Cheryl Dixon.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Stan Hickerson, Leroy Bruch, Bruce Babienko, and Chaplain Chet Damron, and interment was in Fort Custer National Cemetery, Battle Creek, Mich.

HOWELL, Paul S., age 82; born June 11, 1924, in Yorkville, Mich.; died Nov. 24, 2006, in Garden City, Mich. He was a member of the Oakwood Church, Taylor, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn I. (Borck); daughters, Audrey K. Foss, Lois P. Wagtowicz, and Sandra R. Weaver; seven grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Bill Lindeman, with private inurnment.

MORAUSKE, Marjorie (Tomlinson), age 81; born Mar. 9, 1925, in Dekorra, Wis.; died Oct. 26, 2006, in Columbus, Wis. She was a member of the Wisconsin Academy Church, Columbus.

Survivors include her sons, Maynard, Duane, and Ron; brothers, Vic and Cal Tomlinson; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Steve Aust, and interment was in Fall River (Wis.) Cemetery.

NELSON, Rhoda M. (Kirk), age 88; born May 6, 1918, in Exira, Iowa; died Dec. 4, 2006, in Lansing, Mich. She was a member of the Charlotte (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Lynne K. Nickless, Dianne G. Porter, and Barbara S. DeHart; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Mark Regazzi and Olan Thomas, and interment was in St. Joseph Valley Memorial Park Cemetery, Granger, Ind.

NUTT, Bonnie "Ben" Berben, age 100; born Oct. 17, 1906, in Jones, Okla.; died Nov. 17, 2006, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his sons, Elroy, Bruce, and Robert; daughters, Bonnie Jean Pollitt

and Tana Dutton; sister, Virginia Nutt; 13 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Esther Knott, and interment was in Mission Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Niles, Mich.

STEPHAN, Patricia F. (Clemons), age 73; born Feb. 27, 1933, in Elwood, Ind.; died Dec. 5, 2006, in Lansing, Mich. She was a member of the Grand Ledge (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, James R.; sons, James R. II and William J.; daughter, Melody Stephan; mother, Florence (Harper) Leavitt Clemons; brother, Willard Clemons, stepbrothers, Harold, Jack, Jim, David, Keith, Max, and Rex Leavitt; stepsister, June Leavitt; and six grandchildren.

Family funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jeff Dowell, with private inurnment.

TORTORICI, Victor A., age 73; born Jan. 14, 1933; died Nov. 10, 2006, in Madison, Wis. He was a member of the Madison East Church.

Survivors include his wife, Donna (Geiger); daughter, Paulette Berg; mother, Rosalie (Oliva); brother, Carmen; sister, Maria Colletti; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor William Ochs and Dale Bossenberry, and interment was in Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery, Madison.

TRIPP, Richard, age 79; born Jan. 12, 1927, in Ireton, Iowa; died Oct. 18, 2006, in Allegan, Mich. He was a member of the Allegan Church.

Survivors include his wife, Nellie I. (Belknap); sons, Ronald, Philip, Jonathan, and Charles; daughter, Mary Summers; brother, Francis; sister, Donna Mae Williams; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Don Williams, and inurnment was in Winkel Funeral Home Cemetery, Allegan.

TURNER, Glen E., age 90; born Aug. 11, 1916, in Graysville, Tenn.; died Dec. 8, 2006, in Ft. Worth, Texas. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Verlene (DeWitt) Youngberg; son, Joe; daughters, Carolyn Fox, Wanda Scarborough, and Anita Skoretz; brother Raymond; sister, Vivian Coble; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Elders Edward Skoretz, Ray House, and Ron Ray, and interment was in Ruddick Cemetery, Garfield, Ark.

Native Ministry Summit

The Seventh Direction

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Debra Claymore, Native Ministry coordinator for the Dakota Conference, will be the featured speaker. Visit www.7thDirection.org to register.

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Sunset Calendar

	Mar 2	Mar 9	Mar 16	Mar 23	Mar 30	Apr 6
Berrien Springs, Mich.	6:37	6:45	7:53	8:01	8:08	8:16
Chicago, Ill.	5:43	5:50	6:59	7:07	7:14	7:21
Detroit, Mich.	6:23	6:32	7:40	7:48	7:56	8:03
Indianapolis, Ind.	6:38	6:46	7:53	8:00	8:07	8:13
La Crosse, Wis.	5:55	6:04	7:13	7:21	7:30	7:37
Lansing, Mich.	6:29	6:38	7:46	7:54	8:02	8:10
Madison, Wis.	5:49	5:57	7:05	7:14	7:22	7:29
Springfield, Ill.	5:52	5:59	7:07	7:14	7:21	7:28



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ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER in Portland, Ore., is looking for a full-time Microbiology Supervisor. Must be ASCP registered or equivalent. Microbiology and supervisory experience required. Relocation assistance available. For more information, visit www.AdventistHealthNW.com, or call Katie at 503-261-6934.



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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.

Andrews University

2007 Workshop on Natural Remedies and Hydrotherapy. Andrews University Seminary offers this popular workshop from **Aug. 5-10**. For information and pre-registration, contact Fran McMullen at 269-471-3541 or e-mail fran@andrews.edu; or visit website www.andrews.edu/go/nrhw/.

Indiana

Sabbath Celebration and Music Festival will be **Mar. 10** at Indiana Academy in Cicero. Worship hour speaker is Roscoe J. Howard III, secretary for the North American Division. The annual music festival concert with students in grades 6-10 will be featured in the afternoon. Afternoon programming begins at 2:00 p.m. For further information about the music festival, call Andrew Lay, IA music director, at 317-984-3575. For information regarding Sabbath Celebration, call Sheri DeWitt at 317-844-6201.

IPATI, an annual training weekend for Pathfinder and Adventurer leaders, is **Mar. 16-18** at Timber Ridge Camp. For information, go to www.trcamp.org and click on calendar link for March.

Teen Caving Weekend is **Mar. 23-25** at Timber Ridge Camp. To register, go to www.trcamp.org or call the Indiana Conference youth department at 317-844-6201.

Women's Ministries Spring Retreat: Register now for the one-day spring retreat to be held at Indiana Academy Sabbath, **Apr. 7**, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Featured speaker is Kathy Cameron, assistant women's ministries director for the Lake Union Conference. The fee per person covers all meetings and Sabbath lunch. To register, call Julie Loucks at 317-844-6201.

Indiana Academy Days: All students in grades 8-11 are invited to Indiana Academy Days, **Apr. 29-30**. Meet the staff and students, and experience an awesome educational opportunity! For registration information, call Bill Hicks, vice-principal and development director, at 317-984-3575, or Beth Bartlett, registrar, at 317-984-3575, or e-mail bbartlett@iasda.org.

Lake Region

Legal Notice: Notice is hereby given that the regular Triennial Session of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on Sun., **May 20, 2007**, beginning at 9:00 a.m., CDT, at the Milwaukee Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2389 North Teutonia Ave., Milwaukee, Wis. The purpose of the session is to elect officers and departmental directors for the ensuing term and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates to this session are duly appointed representatives of the various churches of the conference. Each church is entitled to one delegate for each 35 members or major fraction thereof. The organizing committee, made up of duly appointed members from churches, will meet on Sat. night, May 19, 2007, at 7:30 p.m., CDT, at the Racine Marriott, Huron Meeting Room, 7111 Washington Ave., Racine, Wis.

Jerome Davis, president
George C. Bryant, secretary

Legal Notice: Notice is hereby given that the regular Triennial Session of the members of the Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., a corporation, will be held on Sun., **May 20, 2007**, in connection with the 25th session of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at the Milwaukee Sharon Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2389 North Teutonia Ave., Milwaukee, Wis. The first meeting of the association will be called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m., CDT. The purpose of the meeting is to restate and amend the articles of incorporation and bylaws, to elect trustees for the ensuing term, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates from the churches in attendance at the 25th Triennial Session of the Lake Region Conference comprise the constituency of the association.

Jerome Davis, president
George C. Bryant, secretary

Lake Union

Offerings:

Mar 3 Local Church Budget

Mar 10 Adventist World Radio
Mar 17 Local Church Budget
Mar 24 Local Conference Advance
Mar 31 Spring Mission Appeal

Thirteenth Sabbath:

Mar 31 Euro-Africa Division

Special Days:

Mar 3 Women's Day of Prayer

Mar 4-10 Adventist Youth Week of Prayer

Mar 17 Disabilities Awareness Sabbath

Lake Union Conference Women's Ministries invites women who have a hurtful past to experience healing through Jesus at the *Hope for Hurting Hearts* retreat hosted in the Illinois Conference at Camp Akita in Gilsen, Ill., **Apr. 20-22**. Guest speakers are Juanita Mayer and Roberta Fish. For more information and to register, contact Cathy Sanchez at 618-218-4335 or e-mail cathysanchez@mychoice.net.

Michigan

Fairhaven Seventh-day Adventist School celebrates 75 years of Christian education during the weekend of **May 4-6**. It will be a Diamond Jubilee—the school has been in operation from 1932-2007. Celebration services will be held at Fairhaven Seventh-day Adventist Church, G-1379 W. Louis Ave., Flint, Mich. All former faculty, students, parents, supporters, and friends from the Flint #2, North Street, Detroit Street, Woodside, and Linden Road era of the school's development are invited to attend. For more information, contact Gloria Stuckey at 810-785-5684 or e-mail Gloria.Stuckey@sbcglobal.net, or visit website www.fairhavensda.org.

"Ye Olde CLA Alumni Reunion" will take place **June 7-10** for Cedar Lake Academy alumni and warmly welcomed schoolmates of 1957 and earlier, on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA). Honor classes: 1937, '47, and '57. For information, call the GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181, or visit www.GLAA.net. Please do pass the good word.

North American Division

Columbia Union College Alumni Weekend will be **Apr. 13-15**. Washington D.C. and campus tours, concerts, banquets, great memories. Honoring classes of 1997, '87, '82, '77, '67, '57, '47, and '37. Reserve your place by e-mailing alumni@cuc.edu, or phone 301-891-4133.

LaMesa (Calif.) Adventist Community Church's 50th Anniversary will be held **May 5**. A full orchestra and choir presentation, "I Can Only Imagine," will lead the worship in two thrilling services—first service, 9:00 a.m.; second service, 11:30 a.m. Seating is free, but reservations are required. For service and seating information, call 619-461-5703.

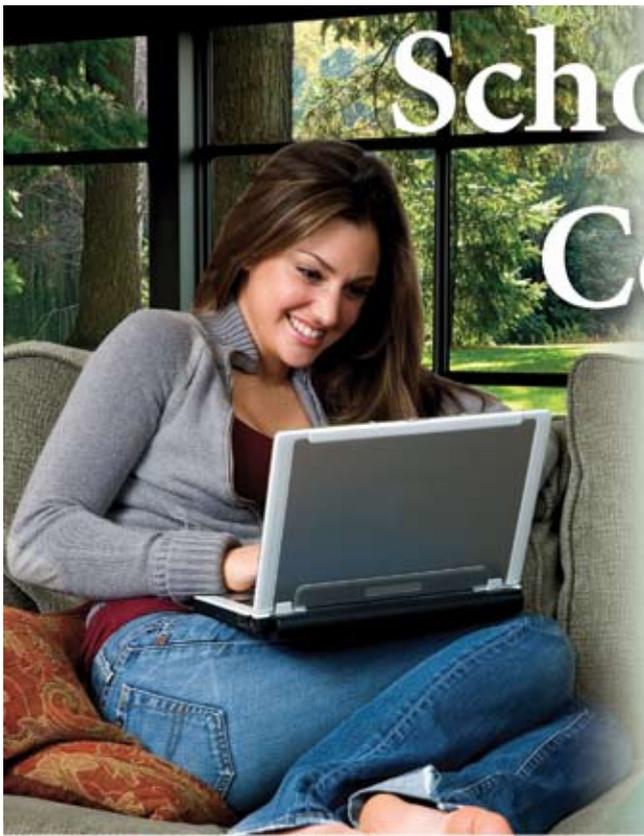
Stonecave Homecoming Association is pleased to announce Homecoming 2007 on **July 11-15** in Chattanooga, Tenn. If you once attended the (former) Adventist Academies of Stonecave, Castle Valley, Stoneybrook, or Beautiful Valley, we invite you to come to rebuild friendships, reconnect with classmates, and reunite with Alumni. Featuring Penny Turner for a ladies retreat and Bill Young for our Homecoming special. For more information, call 863-385-1856, or visit www.beautifulstonecavecastleassoc.org.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Academy (WA) Alumni Weekend will be held on **Apr. 27-28**. The theme for this year's Alumni Weekend is "Working with Jesus." Honor classes are 1937, '47, '57, '67, '77, '82, '87, and '97. Come back to WA for fellowship and fun with former classmates. If you would like more information about the weekend or to reserve a room, contact Marcia Sigler at 920-623-3300 ext. 12, or e-mail library@wisacad.org. Make sure to stop by our website and update your profile at www.wisacadalumni.org.

The Third Annual Wisconsin Academy (WA) Golf Classic will be held **Apr. 29** at Kestrel Ridge Golf Course in Columbus. Last year 23 teams came out to play; let's double it this year!! So, bring your clubs and come join us for an exciting weekend at the academy! All monies raised will go toward the WA worthy student fund. If you have any questions or are interested in being a sponsor, contact Michelle Shufelt at 920-623-3300 ext. 18, or e-mail development@wisacad.org.

Wisconsin Academy (WA) Honors Former Faculty and Staff: All former faculty and staff of WA will be honored at the 2007 Alumni Weekend. We want to honor all those that have dedicated their lives to "Working with Jesus at WA." Please contact Michelle Shufelt or Marcia Sigler at 920-623-3300, or e-mail development@wisacad.org, if you will be able to attend.



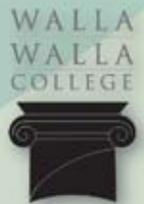
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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

The 3PA

BY GARY BURNS



I couldn't believe what I was seeing. A group of parents had gathered in the Bible classroom one Saturday night to organize. They had no Parents & Teachers or Home & School Association, and that's not really what they wanted to organize. Someone said, "Let's pray." And so they did.

Parents began to pray for the school. They prayed for the principal, teachers, deans, and staff. They prayed for their children and the struggles they knew they were facing. They praised God for their school, and those dedicated to teaching and caring for their children. They sought God's blessing and His direction. I knelt amazed. Their prayers went on for about 45 minutes.

When they finished, Marvin helped lead the group to choose officers—a president,

vice president, secretary, and treasurer. "What should we call ourselves?" someone asked. Several names were suggested, but the one that won out was "Parents Praying for Positive Action." They had prayed, and then they took action.

In the days and weeks that followed, notes of encouragement and gifts began to arrive for everyone—staff and students alike. They formed work crews that painted hallways. They collected funds to provide resources. They continued to gather at the school on special weekends to pray, and they created a prayer network for times in-between.

They had formed a partnership with God, with each other, with the faculty and staff, and with their own children. God blessed!

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

BE DIFFERENT

BY EMILY BETH BOND

A few weeks ago I received an e-mail from Jenni, a close friend of mine who lives in California. She said, “Even though we live a thousand miles apart, only see each other in the summers, and haven’t talked for months, our connection is so much deeper than all of that. We share common beliefs, morals, and values, and we both want to serve God. I have come to appreciate your friendship more and more. I have not found one student in my school that shares the same morals or values as I do. It is all so shallow.”

Like Jenni, I’m glad to have a friend who is making her stand for Christ and not compromising. She and I are from different denominations, yet we have so much in common. And it hit me: out of more than 600 students in her parochial high-school, Jenni feels like she is the only one who is trying to make a difference. She is that “one voice.”

One of my favorite writers says, “A Christian can do the most for the world when she [or he] is least like it. If you want to be a leader, you’ve got to be different.”

She also challenges, “People don’t follow a crowd. Rather, they become part of a crowd that is following one person. Be that person.”¹

It’s not easy to be different! It’s scary to be different! I’m different. I have only a few friends who don’t think my views, morals, or beliefs are strange!

Jesus was different. He didn’t fit in. Not on this earth anyway! But He “fit in” beautifully in Heaven. He wants us to “fit in” there, too.

He calls us to be different—not just for the sake of being different, but to use our “one voice” to change the world for the better. Being different is not just about how we dress, eat, or worship. It’s about who we are. It’s about how we love.

I’ve found that it pays to be different. People expect something more from those who have backbone than they do from those who “go with the flow.” It’s great to live with a sense of purpose, and with the knowledge that you are on God’s side and that anything is possible!

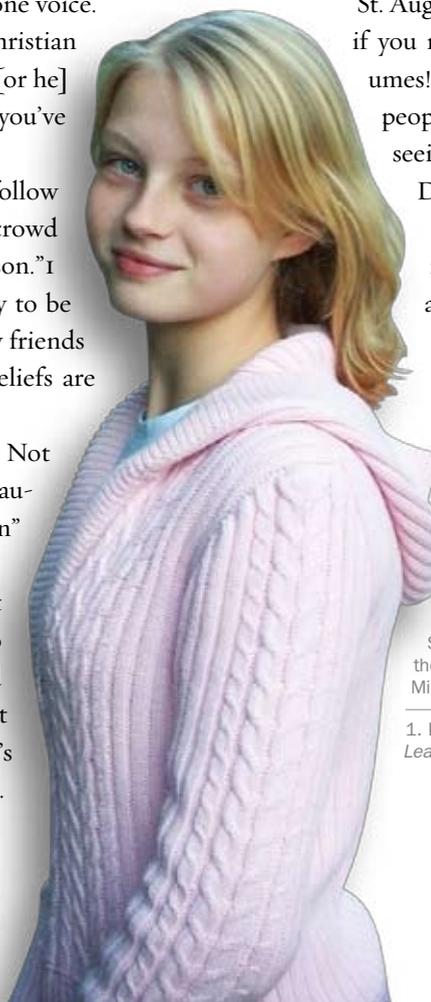
St. Augustine declared, “Preach all you can, and if you must, use words.” Our lives speak volumes! Our lives may be the only “Bible” some people read. When they read us, are they seeing an accurate representation of Christ? Do we even take the time to read Him?

Many people have no idea what it really means to be a Christian—probably right outside our front doors. What message are we sending to those who are watching? Can they tell that we’re following Christ?

We’ve got to stand for *something* in a world that is falling for *anything*! Be authentic! Be real! God is calling us! He’s calling you! Be different!

Emily Beth Bond is 14 years old, and lives in Swan Valley, Montana. Her dad is the art director for the *Lake Union Herald*. Emily Beth visits her friends in Michigan as often as she can.

1. Kubiak Primicerio, Shannon. *Being a Girl Who Leads*. Minneapolis: Bethany House (2006).



THE LAKE UNION HERALD STAFF

Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103; (269) 473-8242

Publisher Walter L. Wright president@lucsd.a.org
 Editor Gary Burns editor@luc.adventist.org
 Managing Editor/Display Ads . . . Diane Thurber herald@luc.adventist.org
 Circulation/Back Pages Editor . . . Judi Doty circulation@luc.adventist.org
 Art Direction/Design Mark Bond mark@bondesign.com
 Proofreader Candy Clark

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Adventist Midwest Health . . . Crister Delacruz Crister.DelaCruz@ahss.org
 Andrews University Rebecca May RMay@andrews.edu
 Illinois Ken Denslow President@illinoisadventist.org
 Indiana Gary Thurber GThurber@indsda.org
 Lake Region Ray Young LakeRegionComm@cs.com
 Michigan Michael Nickless MNickless@misda.org
 Wisconsin James Fox JFox@wi.adventist.org

CORRESPONDENTS

Adventist Midwest Health . . . Victoria Tedeschi Victoria.Tedeschi@ahss.org
 Andrews University Beverly Stout StoutB@andrews.edu
 Illinois Rachel Terwilliger News@illinoisadventist.org
 Indiana Judith Yeoman JYeoman@indsda.org
 Lake Region Ray Young LakeRegionComm@cs.com
 Lake Union Bruce Babienko BBabienko@luc.adventist.org
 Michigan Jody Murphy JMurphy@misda.org
 Wisconsin Kitty Crary KCrary@wi.adventist.org

LAKE UNION CONFERENCE DEPARTMENTS

Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 | (269) 473-8200

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Adventist Midwest Health: David L. Crane, president, 120 N. Oak St., Hinsdale, IL 60521; (630) 856-2010.

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Illinois: Ken Denslow, president; Kyoshin Ahn, secretary; Duane Rollins, treasurer; 619 Plainfield Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527-8438; (630) 856-2850.

Indiana: Gary Thurber, president; George Crumley, secretary/treasurer; street address: 15250 N. Meridian St., Carmel, IN 46032; mailing address: P.O. Box 1950, Carmel, IN 46082-1950; (317) 844-6201.

Lake Region: Jerome Davis, president; George Bryant, secretary; Ted Brown, treasurer; 8517 S. State St., Chicago, IL 60619; (773) 846-2661.

Michigan: Jay Gallimore, president; Fred Earles, secretary; Leroy Bruch, treasurer; street address: 320 W. St. Joseph St., Lansing, MI 48933; mailing address: P.O. Box 19009, Lansing, MI 48901; (517) 316-1500.

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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.

Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index

Katherine "Katie" Grace Bass is from Appleton, Wis. A junior at Wisconsin Academy (WA), Katie has been a student at WA for three years, and she plans to be a four-year senior. Her freshman year she was class president, and this year she is junior class parliamentarian. Katie is active in music and in drama. She has been in band for a year and a half, and in choir for two years. Katie has been an active member of *Fishhook Drama*, WA's drama team.



Katherine Bass

Katie enjoys science, reading, and being a member of the *Lady Knights* varsity basketball team. Her favorite class is chemistry.

Katie says she is thankful God has led her this far and to WA. She thanks Him for blessing her with friends and family who love and care about her so much. "WA is great; it is so much better than public school. The atmosphere is better, and the students aren't as judgmental," said Katie.

Abdias Vence, who teaches mathematics and science, said, "Katie is a wonderful young lady; every day she seems to develop scholastically as well as [she is] a leader for her class and school."

Katie is the daughter of Merlyn and Jane Bass.

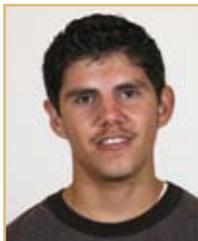
Enrique Serna III, from Kings, Ill., is a sophomore at Wisconsin Academy (WA). Enrique has been a student at WA for two years. His freshman year he was Student Faculty Council representative for his class, and this year he is the sophomore class treasurer.

He is also a resident assistant. "Enrique is a wonderful young man. He is one of the best resident assistants I have ever had. He is a true joy to be around," said Shawn Sorter, guys' dean.

Enrique maintains a 4.0 GPA, and one day wants to either go into corporate law or become a firefighter. Enrique's favorite class has been algebra, because he thinks of it like a puzzle—something that he has to figure out.

Enrique has played guitar for six years and shares his passion for music by being involved with WA's *Praise Team* as well as a member of *Choralaires*. "I really enjoy being able to share Christ's love and message for the world through my music," says Enrique.

Enrique is a member of the Rockford Seventh-day Adventist Church. He is the son of Teresa Serna.



Enrique Serna III

These students were selected and profiled by faculty members at their school. To recommend outstanding students for recognition, speak with your pastor or a faculty member. Visit www.lakeunionherald.org for selection criteria.

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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— Joanne, 2006 Broadview Academy graduate

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— Carrie Chao, M.A., Broadview Academy faculty, Math & Physics

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