



Lake Union
HERALD

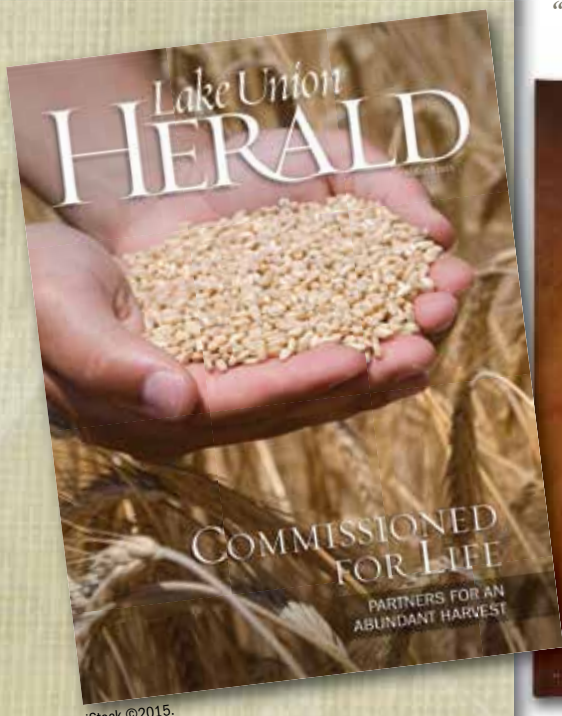
AUGUST 2015

COMMISSIONED
FOR LIFE

PARTNERS FOR AN
ABUNDANT HARVEST

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

12



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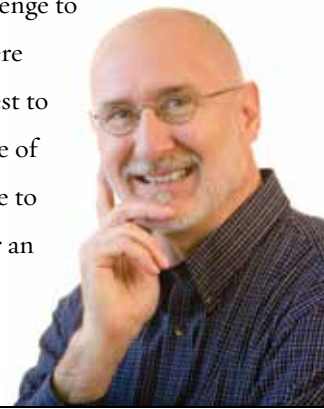
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In this issue...

The Gospel Commission starts with "Go," and it's all about making disciples. While it is a life-changing adventure to go to the uttermost parts of the world to share the everlasting good news, it may be a greater challenge to go next door or down the hall or across the street. And where did Jesus tell his disciples to begin? Right! The people closest to them (see Acts 1:8). This edition of the *Herald* features some of our members who sense they are commissioned to bring life to the people who live in their world, partnering with God for an abundant harvest.

Gary Burns
Gary Burns, Editor



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The Wheat and the Tares

As I write this, Barbara and I are really enjoying the beauty of springtime. God's creation is spectacular! The cherry trees are full of blossoms and the scores of dormant daffodil bulbs have burst forth with their bright yellow pedals. So, I know it's time for me to prepare our one-tomato-plant vegetable garden in anticipation of weeks of harvest.

Planting, cultivating and harvesting is a part of life. Jesus used that cycle as a metaphor for his kingdom and church. *The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. So the servants of the owner came and said to him, "Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?" He said to them, "An enemy has done this." The servants said to him, "Do you want us then to go and gather them up?" But he said, "No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, 'First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn'"* (Matthew 13:24–30 NKJV).

From this text, we can see that the wheat is precious and to be preserved and protected. Tares are a problem planted by the enemy. Though eventually removed by God's reapers, preserving the wheat is more important than immediately destroying tares. God's timing in this illustration for dealing with the tares comes at the end of the world and is driven by his desire to save everyone possible.

In many ways, we find it difficult to know how and when to deal with sin and error. Many times our churches never address destructive sin within the body. Still others seem more preoccupied with sin and error than with truth — in their own lives and often in the lives of others. With a focus on sin, it's easy to judge others and be quick to identify them as tares.

Jesus' ministry was focused on drawing people into his kingdom, not pushing them away from it. His love did not leave people in the pit of sin, rather, his love freed them from sin and blessed their lives with God's righteousness and truth.

Jesus gave the self-centered Judas every chance to submit to his love and be saved, while at the same time protecting his disciples from the damage of prematurely exposing Judas for what he was. Godly timing results in the best spiritual outcomes.

So here's my heart in all this reflection: God has given this church a powerful message of truth. That truth is our main focus. When truth is proclaimed, error is exposed. As a church, we must carefully listen to the voices that are all around us. Those who are uplifting truth and pointing toward God's righteousness are the most trustworthy. Those whose main focus is criticism, focusing on error and degrading others should be carefully avoided. Remember, the focus is on the wheat, the good and true, *not* the tares.



Unity in Diversity

AN ONGOING CHALLENGE

Many long for the good old days when all Adventists saw eye-to-eye and agreed with each other. A pleasant thought, but not one rooted in the real world. James and Ellen White had a similar desire for the church they were attempting to lead as its highly-opinionated believers pushed in every direction except together.

And then there is the Early Church with the continual bickering of James, John and Peter about who deserved the best seat in the kingdom. It is no wonder that on the eve of the crucifixion, Jesus prayed that *they may all be one* (John 17:21 RSV).

That oneness seems to work better for Divinity than it does for less-than-perfect humans. The Early Church was peopled by strong-minded individuals who sincerely believed that the Church would go to ruin if their solution to various problems was not adopted. What to do with such challenges as circumcision, food offered to idols, the ceremonial Sabbaths, the Jerusalem temple, and mission to the Gentiles daily faced believers as they sought to *make disciples of all nations, ... teaching them to observe all that Jesus had commanded* (Matthew 28:19–20 ESV).

In one sense, it is not an exaggeration to say that the history of the Christian Church is the story of how opinionated people who differed from each other on important issues sought to live together and guide the Body of Christ. Sometimes they succeeded in the “together” thing, but often they failed. Thus the many divisions in the Church.

But how not to divide is the real question. Aside from Christ’s “deathbed” prayer for unity, one of the earliest



George R. Knight

attempts to deal with the problem was the Jerusalem Council of Acts 15. It is difficult to find a more divisive issue than what should be required of Gentiles who entered the Church. One side held that they must adhere to Jewish practices. The other group held that circumcision and other Jewish practices were not necessary. Both sides believed they were right. Both sides believed that if their solution was not made mandatory, they were being unfaithful to their deepest convictions and the Church would be ruined.

The Jerusalem Council met to “solve” the problem. They struggled. But one basic principle surfaced. Namely, that salvation for both Jews and Gentiles was by grace through faith (see Acts 15:9, 11). That was good, but how should they work that out in daily practice? How could the Christian ship be kept intact in the immediate future when the way forward did not seem clear? After much discussion — some of it probably agonizing, they decided to burden Gentile believers with a minimum of only three requirements: *that you [1] abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and [2] from blood, and from what has been strangled, and [3] from sexual immorality* (see Acts 15:28–29 ESV). That solution kept things pasted together until they worked through the crisis.

But according to 1 Corinthians 8, Paul did not consider that decision in all of its aspects to be permanently binding. He knew idols were nothing, and that eating food offered to them was not an issue. But he claimed that in Christian love he would refrain from such eating out of respect for those who differed from him (See Acts 1–13).

Since the Jerusalem Council, the Church has continued to hold conferences as it has sought to bring about unity through consensus. But such a practice has its limitations. Luther sought to broaden the unity in diversity solution by dividing up Christian beliefs into two categories: those which stand at the center of the Christian faith and those found at the edges. Those at the center, he deemed to be nonnegotiable. But those at the edges were matters of personal choice.

As might be expected, early Adventists also had to deal with the problem. James White was beset, on every side, by those who thought the Church would fall apart if it did not line up with their convictions on this item or that. He couldn't even get Adventism organized. Many of its strong-minded adherents were quite vocal that "no church can be organized by man's invention but what it becomes Babylon the moment it is organized" (*Midnight Cry*, February 15, 1844, p. 238). James himself earlier had been of the same persuasion. But, by 1853, as he viewed the contentious Adventists, he had to conclude that in their disorganized status they had become "a perfect Babylon of confusion" (*Review and Herald*, December 6, 1853, p. 173). Organization was the only answer if the Church was to move forward in its mission.

But how to do so was problematic, especially since he, along with most Adventists, had believed that unless something was spelled out in the Bible it was not permissible. But that logic broke down when he realized that many of the Movement's practices were not explicitly spelled out in Scripture. After all, James noted, nowhere in the Bible did it say that Christians should have a weekly paper or build places of worship. He argued that the "living church of God" needed to move forward with prayer and common sense (*Review and Herald*, July 21, 1859, p. 68).

As James sought to bring unity out of diversity on the organizational issue, his approach to problem-solving went through a major transformation. He had moved from a principle of Bible interpretation that allowed only things explicitly spelled out in Scripture to one that approved anything that did not contradict the Bible and good sense (*ibid*). That shift provided the key that allowed early Adventists to make decisions on topics not adequately covered in Scripture. That hermeneutical breakthrough provided

the means by which James and his wife, Ellen White, could guide the young movement in its mission to all the world.

It took time for the various Adventists to come into harmony with the new ideas and developments. But they eventually did. And, in the meantime, the Church did not fall apart. They had surmounted a crisis in unity despite vigorous opinions.

Ellen made her own contributions to the unity in diversity problem. First, following Luther's path, she always held for the primacy and importance of the core beliefs of the denomination over all other ideas. For her, the gospel message of salvation in Christ and the great pillar doctrines of Adventism (Second Coming, sanctuary, Sabbath, and state of the dead) formed the non-negotiables. Second, no differences, no matter how important they seemed to some, were to sidetrack Adventism from preaching the Three Angels' Messages (*Evangelism*, pp. 119–120). Other things were important but, for her, that task was of ultimate importance. During the 1888 era, many were concerned that several of the new ideas being raised would destroy the denomination. She did not share their fears. But she did know that their Pharisaic spirit in the face of diversity was destructive. If their combative attitude brought forth such fruit, she wrote, "my prayer is that I may be as far from your understanding and interpretation of the Scriptures as it is possible for me to be" (*The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*, p. 632). Her third contribution to unity in diversity was that attitude is crucial in times of tension.

Adventism is having its unity in diversity status challenged again in the aftermath of the vote on women's ordination, at the 2015 General Conference Session, in San Antonio, Texas. No matter which way the vote goes, some sincere believers will be disappointed. But that is nothing new. Church history demonstrates that agreement has never been a reality. But strong opinions that predict disaster have been.

Of course, the Bible never promised that Christians would be unified on everything they think important. But it does hold that they will be unified in the fruit of the Spirit: *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control* (Galatians 5:22–23 ESV). It is that fruit that will be needed as the denomination faces post-2015 General Conference Session, which I can predict with certainty will be a "great disappointment" for some, no matter which way the vote goes.

George R. Knight is an Adventist historian and prolific author with nearly 40 books published. He has taught in Adventist colleges and universities in North America and overseas. This article was written and submitted prior to 2015 General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas.



FAMILY TIES

I'm Sure You Said...

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

The *Wall Street Journal* published an article by Elizabeth Bernstein in the March 23 issue. Titled “But You Never Said...,” the article features Carrie and Joe Aulenbacher’s different memories of why they ended up with two large arcade game machines in their home. Carrie remembers that Joe said he had been saving up for a personal birthday present for himself, and they discussed where it would go in their den. However, two weeks later, she came home to discover *two* arcade machines in their garage. Joe remains adamant that he said he was getting a “package deal.” A year later, it is still an issue for Carrie, as she never agreed to this arrangement.

Two people remembering different versions of an event is not unusual, but is often the basis for arguments that can erode a relationship. How can two people have different memories of the same event? It starts with the way each perceives the event in the first place. You may recall something differently, at least in part, because you understood it differently at the time, suggests researcher Michael Ross. Researchers know that some spouses can’t agree on concrete events that happened in the past 24 hours — whether they had an argument, received a gift, or even had sex with one another.

Your mood — both when an event happens and when you recall it later — plays a big part in memory. If you are in a positive mood or feel positive about the other person, more likely you will remember a positive experience or give a positive spin on a negative experience. Similarly, negative moods tend to reap negative memories. A person who lost an argument remembers it more clearly than the person who won it.

Arthur Christensen, author of *Reconcilable Differences*, says couples should try to accept that there is not just one version of what really happened and to get past troubling memory differences. He says the discrepancies may be innocent — no one is lying. Focus on the emotions of the event and not what really happened.

Every couple has disagreements, but when recurring conflicts start to pull your relationship apart, this becomes



toxic. The goal is to keep small incompatibilities from causing big problems. A helpful approach is to find a time and place where both are comfortable, calm and receptive to each other. Talk about your own emotional reactions to a memory, specific behavior or issue, keeping the

focus on your own feelings rather than on the other person and what he or she did or didn’t do. Work to remain as neutral as possible as you work through the issue.

One of the great joys of being part of a couple, says Elizabeth, is what researchers call collaborative memory-creating shared reminiscences. Recall the day your child was born, when you picked up the keys for your first apartment or house, a favorite vacation. Build your memories together, and have some fun while you do.

Remember to assume good intent. Most likely, your partner is not lying when his or her story is different than yours. Your memories of the event are simply different. Accept that there is not one version of events. Both stories have some validity. Do not argue based on memories. Let go of “you did this,” “no, I didn’t.” Focus on the truth of how the event made you feel, not your memory of what happened. Practice collaborative memory. Enjoy the journey of your shared memories and rejoice in what you do agree on.

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

Claims for medium chain fats may be undeliverable.



Coconut Paradise

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Coconut oil is not a miracle cure.

Coconut has risen to superfood status. Various claims have been made for different coconut products, such as coconut milk, virgin coconut oil and coconut cream. Such claims include antiviral and bactericidal properties, cholesterol reduction, weight reduction and diabetes management.

Coconut oil has a mild, nutty, vanilla flavor. Pastries made with coconut oil have a nice, flaky crust. Coconut oil has been called the healthiest oil on Earth, perfect for healthy cooking. However, the FDA does not allow a product to be labeled as healthy if a serving contains more than 1 gram of saturated fat or more than 15 percent of the calories come from saturated fat. Coconut oil contains 12 grams of saturated fat per tablespoon, and has 83 percent of its calories from saturated fat. Coconut milk has 4–5 grams/serving of saturated fat, and saturated fat comprises up to 80 percent of the calories.



Virgin coconut oil comes from a wet extraction process without the use of chemicals or heat. Regular coconut oil comes from extraction of the dried coconut meat (copra) and is typically bleached, deodorized and refined.

The effect of coconut oil on blood lipids has produced mixed results. Based upon its very high saturated fat content (92 percent), coconut oil is expected to increase significantly blood cholesterol levels. Such is not always the case. While many of the earlier studies used regular coconut oil and observed a sharp elevation of blood cholesterol levels, more recent studies using virgin coconut oil produced better blood lipid levels. This is explained by the rich content of polyphenolic antioxidants in the virgin oil.

Coconut oil has been used to treat irritable bowel syndrome, chronic fatigue, psoriasis, thyroid problems, Alzheimer's disease and immune dysfunctions, and to increase the absorption of calcium and magnesium. It is claimed that

because coconut oil has unique medium-chain triglycerides, it can decrease visceral fat and waist size, increase energy expenditure, have a greater satiety effect, and does not produce body weight gain. However, insufficient evidence exists to support all these uses of coconut oil.

In January 2015, the FDA issued a warning letter to Carrington Farms, a producer of coconut products, advising them to stop making claims that caprylic acid in coconut oil can treat various infections such as Staphylococcus, Candida and ringworm, and that lauric acid lowers blood cholesterol levels and exhibits anti-microbial properties. In addition, their webpage should not claim that coconut oil can treat gastroenteritis, reduce joint and muscle inflammation, lower the incidence of hemorrhoids, help prevent osteoporosis, and soothe earaches.

While a lot of health claims have been made for coconut oil, there is no concrete scientific data yet to support these claims. Hence, we should exercise caution when reading these claims as the research data is still preliminary, and conclusions are frequently made based upon one or two rat studies. Articles on the web make it sound like coconut oil has been conclusively proven to possess a myriad of health benefits. Further evidence is needed for the benefits claimed for virgin coconut oil. In the meantime, an occasional use of coconut can be part of a healthy diet.

Winston J. Craig, Ph.D., RD, is a professor emeritus of nutrition with Andrews University. He resides in Walla Walla, Washington.



The Accusers of the Brethren

THE EDITORS

Social media and the ease of self-publishing provide unprecedented opportunities to share the everlasting gospel. Unfortunately, technology also has opened up the floodgates to those wolves in sheep's clothing, referenced in Matthew 7:15, that prey upon God's remnant people. Without following the principles of Matthew 18:15–17, these wolves post, print and publish accusations, suspicions and theories without restraint or accountability. They plant seeds of doubt to win the allegiance and/or financial support of those eager to hear such reports. This is the same strategy the enemy used to attack the church in the wilderness under the leadership of Moses. The following excerpt from Signs of the Times, September 9, 1880, by Ellen White, speaks to these accuser(s) of our brethren (see Revelation 12:10 NKJV). —The Editors

“**T**he unselfish interest of Moses was rewarded with jealousy, suspicion, and calumny. His humble shepherd's life was far more peaceful and happy than his present position as pastor of that vast congregation of turbulent spirits. Their unreasonable jealousies were more difficult to manage than the fierce wolves of the wilderness. Moses dared not choose his own course and do as best pleased himself. He had left his shepherd's crook at God's express command, and in its place had been given him a rod of power. He dared not lay down this scepter and resign his position, till God should dismiss him.

“Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, were men who, by God's appointment, had been entrusted with special honors. They had been of the number who went up with Moses into the mount, and beheld the glory of God. They saw the glorious light which covered the divine form of Jesus Christ. The bottom of this cloud was in appearance 'like the paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of Heaven in its clearness.' These men were in the presence of the glory of the Lord, and did eat and drink without being destroyed by the purity and unsurpassed glory that was reflected upon them. But a change had come. A temptation, slight at first, had been harbored, and had strengthened as it was encouraged, until the imagination was controlled by the power of Satan. These men upon the most frivolous pretense ventured upon their work of disaffection. They first whispered their doubts to each other, and then to the leading men of Israel, professing to have great interest in the prosperity of the people. Their words were received so readily by many minds that they ventured still farther, and at last these deluded souls really thought that they had a zeal for the Lord in this matter. A little leaven of distrust, and of dissension, envy, and

jealousy, was leavening the camp of Israel.... In this work of disaffection there was greater harmony and union between these discordant elements, in their views and feelings, than had ever been known to exist before.” (*Signs of the Times*, September 9, 1880).

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

- What does the phrase, “their words (of disaffection) were received so readily by the people,” tell us about the people?
- Why are unfounded and “unbelievable” conspiracy theories able to gain such traction?
- What did Korah, Dathan and Abiram profess?
- Where do dissension, envy, jealousy and suspicion come from?
- Can unity be misguided around the wrong cause?
- What is our safeguard against delusion?

The Lake Union Herald editors

Forgiveness and Full Restoration

BY ALVIN J. VANDERGRIEND

Something was wrong, seriously wrong, in the promised land. God's people had a problem, a sin problem so huge God could not and would not ignore it. Ezekiel is explicit about the details. He said sin was corrupting every layer of society. Priests were violating the law and failing to distinguish right from wrong. Political leaders were "on the take." Prophets were whitewashing the misdeeds of the politicians. Extortion was widespread. Robbery was pandemic. Poor people and foreigners were being mistreated. Justice had disappeared from the land (see Ezekiel 22:23–29).

Is there any hope, anything that will cause God to relent and restore his people? Joel's answer, really God's answer, is "yes!" *Even now*, declares the Lord, *return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity* (Joel 2:12–13 NIV).

God always hears the cry of the repentant. God always responds to those whose true repentance leads to fasting, weeping and mourning. *The Lord ... will take pity on his people* (Joel 2:18 NASB). What will he do after they have repented? *I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten. ... You will have plenty to eat until you are full... Afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people ... and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved....* (Joel 2:25–26, 28–32 NIV).

What about sin problems that we face today? What should we do about personal lapses, family faults, church schisms or national wrongdoing? How can we be restored if we have sinned and offended God? The answer today is still the same. There is only one way, God's way. *Return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments.*

God is the same yesterday, today and forever. He has not changed. *He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from*

sending calamity. Yet, sin is just as offensive to God today as it ever was in the past. Forgiveness and full restoration is offered to all who are truly repentant — to those who fast and weep and mourn over sin. To those who see sin from God's perspective he has made provision to forgive through Jesus Christ by his atoning death on the cross. And *everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Something to Think About

- Why do you think God hates sin so much? Why can't he just ignore it?

Something to Pray About

- Praise God for his hatred of sin.
- Confess any sin that God, through his Spirit, makes you aware of.
- Thank God that he graciously forgives repentant sinners and relents from sending calamity.

Something to Act On

Study Ezekiel 22:23–31 and notice what caused God's wrath, how his *fiery anger* could have been avoided, and why it was not. Would history have been different if God had found an intercessor to *build up the wall and stand in the gap before me on behalf of the land* (Ezekiel 22:30 NIV)?

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



SHARING *our* HOPE

GLAA Students GLOW for Jesus

BY KAMIL METZ

Great Lakes Adventist Academy students recently went on a music tour. However, they decided to do a little more than just minister in song; they also would reach out to the community by sharing the message of hope found in GLOW tracts. The GLOW acronym stands for Giving Light to Our World.

On Sabbath afternoon, May 2, after sharing music at the local Adventist churches in the morning, two buses filled with 84 students and staff members approached the town of Escanaba in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Filled with energy and enthusiasm, they exited the buses armed with GLOW tracts, smiles and a song.

Before long, the streets were filled with students going door-to-door to share GLOW tracts. Everywhere anyone turned, they could see students talking to people and knocking on doors. At times, the talking also was mingled with singing, as the musical students offered to sing for people at their homes. Soon, nearby residents not yet visited came out of their homes to see what was going on, and gladly received the GLOW tracts offered them by the students.

Here are a few of the most memorable responses they received:

“I know God sent you here. I just lost my mother recently and needed some encouragement.”

“Thank you so much. You have touched my heart.”

“Thank you for praying with me.”

A total of 1,450 GLOW tracts were distributed in the course of about one hour!

Best of all, the students’ faces were lit up, encouraged by the impact sharing a small tract had in the lives of these people.

It was thrilling to see, when testimonies were shared back at the church, that many hands went up, eager to share what God had done through them.



On Sabbath afternoon, May 2, 84 Great Lakes Adventist Academy students and staff members shared messages of hope in the town of Escanaba in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, as they distributed GLOW tracts.

GLOW is a growing project of literature distribution where thousands of pieces of literature, of various topics, are given away to share the Bible’s message of hope to everyone in this world. There are opportunities throughout the Lake Union to juncture with the GLOW project. It’s a simple, inexpensive, non-threatening approach.

You, too, will have a testimony as

God leads you to individuals who benefit by reading the messages in GLOW tracts. The opportunities are endless to witness to friends and strangers. One individual recently shared, “GLOW tracts are a way of extending God’s light to others in a tangible way. My daughters and I travel a lot, and we enjoy leaving tracts wherever we can. ... Thank you, GLOW, for providing us with resources to help illuminate the world and draw people to God with his truth.”

To learn how to join the GLOW ministry in your church or conference, contact your personal ministries leader or director, or visit <http://glowonline.org>.

Various countries outside of North America want to translate and spread GLOW tracts in their language. In order to do this, many require financial help from GLOW. Your small donation of even \$10 can help us spread GLOW tracts to 200+ people! To learn more, visit <http://www.glowcentral.org/donate/>.

Kamil Metz is director of publishing ministries for the Michigan Conference. Additional reporting by *Lake Union Herald* editors.



Seminario adventista laico continúa en su sexto año consecutivo de entrenamiento

POR CARMELO MERCADO

Debe haber un plan bien organizado para el empleo de obreros a fin de que éstos vayan a todas nuestras iglesias, grandes y pequeñas, para instruir a los miembros sobre cómo trabajar por la edificación de la iglesia, y también por los no creyentes. Es educación, preparación, lo que se necesita. Los que trabajan en visitar las iglesias deben dar a los hermanos y hermanas instrucción en los métodos prácticos de realizar obra misionera. Dios espera que su iglesia discipline y prepare a sus miembros para la obra de iluminar al mundo. — Servicio cristiano, p. 74

Una de las cosas que más aprecio de los coordinadores y pastores de la obra hispana en nuestras asociaciones es su énfasis en evangelismo. No hay duda que para cumplir la gran comisión de presentar el mensaje adventista al mundo se necesita entrenar regularmente a los laicos en el área de evangelismo. Ya por varios años la Asociación Regional del Lago ha ofrecido sesiones de entrenamiento laico que han sido de gran bendición para la obra hispana. Llamado Seminario Adventista Laico, o SAL, en el pasado se acostumbraba tener los entrenamientos un domingo de cada mes en la ciudad de Chicago, en una de las iglesias hispanas de la Asociación Regional.

Pero para este año 2015, se decidió hacer un experimento y ofrecer dicho entrenamiento durante un fin de semana en el mes de abril, en las instalaciones del Camp Wagner en la ciudad de Cassopolis, estado de Michigan. Además de ser auspiciado, como de costumbre por la Asociación Regional y por la Universidad Andrews, en esta ocasión la Unión del Lago y la Asociación de Michigan auspiciaron y participaron también en el evento. Al ser por un fin de semana, por primera vez se ofreció hacerlo con internado en las instalaciones que están disponibles en el campamento. Los 180 participantes provenían de tres asociaciones, las de Illinois, Michigan y la Región del Lago. Los alumnos pudieron gozar de dos clases que estaban enfocadas en “Las profecías del tiempo del fin” y “Cómo enseñar las profecías”.

De acuerdo con el coordinador hispano de la Asociación Regional, Enrique Campbell, ya se hacen preparativos para el siguiente módulo, también con internado, que se realizará en Camp Wagner del 7 al 9 de agosto de 2015. Y luego se llevará a cabo la graduación anual en el mes de octubre.



Graduados del SAL, el programa de entrenamiento laico de la Asociación Regional del Lago.

El pastor Campbell hace el siguiente comentario: “La evaluación del evento nos deja muy satisfechos y agradecidos a la administración de la Asociación Regional del Lago, a la Unión del Lago por su gran apoyo, a la Universidad Andrews y al gran trabajo hecho por nuestros pastores distritales junto a sus líderes. A nuestro Dios sea la alabanza por bendecir por medio del SAL a nuestras iglesias locales.”

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de Unión del Lago.

Commissioned for Life

BY THE EDITORS

Speaking about the Great Commission, Ellen White made some observations about the thinking of the disciples and the Jews that was a barrier to mission. We thought those same observations also could apply today. The following is a contemporary adaptation.¹ —The Editors

Much of the religious world is ruled by superstition, tradition, bigotry and idolatry. Key God-given insights into Bible prophecy, the Great Controversy between Christ and Satan, a healthier lifestyle and model educational system, though all true, if allowed by some, could become an unhealthy sense of pride and over-enthusiastic patriotism for the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. This can create an attitude of superiority and breed exclusive behaviors. Exclusiveness is one identifier of a cult. We can tend to divide our world into two groups: Adventists and non-Adventists, which totally discredits millions of God-fearing Christians as well as deeply spiritual and conscientious people who faithfully live in light of the truth they have. (see Romans 2:14–16).

Because Jesus has committed to us his benevolent plan to include every nation, tongue and people as recipients and partakers of the everlasting gospel, we cannot be selective or exclusive in how we carry out our commission. We must share a full, free salvation with everyone, both rich and poor, learned and illiterate. We will be judged by a love as high as Heaven, as broad as the world, and as enduring as eternity.

As we share the special message God has given us, we must acknowledge we have one Teacher, and no one should presume to take the role in someone else's life that belongs to the Holy Spirit alone. We must always remember that Jesus has assured us that his abiding presence will be with us through all the dark and trying hours of life. We must remember it is not by our cleverness, charismatic power of influence or persuasion, but by his Spirit that souls will be won for his kingdom.

When Satan seems ready to destroy the church of God and bring his people to confusion, we must remember the promise Christ left with his disciples: *All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me* (Matthew 28:18 NIV).

The understanding most Christians have of God and his truth has been clouded by misinterpretation of the prophecies. Christ has shown us the true character of his kingdom, and we see that it still is not his mission to establish a temporal power, but his kingdom of divine grace is to be manifested in the hearts of his people.

Those with power and influence who proclaim the truth of God in the name of Jesus without the spiritual energy given by the quickening power of God are doing an unreal work and cannot be certain about the outcome of their ministry. It is the love and consecration through which the service is performed, be it great or little, that ensures true success.

Who would have thought that the storms of opposition and rebuffs are God's providences to drive us under the shelter of his wings where we hear his voice: *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give as the world gives* (John 14:27 NIV).

The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest (Matthew 9:37–38 NIV).

The Lake Union Herald editors

1. White, Ellen G. "The Resurrection of Christ: Meeting of the Brethren." *Redemption: Or the Resurrection of Christ; and His Ascension* pamphlet, pp. 52-65. Access document at <https://egwwritings.org>.

We must remember that it is not by our cleverness, charismatic power of influence or persuasion, but by his Spirit that souls will be won for his kingdom.



BY JESSICA J.W. BEANS
AND JEREMY WEAVER

Three Decisions, Two Lives, One Mission

(Jessica) sat on an upended cinder block, eating a gluten patty sandwich (before gluten became illegal). The scorching Dominican sun beat down on me and sweat beaded on my forehead as I looked over to where my Grandpa (Arthur Weaver) and Grandma (Natalie Weaver) stood in the half-constructed Maranatha church building. Grandma was flitting along merrily from person to exhausted person, making sure each had their fill of faux-beast sandwiches and lemonade. Grandpa was loudly giving instructions to the group of volunteers in his commanding yet jovial way.

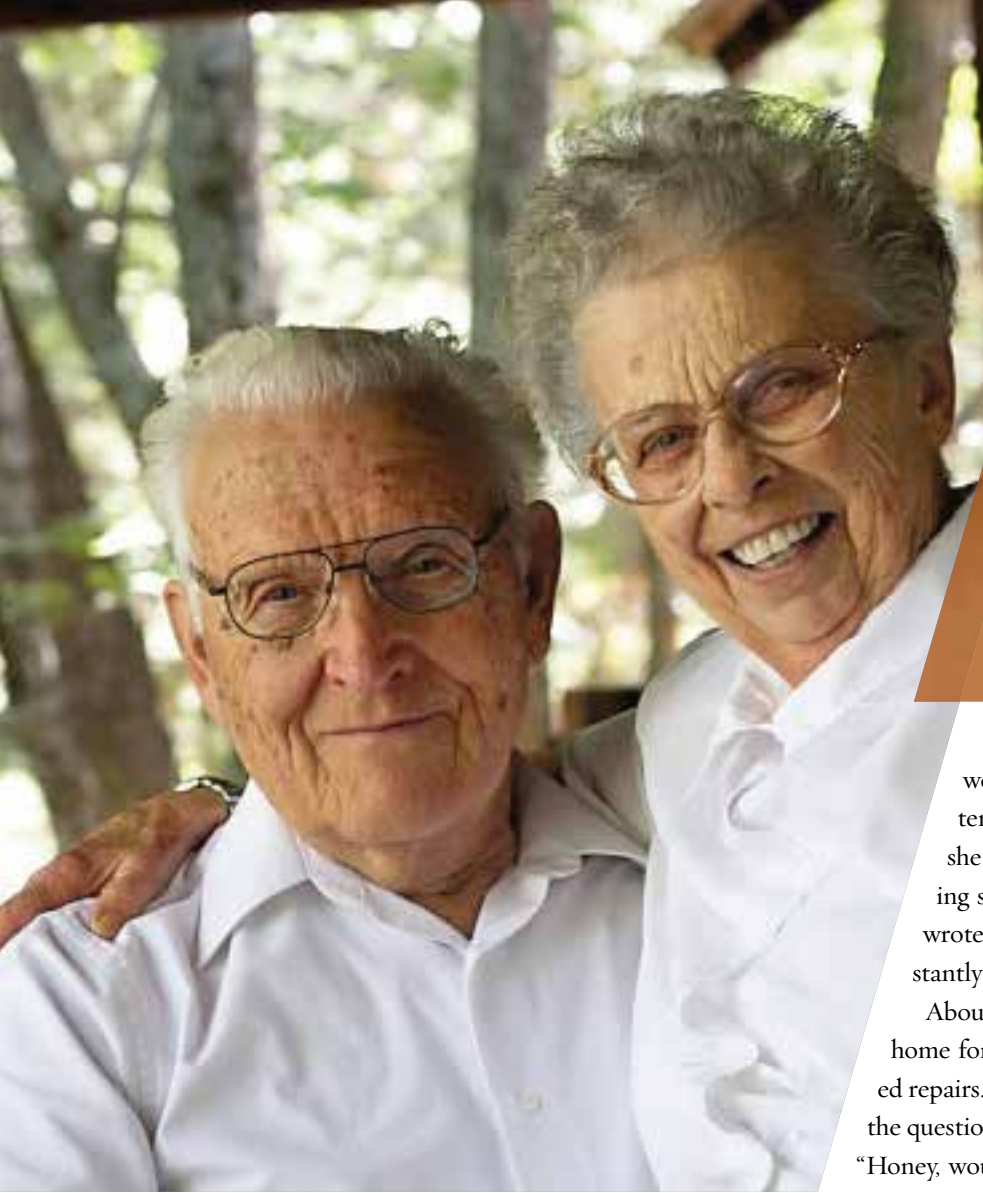
It dawned on me, at that moment, that my grandparents were somewhat of an anomaly. They were in their mid-80s, leading a group of 50 much younger volunteers on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. When I say leading, I don't mean sitting in the shade, giving instructions. I mean laying block, haggling in the local market for food, cooking three meals a day for a group of 50, leading devotions, planning, serving, organizing... My grandparents had exactly twice as much energy as any other person on that mission trip job site. In addition, they still found time to get in their daily walk. I could barely manage eating, showering and dragging myself to bed every evening after an exhausting day of work.

It baffled me then and baffles me to this day. Their energy, enthusiasm and capacity for service seemed limitless.

THE BEGINNING OF A GOOD THING

Grandpa could have been a successful explorer if he had been born a couple centuries earlier. He is intelligent, insatiably inquisitive, unshakably calm in a crisis, and a born leader. Interestingly, his life ambition, from a very early age, wasn't much different from David Livingston's.

Just like I grew up hearing my Grandpa tell stories from the mission field, he remembers his parents telling him stories of missionary doctors. These stories captivated his



Arthur says he was blessed with Adventist education his whole life. Even during the Depression, his father sacrificed, prayed and always prioritized Christian education.

imagination and must have stuck with him because he decided to be a missionary doctor. When Arthur met Natalie, in high school at Adelpian Academy in Michigan, she said that, before they even started dating, Arthur told her he was going to be a missionary someday and “if she wanted to come along, she was more than welcome.”

Arthur started down the path to becoming a doctor by enrolling in all pre-med courses at Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University). World War II, however, interrupted his plans, and he was drafted to serve as a pharmacist on a troop transport Army ship where he served for four years.

Natalie could have been Mother Teresa’s understudy. She is stubbornly optimistic, always loving, naturally nurturing, and has a heart of pure gold.

During this time, Natalie took a job at Ford Motor Company’s Rolling Mill, in the Rouge Steel Plant, in Dearborn, Michigan, as soon as she turned 18. She was one of the first

women employed there to produce war materials. The factory job was also necessary so she could earn tuition for a Christian nursing school, which she hoped to attend. Natalie wrote Arthur nearly every day and prayed constantly he would come home safe.

About two years into his service, Arthur came home for an unexpected leave while his ship needed repairs. During this surprise visit, he asked Natalie the question that is now immortalized in Weaver lore, “Honey, would you like to cook for me for the rest of your life?”

Her answer was, “I’d sure like to try.”

Three days later, with a borrowed wedding dress, they were married in the Holly Church. That cringe-worthy proposal was the beginning of a beautiful partnership, a union consecrated for service, that has now spanned nearly seven decades.

When the war ended, Arthur headed to Pacific Union College to finish his degree, and Natalie took nurses training just down the hill at another hospital. From there, Arthur headed to Loma Linda for medical school. Arthur says he was blessed with Adventist education his whole life. Even during the Depression, his father sacrificed, prayed and always prioritized Christian education. Arthur took that value to heart and has been an avid supporter of Adventist education as well, and has even set up a fund to help Michigan students attend Adventist schools. Last year alone, scholarships were given to 51 individuals to help them continue their education in one of our Adventist institutions.

A CALL TO SERVE

After medical school and residency, Arthur established a successful private practice in Michigan, and he and Natalie built their first house. They had settled comfortably into the suburban American life when God unveiled his alternate plans for them. They received a call, asking if Arthur would be willing to serve as chief surgeon for the Karachi Adventist Hospital in Pakistan. Natalie and Arthur said they struggled with God about his timing of uprooting their lives when they were just getting established. To complicate matters further, they already had six children! (They originally agreed on 12.) After much prayer and discussion, Arthur said God impressed him with the memory of the impetuous declaration of his plans to be a missionary he had shared with Natalie back at Adelphian Academy, all those years ago. "If this was God's timing, how could we say 'no.'"

On January 1, 1962, after five weeks on a freight boat with six children and all the family belongings packed in crates, the Weaver family anchored in Karachi Harbour. The family's time in Pakistan was not without its turmoil; there was political unrest aimed at American expatriates, sickness and hardship, but God was faithful to the family throughout their time there.

Grandpa has told us repeatedly, usually with an adventurous twinkle in his eye, that those five years were the best years of his career. "There is considerable satisfaction in knowing that you have treated someone who would not have been helped without your service." This experience and the stories echoing from it, told and retold during many family worships, set the tone in many ways for the Weaver family as a whole. Most of the six Weaver children, 17 grandchildren, and 27 (and counting) great-grandchildren have been involved in mission work on a short- or long-term basis as a result.

COMMUNITY AND FAMILY

After returning from Pakistan, Arthur took a position in head and neck surgery. He worked at several Detroit area hospitals and became chief of surgery at the V.A. Hospital. During his time as a surgeon, Arthur's philosophy was to never turn anyone away because of financial inability to pay. He quickly gained the reputation for tackling some of the more difficult head and neck cancer problems as well. He says that several patients who had been turned down for surgery elsewhere came to him for help. Before surgery, Arthur always asked the patient if they would like him to pray for Divine help during the procedure. "Only once in my entire career as a surgeon did a patient refuse the offer," he says.

Though Arthur saved thousands of lives during his surgical career, he says he believes his and Natalie's work with Better Living Seminars may have saved more.

The birth of Better Living Seminars started in 1966, when Natalie and Arthur had just returned from their five-year tour as missionaries in Pakistan. This was shortly after the first Surgeon General's report linking smoking habits with cancer, heart disease and pre-mature death. Finding that there was no local program for helping those who wished to stop smoking, Arthur made it his mission to develop effective stop-smoking seminars in the Detroit Metropolitan area.

The five-day seminar that he ended up utilizing was so successful that it was featured on WJR radio, followed by a live television broadcast of the seminar. The Michigan Cancer Foundation also made available, upon request, a booklet Arthur helped produce that included further information and suggestions of how to successfully enjoy a smoke-free lifestyle. More than 100,000 booklets were requested and distributed. Arthur said that many people told him they quit smoking when they saw him cut into a cancerous lung during one of the programs. This program made such an impact on the Detroit Metropolitan area that wholesale cigarette sales decreased by 15 percent in that region, following the TV programs. This was only the beginning of nearly 50 years of presenting stop-smoking seminars. Arthur's seminars have been featured in *The Detroit News* and *Detroit Free Press* papers, presented on Channel 4 television, and all around Michigan. Many large corporations, such as General Motors and the Ford Motor Company, have utilized his services.

After a few years of these successful stop-smoking seminars, Natalie and Arthur decided to begin adding other informational classes that would emphasize different aspects of a healthy lifestyle, and Better Living Seminars, a nonprofit promoting holistic health, was born. Arthur also believed that by building relationships through these programs, he could not only help individuals live a more quality life through healthy living, but establish a foundation to offer Bible studies or invite them to church as well. Hundreds of people, throughout the years, have given their lives to Christ through Natalie and Arthur's thoughtful invitation into their home and through their openness in sharing about their Lord.

Natalie and Arthur continued teaching and offering seminars on nutrition and cooking, exercise, weight control, stress management and biblical perspectives on health. They quickly discovered that individuals who added other positive lifestyle changes to their smoking cessation were much less

likely to slide backward by returning to their tobacco habit. Several mentioned they needed a “live-in” program where they would be away from their stressful home and work environment. This gave Natalie and Arthur the idea for an annual health camp.

Beautiful Camp Au Sable in Grayling, Michigan, served as the location for this annual Health Camp. Arthur led the stop-smoking classes, Bible studies, morning bird-watching walks, among other things, while Natalie served as the chief chef and taught many of the cooking and nutrition classes during the week. And their kids and grandkids filled in the gaps. I (Jessica) vividly remember Grandma tying a too-large apron on me and encouraging me to keep trying no matter how many times I added too much salt or spilled flour down the front of me. This week became a labor of love put on by our family and other volunteers, but always with my grandparents at the helm. If Grandpa was the spark and life that fueled Health Camp, Grandma was the glue and grace that held it all together and made it work.

And that is the magic formula that makes it work — a bond, formed during WWII, built on a foundation of service, and consecrated to further the kingdom of God on this Earth. Our grandparents will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary in August. Grandpa is losing his hearing and Grandma was declared legally blind, but when asked about it, she says, optimistic as always, “I

hear for him and he sees for me — together it’s like we’re one person!”

Grandpa just says, “What?” loudly and then agrees with Grandma, once he hears the question, adding with a chuckle, “Make sure you don’t find the wrong one because you’ll have enough trouble with the right one.”

The last Health Camp led by my grandparents took place in 2014, and last January also marked the 10th and final Maranatha trip led by Arthur and Natalie. They are spending most of their time these days pouring love into their kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids. However, they still invite 25–30 people from their church to their house every Sabbath for lunch and host weekly Bible studies in their home as well.

The funny thing is that the above accomplishments don’t even scratch the surface. The legacy of Arthur and Natalie isn’t the thousands of patients on which Arthur operated or the myriad awards and honorary degrees bestowed on him. It isn’t the countless cooking schools run by Natalie and the hundreds of programs that ran more smoothly because of her pulling together the behind-the-scenes details. It is the partnership, the dedication, the love shared with each other and with those with whom they came in contact. It is an acute case study of letting God use you and the fact that we are stronger when we lean on each other and God. Like our Grandpa always says, “Life is easy, you only have three big decisions — choosing the God you’re going to serve, the spouse you are going to serve with, and what you’re going to do to serve. In that order.”

Jessica J.W. Beans and Jeremy Weaver are grandchildren of Natalie and Arthur Weaver. Jessica is public relations and marketing director for Kettering College in Kettering, Ohio.

Jeremy just graduated with an M.S. in Global Community Development, and operates Wind River Custom Homes in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They have both been on numerous short-term mission trips and each served a full year as student missionaries in Zambia, Africa, and Cairo, Egypt, due in great part to the influence and example of their grandparents’ lives.

The Weavers are pictured (left) with many of their 27 great-grandchildren.

“Life is easy, you only have three big decisions — choosing the God you’re going to serve, the spouse you are going to serve with, and what you’re going to do to serve. In that order.”



A MINISTRY BY GOD

THE GO DO GOOD MINISTRY

Let those who gain such an experience in working for the Lord write an account of it for our papers, that others may be encouraged. Let the canvasser tell of the joy and blessing he has received in his ministry as an evangelist. These reports should find a place in our papers; for they are far-reaching in their influence. They will be as a sweet fragrance in the church, a savor of life unto life. Thus it is seen that God works with those who cooperate with Him. "Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost." — Manual for Canvassers, p. 41

At first, when we were asked to share our story of this personal ministry, we were hesitant; however, God, through His inspired word, tells us to encourage our brethren by telling them of how we are blessed by giving of ourselves to others. Praise be to God!

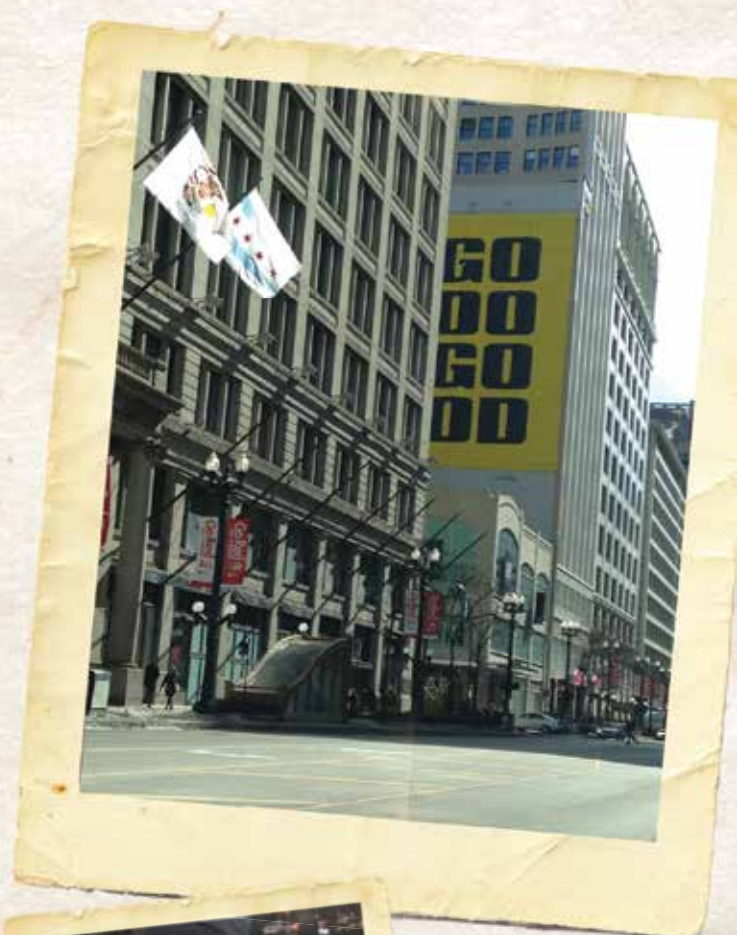
OUR STORY

We, Nick and Pat Roman, met in 2011 at the Northwest Church in Indiana. Little did we know God would join us in marriage nine months later. We believe God always had a plan for us to minister for Him. However, this is not about us, but all about God! It is a privilege to participate in God's work. We and many others, like the husbandman, are just tending seeds that Jesus has sown and watching the Holy Spirit water them to grow — just like in a garden. We are totally dependent upon God, and He is in control!

ASKING GOD AND LISTENING?

Have you ever asked God to tell you what He wants you to do? Sometimes, we ignore that still small voice — which is what we did. God did not give up on working on our hearts and impressed us to start a personal ministry. We didn't know how to begin but, with prayer, God showed us the way.

One Sunday morning, God woke us up, and we decided that the start of the ministry would begin the following Sunday. Our first time out (February of last year), we made up 40 meals and four of us drove the streets of downtown Chicago looking for those in need of something to eat on a cold winter day. Our last time out, we fed 126 people and could have fed double that number, just at one location. We wanted to see what God would do with this ministry of His — He showed us by showering many



Shadow before (November 2014)
and after (May 2015)

blessings, touching so many people's hearts to support this ministry with their prayers and donations of their time, food, clothing and money, not to mention the importance of so many answers to prayer.

Our focus is to follow Christ's example, which is to meet His children where they are and befriend them, while meeting their needs, teach them of Jesus, and then bid them to follow Him. God is at the head of this ministry, and has led us to our brothers and sisters out on the streets of Chicago, so that we could feed and clothe, as well as pray and share Jesus' love with them.

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S LEADING

The first day out, while driving down State Street, we looked up to see a sign on a building that read "Go Do Good." When we were impressed to name this ministry, that sign came to mind. After praying about this for a while, it became clear that this is what God wanted us to call His ministry.

GOD'S PLAN

At first, we were just driving and getting out of the car to pass out food, but God had another plan for us. One day, when we were feeding the homeless, one of our volunteers got out to give a meal. We were given a ticket for parking in a bus lane, though we were only stopped for 15 seconds. Upon praying why this happened, it was made clear to us that God wanted us to walk the streets and take the time to share more than a meal with our brothers and sisters. We looked positively at this experience as being another blessing from God.

Several months later, we appeared in court where we shared with the judge what we were doing when ticketed by the police, and explained what this ministry is all about. After hearing our testimony, she ruled we were not in violation of the law. Praise the Lord! God's message was clear — get out on foot and build a relationship with His children. Now they know who we are and that we love them. We don't look at this ministry as just feeding the homeless, but that we are God's children, helping His other children by witnessing to them of His love. It's important for the foot soldiers of God to take their time to get to know these precious souls and not be in a hurry to just pass out a meal, keeping in mind that we also are bearing witness to those passing by who are rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing (in their own eyes).

PREPARING FOR THE MINISTRY DAY

We try to shop on Thursdays or Fridays. If there is food to prepare, we get it done before Sabbath hours. On Saturday nights, after sundown, the volunteers get together either at a home or at the church to put the meals together, make sandwiches, and bag the food and drinks. We give out two sandwiches, fruit, granola bar, a treat, and water or juice to each person. We start each meal preparation session with a circle of prayer, and then divide into groups. We put the food into the refrigerator to keep cool overnight. On Sunday morning, we put the food into our carts, which are blue with white polka dots, and pack them into the SUV 30 minutes before leaving for Chicago. We enjoy socializing together while preparing the meals.

SPECIAL STORY OF A WORK IN PROGRESS OF A 'LOST SHEEP'

We would like to share with you about what God's amazing work is like. There is a brother of ours who has been on the street, whom we shall call "Shadow." God has impressed it upon us to mentor him and to share with him that God loves him, and so do we. Shadow has been homeless and has slept on the concrete for quite some time. He has suffered through trials of a stroke, dealt with throat cancer, had seizures, is partially paralyzed on one side, been in and out of hospitals for many health issues, and dealt with demons of other fashions in his life. We have been blessed by God to be able to feed and clothe, as well as share Jesus with him, and are proud to call him our brother! He now is off the streets and allowing God to change his life. He has stopped drinking alcohol, is reading his Bible, and has agreed to start studies. It has been an inspiration to us to watch him grow and trust in Christ. We are so proud of him! He also wants to give back to others, by being a part of this ministry, and testify to those on the streets how God can help them to change, and tell what He is doing in his life. Praise the Lord!

COME ONE AND ALL!

Perhaps you would like to start up your own ministry? God will lead and bless you! We go out to give a blessing, and God changes and blesses us! The only requirement is L-O-V-E.

Nick and Pat Roman are members of the Northwest Church in Crown Point, Indiana. To learn more about this ministry, email proman104@frontier.com.



Trusting God's Plan



BY LAURIE SNYMAN

Who but God would have known that Carlot Dorve, born in the impoverished city of Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, would grow up to be a beloved, professional trumpet player. While staying with his grandmother one day, five-year-old Carlot slipped off a plantain tree, severely injuring his right arm. His grandmother feared the reaction of his mother, so she tried, for a time, to conceal the injury from her. His arm worsened and became infected, so his grandmother took Carlot to a healer who tied leaves around his arm and cinched the string so tightly it cut off circulation.



Carlot Dorve credits God with all his talent and opportunities, and waits to hear what the future will be.

The infection continued to spread, so Carlot's arm was amputated to save his life. His mother feared for her son's future because he was right-handed and she knew losing part of an arm, all the way up to his shoulder, would make dressing and writing difficult.

His father left when he learned Carlot would be handicapped. Alone, his mother raised Carlot in a two-room home with his five siblings. She struggled to educate her children, especially Carlot.

Disabled children were banned from attending public schools in Haiti, so she brought him to St. Vincent's Centre for Handicapped Children where Carlot was taught to function using his left arm and hand. Kids teased him about his disability, but this only made Carlot want to work harder. He excelled as a student, despite the civil unrest, hunger and fear he experienced, and became proficient in French, English and Creole.

When Carlot was seven, his mother married a Seventh-day Adventist, and they began to attend church. When he was 16, Carlot fully gave his heart to Christ. Near that time, their family was abandoned again when his stepfather left his pregnant mother. They were devastated, and his mother would not eat for days to make sure the children had food every few days. However, Carlot kept his religious vows.

He loved music, so sometimes he spent scarce food money to purchase music tapes from street vendors. On one tape he heard trumpet music, and he immediately became enthralled with its sound. "There was something about the trumpet; I just loved it," Carlot says.

More than anything, he wanted to play the trumpet. He watched kids go to music class, and recalls, "When I heard them play, I felt it; I loved it. But they wouldn't allow me to play. They said I couldn't. But I was persistent."

Day after day, year after year, Carlot asked his music teacher if he could play the trumpet, but she always said, "No, you can't play with only one hand." For four years, Carlot asked, but always heard the same answer, "No."

One day, when Carlot again begged the teacher to let him try to play a trumpet, another teacher was in the room.

The teacher intervened, convincing his music teacher it wouldn't hurt to let Carlot try a trumpet.

He was so determined to play music that, without anyone to help or mentor him, Carlot practiced to learn how to manage a trumpet with only his left hand. By using his pinkie and thumb to hold up the trumpet, he figured out how to use his three middle fingers to push the valves. With stubborn determination, he practiced every day until he became the best trumpeter in his class.

Carlot gained respect at school, earning a scholarship to high school. He became one of the youngest members in Haiti's largest orchestra, Holy Trinity Philharmonic Orchestra, at the Holy Trinity School of Music, and became the principal trumpet player in the best orchestra in his country. Carlot was so talented, he was asked to teach music to other students.

One day, Carlot signed up with a foreign exchange program. He was admitted and moved to Flint, Michigan, as an exchange student. One week later, a devastating earthquake struck Haiti. Carlot laments that many friends, fellow students and teachers were killed or injured, some in the music school where he spent so much of his time. He grieved and struggled to understand, *Why not me?* "I couldn't play. I couldn't even eat. I just cried," he says.

Carlot scoured the Internet and Facebook pages, looking for news about people. There he found heartbreaking images and sorrow of the earthquake's force that swallowed the already beleaguered nation. "I couldn't even imagine what had happened. I didn't know what to do. I thought I'd lose my mind," he said. But, eventually, music provided a way to heal again. His incredible faith in God sustained him, and God had a plan for Carlot.

There were other tragedies he experienced, for example, his mother's disappearance. She was out searching for food. He was told there was some civil unrest that day, and she was probably abducted or killed. "Things like that can happen in Haiti," Carlot said. The children had to fend for themselves.

Carlot underlines the importance of having a mother: "I would give millions and millions to have one, but God

knows why things happen. It is unfortunate that I really did not understand her when I had her. I think having a mother is more precious than anything in this world.”

The Lord has opened doors for Carlot to perform throughout Michigan, New York, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., Florida and Illinois. Money he earns from these concerts often is sent back home to his siblings to support their schooling. As people see Carlot’s remarkable talent, he inspires those with disabilities to put their trust in God, work diligently, and believe God will provide a future.

While an exchange student in Flint, an Adventist who met Carlot arranged an interview with Michigan State University. MSU trumpet professor Richard Illman said, “I got an anonymous phone call from a woman who said, ‘I have a trumpet player you need to hear.’” Richard, who has since performed duets with Carlot, said the faculty was so impressed with him that MSU offered a full music scholarship. The scholarship covered Carlot’s tuition, but he wondered how he would find money to pay for his room and board. He trusted God to take care of that.

Carlot spent five months studying music with national trumpet master Wilmer Wise of the International Trumpet Guild. Wilmer introduced Carlot to Wynton Marsalis, who saw such potential in Carlot that he decided to send him a check each semester to cover his personal expenses. Carlot knows God has been watching over him.

Presently, Carlot is a senior at MSU. He travels to Haiti to inspire students to play music, and teaches trumpet to disadvantaged students.

Listening to Carlot play his trumpet rivets your attention to him, especially realizing that quality of trumpet music comes from a person with just one arm. He displays incredible determination to play despite his disability. Last winter, I brought him to Great Lakes Adventist Academy. The students at GLAA were amazed when they heard Carlot play his trumpet that evening for worship. “I can live my experiences through music. It is the thing that makes me most happy in my life,” he says.

Carlot is an enthusiastic Adventist Christian. “I was offered an opportunity to perform in Carnegie Hall in New York City,” he remembers. When he learned the orchestra would practice for a half-hour on Sabbath he turned down the offer, choosing to stay loyal to the Sabbath, despite how this performance may have propelled his future.

Carlot had issues with a conductor because he refused to play at other Saturday performances earlier this year. He believes, “It gives me a chance to stand up for God; I believe it

is a privilege. One of the sponsors cancelled my scholarship money last year because I would not play for them. They were of another religion, and took issue with me not playing on Sabbath. I clearly stated that I am a Christian who keeps God’s Sabbath according to the Bible, and that I cannot do it; however, if they would change it to any other day, then I will do it.” He is praying God will solve this for him.

There are other Adventist musicians who willingly perform on Sabbath, and conductors and professors remind Carlot of this when he declines for Sabbath observance. Carlot says he prayed God would give him an answer about why others do this when he is convicted not to. He says, “God told me, ‘I want to have a date with you each Sabbath.’” This helped Carlot firmly make up his mind to serve God and keep the Sabbath.

Carlot knows God can open doors for him when he wills it. “Last year, I had a performance in Washington, D.C., on Sabbath, and when I found out the date, I said ‘I will not be there.’” Amazingly, “They changed the time of the concert just a few weeks before the performance, just because of me. God is so good,” he says.

He credits God with all his talent and opportunities, and waits to hear what the future will be. Desiring to be a better leader of individuals to Jesus, Carlot attended the Michigan Conference Emmanuel Institute of Evangelism (see <http://emmanuelinstitute.org>). Trained and inspired, Carlot has shared his faith with multiple MSU students, despite being so busy with school and performances. Six individuals with whom he studied have been baptized, and Carlot is praying for an additional four students, who currently are studying, to make a decision also.

His goal is simply to become a better trumpet player — hopefully, “one of the greatest” — and witness for God. “There were times I thought, *how much better I’d be, if I had two arms*, but I don’t really think of myself as handicapped. I can do everything anyone else can do,” Carlot said. “Everything happens for a reason. Miracles have happened all through my life.”

Laurie Snyman, LMSW, is owner of Awakening Family Therapy, assistant to the ministerial director of the Michigan Conference, and a member of the Lansing Church in Michigan. If you would like to schedule a concert to help Carlot defray education expenses, you may contact him at dorvecar@msu.edu or janbobcarlot@yahoo.fr.

Everything happens for a reason. Miracles have happened all through my life.

ONE SMALL BOOK to One Big Study

BY BOB STEWART

On the morning of Saturday, March 10, 2012, William Yates noticed a book on his stoop that would forever change his life. At a time when things had not been going well in his life, the delivery of *The Great Controversy: The Storm Is Coming*, by the Lowell Riverside Church, was timed just right.

William embraced what he had learned about the blessing of the Sabbath and, after his baptism, he began to seek ways to share this precious truth. In his own words, he says about his past, “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me. This old saying could not be farther from the truth. You see, I can show you the scars from my physical abuse when I was a child. But the verbal and emotional scars given to me by my father are just as deep as they are wide. My father, who constantly criticized, threatened and dismissed me until my self-esteem and feelings of self-worth were depleted, set the course for my young adult life. I left home at 17, ill-prepared to deal with what the world dished out.”

After William learned about the good news for repentant sinners, he started to notice men in his circles of influence who had scars from the past. So he decided to start a men’s group to try to meet those needs. “This men’s Bible study group started simple enough with just a few of us men hungering for more, knowing instinctively we needed God. We went around the room. Each man shared a little about his life. With tears and true ownership, each man confessed his weaknesses and mistakes. Their hearts bled for the damage they had brought to those they love, and they gushed at how they lived unforgiven. But I knew they were forgiven because of Jesus Christ.”

William continues, “I found myself longing to help them. These men were trying to recover from the consequences of sin. I wanted them to need God as I do. I wanted to make God their hero and not sin. I wanted to break the cycle, not to repeat the sins of their earthly fathers.

“So I decided to start a men’s group focusing on the ‘Fundamental Beliefs,’ more specifically, ‘Marriage and the Family.’ We men need to be warriors for Christ. Walking with God is the first thing that every man needs to discern. I

want to help every man succeed in life by telling my own experiences of dealing with real-life problems and how God has solutions.”

William’s small group began to grow: first a handful, then ten, then more; to the point, in fact, that there was no longer any room for all of them to meet. He looked around for another place to meet and found a Sunday church, across the street from where he and his wife lived, that was willing to open their doors to his growing ministry.

How much did it grow? The last time William checked, his little group had grown a few hundredfold! Other churches in the area were interested in having him branch out into their churches with the same ministry.

William saw a need and asked God to help him fill it. God has blessed him beyond his wildest dreams. His goal is to weave the truth for this time into the fabric of their studies and to “know our Lord Jesus Christ more fully,” William says.

“This small group study helps men build the skills they need to succeed and offers encouragement and accountability as men journey together. The goal is to equip all men with the tools to grow in grace and to know our Lord Jesus Christ more fully. Besides, that is the purpose of all our spiritual journeys — to know Jesus and to be transformed into his image (see John 17:3 and 2 Corinthians 3:18). With that in mind, are you making yourself available to know our Lord? Let the journey begin...”

That “journey” for William was richly encouraged by a church that prayed and sacrificed to deliver a book that not only changed his life, but continues to change others’ lives through William’s “small group study.”

Bob Stewart is pastor of Grand Rapids Central and Lowell Riverside churches in Michigan. William Yates was baptized November 3, 2012, and is a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.





A Providential Meeting

BY MARJORIE KEAN-TRIPP

While taking my walk one summer day, I was fascinated to see something that was going on: A man was leaning over a cat. When I asked what was wrong with the cat, the man replied that the stray was hungry and he was about to buy some cat food at the store. It immediately reminded me of Jesus' concern for animals.

We continued the conversation as he got on his bicycle. I then saw his whole right side was badly burned. I asked him what had happened. He shared that when he was four years old, he accidentally placed a can of flammable liquid into his family's wood stove, causing the explosion that marred his body, even affecting his speech. He endured lots of operations throughout his life.



Buchanan Church friends visit Wayne Miller in the hospital.

It was then I asked if he would like to have Bible studies, to which he replied he would. Wayne Miller was his name, and we began Bible studies in my home. He was very excited about every lesson, so much so that he shared his study papers with a coworker on the night shift at the Epworth Center (formerly Madison Center) in South Bend, Indiana, where he worked for 20 years after finishing his college education. She eventually joined in with the studies.

Upon completion, Wayne had accepted everything presented to him and requested from his employer to have Sabbaths off. However, around the same time, he was having some physical problems and learned he had an aggressive cancer, and it soon began to take its toll on his health. One evening, some church elders came to anoint Wayne; the next morning, he was taken to the hospital and was also diagnosed with terminal pneumonia.

Willie Iwankiw, then pastor of the Buchanan Church, came to the hospital with the elders and some seminary students for a season of prayer and singing. Even though

Wayne had been previously baptized, he desired to be baptized anew; however, since he was getting worse, it didn't look like he would get the opportunity. So the pastor made a video at the hospital documenting his profession of faith and showed the video at church to accept him into membership and welcome him into the Buchanan Church family.

Not long afterward, Wayne's new church family hosted his funeral. The sanctuary was filled, and the church provided a meal for Wayne's family and friends who were very appreciative of the love and hospitality extended to them.

I got acquainted with Wayne's sister during the meal, and she shared with me that she had a born-again experience at the time of her brother's death. Since then, Lee Tripp, a retired pastor, and I have continued to visit her and stay in touch. I contacted one of our pastor friends from Goshen, Indiana, who attended the funeral, and introduced them. He is currently setting up Bible studies with Wayne's niece and her husband, too.

I'm convinced it was through God's providence that I met Wayne. Through his life and death, we have had a great opportunity to witness to his family and friends. Please join us in prayer for these wonderful people as they grow in their understanding of God's great love for them.

Marjorie Kean-Tripp is a member of the Buchanan Church in Michigan. She shared this story with Justin Kim, communication director of the Michigan Conference.

Andrews awards honorary doctorates to Rasi and Doblmeier

Andrews University awarded two honorary doctoral degrees, Doctor of Humane Letters, to Humberto M. Rasi and Martin Joseph Doblmeier, during its May commencement ceremonies on May 3.

Rasi, Special Projects, Department of Education, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, was the keynote speaker for the 8:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. commencement services with an address titled "On the Road to Success." Niels-Erik Andreasen, University president, presented Rasi with an honorary doctorate for his contribution to Adventist education during the 8:30 a.m. service.

Rasi has worked as a teacher, author, editor and educational administrator for the church for almost 60 years. He has served as a teacher, department chair and



President Niels-Erik Andreasen presents the honorary doctorate degree to Martin Joseph Doblmeier who stated, "I feel a sense of pride on behalf of every serious documentary filmmaker and hope they have some sense of sharing in this."

eventually, dean of graduate studies for Andrews University, as well as director of the Education Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He has published, contributed to or co-edited numerous books and articles, as well as co-founded the Institute for Christian Teaching and established the Adventus Editorial Consortium. "It was a high honor to receive an award from the oldest institution of Adventist education," says Rasi.

Martin Joseph Doblmeier, founder and president of Journey Films, spoke at

the 11:00 a.m. commencement service. His address was titled "Through the Lens of Faith." Doblmeier has produced and directed award-winning documentaries about religion for three decades, including a trilogy of films about Seventh-day Adventists: "The ADVENTISTS" (2010), "The ADVENTISTS 2" (2013), and "The BLUEPRINT: The Story of Adventist Education" (2014). "I am delighted to receive a degree from Andrews," Doblmeier says. "I feel a sense of pride on behalf of every serious documentary filmmaker and hope they have some sense of sharing in this."

Both Doblmeier and Rasi noted that they experienced a warm welcome at Andrews University and appreciated the enthusiasm of the students, the hospitality of faculty, and the beauty of the campus. "There is something special happening at Andrews," Doblmeier says, "and I am delighted to play a small part in it."

Melodie Roschman, acting media communications manager, Division of Integrated Marketing & Communication

Architecture students build house on 18-foot trailer

The size of an average dorm room is 148 square feet, but for School of Architecture, Art & Design dean Carey Carscallen and his students, it is enough space for a full house. Carscallen teaches a design/build class for Architecture graduate students. For their final project, they usually take a mission trip to Bolivia. This year, though, Carscallen wanted a project the entire class could work on the whole year, regardless of weather or space restrictions, and so the tiny house project was born. With the help of a grant from Physics Enterprises, the class would build two tiny, completely livable houses on 18-foot trailers.

The four graduate students in the class were integral to every aspect



School of Architecture, Art & Design students at Andrews University built two tiny, completely livable houses on 18-foot trailers.

of the process — from drawing up blueprints and constructing walls to installing wiring and plumbing and furnishing the finished house, always strategizing how they could use every square foot of space efficiently.

While one of the houses remained unfinished at graduation, the other, "Bay View," was completed and put up for sale for \$30,000. Though tiny, it manages to feel spacious instead of claustrophobic, with a full bathroom, well-equipped kitchen, table for two, ample

storage space, and two sleeping lofts. At 8,000 lbs., it is more unwieldy than an RV, but can be moved via truck and attached to sewer and electric hookups.

Overall, Carscallen says, the tiny house project was an incredible success that they look forward to repeating in the future. "We launched it not really knowing how it was going to turn out, but the students really liked it ... and it was eye-opening for them."

For a longer version of this story, visit: <http://www.andrews.edu/agenda/2015/05/22/tiny-house-big-ideas>. To learn more about the tiny house project, you can visit the website: <http://www.theshedtinyhouse.com>, or view a time-lapse video of the construction at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqyUmLUT9ig&feature=youtu.be>.

Melodie Roschman, acting media communications manager, Division of Integrated Marketing & Communication



33 college students accepted into Adventist Health System's Leadership Development program

They're young, they're smart, and they're the next generation of leaders in health care. Thirty-three college students and recent graduates were accepted into the 2015 Leadership Development program at Adventist Health System. The group attended orientation on May 18, and will serve and learn across the organization's 44 hospital campuses.

"Our main focus for having a leadership development program is to introduce top talent to the organization," said Norman Miles, AHS director of Leadership Development. "We are in the business of developing and preparing servant leaders who will model our mission, vision and values." More than 100 applications were reviewed during the competitive selection process that focused on a combination of quantitative and qualitative factors such as academic performance, community service, leadership potential and an interest in the health care industry. Those who were selected for summer internships will spend 12

weeks gaining hands-on experience in areas such as supply chain, human resources and patient financial services. Meanwhile, two-year residents will focus on building the leadership and technical skills essential for managing a team and guiding strategies in their specialty areas.

"This program serves as a vehicle to launch them into a career in health care," Miles said. "It's an awesome opportunity for interns and residents to develop a deeper understanding of the nuances within the industry, hone their skill sets and develop a context around what they need to do to prepare for a career in health care."

Michael Hernandez is one of four new residents entering the program this year. He recently graduated with a degree in computer science from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and has spent his past two summers interning in the AHS Information Technology Department.

"My main draw to the residency program was those past experiences. The people with whom I worked were very friendly. They really made me feel like I was part of the team, and I learned a lot," Hernandez said. "There's also the spiritual aspect; the mission of the organization is very much in line with my own views and beliefs."

As a resident, Hernandez plans to pursue a master's degree and learn more about how the different departments within health care work together. In the future, he says, he would like to serve as a regional clinical liaison, or maybe even a chief information officer.

That dream is not far-fetched, as many previous interns and residents have gone on to assume key leadership positions within the organization, including Brian Adams, president/CEO of Florida Hospital Tampa; Jeff Villanueva, administrator of Florida Hospital Kissimmee; and Jillyan Shelton, assistant vice president at Florida Hospital East Orlando to name a few.

"The Leadership Development Residency and Internship programs have helped ensure that we have a strong pipeline of emerging Christian leaders who are able to assume various roles within the organization," Miles said. "This year's group is diverse, dynamic, bright and energetic, and I believe that they will be able to make many meaningful contributions to the world of health care in the years to come."

Rainey Turlington, communications specialist, Adventist Health System



Pictured are some of the 33 college students and recent graduates who will serve and learn across Adventist Health System's 44 hospital campuses while participating in the organization's Leadership Development program.

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Indiana Academy seniors help build a Habitat for Humanity home

Indiana—On May 19, the Indiana Academy 2015 senior class set out for their last adventure of the year. With many plans in mind, the first thing they did in their week-long trip was join with Habitat for Humanity to construct a brand new home for Tonda Chestnut. Sherry Seigal explained, “Our objective was to help out by doing something as important as building a house for someone who has helped so many others.”

Chestnut, a single mother raising four children and one grandchild, was living in very cramped, menacing home conditions. These unfortunate circumstances didn’t affect her spirit. Although confronting a difficult situation, Chestnut never ceased to help others before herself. In fact, she helped out by putting in hours of hard, diligent work — not only for her own benefit, but also for that of her community. It was time to pay her back with something she desperately needed.

“It is absolutely amazing to see this house being built from literally nothing and see such progress being made. So many churches and schools have come out to help — all the way from West Virginia, Indiana, and so many other places. ... This is something that touches me in unfathomable ways. It is such a blessing. ... I don’t have to stress about the safety of my family’s health any more. I can now dwell on the fact that I am being provided a home, and that’s the best feeling in the world. It all has been such a learning experience — being able to see other people help their fellow community. And now I can return the favor to others,” says Chestnut.



The Indiana Academy 2015 senior class helped construct a brand new home for a single mother who is raising her four children and one grandchild. “Being involved with Habitat for Humanity was probably one of the best things that has ever happened to me,” expressed Stella Mucyo.

The senior class all decided that their motto for the day — since they were out doing work for others — would be the Golden Rule: *Do to others as you would have them do to you* (Luke 6:31 NIV). And that’s exactly what they did.

A few students voiced their feelings about the experience. Katelyn Ruba said, “It was a lot of fun and made me think, *Wow, I’m building a house in which someone is going to live some day. Therefore, I need to do my best.* And just realizing that I’m giving someone in need a place to live, is such a pure blessing.”

Tee Bonongwe added, “It made me feel really good, especially when Tonda came and I was able to converse with her. It was a humbling experience. It had such a spiritual effect on me. It was something I would want to do over and over again. And the fact that it was with my classmates made it even better. These are the types of things that make you realize all the good work that God does for his children.”

Stella Mucyo expressed, “Being involved with Habitat for Humanity was probably one of the best things that has ever happened to me. ... When I saw the beautiful smile on Tonda’s face, my heart was touched and filled with joy. I immediately saw how caring she was and that gave me the courage and motivation to do the best I could in order to provide her with a beautiful, safe home.”

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian organization that reaches out to people from all across the world. From construction to reparation of houses, Habitat for Humanity is run solely on volunteer labor and donations. The seniors from Indiana Academy took part in an awe-inspiring adventure with this organized program. At first, the class was a little hesitant but soon, within less than 30 minutes of being on the building site, they felt so welcomed and appreciated. The entire day was eye-opening, and touched the hearts of every single person there.

“Hammering nails until I had blisters, learning how to operate a saw machine, seeing the progress we made at the end of the day and the gratitude on Tonda’s face were just a few of the things that made the work we did so fulfilling. I also enjoyed connecting with the guys who work with Habitat for Humanity. In the process of teaching us how to build, they made friends with us and helped the work to be even more fun. Overall, it was an awesome experience that everyone should do at least once in their life,” replied Madeleine Cadavero, president of the senior class.

But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifice God is well pleased (Hebrews 13:16 NKJV).

Danielle Henning, May 2015 graduate,
Indiana Academy

Wisconsin Academy touches lives for Jesus at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

Wisconsin—Senior Leslie Diaz has always wanted to change the world — to make a big difference for a lot of people. But Wisconsin Academy’s senior mission project this spring changed her mind about that.

“I was super excited to go on this trip,” said Diaz, a first-year senior from Chicago. “It’s always been in my heart to do a mission project.” This year, the senior class’s destination was the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. While there, they built a porch with a ramp for a lady who could no longer manage the steps to her trailer, put up a new barbed wire fence around the mission property, chopped wood, held a nightly vacation Bible school, assisted with an evangelistic series, passed out literature in the community, and helped out wherever needed.

Diaz helped with the VBS program. Each evening, 15–20 kids, ages 4–14, were dropped off by their parents for the hour-long program in the lower level of the church building. On the first night, Diaz met a very quiet 13-year-old by the name of “Maurice.”

“One of my friends told me I should go and talk to him,” Diaz said. “So, I took that as kinda my mission to get him to talk. I didn’t know how to start a conversation with him. I was thinking about trying to put myself in his position. He finally told me his name.”

Some nights, when Maurice didn’t come in for the program, Diaz went out and found him in his mom’s van and personally invited him in. He was really upset over some things that had happened at home. “One of the church ladies told us about the problems on the reservation. About a month before we arrived, 13 girls made a pact to commit suicide. Then two weeks before we arrived, a six-year-old had committed suicide. Suicide is really big on the



Senior Beth Strangstalien greets a friend at Payabya Mission Church. Students got to know the community members while singing and helping lead the evening evangelistic meetings on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.



The Wisconsin Academy senior class and members of Payabya Mission Church in South Dakota gather after church on Sabbath.

reservation. When I saw Maurice really upset, it concerned me. It was breaking my heart to see that a lot of these kids couldn’t see a way out. It seemed the only way out they saw was through suicide.”

So Diaz made a point to show God’s love to Maurice. “I talked to Maurice about God and his worth to God. I told him that he was created and loved by God and [encouraged him] to keep growing and be himself.” Each evening as the seniors gathered for prayer, Diaz and several of her friends prayed for Maurice.

“What people really need is Jesus,” said Beth Strangstalien, a senior from Waunakee. “They need hope. And we don’t have hope without Jesus. We need to go give them hope, to show them how to get that hope. If we want Jesus to come back, we’re going to have to reach these people, too, and not be afraid.”

As the week drew to a close, and the projects were finished, the time came to leave. “It was really hard saying goodbye to everybody there,” said Diaz. “I do feel we made a difference. When I left, Maurice said he would miss me. I felt like we at least planted a seed. It feels great to know Maurice knows a little more of God’s love and hope than he did before I met him. Maurice and I still keep in contact. I try to call him every Friday and pray with him.”

“Ever since I was little, I’ve always had this idea that I wanted to change the world,” continued Diaz, who plans to continue her education at Southern Adventist University this fall. “This trip changed my view on that. Now I know I might not be able to change the whole world, but helping to change one person’s life can be so meaningful.”

Greg Edge, director of marketing and a Bible teacher, Wisconsin Academy



Greg Edge

Students listened as the Week of Prayer speaker, Jacob Gibbs, spoke about the kingdom of God.

Week of Prayer ends with decisions for baptism

Wisconsin—Three students made decisions for baptism in response to a call at the close of the Wisconsin Academy Spring Week of Prayer, with many others choosing to renew their commitment to Jesus. “The faculty and staff praise God for his goodness, and thank each of you who are praying for the work at Wisconsin Academy,” said

Greg Edge, director of marketing and Bible teacher at the academy.

During the week, Jacob Gibbs, pastor of the Munising Church in Michigan, spoke to the entire school body at morning and evening meetings. “His theme was ‘Thy Kingdom Come.’ He challenged the students to ‘taste and see that the kingdom of God is good,’ and pointed out that we can never even understand what the kingdom of God is without asking for God’s help. It would be more than we could comprehend,” Edge stated.

On Thursday evening, Gibbs extended an appeal, using simple decisions cards and including baptism as a response. “While many of our students are baptized, a significant number are not. We rejoice with the three who are now preparing to publicly declare their decision for Jesus,” said Edge.

As the Sabbath came, the Week of Prayer closed with an Agape Feast in the cafeteria. “We enjoyed fruit,

appetizers and fellowship while reflecting on the messages of the past week,” Edge said. Gibbs then shared his final message, a call to respond to God’s self-sacrificing love.

“Over one-third of the students stayed for the optional communion service that followed. We enjoyed the beautiful experience of foot-washing, the Lord’s Supper, and a time of sincere testimonies. Students testified to the way God has been transforming their hearts, revealing his love, and calling them to a deeper relationship with him,” Edge shared.

“Please continue to pray for [these students] and for the rest of the students and staff of Wisconsin Academy,” Edge urged.

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective (James 5:16 NIV).

Greg Edge, director of marketing and a Bible teacher, Wisconsin Academy, with Juanita Edge, director of communication, Wisconsin Conference

Gurnee Christian School raises \$10,000-plus for children with cancer

Illinois—Since 1995, the Gurnee Christian School has participated in St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Math-a-thon. Students ask family and friends to sponsor them as they complete math problems in Funbooks. The money raised from the fundraiser goes toward covering the costly medical expenses for the young patients at the hospital.

The first year the students raised a humble amount of \$126.50; but, as the years went on, more and more funds were donated to the cause. Their largest year of support was in 2006 with \$2,596.25 raised from a school with only 37 (K–8) students enrolled!

The children receive certificates for participating, and prizes go to top collectors in each grade. However,



Francess Lindsey

Students of Gurnee Christian School have participated in the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital Math-a-thon for 15 years. This year the students surpassed expectations and helped the school reach its all-time total fundraising goal of \$10,000.

Francess Lindsey, teacher of grades 1–4 for more than 15 years at the school, has witnessed that the students have a true love for service and helping others. “The students genuinely care about making a difference for the patients at St. Jude. It’s not a competitive spirit

of ‘I want to win the fundraiser,’ but a servant spirit of wanting to raise as much as possible to help a child ‘like me’ who, unfortunately, is sick.” After the students view the promo DVD, they are advised to give from their own money as they feel the compassion for

the children with cancer, prior to asking any other person for a donation.

This year marks 15 years of participation in the Math-a-thon fundraiser (the school did not participate 1996–2000). The school was about \$360 short of the \$10,000 mark. When students this year learned how close

they were to hitting the benchmark figure of \$10,000, participants brought in everything they could gather, including a kindergartner who brought in a dime and penny taped to an index card! The few students raised \$681.23 this year. To date, the school has raised exactly \$10,328.41.

Gurnee Christian School plans to continue to participate in the program as an outstanding example of how even your smallest efforts can go a long way in helping others.

Francess Lindsey, principal, Gurnee Christian School, as shared with Ruth Horton, superintendent of education, Illinois Conference

[YOUTH NEWS]

Wisconsin Conference to train senior youth for public campus ministry

Wisconsin—It is currently reported that 70 to 80 percent of Adventist youth attend public schools. This statistic is one that presents the Church with an incredible challenge to make sure it provides ministry to this large group of youth who are not attending Adventist schools.

Adventists have a respected educational system in which powerful, life-changing opportunities are pro-



vided to students within its schools. However, as Church leaders and members continue to support Adventist education, they must also remember that no matter what or where the youth are studying, they are still indeed our youth — and we must do all we can to minister to them.

During the weekend of Nov. 13–15, Wisconsin Conference offers a Public Campus Ministry Retreat at Camp Wakonda in Oxford. Ron Pickell, volunteer

coordinator of Adventist Christian Fellowship in North America, and his team will provide training during the retreat. Senior youth will have opportunities to learn how to start public campus ministry teams as well as hear inspirational stories of wonderful evangelistic opportunities available on public campuses. This weekend also is an occasion for local church pastors and leaders to learn how they can best support Adventist students on public campuses.

If public campus ministry is an area of ministry you are passionate about, you are invited to come be a part of this incredible event! Registration is online at <http://wi.adventist.org/PCM>.

Greg Taylor, youth director, Wisconsin Conference

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Henrietta Dabney recognized as Foster Grandparent of the Year

Lake Region—In recognition of her volunteer service as a foster grandparent, Henrietta Dabney of the Ypsilanti (Mich.) Church was honored as Foster Grandparent of the Year on April 27 at the Eastern Michigan University Student Center in Ypsilanti. The award came from the Washtenaw County Office of Community & Economic Development where Dabney has been volunteering her time, with loving smiles and touch, for the last six years.

Volunteers in the Foster Grandparents program are assigned to assist and work with kids at different locations in the local area, such as preschools,



Henrietta Dabney of the Ypsilanti (Mich.) Church displays the recognition certificates she received when honored as Foster Grandparent of the Year by the Washtenaw County Office of Community & Economic Development. She received the award on April 27 at the Eastern Michigan University Student Center in Ypsilanti.

Traver Schuler

libraries, childcare facilities and facilities for troubled teens. Though Dabney loved to be around kids, she had some hesitation initially as she began to volunteer at one of her first assignments. Speaking of that experience, she said, “The Lord took me in there, and it worked out fine.”

Dabney was recently assigned to volunteer at a local library where her loving character has quickly allowed her to develop close relationships with the

staff and kids. She said, “The librarian, she calls me ‘Mama.’” Dabney has been helping the kids as they work on the library computers, a Smart Board, play games, and check books in and out.

The four other foster grandparent volunteers in the Foster Grandparents program suggested Dabney’s name to receive special recognition, not only because of her loving volunteer work with kids but because she also encourages them with a touch, smile and a hug.

When Dabney spoke about the kids with whom she works, she said, “If I miss a day, they miss me. They ask, ‘Where’s Grandma?’, if I’m not there.”

Dabney’s service is a prime example of God’s love flowing through his servants to the world.

Trevor Schluter, Communication Department leader, Ypsilanti Church

Ypsilanti Church offers Prayer and Praise Day

Lake Region—Sabbath, May 23, the Prayer Ministry Team at the Ypsilanti Church in Michigan conducted a Prayer and Praise Day program. The program had some of the format of a traditional divine worship service, but it clearly focused on encouraging church members and visitors to pray and testify, recounting what God has done in their lives. From the introit sung at the beginning of the service, which asked God to rain down his Holy Spirit, to the children’s story, which instructed the kids how to pray, to the united prayer, read by the entire congregation at the program’s end, the entire day’s program was focused on prayer and praising God. There was no traditional sermon. All who wanted to tell what God had done for them was the spoken word for the day.

Many church members and guests stood up and offered testimonies. Some stood, offering praise and thanksgiving to God for physical healing, long life, a loving church family, and many other blessings.

Likewise, many church members and guests mentioned their prayer requests. The church’s website was set up to accept prayer requests online also, and those requests were prayed over during the program. As one listened to the prayer requests being made, it was apparent the needs among the people



The Prayer Ministry Team assembles outside the Ypsilanti Church in Michigan after the Prayer and Praise Day program, May 23. Pictured far right from front to back: (first row) Benjamin Johnson, Mignon Waller, Catherine Wright, Jennifer Schluter and Gloria Patterson; (second row) Winston Patterson, Monica Johnson, Janet Leftridge and Barbara Wilson; (third row) Ruth Wilson, Jim Waller and Willie Harrison

were great. Prayer requests were made regarding health challenges, financial struggles and the spiritual well-being of family members. Each request was prayed over.

Four years ago, after a number of church members attended a prayer summit in Alabama, the church members were inspired and impressed to hold prayer summits at the Ypsilanti Church. It wasn’t long after that when the Lord inspired the group to form the Prayer Ministry Team with an ongoing ministry in the church.

For three years now, the Prayer Ministry Team has operated as a

regular department and ministry of the church. Catherine Wright, Prayer Ministry Team leader, said, “This is truly a ministry of the church, prayer... It’s to inspire people to go to the Lord before they do anything.”

The church’s pastor, Winston Patterson, speaking of the Prayer Team Ministry, said, “It is the engine that drives the rest of the church. That’s where the power comes from.”

The Prayer and Praise Day program is conducted quarterly by the Prayer Team Ministry.

Trevor Schluter, Communication Department leader, Ypsilanti Church

Gratiot County ACS cleanly cares for communities

Michigan—Located in the middle of lower Michigan is an unassuming agricultural region, Gratiot County. Surrounded with wind turbines nearby, its county seat, Ithaca, is home not only to the Ithaca Church, but its corresponding partner in ministry, the Gratiot County Adventist Community Services (ACS).

In the middle of the week, while children are studying and playing at the neighboring Ithaca Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, the ACS building, recently built in 2008, is “rupturing” with activity. At the helm of this ministry is Virginia Pfeifle, a retired ACS director for the Michigan Conference, who has been involved with this ministry for more than 40 years. She leads a pack of volunteer staff with various backgrounds from the community.

What makes this center stand out from any other social service organization is, frankly, the smell. While other community depositories have the odor of old feet and hand-me-downs, Pfeifle leads her diverse crew to wash and launder everything, from jackets to sneakers, using a couple in-house laundry machines. Every item is then well-organized and laid out in a thoughtful manner. From jeans to baby clothes, every article of clothing is clean, inventoried and ready to be of service. She replies that the test of “if you’d wear it, then we’ll take it” doesn’t apply, for she herself wouldn’t wear a lot of what is donated. Pfeifle ensures that each article is clean and wearable to her standard.

Not only is she attentive to small details, but even in larger plans. Pfeifle was involved in the building plans of the ACS Center, creating the layout “the way she wanted it to be,” says one of her fellow volunteers. This layout causes a friendly, open and clean environment to service their community. Although walk-ins are not turned away, people usually are seen by appointment, with a short interview conducted to better



The Gratiot County Adventist Community Services volunteers are clearly a witness and respected in their community. They service at least 3,000 clients a year, and put in about 1,800 volunteer hours.

understand their needs. Clients are then able to select seasonal clothing for men, women, children and infants off the prearranged and well-thought-out clothing racks. The busiest time is right before school when needy parents seek a little more support and resources for their student children.

Volunteers spend their time doing meticulous inventory, ensuring the cleanliness of used footwear and baby clothes, folding jeans and blankets with precision, and even saving and accumulating funds to purchase newer articles of clothing at sales. “We need to get the most for our money!” says Pfeifle, epitomizing frugality for the Lord’s service. Bedding, linens and kitchenware are given additionally, based on need.

Some of the volunteer ladies also craft quilt tops to be given to those who have experienced loss by fire, are victims of domestic problems, as memorials for loved ones, or for other extenuating circumstances. Already they have made about 40 quilts together, with the same care and precision as exemplified at the Center.

The team has donated about 3,000 articles of clothing to other areas in North America, namely the Appalachian regions. They also have been known to assist prison communities with clothes. With at least 300 clients a year, this ministry has put in about 1,800 volunteer hours, distributed 6,000 articles of clothing, and sold more than 80 pairs of children’s shoes.

Pfeifle and her ministry team are clearly a witness and respected in their

community. They received \$25,000 in grant money from the Gratiot County Community Foundation. Local school teachers bring students to volunteer for their service classes. Local agencies such as the Red Cross, Mid-Michigan Health Department, Department of Human Services, Community Mental Health, other churches, fire departments, and food banks also provide referrals for their people to come.

Following Christ’s method, this efficient operation seeks to meet the needs of the local neighborhood. Not only in clothing and material needs, but they have a spiritual message, intentionally distributing GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) tracts, Bibles, *New Balance* magazines (the health periodical published by the Michigan Conference), and smoking cessation pamphlets upon checking out. More than a used clothing donation store, this tidy, neat ministry is cleanly and clearly caring for Christ’s communities.

Justin Kim, communication director,
Michigan Conference



Virginia Pfeifle, director of Gratiot County Adventist Community Services Center

Announcements



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

Illinois

Illinois Conference announces SEEDS church planting training. The seminar will be presented by teachers from the North American Division Evangelism Institute **Oct. 16-17** at Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital. Current church planting core teams as well as those planting or just thinking about planting a church in the future are invited to participate. As a prerequisite, each team attending the seminar is required to read in advance the textbook *Steps to Church Planting: From Inception to Launch* by Tom Evans. For information on the seminar and how to obtain a free copy of the textbook, contact Gabriel Bardan, director of church planting, at 847-461-9609 or baridan7@live.com.

Lake Region

The Ypsilanti SDA Church Prayer Ministries will host its 4th Annual Prayer Summit, **Aug. 21-23**. Phillip Willis Sr. will present "Pentecost! At What Cost?" The weekend begins Friday evening at 6:00 with a prayer walk. After the divine service on Sabbath, there will be an anointing service and afterglow praise concert, and a prayer breakfast on Sunday. A fee is charged for Sabbath lunch and Sunday brunch. Pre-registration is recommended. Contact Catherine Wright at cewright48@att.net or Monica Johnson at monykasu@att.net.

Lake Union

Offerings

- Aug 1** Local Church Budget
- Aug 8** Oakwood/Andrews/
Loma Linda Universities
- Aug 15** Local Church Budget
- Aug 22** Local Conference Advance
- Aug 29** Illinois: "Go and Tell" in Illinois
Indiana: Indiana Academy
Lake Region: Campground

Michigan: Good News Farm
Wisconsin: Outdoor Education

Special Days

Aug 22 EnditNow Emphasis Day

2015 Camp Meetings

Illinois Hispanic

Aug. 28-30 at Camp Akita

Indiana Hispanic

Sept. 4-7 at Timber Ridge Camp

Wisconsin Hispanic

Aug. 5-9 at Camp Wakonda

Heritage Hall in New Lake Union Office Building:

We are looking for photos and slides of the work in and around the Lake Union territory that could be included on our heritage wall in the downstairs hallway of the new Lake Union office building. If you have any images of good quality that you would like to loan us, please send them to *Lake Union Herald*, P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287. Include your address for photos or slides you want returned. Hi-resolution scanned photos can be emailed to circulation@lakeunion.org.

Michigan

Grand Ledge (Mich.) Academy First Years Reunion:

We are looking for all charter students, faculty and alumni of 1959-1964. Plans are underway for a reunion which will be **Sept. 24-27** at the Adventist Frontier Missions Training Center near Berrien Springs, Mich. To be kept informed of plans as they develop, send an email with contact information to claudiabahnmler@gmail.com or call Claudia at 360-793-1883. Join the Facebook group "Grand Ledge Academy — First Years." Thanks for passing the word along.

Location: Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, N.D. Honor Classes: 1941, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, 2001, '06, '11. For more information, contact 701-258-9000, ext. 236.

North American Division

Oak Park Academy Alumni Weekend: All alumni and former faculty and staff are invited to this special reunion weekend **Sept. 18-19**. The 2015 Honor classes are: 1940, '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80. Location: Gates Hall, 825 15th St., Nevada, Iowa. Make plans to attend. For more information, contact Allayne Petersen Martsching at 402-312-7368 or email allaynemartsching@gmail.com.

Pine Tree Academy Alumni Weekend 2015:

This year's Alumni Weekend theme is "Keep the Light Burning." Alumni Weekend is **Sept. 18-20**. Friday, Sept. 18, join us for Bean "Suppah" and Hotdog Roast. Sabbath, Sept. 19, will include Worship Service, Jubilate Reunion Concert and Basketball Game. Sunday, Sept. 20, is the Golf Tournament day. Pine Tree Academy is located at 67 Pownal Rd. in Freeport, Maine. For more information, visit the school's website at <http://www.pinetreeacademy.org> or call 207-865-4747.

Minot, North Dakota, Church's 100th Anniversary Celebration

will be held **Sept. 19** at 10 17th Ave. SW in Minot, starting at 9:30 a.m. There will be special speakers and a concert at 3:30 p.m. Lunch and supper will be provided. For further information, contact Lenore Scheresky at 701-839-7701 or 701-340-3291.

Sheyenne River Academy/Dakota Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend.

Come and renew your friendships, **Oct. 2-3**.

Join the Society of Adventist Communicators in Washington, D.C., **Oct. 15-17**, for its annual convention for communication professionals and university students. The convention provides networking, learning and spiritual renewal opportunities. Attendees include professional communicators employed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church and media professionals who work outside the church structure either within a corporate setting or as freelancers. University students who plan to become communication professionals also attend and see the convention as an avenue to gain professional mentoring and future contacts. For more information about this event, visit website <http://www.adventistcommunicator.org>.



19 hospitals committed to sharing God's love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.

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Adventist Health

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct 15	Oct 22	Oct 29	Nov 5
Berrien Springs, Mich.	7:28	7:17	7:05	6:55	6:45	6:37
Chicago, Ill.	6:34	6:22	6:11	6:00	5:50	5:42
Detroit, Mich.	7:16	7:04	6:52	6:41	6:31	6:23
Indianapolis, Ind.	7:29	7:17	7:07	6:57	6:47	6:40
La Crosse, Wis.	6:48	6:35	6:23	6:11	6:01	5:52
Lansing, Mich.	7:22	7:09	6:58	6:46	6:36	6:28
Madison, Wis.	6:41	6:28	6:16	6:05	5:55	5:46
Springfield, Ill.	6:43	6:31	6:21	6:11	6:01	5:54

MILEPOSTS

Within the Lake Union, the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>. Conference addresses and phone numbers are listed in the masthead on the inside back cover.

Obituaries

BASS, Ronald G., age 75; born July 12, 1939, in Dowagiac, Mich.; died May 10, 2015, in Niles, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his son, Ronald Jr.; daughters, Monica Swope, Kimberly Lee and Renee Smith; brother, Kenneth Jr.; sister, Glennis Godbee; 13 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Ronald's family, with private inurnment.

BENDER, E. Louise (Drumm), age 91; born Feb. 16, 1924, in Holland, Mich.; died May 9, 2015, in Niles, Mich. She was a member of the Cedar Lake (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Richard L., Robert L. and Kurt M.; brothers, Robert and Edward Drumm, and Ted Wiersma; sister, Barbara (Drumm) Rouse; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life service was conducted, with private inurnment.

HAMBERGER, Ruth H. (Wagner), age 90; born Feb. 20, 1925, in Buffalo, N.Y.; died May 3, 2015, in Chico, Calif. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, David; daughter, Joan Calfee; and one grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Jeff Whittaker, and interment was in North Shore Memory Gardens Cemetery, Coloma, Mich.

JOHNSON, Franklyn L., age 82; born June 30, 1932, in Coldwater, Mich.; died March 25, 2015, in Battle Creek, Mich. He was a member of the Burlington (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his daughters, Tamra M. Hamlin, Teresa I. Moore and Tina M. Aldrich; brother, Hal; sister, Rita Salyer; 13 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Peter Iwankiw, and interment was in Girard (Mich.) Cemetery.

NELSON, Marjorie A., age 84; born Jan. 29, 1931, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died May 13, 2015, in Grand Rapids. She was a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.

Funeral services were conducted by Terry Nelson and Monty Landis, and interment was in Rockford (Mich.) Cemetery.

PERKINS, Mary Ellen (McCullough), age 86; born Dec. 15, 1927, in Westport, Ind.;

died Nov. 6, 2014, in Westport. She was a member of the North Vernon (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Paul W.; brothers, Harold A., Joseph A. and Arthur R.; sisters, Sydna Ann Mazingo and Marian F. Fox; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Harvey Kornegay and Justin Perkins, and interment was in Westport Cemetery.

SLIKKERS, Beatrice E. (Visser), age 83; born April 12, 1932, in Forest Grove, Mich.; died June 1, 2015, in Holland, Mich. She was a member of the Holland Church.

Survivors include her sons, Rick L. and Terry L.; daughters, Anita K. Buell, Judy M. Seymour and Karen A. Mendez; brothers, Gerald and Ken Visser; sisters, Flora G. Kamps and Isla DeBoer; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Gene Hall, and interment was in Pilgrim Home Cemetery, Holland.

SMITH, John E., age 90; born June 24, 1924, in Owensburg, Ind.; died Dec. 1, 2014, in Lincoln, Neb. He was a member of the Lafayette (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include his son, G. Mark; brothers, James E., Wilbur and Ron; sisters, Carolyn Sue Jones, Dolly Bennett and Joanne Martin; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by G. Mark Smith, and inurnment was in Marco (Ind.) Cemetery.

VALCARENGHI, Giovanni "John," age 94; born Aug. 4, 1920, in Milan, Italy; died May 18, 2015, in Chico, Calif. He was a member of the Elmhurst (Ill.) Church. John was pastor in Illinois Conference from 1963 until his retirement in 1987.

Survivors include his wife, Lena (Arbore); sons, Maurice, Gerard and Ivan; daughter, Tina Valcarengi; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Dan Wysong, and interment was in Centerville Cemetery, Chico.

WEAKLEY, Betty C. (Collard), age 86; born Nov. 5, 1928, in Berrien Springs, Mich.; died May 9, 2015, in Berrien Springs. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

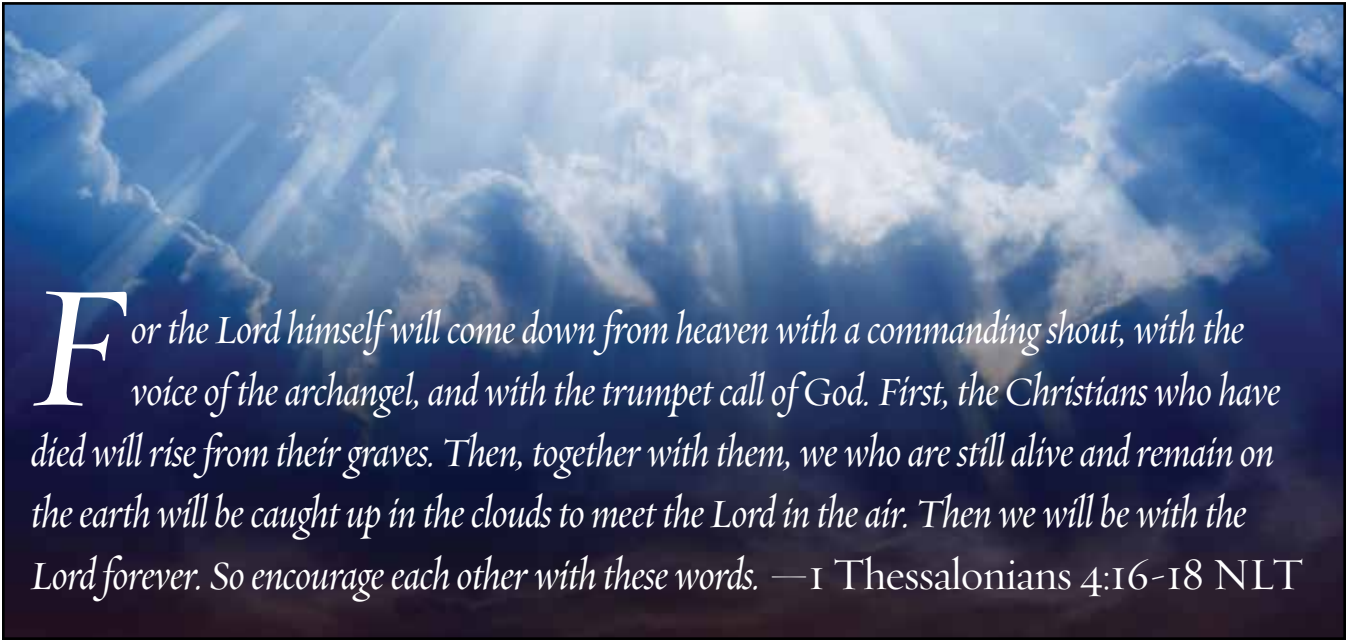
Survivors include her sons, Michael and Jon; daughter, Tamara Jardine; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Dwight K. Nelson, with private inurnment.

WILLIAMS, James C., age 66; born Aug. 10, 1948, in Olney, Ill.; died May 4, 2015, in Indianapolis, Ind. He was a member of the Noble (Ill.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Tammy (Siddell); sons, Jason and Michael; sister, Mary Lou Harden; and two grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Larry Clonch, and inurnment was in Haven Hill Cemetery, Olney.



For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. So encourage each other with these words. —1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 NLT

All classified ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$36 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$46 per insertion for all others. A form is available at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org> for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order or check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at <http://www.herald.lakeunion.org>.

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Travel/Vacation

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Miscellaneous

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

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Employment

DEMAND IS HIGH FOR AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE MANAGEMENT with an expected job growth rate of 17 percent. Southern Adventist University offers both associate and bachelor degrees in automotive service management. Both programs feature hands-on-experience with ASE master mechanics and a focus on incorporating Christ-centered values. Southern students have an 85 percent pass rate on ASE certification exams. Part-time work opportunities are available in the on-campus auto shop. For more information, visit <http://southern.edu/tech>.

THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT JOB OUTLOOK IS STRONG with an expected growth rate of 16 percent. Southern Adventist University offers both an associate and bachelor degrees in construction management. Students learn to unravel the complex components of commercial and residential construction projects and gain management techniques and leadership skills needed to supervise a job site. Southern's program features hands-on experience while incorporating Christ-centered value. For more information, visit <http://southern.edu/tech>.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY has an immediate opening for a full-time nurse educator to serve as Chair for the Nursing Department. Doctoral degree required with three years of university/college teaching experience. Must have an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send cover letter and current CV to Dr. Amy Rosenthal at arosenthal@swau.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT OFFICE seeks full-time Vice President. Responsibilities center primarily in development in addition to PR/Marketing & Alumni. Minimum bachelor's degree and 2 years advancement experience required, master's degree preferred. Submit cover letter and CV/résumé to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a faculty for Public Health/Nutrition/Wellness who will be the Director for the Internship Program of Nutrition and Dietetics. A preferred qualified person should be a registered dietitian with a master's degree. Clinical and teaching experience desired. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_15.

RECRUITING MID-LEVEL PROVIDERS (NP/PA) for a new Rural Health Clinic/Urgent Care in Weimar, Calif. Opportunities are available to specialize in a number of medical fields. Our most urgent needs are Mental Health, Pain Management, Outpatient Surgery and Emergency Medicine. For more information, call Randy at 530-296-4417 or email r61@me.com.

THE NAD'S ADVENTIST LEARNING COMMUNITY IN BERRIEN SPRINGS, MICH., is seeking an IT Manager. Requirements include either a BA/BS in Computer Science or related field, or equivalent work experience, as well as software development and technical skills. If interested, contact Johana Prestold-Dominguez, PHR, at Johana.wna.prestold@nad.adventist.org.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a Faculty-Aeronautical Technician. This individual is responsible for teaching, planning, organizing and operating

within an FAA-approved Part 147 maintenance school, to prepare students for the Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) career and related fields. Qualified person must possess an A&P and IA Certificate and at least a bachelor's degree. A Ph.D. or master's in aviation or related field is preferred. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_2.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks an Administrative Assistant. This individual will serve as administrative assistant to the Director of the Ph.D. in Religion and Th.D. programs, as well as to the Director of the Ph.D. in Religious Education and the Director of the Ph.D. in Biblical Archeology. A bachelor's degree is preferred with emphasis on secretarial, communication or educational skills, or equivalent in experience. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_hourly#job_9.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a Faculty for the Leadership Department who will teach graduate level courses related to Educational Administration and Leadership, and to serve on doctoral dissertation committees. A preferred qualified person should have a doctorate in Education, Leadership or related field, plus a record of excellence in teaching at the graduate level. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_8 and https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_9.

WALLA WALLA GENERAL HOSPITAL is a 72-bed faith-based hospital with over 100 years of service to the community. We currently have available a Medical Technologist position. Requirements include: ASCP or equivalent; current health care BLS. To learn more about us or to apply online, visit our website at <http://www.wvgh.com>.

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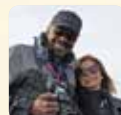
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For more information, call Jennifer at Maranatha at 602-788-8864 or Jill at 3ABN at 618-627-4651 ext. 3013. www.3abntour.com

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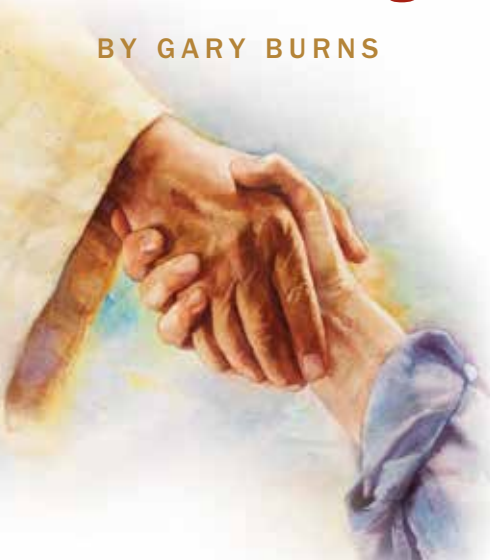
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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

A New Thing

BY GARY BURNS



Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland (Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV). Sometimes being in partnership with God means we need to change the way we think. We must remember that our perspective is extremely limited. While *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever* (Hebrews 13:8 NIV) in his character and nature, his actions may vary with people, circumstances and time.

One example is Jesus' varied responses to the seven churches in Revelation, chapters two and three. Each church had its own challenges. Each church had its own identity or culture. And, for each church, Jesus identified

himself in a way that was a source of strength and encouragement for their individual and unique circumstances. It was incumbent upon the membership of each church to receive Jesus' personalized message and implement the specific instructions he had for them.

While we know the prophetic messages within these letters to the churches also describe seven different eras from the first century until now, these were real churches with real, unique challenges at the time John received this revelation on the island of Patmos. For each church, God wanted to do a new (and different) thing. Each church was challenged to look at themselves from Heaven's perspective and embrace the *new thing* in partnership with God.

Gary Burns is the communication director of the Lake Union Conference.

Can I Be a Christian Among Christians?

BY RYAN JARVIS

I have not been made fun of for my beliefs by someone who is not Adventist — not yet anyway. When I was younger, I anxiously told anyone, with listening ears, what story I learned at Sabbath school earlier that week. During a swimming class, I explained how Moses shut the Red Sea by play-acting with water in a pool. People always seemed to be willing to listen respectfully to, or at least put up with, what I had to say. I have always felt more free and accepted, and as if I am not judged for what I believe by those outside my religion. However, this is not always the case with Adventists.

Throughout high school, I was offered pork, weed, alcohol, or whatever else comes to mind when you hear “Adventist should not partake in...” When I said “no,” people would ask “Why?” and I answered without feeling an ounce of judgment. However, in the Adventist Church, I sometimes feel quite the opposite. Now, this is not at any particular location but an overlaying feeling I experience with our generation today. This is the struggle I face with my peers and my Church: How can I be comfortable being a Christian among Christians?

I have compared my beliefs to those of others and have been confused as to why mine were not the same as theirs. I have felt weird having to explain my Adventist beliefs to other Adventists because I was under the assumption that all Adventists believe the same thing. At times, like most teenagers, I fell to peer pressure and compromised my beliefs just because I did not want to feel left out.

Mentioning prayer in an Adventist group of friends also was very difficult. It came to the point where it was more comfortable for me to pray with strangers or non-Adventists, because it was much easier than mentioning prayer to Adventist peers. I

was very confused because I knew this should not be the case. I should be more comfortable about my religion with people that share my religion, right? I struggled on and off for years until I came to college where I found my answer.

Although we have a firm, never-changing God, the Christian experience is not black and white. Each human being is at a different position in their journey with God. Hence, this is why it seems that God is different for everyone. The key I’ve learned is that you must know where *you* are with God and follow what he impresses you to do, according to the Bible. I also have found friends who experience God the same way, and this definitely has kept me grounded.

It is all about mindset. To this day, it is still quite difficult but this is how God helps me grow. My belief is like a new pair of shoes. It takes a while for me to get used to them, but soon they will be the very things that keep my feet comfortable on my Christian walk.

Ryan Jarvis was born and raised in Toronto, Canada. He is currently a junior at Andrews University, studying Business Administration while in the Pre-Medical program. His dream is to become a doctor to help others through sickness. Ryan spends his free time enjoying different musical activities and loves being silly with his friends.



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Divine Intervention

BY CESAR ROJAS

I saw a skinny, rather lost-looking man crouching by the urinals in Millennium Station in Chicago. That morning I had prayed — as I had done several times in the past — for a Divine appointment to reach out to a fellow human being. The appointment time had arrived.



Cesar Rojas

I popped the question, in English, to Crouching Man: “Are you okay?” I instantly recognized he was Hispanic when, in his accent, he said: “Oh, sick, sick, tequila!” The man was sick due to overdrinking and strapped for cash.

Being Hispanic myself, I switched to Spanish and confronted this man: “This will take you nowhere. You need to stop this addiction!”

“It’s so hard; I want to get rid of this addiction, but I simply can’t!”

Others may have suggested Alcoholics Anonymous, but I knew the root of his problem was much deeper than group session therapy. This fellow man needed Christ’s intervention. Though my best missionary training can add up only to distributing pamphlets rather cowardly and telling the children’s story, I whispered a quick prayer for guidance. I told Crouching Man of the Lord’s almighty power to break him free from sin, as long as he recognized his need and asked! “Do you want to pray?” I asked.

He replied with a hearty “Yes!” Crouching Man fell on his knees, right on that dirty bathroom floor. With men skirting by us and the sounds of toilets flushing, we knelt. I started with “Dear Lord,” when he suddenly interrupted.

“Please, God, break this habit! I don’t want to keep doing this anymore! ... I promise not to touch that drink anymore!”

I prayed after him for strength to break this habit. We rose. Crouching Man now had a look of hope, of that peace that surpasses all understanding. A few more words were exchanged, including his name.

He asked, “Do you have a book I could read?”

Oh, no, I thought. I had my trusty Spanish, not-so-new family Bible (seriously, it contained “precious sketches” from when I was four years old and hundreds of my mother’s highlighted passages). My mind wrestled for a moment, but that’s the book he received.

We exited, wished farewells, and parted ways. I hope Crouching Man truly did his best to stop the addiction with Christ’s help. Better yet, I hope he became a disciple.

Cesar Rojas plans to finish his Master of Architecture at Andrews University in 2016. He is a member of the Benton Harbor (Mich.) Spanish Company.

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