

Lake Union HERALD

MAY 2018

CAMPING



CAMP
MEETINGS

SUMMER
CAMPS





While serving in my first church as a pastor in Ohio, I actually had responsibilities at two camp meetings — the Ohio and Allegheny West. You see, I was an “intern” pastor, and each of us was paired with a seasoned pastor who served as our mentor and guide in ministry. We each were given the opportunity to choose our mentor so, of course, I requested Walter Wright, the one who sat me down and asked me when I was going to answer God’s call on my life to full-time ministry. Well, Walt was a pastor in the Allegheny West conference and I was a pastor in the Ohio conference. When I made my request, both the Ohio Conference and the Allegheny West Conference officers agreed! It was a wonderful, four-year, cross-culture, cross-ministry experience. With so many camp meetings in our union, why not experience a little cross-pollination and visit a camp meeting of another culture? I know you will be blessed. ■

Gary Burns
Gary Burns
Editor



Jason Sliger

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Jean-Lies Michel

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All Things Wise and Wonderful

The Voyager 1 spacecraft, traveling at 38,000 mph, or 11 miles per second, was just about to leave our solar system for deep space when the astronomer, Carl Sagan, requested the spacecraft position be adjusted to capture an image of planet Earth.



▲ Maurice Valentine

At the very moment the shutter clicked, a ray of light from our sun illuminated the Earth, as you can see in the famous photograph of February 14, 1990, dubbed the “Pale Blue Dot” (<https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?feature=4484>). The Voyager 1 and 2 spacecrafts were sent to explore the heavens, and what wonders they have elucidated for us.

This spacecraft, and others, as well as the Hubble Telescope, have allowed us to see in a beautiful blue hue, God’s infinite power on display. Even after that event, 3.7 billion miles away from Earth that Valentine’s Day, God is still showcasing the endless expanse of the heavens, ever faster and faster — yes, infinitely faster than the speed of the Voyager. But even more profound is His love for us. It’s a deep love, which shines through the many tangible evidences of His power to create, sprinkled throughout the heavens as well as the flora and fauna in our world.

The star-speckled heaven with its giant stars dwarfing our sun, the majestic pillars of creation, nebula juxtaposed against a jet-black sky — when examined closely, show a wonderful creative vibrancy, a love for diversity and the intelligent ingenuity that arose from the mind of God!

One of the most profound evidences of our Creator’s love for us is seen through the many replicated spirals throughout our world and the heavens, revealing His creative handiwork in a total integrated design of earth, sea and sky. From the planet we live on with its spiral-shaped seashells, flower pedals and cones, just to name a few, to the heaven

above, with its billions of spiral-shaped galaxies, all formed with the same Golden Ratio (1.61803399 represented by the Greek letter Φ , and also called the Fibonacci Sequence).

They all give a precise and consistent testimony to the glory of God. God made sure it is clear: There is a Designer who created all things, both in the heavens above and the earth beneath. And yet, I marvel at something as simple as our blue sky and oceans, vividly seen from the furthest edge of the solar system.

The noted author and astronomer, Carl Sagan, speaking of our world, wrote, “Look again at that dot. That’s here. That’s home. That’s us. On it, everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives. The aggregate of our joy and suffering, thousands of confident religions, ideologies and economic doctrines, every hunter and forager, every hero and coward, every creator and destroyer of civilization, every king and peasant, every young couple in love, every mother and father, hopeful child, inventor and explorer, every teacher of morals, every corrupt politician, every ‘superstar,’ every ‘supreme leader,’ every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there — on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam . . . In our obscurity, in all this vastness, there is no hint that help will come from elsewhere to save us from ourselves.”

With that point in Sagan’s last sentence, I couldn’t disagree more! Someone is coming to save us! The heavens have their testimony, and we have ours. That’s what Seventh-day Adventists have to declare.



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Jesus is coming again! Bible prophecies are happening right before our very eyes, without the need of a spacecraft or telescope, to testify of a powerful, loving, soon-coming Savior! Unfortunately, not everyone who turns to look will see. But thank God for the greatest evidence ever seen, as demonstrated by a ray of light that illumines the Son of God Who, when lifted up on the cross by our preaching, teaching, Bible studies and a myriad of meaningful ministries, can be spotted by all who want to see. Yes, God will send His Son to come and restore the heavens and the earth to what He originally designed them to be. He gave His Son the charge, not only to come and save us, but He also established the church as the vehicle to bring us home.

The late Stephen Hawking, a renowned physicist, was ambivalent as to how the universe came into existence, or if there is a creator. But we have a sure word of prophecy in God’s Holy Word. The Bible tells us, *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the*

earth (Genesis 1:1 KJV). Those three words, “God,” “heaven” and “earth,” echo throughout Scripture as to why we should daily proclaim a triumvirate of praise for the Father, Son and Holy Spirit — the Trinity.

We need not be confused. From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is replete with many calls to worship this Creator-God. In His infinite wisdom, He designed the world in which we live with such great accuracy, placing us in the Milky Way galaxy, a front-row seat to the universe.

Our pale blue dot has a hue all its own. Is it because it’s very unique and different and God wanted something special for the universe to behold? What a privilege we have as Seventh-day Adventists to be the earth’s last heralds of the Word of God — a document completely and authentically God’s story of creation, salvation and restoration. ■

Maurice Valentine is president of the Lake Union Conference.

Mothers and Sons

Some researchers have claimed we are in the middle of a “boy crisis.” Men are now only 40 percent of college graduates and boys make up 55 percent of the high school dropouts.



▲ Alina M. Baltazar

Education has become even more important than in the past with less opportunities for well-paid manufacturing and manual labor jobs. Boys also have higher rates of being diagnosed with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and are more likely to participate in risky behavior such as texting while driving, criminal activity, and alcohol and drug abuse.

Although a majority of children are being raised in two-parent households, children are increasingly being raised in single parent homes with a vast majority of those being female-headed homes. In addition, there is an increasing amount of single by choice households where women choose to adopt or give birth as a single woman. It is more important than ever to examine the mother-and-son relationship, the unique challenges they face, but also the special bond that can be formed. Jesus showed the special connection he had with his mother when he was on the cross. *When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your Son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home* (John 19:26-27 ESV).

It’s true that boys and girls have more things in common than different, but sometimes those differences can

cause relationship difficulties between mothers and sons. Moms may not understand why her son is always on the go, obsessed with gaming, takes more risks, is physically aggressive, or doesn’t care for his personal hygiene. Not all boys are this way, but these are common frustrations.

As boys get older, they start pushing their mother away when they begin wanting to identify more as a male. This can be a challenge in female-headed households. Boys growing up without a father in the home have higher rates of running away, school drop-out, incarceration, substance abuse and suicide. It is during adolescence when boys are especially in need of having a father, or a father figure, so he can learn the road map to becoming a man.

Moms may have difficulty adapting to the changing mother-son relationship when her sweet little boy becomes an independent man. The relationship often starts out very sweet with some little boys saying, “I want to marry you when I grow up.” When a mom can understand normal male behavior, she can learn to be more accepting of the gender differences and celebrate his strengths.

Moms play a powerful role in the emotional development of boys. When moms can give unconditional love, praise for his bravery and independence, and teach him how to manage negative emotions, it can go a long way in helping him develop emotional intelligence. A healthy emotional bond between a mother and son can translate into a healthy emotional bond with his future wife. ■

Alina M. Baltazar, PhD, MSW, CFLE is associate professor of Social Work at Andrews University, licensed clinical social worker, and a certified family life educator.



Be Daniel Every Day

Every day, we face the king’s banquet table, inviting us to indulge. For example, it used to be that one could get gas at a gas station. That’s it. “Just fill’er up!”

Now we are faced with the decision of Daniel daily. The barrage of junk food, caffeinated drinks in all concentrations, alcohol and tobacco is laid out before us at every turn. Regardless of our economic status, we have choices as never before.

Sadly, the poor, who can’t afford to be sick, have less healthy choices available. Food deserts — places that lack availability to fresh, wholesome fruits and vegetables — dot the landscape. The chronic disease burden of these communities is staggering. But that doesn’t have to be the case amongst us.

We are given counsel to cultivate. “When right methods of cultivation are adopted, there will be far less poverty than now exists. We intend to give the people practical lessons upon the improvement of the land, and thus induce them to cultivate their land, now lying idle. If we accomplish this, we shall have done good missionary work.” (Ellen White, *Letter 42*, 1895)

Our health message should begin with inspiring kitchen gardens for all. Being outside, breathing fresh air in the sunshine, while using muscles the winter months made us forget we had; it doesn’t get better than that. Trust in God grows with every seed that becomes a bearing plant.

The plant-based diet to which we aspire is best achieved from food we cultivate. Simple methods of both preparation and preservation can yield a year-round rainbow of naturally, nutrient-dense foods. Yet, many of us are intimidated by the prospect. Here are a few tips to get started:

SIMPLE RULES

- **Start small:** Decide just a few staple crops you want homegrown

- **Proper timing:** Prepare the vegetable beds before planting time
- **No wastage:** All plant matter is used for compost or mulch
- **Position matters:** Spacing must be precise for best growth
- **With joy:** God made us to farm; rejoice in the work

CROP TYPES TO ROTATE

- **Leaves:** kale, cabbage, Brussel sprouts, basil
- **Legumes:** peas, beans, soy
- **Fruits:** tomatoes, peppers, eggplants
- **Roots:** carrots, beets, parsnips

TRANSPLANT OR DIRECT SEED

In general, transplant seedlings of the leaves and fruits; directly plant the seeds of legumes and roots

SEED/SEEDLING CARE

- Germinating seeds and seedlings should be kept moist
- Water thoroughly after planting (either)
- Mulch around transplants (not touching)
- Water every day for three days
- Water two times per week thereafter

Now is the time to get started. Similar to Daniel, let’s purpose in our heart that we won’t defile our self with the king’s fare. Rather, delight our self in our King’s classroom — the garden. Let its food be both our medicine and our ministry as we share of its abundant life.

Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted! — Jesus (Matthew 13:8 NLT) ■

Joy Kauffman, MPH, president and founder of FARM STEW International, www.FARMSTEW.org



▲ Joy Kauffman

Let Jesus Come In — 1

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, . . . [that you might] know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:14-19, RSV).



▲ George R. Knight

Ellen White's emphasis at Minneapolis was not some new teaching on some aspect of Adventist theology, but rather a call for Adventism to uplift and practice basic Christianity. "My burden during the meeting," she wrote, "was to present Jesus and His love before my brethren, for I saw marked evidences that many had not the spirit of Christ" (*MS 24*, 1888).

"Faith in Christ as the sinner's only hope," she noted, "has been largely left out, not only of the discourses given but of the religious experience of very many who claim to believe the Third Angel's message. At this meeting I bore testimony that the most precious light had been shining forth from the Scriptures in the presentation of the great subject of the righteousness of Christ connected with the law, which should be constantly kept before the sinner as his only hope of salvation . . .

"The standard by which to measure character is the royal law. The law is the sin detector. By the law is the knowledge of sin. But the sinner is constantly being drawn to Jesus by the wonderful manifestation of His love in that He humiliated Himself to die a shameful death upon the cross. What a study is this? Angels have striven, earnestly longed, to look into the wonderful mystery. It is a study that can tax the highest human intelligence, that man, fallen, deceived by Satan, taking Satan's side of the question, can be conformed to the image of the Son of the infinite God. That man shall be like Him, that, because of the righteousness of Christ given to man, God will love man — fallen but redeemed — even as He loves His Son . . .

"This is the mystery of godliness. This picture is of the highest value to be placed in every discourse, to be hung in memory's hall, to be uttered by human lips, to be traced by human beings who have tasted and known that the Lord's good to be meditated upon, to be the groundwork of every discourse" (*ibid*).

Let Jesus come in. If Ellen White could only give us one piece of advice from the 1888 meetings, that would be it.

Let's choose to let Him in right now before we rise from this reading. ■

George R. Knight is a retired professor of Church History at the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. This article is from his book, Lest We Forget, a daily devotional, published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, page 274, printed by permission.

Fasting and Prayer

Have you ever been so motivated in prayer and desperate in need that you have chosen to fast?

The Pioneer Memorial Church family spent the 24 hours of Sabbath, April 6-7 in a Day of Prayer and Fasting.

"Almighty God and Father of us all — *Hallowed be Your name. Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven* (Matthew 6:9-10*). For You are the Omnipotent One whose strong hand still guides a billion billion galaxies in their soundless trek (see Psalm 147:4), and yet each morning You eagerly bend low to hear the chirping gratitude of the tiny sparrows (see Luke 12:7). And if You feed the birds of the air, dear Father, how much more will You care for us, who are Your children? (see Matthew 6:26). As the psalmist himself sang, *teach us to sing, I will bless the Lord at all times — Your praise shall continually be in my mouth!* (Psalm 34:1).

"But, dear God, it is because You have *loved us with an everlasting love* (Jeremiah 31:3) that we come humbly to You in advance of our collective Day of Prayer and Fasting. Have mercy on us, O Lord. For like our fathers and mothers, we have sinned against You (see Daniel 9:4-10). We have turned to the gods of this world hoping to satisfy our appetites and slake our many thirsts (see 1 John 2:15-17). Like Israel of old, we have emulated the corrupted culture around us (see Hosea 4:17). We have joined the clamoring rabble, *We have no king but Caesar* (John 19:15). But, dear Savior, we admit and confess Satan has deceived us and Caesar has enslaved us. How can we then cry out for the demolishing of his strongholds out there without first pleading for Your

deliverance from the dark strongholds in here? You have promised, *If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed* (John 8:36). O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, remove our sins, too, we implore You (see John 1:29). Cleanse us, and we will be clean — wash us, and we will be whiter than the snow that fell this springtime week (see Psalm 51:7). We must hear the Gospel's assurance, *Neither do I condemn You — go now and leave your life of sin* (John 8:11).

"Forgiven and freed, we take courage now to boldly come before Your throne of grace with petitions for this Day of Prayer and Fasting (see Hebrews 4:16). *For the weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary they have divine power to demolish strongholds* (2 Corinthians 10:4). And so,

Almighty God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior, we come with the weapon of prayer against the strongholds of our mortal enemy, the fallen Lucifer and his demonic hosts of angels (see Ephesians 6:12). We possess no power of our own, but we come boldly in the might of Him who *made a public spectacle of [Satan and his hosts], triumphing over them by the cross* (Colossians 2:15). ■

Dwight W. Nelson is the senior pastor of the Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University.

Nelson, Dwight. "A Day Before the Day of Prayer and Fasting." The Fourth Watch (Pioneer Memorial Church blog). April 4, 2018. <https://www.pioneerchurch.org/blog>. Adapted with permission.

**All references, New King James Version, Thomas Nelson.*



▲ Dwight W. Nelson



Successful YouTube ministry emerges from personal need

By Laurie Snyman

WHEN MIKE BEKIUS ATTENDED MICHIGAN CAMP MEETING in 2015, he was inspired by one of the speakers who encouraged everyone to pray for one person they could bring to Christ that year.

The Hastings Church member took on that challenge by praying that God would make this happen. But, shortly after he started praying, he was impressed to not limit God by only asking for one person. “The Bible says, *you have not because you ask not*” (James 4:3 DRA), said Mike. “I began to pray that God would use me to bring many people to Him.”

A couple of months went by and Mike did not know how his prayer was going to become a reality. He attended a prayer meeting where his pastor, Jeff Dowell, was presenting on the book of Daniel. He thought to himself, “*If I don’t videotape these classes, I will forget all of this great information!*”

He did some research and bought some used equipment to record the classes. Eventually, the pastor began a new series on the book of Revelation. Whenever he was at the meetings, Mike would record, edit and post the content on YouTube. But he wasn’t able to record all of them; plus, it was taking a lot of his time. Just when he was about to give it all up, he saw a comment on YouTube from a man in New Zealand.

The man said, “I got mixed up about the lunar Sabbath issues and started to lose my faith, but when I came across these videos, Pastor Dowell helped me straighten out these issues. Pastor, you wouldn’t know what these videos have done to my faith. You just saved my soul with all these videos . . .”

When Mike read this, he was so encouraged he decided this project was worth his time. Not long after that, he received further affirmation.

One night, Steve Matthews walked through the door at the Hastings Church to attend the Wednesday night prayer meeting. What the members didn’t know was that Steve and his parents had attended their church when Steve was a small child so was somewhat acquainted with the Adventist message. One day, after finding out he was facing a serious medical issue, he decided to look up his former church’s website and stumbled upon a link to the church’s YouTube videos. He began watching the ones posted by Mike and became very convicted.

“As I continued to watch the presentations, I became more and more moved, and felt I had to start attending these meetings in person,” said Steve. “I feel so blessed and thankful that Jesus would open an opportunity like this that would persuade me to return to my church. I had always felt there was something missing in my life and now I know the answer.” Eventually, Steve began Bible studies with the pastor and was baptized.

Mike is so happy to know that these videos are convicting people out there like Steve. Currently, they have thousands of hours of video content on YouTube. His persistence has paid off and they have over 112,000 views.

Although Mike is not a professional, God has blessed his work and they are discovering that the impact is reaching not just those in Michigan, but the world. ■

Laurie Snyman is assistant to the Michigan Conference Ministerial director.



▲ Mike Bekius, Steven Mathews and Jeff Dowell

Acepta, Habla y Sana

En el mes de noviembre del año pasado la Dra. Melissa Rodas-Ponce, profesora de psicología de la Universidad Andrews, me expresó su deseo y el de algunos alumnos de ir a Puerto Rico para ofrecer apoyo en el área de salud mental.

Debido a la falta de electricidad y el tener que vivir en casas sin techo muchos sufren de depresión y trauma mental al punto que se han triplicado las llamadas a centros que aconsejan a personas que contemplan el suicidio. Frente a esta necesidad el departamento de psicología de la universidad organizó y llevó a cabo un viaje misionero a Puerto Rico. Un grupo de veinte alumnos y profesores fue con el fin de ofrecer seminarios acerca de cómo obtener la sanidad mental que ellos tanto necesitan.

El lema que se usó en las presentaciones fue “Acepta, Habla y Sana”. La idea del lema era enseñar que para sobrevivir el trauma y lograr la sanidad las personas afectadas necesitan aceptar la realidad de las emociones que sienten, deben hablar con otros acerca de lo que sienten, y si es necesario, buscar ayuda profesional. Otro propósito era enseñar que no obstante los traumas que sufran, Dios no los ha abandonado si no más bien que ha enviado a este grupo para recordarles de manera práctica que Dios es amor.

Gracias a Dios, el grupo de la universidad pudo visitar doce ciudades de la isla y llegó a hacer contacto con más de mil personas. Durante los once días que permanecieron allí estuvieron muy ocupados atendiendo a la gente y al mismo tiempo aprovechando de los medios de radio y televisión para anunciar los servicios disponibles. Las presentaciones se hicieron tanto para niños como para adultos en iglesias, centros comunitarios y escuelas. Pastores y personal de la policía le comentaron a la Dra. Ponce que lo que se enseñó fue de ayuda también para ellos al darse cuenta

de la necesidad que tienen también los que ministran a otros de cuidar su propia salud mental.

Algo que impactó a los profesores y alumnos fue ver cómo a pesar de la realidad de vivir frecuentes periodos de tiempo sin electricidad y con muchas otras limitaciones, la gente en la isla se ha adaptado a estas nuevas circunstancias. Cuando se les preguntó a miembros del grupo de Andrews qué resultados positivos vieron como consecuencia de la situación difícil en la isla, la mayoría contestó que a pesar de las inconveniencias por las que pasan, los vecinos y las familias se han unido y se apoyan entre sí.

Vivimos en mundo lleno de sufrimiento y dolor. Doy gracias a Dios por la oportunidad que se le dio al grupo de la Universidad Andrews de realizar este viaje a Puerto Rico y ayudar a aquellos afectados por el desastre y recordarles que Dios está con ellos. Mi oración es que cuando veamos necesidades reales en el lugar donde nos encontremos que Dios nos use para que seamos las manos y los pies de Jesús. ■

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago.



▲ Carmelo Mercado



Courtesy Melissa Ponce-Rodas

▲ Grupo de profesores y estudiantes del departamento de psicología de la Universidad Andrews que hicieron un viaje misionero a Puerto Rico en el mes de marzo.

From Dr. Wife to Mrs. Mom

By Sheree Brown



▲ Sheree and Dejean Brown with their nine-month-old son

I RECENTLY QUIT MY JOB . . . and, by job, I mean residency. As those in the field can attest, this isn't something that happens often. Once you start, it's expected that you'll finish, regardless of how difficult things get and no matter the sacrifice. Forums on the topic often advise residents considering thoughts of "forget about it," state it's not worth it after everything one goes through to get to this point.

I've gone through four years of undergraduate training, endured countless hours of studying for classes like Organic Chemistry and Physics, slaved away doing research in dark basement laboratories, endlessly stood on my feet while shadowing attending physicians like an imprinted baby duck, studied for and took the hours-long exam known as the MCAT, not to mention spending thousands of dollars spent flying around the country for medical school interviews.

Once in med school, I suffered through exam after exam, spent hours on end dissecting dead bodies, stood on my feet endlessly as we rounded on rotation after rotation, all the while playing "yes, man (or woman)" to my seniors, studied for Steps 1 and 2, and, again, not to mention the thousands of dollars spent on flights around the country as I interviewed for residency. For me, it goes back even further than med school or undergrad. I've always been academically-inclined; as such, I would regularly try to skip recess in elementary school in order to do my work so I could get ahead. So, after all of this "getting ahead," why did I finally decide to give it all up? The answer: my family.

Before applying to med school, I prayed a prayer that I had actually forgotten along the way — that if God wanted me to go to medical school, He would make a way for my future family to be a priority. Throughout med school, He always did exactly that. Sometimes He did it by placing me with the right senior resident(s)' schedule that allowed me to leave the hospital — most days — at a decent time. He even did it by providing the time for me to get married during medical school (which is another story for another day!). This time, however, I felt that God was calling me to step out in faith to continue making sure that priority was taken care of by reminding me of the prayer I prayed long ago.

My husband and I always have been convicted about the importance of family; when our baby boy showed up, I knew I had to make a decision about what I always said I believed in. God led me to verse after verse that reminded me of His providence and care whenever I had doubts about what I was considering. *Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and He will make your paths straight* (Proverbs 3: 5, 6 NIV). He also impressed upon me the importance of my ministry as a mother through the words of His servant, Ellen White. "During the first three years of the life of Samuel the

prophet, his mother carefully taught him to distinguish between good and evil. . . His early training led him to choose to maintain his Christian integrity. What a reward was Hannah's!" (Ellen White, *Child Guidance*, p.197).

This hit me like a ton of bricks. Would I choose to spend the first three to four years of my child's life focusing on my training? Or his? Doubts, however, soon ensued. How could Hannah's influence in just those few short years have made such a lasting impact? Surely something or someone else in Samuel's upbringing must have contributed. That might be true, but the actions of Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who were also raised by Eli, stood in stark contrast to those of Samuel's. The evidence was clear and convincing.

As a resident, days are long with work weeks fluctuating between 60-80 hours. Most days, our little one was sound asleep when I left for work and I would get home with just enough time to quickly shower, feed him, and put him to sleep. I envisioned myself doing this for the next four years: missing his first words and first steps, missing his first time tasting solid foods and first Christmas, and I wasn't okay with that. God blessed me with this special gift, and I knew that putting him on the back burner while I selfishly pursued my career wasn't an option. After all, there can, and always will be, more doctors, but there's only one person who can be Micah's mom.

Now, of course, there are naysayers. One question I often get asked is, "After all you've gone through to get to this point, don't you think it was a waste

"After all, there can, and always will be, more doctors, but there's only one person who can be Micah's mom."

to walk away now?" To that question, I answer with the response of Dr. Kathryn Butler, a trauma surgeon who stepped away from her career to homeschool her children. In the blog post, *From Medical Doctor to Stay-at-Home Mom*, she references the story of Mary Magdalene when anointing the feet of Jesus with expensive perfume, of whom the question was asked, "How could she waste such a precious gift?" Her reply? "When you serve God, you waste nothing." I have my own thoughts on why God blessed me with such an extensive education, and I believe, in the future, He will provide other ways for me to use it.

People also ask if I'll ever return to medicine. Thankfully, I was provided the opportunity by my institution to return, if later I feel so inclined, certainly an unusual thing for a residency program to do for someone who has resigned. (This offer, by the way, was further confirmation I was doing the right thing!). However, I don't know what the future holds. Maybe I will return; maybe I won't. But, for right now, I know what I need to do. ■

Sheree Brown, her nine-month-old son, and husband, Dejean, an IBM business consultant, attend the Bolingbrook Church in Illinois. To read more about her story, check the blog, www.mrsmomdrwife.com.



▲ Sheree, her husband, Dejean, at her side, at her Rush Medical College graduation ceremony last year.



You Can Come Home Again

Jesus continued, *There was a man who had two sons* (Luke 15:11). With the sense of alienation and distance so many in our world experience today, we are happy to announce the theme of our Illinois Conference Family Camp Meeting, “You Can Come Home Again.”

This theme will provide a core for the various presentations made throughout the days of July 25–28 at Camp Akita. The main speaker, Pastor Marvin Wray, will present three important messages about the joy of not just knowing, but experiencing the coming home to a place of safety, growth and life. These presentations will be made on Friday evening, July 27, and Sabbath morning and evening, July 28.

The various seminars and messages throughout the week will address, in practical ways as well, the importance of this story, and reveal to attendees why such a familiar story has such resonance in our world today.

Meanwhile, as we do every year, activities for all ages are planned so that, regardless of the season of life, attendees can know the Father of the two sons, and come to trust Him more with their lives. The great outdoors

of the camp will be available to all ages, including the zip line, archery, water activities, horses and wall climbing.

It is our prayer that as many as want to be Home will attend our gathering this year and experience the blessing of the message and the shared community worshipping the Father together. Plan now and let’s see what God has in store! ■

John Grys, Illinois Conference executive secretary



Wayne Wray



FAMILY CAMP MEETING

July 25–28

Camp Akita

1684 Knox Road 1200 North

Gilson, IL 61436

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

August 31–September 2

Camp Akita

1684 Knox Road 1200 North

Gilson, IL 61436-9430



Bring Fire from Heaven

Enjoy a week of family life, enriched with prayer ministry, evangelism, health messages and enlightening thought with presentations in the air-conditioned auditorium, enhanced RV campgrounds and newly constructed cabins on the way.

Exciting speakers, field trips and programs are planned for your children. Join John Bradshaw, speaker/director of *It Is Written* television, as we together allow the Holy Spirit to equip us for what lies ahead. Make it a

priority now to be a part of your Hoosier Adventist family this summer. Visit the Indiana Conference website to register and for updates: www.indysda.org ■

Colleen Kelly is marketing specialist for Indiana Conference.



John Bradshaw
Speaker/Director
It Is Written
Thursday — "How Much More?"
Friday — "The Fiery Trial"
Sabbath Morning — "Fire in My Bones"
Saturday Night — "Fire from Heaven"



Andrea Luxton
President
Andrews University
Adult Sabbath School Lesson



Eric Flickinger
Associate Speaker
It Is Written
"Reviving Your Church through Personal Evangelism"



Pastor Jeremy Arnall
Senior Pastor, Greeneville Church
Greeneville, TN
Georgia-Cumberland Conference
"Embracing His Presence"



Michael Horton
Ministerial Director
Lake Region Conference
"Christ Is All and In All"



Dr. Melvin and Juliet Santos
Vice President/Secretariat
Alaska Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
"The Discipleship Master Plan"



Dr. David DeRose
Physician, Researcher
President of CompassHealth Consulting, Inc.
"Keys to Optimal Health"



Steve Mosley
Pacific Union Conference
Bible Character Vignettes
Primary and Earliteen/Juniors



Pastor Buddy and Carmen Griffith
Family Life Ministries
Southwestern Union
Family Life & Marriage



LeClare Litchfield
Youth Pastor/Chaplain
Youth Tent
"Big Heart—Little Heart."
Romans 5:5"



Pastor Laurence Burn
Training Director
Adventist Frontier Missions
Young Adults
Friday Night, Sabbath Morning
"Anointed, Blessed-Bless!"



Nicholas Miller
Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director
Lake Union Conference and Andrews University
"Religious Liberty Updates"



INDIANA CONFERENCE
June 3–9
Indiana Academy
24815 SR 19 N
Cicero, IN 46034

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING
August 31–September 3
Timber Ridge Camp
1674 Timber Ridge Road
Spencer, IN 47460



Saved 2 Serve

In a few weeks, the curtains will rise on Camp Meeting 2018, whose theme is “Saved 2 Serve.” Chosen because 2018 is the Year of Youth and Young Adults in the Lake Region Conference, the theme neatly captures and powerfully conveys two central concepts — salvation and service — that form and shape the life of Christians.

Saved by grace through faith, Christians view a life of service as the natural outgrowth of an encounter with Jesus Christ.

The statistics are stark and sobering. Youth and young adults, especially millennials, are leaving the Seventh-day Adventist Church in disturbingly large numbers, their exodus occurring not just in North America but around the world. Their departure from the church at this time in earth’s history should be cause for concern since intergenerational reconciliation in the time of the end has been promised by God (Mal. 4:5-6).

The aim of Camp Meeting 2018 is to rescue, reclaim and restore our youth. Pastor Jason North, director of Youth and Young Adults Ministries for the Lake Region

Conference, believes that in 2018, our young people, like Esther, will realize that they have come to the kingdom for such a time as this, and will fulfill their God-given mission of service to Christ, for Christ, and in Christ (see Esther 4:14).

On Sabbath, June 16, Abraham Jules, lead pastor of the Community Worship Center in Springfield Gardens, New York, will preach for the Divine worship service in the Bradford Pavilion, and Michael Polite, associate chaplain at Andrews University, will preach on the following Sabbath, June 23. For the ordination service on the evening of June 23, when four pastors will be set apart for gospel ministry, Willie Hucks, chair of the Christian Ministry Department at the Seventh-day



Saul & Katie Dominguez Vandeon Griffin Willie Hucks



Abraham Jules Michael Polite Pierre Quinn



David Rodriguez

Adventist Theological Seminary, will deliver the homily.

At the Deliverance Center (Youth Pavilion), Vandeon Griffin, associate director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the North American Division, will preach on June 16, and Pierre Quinn, lead pastor of the Breath of Life Church in Fort Washington, Maryland, will deliver the Word on June 23.

Once again, our Hispanic Camp Meeting will take place over the Labor Day weekend, Aug. 20–Sept. 3. Saul Dominguez, pastor of the Wenatchee Spanish Church in the Upper Columbia Conference,

and his wife, Katie, will preach for the youth; and David Rodriguez, president of the West Puerto Rico Conference, will preach for the adults.

Please join us for this camp meeting as we seek to connect with our youth and young adults. Additionally, you will receive instruction and inspiration to engage in mission and ministry that will revive and revitalize you, your church and your community. Remember, we are Saved 2 Serve!! ■

R. Clifford Jones, pastor/president

ENGLISH CAMP MEETING

June 15–23

Camp Wagner
9088 Brownsville St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Phone: (269) 476-2550

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

August 31–September 3

Camp Wagner
9088 Brownsville St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Phone: (269) 476-2550



**MICHIGAN
CAMP
MEETINGS**

As a Witness

The theme for Michigan’s camp meeting is, “As a Witness.” In the words of Jesus: . . . *this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness . . . and then the end will come*” (Matthew 24:14 NKJV, emphasis supplied).

Our special focus at camp meeting will be on equipping and training members to become successful soul-winners. We have invited Amazing Facts and their college of evangelism (AFCOE) to partner with our Personal Ministries Department and Emmanuel Institute to provide training for church and personal ministries leaders.

Our main speaker for the first Sabbath morning through Tuesday night is Ron Kelly, senior pastor of the Village Church in Berrien Springs. Mark Howard, pastor of the Cedar Lake Church, will have an early morning worship focused on strengthening our personal relationship with Jesus. In the mid-morning meetings, John Lomacang will share a special series on “Unclean Spirits.” And Doug Batchelor will begin speaking on Wednesday night and continue through the last Sabbath.

He also will join in teaching the special training session with AFCOE referred to earlier.

Jesus stated in His parting words that we would receive power with the reception of the Holy Spirit. The call is then made for us to be His witnesses to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8 NKJV).

It is our prayer that camp meeting will be a spiritual blessing to all of us, and as we are invited to be trained and sent out, our prayer is that we would respond with the words: *Here am I, Lord, send me* (see Isaiah 6:8).

* The Upper Peninsula Camp Meeting will take place at Camp Sagola and the Hispanic Camp Meeting at Camp Au Sable with similar programming. ■

Jim Micheff, president, Michigan Conference



Doug Batchelor



Mark Howard



Ron Kelly



John Lomacang



Jim Micheff



HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

May 25–27

Camp Au Sable
2590 Camp Au Sable Drive
Grayling, MI 49738

CEDAR LAKE CAMP MEETING

June 15–23

Great Lakes Adventist Academy
7477 Academy Road (P.O. Box 68)
Cedar Lake, MI 48812

UPPER PENINSULA CAMP MEETING

August 30–September 2

Camp Sagola
2885 State Hwy M 69
Crystal Falls, MI 49920



Faithful to His Mission

Whether our heroes are missionaries who have given their all, or the hero of a book or film, we admire those who are faithful to their mission.

Our camp meeting theme this year is: "Faithful to His Mission," which calls us to listen again to the call of Jesus to share His grand plan of salvation to a world desperately in need of a Savior.

Our speakers this camp meeting include Mike Edge, Wisconsin Conference president, the first Friday evening. Gary Thurber, Mid-American Union president, Sabbath and Sunday; Michael Goetz, pastor of the Champion Academy Church will speak Monday-Thursday evening. Our final weekend speaker will be Ron Kelly, senior pastor of the Berrien Springs Village Church.

Other mid-week speakers include Ernie Medina Jr., assistant professor and interim executive director of the

newly formed Center for Nutrition, Healthy Lifestyles and Disease Prevention, and Nathan Renner, pastor of the Discover Life Church in Sonora, California. Both will speak in the morning and afternoon Monday-Friday.

Seminars, concerts, an ordination and a baptism, the annual Hallelujah Hustle, along with wonderful singing, praying and fellowship, will make this camp meeting a special experience for all who attend.

We look forward to seeing all of you who are able to join us this summer for a special time of spiritual growth, celebration and renewal. ■

Mike Edge, president, Wisconsin Conference



Michael Goetz



Ron Kelly



Ernie Medina Jr.



Nathan Renner



Gary Thurber

ENGLISH CAMP MEETING

June 15-23

Camp Wagner
9088 Brownsville St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

August 8-12

Camp Wakonda
W8368 County Road E
Oxford, WI 53952

Phone: (608) 296-2126

ILLINOIS

CAMP *Akita*

When I think of our summer season at Camp Akita, the first image that comes to mind is a fresh batch of campers on Sunday afternoon, with the fire of excitement in their eyes.

Some (those who are not new to our camp family) arrive with the expectation of a superb and thrilling week. Others, typically our first-timers, are not exactly sure that this “camp thing” is really for them. However, the one thing that connects each of these kids is that they’ve all come to a place where they are given the opportunity to experience Jesus in a fresh, new way, develop friendships that will last a lifetime, and be challenged in ways that will allow them to return home with a newfound confidence.

In the seven years I’ve worked at Camp Akita, I have seen lives changed, time after time, by the Holy Spirit, and have personally witnessed the indescribable influence summer camp has on the kids who attend. So many of our campers come through our doors totally caught up in a fast-paced, technologically-driven culture. But once they settle into their cabins, shut off their devices and meet their counselor and cabinmates, life slows down. They dive into the week and, for the first time for many of them, they’re given a chance to unplug, and take a moment to see there is so much more God has to offer when we make time for Him.

The beauty of the vast nature and wildlife that surrounds our property paints a picture of God that, for a large amount of our kids, is one they’ve never seen. I can’t describe how amazing that is.

The world in which we live forces our children to grow up so fast but, much like the commercial jingle says, Camp Akita is a place where “a kid can be a kid.” We ensure our campers are cared for, played with, challenged, protected and loved, just as any child should be, and we make an intentional effort to be sure each one knows and experiences that.

So, if you’re looking for a place where your child will be safe, cared for and loved, Camp Akita is for you. If you’re looking for a place where they’ll be able to meet Jesus and embark on a spiritual journey that will impact their lives forever, Camp Akita may just be the right place for them.

You bring them to us. We’ll take care of them. And God will do the rest. ■

Stacey DePluzer has been a camp staff member at Camp Akita for seven years and currently serves as assistant to the Youth director, Illinois Conference.

If you’re looking for a place where your child will be safe, cared for and loved, Camp Akita is for you.



Fun Fact

RECORD FOR FASTEST CLIMB UP ROCK WALL IS 1 MINUTE, 20 SECONDS.



CAMP AKITA DATES

- Cub Camp** (ages 7-9): June 17-24
- Junior Camp** (ages 10-12): June 24-July 1
- Tween Camp** (ages 11-14): July 1-July 8
- Teen Camp I** (ages 14-17): July 8-15
- Teen Specialty Camp:** (ages 14-17): July 15-22
- Family Camp:** July 29-August 5

LOCATION

1684 Knox Road 1200 N
Gilson, IL 61436

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Phone: 630-856-2857
Email: youth@ilcsda.org
Website: <http://www.campakita.com>

INDIANA

CAMP

Timber Ridge

During Tween Week at Timber Ridge Camp, I was working at the waterfront as the waterfront director. The day was like any other: kids were swimming in the lake, a game of volleyball was being played, and our speedboat was pulling a group of campers on the banana boat — an inflatable device that holds six passengers.

All of a sudden, I heard our boat driver call on the radio. I looked out at the middle of the lake where I saw the boat driver getting into the water with his rescue tube and swimming toward one of the campers. After grabbing the spinal board, I rushed into the water and swam toward the camper. Once I reached the boat driver, who was swimming with the camper, we attached the camper to the board and began swimming her toward shore.

Scared and confused, the camper asked us what was happening. We did our best to keep her calm and assure her that we were doing everything we could to keep her safe. Once we reached the shore, the camp nurse began talking to the camper. All of a sudden, the girl began crying — not because she was in pain, but because she was scared of having to go home. "I don't want to go home! I love being here!" She was so focused on the

possibility of going home that she seemingly forgot she could be seriously injured. As the nurse inspected her neck and spine, we talked with the camper, who joyfully told us how much she adored camp and began listing her favorite activities. In the end, the camper did not have any lasting pain or serious injuries and was able to stay for the remainder of the week.

Timber Ridge Camp is an oasis where campers can explore nature, try new activities and learn more about God. Even though that one camper was in some discomfort, she was more worried about leaving camp.

Having gone to Timber Ridge since I was two and having worked there for six years, I have seen how powerful camp can be. I, along with countless others, count myself incredibly blessed to be a part of this camp. ■

Daniel Ronjak, a Speech-language Pathology and Audiology student, graduates from Andrews University this month.

Timber Ridge Camp is an oasis where campers can explore nature, try new activities and learn more about God.



Fun Fact
**PRIZED
CORNROASTING
SPECIALISTS
ON STAFF**

TIMBER RIDGE CAMP DATES

- Single Mom's Camp: June 14-17
- Blind Camp: June 17-24
- Cub Camp (Ages 7-10): June 24-July 1
- Junior Camp (Ages 10-13): July 1-8
- Tween Camp (Ages 13-15): July 8-15
- Teen Camp (Ages 15-17): July 15-22
- Family Camp: July 22-29

LOCATION

1674 Timber Ridge Road, Spencer, IN

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Contact: Trish Thompson
- Phone: 317-844-6201 (after June 3, call 812-829-2507)
- Email: youth@indysda.org
- Website: <http://www.trcamp.org> (register online)

LAKE REGION

CAMP Wagner

“I love Camp Wagner!”

Camp counselor Asha Jowers-Jordan took a deep breath and whispered a prayer. Her 10-year-old camper was once again having trouble handling conflict, ready to fight anything that stood in her way. Asha reached over and quietly pulled the girl aside. “No one is here to hurt you,” she said softly. “I’m here on your side.”

As the days went by, Asha began to notice radical changes. The young girl would grab Asha’s hand and asked to pray with her. By the end of the third week, the child was excited to attend church, sitting on the edge of her seat as she listened to the Word of God. Before the summer was over, the little girl gave her heart to Jesus and told everyone, “I love Camp Wagner!”

Camp Wagner is a place where young people, ages 8-15, have the opportunity to get out of the urban centers, come and learn of God through His Word and nature, establish a relationship with Jesus, meet lifelong friends, and depart on fire for Jesus.

Besides having an encounter with Jesus, this is a fun place where they can enjoy swimming, sports, climbing wall, scavenger hunts, go-carts, arts and crafts, and much more. Our camp staff provides quality, Christian supervision, while daily instructing the campers in areas of personal care, social graces and positive life values.

We look forward to serving your precious children and grandchildren at Camp Wagner, so they might have an experience that changes their lives and lasts a lifetime. ■

Jason North, Lake Region Youth director



Fun Fact
AVERAGE CAMPER TRAVELS OVER 100 MILES

CAMP WAGNER DATES

Week 1 (ages 8-15): July 1-7
Week 2 (ages 8-15): July 8-14

LOCATION

19088 Brownsville Street, Cassapolis, MI
Phone: 269-476-2550

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Contact: Josie Essex
Phone: 773-846-2662, ext. 206
Email: jessex@lrcsda.com
Website: <http://www.lrcyouth.com>
Online Registration: www.lrcyouth.com/#/summercamp



MICHIGAN

CAMP

Au Sable & Sagola



The Bible tells us, *In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day* (Exodus 20:11 NKJV).

The verse tells us that we serve a God who has the power to create! Not only that God can create, but that He can create something as beautiful and awesome as the earth in only one week.

At Camp Au Sable, we believe this verse. Everything that is done at Camp Au Sable, whether it's wake-boarding, high-ropes course, archery, or any of the many other activities, is a testament to our belief that we serve a God who can create something beautiful and awesome in one week.

Camp Au Sable is one of the most fun places on earth — one week of some of the best times you will ever have. The staff knows and understands that working at camp is working in the people business. They love each camper and want to see them each have a great time during the week of summer camp.

Now the earth was formless and empty (Gen 1:2 NIV) before God started to create. But God turned the earth from a place that was barren and had no life, into something that was bursting with life! And He did it in one week! God has the power to bring life to places where there is no life.

At Camp Au Sable, our staff interacts with campers from all walks of life. No matter where they are in their journey,

the staff at camp does their absolute best to make sure each camper feels loved and accepted.

I want to talk about two types of memory. The first type of memory is called Semantic Memory. This type of memory involves remembering facts, meanings and concepts. The other type of memory is called Episodic Memory. These memories make the biggest impact on us. These are major events that happen in our lives. These memories can actually start cycles of behaviors that affect the way we live our lives.

Each summer we have campers who have gone through things that no one should have to experience. Many of these campers have had episodic memories that have affected them negatively. Now, here's the interesting part, semantic information cannot replace an episodic memory. No matter how many facts and figures you know, it won't take the place of a bad experience.

The only thing that can replace an episodic memory is another episodic memory! That's our mission at camp. We believe that introducing campers to Jesus and seeing them accept Him into their lives brings a powerful experience that can overcome any brokenness. Camp staff does this

Camp Au Sable is one of the most fun places on earth!

not by just teaching campers facts, but through showing them, every day of the week!, what the self-sacrificing love of Jesus looks like.

God created and brought life to the world in seven days. God does the same thing every week in the lives of campers at Camp Au Sable. ■

Brandon Von Dorpowski served as a counselor, teacher and boys' director at Camp Au Sable. He is a student at Andrews University where he continues to shine his light and his passion for Jesus to those around him!



CAMP AU SABLE DATES

- Adventure Camp** (ages 7-10): June 10-17
- Junior Camp** (ages 10-12): June 17-24
- Tween Camp** (ages 12-14): June 24-July 1
- Teen Camp** (high school): July 1-8
- Family Camp I:** July 8-15
- Family Camp II:** July 15-22
- Family Camp III:** July 22-29

LOCATION:

2590 Camp Au Sable Drive, Grayling, MI

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Contact: Judy Ramos
Phone: 517-316-1570
Email: jramos@misda.org
Website: <http://www.campausable.org>

CAMP SAGOLA DATES

- Junior Camp** (ages 8-12): July 15-22
- Teen Camp** (ages 13-17): July 22-29

LOCATION

2885 SR-M69, Crystal Falls, MI

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Email: campsagola@gmail.com
Phone: 517-316-1570

WISCONSIN

CAMP *Wakonda*



Summer [suhm-er] — The season between spring and autumn; the period comprising the months of June, July, and August; a period of hot, usually sunny weather.

Camp [kamp] — A place where an army or other group of persons or an individual is lodged in a tent, tents or shelters collectively; any temporary structure

When you define these two words individually you get two different ideas; however, when you put them together, you open up a new world of opportunity!

Wakonda in the original Native American language means “a place set apart.” That’s why Camp Wakonda has come to be known as a sacred place. And, if you have ever been to Camp Wakonda, you know it is truly a place like no other!

During summer, we open up opportunities for young people and families to see Jesus, the Creator, in a very real and practical way. This year our theme is “More Than Conquerors,” taken from the text in Romans 8:37. Paul tells the Romans in this section that there is nothing greater than his God and, that no matter what happens in our lives we are already victorious conquerors because Jesus won the battle that we are fighting every day on this earth. At Camp Wakonda this summer, we are dedicated to doing the same as Paul did many years ago. Every day, through

our daily programming, exciting activities and amazing staff, we will be making sure that every person who sets foot on our campgrounds will see Jesus in a way that reminds them that He has already conquered the battle we are facing. Every activity that we offer follows a Pathfinder honor and builds on the skills that are taught each day.

We hope that you will make your way to beautiful central Wisconsin to have a great summer with us. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us. You can visit our website at www.wakonda.org to find out more information. ■

Eric Chavez, Youth director, Wisconsin Conference



Fun Fact
3,000 CINNAMON ROLLS SERVED EACH SUMMER

CAMP WAKONDA DATES

- Blind Camp** (all ages): June 27–July 1
- Junior Camp** (ages 7–11): July 1–July 8
- Tween Camp** (ages 11–13): July 8–15
- Teen Camp** (ages 13–17): July 15–22
- Family Camp 1**: July 22–29
- Family Camp 2**: July 29–August 5

LOCATION

W8368 County Road E, Oxford, WI

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Phone:** 608-296-2126
- Email:** campwakondawi@gmail.com
- Website:** <http://www.wakonda.org>



Cristina Gryz

▲ Associates and family members at Adventist Medical Center Bolingbrook recently helped a patient and his wife celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Going above and beyond

Inherent in the work of a hospital chaplain is the element of surprise. On any given day, one has the chance to witness the work of the Holy Spirit in completely unexpected and exciting ways. Chaplain Cristina Gryz, lead chaplain at Adventist Medical Center Bolingbrook, has gotten used to seeing God do the amazing in hearts and lives. Yet recently, she was part of an event that she will never forget.

As she made her rounds, Gryz encountered an elderly patient who had been admitted to the hospital, his wife lovingly attentive by his side. As she began to speak with the patient's nurse and then his wife, Gryz learned that not only was the wife upset about his illness, she was grieving the loss of the 50th wedding anniversary celebration that their children had planned for the following day. Gryz immediately suggested that she bring in wedding photos that they could place around the room as a testament to their relationship.

When Gryz returned to the nurses' station and asked what else they should do for the couple, one nurse suggested throwing a party. "Everyone started pitching in ideas," said Gryz. "The more people I talked to, the more people wanted to be involved or lend their support." The unit decided that they would host an anniversary celebration the next day, complete with a renewal of wedding vows ceremony and a "reception."

Gryz sprang into action. She made sure that the children and grandchildren would be in attendance. She headed to the nearest party store and purchased 50th anniversary decorations. She also found a veil and a silk flower bouquet. Since she knew the wife's favorite song, she downloaded it to her phone and got speakers that would play it during the ceremony. Gryz then notified the dietary department and asked what they could provide, and recruited Chaplain Jared Jennette to participate.

As the wife wore the veil and held flowers in one hand and her husband's hand in the other, children, grandchildren and staff members surrounded the bed. Jennette offered a blessing of marriage and renewal of vows ceremony, and afterwards the group sang "Amazing Grace" together. Kitchen staff brought beautifully decorated carts with flowers, a display of finger foods and a 50th anniversary cake, and everyone offered blessings to the couple and enjoyed sharing memories. There were very few dry eyes in the room.

"Everyone involved was walking on clouds the entire weekend," said Gryz. "It reminded us of why we are here. We care for our patients with everything we have, but when we can go above and beyond to honor life and marriage with dignity, we have to take that opportunity. It is what God calls us to do." ■

Julie Busch, associate vice president, Communications, AMITA Health

Living beyond the Seminary classroom

While attending the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, Master of Divinity (MDiv) students spend a semester completing a Theological Field Education (TFE) requirement. Fernando Ortiz, MDiv program director, says, "TFE is built around the relationship between a ministry context mentor and an individual seminarian in area churches or community ministry settings. It bridges theory and praxis as we provide a field context for our seminarians."

The TFE program provides practical opportunities for seminarians to develop ministry competencies and measure readiness for ministry. It also creates an opportunity to engage each seminarian, at times with their spouse and children, in the realities of ministry. For some MDiv students, the TFE program allows exploration of what type of ministry to pursue after leaving the Seminary.

Mervin Cathian is a second-year MDiv student completing his TFE requirements as a student chaplain at University Towers, an on-campus facility comprised of two residence halls. Mervin's MDiv program focuses on youth and young adults, as well as chaplaincy. He says, "By being a chaplain, you are able to address the challenges that students are experiencing — challenges that students might not share with parents or teachers. I see my position as a student chaplain as a privilege that God has given me."

Although Mervin is not completely sure where God will lead him in the future, he believes that fulfilling these TFE requirements helps him to understand the dynamics and challenges of being a pastor. "It allows the student to grow and to have freedom to experiment in ministry areas

they are interested in. I also like that the TFE program requires accountability."

Sarah Hill, also a second-year MDiv student and student chaplain at University Towers, shares Mervin's sentiments. She feels called to ministry, but is not sure of her specific path after leaving the Seminary. Sarah was a biology undergraduate student at Andrews University when she began to question her decision to continue with biology in graduate school. After seeking advice, she made a decision to instead pursue an MDiv. "I know I'm only here because this is the career path God wanted for me. I know God didn't call me here to be jobless," she says.

For Sarah, the TFE program has been a way for her to broaden her experiences and determine what kinds of ministry in which she wants to be involved in the future. "I see it kind of like our internship. It gives us a chance to network and develop relationships with our mentors. It's also a good way to apply what we have been learning in the classroom and learn our ministry style."

The TFE program is not only beneficial to its enrolled students. David Iwasa, director/dean for University Towers, says, "Our TFE student chaplains provide extra care and programming that would not exist otherwise." Programming includes Monday evening's "Life after AU," designed to help student residents transition to their professional lives, and small groups examining topics like the Sabbath and releasing stress. TFE student chaplains also have visited residents in their rooms and in the hospital, when necessary.

David says, "The student chaplains' care for residents and leadership in small groups impacts lives and helps our residents prepare for their futures."

For more information about the TFE program requirements and the Master of Divinity program, visit andrews.edu/sem/mdiv/tfe/ or email mdiv@andrews.edu. You also can call the MDiv office at 269-471-3538. ■

Hannah Gallant, IMC student writer



Sheikahmah Decano

▲ Sarah Hill and Mervin Cathian serve as student chaplains at University Towers.



▲ Jane Iery with her baptism

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

Baptismal candidate builds her own baptism

MICHIGAN—When the Marquette Church had its Unlock Revelation meetings in the Spring of 2016, Jane Iery and her husband, Dan, received a flier in the mailing. Since they did not read the flier carefully, they only came to the first four sessions. However, videos were uploaded to the Internet each night, and that is where Jane continued to watch the videos, seeing all of them at least twice. “I was hooked,” she said. “This is exactly what I was looking for.”

She was raised in another denomination and worked for the organization for the past 19 years. As part of her responsibility, she had to prepare children for

their first communion and realized she couldn't continue sharing information she knew was false.

Then, in the fall of 2017, a year-and-a-half after the Unlock Revelation series, Jane returned to the Marquette Church. “People greeted me warmly,” she said. “I felt like I was home and this is where I needed to be.”

Drawn to the warmth of the community, she continued to attend and became very actively involved, including leading the singing and participating in Sabbath school discussions.

Since she had learned almost all of the Adventist doctrines from the video series and wanted to be baptized, she needed only a little study with the pastor; however, the church does not have a baptism. She was not interested in going to another church, nor was she up to a winter plunge in Lake Superior. “I wanted a public baptism so everyone would know I was a follower of Christ,” she said.

So Jane purchased a used corner tub from the Habitat for Humanity ReStore and modified it by raising the sides and tiling it, all at a cost of about \$100.

The day after her birthday, on January 27, Aron Crews, Unlock Revelation presenter and interim pastor, baptized her in her own BYOB (build your own baptism).

The 62-year-old mother of five children and 11 grandchildren said it was the best decision she has made. “I have found the Truth, and that's what matters most.”

Baptism video available at <http://bit.ly/2HbEFxN> ■

Marquette Church elder, Ken Culp, with Lake Union Herald staff



▲ Students, faculty, parents and community members enjoyed foods from around the world.

EDUCATION NEWS

Appreciating diversity of cultures at Andrews Academy

We look forward to that day when we get to Heaven and people from all nations of the world will gather together to worship and praise God. Andrews Academy, in Berrien Springs, Mich., is blessed with having so many nations and cultures represented that we can experience a little taste of what the worship experience might be like in Heaven.

International Appreciation Week was recently celebrated at Andrews Academy with over 58 countries being represented. This is a week to celebrate the diversity of Andrews Academy and an opportunity for each student and faculty member to learn more about the many cultures represented by our school family. Each day we incorporated traditional songs and worship traditions during our morning worship. We had guest speakers present insights from their culture or discuss spiritual insights learned from their culture or international experience.

On the concluding day, we enjoyed our traditional International Festival. For many, it is their favorite day of the school year. The majority of students dressed in traditional attire as they expressed their traditional and national heritage. The program began with Scripture being read in different languages and prayer in French, followed by the International Flags entrance. A skit was presented by students from the Spanish class. An

international cultural fashion show highlighted traditional attire from many countries represented by our students. Groups from various cultures presented their cultural music and traditions.

Following the International Assembly, the students, parents, community members and faculty enjoyed foods from around the world as students and their families brought in their country's traditional treats for all to sample. The program, which demonstrated the beauty of cultural differences in multiple ways, was coordinated by Keila Sanchez, Andrews Academy's Spanish teacher. We truly celebrated the cultural diversity that the Andrews Academy Family enjoys each day. ■

Steven Atkins, Andrews Academy Biology & Earth Science teacher



▲ Over 58 countries are represented at AA.

CONFERENCE NEWS

New leadership in Michigan Conference Secretariat office

The Michigan Conference Search Committee appointed Justin Ringstaff to be the next executive secretary on Sunday, Feb. 25. He prayerfully accepted the invitation to the position that was left vacant when Jim Micheff accepted the call to become president.

Once again, we thank God for His providential leading in the selection process and welcome our new executive secretary.

In 2006, Ringstaff accepted a call to pastor in the Michigan Conference. After serving in several church districts, he accepted the call to serve as the associate ministerial director in 2014.

He and his wife, Chelli, love sharing their lives together in the Lord's work. They have three children: Elijah, Enoch and Emma.

Ringstaff has a theology degree from Southern Adventist University and received his MDiv from Andrews Theological Seminary.

The executive secretary, along with the president and treasurer, form the administrative body of the Conference. The secretary keeps accurate records of all phases of the conference ministries, including church membership and provides statistical data as requested by all levels of church organization.

Effective April 2, Wes Peppers began serving as the new associate ministerial director, a position vacated when Justin Ringstaff became the executive secretary. Peppers also will continue to serve as evangelism coordinator for the conference.

A significant aspect of his responsibilities will comprise the training and mentoring of new pastors, similar to the work that Ringstaff provided. In addition, he will continue to lead the charge in the work of evangelism and exciting initiatives like *Unlock Revelation*, and teach classes for Emmanuel Institute.

Prior to serving in the Michigan Conference, Peppers served as an evangelist and Global AFCOE Director for Amazing Facts. ■

Michigan Conference Communication Department



▲ Justin Ringstaff



▲ Wes Peppers



NAD NEWS

Adventist Church issues statement emphasize importance of equality for all Americans

Columbia, Md. — The Statue of Liberty, a longstanding symbol of freedom in the U.S., has these words engraved on its base: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore, ... Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!” Some today, however, are questioning the presence of those on our shores who come from countries currently facing political, economic and natural disaster challenges.

As the most ethnically-diverse Christian denomination in the U.S., the Seventh-day Adventist Church proudly defends the rights of all men, women and children, no matter their country of origin, the equal rights afforded in the United States Constitution and fair treatment as immigrants and refugees in our beloved country.

Almost every American citizen’s lineage includes immigration from a foreign territory, and many came here with the hope and promise of a better life made

possible by a nation that recognized the fair and equal treatment of all its citizens. As a religious group that was formed in the U.S. more than 150 years ago, we celebrate the religious liberty that is given to all who choose to live and worship here. Our country is at its best when we celebrate the ethnic diversity, cultural variances and freedom of religious expression of all Americans.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church joins other communities of faith in prayerfully calling for all Americans to search their hearts and seek God’s guidance in their daily interactions with others. God creates all His creatures equal and His love is available to all who accept it, no matter their background, place of birth or economic status. *If God is for us, who can be against us?* (Romans 8:31).

Lake Union statement

The Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Departments of Multicultural Ministries and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty support the fair and equal treatment of all immigrants and refugees. We believe in the Bible’s call for compassionate treatment of the foreigner residing among us.

When the foreigner resides among you, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God (Leviticus 19:33–34).

He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt (Deuteronomy 10:18-19).

So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the Lord Almighty (Malachi 3:5).

Cursed is anyone who withholds justice from the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow. Then all the people shall say, “Amen!” (Deuteronomy 27:19).

The Lord protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked (Psalm 146:9).

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (Hebrews 13:2).

In carrying out the teachings of these verses, support undocumented young immigrants in our midst commonly known as “dreamers.” These individuals were brought to this land by no choice of their own. We have provided informational assistance and support to church members and their friends who are seeking to file DACA extensions, and will continue to do so as the need arises.

As discussions are underway in Congress to resolve the DACA issue and address the larger issue of immigration reform, we invite everyone to pray that our government leaders come to a gracious resolution for the immigration issue currently under discussion. We also invite everyone to use their influence to articulate the cultural value of generous hospitality toward the immigrant and refugee living among us. ■

NAD statement <http://bit.ly/2nmROwq>
Union support <http://bit.ly/2zQrWdt>



▲ February 2018 cover of Adventist Journey

Adventist Journey launches as new North American Division magazine

In January 2018, the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America (NAD) launched the magazine *Adventist Journey*, the first division-wide magazine the NAD has published. This 16-page publication wraps around the 32-page *Adventist World* international edition, a General Conference magazine.

Previously, the NAD’s 16 pages of content and advertising were integrated

into the *Adventist World*, creating a 48-page hybrid unique to the NAD. “We are pleased to continue our partnership with *Adventist World*, but also excited to more clearly highlight content that tells the NAD story,” said Kimberly Luste Maran, NAD Communication associate director and editor of the new magazine. One main difference in the *Adventist Journey*’s content will be a stronger emphasis on God’s workings through His people in the division, which include the stories of church members across Canada, the United States, Bermuda and the Guam-Micronesia Mission.

“Our journeys are not the same, but we are Adventists. And, as we progress toward a deeper relationship with Jesus — and greater understanding of our role in His saving work, we journey together,” Maran said.

Showcasing the nature of the journey is the magazine’s nameplate (logotype), which retains, in a black box on the cover, the same font for “Adventist” each month while changing the word “Journey” monthly, handwritten by the church member featured on the cover. The individual’s Adventist journey is told in a short blurb on the table of contents, with an Internet link to view the entire story.

“This magazine has been designed to encourage all of us to follow our Lord on the path that He’s laid before us,” said Daniel R. Jackson, NAD president. “While we all have unique experiences in life, as we follow Jesus all our paths merge into His. ...Through God’s grace we will share the NAD story and inspire our members.”

“We hope this magazine helps illuminate our journey with content meant to offer inspiration, information, fellowship and dialogue,” added Maran. ■

NAD Office of Communication

For more information from the North American Division, subscribe to NAD NewsPoints, a weekly e-newsletter for all Seventh-day Adventist church leaders and members in North America. In every regular issue you’ll find news, announcements, resources, ViewPoints quote, links to *Adventists in the News*, *Adventist Journey* magazine link Edition, and *Upcoming Events (Special Days & Offerings, NAD Prayer Calendar)*.

Current and archival issues are available at: <http://www.nadadventist.org/taxonomy/term/26>

May

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

GENERAL EVENTS

May 4, 8 p.m.: Graduation — Consecration, PMC

May 5, 9 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.: Graduation — Baccalaureate Services, PMC

May 6, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m.: Graduation — Spring Commencements, PMC

May 15-16: Andrews Research Conference: Social Sciences

May 17-18: Adventist Human-Subject Researchers Association

May 25-27: Andrews Academy Graduation Weekend

May 30: Ruth Murdoch Elementary School 8th Grade Graduation

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER EVENTS

For more information on the following events and to purchase tickets, call

888-467-6442 or 269-471-3560, or visit howard.andrews.edu.

May 8, 7 p.m.: Andrews Academy Vocal & Strings Spring Concert

May 10, 7 p.m.: Andrews Academy Band & Bells Spring Concert

May 15, 7 p.m.: Ruth Murdoch Elementary School Vocal Spring Concert

May 17, 7 p.m.: Ruth Murdoch Elementary School Instrumental Spring Concert

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE

May 7-11: Outdoor Education

May 19: Hispanic Men's Retreat

May 20: Lay Ministry Training Area 3

May 27: Hinsdale Adventist Academy Graduation

INDIANA CONFERENCE

May 4-6: Pathfinder Fair, Timber Ridge Camp

May 12: Indiana Academy Spring Concert

May 18-20: Adventurer Family Weekend, Timber Ridge Camp

May 25-27: Indiana Academy Graduation Weeknd

LAKE REGION CONFERENCE

May 2-6: Black Adventist Youth Directors Association Adventurer Fun Escape, Black Mountain, North Carolina

May 4-6: Pathfinders Honors Retreat

May 18-19: Michigan Youth Federation, All Nations, Berrien Springs

June 1-3: Peterson Warren Academy Graduation Weekend

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

May 19-20: Pathfinder Fair, Au Sable Northwoods

May 25-27: Great Lakes Adventist Academy Graduation Weekend

May 25-27: Grand Rapids Adventist Academy Graduation Weekend

May 25-27: Hispanic Camp Meeting

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

May 6-11: Wakonda Workbee, Camp Wakonda

May 12: Hispanic Brotherhood

May 18-20: Pathfinder Fair, Camp Wakonda

May 25-27: Wisconsin Academy Graduation Weekend

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

BATEMAN, Bradley S., age 60; born Feb. 26, 1957, in Peoria, Ill.; death Feb. 22, 2018, in Stevensville, Mich. He was a member of Buchanan Church.

Survivors include his wife, Gyl (Moon); sons, Bradley, Douglas, Mark; father, R. James Bateman; mother, Gwendolyn (Walser) Bateman; brother, Brian; sisters, Sue Malahy and Cynthia Quiram; half-sisters, Leah Walton, Robin Walton, and Direce Everett.

Funeral services were conducted by Roberto Gonzalez and Sung Hyun Um, with interment at Rosehill Cemetery.

BRAHMAN, Roadman "Rod" S., age 77; born Aug. 11, 1940, in Muskegon, Mich.; died Feb. 23, 2018, in St. Joseph, Mich. He was a member of the Stevensville Church.

Survivors include his wife, Rhonna (Root), stepdaughters, Kayla Casteel and Daneeta Renfro; and two step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Gotshall, and interment was in Sunrise Memorial Gardens, Muskegon, Mich.

CLAY, Donald C., age 79; born Nov. 8, 1938, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Mar. 13, 2018, in Lowell, Mich. He was a member of Lowell/Riverside Church.

Survivors include his wife, Carol (Crawford); sons, Don and Tim; daughters, Marion, Elizabeth, Heather; brothers, Robert, Thomas, Jim, Patrick, Sean; sisters Mary, Margie, Ann; fifteen grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted in Lowell.

DAVENPORT, Dr. Glenn, age 100, born March 15, 1917, in Ringgold County, Iowa; died December 6, 2017, in Centerville, Ohio. He was a member of the Kettering (Ohio) Church.

Survivors include his granddaughter, Kim (Kelley) Lunde; her husband, Eric Lunde;

his grandson, David Mark Kelley; and four great-grandchildren.

Private memorial and inurnment.

DRISCOL, Marjorie A. (Morton), age 81; born August 23, 1936, in Chulumani, Bolivia; died January 1, 2018, in Spokane, Wash. She was a member of the Columbus Church, Columbus, Ind.

Survivors include her daughters, Peggy Lee, June Risner, Nancy Engle and Juanita Hanel; brother, James; 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Paul Blake in Spokane, Wash., and Harvey Kornegay in Columbus, Ind.

GALLAY, Oscar P., age 87; born March 19, 1930, in Dunlap, Ind.; died Dec. 12, 2017, in Mishawaka, Ind. He was a member of South Bend First Church.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia Gallay; daughters, Becky Matlock and Barbara Young; brothers, Gene Gallay; sisters, Mildred Gallay.

Memorial services were conducted by Throstr Thodarson, with inurnment in Fort Custer National Cemetery.

JONES, Marjorie (Clark), age 101; born April 16, 1916, in Flushing, Mich.; died Feb. 1, 2018, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of Stevensville Church.

Survivors include sons, Bob (Dorothy) and Kent Dacre; daughters, Carol and Phyllis (Tom); brothers, Arden and Joe Clark; sister, Esther Sias; nine grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Private inurnment held in Central Lake, Mich.

KAUMPUNGAN, Ramlen, age 67; born Sept. 1, 1950, in Manado, Indonesia; died Mar. 9, 2018, in Los Angeles, Calif. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Jenny (Dimpudus) Kaumpungan; sons, Daniel and Reinhard; daughter, Inne Flaherty; brothers, Novry, Brents, Matheos and

Steven; sisters, Deli and Engelin; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jonathan Kuntaraf, and interment was in Rosehill Cemetery, Berrien Springs, Mich.

PARRISH, Elton, age 99; born Jan. 2, 1919, in Bauer, Mich.; died Jan. 20, 2018, in Muskegon, Mich. He was a member of Wright Church.

Survivors include son Harley and Lesley; daughter, Beth Ann (Parrish) Cabanaa; 18 grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Bernie Anderson and Jonathon Walter with interment in Blendon Two Cemetery.

PAULSEN, Jack H., age 82; born Aug. 18, 1935, in Wenatchee, Wash.; died Mar. 24, 2018, in Green Bay, Wis. He was a member of the Green Bay Church.

Survivors include his sons, Harold "Toby" and Jack; daughter, Darlene Mishleau; brothers, Robert and Fred Paulsen; sister, Barbara McClannahan; eight grandchildren; four great grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at a later date in Washington.

ROBINSON, Claris (Bush), age 94; born June 15, 1923, in Onaway, Mich.; died Jan. 7, 2018, in Cheboygan, Mich. She was a member of Onaway Church.

Survivors include sons, Donald and Dale Robinson; daughter, Diane Nessel; sister, Eleanor Howell; 14 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; nine great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Michael Szykowski, with interment in Onaway, Mich.

STANHISER, Eleanor C. (Danneffel), age 100; born Apr. 13, 1917, in Benton Harbor, Mich.; died Mar. 27, 2018, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include sons, Otto Jr. and Gary; daughters, Barbara Fisher; 15 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

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

STEBBEDS, Gary K., age 72; born June 19, 1945, in Rhinelander, Wis.; died Jan. 18,

OBITUARIES, CONT'D

2018, in Woodruff, Wis. He was a member of Clearwater Lake Church.

Survivors include his brother, Warner E. Stebbeds, Jr.

Memorial services were conducted by Mary Anne Biggs, with inurnment in Clearwater Lake, Wis.

VINMANS, Evelyn (Bowen), age 97; born Aug. 3, 1920, in Stoughton, Wis.; died Feb. 11, 2018, in Stoughton. She was a member of Madison East Church.

Survivors include her son, Ray Stanford; foster child, David Adams; five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Titus Naftanaila and interment was in Evansville, Wis.

WEYCKER, Joseph, age 67; born Oct. 27, 1950, in Flint, Mich.; died Feb. 2, 2018, in Flint. He was a member of First Flint Church.

Survivors include his mother Lucille; brothers, James and Robert Weycker; sisters, Ellen Safely, Maragret Merrell, Patricia Butters, and Theresa Hayes.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Christein Hodet with interment in New Calvary Catholic Cemetery.

WIDING, Albert C. Sr., age 92; born Feb. 12, 1925, in Springfield, Ill.; died Jan. 11, 2018, in Linden, Mich. He was a member of Mio Church.

Survivors include sons, Albert Jr. and Galen Widing; daughters, Carol Corn, Judy Sedge, Beverly Rowbotham, Breanda Puskas; brothers, LeRoy and Henry Widing; 16 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Daniel Ferraz, with interment in Grand Blanc, Mich.

YOUNG, Russell D., age 63; born Nov. 16, 1954, in Lewiston, Mon.; died Feb. 17, 2018, in Valparaiso, Ind. He was a member of the Stevensville Church.

Survivors include his wife, Suzanne (Heibert), son, Andrew; daughters Kaitlin, Hannah and Jessica Young; stepbrothers, John Hood, Trent, Corey and Jason Castner; sister, Renee Pineete; and stepsister, Krista Castner.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Brian Hamilton, with private inurnment.

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>.

MICHIGAN

GOBLES CHURCH AND SCHOOL CELEBRATION. On **June 1 and 2**, the Gobles Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary, and Gobles Jr. Academy will mark the beginning of its 85th school year. This will be a special time for former church members, school alumni and Emmanuel Institute graduates. The weekend will begin Friday night with vespers. A fellowship meal will follow the church service, and Sabbath will close with a musical vespers. A commemorative book detailing the history of the church will be available that weekend. To reserve your copy and/or find out more information, visit the church website on Facebook or contact Dr. Bert Carrion, bcarrion49026@yahoo.com.

ADELPHIAN ACADEMY ALUMNI CLASS OF 1958 AND 1968, June 29-30. Alumni services will begin Friday night, June 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the Holly Church. Sabbath services will be held on campus in the Administration Building and will begin Sabbath morning at 9:15 a.m. with a potluck following at Adelphian Junior Academy. A musical program will take place at 2:30 p.m. at the Holly Church. Class of 1958 will take care of Sabbath school and the Class of 1968 will lead out in the worship service. Any questions, please contact Peggy Hoffmeyer (248-467-0985) or email Ron Herr (herrr@andrews.edu).

BOSTON OR BUST! After 35 years of taking students to Boston, Bruce Reichert, Great Lakes Adventist Academy's history teacher for 30 years, is planning the first ever Family Summer Trip to Boston that will last for 9 days. Open to former or current students, families, church members from any conference, or friends that want to join who are eight years of age and older. The trip will be Sunday, June 24, through Monday, July 2. One non-academic credit will be awarded for re-certification for any Adventist teacher that attends. For more details, see the Great Lakes Adventist Academy's webpage at www.glaa.net. Make this summer one to remember! Experience an unforgettable history trip to Boston with a veteran tour guide! For questions, please email Bruce Reichert at breichert7@yahoo.com.

LAKE UNION

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

Sabbath Sunset Calendar						
	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	Jun 1	Jun 8
Berrien Springs, Mich.	8:46	8:54	9:01	9:08	9:14	9:18
Chicago, Ill.	7:51	7:59	8:06	8:13	8:18	8:23
Detroit, Mich.	8:34	8:42	8:49	8:56	9:02	9:07
Indianapolis, Ind.	8:41	8:48	8:54	9:01	9:06	9:11
La Crosse, Wis.	8:10	8:18	8:26	8:33	8:39	8:45
Lansing, Mich.	8:41	8:49	8:56	9:03	9:09	9:14
Madison, Wis.	8:01	8:09	8:16	8:23	8:30	8:35
Springfield, Ill.	7:55	8:02	8:08	8:15	8:20	8:25

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

FOR SALE

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

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

NEW INEXPENSIVE COLORFUL WITNESSING BROCHURES, TRACTS, MAGAZINES AND BOOKS. Topics cover Health, Cooking, Salvation, the Second Coming, the Sabbath and much, much more!! Free catalog and sample! Call 800-777-2848 or visit www.FamilyHeritageBooks.com.

TRAVEL/VACATION

ISRAEL TOUR WITH PASTOR JIM GILLEY, 3ABN'S PASTOR, C.A. MURRAY AND FRIENDS. Two trips this fall, November 11-19, 2018, \$3,095. November 18-27, 2018, \$3,395. Includes all tips, taxes, air, and Breakfast and Dinner buffets daily. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles; other departure cities available. Call Jennifer at 602-788-8864.

ADVENTIST HERITAGE TOUR (Sept. 9-16, 2018). Explore scenic New England and enjoy a spiritually enriching experience learning about Adventist history. Tour guide, Dr. Brian Strayer, is a retired Andrews University History professor. Round-trip

tour from Anderson, Ind. To learn more, call Jesse at 765-722-0644 or visit www.AndersonSDAChurch.com/Tour2018.

ONE BEDROOM CONDO FOR RENT IN HONOLULU, HAWAII, in Nu'uuanu, relaxing and affordable. Minutes to beaches, Chinatown, and hiking! Clean, comfortable, like new. Sleeps 6 comfortably. Furnished kitchen; washer/dryer and more. Free parking. For more information, visit <http://honzentralsda.org> or call 808-524-1352.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

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

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

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

AT YOUR SERVICE

MOVE WITH AN AWARD-WINNING AGENCY. Apex Moving & Storage partners with the General Conference to provide quality moves for you. Call us for all your relocation needs. Contact Marcy Danté at 800-766-1902, or visit our website: <http://www.apexmoving.com/adventist>.

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

THE CLERGY MOVE CENTER™ AT STEVENS WORLDWIDE VAN LINES is The Way To Move from one state to another! Through our national contract with the General Conference, we extend our moving services to all Adventist families. Quality is inherent. Contact one of our dedicated Move Counselors today for a no-cost/no-obligation estimate at 800-248-8313. Or learn more about us at www.stevensworldwide.com/sda.

EMPLOYMENT

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

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks School of Visual Art and Design Productions/ Equipment and Facilities Manager. Full-time position combines two operational roles that impact the use/scheduling of production equipment. Prefer two years' experience or college degree in video, film, audio, lighting and maintenance. To apply and see full description visit: www.southern.edu/jobs.

OB-GYN, PEDIATRICIAN, PSYCHIATRIST, AND PSYCHOLOGIST NEEDED for Adventist owned/operated Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, California. Competitive pay. Call Dr. Randall Steffens at 615-604-0142.

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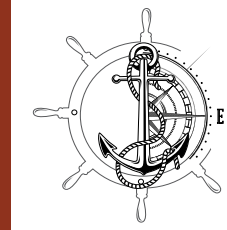
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AVAILABLE POSITION AT CAMP AKITA: Seeking an Assistant Camp Ranger. The position is full-time, salaried, exempt, with benefits. Please send resumés to Debbie at dperez@ilcsda.org. For more information or a job description, please contact Roger Henderson at 978-815-3377 or email: rhenderson@campakita.com. Resumés are due by or before Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

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Camp is for Staff, Too!

By Raquel Mentor



▲ Raquel Mentor

“SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NEXT?” one of my staff co-workers asked me as I shrugged. “Finish camp,” I reluctantly replied as I headed for morning worship. Summer camp was well underway, but I, a recent college graduate, found myself without direction and in need of Jesus once more.

For as long as I could remember, I wanted to be a teacher. I loved tutoring and there was no other feeling like inspiring children to believe in themselves. The allure slowly drifted away when I started working in the inner city and struggled within the classroom. After three years, I made the difficult decision to leave the profession.

It was then I had to ask myself the same question, *What are you going to do next?* Being a driven individual, I had my life planned out for the next three years. I was going to get my Master’s Degree, become a principal, pay off my school loans, and travel the world with my wonderful husband.

Now I had no financial stability, the uncertainty of which direction my career was headed, and the general feeling of failure looming over me. In my mind, I was a statistic of teacher burnout — a quitter.

It was around that time that Pastor Charlie Thompson invited me to help out for Pathfinder weekend. While I was helping at Timber Ridge Camp for the event, he jokingly said I was welcome to come back to work there for the summer, and I seriously took him up on that offer.

For the last two years I worked at camp, I came without job security, along with many other unknowns that tend to cause stress and unease. In the end, God worked miracles the way He does and put me where I needed to be.

Last summer, I know God led me back to Timber Ridge Camp because that is where I needed to be. I needed to separate myself from the daily distractions that were leading me away from Him. I needed to be surrounded by other young people who are on fire for Him and what He stands for. I needed to remember that I am a conqueror through Christ, regardless of my failures and shortcomings.

Summer camps, like Timber Ridge, do not just save campers; they save the staff who serve there, too. I am a living example of that. There seldom has been a time where I have felt closer to Him than when I am at camp singing praise songs, praying with campers, and being surrounded by nature. There is a certain peace that I haven’t found anywhere else. In the midst of the storm that was my personal life, Jesus was reaching out to me, calling me to find His strength, regardless of my weakness.

As this summer season is drawing to a close, the question still remains, *What will I do next?* The answer is simple: through Christ, I will be more than a conqueror — wherever He leads me. ■

Raquel Mentor is from Los Angeles, California, and is passionate about Christ and Youth Ministries.

In Her Father’s Footsteps

By Debbie Michel



▲ Diana Lal Rin Fel

AFTER DIANA LAL RIN FEL and her family fled Burma, they ended up in Malaysia where a friend of her dad gave them a DVD on the topic of the Sabbath. Intrigued, her dad listened to it several times. “My dad didn’t know much,” she acknowledged, “but he desired to keep the truth revealed to him through the sermon.”

Soon after their arrival in the U.S., her father discovered that the pastor on the DVD, P.L. Biakchhawna, also was in the U.S. Her father reached out and invited him to visit the church they were attending in Grand Rapids. As hospitable hosts, they requested that their special guest join them for dinner. “When that Adventist pastor come to our house, we were still eating pork in front of him and

not knowing that God doesn’t want his people to eat pork,” she said. However, “the pastor later explained to my dad why Adventists didn’t eat pork and showed the evidence from the Bible.”

Some time later they moved to Indianapolis and began visiting the Mizo Church. “At that time, I was still wearing earrings and a necklace,” said the 18-year-old high school senior. “They didn’t judge me or say any negative about me wearing that. They accepted me for who I am. They loved me for who I am, which really touched my heart.”

Bible-based teaching coupled with a loving community was enough to win over the family. In 2015, a few years after her parents were baptized, Diana made the decision to accept Christ as her personal Savior. “I thank God for giving me a great father to lead me on the right path. My dad doesn’t say much to me but his actions taught me spiritual lessons daily,” she said.

An active member of the Mizo Church, Diana serves as assistant AY leader and choir member. “I believe that God allowed us to come to America, not just to enjoy the freedom and many good opportunities but, most importantly, to do His mission and for a meaningful purpose.” ■

Debbie Michel, associate director of Communication, Lake Union Herald.

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THE LAKE UNION HERALD STAFF

P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287 | (269) 473-8242
Publisher Maurice Valentine, president@lakeunion.org
Editor Gary Burns, editor@lakeunion.org
Managing Editor Debbie Michel, herald@lakeunion.org
Circulation/Back Pages Editor circulation@lakeunion.org
Media Specialist Felicia Tonga, felicia.tonga@lakeunion.org
Art Direction/Design Robert Mason, masondesign@me.com
Design Articulate@Andrews, articulate@andrews.edu
Proofreader Susan K. Slikkers

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Adventist Health System Anthony Vera Cruz, Anthony.VeraCruz@ahss.org
Andrews University Rebecca May, RMay@andrews.edu
Illinois Shona Cross, scross@lcsda.org
Indiana
Lake Region Paul Young, paul@lrcsda.com
Michigan Andy Im, aim@misda.org
Wisconsin Juanita Edge, jedge@wi.adventist.org

CORRESPONDENTS

Adventist Health System Anthony Vera Cruz, Anthony.VeraCruz@ahss.org
Andrews University Gillian Sanner, sanner@andrews.edu
Illinois Shona Cross, scross@lcsda.org
Indiana Colleen Kelly, colleenkelly1244@gmail.com
Lake Region Paul Young, paul@lrcsda.com
Michigan Julie Clark, jclark@misda.org
Wisconsin Deidre Roat, droat@wi.adventist.org

LAKE UNION CONFERENCE DEPARTMENTS

P.O. Box 287, Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0287 | (269) 473-8200
President Maurice Valentine
Secretary Steven Poenitz
Treasurer Glynn Scott
Vice President Carmelo Mercado
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Ministerial Steven Poenitz
Multiethnic Ministries Carmelo Mercado
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Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Nicholas Miller
Trust Services Jon Corder
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LOCAL CONFERENCES AND INSTITUTIONS

Adventist Health System: Terry Shaw, president/CEO, 900 Hope Way, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714; 407-357-1000.
Andrews University: Andrea Luxton, president, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0670; 269-471-7771.
Illinois: Ron Aguilera, president; John Grys, secretary; Michael Daum, treasurer; 619 Plainfield Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527-8438; 630-856-2850.
Indiana: Vic Van Schaik, president; Mark Eaton, secretary/treasurer; street address: 15205 Westfield Blvd., Carmel, IN 46032; mailing address: P.O. Box 5000, Westfield, IN 46074; 317-844-6201.
Lake Region: R. Clifford Jones, president; Timothy Nixon, secretary; Yvonne Collins, treasurer; 8517 S. State St., Chicago, IL 60619; 773-846-2661.
Michigan: James Micheff, Jr., president; Justin Ringstaff, secretary; Leroy Bruch, treasurer; street address: 5801 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48917; mailing address: P.O. Box 24187, Lansing, MI 48909; 517-316-1500.
Wisconsin: Michael G. Edge, president; Brian Stephan, secretary/treasurer; street address: N2561 Old Highway 16, Fall River, WI 53932; mailing address: P.O. Box 100, Fall River, WI 53932; 920-484-6555.
Contributors: Writer guidelines are available online at <http://herald.lakeunion.org>.

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