And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people" (Matthew 4:23).

It must be an awesome challenge to be declared and commissioned as “the right arm of the message.” I remember as a youngster hearing this phrase often repeated among Adventist adults. It seemed at the time to be mostly connected to medical evangelism that our church was conducting throughout the world. In fact, Loma Linda University was then known as the College of Medical Evangelists.

There is a lot of satisfaction in seeing this great challenge, this awesome commission being so well fulfilled by the Adventist Health System Sunbelt Corporation in general, and the Midwest Region in particular. I have the privilege of associating with this energetic group of Adventist professionals who take very seriously the example that Jesus set for doing health ministry.

Much time is invested in making sure that the “mission” is clearly articulated and conveyed to every department and employee. It is kept front and center for all to see and practice. They recognize their duty first of all as a ministry, and yet great care is exercised in selecting the very best, dedicated Christian business people to care for the “bottom line.” The bottom line, you know, supports and makes the mission possible.

You would thrill to hear some of the marvelous testimonies that come from patients and staff. I think of one in particular. A young paraplegic was so depressed with her situation that she was in true despair. After repeated contact with a Hinsdale Hospital physical therapist, she is now a Seventh-day Adventist, committed to studying for the ministry so that she, too, can emulate the example of Jesus in “preaching the gospel of the kingdom.”

I had a very personal, up-close look at the hospital back in 1997. While attending an AHS convention, I took seriously ill. They rushed me to the emergency department, and I was treated with professional, yet tender care. Even my wife and some other family members were received with Christian courtesy. And all this was done long before anyone in that emergency room knew that I was a board member.

Let us pray for our health care institutions and the dedicated administrators and staff. I know they are not perfect, but on a day to day basis they represent this church very well. And they accept, with joy, the challenge and the commission.
Great Lakes Adventist Academy’s (GLAA) mission is to aid students in becoming responsible, productive, discerning adults with Christ at the center of their lives. Students are given many opportunities to witness and reach out to the community throughout the school year through a variety of activities.

Outreach can happen in small groups or with the entire student body and staff participating, such as our annual leaf rake in the fall. Buses full of staff and students spread out locally to assist the elderly with their lawns. The community is impressed with our young people, and seeing how grateful the residents are gives our students a greater desire to serve.

Throughout the past school year, musical organizations went on tour, sharing God’s love through music. In addition to their music ministry, they helped clean up a youth camp, picked up roadside litter, and raked the yard of an elderly woman.

The GLAA Aerokhanas gymnastics team is another touring group that shares about God through their programs. During a tour to Mount Vernon Academy in Ohio, they put on a Week of Prayer for the students and taught gymnastics. The Aerokhanas also participated in the Listen America tour, sharing in public schools the importance of a drug-free lifestyle.

Another way for students to get involved in outreach at GLAA is through Witnessing Class. This past year, students went with Cedar Lake Church members into the community every Tuesday evening to give Bible studies. One of the Witnessing Class events was a student-organized cooking school. They also hosted a banquet for their Bible study contacts at the end of the year.

A powerful outreach opportunity is our annual Outreach Sabbath. This year 40 students traveled to churches across Michigan to participate in church services. Sabbath afternoon activities also include opportunities for service, such as sunshine bands or card making.

Plans for the 2004–2005 school year are already in place. In addition to all these outreach opportunities, a student-led evangelistic series is going to be held this fall at Central Michigan University, in conjunction with local churches. The student speakers are already preparing for this exciting event.

It is our mission to reach the world with God’s love, one student at a time.

Arlene Leavitt is GLAA’s assistant alumni/development director, and Alaina Elder will be a senior at GLAA this fall.
Illinois

Although John Lameyer was not an Adventist, his wife Lori had been a faithful member of the Freeport (Illinois) Church for about 22 years. Lori had joined the church after taking a series of Bible studies and had prayed all those years that John would also become a member. However, she passed away in October 2001 without her prayers for John being answered.

Indiana

In the spring of 1995, Todd Miller answered a knock at the door. Upon opening the door, he found Pastor Bob Forss passing out cassette tapes. He asked Todd if he had requested a tape. Todd did not recall requesting tapes, but since he had been doing a lot of thinking about where he was going with his life, he accepted the tapes. Todd listened to all the tapes during a three-month period, and when he completed the tape series, Pastor Forss sat down and discussed the Sabbath with him.

Todd visited the West Lafayette Church for a short while. As he attended, member Joyce Summers gave him a special welcome each Sabbath. However, it wasn’t long until his employers began giving him problems about getting Sabbaths off, and so he stopped attending.

In 1996, Todd began discussing the Seventh-day Adventist Church with his mother and grandmother. He was surprised to learn that they had both been Seventh-day Adventists at an earlier point in their lives. He also learned that they had taken him to an Adventist church with them when he was young.

When Todd’s son, Christian, was born in October of 1998, he knew he needed to start going back to church. In January of 1999, he was laid off from work. Todd said, “At that point in my life God was working out the Sabbath problem.” In May 1999, he was able to begin his own air conditioning business.

Todd started attending church again on Sabbath. One Sabbath Throstur Thordarson, church pastor, extended an invitation to all men in the congregation to come to his house on Sunday to study the Bible. Todd went and enjoyed studying the Bible again.

In November of 2002, Pastor Thordarson began Bible studies with Todd and his wife Rachel. Todd felt he needed to make a commitment to God. He attended the stop smoking classes offered and was successful with God’s help. He was baptized by Pastor Thordarson on May 31, 2003.

Tom Kiesel was raised a Catholic. He was 19 years old when he stopped attending church. One question the clergy could never give him a satisfactory answer to was, “What happens to a person when they die?” Tom was introduced to the Seventh-day Adventist Church through his fiancée, Laura. Tom and Laura met on the Internet and soon became good friends. They often discussed different religious issues during their courtship.

Approximately one and a half years after they met, Pastor Thordarson began giving the couple Bible studies. Tom was amazed that everything he was learning was based on biblical truths.

Tom and Laura were married March 16, 2003, in Keene, Texas. Tom was later baptized on May 31, 2003, by Pastor Thordarson. Tom is completing his graduate studies at Purdue University. The Kiesels plan to move back to Texas where Tom would like to teach in an Adventist academy.

Becky Pfeifle, West Lafayette communication leader

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Sometime after her memorial service, the Adventist pastor, Mark Jagitsch, approached John and asked if he would like to learn about the biblical truths his wife believed and had taught the children of the church as she prepared them for baptism. Thankfully, he answered “Yes,” so the two of them began studying Friday mornings. They decided to use the Voice of Prophecy Discover Bible lessons.

On Friday morning, April 12, 2002, as they were studying the lesson on Daniel 2, in mid-sentence John began acting strange. As Mark observed him, he thought to himself, “He is having a mild seizure like several people I know who have epilepsy. Nobody ever told me it was one of his health problems. Apparently, he doesn’t want people to know about it, so I will not embarrass him.” But as Mark sat waiting for John to come out of the seizure, it didn’t happen and he became alarmed. He felt he couldn’t wait any longer, so he jumped up and went to where John was sitting. He began shaking him and calling his name out loud. There was no response.

At that point, Mark dialed 911. When the paramedics arrived they immediately sought to revive John. They used their electric shock and breathing machine in an attempt to do this. But there was no response! They estimated there had been about six minutes between the 911 call and their arrival, and his brain had been without oxygen all that time. They put him in their ambulance and rushed him to the hospital with their siren screaming through the city.

John’s outlook for recovery seemed very bleak. John’s own doctor was in the emergency room and she said she did not expect John to survive. If he did, he would only be a vegetable. He was placed on a ventilator and put in ICU for the next couple of days.

To the delight and amazement of Mark and the emergency room staff, John awoke from his coma! At first, his memory was spotty, but his physical condition checked out normal. After several days, his total memory was perfect for everything but the time he was not conscious during his medical emergency. The difference between John before his emergency and John after it is that since that experience, John Lameyer surrendered his life totally to Jesus Christ and was baptized March 20, 2004.

As a new member of the church, he realizes God saved his life for a reason, and he wants to answer the spiritual call to service this implies. Today he asks, “What would have happened if I were all alone that day not having a Bible study with the pastor?” John says, “I would be buried next to my wife in the cemetery.” Then he adds, “It will be a glorious resurrection day when Lori and I meet to be taken by our angels to heaven. She will be thrilled that her prayers for me were answered, even after her death. I look forward to the blessed hope and the resurrection of all of God’s redeemed people.”

God miraculously saved John Lameyer’s life and answered his wife’s prayer for his conversion.

Mark Jagitsch, Freeport Church pastor, as told to Bruce Babienco, Herald volunteer correspondent
Seventh-day Adventists, because of their unique lifestyle, are among the most researched groups in the world. The more than 250 scientific papers that have been published since the 1950s as the result of this research have demonstrated that Adventists live longer and suffer less from heart disease and cancer—the leading killers in Western countries—than the general population.

Two studies conducted by Loma Linda University from 1960–1982 involving 60,000 California Adventists concluded that “…for all causes of death combined, Adventists were found to have death rates one-half that of the general population.” Adventists live longer. Why have Adventists been so blessed?

Ellen White, one of Adventism’s founders, received several visions during the mid to late 1800s, outlining health principles which, when followed, have proven to be the best formula for health and longevity. In 1905, 90 years ahead of the modern scientific knowledge available to us today, Ellen White wrote, “Tobacco is a slow, insidious, but most malignant poison.” Today many of the health principles that Adventists have advocated for almost a century have been scientifically verified.

One of Adventism’s unique emphases is its understanding of the nature of humanity. The mental, physical, social, and spiritual dimensions of human nature are not separate, but are interconnected and interdependent on each other for our total health and well-being. The Bible teaches that our bodies are the temple of God, and that we should present them to God as “living and holy sacrifices.” “Whatever injures the health, not only lessens physical vigor, but tends to weaken the mental and moral powers.” For Adventists, a healthy lifestyle is more than a healthy choice, it’s a spiritual mandate.

Adventists believe that Christ’s teaching and healing ministry is an example for reaching the world today. This conviction has largely shaped the Adventist philosophy of mission. Ellen White called medical missionary work the “right arm” of the Adventist message.

In 1866 at the fourth session of the General Conference convened in Battle Creek, Michigan, Ellen White wrote, “Tobacco is a slow, insidious, but most malignant poison.”

In 1866 at the fourth session of the General Conference convened in Battle Creek, Michigan, Ellen White urged the need for a health institution where the newly advocated health principles could be publicly demonstrated. Thus the Western Health Reform Institute—which evolved into the Battle Creek Sanitarium where John Harvey Kellogg joined the staff as medical director in 1875—was established in Battle Creek in 1866.

In 1900, following instructions from Ellen White, property was purchased in Loma Linda, California, on which a sanitarium was established. In 1910, the College of Medical Evangelists (CME), offering a full medical course, was established. In 1961, CME became Loma Linda University, the denomination’s largest institution offering professional curriculums in medicine, dentistry, allied health professions, public health, and nursing. Thousands of health evangelists, graduates from Loma Linda, have gone around the world, establishing clinics, hospitals, and health education centers, following in the footsteps of Jesus.

The church—its medical institutions, personnel, and members—has not always followed the divine counsel given to it more than a century ago. But when the inspired counsel has been followed, blessings have resulted, providing a healthier and happier life on this earth in addition to the blessed hope of eternal life in the earth made new.

3. White, p. 128.

Ann Fisher is the Lake Union Herald managing editor.
A diverse group of 52 people arrived in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on February 29. Their mission was to build a church, provide a medical clinic, and host a two-day Vacation Bible School (VBS). Skin color and the language barrier did not stop the group from connecting and sharing God’s love with the people of the Dominican.

The Lake Union chapter of Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) was well represented. Sandy Miller, VP for special projects, coordinated the trip while her husband, Fred Miller, was the construction superintendent. Viorel Catarama, Lake Union ASI chapter president, and his family also participated in the missionary venture.

Members from the Michigan churches of Paw Paw, Pullman, and Holland, joined Illinois church members from Melrose Park, Hinsdale, and Madison East who volunteered eight days to build a 32’ x 60’ cement block church and medically treat 1,300 people.

Physicians David Mayor, from the Hinsdale Church, and James Flood, from the Madison East Church, were in charge of the 15-member medical team. The team visited a different, extremely needy part of the city each day.

“The predominant complaint was parasitic infestation,” said Grace Flood, one of the three American doctors. A small amount of oral medicine was given out to each of the parasite patients. “Sadly, due to poor sanitation, this medication probably provided only temporary relief from the parasites,” she added.

“We had an excellent building crew,” said Fred Miller. “God helped us work efficiently to get the church done in four days.” The church included a baptistry, two classrooms, and restrooms.

“The group’s teamwork was exceptional,” said Chuck Randall, Paw Paw Church member. “I think everyone worked well together and perhaps even harder than they had anticipated.” Their hard work paid off. On Friday, the group was able to recuperate in the Caribbean sun and learn bartering techniques at the market.

Friday evening vespers with a communion service was held to dedicate the new church. During the Sabbath services, Dominicans physically embraced the mission group as if they had known one another for years. It didn’t matter that they couldn’t speak one another’s language.

Fifty Spanish Bibles and hymnals, two felt sets, a full communion set, two offering plates, 600 tracts and Sabbath school quarterlies were donated to the church from money raised in the United States. Cesario Acevedo, the Dominican Union president, expressed his gratitude to the mission team for all their hard work.

God works miracles, and He does it through His people.

Amanda Gerndt is a journalism student at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Visit our Web site at luc.adventist.org
Buried beneath volumes of contemporary writers’ words of wisdom, valuable advice, and research findings on how to build happy and successful marriage partnerships, remains the counsel of Ellen G. White. In her book, *The Ministry of Healing*, published in 1905, there is a gem of a chapter, “The Builders of the Home.” Ellen guides couples to recognize that the family tie is the closest, the most tender and sacred, of any on earth. She writes, “Around every family there is a sacred circle that should be kept unbroken. Within this circle no other person has a right to come” (p. 362).

A young woman in her first year of marriage recently told me of a dilemma she faces at lunch time at her place of employment. During breaks and while eating lunch, her co-workers discuss their spouses in less than respectful ways. They joke and share negative things about their husbands and even their children. Becoming more and more uncomfortable with this kind of conversation, she admits that it has actually shaken her faith in her own husband and their marriage. I suggest that these women are venting their frustrations in a “safe place” and are breaking what Ellen suggests is a sacred circle.

Interestingly, Ellen wrote of the sacred circle many years earlier. Published in 1952, *The Adventist Home* is a compilation of counsels given to Adventist families throughout Ellen’s years of ministry. The chapter titled “A Sacred Circle” (p. 177) contains excerpts from 11 manuscripts and letters, dating back to the mid-1880s.

In a letter written in June 1863 from Ostego, Michigan, Ellen shares her concern for Brother Day who was overly involved with a woman, Sister Johnson, who eventually divorced her husband. Ellen is clear, “You moved unwisely in interesting yourself so much. … You were stepping over that sacred circle which should debar you from the family of Sister Johnson, and preserve you exclusively to your own family.” Ellen is clear about the woman as well, stating that she “had no right to enlist your sympathy as she has. She is more at fault than yourself in going to you with her family troubles” (Manuscript #1263).

I invite you to examine both sides of the sacred circle. One is guarding your own family, saving your heart for your spouse, not involving yourself in harmless joking or complaining at the expense of your spouse. The other side is not getting involved in other people’s troubles when you are not part of the problem or the solution.

Sadly, some use the concept of the sacred circle to build their case, believing that all marital problems should stay within the bounds of the marriage, and that seeking any type of assistance is wrong. This is unfortunate, as there are many appropriate ways to seek counsel.

I invite you to set some time aside to read Ellen’s counsel from the two chapters mentioned above. I was reminded, once again, how powerfully she captured important family issues and how it is as relevant to us today as it was well over 100 years ago.

Susan Murray is an assistant professor of behavioral sciences at Andrews University.
I cannot watch the news anymore, and reading the paper or listening to the radio is depressing. There’s just too much awfulness. Isn’t it about time for Jesus to come and take us home, away from all of this?

Many names call up deep pain, memories of humanity at our worst: Nanking, Guadalcanal, Kigali, Wounded Knee, Bosnia, Iraq, Sarajevo, Sand Creek, Dothan, Ravensbruck. And many more. Places where mutual hatred has led to unspeakable destruction.

Jesus was resting in a garden one evening when several of His followers sat down beside Him and asked, “What will be the sign of Your coming and of the end of the age?” His response included the memorable words: “There will be wars and rumors of wars.”

He was right. There have been wars, wars, and more wars ever since!

“Such things will happen,” Jesus continued, “but that won’t mean it’s over yet.”

He talked on, describing lies and atrocities that would make an executioner squirm. “Some of this is so evil,” Jesus said, “that even the most loving will turn away. But, those who stand firm—those who join Me and hold onto truth, love, compassion, and peace—will come through alive and well!”

It’s going to get worse. Then it’s going to get better. Much better!

When Prime Minister Daniel was looking toward the end of all things, he saw a similar scenario. After pages and pages describing the convoluted atrocities of God’s enemies, Daniel takes a deep breath and says, “At that time the great Prince who protects your people will arise.”

Look at the video: Garish torture fills the streets, carbonized bodies hang from bridges, cannibals in fatigues attack children, while laughter and screams fill the skies. Then, in the depths of hopeless disaster, the Prince rises! He stands, high above it all, spreads His arms and offers deliverance!

“At that time,” Daniel continues, “your people—everyone whose name is written in the Book of Life—will be delivered.”

“Listen for the trumpet,” Jesus said, “for when the trumpet calls, God’s angels will gather His followers and bring them home.”

Wars? Rumors of wars? Awful. But hold on. You do not have to be consumed by the hatred, but can come through alive and well, victorious through the good news of God’s love. According to Jesus’ promise in Matthew 24, He will protect those who choose to hold onto Him. According to Daniel 12:1, all who have asked for their names to be written in His book, will be delivered!

No matter what is going on around us, our long-term future is guaranteed.

Off in the distance, an angel is practicing trumpet calls.

Dick Duerksen is the director of mission development for Florida Hospital in Orlando.
Fat: Essential for Life

By Vicki Griffin

Fat has gotten an unfair reputation. F-A-T is not spelled B-A-D! Fats are essential for life and health, and plant fats promote optimal health. Here are three easy intake guidelines for fat:

1. Eat fat and high fat foods in moderation, according to your age and activity level.
2. Select “good fats.”
3. Even if you are overweight, you need some fat.

What kind of fat is best? Plant fats contain mostly unsaturated fats which include omega 3, omega 6, and monounsaturated fatty acids. Here are some delicious sources to include in your diet:

- **Monounsaturated:** nuts (walnuts, pecans, almonds, etc.), seeds (sesame, sunflower), avocados, olives, some oils (olive, soy, sesame, canola).

- **Omega 3:** ground flax seed, walnuts, other nuts, whole soybean products, canola oil, soy oil.

Here are some tips for switching to more healthful fats as you make your daily food choices:

- Eat regular meals to cut down the urge to snack.
- Fill up on fresh fruits, vegetables, whole-grain breads and cereals, beans, nuts, and seeds instead of calorie-dense snacks and fast foods.
- Bake or steam potatoes instead of frying them.
- Enjoy salads with mixed, dark greens with olive oil and lemon instead of heavy cheese dressings. Top your salads with a healthful variety of olives, avocado, and a sprinkling of walnuts for a real tasty treat.
- Enjoy spreads such as hummus and nut butter instead of dairy butter. Enjoy trans-fat-free margarines.
- Choose fresh pineapple, kiwi, or a few strawberries in place of rich desserts.
- Choose fortified soy, almond, or rice milk, or other alternatives to high-fat dairy products.
- Use olive oil and garlic on vegetables in place of butter.
- Edge away from fatty meats by eating more plant-based foods—especially beans and legumes, whole-grain pastas, brown rice, and meat alternatives such as gluten or soy-based entrees.

- Limit high-fat baked products and desserts.
- Limit commercially baked goods; make your own baked goods using healthful fats.
- Avoid fried foods.

Vicki Griffin is the Michigan Conference health ministries director.

The attractive Lifestyle Matters kits include books, audio CD’s, and videos designed to help you incorporate God’s principles into your life. These principles deal with issues such as stress sensitivity, immune function, memory, learning, behavior and mood. They are simply presented and easy to share with others. You are also encouraged to include the Lifestyle Matters ministry modules in your church’s comprehensive evangelistic plan for 2004. Visit www.lifestylematters.com or call 866-624-LIFE (5433).
Judy, a pastor’s wife, told me that her husband went to Meijer almost daily. He chose the same checkouts on a regular basis and always talked to the clerks. He knew them by name and offered to pray for their families and share about Christ. They shared their lives piece by piece with him. Once he prayed with one, the news spread to the others that he would pray with them if they asked him.

Imogene has lived in an apartment for almost 14 years. When a new person moves in, she knocks on their door and shares something homemade, like a loaf of bread. She finds out if they know the area or have moved from farther away. A few days later, she hangs an invitation on their doorknob welcoming them to join her Bible study group. She makes chance meetings in the hall or laundry room an opportunity to stop, chat, and get to know them more. Several have shared that they are lonely and have not made many friends. She encourages them to come make friends with her small group and enjoy some vegetarian food.

Shirley missed Ingathering the night her church went through her neighborhood. When the Ingatherers identified the church they were from, Shirley’s neighbors all commented that their neighbor and her family were also Adventists. They all talked about her cookie parties at Christmas and salad suppers in the summer. Many were happy to donate to the church because Shirley often talked of the work the Community Services does for the area.

Doug passes out Discover Bible school cards in his community. When people at work have questions, he recommends they get the lessons. His co-workers continue to discuss the new things they are learning with Doug when they are in the break room.

John and Lynn walk every evening in their neighborhood. They have become acquainted with people’s gardens, pets, and often stop to talk with neighbors who are out getting their mail. When they invited people to their home for a Christian Christmas party, they had over 20 people attend.

Diane and Ralph have shown up at their neighbors’ homes with hot soup when they heard they were ill, or brought mail and newspapers to their doors so they wouldn’t have to venture out to the curb. Now they can share their faith.

When I moved to the Lansing area, my neighbor on one side was critically ill. I tried to think of what I could do to meet her needs. One day she called to say she was praying for me and all of the other neighbors. She asked if I had any prayer requests. Because she reached out to me, I have been able to share with her. When you are a friend, people will trust you and listen when you share how God works in your life.

I remember street preachers in Berkeley, California, who shouted out the gospel, called for repentance, and preached about sinners. People just looked at them with curiosity, but I never saw anyone approach them with questions or concerns. Does your lifestyle invite others to ask you about your faith?

Laurie Snyman is a certified social worker and counselor who writes from Holt, Michigan.
A Look Around Adventist Health System Midwest Region

Schneider Joins Hinsdale as Vice President of Operations

Alan Schneider has joined the Hinsdale Hospital executive team as the vice president of operations. Schneider worked at Hinsdale Hospital from 1976 to 1991, serving as director of radiology from 1986 to 1991.

His most recent position was as administrative director of radiation oncology at Florida Hospital in Orlando. In that role, he was responsible for the day-to-day management of radiation oncology centers at nine hospitals in the Florida Hospital Division of Adventist Health Systems (AHS). During his time at Florida Hospital, he was instrumental in significantly growing the radiation oncology business—expanding the service line from a two-site center program in 1991 to the nine-site program of today.

GlenOaks Hospital Names Mary Murphy, CNO

Brinsley Lewis, chief executive officer of GlenOaks Hospital announced Mary Murphy, R.N., M.S.N., has been named chief nursing officer for the Glendale Heights hospital. GlenOaks Hospital is a member of the Adventist Health System, and Murphy joined the staff at GlenOaks in August 2001 as director of emergency services.

Before coming to GlenOaks Hospital, Murphy was director of emergency services at Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago, and previously worked in various nursing positions at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood; Cook County Hospital, Chicago; and Walther Memorial Hospital, Chicago.

Murphy is a national presenter and author on cricothyroidotomy—an emergency procedure to open upper airway obstruction, as well as neuromuscular blocking agents.

La Grange Memorial Hospital Updates Construction Progress

La Grange Memorial Hospital, which was purchased by Adventist Health System in 1999, is upgrading its facilities to meet the health care demands of the community. Work moved into the second phase of construction with a June 22, 2004, groundbreaking ceremony for a new five-story patient care center. The 225,000-square-foot patient care center will offer ease of access to the campus as well as efficient clustering of medical services, welcoming interiors, and integration of technology.

Hospitals Name Nurses of the Year

Adventist Health System Midwest Region announced the Nurse of the Year winners for each hospital during Nurses Week. These nurses exemplify nursing and the SHARE principles.

Hinsdale Hospital selected Susan Baetzel, R.N., of ambulatory care to receive its Nurse of the Year award.

Theresa Benes, R.N., surgical 1, was chosen as the 2004 recipient of the La Grange Memorial Hospital Nurse Excellence Award.

GlenOaks Hospital’s Nurse of the Year award went to Joyce Flores, R.N., of same-day surgery.

Lynn Larson, Adventist Health System Midwest Region
Lake Union Herald correspondent
Andrews University’s Passion

The second annual Easter Passion Play at Andrews University, Apr. 10–11, drew a record crowd of about 9,500 visitors. The play depicted stories from the ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. But it was much more than just stories about forgiving the woman caught in adultery, or Christ’s anguish in the Garden of Gethsemane, or even the glory of the resurrection. There were also stories about the people that Christ touched as a result of viewing the Passion Play.

There was the woman who had left the church and then decided to rededicate her life, and now her husband is having Bible studies as well. The student who learned that he had to be torn down for Christ to be built up. And the many who attended and wrote comments in the guest book after the play, such as:

“...and then read the book after the play, such as:

“This was one of the most memorable experiences of my life!” and “I was caught up as if I had been there, feeling everything!”

Christ was uplifted, and that is Andrews University’s passion!

For more, visit http://passionplay.andrews.edu.

Katie Shaw, news writer

Teacher in the Spotlight

Sit down and talk to Nancy Carter and you get the feeling that you are talking to a favorite aunt. She smiles, she tells you stories, and she’s one of those people you know you can go to for advice. So it fits that, in addition to being assistant professor of nursing at Andrews University, she serves as academic advisor to a number of seniors. “I think I’m pretty flexible. I know that by the time they get to me they’re totally stressed out!”

“Ever since I was a very little girl, all I ever wanted to be was a nurse,” said Carter. The interest led to her obtaining an undergraduate degree in nursing at Andrews. “My true love has always been public health nursing,” said Carter who later pursued post-graduate studies in community health nursing at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In addition to her studies, she worked at two hospitals as well as the Berrien County Health Department (Mich.) and the home health organization, Health Care at Home, before she began teaching at Andrews in 1983.

Carter has two sons, Michael, 24, and Elliot, 18. Perhaps it is her motherly instinct that makes her so keen on helping students lead a happy life. To her, loving God is an important part of living such a life. “I think sometimes we get so caught up that we really don’t find time to just spend with the Lord,” she said. Carter also wants her students to be happy professionally. “I want people to choose a career they will really love.” She tries to ensure that the seniors she advises have a healthy, hassle-free start to their careers.

When she’s not working at Andrews, Carter keeps herself busy with a number of things. She can often be found exercising in her spare time. In addition, she has a small interior decorating business, called Decorating Dames, that she runs with some friends. Perhaps most interestingly, she builds miniature dollhouses as a hobby. She also enjoys spending time with her husband, Spencer, associate dean of the men’s residence halls at Andrews.

Bjorn Karlman, student news writer
Wedding Bells and Mission Blessings
BY GLENN H. HILL AS TOLD TO BRUCE BABIENCO

Wedding bells rang on the campus of Emmanuel Missionary College in mid-May of 1954 for two aspiring missionary-minded couples. May 16, graduation day that year, Gordon Evans and Alvena Sloan united their lives to work for God. Their missionary service was to be in Michigan, with Gordon teaching elementary school and Alvena doing secretarial work, modeling the message they loved.

The other couple, Glenn Hill and Mary Alice Gyde, graduated and were married in Lamson Hall the next day, May 17. Their immediate future was pastoring in the Ohio Conference and sharing in evangelistic outreach. Later, Mary Alice would teach in Adventist elementary schools.

The couples, though friends, met each other only occasionally during the following years. The Hills took an early retirement in 1995 after 41 years of denominational service, 19 of them in Michigan, to do evangelistic work in the Ukraine, a part of the former Soviet Union.

Their evangelistic ministry—expanding to a dozen countries and working in as many languages—resulted in more than 50 new congregations being raised up. Then there was the urgent challenge of helping to provide permanent church homes for these new members.

The Evenses, who retired in 1998, had experienced some severe health challenges. Alvena was near death when, miraculously, a liver transplant was provided that gave her new life. Always grateful, they wondered how best to express their thanks to God in a tangible way.

Both couples attended the Adventist retirees convocation in June 2003 and were sitting together in the seminary chapel at Andrews University. Inspired by Glenn’s presentation about the work in India and the need for a new church building, Gordon leaned over and whispered to Glenn, “How can we give to build a church in India? We would like to do something special in gratitude for Alvena’s miraculous health improvement.” Glenn whispered back, “I think we can help you.”

They had just finished conducting three 10-village evangelistic series in India that resulted in 33 new congregations needing permanent church homes. Gordon wrote a check right there during the chapel service for $3,500 that built a strong new church in Boddam village at Andhra Pradesh, India.

Later the Evenses wanted to give towards building another church in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary and contacted the Hills about it. Glenn and Mary Alice had just received word from India about the need for a new school where they had helped raise up a new congregation in Tripura, an Indian state near Bangladesh. Seven teachers had been baptized and were immediately fired from their public school positions. The president of the Mizo Conference, Pastor Zaianthanga, had requested funds to hire them and build a new school in that village. The $5,000 he asked for would build the school and pay the seven teachers for two years.

Glenn asked the Evenses if they would like to contribute towards a new school rather than another church. The idea rang a bell in Gordon’s teacher heart. Immediately they agreed that both couples would share the cost in honor of their 50th wedding anniversaries. And so it is that the village of Hazachora in northeast India will soon have a new school with Adventist teachers.

Jesus said something like ... “Do this in remembrance of Me.” So the Evenses and the Hills shared their blessings in honor of their loving God who gave them each 50 years of wedded happiness.

Glenn Hill is a retired pastor, and Bruce Babienco is a volunteer Herald correspondent.
A Surprise Family Reunion Brings Healing

BY LUIS BELTRE JR.

One day I visited with a middle-aged Hispanic couple, Agustin and Adriana, who had attended the conversational English class I was holding at the Cicero (Indiana) Library. As we talked, I saw the hunger Agustin had for learning more about the Bible. Adriana also shared with me how she had been baptized in a Pentecostal church in the early 1980s. She had attended several Bible institutes to further her knowledge of the prophetic books and also used the Psalms to write songs for church.

Agustin began to ply me with questions. I tried my best to provide biblical answers, but knew I wouldn’t be able to fully cover every question in one night. So I invited them to come visit my church the next Sabbath, where we could study and I could provide them with more in-depth answers to their biblical questions. They promised to come to our church the next week.

The next day I visited another young couple, Betty and Isidro, who had visited our church several times in late August and early September. They had especially enjoyed the cradle roll class with their little daughter Jasmine, but had stopped coming because Betty had to work on Sabbaths.

During our visit, I encouraged them to come to church the next Sabbath. They agreed, and before saying farewell, I prayed with them. I was very encouraged and looked forward to a Sabbath service full of more visitors than ever before.

The surprise that I experienced the next Sabbath was beyond my imagination. Adriana and Agustin came to the church early, and we began studying the Sabbath school lesson in Spanish.

Soon afterward, Betty and Isidro walked in with their little girl. As Betty came closer to where we were seated, it was apparent she recognized Adriana. Adriana stood up and hugged little Jasmine. Then Betty and Adriana spoke to each other for a little bit and hugged.

I did not catch the significance of this encounter until I saw tears streaming down from Betty’s eyes. Adriana then told me that she was Betty’s mother. Suddenly I remembered Betty sharing with me in previous visits that she had a mother who lived in the area, but she had stopped communicating with her because of a terrible argument.

This Sabbath meeting was the first time in almost a year the mother and daughter had spoken to one another or even seen each other.

The God of family and the Sabbath had led these two unsuspecting families back together again as they sought to draw near to Him on His special day. God is amazing. As people are drawn into His family, their own families are healed.

Luis Beltre Jr. is the Cicero (Indiana) Church youth leader and Indiana Academy chaplain.
Next time you sit at your computer, imagine what it would be like to connect to a safe Internet—an Internet free of pornography, predators, and other intrusions into your home. Now you don’t have to imagine. AdventPoint is a filtered dial-up Internet service that blocks the unwanted material from your computer. For only $12.95 per month, AdventPoint will provide unlimited dial-up access to the Internet across the country, and a special filtering service that blocks pornographic Web sites and 30 other user-controllable categories. Simply add a plug-in to your Web browser, and voilà! Safe surfing.

What about the broadband addicts? Not to worry, you can buy a six-month subscription to the filtering service for $29.95.

Blocking the trash

Roy Weeden, pastor of the Southside Church in St. Louis, and Daniel Davis, a nurse and medical technician from Nashville, Tennessee, created AdventPoint not only to provide filtered Internet service at a reasonable price, but also to help battle Internet pornography.

“Our filter has the human component,” explained Daniel, AdventPoint vice president. “A team of people evaluates the Web sites. That way a breast cancer site won’t be blocked as pornographic.” The Web browser plug-in is virtually impossible to override. “That way teenage ‘hackers’ can’t get around it,” Daniel added. Daniel said that several computer gurus have tried unsuccessfully to get around the filter. The filter also tracks Web surfing. Parents can log on to the AdventPoint Web site and see where their children have gone or attempted to go on the Web.

“We’re trying to be a leader in combating Internet pornography,” Daniel explained. “We’re trying to be a leader in Christian family values without being blatantly Adventist.” The AdventPoint Web page (www.adventpoint.com) includes articles and features addressing the dangers of Internet pornography, many of them written by Daniel and Roy.

“People don’t know where to go to deal with sexual addictions,” said Roy, AdventPoint president. “We’re trying to provide the Adventist Church with another resource. We have a God-designed response to deal with this issue, and we want to share it.”

The story of ministry

“We never set out to build an Internet Service Provider (ISP),” said Roy, who always had a mind for business and earned a business degree from Southern Adventist University. He ran nursing homes and worked for several Fortune 500 companies. In fact, as a new account representative for Mutual of Omaha, Roy sold the largest single account in the company’s history. About four years ago, he decided to give it all up. He felt impressed to pursue a career in full-time ministry, possibly as a pastor. He found work as a Bible worker in the Nashville area, but received no pastoral job offers.

Because of his business background, he was asked to serve on an area-wide committee commissioned to find ways to effectively evangelize metro Nashville.

Evangelism research

“We had done surveys in the community to find out what people thought about Adventists. To our amazement, there was very little negativity,” Roy explained. What they found was no awareness of Adventists at all, except through radio and television ads run by a local Adventist academy looking for people to donate junk cars.

“You’re the junk car people, aren’t you?” people responded.

“Through research, we determined that evangelism is what is needed,” explained Roy. “The problem in North America is the context and timing.” Because of the research, they developed a three-step approach: awareness, service, and preaching the gospel. “We realized that in order to do awareness, we had to purchase consistent air time, using radio and television spots in major markets,” he continued. But advertising is expensive. How can churches fund a sustained program of advertising in a metro area?
Finding funding

As Roy and Daniel worked to create a Web presence for this effort which Roy had dubbed AdventPoint, a Web developer suggested they start an ISP to create a steady revenue stream for the ministry.

At first this sounded like a ridiculously large and complicated project, but Roy and Daniel found out the technology was already in place while talking to an MCI Worldcom technician. “The person I finally found was a former Adventist,” said Roy. After Roy shared the entire AdventPoint concept, the technician said, “Roy, I’ve been waiting for 20 years for my church to do something like this. I will open the doors to the technology. You can operate a $50 million network for pennies.”

This put the AdventPoint team in contact with an Alabama company which operated a nationwide network. “The hard part was waiting until the company we were working with came down to a price we could afford,” Daniel remembered. The original price quoted was extremely high, and Roy and Daniel had decided against a launch with the company. Right before the end of 2002, the company approached them with an offer less than half of the first one if they signed by the end of the year. AdventPoint was up and running in February of 2003.

Support for evangelism

“Our charter states that we’re using all our proceeds for evangelism,” said Roy. As of November 1, 2003, AdventPoint needed only 45 more subscribers to break even. All profits will go to evangelism using the plan formulated by the original metro ministry team in Nashville.

That means the funds will be used to lay the ground work for the traditional-style evangelistic meetings. “AdventPoint will saturate an area with advertising for a year in advance, and then we start engaging them where we have needs,” explained Roy. The ads would raise the awareness of the Adventist Church and contain a tag linking them to AdventPoint. “Then when it’s time for evangelism, AdventPoint could help pay for the commercials, etc., and can lend its name which has built collateral in the market. You can bring in any speaker, and the AdventPoint name will bring credibility. AdventPoint would be something that people already have a relationship with.”

Roy tested his theories at a church in Nashville before accepting the pastoral job in St. Louis. Before bringing in Ty Gibson of Light Bearers ministry to hold an evangelistic meeting, the church only handed out 1,000 handbills. But they ran ads in prime time on several popular cable networks.

The church only holds 285 people. On the opening night of the week-long series, 297 people crowded into the sanctuary. That was the smallest night. In the end, 42 people where baptized and only $10,000 spent—compared to the $25,000 or more which is often spent on evangelistic meetings.

“If only five percent of Adventists in North America subscribed to AdventPoint, we could run steady commercials year round in 10 major markets,” Roy said. “That is why AdventPoint has joined Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI), an organization networking businesses and ministries that are committed to sharing Christ’s love with the world.”

“Our ultimate goal,” said Daniel, “is to use the ISP and Web site as a base to evangelize the people that come and create a revenue stream to support other ministries.”

Roy and Daniel continue looking for ways to battle pornography and other harmful things on the Internet. Daniel believes that businesses can use this as a witnessing tool about safe Internet surfing. If you are interested in using AdventPoint as an evangelistic tool, they will send you a number of sign-up CD-ROMs that you can hand out to friends or put on display.

For more information about AdventPoint, log on to www.adventpoint.com or call (800) 849-9519.

Ryan Teller is the editor of the Mid-America Union Outlook. This article was reprinted from the December 2003 issue with permission.

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Living Our Mission at Hinsdale Hospital

BY LYNN LARSON

It’s no surprise that someone who loves her job was the perfect choice for Hinsdale Hospital’s Living Our Mission Award. Carole Bliss, a receptionist in health information management, received the award during the spring Spiritual Emphasis Week at Hinsdale Hospital. A hospital employee since 1979, Carole says all of her work is “His stuff” and intersperses “to God be the glory” throughout her explanation of what her job entails.

“The best part of my job is the spiritual side—to be able to show patients and visitors we care about their spiritual needs as well as the business they bring. My job is a blessing, and it’s so creative,” Carole says.

“My first job is to pray with people over the phone, for patients who come to my window, and for my interactions with co-workers,” notes Carole, who keeps a legal pad handy to jot down prayer requests that she’ll later share with a departmental prayer support group. “We’re prayer warriors. Hinsdale Hospital is a Christian institution, not just a business.”

Carole says opportunities to minister to people’s needs present themselves daily. “The people I encounter need a spiritual lift as well as the medical records they are seeking. We’ve incorporated that into our department’s job description, i.e., to do our work in a timely manner, provide the information needed, and meet their spiritual needs.”

“We pray for them,” Carole says. She also dispenses hugs, as needed, and is quick to include an uplifting spiritual postcard along with a patient’s records. “Everyone is so appreciative. They love Nathan Greene’s artwork that I give them.”

Carole also volunteers for the pastoral care department. In that role, she helps keep racks filled throughout the hospital with health care and spiritual literature. “Being
Hinsdale Hospital presented Carole Bliss (second from right) its third annual Living Our Mission Award during its spring Spiritual Emphasis Week. Congratulating the honoree are (from left) Steve Chen, vice president of finance; Jann Marks, vice president and chief nursing officer; and Todd Werner, Hinsdale Hospital CEO.

A Sabbath celebration at Hinsdale Church concluded the spring Spiritual Emphasis Week. Don Jernigan, Adventist Health System Midwest Region board chair, challenged the hospital to maintain its spiritual mission while extending the healing touch of Christ.

familiar with the literature available helps me to meet a patient or visitor’s spiritual need.”
This energetic and enthusiastic worker suffers from osteoarthritis, but says her pain is minimal when she focuses on “His work.” Carole is an elder in the Hinsdale Church and has served on Hinsdale Hospital’s Spiritual Life Committee as well.

In presenting the award, Todd Werner, Hinsdale Hospital CEO, noted, “Carole Bliss truly exemplifies living the Christian mission and leaves people better than she found them. It’s no secret that we have more responsibilities and less time than ever, but Carole actually makes the time to help others. That’s what’s important to our mission, and that’s what this award is all about.”

Lynn Larson is the Adventist Health System Midwest Region Lake Union Herald correspondent.

Hospitals Celebrate Spiritual Emphasis

AY L Y N N L A R S O N

Adventist Health System touches the lives of its employees and the community by offering programs with a spiritual emphasis. In addition to National Day of Prayer observances, each hospital offers spiritual presentations.

During this year, the 100th anniversary of Hinsdale Hospital, the words of co-founder Dr. David Paulson will come alive through an actor’s portrayal during Spiritual Emphasis Week at Hinsdale Hospital next November. Hinsdale Hospital will wrap up its Spiritual Emphasis Week and centennial year celebrations with a November 5 concert by gospel artist Jackie Valasquez and a November 6 inspirational presentation by Dr. Benjamin Carson, pediatric neurosurgery director at The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Both presentations will be at the Hinsdale Adventist Church.

Other spiritual presentations planned this year include:

- **Dick Tibbets**, Florida Hospital vice president, at La Grange Memorial Hospital on the topic of wellness, during its October Spiritual Emphasis Week.
- **Larry Yeagley**, an author and chaplain, well versed in patient spiritual care and grief support, on “Living with Dying” at the September Spiritual Emphasis Week at GlenOaks Hospital.

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Adventist Health System Midwest Region (AHSMR) participated in a medical mission trip to Las Tablas, Panama, March 18 through 28, 2004. Former Hinsdale Hospital nurse Rosa Espinosa, a member of West Suburban Hispanic Church, organized the mission. Many of the participants from Illinois are Adventist members of the West Suburban Hispanic, Hinsdale, and Hinsdale Fil-Am churches.

More than 100 people served on the mission team, gathering in Panama from Illinois, Maine, Tennessee, Missouri, North Carolina, Georgia, Washington, New York, California, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Mexico, and Colombia. Team members were physicians, dentists, anesthesiologists, pharmacists, nurses, chaplains, translators, musicians, teachers, construction and food service workers, some children, and Ken Denslow, Illinois Conference president, and his wife Patricia.

AHSMR donated T-shirts for the team members with a design showing a hand from the United States shaking one from Panama with the words “United in Christ.” Adventist Health System also provided photo cards and some medicine.

During the medical mission, 161 dental, eye, and general surgeries were performed. According to Edgar Urbina, chaplain, the group received a thank you e-mail message relating the story of one woman who returned home crying tears of joy following her cataract surgery because she could now see the faces of her family again.

Vacation Bible School was offered with an average attendance of 70 children, and Chaplain Ron Yabut led spiritual talks for university students with an average attendance of 65. At the evangelistic meetings in Las Tablas, a physician presented a health topic followed...
by a message from Julio Juarez, Illinois Conference Hispanic ministries director. Approximately 50 community residents attended those meetings.

The medical staff conducted 907 outpatient and 18 prison visits. The Adventist Health System chaplains, Yabut and Urbina, assisted by volunteers and teenagers, made 224 chaplain visits and led morning devotions with the staff.

According to Chaplain Urbina, the medical mission ministered to the people of Las Tablas who couldn’t afford medical services. “Word of free medical services traveled fast, and patients lined up for the opportunity to see a doctor or dentist when they heard the Americans had come to offer free medical services.”

“The mostly Catholic population responded favorably to the postcards we distributed with paintings by Nathan Greene of physicians with Jesus standing by their sides,” Urbina said. “The pictures made a positive impact on the community.”

Adventist Health System extended its mission of whole-person care across the equator through this mission trip. Twelve people were baptized, dozens of Bible studies were initiated, and hundreds of Panama residents were ministered to in body, mind, and spirit. “The young people were looking for a spiritual connection in their hard lives, and through our passion of service, they saw hope,” said Chaplain Yabut.

Jonathan Leach, AHSMR executive director of ministries and mission, summed it up when he said, “This mission trip was a wonderful expression of faith and witness of God’s love demonstrated through us to His children by providing His healing ministry. Lives were touched and seeds were sown for God’s kingdom.”

Lynn Larson is the Adventist Health System Midwest Region Lake Union Herald correspondent.
A Bus, a Hygienist, and a Good Heart

Indiana — What do a dental check-up, a school bus, and lots of teasing have in common? Well, in this situation, more than you would ever believe! For over 12 years, I have been cleaning Larry’s teeth. Larry is a big tease, and it is impossible to know when to take him seriously! I have found the best way to enjoy Larry is to tease right back.

For over two years, Larry had been telling me about the new school bus he was planning to buy. Larry is a full-time farmer, but he also drives a bus for the Pendleton school system. They require that buses be replaced every 10 years, and it was almost time for his well-kept bus to be replaced.

Every time he came for a check-up, he would brag about the “new” bus he was going to buy, and I kept telling him that he should give his old bus to me! I reminded him that Cross Street Christian School (where my children were attending) would really love to have his old bus! We kidded back and forth every check-up, but he would always end up telling me that he had to have the money from the trade-in for his downpayment on the “new” bus.

About a year ago, Larry returned to have his teeth cleaned, and he brought in a picture of his “new” bus. When he finished bragging about it, I again told him how glad I was that he was going to give me his old bus! We teased back and forth every check-up, but he would always end up telling me that he had to have the money from the trade-in for his downpayment on the “new” bus.

That evening I was fixing supper when the phone rang. It was Larry. He just wanted to let me know that he had decided to give me his bus! Today that bus is repainted in compliance with Indiana law, thanks to a student’s father, and Cross Street Christian School is the proud owner! We have taken the bus on Adventurer field trips, school trips to Timber Ridge, and this August it will be taking the Anderson Pathfinders to Oshkosh, Wis. Never, never underestimate what God can do!

Vickie Widing, Anderson (Ind.) correspondent

BVA Art Students Visit Nathan Greene’s Studio

Illinois — The art classes from Broadview Academy took a very special field trip to the studio of artist Nathan Greene. We were the first school group to have the honor of visiting his new studio. It was a trip that the students enjoyed very much and will undoubtedly not soon forget. One student described the experience this way:

“The wonders of God’s creation cause one to be speechless. The wonders of God’s sacrifice cause one to be humbled. These wonders are all combined in Nathan Greene’s paintings.”

Our art class had the privilege of seeing, firsthand, God’s work through Nathan Greene. We were able to see his studio in Berrien Springs, Mich., where a good portion of his paintings are displayed. Though known around the globe, he wasn’t what we expected. Instead of reflecting an attitude of a world-famous painter, he reflected the meek attitude of the Master Artist.

He took us step by step through his world of color. Every picture had more than one story, which we were all delighted to hear. He was enthusiastic about his God.

We left after two hours, feeling blessed. Our minds were captivated in thought. We all had a better understanding of not only Greene’s paintings, but the Subject within them, too.

Joanne Cross, Broadview Academy sophomore

Teens Use Internet for Religious Purposes

Center for Creative Ministry — The Jan. 13, 2004, edition of Christian Century reports that the National Study of Youth and Religion (NSYR) has discovered that “U.S. teens between ages 13 and 17 who have access to the Internet report using it for religious purposes three times more often than using it for
First- and second-graders learn how to brush a cat’s teeth.

Veterinarian Assistant Visits PWA

Lake Region — Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA) students in the first and second grades were visited by Ra-Kira Hogan, a veterinarian assistant with the 9-Tel Animal Hospital in Detroit, Mich., and TK, her cat. The visit helped the first grade complete their “Friend of Animals” honor for the Busy Bee class.

Hogan showed the students the proper way of brushing their pet’s teeth and fur, and clipping their nails. Each student received a health package to take home for their pets.

Shirley Fuquay, PWA first- and second-grade teacher

Inkster Fire Department Visits PWA

Lake Region — To help complete their Safety Award, the Inkster Fire Department visited Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA) and taught the elementary students how to protect themselves and their families in the event of a fire. While talking to the students, a rescue call was received for the ambulance. The students got to see firsthand how a real rescue team responds to a call.

PWA is proud of their elementary students’ behavior. Our school is the only school in Inkster where the fire department will bring the fire truck and the rescue team because of the good behavior of the students.

Shirley Fuquay, PWA first- and second-grade teacher

Student Authors Publish Books

Lake Region — Over the last few months, the elementary students of Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA) have been on a writing adventure. Students from preschool through grade seven were given the challenge to write, illustrate, and have their own books published. Nettie Gray, teacher and academic counselor, introduced the idea to the teachers, and we relayed the information to our students. They were excited and ready to work!

We drafted, edited, proofread, and rewrote several times until we got it right. All drafts and illustrations were done by students with very little help from their teachers. Grades preschool through four wrote class books, while students in grades five through seven wrote individual books.

At this stage of the project, Student Treasures, Inc. is publishing the books. Although you may not see these books in your local library, all of them will be in our school library. The student authors, their families, and their friends will be able to see their published works on a regular basis and be reminded that they are talented and intelligent creations of God.

P. Renene Price, PWA third- and fourth-grade teacher
Milwaukee Central Church Celebrates 60 Years

**Wisconsin** — The Milwaukee Central Church celebrated their 60th anniversary (1944–2004) on Apr. 29–May 1, 2004, as they commemorated God’s leading in the past, celebrated His working in the present, and consecrated themselves to His cause in the future. Former pastors Bruce Babienco, Fred Stephan, and Halvard Thomsen were the speakers, and the events concluded with a time of music and memories.

The Milwaukee Central Church building was once a mansion. Built in 1912 at a cost of $300,000, it was a love gift from J. Hoyt Smith, a wealthy grain broker, to his bride. He spared no expense to make it as beautiful and unusual as possible.

After Mrs. Smith’s death, none of the heirs wished to keep the mansion, and it was placed on the market in 1942. During those war years, an Adventist congregation was seeking a new church home. Construction was prohibited, but remodeling was permissible, and they were able to purchase the mansion for $20,000. The original architects were consulted and the blueprints located, enabling them to keep intact many original features.

This mansion-church has several unique features. The foyer walls are paneled with golden oak and topped by a frieze depicting the Book of Life. This motif is repeated on every other pew in the sanctuary. The hand-carved newel post and staircase banister to the second floor sanctuary is elegant as it features intricate pillars. The library off the foyer has hand-laid mahogany floors, with the upper walls covered in a delicate floral design, hand tooled on elephant hide. The ceiling is silver leaf surrounded with a blue border.

The center room off the foyer is the Fireside Chapel with a beautiful Italian marble fireplace—quarried, constructed, and designed in Italy, and installed here by workman from Italy. A small elevator from the basement to the third floor is still in use. The sanctuary with its high-peaked ceiling allows for a spacious worship area. The basement’s game, projection, and laundry rooms are now Sabbath school divisions, and the 14-car garage with its white glazed brick walls serves as the fellowship hall with a kitchen at one end.

The Milwaukee Central Church members give glory to God who made it possible for them to have this unique house of worship. They continue to use this gift of love to spread Christ’s everlasting gospel to the community as they remember 60 years of His generous blessings.

_Bruce Babienco, Herald volunteer correspondent_

Greenwood Fellowship Celebrates Debt-free Facility

**Indiana** — Members, guests, and former attendees of the Greenwood Fellowship Adventist Church, located at 850 N. Bluff Road, Greenwood, Ind., met on Sabbath, May 22, 2004, for a special ceremony to celebrate the dedication of their facility. Guests included representatives from other congregations who also utilize the facility and neighbors who have embraced the church family.

The service began with a reading given in eight of the languages spoken by Greenwood attendees, symbolizing the church’s desire for unity in Christ.

*The Milwaukee Central Church members praise God for making it possible for them to have this unique house of worship.*
Spencer Members
Host Prayer Seminar

Indiana — Peter Neri, Indiana Conference ministerial/evangelism/church ministries director, and his wife Jennie were invited to the Spencer (Ind.) Church on May 7 and 8 to conduct a “Finding Peace Through Prayer” seminar.

During the seminar, Neri demonstrated that prayer is the greatest strength of our church. “Power for effective ministry is released only through prayer. Prayer gives focus to the mission of the church,” he said. At the same time, he cited Vander Griend, who said that if personal and family worship are neglected, “other attempts at prayer are like sprinkling the foliage of a plant with water while leaving the roots dry.”

After opportunities for sharing answers to prayer, attendees divided into pairs and spent time praying for each other’s concerns. Jennie Neri led workshops entitled “Praying for Your Children” and “How to Have Meaningful Daily Devotions.”

The highlight of Sabbath afternoon was a group prayer demonstration. Ten volunteers pulled chairs around in a circle and then focused on one specific prayer request. Each member of the group was instructed to find a Bible promise that addressed his or her desire regarding that one specific prayer request. They then took turns sharing selected Bible promises and explaining their desires. After the circle of promises was completed, the praying began. Each member offered a prayer regarding the request and claimed the particular promise he or she had selected. Neri described additional ideas for variation and meaning, and participants were inspired to dedicate more time to prayer.

Sandy Culp, Spencer Church communication leader
Sponsor a Missionary for $2

Pathfinders — “Please, may I have one? Oh, please, may I have one?” still rings in our ears from distributing the 32,000 Bibles gathered by the Pathfinders only four years ago at the Pathfinder international camporee.

A container of Bibles was shipped to Belize from that camporee, and as the Pathfinders there were out on the streets one Sabbath afternoon giving away some of those Bibles, they met Erica. She was riding her bicycle from Panama to Mexico. When she arrived at the border of Mexico, she was denied entry and so had gone to the embassy in Belize City to get her papers in order. There she met Pastor Gillette and the Pathfinders. When she discovered that she could get a Bible, she was so excited she cried. She said, “You mean I had to come here all the way from Panama so that God could answer my prayer for help and so I could have a Bible?” She stayed with the group the rest of the day, and that evening at the beach she requested to be baptized.

Millions of people are without a copy of God’s love letter to this planet, and most of us have many copies in our homes. In many countries it costs more than a week’s wages to purchase one. God has blessed us that we might have the joy of sharing.

The Pathfinder goal is to gather 100,000 Bibles so that they can send a container to India, the Philippines, Ghana, and Kenya to help answer some of the cries for Bibles in those countries. Each individual Pathfinder goal is 10 Bibles and $10 for shipping. Won’t you help them reach their goal?

Contact your Pathfinders or call (800) 968-8428.

Sylvia Kalua, Project Word

Friendship Evangelism

Center for Creative Ministry — A recent nationwide Barna pastor’s poll revealed that 86 percent of senior Protestant pastors consider relational or friendship evangelism to be very effective in bringing others to Christ. Commissioned by the American Tract Society, the study reported that 68 percent of respondents also identified lifestyle evangelism as very effective. Other methods of evangelism ranked significantly lower in the “very effective” category, including event evangelism (24 percent), door-to-door evangelism (15 percent), and tract evangelism (14 percent). Preaching as effective evangelism was identified by less than 2 percent.

We believe it. If you want to learn more about what friendship evangelism includes and how anxiety-free it can be, go to these Web sites: www.creativeministry.org/resources/FriendshipEvangelism/fe.htm; www.creativeministry.org/resources/Oneminute.htm.

Paul Richardson, Center for Creative Ministry director

The Passionate Leader: NAD Women’s Ministries Training Event

Lake Union Conference — More than 200 women attended the North American Division Passionate Leader training seminar, hosted by the Lake Union Conference and held at the Berrien Springs (Mich.) Village Church on Sabbath, May 15.
More than 200 women attended the North American Division women’s ministries training seminar hosted by the Lake Union.

The all-day event focused on how women can be empowered for leadership in their communities or workplaces with a greater sense of purpose and confidence in God. The women gained practical skills to help them with their day-to-day tasks to develop a ministry that reaches others for Christ. The women attended seminars of their choice throughout the day, which was preceded with a devotional by Debra Brill, NAD vice-president.

Mentoring women, either in or out of the church, is one of the goals of women’s ministries. Charlotte Thoms, Atlantic Union women’s ministries and disabilities director, touched on the various skills needed to care for the many women who need a helping hand in so many ways.

“Sharing one’s knowledge, expertise, and philosophy with other women is an opportunity leaders are often called on to provide, but few of us have ever had even a chat about how to mentor others effectively,” Thoms said.

Mary Maxson, NAD women’s ministries director, explained in her seminar that, according to Matthew 28:18–20, women are required to disciple others.

“Discipleship is the secret to, and the desired outcome of effective spiritual ministry,” she said.

The seminars are held every other year in a different area of the United States.

Stop and Remember

Center for Creative Ministry — The following quote is from Judith Shulevitz, a columnist for the New York Times Magazine. It appeared on Mar. 2, 2003, and gives us much to consider.

“Whenever I dream of living in a society with a greater respect for its Sabbatarian past—a fantasy I entertain only with anxiety, since Sabbatarians have a long history of going too far—I think of something two rabbis said. Rabbi Judah Loew of Prague, best known for his tales of the golem, pointed out that the story of creation was written in such a way that each day, each new creation, is seen as a step toward a completion that occurred on the Sabbath. What was creation’s climactic culmination? The act of stopping. Why should God have considered it so important to stop?

“Rabbi Elijah of Vilna put it this way: ‘God stopped to show us that what we create becomes meaningful to us only once we stop creating it and start to think about why we did so.’ The implication is clear. We could let the world wind us up and set us to marching, like mechanical dolls that go and go until they fall over, because they don’t have a mechanism that allows them to pause. But that would make us less than human. We have to remember to stop because we have to stop to remember.”

Paul Richardson, Center for Creative Ministry director

Don Schneider’s News Notes

- ADRA processes 376,000 pounds of food every day someplace in our world.

- A person in Russia took the Sow 1 Billion brochure, wrinkled it into a wad, and left it in a seat on the train. Another person coming later found the paper, straightened it out, took it home and ironed it to make it smooth, and ran it through a copier. She gave copies to all the people in her office and began studies herself. She has now been baptized.

- A person in South America apparently didn’t like the Sow 1 Billion brochure, so tore it in half and threw it away. Another person found just half of the card and looked at it for a while, wondering what the other half said. He found an address on the half in his hand, got in touch with the Adventist people, and has since been baptized.

From the Desk of Don C. Schneider, NAD president, Apr. 15, 2004.
MALEPOSTS
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 luc.adventist.org/herald/herald-submit.html. Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 39.

ANNIVERSARIES
ALFRED P. AND RUTH KELLER
celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Feb. 20, 2004, by a fellowship meal with church members and family at the Lewis (Ind.) Church. They have been members of the Lewis Church for 35 years.

Alfred P. Keller and Ruth Edelman were married Feb. 28, 1934, in Bloomfield, Ind. Alfred has been a farmer and coal miner, retiring in 1972. Ruth has been a homemaker and home health aide.


NICKOLI F. AND ROSE NELSEN
celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 20, 2003, by an open house at Bethel Center, Arpin, Wis. They have been members of the Bethel Church for 10 years.

Nickoli Nelsen and Rose Louis were married Dec. 20, 1953, in Minneapolis, Minn., by Pastor S.M. McCormick. Nickoli has been a piano tuner. Rose has been a seamstress and nurse aid.

The Nelsen family includes Fred and Doris Nelsen of Pittsville, Wis.; Joyce and Mike Ellenbecker and Reynold Nelsen of Arpin, Wis.; Daisy and Steven Nieman of Munising, Mich.; and 12 grandchildren.

Lester and LaSina Rilea
celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 13, 2004, by a reception with family and friends in the fellowship room of the First Columbia (S.C.) Church. They were members of the Lansing (Mich.) Church for over 10 years.

Lester C. Rilea and LaSina M. Harrison were married May 17, 1954, in Collegedale, Tenn., by Rev. Wayne P. Thurbor. Lester has been a dean of men at Cedar Lake Academy and Adelphian Academy; directed the youth program for Wisconsin and Michigan conferences; and is presently working with military chaplains in the Southern Union. LaSina has been a homemaker; administrative assistant for Wisconsin and Michigan conferences; and is presently administrative assistant for her church.

The Rilea family includes Lester and Rhonda Rilea and Michael Rilea of Altamonte Springs, Fla.; Cheri and Greg Iverson of Rockwell, N.C.; and three grandchildren.

OBITUARIES
BEKOWIES, GERALDINE E. (BUTLER), age 74; born June 6, 1929, in Onaway, Mich.; died Oct. 12, 2003, in Warren, Mich. She was a member of the Warren Church.

Survivors include her husband, Herbert F.; sons, Bradley and Kurt; sister, Mable Paulson; and three grandchildren.

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


Survivors include his wife, Helene (Bazyn); daughter, Suzanne M. Bekowies; father, Herbert F.; and brothers, Brad C. and Kurt H.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors David Glenn and Paul Larsen, with private inurnment.

BOYS, EVERETT L., age 78; born Feb. 3, 1926, in Marion, Ind.; died Apr. 18, 2004, in Marion. He was a member of the Ephesus Church, Marion.

Survivors include his wife, Donna I. (Leffler); sons, David L., Stephen P., and Douglas C.; sister, Mary Baggarley; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Adrian M. Peterson, Paul Bryant, and Conrad Reichert, and interment was in National Cemetery, Marion.

CARPENTER, DOROTHY “DOTTIE” (GRAY), age 71; born Feb. 16, 1932, in Charlotte, Mich.; died Nov. 29, 2003, in Lansing, Mich. She was a member of the Charlotte Church.

Survivors include her husband Bruce R.; son, Michael; daughters, Catherine Kallioinen and Cri Carpenter; brothers, Donald and Joseph Gray; sister, Gertrude Gulyas; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Larry Yeagle, and interment was in Oakwood Cemetery, Hamlin Twp., Eaton Rapids, Mich.


Survivors include his daughter, Betty Hageman.

There was a private inurnment.


Survivors include his sons, Marvin, Martin, Tom, and Jerry (J.D.); daughters, Janeane Wilson, Sharon R. Skinner, Ruth A. Benjamin, M. Marie McPherson, Linda A. Owen, and Connie Halvorsen; sister, Ida Rosenberg; 31 grandchildren; and 32 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Marvin Halvorsen, and inurnment was in Crane Cemetery, Wayne Twp., Dowagiac.

Survivors include his brother, Arthur; and sisters, Esther Whittord, Wilma Dafoe, Edna Geyman, and Helen Hutchens.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Richard Mendoza, with private inter-urnment.

HOUPT, HELEN M. (SCHOEPFLIN), age 90; born Apr. 2, 1914, in Edwall, Wash.; died May 4, 2004, in Jackson, Mich. She was a member of the Jackson Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Judy C. Wright; brother, Albert Schoepflin; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Gene Hall, and interment was in Fife Field Cemetery, Jackson.


Survivors include his wife, Dorothy (Clayton); son, William; daughter Cecilia King; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Chaplain Chet Damron, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

KNOTT, MARIE E. (PEEFLE), age 85; born Sept. 11, 1918, in Detroit, Mich.; died Mar. 6, 2004, in Ellijay, Ga. She was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Tim R.; brothers, Richard A., Robert H., Gerald A., and David L. Pfeifle; and sister, Ellen O. Jordon.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors James Peel, Dale McConnell, and Leonard Tessier, and interment was in the Ellijay Church Cemetery.

MOREL, HOLLIS A., age 89; born May 30, 1914, in Chico, Calif.; died Apr. 19, 2004, in Davenport, Wash. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Lois K. (Long); son, Jeffrey N.; daughters, Darleen Parker, Marilyn Orcutt, and Cheryl Morel; and six grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Theron Collins, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Grand Rapids, Mich.

POTTER, EMMA M. (BOM) KINSEY, age 74; born June 17, 1929, in Louisville, Ky.; died Apr. 26, 2004, in Grandville, Mich. She was a member of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Central Church.

Survivors include her husband, Richard; son, Allen Kinsey; stepsons, David and Thomas Potter; daughter, Deborah Coleman; stepdaughters, Janette Parsons and Diane Hosteter; brother, William Bom; sisters, Elizabeth Bernardi, Maurice Thompson, Kathy McDuffie, and Zita McKinney; 15 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Crounse, and interment was in Spring Grove Cemetery, Bloomingdale, Mich.

RASMUSSEN, ELMER, age 82; born July 2, 1921, in Spangle, Wash.; died Apr. 9, 2004, in Turlock, Calif. He was a member of the Racine (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mary C. (Hess); son, Kenneth E.; daughter, Beverly Rasmussen; brothers, George, Lester, and Norman; and four grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Elders Glenn Aufderhar and James Chase, and interment was in Lakewood Memorial Park Cemetery, Hughson, Calif.

SAYE, JOHN W., age 82; born Aug. 24, 1921, in Oshtemo, Mich.; died Jan. 21, 2004, in Glendive, Mont. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia (Matthews-Redmon); son, Bert; daughters, Bernadine Saye, Patricia Gospodinoff, Judith Nelson, and Sandra Cassidy; brother, Harry; sister, Winfred Campbell; 16 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; four-step-children; 13 step-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Robert Crounse, and interment was in Spring Grove Cemetery, Bloomingdale, Mich.

VAN CONANT, MYRTLE (BRIMMER) NEITERING, WANAMAKER, age 75; born Aug. 10, 1928, in Belding, Mich.; died June 2, 2004, in Grand Rapids, Mich. She was a member of the Ionia (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Tom Neitering; Roy, Terry, Roger, and Richard Wanamaker; and Otis and Timothy Van Conant; daughters, Judy Castillo and Cherie Smith; half-brother and half-sister, names unavailable; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Karl Tsatalbasidis, and interment was in Greene Cemetery, Belding.

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Lake Union Conference Tithe Comparison Year-to-date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Members:</th>
<th>3/31/04</th>
<th>12/31/02</th>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>Increase Decrease</th>
<th>% Inc. –Decr.</th>
<th>Average Tithe Per Member 2004</th>
<th>Average Tithe Per Member 2003</th>
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<tr>
<td>12,483</td>
<td>12,205</td>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>2,934,528</td>
<td>2,961,197</td>
<td>-26,669</td>
<td>-0.90%</td>
<td>235.08</td>
<td>242.62</td>
<td>238.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>6,702</td>
<td>6,619</td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>1,955,817</td>
<td>1,939,659</td>
<td>16,159</td>
<td>0.83%</td>
<td>291.83</td>
<td>293.04</td>
<td>293.78</td>
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<td>26,990</td>
<td>26,065</td>
<td>Lake Region</td>
<td>3,360,692</td>
<td>3,614,622</td>
<td>-253,929</td>
<td>-7.03%</td>
<td>124.52</td>
<td>138.68</td>
<td>138.00</td>
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<td>24,632</td>
<td>24,489</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>8,382,576</td>
<td>8,347,585</td>
<td>34,990</td>
<td>0.42%</td>
<td>340.31</td>
<td>340.87</td>
<td>341.48</td>
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<tr>
<td>6,706</td>
<td>6,648</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>1,911,863</td>
<td>1,828,886</td>
<td>82,977</td>
<td>4.54%</td>
<td>285.10</td>
<td>275.10</td>
<td>276.00</td>
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<td>77,513</td>
<td>76,026</td>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>$18,545,477</td>
<td>$18,691,949</td>
<td>-$146,472</td>
<td>-0.78%</td>
<td>$239.26</td>
<td>$245.86</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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<td>Average Weekly Tithe:</td>
<td>$1,090,910</td>
<td>$1,099,526</td>
<td>-8,616</td>
<td>-0.78%</td>
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Sunset Calendar

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<td>Chicago</td>
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<td>8:28</td>
<td>8:23</td>
<td>8:18</td>
<td>8:11</td>
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<td>Detroit</td>
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<td>9:11</td>
<td>9:07</td>
<td>9:01</td>
<td>8:54</td>
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<td>Indianapolis</td>
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<td>8:11</td>
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<td>8:00</td>
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<td>La Crosse, Wis.</td>
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<td>8:44</td>
<td>8:38</td>
<td>8:31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison, Wis.</td>
<td>8:41</td>
<td>8:38</td>
<td>8:34</td>
<td>8:29</td>
<td>8:22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield, Ill.</td>
<td>8:31</td>
<td>8:29</td>
<td>8:25</td>
<td>8:20</td>
<td>8:14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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NEDLEY DEPRESSION RECOVERY PROGRAM: Dr. Neil Nedley will host an intensive 19-day residential Depression Recovery Program at Lifestyle Center of America, Aug. 15–Sept. 2. This program provides personalized lifestyle counseling and medical-based treatments to help you break free from depression. Free information, call (800) 213-8955, or visit our Web site, www.lifestylecenter.org.

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CHRISTIAN RECORD SERVICES, the General Conference institution for the blind, seeks a field director. Position supervises 70-plus representatives, reports to the president. Requirement: five years of denominational employment, L.E. management, or fundraising experience. Contact: Larry Pitcher, P.O. Box 6097, Lincoln, NE 68506; phone: (402) 488-0981; or e-mail: lapitche@christianrecord.org.

COLUMBIA UNION COLLEGE seeks a director of public relations. Bachelor’s degree required, master’s degree in related field preferred or four to 10 years higher related experiences and/or training. Submit CV and letter to Human Resources, Columbia Union College, 7600 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912; fax: (301) 891-4020; or e-mail: hr@cuc.edu.

COLUMBIA UNION COLLEGE seeks a director for the M.B.A. program. Ph.D. in a business field required and management experience preferred. Submit CV and letter to Human Resources, Columbia Union College, 7600 Flower Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912. Fax: (301) 891-4020; or e-mail: hr@cuc.edu.

REAL ESTATE

ADVENTIST HEALTH FOOD STORE AND SIX ACRES FOR SALE: Seven-year-old successful business in rural Ohio. Live on same property. Property comes with cell phone tower—guaranteed $550/month income. Annual gross sales: $480,000. Inventory: $100,000. No competition here. Turn key operation. Asking $500,000. For information, call (440) 466-7449; e-mail: betterthangreens@yahoo.com; or visit Web site: www.betterthangreens.com/Health_Food_Business_For_Sale.htm.

FOR SALE

RVS!! Adventist owned and operated RV dealership has been helping Adventists for over 30 years. Huge inventory. Courtesy airport pickup and on-site hookups. Satisfied Adventist customer list available. Call toll-free (888) 933-9300. Lee’s RV City, Oklahoma City. Visit our Web site, www.leesrv.com, or e-mail us at LeesRVs@aol.com.

LOOKING FOR USED ADVENTIST BOOKS? Check out Adventist books.org, a student industry of Great Lakes Adventist Academy, or call The Cedar Reader at (800) 835-1625.

MILK MACHINE FOR SALE: Guaranteed lowest retail price for 2-quart milk machine. Make better tasting “milk” from many seeds, nuts, and grains in your own kitchen for pennies per quart. Recipes included. For information, call (800) 348-8694.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ILLINOIS

ANNUAL SUMMER JUBILEE at Hinsdale Adventist Church is July 23–24 with guest speaker Hyveth Williams. Friday services begin at 7:00 p.m., Sabbath services are at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. A free picnic supper will be at 5:00 p.m. Special youth and children’s programs throughout. For details, visit our Web site at www.hsdac.com or call (630) 323-0182.

INDIANA

SUMMER CAMP: It’s not too late to register for summer camp at Timber Ridge. Call (317) 844-6201 or visit www.timberridgecamp.org for camp information and registration.

ENROLL AT INDIANA ACADEMY: If you want to attend an Adventist academy with an excellent academic program and spiritual emphasis, then Indiana Academy is the place for you. Students may take classes for college credit and are offered a variety of work opportunities to help make an Adventist education affordable. Visit www.indianasdaacademy.org to learn more about Indiana Academy or call (317) 984-3575 to request an enrollment package and consultation.

OUTDOOR SCHOOL FOR HOMESCHOOLERS: Bring your child to Timber Ridge Camp, Aug. 23–27, for an exciting outdoor adventure. Call Lutricia Whitlow at (812) 829-0625 or send e-mail to dwhitlow@bluemarble.net.

ELDERS RETREAT: Indiana elders are invited to Timber Ridge Camp, Aug. 27–29, for an elders retreat. This retreat will focus on the continual development of the elder, teaching leadership skills for the elder’s role in the local church and to assist the pastor in ministry. For more information, call Sheri at (317) 844-6201 or send e-mail to sdewitt@indianaadventist.org. 

LAKE UNION

OFFERINGS:
- July 3 Local church budget
- July 10 Women’s ministries
- July 17 Local church budget
- July 24 Local conference advance
- July 31 Local or union conference designated

SPECIAL DAYS:
- July 10 Home Study International Promotional Day

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

COLLEGE CAMPUS GARDENS/COUNTRY HAVEN

ACADEMY alumni and friends are invited to join us July 23–25 for an alumni and friends weekend in Pasco, Wash. For more information, visit www.alumni-news.com; call Donna Mustard at (206) 579-8022 (PST); or e-mail info@alumni-news.com.

NATIONAL RETIREE CONVOCATION for all Adventist retired workers will be held at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Md., July 28–Aug. 1. All retired persons, whether denominational workers or not, are welcome to attend. Come enjoy good fellowship, special speakers, musicians, and timely seminars on senior health issues and other relevant topics. Special guests this year include Del Delker and Desmond Doss; theme speaker will be Lowell Cooper, G.C. vice president. For registration, contact CUC directly at (301) 891-4133.

CAMP WAWONA ’S 75TH REUNION will be held Sept. 10–12. Contact Karen Bergh at (559) 683-0290 or campwawonares@sti.net for reservations and information. If you are unable to attend, please send your name, address, phone number, and when you attended Camp Wawona to hgardner@cccsda.org. We look forward to seeing you again at Camp Wawona.

SUNNYDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND, Oct. 1–3. Honor classes are 1954, ’64, ’74, ’79, ’84, ’89, and ’94. The Silver Showcase will begin Thursday evening, Sept. 30. For more information, please call (573) 682-2164.

ALL ADVENTIST DIETITIANS are invited to attend the 50th celebration of the Adventist Dietetics Association. The celebration will be held Oct. 6 in Loma Linda, Calif. For more information, e-mail: Lmarie5445@aol.com.

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It’s all relative, isn’t it? It’s fun, right? Going to the movies or taking romantic ventures with someone and all the while not knowing where the adventure will lead the two of you. And there you are daydreaming about the person.

I remember the butterfly feelings. I also remember that I was not consulting God on the issue. Don’t get me wrong. I realize that the butterflies and the newness are all part of the package that people enjoy when they are attracted to someone. But let’s get back to the consulting God issue.

I asked a friend, “How will I know?” She said, “You’ll know when your relationship with God is better because of your relationship with that person.” She had a great answer, but depending on my own knowledge about God’s character, that statement could be taken in varying ways.

A couple years later, still on my venture for how I would know, a conversation took place during a Sabbath school lesson. The man leading the lesson proposed that we should give up the right to guide our own lives and let the Holy Spirit lead us instead. I thought about what he was suggesting and started to realize how profound the concept actually was.

The compromises I could have avoided in relationships, relationships I could have avoided, and the broken hearts that came with the inevitable ending to the daydreams and the butterfly feelings, these might not have happened if I had let the Holy Spirit lead in my life.

“Should I even be looking?” I asked myself. A voice replied, “You should be looking for Me, and I will give you your desires according to My will.” I finally got it. I understood.

What did I understand? I understood that I should live to seek God and what it means to live a life of purity before Him. I started wondering what kinds of things I was doing in my life that if my future husband could see he might be hurt by. I realized that I needed to live in purity before I even knew him, or else there was little chance of having a pure relationship when and if God decided to bless me with that one. I realized that if I was asking “How far is too far?” I was on the wrong path. I realized that while I could anticipate my future, butterflies and all, I needed to be patient and have fun not dating but living a life of purity.

So I waited. It was fun!

Mandie Ross is a child-care provider and a member of the New Haven (Michigan) Church, where she is teaching a class to the youth this summer, using the book I Kissed Dating Good-bye. Mandie is now being courted by an Andrews University theology student.
Profiles of Youth

Rachel Hopkins graduated with the class of 2004 from Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA), where she served this past year as student association (SA) president. Rachel is planning to continue her education at Andrews University. A four-year senior, Rachel has learned how to make Christ the center of her life.

Rachel has served in several leadership positions at GLAA. Aside from being SA president this past year, she has served as SA public relations director, junior class pastor, sophomore class president, and girls’ club chorister. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the United States Achievement Academy.

Her favorite memory from her senior year was going on the class trip to Washington, D.C., and her favorite class was Advanced Composition where she learned valuable writing skills. She will always remember the important things she has learned in her years at GLAA.

Rachel is the daughter of Jim and Trudy Hopkins of Kettering, Ohio.

Jacob (Jake) Conner just completed his senior year at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA). After attending GLAA for four years, Jake plans to attend college and study physical education and sports broadcasting. In his free time, Jake loves to fix up older cars and play golf and other sports. He has served his class as the guy’s sports coordinator all four years he has attended GLAA.

Jake has also involved himself in the school through music. His favorite memory from his senior year was winning third place and the audience appreciation award for a vocal duet he did with one of his best friends. A member of Witnessing Class for three years, Jake has also been a strong spiritual example through his Bible studies and other activities.

After surviving several car accidents during his years at GLAA, Jake’s greatest lesson has been to never take life for granted. Jake is the son of Ronnie and Margie Conner, who live in Cedar Lake, Mich.

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When she dropped to the floor, her band mates dropped to their knees.

Knowing that lead guitarist Lynne had felt sick, a couple members of the band drove to her house when they were unable to reach her by phone. Finding her curled up lifeless on her bed, they rushed her to the Emergency Department at Tennessee Christian Medical Center.

A diabetic, Lynne had the flu and was unable to keep food down. She had run out of insulin and was too weak to go out for more. When she arrived at the hospital, she had pneumonia and a lethal blood sugar level of 1,966.

Members of the all-girl country music band Mustang Sally are Christians, and when Lynne was transferred to Intensive Care, band members and their husbands began to pray. “I think prayer played a significant role in her recovery,” says the band’s road manager. “She was one day in ICU, motionless. And through constant prayer and support and everybody coming together, the Lord worked a miracle and she’s here with us today—and probably in better condition than before.”

Throughout Adventist Health System, the healing ministry of Christ continues through the power of prayer. With a mission like this, there’s a place for someone like you.

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