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“Telling the stories of what God is doing in the lives of His people”

in this issue...

Our society is in danger of losing the precious treasure of life and neglecting those who have lived it the longest. In this issue we celebrate health and longevity and pay tribute to two of our vibrant seniors who have lived long lives of service and faithfulness. We hope you appreciate hearing some of their secrets to life and trust that they will be a source of encouragement to you.

Gary Burns, Editor

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Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries—that’s who they are, but I found a lot more than the title alone implies. These Seventh-day Adventist business people constantly look for ways to advance the cause of Jesus Christ throughout the world. They display such a positive team spirit, a good example to be modeled by every church member.

Yes, Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) concerns itself with participating in foreign evangelistic outreach, building schools, churches, and clinics in far-flung lands, and bringing relief from suffering wherever it is encountered. I have long admired their tireless efforts, but when it comes home to the Lake Union territory I am ecstatic!

I recently had the privilege to visit the ASI project site in Princeton, Illinois. I witnessed Lake Union Chapter Board members donate their time, talent, and funds to build a beautiful church for the believers there. People like Fred Miller, Chuck Randall, and Viorel Catarama were much in evidence with saw and hammer in hand. They were joined by members from nine states to construct a very substantial and representative edifice that is a credit to their skills.

Bonnie Peterson, from the Hinsdale Church, fed me hot dogs and beans until I wanted no more. To protect their privacy I will not mention the names of the many financial contributors, but sums from $20–25,000 were not unusual. With this kind of Christian teamwork, the building was up in three weeks! Hallelujah! They even hired a young lady by the name of Katrina Lubinski to do Bible work to assure that a host of new members will be prepared to join the congregation.

What drives these able laypersons? I am convinced it is a keen desire to see the “work” finished so we can go home. They feel especially blessed by God and are determined to share those blessings with others. Hallelujah, again!

If you are an Adventist business person, I urge you to consider joining one of the most exciting and fulfilling ministries in our church. Call Kathy Cameron at the Union office. She will get the proper forms and information into your hands to facilitate membership. You will be glad you did.
Indiana  Nancy Walters was reared in a church that didn’t teach the seventh-day Sabbath. I had so many questions as I attended church, but they were never answered satisfactorily. No one ever taught me how to find answers in the Bible. I always believed in God and His salvation, and that was enough for many years. Today it seems like it was a shallow relationship.

Several years ago I wanted to know the Bible answer to the purpose of life, but was told it was a question with no satisfactory answer. That didn’t seem like a reasonable response, so I began my personal search to discover the purpose of life by taking a closer look into many different Western and Eastern religions. After a lot of investigation, I came to the conclusion Christianity was the teaching to follow. All the other belief systems had tenants of faith I could not accept.

Next, I explored a denomination I thought offered the most logical and spiritual method of worship and mission. I discovered many rules and regulations I didn’t like or thought unnecessary. Closely tied to another denomination by my employment and volunteer activities, I one day telephoned its spiritual leader and set up appointments to discuss how his members were taught to live. His answer was for me to continue to “do good works,” and have my sins forgiven weekly. It was all about me and what I decided. I needed, I wanted, [and] I chose. I could continue living as I had been, but now with “the assurance of Heaven.” It was so easy to be counted as a regular member, no matter what I did.

One day my dear friend, Phil Kleintank, challenged me to prove my doctrines, which I insisted were Biblical. No matter how hard I tried to prove them, I couldn’t do it. However, I struggled with my inner convictions for over a year before I left my church and again began my search for the purpose of life.

I began observing the seventh-day Sabbath and attended Seventh-day Adventist church services. I also continued my search for answers to the spiritual ideas I was hearing in the Sabbath school classes and sermons. Again, I think I drove people crazy with all my questions since I had so much to learn and unlearn.

Finally, I surrendered to the urging of the Holy Spirit. It was a call for me to accept the Bible truths I had come to know and love. It was time for me to respond to my need to be officially baptized, and become a member of the Adventist church. The day I telephoned Conrad Reichert Jr., Marion Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor, to make arrangements, I knew I was ready, but couldn’t describe the joyous feelings. I just knew I had been touched. I had been changed. My thinking, my attitude, my desires were in harmony with God’s Word. I was now committed to follow Jesus forever.

It is interesting that Phil Kleintank, the one who challenged my earlier beliefs, and I were baptized on the same Sabbath, November 19, 2005. It is a day of joy I will always remember!

Michigan  Karma Anderson faced numerous challenges in her life in January 2004. To help care for her two children, Cara and Christian, her mother, Marta Acuña, moved from Miami, Florida, to live with her. Soon after, Karma and her mother began to attend the Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church in Plymouth, Michigan. It seemed the sermons preached by the pastor, Robert Stewart, dealt with the very issues Karma struggled with.

Marta became involved in Metropolitan’s First Love Prayer Group that meets every Sabbath afternoon, and the group prayed for Karma and her family situation. On occasion, Karma attended the prayer group with her mother.

In September 2004, the pastor presented the “Hope for Our Day” evangelistic series. Karma attended the series, was impressed by the Holy Spirit, and she believed this was the truth. When the pastor made an appeal to those
Tay Nelson’s dilemma began years ago when the church he attended taught him the “law was abolished.” Tay reasoned, “If there is no law, then there is no sin to be forgiven.” So Tay, living in lawlessness, was not asking for forgiveness. Then that same church conducted a Bible study about the need of forgiveness. Tay argued with the teacher, “If the law is abolished, why do we need to ask for forgiveness?” The teacher’s answer made no sense, since he still reasoned the law was abolished. Tay needed better answers, so he began searching.

His journey led him to join another church, but that church did not believe Jesus will publicly return to Earth in the flesh as He left. Tay found that contradicted what he found in Revelation 1:7. That conflict forced Tay back into the church of his childhood with its very active programs and organized social events. Even though he attended church with his wife and her family, Tay did not have peace.

In December 2004, Tay was watching television when Amazing Facts came on the screen. He watched and listened in amazement as Doug Bachelor, its speaker, showed from the Bible that ceremonial law was abolished, not the Ten Commandments law. It made sense to him. When the show ended, Tay called the telephone number on the screen and he was connected with the Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church in Plymouth, Michigan.

Soon Tay revealed in Bible studies with the church’s pastor, Robert Stewart, who made the studies a matter of prayer with Metropolitan’s First Love Prayer Group. Tay finally found truthful, Biblical answers to his many questions.

Tay defended his new-found truths as word reached his former church that he was studying with a “cult.” He says, “I’ve been on a journey to a lot of churches and a lot of faiths, but I hadn’t found the truth like I found in this church.”

On September 10, 2005, Tay Nelson was baptized into the Metropolitan Church.
Youth With a CAUSE

STEPPING OUT IN FAITH FOR THE ONE WHO DID EVERYTHING FOR THEM

BY DIANE THURBER

I am convinced God is using Lance Mishleau, director of The Cause Ministry (The Cause), and other Wisconsin young people, to lead individuals to a meaningful relationship with Jesus.

The Cause began with a group of guys, ages 18–21, who envisioned a music ministry to share with young people around the country. After leading music together one Sabbath for church in November 2001, they knew the Lord was calling them, and they said, “Let’s just do it.”

Beginning in Summer 2002, Greg Creek (now a youth pastor in Kansas), Clint and Lance Mishleau, and Beau Baartz attended summer camps and youth events where they led out in praise and worship. They were also invited to teen and youth departments at camp meetings throughout the United States. Lance says, “The Lord guided each of the original members in mighty ways.”

Four years later, the Lord continues to open doors for The Cause, now a ministry with a more defined mission. Lance believes the Lord gave the team their motto, “Leading Youth to Lead the Church.” They desire to “utilize the youth for outreach, personal and public evangelism, while encouraging and gaining [individuals] for His Kingdom.” The Cause team selected 1 Timothy 2:5–7 as their ministry’s inspiration. Three original members are still involved with The Cause. New members joined the team, adding their organizational, musical, and speaking talents. These new members include Brennan Hallock, Lee Ann Paulsen, Michelle Paulsen, Randy Paulsen, and Keith Wyland.

The Cause team provides Bible studies at Wisconsin Academy and speaks and leads worship music at youth and young adult events in Wisconsin. They also challenge youth to action. Recently, they encouraged academy students to distribute fliers for an upcoming evangelistic series at the Fox Valley (Wisconsin) Church.

Their ministry has spread to other places in the United States. View the event calendar at www.thecauseministry.org to see their busy schedule. In May, part of the team traveled to Australia to assist with a youth rally.

The Cause team leads Youth Praise & Devotion, a monthly Friday night program at the Fox Valley Church. From left: Keith Wyland, Clint Mishleau, Brennan Hallock, Randy Paulsen, and Lance Mishleau

The Cause musicians play for mini-concerts, church services, special music, evangelistic meetings, camp meetings, and at Christian coffeehouses, connecting with young people everywhere they go. Visit www.myspace.com/causeministries to read comments by young people who were blessed, challenged, and motivated as a result of their music and speaking ministry. One wrote, “Hey guys ... I was at the concert the other night at Concordia. ... You guys did a great job, and it is great what you do for Christ. See ya!”

Lance challenges young people to “step out in faith, today, and do something for the One who has done ‘everything’ for you already. Not because you feel like you have to, but because you are willing. Then, watch what the Lord is going to do in your life! Not because God feels like He has to, but because He is willing to do it for you! (Luke 5:12, 13)”

The Cause team asks for your prayers for their ministry. To schedule The Cause for youth or young adult events, or to contribute financially to this ministry, please contact Lance at TheCauseMinistry@aol.com, or by mail: P.O. Box 7104, Appleton, WI 54912.

Diane Thurber is the Lake Union Herald managing editor.
BEYOND our BORDERS

Seniors Sharpen Outreach Tools

BUILDING CULTURAL BRIDGES IN THE YAKAMA NATION

BY PHIL ENGELMAN

“First He mingled with people, with the good of all in mind. Second, He sympathized with the people. Third, He met their physical needs. Finally, He won their confidence. Only after this was done did He begin to share the plan of salvation.”

And so began the orientation for the five seniors from Grand Rapids Adventist Academy (GRAA) as they started their mission trip to the Yakama Indian Reservation in central Washington state. The group traveled to the northwest reservation during the first week in May to work on service projects and conduct Vacation Bible Schools among the children of the Yakama Nation.

Most days were spent painting the interior of the church. The pastor and his wife were in tears as they saw the transformed sanctuary. A primary objective of the trip was to help build cultural bridges between the Adventist All Nations Center and tribal leaders. The painting project was one step in the process. The students discovered that we have much to learn about the Yakama people. We found many of them to be very dear people who have not only been misunderstood, but for the most part, neglected. Unfortunately, many of their experiences under the banner of Christianity have not been positive. We realized what an incredible responsibility we have as a church to reach the 2.5 million American Indians and Alaskan Natives with the hope of the gospel. We hope the selfless work provided by the GRAA seniors is a beginning.

The seniors saw the value in Christ’s method of reaching people and were given first-hand practical experience in applying those methods. In addition to the service project, they conducted a Vacation Bible School in one of the housing clusters on the reservation.

The students began to identify with the heart of Jesus as they learned of the challenges that many Indian people face. They were eager to express love and acceptance and to share a sense of value and worth.

The week went by quickly. Too soon it was time to return to Michigan. Yet, the seniors came away with a new view of our responsibility to all people and how Christ would have us relate to them. They are now equipped with new and effective tools to minister to the basic needs of people and to give them the hope of salvation in Christ as they demonstrate His love.

Participating seniors were Shayna Butler, Josed Estrella, Rewel Estrella, Jordan Grove, and Andy Leffler. Their sponsors were Phil Engelman and Marilyn Leffler. Students funded the trip by using their Senior Trip Fund and by selling school shirts they designed in their economics class. The Muskegon Church also made a significant contribution. In addition, each senior was responsible for a portion of the trip cost. They are grateful to those who purchased shirts and to all those who donated, making this trip possible.

Phil Engelman is a teacher at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy in Michigan.
As I approached the refrigerated section of Harding’s Market, she held up a carton of cottage cheese and in her toddler voice said, “Codage cheese, codage cheese!”

Her grandmother beamed brightly as I responded and showed her I was buying cottage cheese, too! The grandmother said, “I just don’t know why she likes cottage cheese, but she can’t get enough of it.” Then, as the grandmother turned away from the cart to reach for some yogurt, the toddler noticed quickly and expressed some frustration the way toddlers do. Adults generally define it as “whining.” Obviously unnerved, the grandmother quickly took the cart and headed toward another aisle shushing her granddaughter several times as they hurriedly disappeared down the next aisle. “Ouch!” I said to myself.

A couple of weeks ago as I sat in the semi-darkness of an auditorium waiting for a children’s program to begin, I noticed some parents sitting behind us. The dad held an infant, perhaps six months old. As we continued to wait, I noticed the dad just wasn’t paying attention to the increasing fussiness of his son. Finally, the mom took out a bottle and handed it to the dad. As he rather absentmindedly stuck the bottle in the baby’s mouth, the baby continued to fuss. He was held in his dad’s left arm and kind of hung over the dad’s arm, facing away from both his parents.

The mom and dad continued their conversation as the baby continued his distress, not being able to get a hold of the bottle’s nipple. Just as the program began, and the audience quieted, the dad changed the position of the baby by cradling him in his arms. Good move! As the baby tried to settle into the bottle, he still fussed. The mother turned towards the baby and loudly said, “Sh-h-h-h!” “Ouch, Ouch!” I said to myself.

In both instances, I would suggest these adults were exasperated and likely embarrassed by the noise these little ones made and their lack of control over it. While these isolated instances are not intended to judge these adults, they illustrate messages I often hear parents give to their children. These messages say, “Don’t be who you are”; “You aren’t okay”; and “You don’t know what you know.” They are “Don’t Be” messages. The baby needed his needs met by attentive adults who focused on his needs before their own. What the toddler needed was engagement and then distraction. That takes planning, thinking, decision-making, and commitment.

There are many good ways to teach our children the social skills to help them be enjoyed by others and learn to enjoy the company of others. They can develop the skills of being good listeners and learn the importance of compassion. Children need to feel they are a valued part of their family, neighborhood, place of worship, school, community, and culture. They learn these things through the positive consistency of the important adults in their lives ... not by having someone important to them say, “Sh-h-h-h!”

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

**BY WINSTON J. CRAIG**

Soy has been under heavy attack lately, with all kinds of information circulating on the Internet. This follows an unprecedented surge in the sale of soy products over the past decade, due largely to research that suggests soy provides a variety of health benefits. The recent attacks on soy have centered on issues such as allergies, thyroid function, male fertility, and the suitability of soy for infants. What are the real facts regarding these issues?

Only one in 3,000 adults is estimated to be allergic to soy protein, and the allergic response to soy protein is typically less severe than is the case for many other foods that cause allergies.

There is little evidence to suggest soy foods adversely affect thyroid function in healthy men and women. However, individuals with a compromised thyroid function may need to ensure an adequate intake of iodine when soy is consumed. Other foods that may interfere with thyroid metabolism include cabbage, radish, Brussels sprouts, kale, millet, peaches, and strawberries. Of much greater concern would be the anti-thyroid effect of ingesting erythrosine, a red coloring agent widely used in foods and pharmaceutical agents.

Is it safe for children to consume soy? What are the possible endocrine effects since soy is rich in phytoestrogens? For many decades soy-based infant formulas have been consumed by millions of infants worldwide. Growth in children has been normal and no changes in the timing of puberty or in fertility rates have been reported in those who consumed soy as infants. The isoflavones appear to have a low affinity for estrogen receptors in infants.

In the Honolulu Heart Program, Japanese-American men who regularly consumed tofu during middle age showed signs of greater mental deterioration in later years than the men who consumed tofu infrequently. Other studies have not found any relationship between tofu consumption and a decline in cognitive function. More recent clinical trials have shown that soy isoflavones may actually improve cognitive function in both men and women.

Hundreds of research papers have shown that the regular consumption of soy is associated with a decreased risk of cardiovascular diseases, osteoporosis, and breast and prostate cancer. This can be explained by the fact that soy contains a variety of health-promoting phytochemicals (such as isoflavones and phytosterols), in addition to valuable amounts of soluble fiber and omega-3 fat. The isoflavones in soy decrease blood lipid levels, improve the elasticity of the arteries, and protect against bone loss.

These health benefits of soy can be experienced by consuming two to three ounces of soy protein per day. This can be obtained in many ways— tofu with stir-fried vegetables, TVP-containing entrees, soy meat products, soy nuts, soy beverages, and soy flour incorporated into bread and other bakery products.

Winston Craig, Ph.D., R.D., is a professor of nutrition at Andrews University.
I wonder if G.R.A.C.E. may be an acronym for the core of God’s character. Of course, a thousand DaVinci code breakers would be required to discover how the acronym leads from a thousand different languages to the same treasure. But, believing that the treasure is far more valuable than Atocha gold, I have been working on it (but only from the English lettering). Here’s what I have discovered as of today.

Grace is about God, not about me.

Grace is not the opposite of judgment, but its partner. Everyone (except those being judged) would like for judgment to be black or white—saved or lost. But grace comes in like a defense attorney, guiding judge and jury through the grey areas to a redemptive conclusion.

Grace is not new. It’s been around since Michael and Lucifer disagreed on freedom and control in Heaven. It was the fertilizer beneath the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Grace is not old. God creatively personalizes grace for each of us—just when we need Him most.

Grace usually comes to the recipient as a surprise, wrapped with unpredictable pizzazz.

The Bible is threaded with grace. Reading Scripture is like looking through a picture book on God’s desk. Each photograph tells a story of how effective God was in delivering grace (and how people were accepting and rejecting) in a human moment.

Consider some of the photos:

Angels swinging light sabers at the gates of Eden—while teaching Adam, Eve, and their children more about God...

Noah offering free berths on the cruise deck—even after the animals had been tethered...

Jehovah listening to Abraham’s plaintive cajoling—until He finally agreed to save Sodom “if there are only ten”...

David weeping prayers from his bedroom floor—until Bathsheba’s son finally dies...

Habakkuk shouting angrily at God from the parapet—and then promising to trust, “even though there are no sheep in the fold”...

Jesus following Jairus home to heal his little girl—even though Jairus had tried to turn Capernaum against Him...

The prodigal’s father missing most of the homecoming party—because he was out in the courtyard discussing family values with his older, hard-working, logical, cracked-ego son...

John the Revelator weeping in terror as beasts rush to devour God’s followers—and then leading the victory cheers as God’s “little white cloud” fills the sky...

Moses dedicating God’s throne—atop the golden ark in the sanctuary’s Most Holy Place—as “the Mercy Seat”:
The home of grace.

Maybe grace is not an acronym after all, but just the deepest and most personal whorl in the fingerprint of God.
Jesus said, “I have come to give you life more abundantly.” For those who accept this gift, life takes on new dimension and new meaning. It becomes a life focused on those attributes that were evident in the life of Jesus. The longing of every Seventh-day Adventist Christian should be to embrace the life of Jesus and to be as He was in this world. And thus, the Christian will be distinctively different—not odd, or strange, but curiously attractive in a way that as others observe the life, they might “glorify their Father in Heaven.”

On Being Transformed in Christ—
An Affirmation of Christian Values and Quality of Life

For Seventh-day Adventists, Christianity transcends a set of beliefs or even regular church attendance; it is a way of life. Events in recent years have shown that our world is in need of people whose lives are examples of historic Christian values, particularly in the face of prevailing relativism in society.

As the Holy Word reveals, God offers everlasting values in the Ten Commandments, which were engraved in stone by His very hand (Exodus 31:18), and in Jesus Christ, the embodiment of those values. Jesus said He came “to fulfill” every point of that law, that not the least item will pass away “until all is accomplished” (Matthew 15:18, NASB).

The Adventist lifestyle is distinctive. We place high value on simplicity and the virtues that long have formed the bedrock of society—family, integrity, work, honesty, and purity. We advocate modesty in dress and adornment, and good stewardship of our means. We seek for beauty and refinement in speech and deed, as we continually grow into the wholeness God intends for us.

Two key elements of the Adventist lifestyle speak directly to the matter of “quality of life,” specifically the Sabbath and healthy living. Adventists observe the seventh day, Saturday, according to the Biblical injunction (Exodus 20:8). For 24 hours, we lay aside the toils and cares of the week, entering into the rhythm of Sabbath rest, which mirrors our salvation rest in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. We spend the Sabbath in worship, with family, and in helping others.

Seventh-day Adventists, as Christians, also place a strong emphasis on health. All that we are—including our physical bodies—is for God’s use and praise. Accordingly, we promote a healthful diet (including a vegetarian diet), exercise, sufficient rest, trust in God, and abstinence from alcohol, tobacco, and other harmful drugs.

Beyond these personal and corporate values, Adventist Christians—indeed, all who accept Christ as their Lord and Savior—are called to uphold the Christian values of love and hope, expressing these in a life of faith. Such an expression is in itself a challenge to the moral ambiguity and decay of values that pervade society, and give witness to the quality of life available to all who respond to the Gospel invitation.

This statement was voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administrative Committee (ADCOM), for release at the time of the General Conference Session in St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A., July 3, 2001.
When tragedy strikes, it is then that we need the touch of the Master’s hand the most—a touch demonstrating tenderness and compassion, yet incredible strength.

As Christians, we are called to represent Jesus and to be His hands and feet. Recently Abigail “Abby” Koo and Heather Myers, students at Indiana University—Bloomington (IU), were able to demonstrate Christ’s love in a profound way. Abby is a School of Music graduate student, and Heather is a student in Applied Health Science with an emphasis in human development and family studies. They are also members of Adventist Students for Christ, a campus outreach organization from the Bloomington Seventh-day Adventist Church.

When a tragic airplane crash occurred in Bloomington, claiming the lives of five fellow School of Music colleagues, it rocked the community as well as the IU campus. The students, faculty, and staff were devastated by the news, and many did not know how to cope. Shock and disbelief ran rampant through the halls of the music building.

Because of Abby’s and Heather’s involvement in Adventist Students for Christ, a student-led ministry aimed at reaching students for Jesus, it has strengthened their walk with the Lord and nurtured a deeper level of compassion for their fellowman. The ministry provides weekly vespers and spiritual support in connection with the local church. Even though Abby and Heather also experienced a deep sense of grief from this horrific loss, they laid aside their own sadness and found ways to reach out to others.

Abby quickly organized a prayer vigil to console those who tried to make sense of it all and to pray for the families of the five victims. For those who desired to do more in addition to praying, Heather suggested she and Abby provide the necessary supplies to make cards for the families who lost loved ones. The goal was to let the victims’ families know the students who perished were loved and would always be remembered.

When asked by the school’s newspaper editor why they were doing it, Abby said, “We are able to deal with this by the grace of God, and we can’t imagine how much more difficult it would be for those who don’t have that. Although it is difficult to speak at times, it is important not to remain silent.

We need each other.”

Fernando Ortiz, pastor of the Bloomington and Bedford Adventist churches, found himself extremely moved by the compassion he saw in Abby and Heather. He said, “The initiative our students took to step up in a moment of crisis [to] bring comfort to students and faculty is just incredible. This was an example of being there when people need you the most.”

Abby and Heather chose to be an extension of Christ. Sensing others needed additional encouragement and support during a difficult time, the touch of the Master’s hand was offered through them.

Who will you touch today?

Judi Roberts is a member of the Bedford (Indiana) Church.
En el año 2003 mi esposa y yo fuimos a un centro adventista de salud en Oklahoma, llamado Lifestyle Center of America, con el propósito de aprender cómo vivir un estilo de vida más saludable. Allí pasamos tres semanas en las que nos hicieron extensos exámenes médicos y nos enseñaron los principios básicos para tener buena salud.

En aquella ocasión participaron también unas 25 personas que padecían de una variedad de problemas de salud como diabetes y alta presión sanguínea. Al final de las tres semanas nos dieron la oportunidad de testificar sobre qué nos había parecido el programa. Lo impresionante de ese evento fue escuchar los testimonios de los participantes, de cuánto habían mejorado. Me impactó de manera particular el testimonio de una señora no adventista cuando dijo – “Yo doy gracias a Dios por ustedes los adventistas, porque ustedes me salvaron la vida”.

Estudios científicos han confirmado que de los hispanos que han vivido en este país menos de cinco años, 13% sufren de alta presión, 6.9% de diabetes y 16% de sobrepeso. Es más, si han vivido aquí por más de cinco años, los porcentajes cambian: 20% sufren de alta presión, 7.5% de diabetes y 22% de sobrepeso. Otra realidad que complica la salud de los hispanos es que tienen menor probabilidad de tener seguro médico, y como resultado, menor acceso a tratamiento y cuidado médico. ¿Habrá acaso alguna manera de que nuestras iglesias puedan usar de sus recursos para mejorar la salud de nuestros vecinos hispanos?

La iglesia Maranata y la Central en Grand Rapids hicieron algo especial en esta área. En cooperación con la Universidad de Andrews, estas iglesias organizaron una feria de salud con doce puestos en los que los participantes podían hacerse exámenes en áreas como alta presión, diabetes, SIDA, capacidad pulmonar, el pulso, entre otras. El evento se anunció por radio y en el periódico y fue impresionante ver la cantidad de personas que asistieron y se beneficiaron.

El éxito de esta iniciativa fortaleció en mí la convicción de que nuestras iglesias hispanas deberían ofrecer programas como ferias de salud, combinados con enseñanzas prácticas de cómo cuidar la salud. No tengo la menor duda de que gran cantidad de vecinos asistirían a un evento como éste.

El departamento hispano de la Unión está interesado en apoyar la obra médica misionera. Si su iglesia desea organizar un programa de salud para la comunidad, por favor comuníquese conmigo. Envieme un correo electrónico a vicepresident@lucdsa.org. Mi oración es que cuando concreten iniciativas como la de Grand Rapids, el resultado sea la sanidad tanto del alma como del cuerpo de multitudes de personas.

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente general de la Unión del Lago.
born on a farm in 1905, in Chatham, Ontario, Edith Cook moved to Detroit with her father, mother, and sister when she was only six weeks old. Five years later, they moved back to the farm until Edith was seven, when they returned to Detroit.

Edith attended the Hastings Street Mission, which became the East Side Church under the Lake Region Conference, and then the Burns Church where Edith is a charter member. Edith recalls Thomas Jimerson, a lay preacher and evangelist, who was instrumental in establishing the group of believers at the little storefront church and school.

“During the week, the storefront was a school where Violet Vandeberg was our teacher,” recalls Edith. “On Friday, we would put the desks aside and put out folding benches to make it a church for Sabbath. If there is one thing I have to say, it’s to stay in school and get an education. Don’t wait until you get into troubles like I did.”

Edith discontinued her education in the ninth grade at the Cass Technical High School to go to work, a decision she later regretted. At the age of 13, Edith was baptized at the East Michigan Conference Camp Meeting in Holly, by Arthur V. Cotton, pastor, officially making her a third generation Adventist, preceded by her mother, Amanda Cook, and her grandmother Wilmore.

She continued strong in her faith until at the age of 17 she was attracted to the dance halls of Detroit. Not wanting to be a hypocrite, she asked that her name be taken off the books at the church. It was in the dance halls that she met her husband, George Glenn. After ten years of kicking up their heels together, Edith’s conscience began to bother her with what she described as the new vulgar dances of the day. One day she announced to her husband, “I’m going back to church. Are you coming with me?” He supported her in her decision and they became faithful members.

“If you’re supposed to be a Christian, don’t go anywhere outside of the Lord’s blessing,” she advises, “because the
devil will try to take advantage of the situation and seek to destroy you.” She speaks from experience. Edith’s and George’s marriage produced twelve children, though they experienced the pain of losing their youngest son to death.

After only sixteen years together, George passed away, leaving Edith with 11 children to raise on her own. Today there are seven surviving children: Dorothy Keith, Pauline Smith, Esther Lowe, Pearl Glenn, Earl Glenn, Paul Glenn, and Gerald Glenn. To her best recollection, Edith has about forty-nine or more grandchildren and great-grandchildren combined.

At the age of 45, Edith studied nursing, but due to an auto accident she was unable to complete the course until September, 1952. Earlier that year, she was introduced to James Bagby, and they were married on September 12, 1955. Edith is described as quiet and reserved with a sharp mind and well educated. She retired from nursing in 1971 at the age of 65, but always felt bad about not graduating from high school.

Following the death of her husband, James, Edith decided she needed to take care of her unfinished business and enrolled in an adult education program. She completed all the necessary requirements and graduated from high school in 1982 at the tender age of 77.

Although she left the Chatham farm at the age of seven, she has always loved gardening. “There is something about working with the soil that is healing,” she says. “Maybe it’s because of our kinship with the soil. After all, we were formed from the soil of the earth.”

It’s her close connection with her Creator and her love for His Word that explains her lack of interest in television. She says it’s because very few programs teach moral lessons. “My vision is not as good as it used to be and I want to save my eyesight for reading my Bible lessons and good periodicals,” she explains.

Edith attributes her longevity to clean living, plenty of rest, and “to the grace of God.” She enjoys a vegetarian diet, takes no medications except eye drops when necessary, and says, “All the honor and praise goes to God. I believe in His promise of long life to those who ‘honor and obey’ their parents.”

Her faith in God remains strong; she is active in service to others and has an ongoing quest to learn. Edith has served as head deaconess and was a Sabbath school teacher for primary, youth, and new believers classes. Each Sabbath when the church doors swing open, you will find Edith sitting and waiting patiently for Sabbath school to begin, and she remains throughout the day, continuing to learn and contribute at the age of 101!

Born during the days of Theodore Roosevelt, Edith has seen America go through many changes under the leadership of 18 presidents. To today’s generation, she advises, “Stay close to the Lord and work in His work.” She was surprised that others have taken notice of God’s blessing on her life when she was recently featured in the June 5 issue of JET magazine.

Living more than a century in anticipation of Jesus’ Second Coming, Edith wants to be ready to go home with Him to live in His presence throughout eternity. She invites everyone to commit to a life of faithfulness that they, too, might enjoy the rich blessings of God.

Ruth Kennedy is a member of the Burns Seventh-day Adventist Church in Detroit, Michigan.
not many people enter the world of broadcast television after reaching 90, but James “Jim” Russell has done just that. He co-hosts Scriptural Pursuit, a 30-minute weekly television and radio program that reviews the Sabbath school lesson themes published by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. A “retired” minister, Jim has enjoyed a lifetime of study and rich experiences that he brings to the program which he co-hosts with his son, Glenn Russell, assistant professor of religion at Andrews University.
Scriptural Pursuit began in the mid '80s on WAUS-FM as a one-hour radio program hosted by Allen Steele. Several hosts followed, including Robert McIver, a former Andrews University graduate student; Pat Morrison, a former campus chaplain; and George Akers, a professor in the School of Education. Today communication students, in cooperation with International Learning Systems and WYGN-LP Channel 12 in Berrien Springs, Michigan, produce the show as a 30-minute television program shared around the world through the Hope Channel and beginning this month, on LifeTalk Radio Network.

Jim is loved by the members of the crew. They appreciate his thoughtful, friendly demeanor and his great sense of humor. But working in the studio, with all the setup involved, demands a lot of patience. And patience is a virtue that has come to Jim through a variety of learning experiences on his journey with God.

Born in 1913, in Toronto, Ontario, Jim celebrated his first birthday in a log cabin in the northern wilderness of forests and lakes. With one older sister and three older brothers free to play outside, Jim spent much of his crawling and toddling time in the little cabin with his mother. One day, while his father worked at a lumber camp some distance away, a forest fire broke out and threatened their little cabin. Isolated in the woods, a mile from their nearest neighbor, his mother gathered up the children and they sat on the floor with buckets of water while they fervently prayed for the Lord to turn the fire away. As the fire approached the cabin, the wind blew it the other way.

With the outbreak of World War I, Jim's father enlisted in the army and the family moved back to Toronto. Near the end of the war, his mother took the children night by night to some evangelistic meetings held in the city. At the end of the meetings, his mother and older sister were baptized.

When Jim's father came home from the war, they moved to a small farm. Although they had limited income and were not near an Adventist church or school, each of the five children were given the opportunity to receive an advanced education at an Adventist school. Jim attended South Lancaster Academy, where his sister and her husband taught. Without the aid of student loans or grants, he was able to continue his education at Atlantic Union College by working in the bindery and serving part time as dean of boys in the dorm above the bindery. He graduated completely free of debt.

It was during college that he met Carolyn Hall and developed a meaningful relationship with shared dreams. “At that time they had what they called a foreign mission band,” recalls Jim. “We both got the inspiration to be missionaries—to go to the mission field. Well, we graduated and went out to teach at Union Springs Academy. We still had that desire and conviction, and it wasn't long before the General Conference asked us to go overseas. We took that as a sign that the Lord was opening up the way for us to serve Him elsewhere.”

After a number of delays and changes in plans, Jim and Carolyn, along with baby Janet, boarded a ship in New York headed for Brazil and across the South Atlantic to Africa. While en route, their ship was attacked by a German Raider and sunk.

“The other day,” recalls Jim, “I was looking back over the years a bit, and I got out a piece of paper and jotted down seven different occasions when I thought I was going to either die or get killed—with my life seemed threatened and I survived. The Lord brought me through them. On occasions like that I wondered, ‘Why, Lord? Why? Why did You spare my life?’ Obviously, He does it so that we might serve Him. Some good can come out of every experience in life.

‘Life is full of unexpected experiences that can test your faith—test your patience. And it surely did that to us. We'd been married three years and we had a little baby girl, and she was the youngest passenger on the ship when this happened. Sometimes we think, ‘Well, we must have made a mistake. We should have gone to Asia instead of Africa. Why did we decide to go this way?’

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“You know, our planning is oft times not God’s planning for us. And so we had many questions. ‘Lord, we were going to the mission field. How come this happened?’"

Following their rescue, Carolyn and Janet were allowed to return to America, but Jim ended up spending four years as a prisoner of war in Stalag 10b. At the end of that horrible experience Jim says, “It seemed like the Lord was saying, ‘Alright, have you learned your lesson? Are you ready to go out again?’

“We sometimes wonder if we ever did learn all the lessons the Lord had in mind for us, but He taught us a lot of patience, and leaning on Him for guidance to understand that man proposes, but God disposes.

“It’s not always exactly the way we had planned, or even sometimes how the brethren planned for us, but God has His own plans, and evidently He saw that we needed four more years of experience of one kind or another and then He sent us out. Instead of going to East Africa, we ended up in Egypt and Lebanon.”

Jim served the people of the Middle East for 23 years before returning to the U.S. as a pastor. “It’s always amazing to me,” remarks Jim, “and it’s more amazing as time goes on, how the events of life were not as I planned, but they were in God’s plan. Commit your life to God in the morning—every morning—and ask Him to lead you through the day and that’s what He’ll do.

“It’s perplexing for young people because they look ahead; they want to plan their life, their future. Pressures come to them}

from all sides to do things the way the world is doing it. There’s always a tendency to go the way the world goes when really what young people need to do is get down on their knees and commit their lives to the Lord, and say, ‘Lord, I don’t know what the future holds, but I know Who holds the future and You can direct me.’ It’s a matter of surrender, isn’t it? Surrender—committing our lives to the Lord, so that He will guide us.

“I remember our college motto used to be, ‘Service—Not Fame.’ It’s so easy in this life to become self-centered, because of all the pressures in life—especially economic pressures. The devil tries to keep people busy thinking about themselves instead of others. But if you spend time with the Word, the things of this world become less attractive and your mind is set on Heaven. You long more and more for heavenly things and not for earthly things. But God’s plan for each one of us is to be a blessing to someone else.”

Much of Jim’s faith and confidence can be attributed to the many portions of the Bible that he has committed to memory. As they were abandoning ship, he helped Carolyn, baby Janet, and the other women down the rope ladders into the lifeboats. He quickly returned to their cabin to grab a few supplies for the baby and slipped his precious Bible into the baby’s blanket.

“When you go down thirty feet on a rope ladder swinging back and forth, you tend to lose some things,” notes Jim. “Wouldn’t you know, my Bible slipped out of the little bundle I was carrying, down into the water, and after I got down into the lifeboat and our boat pushed away from the ship,
I looked over the side and there was something black floating on the water. And when it came closer, it was this Bible floating on the water just like that. I was able to grab it up.” The Word of God remains Jim’s most precious possession.

“There is nothing that can take the place of personal devotions. When my wife’s health was failing, we sat at the breakfast table; when we were finished, I was reading something for our devotions. In the middle of our devotions, my wife bowed her head. She suffered a severe stroke.

“My wife was in the hospital for that 48 hours before she passed away. During that time I was by her side there and trying to see—she was totally unconscious, but she must have been somewhat conscious, and I remember saying to her, to see if she would respond to me, I said, ‘Do you remember Isaiah 26:3?’ And right off she said, ‘Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed upon thee.’ Even though she was unconscious, that message of the Lord was there in her mind.

“When we get to Heaven, there's going to be, we think now, there's going to be questions that we'll want to ask and get the answers to. But you know, I think Heaven will be such a wonderful blessing to us that what happened to us on Earth will be of little importance. We'll forget it all and enjoy the blessings of Heaven.”

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.
Are You a Pioneer in Health?

Recently Seventh-day Adventists were highlighted in mainstream news media. The November 2005 *National Geographic* (NG) article on longevity sparked national news coverage of the Adventist church and Adventist centenarians like Marge Jetton. Results from the 1976 Adventist Health Study led to the inclusion of Adventists in the NG article. The 1976 Study enrolled 34,000 California Adventists and pioneered discoveries in lifestyle and health. However, the study was not large enough to reach clear conclusions on other important questions. The larger, current Adventist Health Study hopes to clarify these questions.

The original study showed that compared with other non-smoking Californians, Adventists on average have significantly fewer cancers and heart attacks. Other key findings from the 1976 Study of the 34,000 California Adventists included the following:

- On average, Adventist men live 7.3 years longer and Adventist women live 4.4 years longer than other Californians.
- Five simple health behaviors (not smoking, eating a plant-based diet, eating nuts several times per week, regular exercise, and maintaining normal weight), promoted and practiced by Adventists for more than 100 years, increase life span by up to ten years.
- Fruits and vegetables lowered the risk of heart disease and cancer.
- Increasing consumption of red and white meat was associated with an increased risk of colon cancer, but eating legumes decreased risk.
- Eating nuts several times a week reduces heart attack risk by up to 50 percent.
- Eating whole grain bread instead of white bread reduced nonfatal heart attack risk by 45 percent.
- Drinking five or more glasses of water a day may reduce heart disease by 50 percent.
- Men who have a high consumption of tomatoes reduced their risk of prostate cancer by 40 percent.
- Drinking soy milk more than once daily may reduce prostate cancer risk by 70 percent.

The current study will investigate the role of soy foods, calcium, and other foods and lifestyle factors in breast, prostate and colon cancers, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and Alzheimer's disease, quality of life and healthy aging.
How YOU can help us reach our goal:

- Show the DVD “Secrets of Living Longer” to your church members. (If your church did not receive a copy, please contact us.)
- Place an announcement in your church bulletin. “AHS-2 needs more participants. All members 30 years and older can join. Call toll-free 1-877-700-7077.”
- Distribute the flyers “How can we ____ when ____ are missing?”. Ask us for more.
- Assist your AHS-2 coordinator in contacting and encouraging those who have yet to return their questionnaires. It’s not too late!

Currently we have over 91,000 Adventists enrolled, but that is not quite enough. We need another 15,000 or more Adventists. If you have completed your questionnaire, thank you, and please encourage your Adventist friends to follow your example. If you have signed up, but not completed the questionnaire, it is not too late to complete and return your questionnaire to us. If you are 30 years or older and have not signed up yet, why not do it today? To enroll in the study, please go to www.adventisthealthstudy.org or call toll free 1-877-700-7077.

Please join us today as pioneers in the health discoveries of tomorrow, enabling the church to fulfill the health mission God gave to the Adventist pioneers of yesterday.

Thank you for helping AHS-2 over the 100,000 mark.

This is our last big push for enrollment.
A Heartfelt Ministry: Student Outreach Covers More than Science

Special ministries find their niche when people of faith put their heads together to make a difference. Recently, a heart healthy program at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital (AHH) was the conduit to bring two diverse school groups together to illustrate that hearts of all races beat the same.

While heart disease is the No. 1 killer in the United States, prejudice and cultural and economic differences can also scar hearts. The Parent-Teacher Association of Prospect School in Clarendon Hills, Ill., met a challenge to create an appreciation of diversity by starting a pen pal program with Chicago students at William Penn School. The Start With the Heart program at AHH fostered those friendships in an educational but fun atmosphere.

“Inner city schools often lack funding for core curriculum, let alone field trips,” said Penn teacher Heather Furrow who was eager for her fifth-grade class to participate in Start With the Heart. The four-part program teaches youngsters the importance of prevention and early detection of heart disease. It includes hands-on activities in conjunction with a health unit taught in schools.

The program was founded in 1993 by Marcie Calandra, RN, the wife of David Calandra, M.D., a cardiac surgeon on the joint medical staff of AHH and Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. The program has grown to include more than 400 students from nearby school districts and is offered at both hospitals.

Known as “Mrs. Heart,” Marcie Calandra teaches a lesson on anatomy and physiology of the heart by visiting each school and dissecting a cow’s heart. The pseudo open-heart surgery gives students an appreciation for the organ that needs to be well cared for to last a lifetime. Classroom teachers present lessons on healthy eating and exercise.

According to Anita Darcy Siefert, co-chair of Community Outreach Committee at Prospect School, the pupils learned they shared dreams and the same concerns for their families. When the students took their field trip to Robert Crown Center in Hinsdale, “They learned that a diet heavy on junk food and a lifestyle with little exercise increases the risk for heart disease,” noted Brian Westbury, coordinator of Start With the Heart. They also met their pen pals for the first time. And when they visited AHH for the conclusion of the Start With the Heart program, they sat side by side with their extended classmates and watched David Calandra perform a valve replacement in a cow’s heart that was still attached to its trachea and lungs.

The reaction of both Prospect and Penn students: “It was awesome!”

“This has been a great experience socially and academically for my students,” said Penn teacher Furrow.

Kelly Avick, a fourth-grade teacher at Prospect School, noted her students learned, “You could make a new friend by getting in there and doing it. The girls are chatting away, and this group of boys looks like they have been friends for a long time.”

Marcie Calandra noted, “There are many things that make the students from Prospect and Penn alike. You are all eager to learn, you are polite, respectful, and have dedicated teachers. You are more alike than different. You just need to get to know each other to see those similarities.”

Lynn Larson, public relations specialist for Adventist Midwest Health

Author's Note: David and Marcie Calandra and their daughter, Ashley, a student nurse, participated in Adventist Midwest Health’s 2006 mission trip to Ghana, West Africa. The Calandras are very committed to quality healthcare and serving others. David will head a medical team on the 2007 mission trip to Ecuador, and Marcie will oversee all the medical and dental teams as an administrator in Ecuador.
Andrews Hires New Gymnastics Coach

The 2006–2007 school year will bring a new face to gymnastics at Andrews University: Christian Lighthall. Gymnastics runs through Lighthall’s veins. Both an experienced gymnast and coach, Lighthall comes to Andrews from Mount Pigmah Academy in N.C., where he coached and taught since 1999. He also spent three years as a coach at Hinsdale Adventist Academy in Ill. and one year at Monterey Bay Academy in Monterey, Calif. In 1995, Lighthall graduated with a degree in physical education from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., where he was a member on the Gym Masters team for five years. But his love for gymnastics stretches back through his days on the Bass Memorial Academy team.

Lighthall brings with him not only fresh ideas for routines and stunts, but a passion for the sport and the Andrews University Gymnastics tradition. “Andrews has a long tradition of gymnastics, and is really the birthplace of Adventist gymnastics,” he notes. “My goal is to expand and continue the Gymnastics legacy, as well as take the program to a new level of excellence. My idea of a strong team is not only based on the performance presented on the mat; a Christ-centered team that is bonded closely together can accomplish many incredible things and touch many lives. My primary goal as a coach is for the Gymnastics to be a trophy for Christ.”

Lighthall joins the Andrews community with his wife of 11 years, Brandee, and their two pet Boxers. When he’s not spotting back flips and choreographing floor routines, Lighthall enjoys traveling, reading, photography, and of course, sports.

Merkel Pens New Series of Books for Young Readers

Ruth Merkel has always loved telling stories. When her granddaughter, Erin, was born, Ruth wanted to share with her not only the family stories she cherished, but the significance of what it meant for Erin to be a sixth generation Seventh-day Adventist and 13th generation American.

“I wanted her to know it wasn’t by chance that she was a sixth generation Adventist,” Ruth explains, “that it was by God’s providence, guidance, and abundant love. Heritage is very important and too often not paid attention to.”

So, Ruth started to write, putting together a small booklet of stories for Erin about each of the six generations of Adventist girls in her family. About a year after she finished the booklet, Ruth saw an ad in the Andrews Agenda, Andrews University’s weekly newsletter, about an upcoming visit by representatives from the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Thinking it was a seminar for writers, Ruth called and set an appointment time; however, upon her arrival, she found herself in a one-on-one meeting with editors looking for new authors. Ruth showed them her book of stories, and it peeked their interest. Soon, Ruth found herself with a book contract.

Now, almost ten years after that meeting, the first three, in what will be a series of six books, hit the shelves in May 2006. The Hannah’s Girls series takes young readers back through six generations of Adventist girls, starting with Ann (1833–1897). Ruth’s great-grandmother and Erin’s great-great–great grandmother, Marilla (1851–1916), Grace (1890–1973), Ruth, Elaine, and of course, Erin. The last three books are expected to be released sometime next year. Ann, Marilla, and Grace are now available through the Review and Herald Publishing Association, the Andrews University Bookstore, Adventist Book Centers across the country, and Amazon.com.

Ruth is a long-time member of the Berrien Springs community, serving as secretary to four Andrews University presidents, as well as attending the university herself, receiving a B.A. in office management in 1989. Currently retired, she and her husband Eugene recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Ruth’s granddaughter, Erin, will be a senior this year at Spring Valley Academy, in Dayton, Ohio.
Public High School Students Attend STANDOUT Weekend

Michigan—Colorful T-shirts were handed to 140 teenagers from across Mich. and other Lake Union states upon their arrival for a Mar. 24–26, 2006, spiritual retreat at Andrews University. It wasn’t hard to match the color of their T-shirts with the theme for the weekend: STANDOUT.

“The main point ... was to help public high school students learn how to stand out for God, whether it be in their public school setting, with their friends, or with their local church,” said Maria Long, Andrews enrollment coordinator (public high school ministries), the main organizer for the weekend.

Impromptu skits, breakout sessions, two concerts, and an interactive prayer room each took their place in an impressive lineup of events for the retreat. Teens were encouraged in their faith and in their attempts to witness to their peers.

One of the most important parts of the weekend was the opportunity teens had to make friends with other people their age who share their beliefs. “I loved the fact that there were kids from all over the Midwest, and that they were all like me—in public high school—there to meet others and worship God,” said 17-year-old Jon Groda from Berrien Springs, Mich. The friendships that formed showed up both in group discussions and events like the dodge ball tournament where new friends joined together to form teams.

“I would totally recommend this kind of weekend to everyone, even to people who haven’t accepted Christ—especially those people. If a person like that were to go to one of these weekends, I think that they would realize that accepting Christ is something great,” said 16-year-old Daric Elmer from Janesville, Wis.

Lauren Brooks, 16, from Normal, Ill., commented on what it was like to be an Adventist in public school. “It’s hard, and I think that this weekend really helped to show each of us what we could do in our school to stand out. I would recommend this kind of weekend to other public school students.”

In a special “penny ceremony” on Saturday night, every participant was handed a penny, spray painted with a bright “S” on it, in memory of the STANDOUT weekend. Each student then gave the penny to someone they wanted to see in Heaven. “I loved it ... My sister keeps her special penny and a mustard seed from the prayer room in her wallet. She says, “I have my reminder to stand out and a little bit of faith ... tucked away in my purse,” said 17-year-old Berrien Springs resident, Kemily Morrison, showing that STANDOUT was about more than just a fun weekend.

Since the retreat, teens have decided to act on what they learned. Laura Ritter, 17, from Muskegon, Mich., said, “After STANDOUT, I realized how necessary a youth ministry was in my church because so many of the people my age are leaving. I really felt a burden to help bring those teens back into the church. I’m currently in the process of working with my church’s board to start a weekly youth group.” Laura is one of a number of teens who have met the challenge of STANDOUT and are determined to witness for God in their communities.

For more information about the 2007 Lake Union/Andrews University Public High School Spiritual Retreat weekend, e-mail Ron Whitehead at pastorron@andrews.edu, or Stephen Payne at gumguy@andrews.edu.

Ron Whitehead, assistant to the president for spiritual life at Andrews University and Center for Youth Evangelism executive director
Church Creates Impressive Scene to Commemorate the Ten Commandments

Michigan—In Nov. 2004 the Edwardsburg Seventh-day Adventist Church closed on a five-acre parcel of land on the main highway just west of town on U.S. Highway 12. In Mar. 2006 the debt was paid in full and plans moved forward to begin building soon.

When plans for Ten Commandments Day began unfolding, Edwardsburg Church members went into action under the leadership of Isaias Santos, pastor; Ken Scribner, first elder; and Scott Mark, personal ministries director. Plans were formulated for an old-fashioned tent revival camp meeting to reach this fishing community.

A Ten Commandments sign was erected which showed the Roman numerals one through ten. There was only one word on the sign at the fourth commandment. It read, “Remember?” On top of the sign sat a little boy with his fishing pole and two fish dangling from the tip. Below the ‘Ten Commandments sign was a smaller sign that read, “Fishing for Truth?” which was the title of the planned meetings.

The team ordered Ten Commandments Twice Removed. Members distributed more than one thousand books throughout the surrounding neighborhoods. They enclosed invitations for the upcoming meetings to be held in a large tent.

On Fri., May 5, the 50-degree weather and high winds did not deter members. They worked together to set up and pitch camp around a fire pit. On Sabbath morning, coat-and-blanket-clad people gathered in the tent to hear Andrews University Seminary student, Dean Read, speak on the Ten Commandments and the ark of His covenant within the temple in Heaven as depicted in Rev. 11:15–19. Special music for the weekend was provided by Marlene Elliott. After morning services, the large tent was turned into a banquet hall. Most stayed for the afternoon meeting. The day ended with singing around the bonfire; the group was accompanied by Martha Rentro with her accordion.

The Sabbath atmosphere lingered long into the evening until one by one attendees drifted away, back to their homes—the heartiest into their campers. The weekend concluded with another meeting Sunday morning and ended with the inspiring song, “When We All Get to Heaven.”

Although the impact on the community is unknown, the spirit of the members of the Edwardsburg Church has been strengthened through their efforts. They came away from the event re-affirmed in their commitment to keep all of God’s Ten Commandments.

“We are not to be discouraged,” said the personal ministries director who spearheaded this event. “Our job was to plant the seed. Now, it’s up to God to pour out the Latter Rain and bring the seed to harvest.”

The Edwardsburg Seventh-day Adventist Church is presently meeting in a church building at 22334 U.S. Highway 12 in Adamsville, Mich., four miles east of Edwardsburg.

Kathryn A. Scribner, Edwardsburg Church correspondent

Niles Philadelphia Member Receives Special Honor

Karen Allen, RN, Ph.D., FAAN (Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing), was recently selected by the American Nurses Association Credentialing Center’s Commission on the Magnet Recognition Program to be a Magnet Status appraiser. Magnet Status is considered the gold standard for quality nursing care sought by many health care organizations.

The Commission on Magnet Recognition Program has been in existence since the 1980s and was developed to recognize health care organizations that provide excellence in nursing and patient care. Based on quality indicators and standards of nursing practice, Magnet Recognition provides consumers with the ultimate benchmark to measure the quality of care they can expect to receive.

continued...
Allen will be a member of one of the teams visiting Magnet Status applicants, appraising health care system operations against a number of stringent criteria. Qualifications for Magnet Status appraisers include significant achievement in areas such as professional nursing practice, leadership, research and data management, team-building and development skills, verbal and written communication skills, project management, and program evaluation.

Allen is chair of the nursing department at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. She is a member of the Niles (Mich.) Philadelphia Church and the Lake Region Conference executive committee.

Debbie Young, Lake Region Conference correspondent

[UNION NEWS]

Ten Commandments Day Books Are Distributed Like the Leaves of Autumn

Michigan—The Ten Commandments Day movement caught many by surprise. As Michigan Conference officers and several department directors met to discuss the many approaches that could be taken, a vision came into focus—mobilize members to distribute encouraging literature about the Ten Commandments to 500,000 Michigan homes.

With the support of district superintendents, pastors, and conference evangelists, many members caught the vision and believed this was a God-given opportunity.

Various teams explored available materials and gave local churches the opportunity to choose those most appropriate for their communities. A major donor made it possible for Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) to give the Michigan Conference 100,000 copies of Ten Commandments Twice Removed, if Michigan paid for shipping. Project Restore, a lay-driven supporting ministry, edited one of their publications naming it, The Law of Liberty, Enduring Principles of Freedom. This material on the Ten Commandments especially focused on the Sabbath. The Michigan Conference designed a back page for 500,000 copies of the publication with a special offer and a new website (http://www.godsholylaw.com). Because time was short, orders for materials were placed quickly. Some chose the 3ABN offer, others chose The Law of Liberty, Enduring Principles of Freedom magazine; most chose some of each. It soon became evident that the order to 3ABN had to be increased to 150,000 books. An insert about the new website was designed for placement in the books. Although there were no funds budgeted for this major outreach, churches willingly picked up a major part of the expense by faith.

To save shipping expenses, church orders had to be filled by the time pastors came to Lansing for a previously-scheduled meeting. The Hamblin Company, a supporting printing ministry in Michigan, prepared the book inserts and delivered them when needed, although time was very tight. Remnant Publications, another supporting ministry in Michigan, printed the 3ABN books on time, and the Review and Herald Publishing Association delivered the 500,000 magazines as scheduled.

By Tues. evening, Apr. 11, three semi-trailers arrived in the Lansing Adventist Church parking lot. The next morning, the pastors rose to the occasion by coming to the meeting in work clothes, ready to help with the distribution. A schedule was devised that organized churches and pastors into four-minute

More than 350,000 magazines and 215,000 books were loaded into cars, vans, and trucks in less than five hours.

To save mailing expenses, magazine and book orders were filled in one day. It took a cooperative effort; each pastor or church member was allotted four minutes to collect their order.

To save mailing expenses, magazine and book orders were filled in one day. It took a cooperative effort; each pastor or church member was allotted four minutes to collect their order.
time slots to collect their materials.

With the help of Conference office staff, the system worked like clockwork, even through intermittent bouts of rain. By 3:15 p.m., loading was completed. More than 350,000 magazines and 215,000 books were distributed to the churches through the pastors and lay members, all in less than five hours.

When the materials arrived at the churches, some were labeled for mailing while many others were hand-delivered to people in their communities. Even though it was spring in Michigan, the literature was scattered like the leaves of autumn.

Michael Nickless, Michigan Conference communication director

Indiana Adventists Seize a “Silver-Platter” Opportunity

Indiana—Several Indiana Adventist churches and schools used the occasion of the Ten Commandments Day initiative (May 7) as a “silver platter” to reach out to explain God’s wonderful gift of the Law—the whole Law—written on our hearts through the grace of Christ so we may experience an inner transformation of character.

Members of the Terre Haute, Lewis, and Green castle churches passed out copies of Ten Commandments Twice Removed, to those living around each of the churches. Ernie Peckham, pastor of the three churches, said they all included Bible study cards and invitations to attend services in the respective churches. Altogether, they gave out 1,500 books! Two of the churches distributed their books during prayer meeting time in the two weeks leading up to Ten Commandments Day. Many reported they were blessed by the opportunity to place truth-filled books into the hands of their neighbors and friends! Peckham presented a special commemoration sermon on May 6 that highlighted the Ten Commandments and the need to once again focus on keeping God’s Law.

According to Dean Whitlow, Spencer Church pastor, about 15 members distributed 1,000 Ten Commandments booklets after lunch on Sabbath. All were amazed at how quickly the work was accomplished!

The Bedford and Bloomington churches distributed 500 Ten Commandments Twice Removed. Inside each book, a label was attached with the church’s name, address, and an invitation to visit the church. A beautiful bookmark with the Ten Commandments on it was also handed out with each book. Fernando Ortiz, pastor, says the purpose of his church’s involvement was to plant some seeds in the community and to create an awareness of God’s exceptional code of freedom!

Twenty-seven members of the Cicero Church met together for prayer on Sabbath afternoon, May 6, and then went door to door in their town handing out booklets on the Ten Commandments and making friends for Jesus! Paul Yeoman, Cicero Church associate pastor, found several people eager to talk about spiritual subjects as he visited at their doors. Justin Thurber, a Cicero Church young person, observed that people were either very open to receiving the book or they were very against it. He said there doesn’t seem to be much middle ground these days. Aaron Clark, Cicero Church personal ministries leader, reported that 800 booklets were distributed that Sabbath afternoon.

Brian Yensho, pastor of the Greenwood and Indianapolis Southside churches, said they ordered 500 of Mark Finley’s pamphlet on the Ten Commandments and are in the process of giving them to co-workers, friends, and neighbors.

Under the leadership of their pastor, Allen Shepherd, the Northwest and the Hammond Church members distributed 400 announcements to the homes in their area with an invitation to an upcoming evangelistic service.

Besides passing out booklets on the Ten Commandments to their neighbors and friends, Evansville Adventist Elementary School students, under the guidance of their teacher Diane Kobor, presented a special program called, “Commandment Keepers.” For the program, they drew from true stories: The Unlikeliest Hero, (about World War II conscientious objector, Desmond Doss, who would not kill because of his belief in the sixth commandment, and who also honored the fourth commandment by keeping holy the seventh-day Sabbath in the face of intolerance); A Thousand Shall Fall, (about Franz Hasel, an Adventist in the Nazi army who always kept the Sabbath and never used a gun against the enemy); and The Hiding Place, (about the devoted ten Boom family who dedicated their lives in service to their fellow man in Nazi-occupied Holland). The students acted out how God’s people kept the commandments even during the difficulty of war.

Now is definitely a time of golden opportunity for every Seventh-day Adventist to reach out to their friends and neighbors with the good news of God’s Law. Let us praise the Lord for giving us this opening on a “silver platter” to share with those around us!

Judith Yeoman, Indiana Conference correspondent

Kasey and Angie Eisele distributed booklets in Cicero for the Ten Commandments Day initiative at their church.

Grandpa ten Boom was portrayed by Diane Kobor, principal at Evansville Adventist School.

Visit www.LakeUnionHerald.org
Chaplain of the U.S. Senate Releases Inspirational Book

In his debut book, From the Hood to the Hill: A Story of Overcoming, Barry C. Black, Ph.D., relates a journey that led from the inner city of Baltimore, Md., to becoming the chief of chaplains for the U.S. Navy, and eventually the first African-American chaplain of the U.S. Senate.

Some measure of success by the heights reached, but Black evaluates his life by the obstacles that catapulted him to stand on higher ground. This book reveals how God chooses and uses His servants to fulfill His plans, and provides shortcuts to excellence as Black shows readers how they, too, can find blessings in affliction, harness prayer power, and learn to lead.

Black is the first person of color in the nation’s history to serve the spiritual needs of our country’s lawmakers as chaplain of the U.S. Senate. He brings to the office a passion for learning, and he stands on his educational training as the foundation of his career. His bachelor’s degree in theology from Oakwood College was the catalyst.

Black’s book will be released Aug. 22, 2006. Pre-order your copy of From the Hood to the Hill: A Story of Overcoming in one of three ways: visit www.admiralblack.com and place your secure order online; use the order form available on the website and send in your check; or look for the book at your local bookstore.

Royalties from the first 20,000 copies sold will directly benefit the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Institute at Oakwood College.

For more information, contact the Public Relations Office at Oakwood College: 256-726-7202 or pr@oakwood.edu.

New Booklet Released to Help Reach Hispanic Immigrants

As the immigration reform debate heats up, many Christians wonder how to respond. El Centinela magazine and Pacific Press have developed a new Spanish sharing tool called Home Land for All (Todos Somos Inmigrantes), to help Adventists reach out to Hispanic immigrants.

Hispanics make up 80 percent of the nation’s estimated 12 million illegal immigrants. “Immigration reform is an issue that has divided lawmakers and citizens alike, even leading to violence and racial tensions in our country. Part of the problem is that many people feel immigration reform is an attack on Hispanics, who make up a majority of the nation’s illegal immigrants,” says Miguel Valdivia, co-author of Home Land for All (Todos Somos Inmigrantes) and editor of El Centinela. “We must remember that we are all immigrants in this world. Earth is not our home; Heaven is,” says Valdivia, who is a U.S. immigrant himself.

The idea that “we are all immigrants” is what Home Land for All (Todos Somos Inmigrantes) is based on. This 32-page, full color, sharing booklet introduces readers to Christ and offers information about free Bible study guides. It also addresses the challenges immigrants face in immigrating to a new country and offers practical resources to the reader.

Home Land for All (Todos Somos Inmigrantes) is available in English and Spanish at your local Adventist Book Center. A sample copy is accessible online at www.AdventistBookCenter.com or www.LibroAdventista.com. Quantity discount pricing is available. To place an order, call toll-free 800-765-6955.
Within the Lake Union, the officiating pastor or church communication leader is responsible for submission of information to this column. Forms are available in print format, or they can be filled out and submitted directly online. Milepost forms are available at www.lakeuniononherald.org. Conference addresses and phone numbers are in the masthead on page 39.

Weddings
Deborah E. Nessen and Andrew J. Langshaw were married May 21, 2006, in Cedar Lake, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Paul Yeoman. Deborah is the daughter of Mona and the late Larry Nessen of Stanton, Mich., and Andrew is the son of Douglas and Glenda Langshaw of Allegan, Mich.

The Langshaws are making their home in Adairsville, Ga.

Obituaries
BAUER, Albert W., age 93; born May 1, 1913, in Jawa, S.D.; died May 6, 2006, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.
Survivors include his wife, Ann (Gruzen-sky); sons, Bruce and Ken; daughters, Lu-anne Bauer and Raelene Brower; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

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

GRUGEL, Carl E., age 94; born Oct. 1, 1910, in Wolcott, Ind.; died Mar. 1, 2005, in Terre Haute, Ind. He was a member of the Terre Haute Church.
Survivors include his daughters, Georgia Van Nostrand and Susan Rouke; stepdaugh ters, Cleta Harder and Barbara Johnston; ten grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ernie Peckham, and interment was in Roselawn Memorial Park Cemetery, Terre Haute.

HUFF, Margery N., age 71; born Aug. 21, 1934, in Poptar Bluff, Mo.; died Apr. 22, 2006, in Indianapolis, Ind. She was a member of the Chapel West Church, Indianapolis.
Survivors include her sisters, Mary Clark, Lois Jones, and Beverly Button.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Todd Stout, with private inurnment.

KLOOSTER, John E., age 81; born Apr. 22, 1924, in Chicago, Ill.; died Mar. 31, 2006, in LaPorte, Ind. He was a member of the La-Porte Church.
Survivors include his wife, Audrey M. (Van-Beukering); son, John C.; daughter, Janet L. Klooster; sister, Elizabeth "Betty" Kidd; and two grandchildren.

Pastor Todd Stout, with private inurnment.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Wayne Montson, and inurnment was in Salem Chapel Cemetery, Salem Heights, Ind.

PASCOE, Mary C. (Hensel), age 83; born May 8, 1922, in Chicago, Ill.; died Apr. 19, 2006, in Fennimore, Wis. She was a member of the Richland Center (Wis.) Church.
Survivors include her son, Kenneth "Gus" Jr.; sister, Theresa Blake; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one step-grandchild; and one step-great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor David Scofield, with private inurnment.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn (Bogdon Rost); son, Marion C.; stepsons, Preston, Gregory, and Jon Fletcher; daughter, Karen Allen; five grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Ernie Peckham and Aaron Wheaton, and interment was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Terre Haute.

SHELTON, Marilyn "Mary," age 66; born Nov. 28, 1938, in Hancock, Mich.; died Apr. 18, 2005, in Hancock, He was a member of the Houghton (Mich.) Church.
Survivors include his wife, Karen (Pierce) Sheltton; son, Todd F.; daughter, Terri Jo Sotala; mother, Aino (Loukuu) Sotala; brother, Dennis J.; and five grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Gordon Frase, with private inurnment.

THORESEN, Asa C., age 75; born Sept. 9, 1930, in Blenheim, New Zealand; died May 31, 2006, in McMinnville, Ore. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.
Survivors include his wife, Shirley A. (Slocomb) Thoresen; stepson, Joshua J. Lee; brother, Gordon; sister, Lois Stratton; and one step-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor José Vazquez, and interment was in Cicero (Ind.) Cemetery.

SLOCUM, Edith M. (Gally), age 91; born Jan. 29, 1915, in Joliet, Ill.; died Mar. 20, 2006, in Elkhart, Ind. She was a member of the Elkhart Church.
Survivors include her husband, George R.; daughters, Harrietta Teeter and Barbara Pet ter; stepdaughter, Carole J. Howard; brothers, Sidney W., Robert A., Gene E., and Oscar P. Gally; sister, Mildred M. Gally; eight grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Loren Nelson III, and interment was in St. Joseph Valley Memorial Park Cemetery, Granger, Ind.

THURMAN, Henrietta B., age 77; born July 31, 1928, in Henry Cty., Ind.; died Apr. 23, 2006, in New Castle, Ind. She was a member of the New Castle Church.
Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Tim Henry, and interment was in South Mound Cemetery, New Castle.

TRENT, H. Lee, age 64; born Jan. 23, 1942, in Janesville, Wis.; died May 5, 2006, in Carm el, Ind. He was a member of the Carmel Hope Fellowship Church.
Survivors include his wife, Mary A. (Vocht) Lee; son, Timothy L.; stepson, Joshua J. Lee; brother, Gordon; sister, Lois Stratton; and one step-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor José Vazquez, and interment was in Cicero (Ind.) Cemetery.

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Classifieds

All ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: $26 per insertion for Lake Union church members; $36 per insertion for all others. A form is available at www.lakeuniononhornald.org for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The Lake Union Herald cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The Lake Union Herald does not accept responsibility for typographical errors.

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The Senior Financial Compliance Administrator (SFCA) provides day-to-day support to ADRA implementing field offices on financial management processes, financial compliance, and adherence to donor regulations and ADRA policies. The SFCA serves as facilitator and communication link within ADRA headquarters (HQ) between ADRA HQ and field offices, and between ADRA HQ and US donors. The SFCA provides support to the ADRA network, with primary emphasis on implementation of U.S. federal funding activities, through monitoring activities, development and implementation of training activities, and problem resolution and supports ADRA HQ activities through participation in working groups, committees, or other venues as designated by ADRA HQ Administration.
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Announcements

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

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**Outdoor Education Week for Homeschoolers** is Aug. 21–24 at Timber Ridge Camp. For information or to register, contact Lutricia Whitlow at whitlow@hughes.net, or call 812-829-2507.

**Hispanic Family Retreat:** Plan to join other Hispanic Adventists for a spiritual retreat at Timber Ridge Camp, Sept. 1–3. For information call Orlando or Raquel Vazquez at 317-209-8246, or e-mail yolandy@juno.com.

**Boot Camp Training for Lay Evangelism** throughout Ind. will be held Sept. 15–16 at Timber Ridge Camp. Special speaker/trainer: Robert Folkenberg. For further information, call Sheri Dewitt at 317-844-6201.

**Boot Camp Training for Lay Evangelism** in the Greater Indianapolis area will be held Sept. 29–30 at the Glendale Church. Speaker/trainer: Ben Kochena. For further information, call Sheri Dewitt at 317-844-6201.

**Indiana Women’s Ministries Fall Weekend Retreat** is Sept. 29–Oct. 1 at the beautiful Oakwood Inn in Syracuse. Ginny Allen is this year’s guest speaker. For registration information, contact Shari Blackburn at sblackburn@juno.com, or call 260-622-4749.

**Teen Backpack Trip:** Hike the legendary Knobstone Trail, Sept. 29–Oct. 1. For applications, call Trish Thompson in the Indiana Conference youth department at 317-844-6201, or e-mail youth@indianaadventist.org.

**Lake Region**

Listen to *Pathway to Peace Radio Bible Class* with Cary and Elene Rodgers each Sun., 8:30–9:00 a.m., on WGPR 107.5 FM (Detroit). Uplifting Jesus Christ from Genesis to Revelation! It is a 30-minute radio broadcast with interactive Bible study, powerful testimonies, and inspirational thoughts. The speakers have the urgency and fervency to give the good news of Jesus Christ and His Three Angels Messages to the world through media. *Pathway to Peace* Bible class is designed for a diverse radio audience and is currently airing on more than 20 full-power stations in the U.S. and Central America. For more information, go online to www.pathwaytopeace.net.

**Indianapolis Area Churches Sponsor Family Life Conference:** The Family Life departments of the Lake Region Conference Indianapolis-area churches are sponsoring a Family Life Retreat, Aug. 11–13, at the Fellowship of Christian Athletes National Conference Center in Marshall, Ind. Learn spiritual principles that unleash satisfying relationships; take charge of your life; and learn a Christ-centered approach to financial success. Featured speakers: Donald and Doris Gothard, financial consultants; and George and Pearl Bryant, relationship consultants. For more information and to register, go online to www.plusline.org, or call 800-732-7587.

**Save the Date!** The Lake Region Conference Women’s Retreat will be held Oct. 6–8 in the luxurious hotel, The Ritz-Carlton, in Dearborn, Mich. For more information, contact the Lake Region Conference Women’s Ministries Department, 8517 South State St., Chicago, IL 60619; or call 773-846-2664.

**Lake Union**

**Offerings:**
- **Aug. 5** Local Church Budget
- **Aug. 12** Oakwood College/Andrews University/Loma Linda University
- **Aug. 19** Local Church Budget
- **Aug. 26** Local Conference Advance

Special Days:
- **Aug. 26** Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day

**Michigan**

The Glenwood Seventh-day Adventist School and Church are planning a farewell reunion for Sabbath, Aug. 19. All former students and friends of the school are encouraged to attend. The worship service begins at 11:00 a.m. and will follow with a potluck and time to get together and reminisce. For further information, call 269-782-5977.

**University Seventh-day Adventist Church Members** in East Lansing, Mich., will celebrate the church’s 50-year anniversary Sept. 15–16. Speaker for the worship service will be Roger Coon, pastor in 1967. The church is located at 504 Ann St. in East Lansing, Mich. For more information, visit the church website at www.universitysdac.com. If you plan to attend, e-mail Joan48840@earthlink.net.

**North American Division**

**La Sierra School of Business Students Start Music Venture:** LSU and SDAudio have joined together to give Adventist youth a chance to have their talents heard! This CD is focused on showcasing the musician. Interested in being on a collaborative CD? Here’s how: If you are a member of the Adventist church and have pre-recorded a song, please send us a copy of your original music. Send us a CD or MP3 version of your song(s), including the check list available on our website, www.sdaudiosite.com, to the following address: SDAudio, La Sierra University, School of Business, 4500 Riverview Walk, Pkwy., Riverside, CA 92515.

**Union College (Lincoln, Neb.) Elementary Lab School Turns 30.** George P. Stone Elementary School will celebrate its 30th year of providing multi-grade experience for elementary teachers under the direction of the education department at Union College. Special events marking the occasion will be held Aug. 27–31. All former students, staff, and student teachers are encouraged to send stories and pictures of their time at the multi-grade lab school. Information can be sent to Division of Human Development, Union College, 3800 South 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506; or by e-mail to humandev@ucollege.edu, to the attention of Joseph R. Allison, principal.

**National Singles Retreat** at Camp Mi-Voden in Hayden Lake, Idaho, will be held Aug. 28–Sept. 4. Featured speaker is Gary Hopkins of Loma Linda University. Activities include ceramics, wakeboarding, whitewater rafting, candlelit banquet, and much more. For more information, contact Lorene Soderstrom at 916-967-6178; e-mail lsoder@softcom.net; or visit website www.mivoden.com.

**Joy Riders International:** Come ride with us to beautiful Camp Frenada for our third annual spiritual motorcycle rally, Sept. 8–10, located in the scenic lake district of central Ontario, Canada, near Port Carling. For registration information, visit website www.joyridersinternational.com, or phone Ted Toms at 269-657-2390. Camp facilities will have rooms, bunks, showers, and food.

**Sabbath School Leadership Magazine** will have its Sabbath School Leadership Summit at Andrews University Theological Seminary on Sept. 24–25. This event will feature some of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s foremost Sabbath school and ministry leaders: Jay Gallimore, Michigan Conference; Jayne Thayer, Andrews University Seminary; Agnie Samson, Oakwood College; Del Dunavant, Northern California Conference; James Zackrison, former General Conference director for Sabbath school and personal...
ministries. Come for two days of fun, fellowship, and personal growth, and learn how to create a dynamic Sabbath school experience for your church members. Early registration until Aug. 31. For more information, contact Sabbath School Leadership Magazine at 301-393-4095 or e-mail mchambers@rhpa.org.

Maranatha Volunteers International’s 2006 Convention will be held Sept. 29–30, in the Portland, Ore., area. All are invited to attend this inspirational weekend. Featured speakers are Mark Finley, general vice president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; Ron Watts, president of Southern Asia Division; Paul Ratsara, president of Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division; and Leonel Lozano, president of Ecuador Union Mission. For more information, contact Maranatha Volunteers International at 916-920-1900, or visit website www.maranatha.org.


The Greater Boston Academy Alumni Association will hold its annual reunion on Sept. 29–30 at the academy located at 108 Pond St., Stoneham, Mass. Honor classes are those ending in one or six. For further information, contact Alumni president, Arthur Barnaby, at 951-359-4344, or e-mail afbarnaby@juno.com. See also the alumni website at http://gba.myfamily.com.


Southern Union Conference Medical/Dental Retreat, Oct. 12–15, Gatlinburg, Tenn. Mark Finley, guest speaker. Continuing education presenters for medical, dental, optometry continuing education: George Guthrie, M.D., M.P.H., CNS/Medical Director, Lifestyle Center of America; Leif Bakland, D.D.S./Department of Endodontics, Loma Linda School of Dentistry; Jim Williamson, O.D./Residency Supervisor, Veterans Affairs Medical Center/Assistant Professor, Southern College of Optometry, Memphis, Tenn. Golf tournament on Fri. morning. Be a part of the Southern Union Medical/Dental choir and orchestra. For information, call 678-420-1442.

Wisconsin

Legal Notice: Notice is hereby given that the quadrennial sessions of the Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the Wisconsin Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists are to be held at Wisconsin Academy in Columbus, Wis., on Sun., Oct. 1, 2006. The organizing committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. with the first meeting of the session convening at 9:30 a.m. Duly accredited delegates and delegates-at-large will be authorized to elect officers, directors of departments/services, and members of the executive committee, constitution and bylaws committee, and nominating committee for the new quadrennial term, along with corporation trustees for the ensuing quadrennial term. Delegates will also transact such other business as may properly come before them. Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for the church organization and one additional delegate for each 25 members or major fraction thereof.

Donald W. Corkum, president
Roger L. Driver, secretary
Richard G. Habenicht, corporation secretary

Announcements

PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Wanted

BY KIMBERLEY TAGERT-PAUL

It started with a “Wanted” poster and turned into a journey of faith and blessing. The “Wanted” were mechanics for the U.S. Postal Service, and the job had Don’s name (my husband) written all over it.

God’s hand was evident in each step of the journey, from the testing—not only of Don’s skills, but of his faith—to our recent move to the west side of the state.

Twenty-four years of marriage were spent in our hometown; 21 in our first and only home. Roots were not just put down, but buried so deep only God could unearth them. Then He called and made us excited about the adventure.

Days of unpacking boxes revealed something I’d missed on that tiring night of their deposit—a new, large, living room.

Eyeing the walls, I mentally pushed the furniture into place. But something said, “No, not the walls, the middle.”

So that’s where the couch went, far from the safety of a wall. It divides the room and allows for a cozy area to begin the day with God’s Word.

How long have I been a wall hugger, keeping to the safety of the corners? God made it clear; He doesn’t want a corner of my heart, He wants it all—the very best parts. He had called me into a partnership with Him, to dance in the middle, and live!

It’s an awesome thing to fall under the blessing of our God. But, packing light, the journey is worth the destination.

Kimberley Tagert-Paul is a freelance writer from Muskegon, Michigan.
Sometimes It’s the Little Things!

By Katie Ferguson

Throughout Jesus’ life on Earth, His main focus, besides coming to die for our sins and sharing His good news to the world, was ministering to the sick and discouraged human race.

This last year I acquired my CNA (certified nurse’s aide) license through my school. My mom, a registered nurse, was teaching the class, and students were given scholarships, so I thought, Why not take the class?

I did my clinicals, passed my state testing, and eventually got a good job at a caring nursing home. Overall, I enjoy my job, but I must say that working as a nurse’s aid is definitely not for everyone.

One of my favorite residents commented to me one day about how much she enjoyed my shifts because not everyone who worked with her was as kind and helpful. She gave me a great big hug, planted a kiss on my cheek, and told me I was an angel sent to help her through her long and lonely days. She made me promise I would visit frequently even when she was not assigned to my care.

It just made me think how often I get so caught up in my own life with work, school, family, and friends, that I forget to reach out to the people around me. People are searching for the truth. They are hungry for love and long for acceptance. There are so many people around us who just need a smile, hug, or even a simple, kind word.

Jesus did so much for the downhearted and less fortunate. Throughout the gospels there are so many miracles and unselfish things He did for so many people. If we all claim to be Christians, then shouldn’t we strive to be like the One who led a perfect life as our Example?

Jesus is coming so very soon! I’m sure about the direction God has planned for my life. I have realized the things that seem so big to me in life, like deciding what career I want to pursue or where am I going to attend college, are not as important as I had initially thought. God has it all worked out, and He has a plan for your life, too.

You might be the only Bible someone may ever read, and we can all help spread His message to the world in our own unique ways. Matthew 23:11 says, “If you want to be great, then go and help your neighbor and other people in need. Be kind to them, and help them in every way you can” (The Clear Word Bible).

It is the little things in life that sometimes matter the most!
Celeste Jane Maldonado, (17), daughter of Roger and Merlyn Maldonado, is beginning her senior year at Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA) where she has attended since kindergarten. An active member of the Hinsdale Fil-Am Church, she serves as a youth leader, planning vespers and programs. As a member of the social committee, Celeste helps organize events such as game nights and picnics.

Celeste has used her exceptional leadership abilities at school as class president her freshmen, sophomore, and junior years. One of her teachers expressed, “She has done an amazing job serving her class, making all the events and activities successful.” Celeste has also been a Student Council representative and co-captain of the Lady Hurricanes basketball team, which she joined during ninth grade.

Consistently earning a place on the school’s high honor roll, Celeste was inducted as a member of Difference Makers, HAA’s National Honor Society chapter, for her commitment to service, character, leadership, and scholarship.

Celeste’s interests include singing in choir, playing clarinet, skateboarding, knitting, and spending lots of time with family and friends. She values greatly the friendships and memorable events such as Bible camps that she has experienced. Celeste stated, “Attending HAA has shaped my perspective in every way.”

Randall “Randy” Matthew De Leon, (18), a recent graduate of Hinsdale Adventist Academy, was enrolled there since the second grade. Together with his parents, Randon and Marilou De Leon, he is a member of the Hinsdale Fil-Am Adventist Church.

Recognized by his teachers as a highly gifted student in physical, musical, academic, and spiritual aspects, Randy has shared his talents with his schoolmates. He was the forward on the Hurricanes varsity basketball team, played trumpet in advanced band, and sang in the high school choir I Cantori, as well as Cantable, the select choir. Also a member of the National Honor Society, Randy graduated at the top of his class with highest honors.

Randy has been accepted to Benedictine University in Lisle, Ill., where his major is listed as pharmacy. However, due primarily to his senior year classes in pre-calculus and physics, which struck such a natural interest within him, Randy is considering a change to pre-med.

One of the most important life lessons Randy learned during his academy experience was the significance of priorities. “People make you happier than things will,” Randy explained, “and when they make you unhappy your trust in God will fill in the gaps.”

Address Correction

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

Lake Union Herald: (269) 473-8242

Illinois: (630) 856-2874
Michigan: (517) 316-1568
Indiana: (317) 844-6201 ext. 241
Wisconsin: (608) 241-5235 ext. 113

Members outside the Lake Union may subscribe by sending a check for $8.50 (per year) to P.O. Box 59, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. Note: If you are a member of a church in the Lake Union but are not receiving the Lake Union Herald, please request it through your church clerk or your local conference secretary.
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GENERAL PREVIEW EVENTS
September 24 & 25, 2006
November 5 & 6, 2006
April 1 & 2, 2007

JUNIOR PREVIEW EVENT
March 11 & 12, 2007
STANDOUT Spiritual Retreat
March 30-31, 2007