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

in this issue...

We were excited to find an original copy of the very first issue of the Lake Union Herald in the vault. We were more excited as we read its contents. Now we have the opportunity to share this treasure with each of you, our readers, 100 years after it was written.

As you enjoy this window to the past, we believe you will agree with us, we’ve been here too long.

Gary Burns, Editor

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The Lake Union Herald is available online.
Hastening the Day

It was the last night of camp meeting. I had been working in a district for the conference for some time so I was on the camp meeting work roster even though I still had two weeks of school left. As the evening began I had no idea that I would still remember it 40 years later.

H.M.S. Richards Sr., founder of the Voice of Prophecy, was the evening speaker. The sermon was a powerful presentation on last day events, the Second Coming and the need to be ready. As the King's Heralds sang the closing song, Richards made an appeal. It was short and to the point, but people from all over the tabernacle began to come forward. Not sure what I was supposed to do, I moved close to one of the older pastors and decided to follow his lead. He walked over to those who had come forward, gathering a small group around him. He asked their names and then prayed for them. I gathered a group and did the same. As the prayers finished the King's Heralds transitioned into “Lift up the trumpet and loud let it ring, Jesus is coming again!” The service ended as we all joined in on the chorus.

“Sonny boy!” A voice from my prayer circle got my attention.
“Yes, ma’am.” My parents would have been proud.
“I’m 87 years old.”
“Yes, ma’am.” No disputing that.
“I know my Bible better than you do!”
“Yes, ma’am.” Young pastors get little respect.
“I love the Lord more than you do!”
“Yes, ma’am.” With each comment she poked her finger into my chest.
“I don’t want to live to see Jesus come!”

That stunned me. She explained that last day events scared her, and she wanted them to be put off until after she died, which she also explained she wasn’t ready to do yet. The Holy Spirit took over my conversation with the lady—that’s the only way I can explain it. I don’t even remember everything I said to her, but when I saw her again she thanked me for my insights and said she now wanted to see Jesus return before she died.

On my desk I have a copy of the first edition of the Lake Union Herald, published 100 years ago. Reports from the seven conferences, 123 schools, Emmanuel Missionary College and the 50 colporteurs who averaged 80 cents per hour in sales, indicate the same challenges then as today. Pleas for money fill the issue. The virtues of enrolling in one of our schools are shared. The difficulty in getting our literature into the hands of the people is explained. And the notion that Jesus was about to come and they needed to be ready permeates the issue. No indication is given that they expected 2008 to come before His return.

As I read through the paper, I wondered about me. Could I be delaying Jesus’ return? The response hit me in a statement Ellen White made:

“Christ is waiting with longing desire for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of the Savior shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim His own. It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Were all who profess His name bearing fruit to His glory, how quickly the whole world would be sown with the seed of the gospel” (Christ’s Object Lessons, p. 69).

I don’t know about you but I want Jesus to come NOW! So excuse me while I go get a character adjustment.
Michigan  Jon and Cathy Ulrich were born on different sides of the Earth—Jon in Quezon City, Philippines, and Cathy in Salem, New Jersey. They met in San Diego, California, when both were in officer training school in the U.S. Navy, and were married in 1987. In 1995 son Ben joined their family.

In 2001 Jon, who was still in the Navy, was assigned duty at the Federal Center in Battle Creek. He left the Navy a few years later, but continues to work at the Federal Center as a civilian.

In Fall 2006, the Ulrichs received a brochure in the mail about a series of presentations on archaeology by Tony Moore to be held at the Battle Creek Tabernacle. Cathy and Jon decided to attend the seminar. “We found the archaeology presentations intriguing because [the presenter] tied recent archaeological finds to Scripture,” says Cathy.

The archaeology seminar was followed by a series of meetings on Bible prophecy by Jay Gallimore, president of the Michigan Conference. Cathy heard about Seventh-day Adventists as a girl and remembered watching the television program, “It Is Written,” with George Vandeman. However, it wasn’t until she attended the Bible prophecy series that she learned more about Adventist beliefs. She, Jon and their son, Ben Ulrich, faithfully attended the meetings. Ben was so interested in these new teachings, that he filled out a card every night asking for Bible studies.

“The Bible seminar gave us a thirst to know more, and we began Bible studies with Pastor Bruce Moore,” says Cathy. Convinced that they had found their church home, Cathy, Jon and Ben were baptized at the Battle Creek Tabernacle on July 7, 2007.

In 2005, Jon and Cathy decided to adopt a child from Russia. When they met Dasha, Cathy recalls, “we knew that she was the one we wanted to become part of our family.” It took two years and two trips to Russia to complete the adoption process, but Dasha finally came into their home on March 25, 2007.

Since coming to America, Dasha has adjusted well and has learned to speak English and ride a bike. She and her brother Ben are both students at Battle Creek Academy. Jon, Cathy and Ben are all active members of the Battle Creek Tabernacle. Jon works with the audio/visual department, Cathy helps with fellowship dinners and serves as a greeter, and Ben is involved in Pathfinders and the greeter committee.

Dasha has found her home with the Ulrich family, and the Ulrich family has found their church home at the Battle Creek Tabernacle.

Michigan  Bob Albers’ life is a beautiful example of how our lives can be changed if we are willing to yield to Jesus. He was one of four brothers who were placed in an orphanage because their grandmother, although she tried to raise the boys, was elderly and unable to give them proper care. Life there was especially hard for four-year-old Bob, since he was small and sickly. While the older children were at school, he was left to play alone. For the next five years, Bob lived in three different orphanages, attended public schools and was teased and ridiculed because he wore second-hand clothes.

Eventually, Bob was placed with an Adventist family in St. Johns, Michigan. There he met a new sister, Roberta, who “didn’t want a brother” and initially made life hard for him. When Bob was 17, he was formally adopted.

Later, when Bob began to date a girl of another faith, his parents became very upset. Bob was so angry at their reaction that he left the family farm. When he cooled down and returned to apologize, his father told him he was no longer welcome.

Bob was later married and held a job at the Lansing
Oldsmobile factory. Everything went fine for him until Bob was blamed and convicted of an armed robbery he didn’t commit. Bob was sentenced for two and a half to five years in prison.

When a pastor came for prison services, he invited everyone to give their life to Jesus. Bob responded. As they knelt to pray, the pastor placed his hand on Bob’s head. Bob felt a new power, and from that time on he was a changed man. He was released after one year in prison and reunited with his wife.

Bob’s first marriage ended in divorce, and he later married again but was disappointed when that marriage ended after only ten years. Later, his sister Roberta asked him to come home since their parents had died and she was alone. They became friends and housemates after 50 years. Bob cared for Roberta until she passed away.

At 80 years of age, Bob made a deep commitment to Jesus Christ. Desiring to be an Adventist, Bob was baptized in the St. Johns Church by Ken Micheff, former pastor.

Nicole Katch and Ken Micheff, then pastor of the Saint Johns Church, share the joy of Nicole’s baptism. Nicole later remarked, “This church is exactly what I was looking for—Bible teaching, family oriented and God-loving people.”

Nicole Katch, member, St. Johns Church, as shared with Brenda Roy, communications leader, St. Johns Church, and Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, Lake Union Herald

Michigan | Nicole Katch began my journey to becoming a Seventh-day Adventist because of an argument with my boyfriend, Chris. I told him I went to church on Sunday, and he told me it was the wrong day [to worship]. I was surprised, and didn’t believe him. It was the first time I had heard about the Sabbath. Chris taught me other truths that brought me close to Jesus.

One weekend I made plans to fly to visit Chris in Florida. On Friday night, I looked on the Internet and located an Adventist church that was just seven miles from my home. Since my flight was late Saturday afternoon, I decided to check out the church; it would be my first Sabbath in church! I found the church, and with nervous butterflies in my stomach I entered. The greeter gave me a welcoming smile and a warm hug—instantly, it felt like home.

When I entered the sanctuary, the congregation was singing a hymn, and I wanted to join them. As I looked around, someone handed me a hymnal opened to the song. I don’t remember what the sermon was that day, but that it was powerful. After the service, I got to meet Ken Micheff, then St. Johns Church pastor, and asked where I could find information about Adventists. He suggested I sign the guest book with my telephone number so he could contact me. He also gave me some pamphlets, which I carried with me as I both read them and shared them with friends. Looking back, I also remember being greeted and welcomed [that Sabbath] by everyone I met.

On the way to the airport, I stopped at my workplace to talk to my manager about changing my schedule. I wanted to continue to attend church. My first Saturday schedule was from 12 to 5 p.m., so I could go to church and still work. But I felt sad going to the salon from church. I didn’t want to leave church and go to work. I wanted to stay and spend time with these wonderful people. Eventually, I ended up having Sabbaths off.

One day at work, while I was talking to Chris on my cell phone, my call waiting beeped. It was from St. Johns, Michigan. I clicked over to the other line and heard the friendly voice of the pastor. We talked as he answered my questions. Then we set a time to talk more. Wow, did I feel special, a busy pastor was going to take time to help me! He gave me Bible lessons, answered questions, and always used his Bible and prayed. I continued to study once a week with a church elder, Maxine Mosher. I also attended the “Here I Stand” meetings with Doug Batchelor and the Ted Struntz evangelistic series.

A peace came into my life as I reviewed everything I had learned, and I decided to ask the pastor to baptize me. I am continuing my Bible studies, and now my mom and some friends are interested. I want to thank everyone who has been a part of my journey to Christ. This church is exactly what I was looking for—Bible teaching, family oriented and God-loving people.

Nicole Katch, member, St. Johns Church, as shared with Brenda Roy, communications leader, St. Johns Church, and Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, Lake Union Herald

Visit www.LakeUnionHerald.org
Twelve-year-old Breanna Wood is musically talented. She began violin lessons when she was six years old and piano when she was ten. She has since found ways to use her talent to bless others. Breanna has played violin with her brother for students attending college preview days at Andrews University. She and her brother have also played for funerals and church services. Breanna plays her instruments once a month at Riveridge Manor in Niles, Michigan. And most recently, Breanna played a duet with her violin teacher at a wedding.

Breanna also seems to have a heart to bless others. In addition to sharing her God-given musical talents, she donates her time to serve within her community. Not long ago, Breanna arrived with her grandmother, Darlene Wood, at Polly’s Place, a shelter for battered women and their children, located in Niles. There, Breanna washed windows and cleaned toys for about three hours. She says she went to Polly’s Place because she “thought it would be fun to help out.”

At Polly’s Place, Breanna met some of the women and children seeking shelter from domestic abuse. She recalls, “I was thinking inside: I’m so happy that I can help people who are having difficult times.”

This summer when Breanna was asked to perform with her violin teacher at the wedding, she was happy to do so. Afterward, Breanna received $100 for her part in the wedding. Since she performed on Sabbath, Breanna decided not to keep the money for herself. First, Breanna contributed ten percent for tithe at her church, and then she decided to donate the remaining $90 to a charitable organization.

Breanna learned about the recent vandalism at Polly’s Place and thought about the women and children she met there earlier. She wanted to do something to help, so Breanna talked to her grandmother about donating her after-tithe dollars to the shelter. In addition, she inquired about her remaining spending money, which amounted to $2.52.

One Sabbath in July Peggy Cain, chairperson of Polly’s Place Board of Directors, received an envelope from Breanna. Peggy said, “On the back of the envelope [Breanna] wrote a Bible verse and the amount, $92.52.” Inside was Breanna’s donation—her money from the wedding performance plus her discretionary spending money.

Peggy was impressed by Breanna’s thoughtful service at the shelter and her subsequent unselfish gift. She thought Breanna’s actions were in stark contrast to the four young people who vandalized the shelter in July, which resulted in the shelter’s closure until the damage was repaired. Peggy said, “My response to Breanna was ‘tears.’ At first I thought that she had taken up a collection and was donating it to us. It reminded me of the lady who gave her very last penny and was the most blessed of all.”

Breanna’s donation will be added to other donations given by children at area VBS programs this summer and used to purchase a new roof for Polly’s Place.

Diane Thurber is the assistant communication director of the Lake Union Conference.

For additional information about Polly’s Place Niles, call the shelter at 269-687-9822, or Peggy Cain at 269-583-6523. Donations may be mailed to: Polly’s Place Niles, R.O. Box 1055, Niles MI 49120
On the frigid afternoon of March 22, 2006, New Haven Church members were called and asked to keep the Pierson family in their prayers. While the Piersons were moving from California to Michigan, the women traveling by car were in a tragic accident. Church members were later informed that Cathy Pierson and her 22-year-old, seven-month pregnant daughter-in-law, Kandice, were killed in the accident, news that would forever change the lives of the men in the moving van in front of them.

Kandice’s husband, Luke, immediately forgave the truck driver who hit the car, despite the fact that his wife, unborn daughter and mom had just been taken from his life. It was a miracle that Amanda Mendoza, Luke’s then 13-year-old daughter by guardianship, had walked away from the accident. At this point it became clear that God had another purpose for her life.

About a year and a half later, the Piersons turned a tragedy into a blessing by answering the call to missionary work in Africa. They rallied up family members back in California and other members from the New Haven Church, and headed to Ghana on July 23, 2007. Mark Pierson II was reluctant to do missions work, but he felt the Holy Spirit pleading with him through the song, “Send Me,” by Christian artist Lecrae, which Mark found spoke with admirable boldness about how we as a culture are “too comfortable in our lives, letting the rest of the world die.”

According to the writers of *Culture of Prejudice*, the Global North represents 20 percent of the world’s population and consumes 80 percent of the world’s resources. That leaves only 20 percent for more than 100 developing countries struggling for survival. Ghana is no exception. There is no garbage pickup in Ghana, which means that rivers along the streets are littered with garbage that cannot be burned. In addition to this, Amanda says, “People do everything they can to make money to survive. The money they do make goes to important things such as food, shelter, and very little clothing. They don’t have extra money to waste.” Mark concludes, “The people who live there are the most hospitable and friendly people I have ever met. They have absolutely nothing, yet they still give all they can.”

While in Africa, the group watched as blessings came to those they served as they laid hands on and prayed for the sick and shared the gospel of Jesus. They saw God at work, bringing healing and adding more lives to His kingdom. During what started as a casual conversation on Bojo Beach, Mark found himself assuring one stranger of the sufficient comfort God is able to give to us in our hardships, through his own story of recent losses.

Mark, Luke and Amanda came back from their mission trip and held an inspirational worship and song service wearing the African clothes made for them by an African friend. They are planning a second mission trip to Africa this summer.

Plans and funding are underway for a namesake school to be built in Ghana in honor of Cathy Pierson.

Amanda Warneck is the communication director of the New Haven Church in Michigan.
Sometimes we are so busy trying to keep the bad things from happening, that we miss unbelievably rich opportunities to grow and embrace what’s happening in our lives. When we step up to having really important conversations in the face of a terminal illness, everyone wins.

What are some of the things that those considering continuing medical treatment, or ending medical treatment, need in the face of the possible end of their life? Well, I’m not sure how it is for everyone, and I haven’t experienced it myself; but there are many who have made this journey, many from whom we can learn.

When facing recurring cancer, for example, it isn’t any easier to deal with than the first time. Common emotions people express are distress, self-doubt, anger and fatigue. The distress comes from the shock of it coming back when you moved on in your daily life. People often doubt the wisdom of their past treatment and the judgments they previously made. Anger is very common and reasonable. The anger may be toward the physician for not stopping the cancer the first time, or they may wonder why they put up with the treatment side effects just to have to deal with it again. Dealing with cancer again? That means fatigue! It means more fear, perhaps embarrassment. All these emotions are normal.

Opportunities for talking about these emotions and someone to help process decisions that need to be made is a gift. We often assume a person “doesn’t want to talk about it” or that there is someone else supporting them. But unless we ask, “How can I be the best support to you right now?” we won’t know.

People want to know, to be assured, that they have made a difference in the world and have opportunity to acknowledge that with someone. Asking, “What life events have given you the most joy?” and even “What life events or decisions have caused you regret?” open doors for important processing. Another conversation starter would be, “What has given your life its purpose and meaning?”

In coming to terms with the end of one’s life, forgiveness is often important. Asking, “How do you want to be remembered?” Or “Is there someone you want to forgive? What do you want to do about that?” can open doors to healing.

Making end-of-life plans is very important. Consider these questions: Is there a final trip to visit family, friends or a special place that you want to go? What do you most value about your physical or mental well-being? Are there circumstances under which you would refuse or discontinue treatment that might prolong your life? How will others learn this? Who do you want to make your healthcare decisions for you if you are no longer able to do that?

A friend of mine once said, “We shouldn’t ask people how they are unless we are willing to stay around and pick up the pieces.” Asking the important questions, staying by and speaking the truth in love are priceless gifts we can offer.

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 a licensed marriage and family therapist.

Suggested Resources

Caring Conversations: Making Your Wishes Known for End-of-Life Care. www.practicalbioethics.org

Five Wishes. www.agingwithdignity.org
Building a Better Body

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Strength training is safe and effective for men and women of all ages. Coupled with aerobic exercise, strength training has a significant impact upon one’s physical and mental health. Strength training improves one’s self-confidence and self-esteem, and acts as an antidepressant. One feels fitter and is less prone to injuries. The symptoms of chronic conditions such as back pain, arthritis and depression are diminished, while there is a reduced risk of chronic diseases, such as diabetes and osteoporosis.

Results from a four-month program showed that strength training improved joint flexibility and decreased pain in older men and women with moderately severe osteoarthritis by about 40 percent, similar to that seen with medications. Similar improvements in clinical symptoms have also been observed in patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

In a research study, strength training twice a week by postmenopausal women improved hip and spinal bone mineral density by about one percent with a subsequent reduction in the risk of bone fractures. Stronger muscles make for stronger bones. In addition, significant improvement in balance occurs with progressive strength training. Stronger muscles mean fewer falls, and fewer disabling fractures.

Muscle mass naturally decreases as you age. Typically, in a sedentary person muscle loss is replaced with fat. The increase in body fat puts one at greater risk of heart disease and cancer. However, strength training can reverse the trend of muscle loss and fat gain. Strength training builds muscle mass, which increases the metabolic rate and improves weight management and glucose control. Muscle loss means that more fat is deposited in muscle cells. This marbling effect is associated with insulin resistance, which means an increased risk of diabetes mellitus.

Cardiac patients can also improve their aerobic capacity when they engage in strength training. The American Heart Association has recommended strength training as a way to improve cardiac health and reduce the risk of heart disease. They also recommend it as a therapy in the rehabilitation regime of cardiac patients.

The purpose of strength training is to strengthen the large muscles of the back, abdomen and shoulders, as well as the arms and thighs. To effectively build muscle, one should follow a routine that involves a series of exercises, performed three times a week, in which each exercise is slowly repeated ten to 12 times, using appropriate weights.

Eating adequate protein is important for muscle health. However, muscle building does not come from a bottle. Products like DHA (docosahexaenoic acid) and creatine are just not worth the money, while human growth hormone has undesirable side effects. The surest and safest way to prevent muscle loss and build muscle is through regular strength training. The good news is that with two months of strength training a person can reverse two decades of sarcopenia (muscle loss).

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

Visit www.LakeUnionHerald.org
Grandpa Jake tells of the night God heard his prayer through the winds of a New Mexico blizzard, and showed him a “touch of moon” that gave him a quick glimpse of the ancient Ponderosa Pine at the corner of the homestead.

“God showed me the way home that night, just so I could serve Him a few more years,” Jake said.

Pray, even when there is no hope. Especially when there is no hope!

Henry remembers his missionary uncle coming home discouraged because he’d given an evangelistic series in southern Chile and only baptized a mother and her son.

“He was so depressed that he almost quit the ministry,” Henry says. “But in the years since that series of meetings that tiny Chilean church has produced more than 200 pastors and church leaders!”

Never let numbers be your yardstick for success.

W.H. Anderson and his wife traded the safety of Indiana for the “possibilities” of Africa in 1895. His journal calmly describes terrifying adventures with ox carts, muddy hikes, hungry lions, freezing nights, stoves made from tin cans and the ever-present devil.

W. H. and his fellow adventurers took Cecil Rhodes’ gift of a vacant Rhodesian farm, built mud houses and classrooms, and turned it into Zimbabwe’s Solusi College. When the locusts came, they pounded on frying pans to chase them from the crops. It worked! And in the morning they cooked the remaining insects, dried ‘em, “and packed them away for future use.”

Then, late on November 8, 1895, came the monsoons.

“The walls of our houses had not had time to dry, and the next morning the whole gable end was washed in. Our nicely polished stove was covered with about eight inches of mud and the dirt floor in the kitchen had about three inches of water standing on it. The whole place was a ruin. The disappointment was so bitter to Mrs. Anderson that for the first time in our mission experience, I caught her shedding a few tears. However, she soon brightened up, and we set to work to repair the damage.”

The journal’s tales would have provided MacGyver with an entire season of innovations.

Nothing can stop God’s work. Slow it down maybe, but not stop it!

That brings me to 91-and-three-quarters-year-old Auntie Theresa.

Theresa was nine months old when her mother died. On her sixth birthday she took over the laundry, cleaning and cooking for her father and eight older brothers!

“We farmed 10 acres of vegetables,” Theresa remembers, “and I worked in the fields AND did all of the house chores. And I was a very tiny little girl!”

“I learned to cook and clean real good,” Theresa smiles. “But the laundry was the worst. One day I was washing sheets and clothes in the upper irrigation ditch when all of a sudden the river took my dad’s underwear. I tried to catch ‘em but I couldn’t run as fast as the water. Besides, the ground was too icy!”

“I didn’t go home till really late that night. I just couldn’t tell my father that I lost his underwear. It was a brand new pair of 95¢ long johns and I knew I was into a heap of trouble and I was really scared!

“I finally went home and told my father what I’d done. He took me in his arms and said ‘Theresa, you never need to be afraid of me. I love you and you’re the most important person on our farm. We can always replace underwear, but we could never replace you!’”

That’s the way God loves!

You can hear God’s footsteps in the stories of the pioneers!

Dick Duerksen is the official “storyteller” for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact Dick at dduerksen@maranatha.org.
CONEXIONES
EN ESPAÑOL

Vale la Pena Trabajar Unidos
POR CARMELO MERCADO

"Es la perfecta unidad - una unidad tan estrecha como la unión que existe entre el Padre y el Hijo- lo que dará éxito, a los esfuerzos de los obreros de Dios" (Manuscrito 1, 1903).

El artículo de este mes fue escrito el día después de concluir el programa La Esperanza es Jesús en Chicago. Durante la semana más de mil personas asistieron a las reuniones cada noche y miles más las vieron por vía satélite. Cientos de visitas vinieron a las presentaciones durante la campaña y muchos de ellos respondieron a los llamados del pastor Alejandro Bullón. Además, hermanos y pastores de las asociaciones del estado de Illinois, de la Asociación Regional del Lago y de la Unión del Lago ofrecieron su tiempo y recursos para lograr que esta campaña fuese un éxito. Y como resultado de esta campaña, cientos de personas se unirán al pueblo de Dios, no solamente en nuestra Unión sino también en diversas partes del mundo.

No hay duda para mí que los frutos de este evento son el resultado de la unidad que se ha logrado mantener. Cuando comencé mi tarea como vicepresidente de la Unión del Lago en el año 2004 me era difícil imaginar que se pudiera obtener una unidad tal en evangelismo. En ese tiempo había mucha desconfianza entre las iglesias y los pastores de las dos asociaciones en Chicago. Durante el siguiente año 2005, hubo un tiempo de transición de administradores y pastores en la Asociación Regional y había mucha preocupación en cuanto el futuro. Recuerdo haber pasado muchas horas asistiendo a reuniones, visitando iglesias y entrevistando a hermanos y pastores con el propósito de apoyar y animar la obra hispana en la Asociación Regional. Entonces en el año 2007 resolvimos llevar a cabo la campaña La Esperanza es Jesús como un esfuerzo combinado de las dos asociaciones y la Unión del Lago. A pesar de los esfuerzos del enemigo para desanimarnos, los coordinadores y pastores de dichas asociaciones se mantuvieron firmes y trabajaron unidos para predicar el precioso mensaje de esperanza.

Ahora estamos en una nueva etapa en la historia de la obra hispana en la Unión del Lago. Hemos visto los beneficios de una labor unida, y tanto pastores como administradores en Chicago desean continuar por ese camino. No hay duda que debemos unir nuestros esfuerzos en otras ciudades, tales como Milwaukee, en el estado de Wisconsin, Detroit y Grand Rapids en el estado de Michigan y en Indianapolis, estado de Indiana. Miles de personas en estas ciudades necesitan conocer nuestro mensaje de esperanza. Mi oración es que sigamos en el camino que hemos comenzado, para así hacer efectiva la oración de nuestro Señor - Yo en ellos y tú en mí, para que sean perfectamente unidos; para que el mundo conozca que tú me has enviado y que los has amado, como también a mí me has amado (Juan 17:23).

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente general de la Unión del Lago.
Jerry Kleintank, an elder at Chapel West Seventh-day Adventist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana, and his wife Jeanne have started a new ministry in Indiana. It’s called a prayer station. They got the inspiration while vacationing in Florida. The basic objective behind the prayer station is to be a conduit to meet people and connect them to the only One who can satisfy their deepest needs. Walmart, in Plainfield, Indiana, agreed to allow Jerry and Jeanne to set up a booth outside the entrance 14 days out of the year. The prayer station simply consists of a table with a large banner. On the table are copies of *Steps to Christ* and *The Final Events of Bible Prophecy*, a video by Doug Batchelor, that people can take free of charge. Jerry and Jeanne stand beside the table and wait.

The response has been amazing. More than 100 people have approached the table with prayer requests or just wanted to pray for Jeanne and Jerry’s ministry. The overwhelming need that people have requested prayer for is to have peace and stability in their lives. Some people have requested prayer in finding a new church. Some come with heart-wrenching stories and leave with a little lighter load. Here are two stories that Jeanne and Jerry shared.

One lady approached the prayer station asking prayer for her husband, an abusive alcoholic. The next week she returned beaming. That same evening she had returned home with peace in her heart. For the first time her husband admitted he needed help and committed to joining an Alcoholics Anonymous group. He also took her out on a date a few days later, something they had not done in many years.

A young man told Jerry of his desire for people to be real. When asked if he would be willing to pray with them, he confessed that he had never prayed before. After the prayer a lady approached the table. The young man excitedly asked if he could pray with them again. There is a deep hunger and thirsting for God that this prayer station is revealing. Jeanne and Jerry are providing a means where people can meet the Bread of Life and the Living Water.

The Kleintanks have also been blessed by the prayer station. “It is heartwarming just to be used in this manner. People are searching and wanting to know Jesus better, and if they know Him, they want to talk to Him. It is a humbling experience to stand here and have people come to you wanting to pray,” Jerry related with glowing enthusiasm.

The prayer station provides a safe place where people can freely express their burdens without worrying about how relatives, co-workers, church members or friends may respond. Currently, the Kleintanks are looking for new locations to use the prayer station as a tool for ministry. Steven Manoukian, Chapel West Church pastor, believes that their ministry has also impacted the local members who are seeking new ways to reach out to the needs of their community.

Jill Manoukian is a ministry partner at Chapel West and Brownsburg churches in Indiana, where her husband Steven is the pastor.
The year was 1908. It was a year with many significant events. Mother’s Day was celebrated for the first time. Henry Ford introduced his first Model T automobile. Billy Murray hit the charts with “Take Me Out to the Ball Game.” A long distance radio message was sent from the Eiffel Tower for the first time. The first Gideon Bible was placed in a hotel. Albert Einstein presented his quantum theory of flight. Dutch scientists produced solid helium. The first passenger flight in an airplane took place. The Lusitania crossed the Atlantic in four days, 16 hours and 15 minutes. General Motors Corporation was founded.

During this year of change and innovation in our nation and world, a significant event took place in the Lake Union Conference that has influenced the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its members in this region for 100 years. The Lake Union Herald was launched on November 4, 1908, as a weekly communique, with a subscription rate of 50¢ per year. Though Lake Union constituents had other reading materials produced by the Seventh-day Adventist Church available in 1908, the first issue of the Lake Union Herald was viewed as unique, and its purpose was announced in the new publication: “The first publication of the Lake Union Herald is for the purpose of filling a long-felt need for a medium of communication between the conferences and laborers of the Lake Union Conference; to aid in unifying the work in all lines of Christian endeavor; and to keep the members of the churches throughout the Union informed as to advance methods of conducting missionary work.”

In the early years of the Lake Union Herald, a major content contributor was Ellen G. White, Church co-founder and spokesperson. Some consider her first article, “A Revival Needed,” to be the cornerstone for the magazine’s focus in its initial years of publication, according to Carlos Medley of the Adventist Review, who researched the Lake Union Herald’s history in 1977.

In the content that was shared in the very first issue of the Lake Union Herald, it is apparent the editor and church leaders desired to clearly and openly divulge the progress of the Seventh-day Adventist Movement in the Lake Union territory. Since that inaugural issue, there have been 15 dedicated editors of the Lake Union Herald. Each issue continues “to tell stories of God at work in His people in order to encourage, inspire, educate, advance and unify the church in the Lake Union Conference,” as expressed in the magazine’s current mission statement.

Diane Thurber is the managing editor of the Lake Union Herald.
100 YEARS AGO
Items of Interest
West Michigan Notes
Vol. I, No. 3, November 19, 1908, p. 7

“A brother who has recently accepted the truth at Beverly, near Grand Rapids, writes: ‘There is a little empty school-house a short distance from us, and I have rented it for Sunday night meetings, and pay two dollars a night. It is well seated, and there is also a good piano. Brother Robinson and wife, and some of the church members are coming out to hold meetings. Oh! If I may see one dear soul accept the truth, I shall be so happy.”

80 YEARS AGO
Emmanuel Missionary College
Vol. XX, No. 52, December 19, 1928, p. 16

“The financial condition of the school is the best it has been for many years. At the present rate we shall soon be entirely free from debt. Our current bills are paid, and we have been able to keep an operating reserve in the bank. The radio has been given a wave length of 590 kilocycles which is among the highest permitted by the Federal Radio Commission. Many reports come from interested listeners.”

—Guy F. Wolfkill, President

70 YEARS AGO
Wisconsin Conference
Camp Wijumivo
Vol. XXX, No. 19, May 17, 1938, p. 5

“The Wisconsin Conference is happy to announce that all arrangements are completed for the summer Junior training camp to be held July 18 to 28 at Devil’s Lake, Wisconsin. The camp will be held on the south shore of the lake in the old Kirkland Hotel which the State recently purchased and is renovating for purposes as we desire. ...

“Many are beginning to inquire about the uniforms. There are uniforms for both boys and girls. ...

“The price for camp this year will be $10 for each child for ten days. This includes board and room but does not include bedding or clothing. Every child will be expected to bring his own dishes, as there are no dishes at camp.”

60 YEARS AGO
Lake Region
Announcing Our First Camp Meeting
Vol. XL, No. 15, April 13, 1948, p. 10

“The first camp meeting of the Lake Region Conference will be held on the academy grounds near Cassopolis, Michigan, June 18-26, 1948. The first meeting is set for Friday evening, June 18, at 8 p.m. ...

“Among those to contribute to the success of the meeting will be men from the General Conference with their wealth of experience in the work of God, as well as our own Union and local conference workers. ...

“We are expecting the first unit of the new academy to be completed by that time, and
the entire building, as well as another, will be available for the occasion, besides a number of family tents which will be pitched for your convenience....

“We are expecting a very large number of campers this year, therefore early reservations should be made.”

50 YEARS AGO
Indiana
Columbus Church Float Wins Prize
Vol. L, No. 42, October 21, 1958, p. 7

“The Columbus Seventh-day Adventist church entered a prize winning float in the Fall Festival Parade. ... The prize-winning float, going under the American Temperance Society banner, featured a giant-sized bottle of alcohol on a revolving wheel. Chained to it were a man, woman, and child. ...

“Certainly this well-planned, timely visual aid made a deep impression on all who saw it. In similar ways more churches should participate in civic activities.”

—C. M. Willison, Temperance Secretary

30 YEARS AGO
Great Lakes Adventist Health Services, Inc.
Hinsdale News Notes

“Hinsdale Hospital recently underwent a successful three-day review by the State Department of Health, entitling it to a one-year license renewal. While touring the hospital the inspector commented on the distinct Christian atmosphere and cleanliness of the institution.”

—Joel Hass, Correspondent

20 YEARS AGO
Lake Union Conference
Union trains literature workers
Vol. LXXX, No. 1, January 1988, p. 19

“Fifty new literature evangelists from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, and their leaders participated in a training school, October 7–11.

“Literature evangelists training schools are conducted in the spring and fall at the Lake Union Conference office. ....

“Elder Ted Smith, associate publishing director for the Southern Union Conference, and Elder Felix Castro, marketing director for Pacific Press Publishing Association, were guest instructors. ....

“Literature evangelists are a vital link in the soul-winning process. ...

“People who have made a commitment to do something for Jesus Christ are needed to work as literature evangelists in all local conferences.”

—George Dronen, Associate Publishing Director

10 YEARS AGO
NET ’98 News
NET ’98’s Message
Vol. 90, No. 7, July 1998, p. 21

“Dwight K. Nelson, speaker for NET ‘98, believes that the final message to our world before Jesus comes again will be ‘the incredible love of God which is at the core of all the teachings of Seventh-day Adventists as found in the Bible.' That message is the message of NET ‘98.”

Judi Doty is the circulation manager and back pages editor of the Lake Union Herald.
There are some notable phrases in literature that the moment you hear them, they arrest your attention and capture your imagination.

Phrases like:

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.”
—Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*

“When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die.”
—Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

“The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line.”—W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folk*

Or perhaps these words:

“It is eleven days’ journey from Horeb by way of Mount Seir to Kadesh Barnea. Now it came to pass in the fortieth year...”—Deuteronomy 1:2, 3 (NKJV)

I remember how I felt when I didn’t graduate with my senior class in college. Because of finances I had to miss two quarters. At other times I couldn’t afford a full class load. It was terribly disconcerting to me when it took five years to finish a four-year academic program, but an 11-day journey taking 40 years? In this age of instant everything—microwave food, the Internet superhighway, supersonic transport jets, satellites and cell phones—a 40-year delay is beyond our level of comfort or comprehension.

**THE PROBLEM OF RACE**

A significant event (often overlooked) happens just as the children of Israel anticipate entering Canaan. “Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. ... And the Lord heard it.”

We speak in public about how much we love each other and how much we believe in equality, but behind closed doors, when everyone in the room looks the same, our conversation changes. Just ask Jesse Jackson about hot mics.

God has a hot mic, and He hears what we really mean. He knows what’s in our hearts, and He is determined to eradicate every trace of bigotry, prejudice, racism, sexism, chauvinism and xenophobia, and everything else we use to divide ourselves. He will eradicate the demon of division and racism from among His people.

All my life, I’ve heard some so-called followers of Christ say things like, “When I get to Heaven, I’ll come over to your side.” Some, though not bold enough to say it, think it. In Heaven, there will only be one side, God’s side. If you’re not on His side, whose side are you on?

Just before Israel enters the Promised Land, God stops the procession and addresses Miriam’s attitude by turning...
her skin white as snow with leprosy, then puts her out of the camp seven days. He doesn’t dismiss it or tolerate it or deny it or hide it. He singles the offender out publicly. It was a witness to the entire nation about God’s character and His attitude toward racism. He will not accept it among His people, and He begins with the leadership. We wonder why we’re still here. As William Shakespeare wrote in “Julius Caesar,” “The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, But in ourselves.”

A Peek at the Promise

With the Miriam and Aaron incident behind them, Israel seems ready to claim their inheritance. God instructs Moses to select 12 leaders, one representative from each tribe, to spy out the land. It is interesting that God uses an egalitarian system—equal representation. He doesn’t allow one tribe to have six spies, leaving the other 11 to vie for the remaining six slots. God wants a broad analysis and a broad perspective—not one narrow view.

One of the leaders is Caleb, representing the tribe of Judah. From all indications there is nothing special about him. As a matter of fact, the one who Moses selects to mentor and prepares to succeed him for leadership is Joshua, not Caleb. As far as we can tell, he is an ordinary person respected by his countrymen. We sometimes think that those in Bible times were super-spiritual saints on steroids. But that was not the case. Caleb was an ordinary person just like us.

The time was the season of first harvest. It was God’s purpose that they enter Canaan at harvest time. They arrived exactly on time. Sometimes our sojourn on Earth seems delayed, but we must learn to trust God, never question His timing.

Caleb, Joshua and the other spies leave with their instructions to spy out the land. After 40 days, they return carrying the evidence of God’s promise of a land flowing with milk and honey. The fruit is so rich, juicy and full; it takes two men to carry one cluster of grapes.

Two Reports

The people are excited as the spies give their report. It begins quite well, positive, affirming. “It’s true,” they say, “the land is as God has promised, it flows with milk and honey.” Then comes the word: nevertheless. One commentator says the word suggests something impossible to man: “Nevertheless, they’re bigger than us, too great for us, too much for us. And there are different people there—all kinds of people—even giants!” The Israelites are getting worked up, anxious, troubled, moaning.

Caleb senses where things are going. He tries to turn the tide of opinion. He quiets the people, and he speaks with confidence and enthusiasm. It’s the opportunity he’s been looking for his whole life. “Let us go up at once and take possession of the land, for we are well able to overcome it.”

But the other spies said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.” In their faithless and negative report, they begin to exaggerate.

“All the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature.” Then finally these tragic and tortured words, “We were like grasshoppers in our own sight and so we were in their sight.”

Perceivable Differences

How do two people have the same experience, go to the same place, see the same things, and come to two completely opposite conclusions? How do two people come to the same obstacles; one sees them as obstructions while the other sees them as opportunities? One person sees their problems as God-abandonment, while the other sees them as God-moments. How does that happen? It’s a matter of perception.

Our perception is shaped by our experiences. The Psalmist says something about how our experience shapes our view of God—our perception of Him. “With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful; with the blameless man You will show Yourself blameless; with the pure You show Yourself pure; and with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd” (Psalm 18:25, 26 NKJV).

What was the experience that shaped their perception so dramatically? It was Egypt—an experience that distorted their perspective. Egypt was deeply embedded in their psyche. It is a recurring theme in their travels. Whenever trouble came, they would view it through the cracked lens of their Egyptian experience. They are either wishing they had never left Egypt, wishing they had died in Egypt, or wishing they could return to Egypt. They even select leaders to lead them back to Egypt. What was Israel’s problem?

Slave Mentality

Israel had a slave mentality that not only disturbs the oppressed, but also distorts the oppressor. There are no victimless crimes when sin is involved. A slave mentality gives the oppressed an undue notion of inferiority, and the oppressor an unearned notion of superiority. There are several phrases that give us a window into Israel’s collective psyches. “We were like grasshoppers in our own sight and so we were in their sight.” They had developed an inferiority complex, and it manifested itself by comparing themselves to other people.
In postmodernism we call it *othering*—identifying other people as different to reassure yourself that you are normal. It is defining your identity by who you are not. The story of the pharisee and the tax collector gives us an example of this phenomenon. The pharisee prays, "God, I thank you that I am not like other men," then interrupts his prayer to glance at the man next to him and adds, "especially this tax collector" (see Luke 18:9-14).

Israel saw themselves through the eyes of the nations that inhabited the Promised Land, and deemed themselves incapable of realizing the purpose and plan God had for them. How often do we do the same thing? We view our inability to fulfill the commission of Jesus through the eyes of those around us. We have allowed self-imposed limitations to impede our mission.

**PESSIMISTIC SPIRIT**

God told them not to worry about their enemies. He would fight their battles. Just as He delivered them from Egypt, He would conquer the inhabitants of Canaan for them. Yet, Israel focused on the negative and refused to see the positive. Paul teaches the church in Corinth that we are changed by what we focus on. We must never allow our past or present circumstances to distort our view of the future and the clear promises of God.

**REFUSAL TO CHANGE**

They refused to change. God referred to them as a stiff-necked people. They resisted redirection in their lives. They were set in their ways. It seemed that no amount of pleading by Moses, nor the abundance of dramatic miracles, would cause them to view things differently. They were stuck in their past, and they made themselves incapable of fulfilling the purpose God had for them.

**FAILURE OF FAITH**

They grumbled and talked among themselves, “Let us select leaders.” The reason God had been so demonstrative with them, why their deliverance had been so spectacular—the ten plagues that broke Egypt’s will, the conquest at the Red Sea, water from the rock, manna from Heaven, the pillar of cloud by day and fire by night, had all been given to increase their faith. God was trying to rewrite new experiences in their psyches to overcome the oppression, failure and disappointment of their past. But they had lived in the traumatic setting of slavery so long, they did not believe they could be extricated from its hopelessness. They began to view their dysfunctional, abusive experience as normalcy. Thus their greatest failure was a failure of faith.

**DEATH IN THE DESERT**

And God said, “No one from this evil generation will see the good land I promised your forefathers, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua, son of Nun, because they followed me wholeheartedly” (see Deuteronomy 1 and Numbers 32).

Although it had been God’s plan, the generation that left Egypt never got to go into the earthly Promised Land. They died in the wilderness. God would not allow Israel’s faithless murmuring generation to enter the earthly Canaan. We are now seeing a similar generational transition. The builders are dying and the boomers are reaching retirement. And they are dying in the world’s wilderness.

Again God is purging His people. He will not allow a faithless excuse-making generation to accomplish the work He has called Seventh-day Adventist believers to complete. Nor will He allow them to be translated to heavenly Canaan. I’m not suggesting that those who die will not be saved. Moses died in the wilderness and was resurrected. I am saying that God will raise up a generation, a believing generation, through whom He will finish His work.

**CALEB AND JOSHUA**

Caleb and Joshua experienced the same situations and disappointments as their comrades. They, too, had lived a life of slavery, but they would not allow the past to determine their future. When the cries of dissent were leveled. Caleb’s confident voice could be heard above the chorus of discordant voices. He had a different spirit.

As the two faithful senior citizens stand at the borders of Canaan once again, Caleb, true to form, lifts his voice, “I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then ... Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the Lord spoke in that day...” (Joshua 14:11, 12 NKJV)

God still has some mountains to give us. We can be as fearless, faithful and confident as Caleb.

Timothy Nixon is the chaplain of inreach at Andrews University and an associate pastor at Pioneer Memorial Church.

This article by Timothy Nixon is an excerpt from his original article by the same title, based on a sermon preached at Pioneer Memorial Church on July 19, 2008. The original article and sermon podcast are available at www.lakeunionherald.org.


Scripture references not noted are from Numbers 12 and 13 NKJV.
Former NBC producer Debbie Michel now teaching at Andrews University

News of Saddam Hussein’s capture broke on a Saturday. While it made international headlines, the impact the timeline of events had on Debbie Michel, a producer for Dateline NBC and a new Seventh-day Adventist Christian, was like none other. It was her weekend on duty. “In two and a half years of a breaking news rotation, I never once had a Sabbath conflict, not even when Hussein was captured,” she says. “God set it up.”

Michel, a new associate professor of communication who teaches journalism at Andrews University, came from New York City, working in a top-tier news market for one of the most successful news programs in the history of journalism. While it might seem to be a puzzling career move to relocate to a small town and work for a Christian college, “God said to me: ‘This is where I want you to be,’” says Michel.

Michel earned her B.S. in journalism at Brooklyn College at the City University of New York. She then continued her studies in journalism at the master’s level with an emphasis in communications who teaches journalism at Columbia University.

In 1995, Michel began what would become an 11-year tenure at NBC. She worked for NBC News, Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, Dateline NBC and NBC Productions, where she produced documentaries and news segments for a client list that ranged from Discovery Channel to National Geographic to Good Housekeeping magazine.

It was in late 2003 when Michel realized there was a void in her life, a void that not even a successful career could fill. As she prayed and studied, she found herself drawn to spiritual programming. “I would come into the office, turn on the TV and then hit the mute button. As a journalist, you need to keep abreast of the day’s events but I found that I would much rather listen to programs on 3ABN or Amazing Facts TV on the Internet.”

In November that same year, she was baptized alongside her soon-to-be husband, Jean-Ires. “I never once had a Sabbath conflict even though I was fully prepared to tell my manager I couldn’t work on the Sabbath.”

When their daughter, Christiana, entered the world in November 2004, Michel used her maternity leave not only to bond with her newborn, but also to more fully connect with God. “I spent a lot of time thinking, reading and praying. God started speaking to me.” She eventually re-entered the workforce, but just a short six months later, Michel realized, “It’s time to leave.”

“God gave me time to figure out what to do and make a graceful exit from NBC,” she says. “That decision meant taking a leap of faith to leave behind a seemingly-secure job in the media capital of the world—New York City—without any prospective job in hand and to follow in the footsteps of Christ.” With a new baby and the cost of living in New York City, it was a leap of faith for Michel to leave her secure career and wait for God to lead. “My heart was with Christiana, ministry and mission. I stayed home and just prayed for the next step.”

In 2007, God started to open doors. Michel had the opportunity to take a teaching position in a warmer climate, just two hours away from her parents. But that wasn’t the right door for Michel. “To this day, I don’t know how this happened,” says Michel of her visit to Andrews University. “I came here and saw the media ministry; that got me excited. I was excited about the prospect of teaching students journalism in a Christian environment. God said to me, ‘This is where I want you to be.’”

Now Michel is taking the knowledge of media and communications that she acquired working in the field and is applying it to the classroom for students at Andrews University. “My path has led to Andrews University where I have the awesome privilege and responsibility of teaching budding journalists and other communications specialists. I pray that my experience will motivate students to want to write and report stories that will in some way, shape or form draw people from out of this world of sinful darkness and into God’s marvelous light.”

Debbie Michel received an Emmy nomination for her role as co-producer of Dateline’s “Saddam Hussein’s Capture”; a National Headliner Award for Dateline’s coverage of the Washington D.C. sniper story; and the NBC “Ovation Award” for “Above and Beyond Effort” on the sniper story.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist, Andrews University
Junior board represents Christ’s hands and feet
More than 1,000 patients treated on Costa Rica mission trip

Although physically located in Chicago’s western suburbs, Adventist Hinsdale Hospital’s reach extended all the way to Costa Rica when a group of physicians, nurses and their families and other community members visited the island nation on a ten-day mission trip to serve more than 1,000 patients. Led by the hospital’s medical staff auxiliary junior board, which is comprised of local high school and college students dedicated to serving the community by supporting the hospital, the annual trip is becoming so popular that organizers had to turn away hopeful participants.

“It is just so amazing to know that we were able to positively impact people’s lives in the simple but effective way we did,” said 15-year-old Isabel Camara of Hinsdale, a junior board member and one of 54 people on the trip. “Just seeing the looks of gratitude on their faces when we gave them medicine is something that I will never forget.”

Camara worked alongside her mother, Christina Camara, a physician, taking patients’ blood pressure, examining vital signs and working in the pharmacy.

Thanks to support from the local community, a fund-raising walk in April netted $12,000—more than twice the amount expected—for medical supplies and other necessities. The donations allowed every member of the contingent to carry an extra 50-pound suitcase filled with medication and supplies.

The group started out in San Jose and later transported the makeshift clinic to underprivileged areas in the city and mountains. The attendees were then broken up into three groups—medical assistance, construction work and kids camp leaders. Medical leader Margaret Wallach, a physician assistant and member of Adventist Hinsdale Hospital’s medical staff auxiliary board, put together a team of four doctors, a physician assistant and a registered nurse. As soon as the team arrived, hundreds of local mothers, fathers and children were lined up, patiently awaiting medical attention. In four days, they treated more than 1,000 patients for malnutrition, parasites, skin diseases and other ailments.

Additional medication was left behind for a free clinic in San José. The children and adults were given hygiene packs that contained a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and a wash cloth. As the adults waited in the long lines, children were guided to the nearby community center for games, prizes and crafts. On the first day, approximately 1,000 children from local schools joined in the festivities.

“As soon as we walked into the community center, a wave of applause and excitement was heard throughout the entire building,” said Colleen Salvino, trip leader and chairwoman of the junior board. “We were unsure about whom all the accolades were for. Then one of the Costa Rican leaders informed us that these children had been looking forward to us coming for the past year and all the cheers were for us. That was a moment that I will remember always.”

Members of the construction team also painted schools in several rural areas. The group spent three extra days in Costa Rica to enjoy the natural beauty of the country by zip lining through the rain forest, swimming in scenic lakes, horseback riding through the mountains and beaches, white water rafting and even witnessing an active volcano. Evening fellowship with prayer, reflection and God Stop reports—moments in the day when individuals felt God’s presence in their lives—were sundown rituals that the group participated in every night.

“We are so proud of the healing ministry of Christ that these children set out to do through this mission trip,” said John Rapp, regional vice president, Ministries and Mission at Adventist Midwest Health. “They not only gave of their time, but they also gave of their hearts, which is something that is so uncommon in today’s society.”

This Costa Rican family was among 1,000 patients treated by physicians, nurses and their families and other community members during a ten-day mission trip organized by Adventist Hinsdale Hospital’s medical staff auxiliary junior board.
**[PATHFINDER NEWS]**

Pathfinder Honors Retreat and Master Guide Campout begins with a bang

Lake Region—The Fourth Annual Pathfinder Honor Retreat was held for the first time at Camp Wagner on May 2–4. It started off with a bang, literally, as retreat coordinator Angie Gardner (Lake Region Conference Teen Leaders in Training coordinator) and retreat facilitator Rob Johnson II (Motor City Youth Federation president) were involved in a fender bender while en route to the campground. The Lord, in His infinite mercy and grace, held back the satanic forces, and everyone had safe traveling mercies to and from the campground this year.

The theme for this year’s event was “Citizens of the Kingdom.” Under the direction of the retreat committee, with input from Lake Region youth director Ralph Shelton and Lake Region Pathfinder director Roy Laues, close to 400 individuals—inclusive of Pathfinders, directors and staff, Adventurers and Master Guides—were able to matriculate to more than 30 honor classes during the course of five sessions. Some of the honors offered this year were basic sewing, model rocketry, camping skills, drumming and percussion, cats, dogs, sign language, nutrition and digestion, just to name a few!

Pathfinder clubs in attendance at this year’s retreat traveled from the following areas: Chicagoland (Shiloh, Straford, Hyde Park and Independence); Motor City (London, Ypsilanti, Conant, Inkster, Ecorse and City Temple); Michiana (Bethel, All Nations and Mizpah); and Michigan Conference (Oakwood Knights).

It was awesome to see all working together as a smooth and oiled machine to bring a program full of learning to every youngster in attendance! The big hits this year were the “Honor’s Walk-Through Tent,” under the direction of director Cookie McMahen, and the backpacks full of fun items! This year’s vesper speaker was none other than “The Psalmist,” Brandon Perry of the Living Water Church, and line call devotions were rendered by Brandon Dent of Smooth Praise of the Ypsilanti Church.

In attendance for the first time were two Hispanic clubs from Chicagoland area—South Shore and Logan Square. A very special thank you to Vanston Archbold, pastor, for helping to make this happen. Another important VIP on hand who pitched in and helped out as part of the special task team was Latita Thomas, the Chicagoland Federation president.

Also held at the campground this year on the very same weekend was the Annual Master Guide Campout, under the direction of Master Guide coordinator Leon George. Master Guides taught honors as part of fulfillment requirements for Master Guide investiture.

Tears were shed during the closing program as the retreat executive committee presented Inkster Wolverine Pathfinder director Robert H. Jackson Jr. with a plaque commemorating his hard work with the Honors Retreat since its inception in 2005. Jackson, his wife Yvette and daughter Omnike’ will relocate to Shanghai, China, later this year. Honor Retreat committee member, Karen Hagerman, was presented with a plaque as well because of her donation of 400 backpacks for all participants at this year’s retreat.

To Ralph Shelton, Lake Region youth director, Jerome Davis, Lake Region president, and the Lake Region Conference, on behalf of the Honors Retreat executive committee, we wish to thank you very much for allowing us the use of the awesome Camp Wagner! Planning has already begun for next year’s retreat—stay tuned!

Angie Gardner, Pathfinder Honors Retreat coordinator, Lake Region Conference

Nearly 400 attended the Fourth Annual Pathfinder Honors Retreat at Camp Wagner.
Local Pathfinder club learns about citizenship

Indiana—While the members of the Columbus Pathfinder Club worked on their Christian Citizenship honor, the mayor of their town, Fred Armstrong, was invited to speak to the Pathfinders at their weekly meeting. The room was hushed as he spoke about his job as mayor and shared what the children could offer to do as citizens of their local community.

Upon the mayor’s invitation, each member of the club dressed in uniform to attend the mayor’s State of the City Address. They learned how the government works and what it means to be a citizen of the United States. Armstrong stated, “We are not a community unless we are a unity.” He continued to encourage the club members by saying, “Helping other people is what makes our community great. Small things are not meaningless. Be a part of your community.”

Also speaking that evening was Alfred T ong, an active member of the Columbus Church. Tong recently became an American citizen. He spoke of the process and his pride in being a United States citizen. “I encourage others to take the proper steps required for citizenship,” he said.

Tong came to America from war-torn Sudan, in 2000, with his wife Mary and their three children—Adut, Dut and Areeg. Dut and Areeg are members of the Columbus Pathfinder club. Since the Tongs arrived in the United States, another child has been born into their family, Arek, who is now old enough to be part of the Adventurer Club. Because Arek was born here, she is an American citizen. The Tongs plan to pursue citizenship for their three older children.

Skip Alexander, a Columbus Pathfinder Club member, said, “I sure learned a lot of new things about government and being a citizen.” Another club member, Matthew Alexander, said, “I learned how your family becomes your community.

I was inspired by the mayor’s determination and strength in handling stress and pressure.”

Beth Alexander, co-director, Pathfinder Club, Columbus Church

Students hop for a cause

Indiana—Macie Colwell had her preschool teacher’s approval to jump up and down during class time at Cross Street Christian School in Anderson, Indiana. As she jumped, the six-year-old tried to talk to classmates. Short puffy breaths came out between each word: “I’m ... hopping ... my little ... lungs out.”

She was one of 12 who hopped as many times as they could in one minute. Macie recorded the most at 140 jumps.

By the time all the tennis shoes had settled, teacher Althea Elliott’s class had jumped 1,372 times. That will bring in a nice donation to the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) as students collected pledges for each jump in the annual Hop-a-Thon program.

The MDA Hop-a-Thon program is a weeklong disability awareness lesson where students have hands-on activities with books and a video. The program is for preschool through second-grade children at day-care centers and schools.

Throughout the week, Elliott’s students at Cross Street Christian learned the challenges facing people with muscular dystrophy. The Hop-a-Thon capped a week of learning as one of the school’s numerous outreach efforts.

For example, to learn about wheelchairs, students improvised with a teacher’s desk chair.

“I learned that there are kids who can’t hop. People with wheelchairs, it’s kind of hard because sometimes they need somebody to help them,” said Macie.

“I learned about the people who need braces,” said Kelsie Dalton, age six. “And when people can’t walk, they can use a wheelchair.” She knew also that people with disabilities were to be treated “really nice so they won’t feel bad.”

The event was a nice entry into Disability Awareness Month, recently proclaimed by Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels as a time to celebrate the diversity of the more than 1 million Hoosiers with disabilities. “Disabled adults and children represent about 17...
percent of Indiana’s population—the state’s largest minority group,” Daniels said.

The Indiana Governor’s Council for People with Disabilities coordinates Disability Awareness Month to promote inclusion, independence and employment for these Hoosiers—as well as the 54 million Americans with disabilities.

The Disability Awareness Month theme for 2008 was “Attitude is Everything.” In announcing the promotion, Suellen Jackson-Boner, executive producer of the council, said, “Disability Awareness Month is the perfect time for every aspect of the community to come together to organize events.”

“From businesses to government and schools to faith-based organizations, everyone is welcome to participate.”

For more information about the Indiana Governor’s Council for People with Disabilities and Disability Awareness Month, visit www.in.gov/gpcpd.

Scott L. Miley, features editor, The Herald Bulletin

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[Local Church News]

Marvelous messages preached in Mizpah

Lake Region—Mizpah Church in Gary, Ind., was the host for the “Revelation of Hope” seminar series from May 9 to May 21. The series was led by Walter Wright, then president of the Lake Union Conference, and was a cooperative effort of the churches in Lake County, including: Lake of the Four Seasons, Hammond, East Chicago Bethel, Hammond Hispanic, Gary Brunswick and Gary All Nations.

This was the beginning of a new planting season in the Lake County, Ind., “vineyard.” Area pastors George Bryant, Phillip Jenkins, Calvin Tait, and Robert Giordana helped organize the event and encouraged their members as conference Bible workers Victor Rodriguez, Freddie De Los Santos, Shirley Smith and Alma Vaught worked from home to home throughout the cities of Lake County.

Wright brought additional support with the Lake Union team that included Rodney Grove, executive secretary; Glynn Scott, treasurer; Carmelo Mercado, general vice president; Gary Suds, education director; Z. Kathy Cameron, women’s ministries director; and Gary Burns, communication director.

The excitement began as guests entered the parking lot and were met by the warm smiles of the attendants; at the door, by the smiles of the greeters; and inside, by the smiles of the ushers who gave them the best seats in the house where a mini-concert of praise started promptly at 6:45 p.m.

The excitement continued as Wright welcomed guests into the presence of the Lord, accompanied by the stirring strains of the theme song, “Jesus Is Coming Again,” and the moving music of the “Revelation of Hope” trio: Karen Alford, Myrna Hunt and Jackie Wright, who introduced Wright’s spirit-filled message.

Night after night, the church was filled with people who came away refreshed and inspired to do more for the Lord. They were taught of God’s love from creation, to the plan of redemption and salvation, to the ultimate life insurance plan that awaits us all upon Christ’s return. Wright rose above the enemy’s futile efforts to thwart the meetings by revealing the character of Jesus and His plan to rescue us from doomed planet Earth. There was a sense of an outpouring of Jesus’ love that spilled over into all the churches.

The “Revelation of Hope” seminar was a whole ministry, covering a broad spectrum. Many came faithfully and never missed a night, including a number of our Hispanic brothers and sisters who were able to hear Wright’s message with Mercado translating over an FM broadcast. Downstairs the children were experiencing their own spiritual growth. The Mizpah children’s ministries department led by Donnell Smith, Evelyn Thomas and all their faithful helpers were a blessing, providing services of Bible stories, lessons, music and crafts to the children who came every night with their parents.

In addition to the 34 who made decisions for baptism, we pray that this “marvelous message” will continue to bear fruit that may be tasted by all in Lake County and beyond, to the uttermost parts of the Earth. We thank Wright and the “Revelation of Hope” team for revitalizing, invigorating and inspiring us to help finish the work of sharing the gospel, so we can all go home with Jesus when He comes.

Sheridan Smith, communication secretary, Mizpah Church
Members sell treasures to build new sanctuary

Indiana—In early 2003, a Seventh-day Adventist Church was planted for the first time in the city of Carmel, Ind. For some time the new congregation met in various places—from a storefront to a room in the Indiana Conference Office building. Finally, enough money was raised to purchase a nice corner lot with an older house on it. The Lord blessed and the house was remodeled so it could serve as a church, and a parking lot was added.

Since 2003, when an older home was converted to a house of worship, Carmel Hope Fellowship church members knew they would outgrow it one day. Now experiencing overcrowding, church members are looking for creative ways to fund a new sanctuary.

But now the congregation is having growing pains. There is an overflow room with a screen for the worship services, but more space is needed for the children’s divisions. Additional space is also needed for the pastor’s class and another adult Sabbath school class. And the congregation recently experienced a wake-up call when they had to use the baptism of another church. They all agreed it was time they built their own sanctuary!

However, it takes a lot of money to build a church! Many of the members prayed for God to provide the funds. Then one day one of the members was sitting in her “thinking chair.” She was impressed that God would bless their effort if they would just put forth some effort that He could bless!

But what could they do? As she continued to sit in her thinking chair, her thoughts were taken back to the building program in Moses’ day. They gave the jewels that were given to them by the Egyptians. Ah! The little lady remembered an old diamond ring in her old jewelry box. She was more than willing to sell it and put the money into a house for the Lord.

Her next thoughts were of the beautiful sterling silverware in her china closet. She didn’t really need it anymore. It would be easier to use her stainless steel when she entertained, since she could put it in the dishwasher! So she took it to a dealer. He offered her $1,000 for her sterling silver! Then she remembered a few coins her mother had given to her. She was given $80 for four silver dollars! She told the church members that if her deceased mother could donate $80, surely they, who were alive, could donate something!

From the last financial report, it is easy to see that the Lord is blessing everyone’s efforts! A member of the community gave one of the members a lovely mink coat, which was sold and the proceeds donated to the church fund.

If anyone who is reading this has any good fundraising ideas that are approved by God, please e-mail them to wlowry@sbcglobal.net, or mail them to P.O. Box 4671, Carmel, IN 46082. We will be eternally grateful!

Lake Union ASI members share Christ’s love

Making everyday a great day is the goal of Kristina Hall, caregiver at White Oaks Assisted Living in Lawton, Mich. In June, Kristina was chosen as a Caregiver Champion by the Assisted Living Federation of America (ALFA), one of only 17 to be so honored nationally in 2008. White Oaks owner, Chuck Randall, said, “We are glad ALFA recognized what we have seen in the seven years Kristina has been part of our team. She knows and loves the residents and personalizes their care. She is a Caregiver Champion.”

Randall is an ASI (Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries) member and practices the organization’s stated purpose of sharing Christ in the marketplace. ASI members are encouraged to be more than legal and more than ethical—to be Christian in the workplace. Hall saw this in Randall and other Adventist team members at White Oaks.

When Randall’s mother, Charlotte, a current resident of White Oaks and a former ASI member, invited Hall to church, she eagerly accepted. Eventually, Bible studies were begun and a baptism resulted. Now, Kristina is not only a Champion Caregiver, she is also a child of God and a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

ASI is an organization for Adventist-owned businesses, for supporting institutions and for individuals who share their mission. As we meet together, we are inspired to use the blessings God has given and we gain understanding of Christ-like business methods.

ASI also promotes foreign mission service. Korissa Mattson has long
been an “ASI kid,” attending the Lake Union Chapter spring fellowships and national conventions with her family. She listened to the inspiring experiences of others, joined in the active program for young people, and even led out in programs for children. It was not surprising that when the opportunity came through the student missionary program of Andrews University, Mattson volunteered to go. As a second grade teacher in a school in the Marshall Islands, Mattson loved those kids. Although she missed her family and friends, she knew she was a partner with God. “I wished I had my mom to hug me sometimes when I was hugging those needy kids, but God was there and I feel so good to have shared His love,” she said.

Through ASI we can accomplish projects we couldn’t do alone. You are invited to be a part of the Lake Union Chapter mission trip/building project for 2009. Luis Leonor will aid us as we work with Maranatha to build a church and conduct evangelism in Ecuador.

Students from Wisconsin Academy will join in the experience. To join ASI or to join the mission trip or to help the project financially, contact the ASI secretary in your conference office.

Barbara Randall, communication secretary, Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries, Lake Union Chapter

[NAD NEWS]

Catching the Vision: 2008 ASI Convention inspires lay people, raises record offering

Some said inspirational, others said uplifting, and not a few labeled it camp meeting on steroids. It was the 61st annual Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) Convention, held this year in Tampa, Fla., and themed “By Knowing Him.”

Beginning Wednesday evening, Aug. 6, and ending Sabbath, Aug. 9, the ASI Convention was attended by more than 2,500 people, including 500 young people. Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) provided live worldwide television coverage.

A full schedule included nine main meetings, 20 seminars under five different themes, and complete programs for children and youth.

A highlight at the convention each year is the ASI Special Projects Offering, and this year the offering supported 41 projects chosen from approximately 100 submitted to ASI.

A wide variety of undertakings and locations made up the 2008 projects. A large number were construction projects, including the building of new broadcasting sites for 3ABN, based in West Frankfort, Illinois. There was also a project from Adventist Southeast Asia Projects, based in Berrien Springs, Mich., to develop a Lao language evangelistic DVD.

Electrifying the convention, however, was the One-Day Church project. A joint effort between ASI and Maranatha Volunteers International, the One-Day Church will provide cost-effective, well-built churches to “homeless” Adventist congregations around the world. It is a galvanized steel frame and vented roof that can be easily assembled by four people in just one day. The recipient congregation will be responsible to finish the walls and interior.

The response was overwhelming; an offering of $8,034,672 was pledged, more than quadruple the 2007 offering. “It’s just fantastic,” says a beaming Dwight Hilderbrandt, interim ASI secretary-treasurer. “This year’s offering was about evangelism and building churches, schools, etc. And the people really caught the vision and got behind it.”

Not only was evangelism emphasized in the offering projects, it was a powerful premise throughout the convention.

On Sabbath morning attendees were even provided with a special ASI Convention edition of the New Beginnings evangelism DVD, providing them with an attractive, user-friendly means to become evangelists in their communities.

The DVDs were provided by ASI vice president for evangelism Viorel Catarama, a home builder from Hinsdale, Ill.

Involving young people in evangelism is an integral tenet to ASI, and during the Friday evening meeting a special presentation was made about Youth for Jesus (YFJ). An ASI-sponsored youth evangelism program, YFJ reaches out to the community where the ASI convention is to be held each year.

YFJ Bible workers had been in Tampa since January, and the youth-led evangelistic meetings began in July and ended right before ASI Convention. All told, 52 youth participated along with 19 Bible workers. And from their efforts, 103 people chose to keep the Sabbath, and 94 requested baptism.

Testimonies from ASI members are a part of every ASI Convention, and this year a wide range of active lay people were highlighted. Among them were Manuel and Esther Alva, physicians from Berwyn, Ill., who have launched a church group that meets each Sabbath in the community where the ASI conven-


tion is to be held each year.

Testimonies from ASI members are a part of every ASI Convention, and this year a wide range of active lay people were highlighted. Among them were Manuel and Esther Alva, physicians from Berwyn, Ill., who have launched a church group that meets each Sabbath in the community where the ASI convention is to be held each year.

Asked what he thought of ASI Convention, Mark Ranzinger from Berrien Springs, Mich., said, “It’s fantastic, the people here want to turn their five talents into 15 talents.”

Then there’s Kyle Tumberg. He and his wife spent their honeymoon at ASI Convention. “And,” he glowed, “I don’t regret it!”

The 2009 ASI Convention will be in Phoenix, Ariz., Aug. 5-8.

Visit www.LakeUnionHerald.org

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Note: Images and graphics are not included in the text.
Anniversaries

Wayne and Genevieve Clark celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 12, 2008, by a potluck luncheon at the Oxford (Wis.) Church. They have been members of the Oxford Church for ten years.

Wayne Clark and Genevieve Smalley were married July 4, 1958, in Berrien Springs, Mich., by Elder V.E. Garber. Wayne has been business manager of NAD Evangelism Institute (formerly LUSI) for 19 years, retiring Dec. 31, 1998. Genevieve has been a secretary at NAD Evangelism Institute for 19 years, retiring Dec. 31, 1998.

The Clark family includes Karen and Clay Blair of Montello, Wis.; Kelly and Brad McClave of Coto de Caza, Calif.; and two grandchildren.

Benjamin and Bonnie Rendel celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 22, 2008, by a picnic at Copper Harbor, Mich. They have been members of the Houghton (Mich.) Church for 39 years.

Benjamin Rendel and Bonnie Yeary were married Aug. 22, 1948, in Monroe, Mich., by Pastor Hornyk. Benjamin has been an administrator for a nursing home, retiring in 1984. Bonnie has been a nurse and dietitian.

The Rendel family includes Diane and Gary Russell of Quincy, Ill.; Chad and Kelly Russell of Los Angeles, Calif.; Kurt Russell of Springfield, Ill.; Tara and Christian Anderson of Portland, Ore.; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Weddings

Cassandra R. Sowl and Darrell J. Campbell III were married June 22, 2008, in Oxford, Wis., at camp meeting. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Ric Swanginson.

Cassandra is the daughter of David and Stella Sowl of Mt. Horeb, Wis., and Jackie and Scott Berndt of Waterloo, Wis., and Darrell is the son of John and Annette Campbell of Columbus, Wis.

Cassandra is making their home in Columbus and Darrell is in Iwakani, Japan.

Jenae Johnson and Daniel Osborne were married June 1, 2008, in Pontiac, Mich.

They served 14 years in East Africa, Lebanon and Cyprus before moving to Berrien Springs, Mich., in 1980. They continue to be active in family research, birding and church activities.

The Pottle family includes Ted Pottle of Berrien Springs; Kim and Curt DeWitt of Owosso, Mich.; and three grandchildren.

Benjamin Rendel and Bonnie Yeary were married Aug. 22, 1948, in Monroe, Mich., by Pastor Hornyk. Benjamin has been an administrator for a nursing home, retiring in 1984. Bonnie has been a nurse and dietitian.

The Rendel family includes Diane and Gary Russell of Quincy, Ill.; Chad and Kelly Russell of Los Angeles, Calif.; Kurt Russell of Springfield, Ill.; Tara and Christian Anderson of Portland, Ore.; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

The ceremony was performed by Pastor Wayne Johnson.

Jenae is the daughter of Daniel and Laurie Johnson of Ortonville, Mich., and Daniel is the son of Ken and Polly Osborne of Eastpoint, Mich.

The Osbornes are making their home in Knoxville, Tenn.

Obituaries

CRESS, Dorothy E. (Hannum), age 81; born Mar. 10, 1927, in Cleveland, Ohio; died July 22, 2008, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her husband, Richard; son, Daniel; daughter, Gely Cress; brother, James Hannum Jr.; sisters, Phyllis B. Wilde and Melanie Grall Show; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Roy Gane, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

DEAN, Gloria M. (Jenkins), age 70; born Sept. 23, 1937, in Milwaukee, Wis.; died June 15, 2008, in Milwaukee. She was a member of the Sharon Church, Milwaukee.

Survivors include her sons, Darrell Jenkins and William D. Dean II; daughter, Marilyn Funches; brothers, Sheilie A., Samuel J., Nathaniel A., Philip W. and James R. Jenkins; sisters, Mabel J. Talbert and Yvonne M. Jenkins; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Philip W. Jenkins Sr., and interment was in GraceLand Cemetery, Milwaukee.

HERBST, Martha (Tietz), age 96; born Nov. 15, 1911, in Germany; died July 1, 2008, in Berrien Center, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Werner; daughter, Irene Ahlers; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Arne Swanson, with private inurnment.

OXLEY, Emerald L., age 92; born Oct. 23, 1915, in College View, Neb.; died June 24, 2008, in West Melbourne, Fl. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his sons, Sherwood, Richard, Ronald and Roger; stepson, Keith Rueckert; daughter, Lynda Teter; stepdaughter, Carol Rideout; brother, Cloyde; sister, Ruth Wilson; 22 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Arne Swanson and Edwin Buck, and interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

VAJDIC, Mirjana (Novoseljacki), age 82; born Apr. 15, 1926, in Melenci, Yugoslavia; died July 28, 2008, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, Milan; daughter, Verica Kekic; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Ranko Stefanovic and Dwight K. Nelson, and interment was in Montrose Cemetery, Chicago, Ill.


Survivors include her sons, Cleon, LeRoy and Merlyn; daughter, Claoma Fearce; sister, Lois Fisher; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Arne Swanson and Bruce Bobieno, and interment was in Spokane (Wash.) Memorial Gardens Cemetery.
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: $28 per insertion for Lake Union church members; $38 per insertion for all others. A form is available at www.lakeunionherald.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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Thistledown, a Christian Family Group Home (State Licensed AFC), has an opening for a male or female or couple. Country nature setting in southeastern Michigan. Vegetarian meals, 3ABN, transportation to appointments provided. Certified Nurse Assistant 24/7. For more information, call Gary or Judy Hiiter at 248-889-3974.

Vacation Opportunities

Vacation on Kauai, Hawaii, “The Garden Island.” Kahili Mountain Park is a scenic mountain getaway located at the base of Kahili Ridge. Just minutes from popular Kauai attractions, the park has an assortment of 1–4 room cabins with sleeping for 2–6 persons. See pictures and rates at www.kahilipark.org. For reservations, call 808-742-9921.

New England Sabbatical Suites: Completely furnished turn-key apartment in quiet New England home on peaceful farm. Short walk to sea. Peaceful solitude for time to commune with God, nature and your own soul. Available for a few days to a few months. For brochure, rates and more information, call 207-729-3115.


Miscellaneous

Free Vocal Music Concerts with Personal Life Experiences. A former voice instructor from Andrews University with his wife and sister will give free Sat. evening vocal music concerts with testimonies. Two music CDs and a DVD music video are available. For more information, contact Vladimir Slavujevic at 269-473-2826, or e-mail him at vladoslavujevic@yahoo.com.

Read Your Bible Through in 2008! using a unique plan with 52 Weekly Assignments. Good for groups or individuals. To receive by mail, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: This Is Life Eternal, P.O. Box 510657, Punta Gorda, FL 33951-0657; or download from www.thisislifeeternal.org. IT’S FREE!!

Wanted to Buy: Used Adventist books, song books, cook books, school books. Used Adventist books for sale. If interested, contact John at 269-781-6379.
Two new books from Joe L. Wheeler,
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The Christmas in My Heart series has become a regular part of thousands of Adventists’ and other’s Christmas holidays. Now you can share with friends and family the uplifting and inspirational stories of the seventeenth volume.

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2. Call: 1-800-765-6955
3. Shop: AdventistBookCenter.com
**Andrews University**

Howard Performing Arts Center Events

For further information about the following events, call HPAC at 269-471-3554, or visit their website at howard.andrews.edu.

The Heritage Singers, Oct. 4, 8:00 p.m.

Back by popular demand the award-winning praise and worship group will present an evening of brilliant vocal harmonies, together with an inspiring lyrical creativity, and powerful, uncompromising testimonies; delighting listeners at their evening concert.

Admission: $15

N-E-W Trio, Oct. 19, 4:00 p.m.

After winning the Gold Medal and Grand Prize at the 35th Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition at the University of Notre Dame, the N-E-W Trio has set off on their winner's tour.

Admission: $10

Assad Brothers & Turtle Island String Quartet, Oct. 26, 7:00 p.m.

Called “two super-groups of the string world,” the Assad brothers and Grammy winning Turtle Island String Quartet are a guitar duo and string quartet combined to present an evening’s concert that will span the globe. Admission $35

The Katinas, Nov. 8, 8:00 p.m.

Samoa-born brothers Sam, Joe, Jesse, John and James—collectively known as The Katinas—do nothing less than set the standard for five individuals singing with one unshakeable voice. These young Samoan men bring a refreshing sound to many songs in both the traditional and contemporary field with pure acapella harmonies that sing of the glory of the Lord. Admission: $20

**Indiana**

The Indiana Academy (IA) Alumni Association welcomes all graduates/attendants to the IA campus for Alumni Homecoming, Oct. 10-11. Honor classes are 1958, ’68, ’83 and ’98. In addition, the classes of 1978 and ’88 will be recognized. Special recognition will be given to students whose names are from the golden-age classes of 1929-1957. For more information, contact Jimmy Arnett, alumni president, at 219-629-1177 or e-mail jimmy_arnett@vcf.com. As part of the weekend activities, the 18th annual Alumni Golf Classic and Auction will be held Fri., Oct. 10. For information regarding the golf/auction event, contact Lawrence Johnson at 765-649-7256 or e-mail ljjohnson@mustinbuilders.com.

**Lake Region**

National Operation Reachback Annual Thinktank Conference will be held in Detroit, Oct. 16-18, at The Double Tree Hotel, 5801 Southfield Freeway. “Empowering Young Black Males at Risk to Succeed” will help support Operation Reach Back’s “Boys at Risk.” Featured speakers include Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu, Rupert Bushner, Kwame R. Vanderhorst, Errol Liverpool, Ralph Shelton, Larry Folmar, Wendell Jeffrey, Edward Green, Paul Musson, Carl Dade, Roland Gresham, Sharonlynn Harrison, Calvin Rock, Rosa Banks and many more. Banquet Black Tie Affair $60. For further details, contact City Temple at 313-897-0506, or Helen Bryant at 313-610-3704.

**Lake Union**

**Offerings**

Oct 4 Local Church Budget

Oct 11 Voice of Prophecy

Oct 18 Local Church Budget

Oct 25 Local Conference Advance

Special Days

Oct 4 Children’s Sabbath

Oct 5-11 Health Education Week (Vibrant Life)

Oct 18 Spirit of Prophecy Sabbath

Oct 25 Pathfinder Sabbath

**Michigan**

The Michigan Boarding Academies Alumni Association invites all alumni from Adelphi, Cedar Lake, Grand Ledge and Great Lakes Adventist Academies to Alumni Weekend, Oct. 10-11, on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy. This year’s honor classes are 1958, ’68, ’78, ’83, ’88 and ’98. Come join us for a memorable weekend. For more information, visit www.glaa.net, or call the alumni office at 989-427-5181.

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**North American Division**

Attention all youth leaders! Insight magazine is asking your youth and youth groups to submit videos to G5 (Gallatians 5:22), the fruits of the spirit video contest. Prizes range from an iPod touch to cash prizes. For rules and more information, please visit online at www.insightmagazine.org/videos/g5.asp. Contest submissions will be accepted until midnight, Oct. 15.

**Health Summit West—Spanish, 2008—La Sierra, Calif.**

The North American Division, Pacific Union and Loma Linda School of Public Health announce the first health certification training program, Oct. 13-19. “Tell the World Christ Brings Health and Wholeness” will present featured speaker Jose Rojas. Six “train-the-trainer” health seminars will be conducted. For more information, go to www.nadhealthsummit.com.
Faith in Everything
BY ALLISON COUEY

Back about 15 years ago when I was five months old, something very tragic happened to me—my pulse stopped and I almost passed away. I had a cyst in my stomach, which is a closed sac that has a distinct membrane and division on the nearby tissue. It normally contains air, fluids or semi-solid material. The cyst made me sick all the time, and I couldn’t really eat anything because it wouldn’t stay down. My mom and dad took me to the hospital to have surgery to remove the cyst.

That night was one of the most stressful nights for my mom and dad. After long hours of the surgery, the nurse was supposed to give me .5 cc of morphine, but instead gave me 5 cc. The doctor walked in to check on me after a while had passed, and noticed I was blue and not breathing. My mom followed the doctor into the room to see what he had to say. She was quickly rushed out of the room so the doctor could do what he had to do to help me start breathing again. She screamed and cried as the doctor fought for my life.

My dad stepped up to her and mentioned that she needed to calm down, to just wait to see what happens, and just pray about it. A few hours later, everything started to pull back together and I was breathing but not awake. A few days later, they let me go home but with tubes that were looping into my side, in the general area of where the cyst used to be, pumping to make sure the cyst did not come back. Now I have a huge scar that goes halfway across my stomach from the surgery and a little scar closer to my side from where the tube was.

After being told the story of that day by my parents and family, and reading about it in my baby book, I realized that having faith and just taking time out in a situation to pray to God about it does a lot for a person’s life. My perspective on God has really changed from all this. I mean, if God can bring a person back to life then He can help anybody get through anything. It still amazes me to this day that all of that happened.

Now, I try to have more faith in God in everything I do. Every time I have a problem that I think will never be resolved, I pray about it. Lately, I have been going around telling people about my miracle and helping them see that if they also have faith in God in everything that they do, something amazing might happen to them.

God is wondrous and can do things that people could never imagine. If He changed my life, then He can change yours, even if you don’t know you need it.

Allison Couey is a junior at Pennfield High School in Battle Creek, Michigan. She attends the Battle Creek Tabernacle.
Brandon Garrett, 18, of Hinsdale, Illinois, is a senior at Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA). Brandon, along with his parents Bryan and Rebecca Garrett, is a member of the Hinsdale Church.

He is president of the HAA chapter of the National Honor Society and is the senior class Student Association representative. Brandon has been a class president and treasurer. He is a member of the Hinsdale Hurricanes basketball team, and was named MVP last season by the coaching staff.

Brandon has been immersed in this year’s presidential election. Tom Dunham, HAA’s social studies teacher comments, “In my 17 years of teaching, I have encountered very few students [who] possess the love of history and politics that Brandon has demonstrated. ... I am very confident that Brandon’s enthusiasm for politics will one day lead him into the arena of public service, where he will be a shining example of someone who is using his God-given talents to be a blessing to all who know him.”

Upon graduating in May, Brandon plans to attend Andrews University where he will major in political science and business. His goal is to attend law school at George Washington University, and he plans a career in politics.

Brooke Netzel, 17, is the daughter of Robert and Betty Sue Netzel of Hinsdale, Illinois. Brooke is a senior at Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA), where she has attended since preschool, and she is a member of the Hinsdale Church.

Brooke is Student Association vice president, and has previously served as class president. She is a member of the National Honor Society, and the Lady Hurricanes basketball team, which last season awarded Brooke the “Hurricane Award for Academic and Athletic Excellence.”

In addition to maintaining a 4.0 GPA and participating in all of her extra-curricular activities, Brooke also works in the kitchen at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. According to Michelle Weikum, HAA’s math teacher and S.A. sponsor, “Brooke is a wonderful leader of her peers. I can always depend on her to be strong spiritually and academically.” Careen Hall, HAA’s science teacher, adds “Brooke is a very hard worker, and it shows in her 4.0 GPA.”

Brooke is still deciding which college to attend after graduating in May, but is seriously considering both Andrews University and Southern Adventist University. She is contemplating a career in medicine, and all who know her agree that with her outstanding academic abilities and work ethic, she will be successful in whatever profession she chooses to pursue.

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

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