

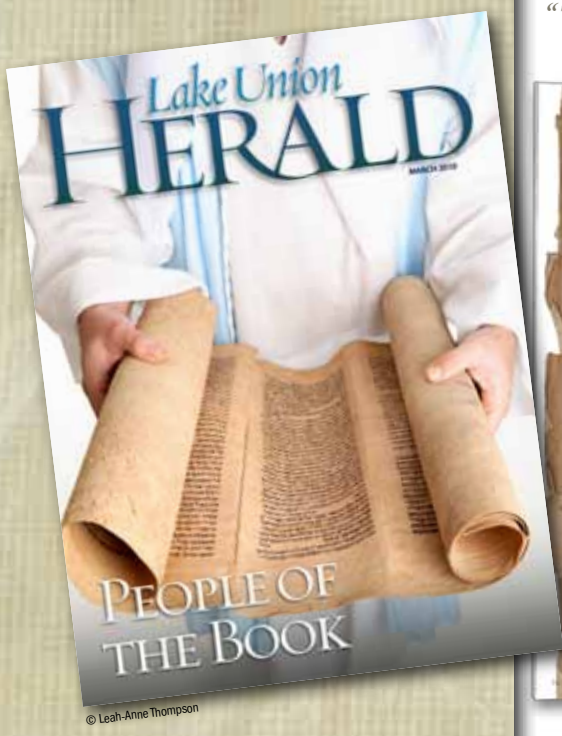
Lake Union HERALD

MARCH 2010



PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

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



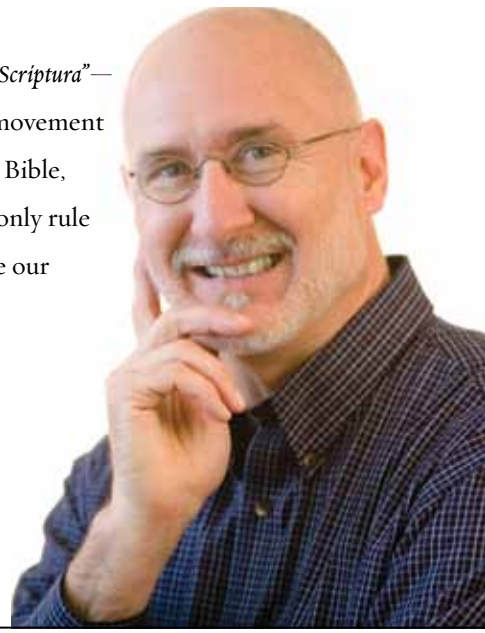
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In this issue...

The mantra of the Reformation was "Sola Scriptura"—the Bible only. The Seventh-day Adventist movement was the result of a renewed emphasis on the Bible, and the founders understood it to be their "only rule of faith and doctrine." It's time to recalibrate our spiritual compasses to true North.


Gary Burns, Editor



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Setting Dates?

Maybe you have heard numerous time predictions of Christ's Second Coming. Of course, there's 1844—a valid date with the incorrect application. I remember 1964. Some believed since Noah preached for 120 years, and then the flood, it seemed reasonable to assume Christ would come after 120 years of preaching of the Advent message. More recently, not a few were predicting the year 2000, and variations thereof, as the end of a 6,000-year Earth history and the beginning of the seventh millennium ushered in by the Second Coming. The Y2K scare was just fuel for the frenzy. Even Hollywood cashes in with a number of doomsday movies, the latest one I've heard of identifies 2012 as "the end."

Of all the people in the world, we as Seventh-day Adventists should be the first to accept Jesus' statement that we are not supposed "to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority" (Acts 1:7 NKJV), while we eagerly look forward to the Second Coming. We believe in the Second Coming, we preach it and live it. Yet, I am amazed that some are quick to follow those who set actual or probable times of Christ's return. Most date setters will quickly minimize the thought that they are setting a date. But when a date is verbalized or put on the screen and supported with information and rationale, a date is placed in the mind of the hearer and the outcome can be a disregard for Jesus' words.

It seems probable that those who focus on specific dates are genuine in their desire to keep the urgency of the Second Coming before us—and that is good and valid. If or when we lose our hope and desire to see the Advent of Jesus and go home with Him, we cease to be Adventists. Yet date setting, whether specific or oblique, can have negative effects. Each time a suggested date comes and goes, it tends to anesthetize and lull us away from the conviction of urgency. It can also foster procrastination—putting off what must be done today because the date may be sometime in the future.

So why not just listen to what God told us in Scripture: "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:7, 8 NKJV).

The signs are all around us indicating that this sinful and deteriorating world is ready to be delivered from sin. We know God has a plan and is eager to share eternity with us. Let's listen to His Word, trust His timing and focus on our commission today rather than speculate on times we think might be correct.

His direction is clear: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16 NKJV). We are to be a people who embrace a "Commission Culture" within our lives, our families and churches.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS



The Caudill family's desire is to serve the Lord, and they are doing so by telling everyone they meet about their Special Friend, Jesus, and what He has done for them. From left: Bob Lewis, head elder and the Caudill's Sabbath school teacher; Joshua Caudill, Carol and Kenneth Caudill; Jerry Higgs, interim pastor, New Albany Church

Indiana Kenneth Caudill grew up in the Adventist Church. However, when he was 15, the pressures of public school began to take their toll. His Adventist beliefs were not compatible with those of his classmates. Many of them had begun dating, and conversations often centered on their exploits. At a vulnerable time in his life, Kenneth was introduced to pornography and that was the beginning of his downfall. Leaving his Adventist upbringing behind, Kenneth embraced the popular culture, trying many things it had to offer.

He married in 1975, and he and his wife, **Carol Caudill**, eventually had two boys, **Joshua Caudill** and Christopher Caudill. The responsibility of being a parent had little effect on Kenneth's chosen lifestyle, but God still had a plan for his life. After 25 years of marriage, the family was excited to move into a new home. Before taking a step inside, Kenneth paused with the impression that he was stepping into an opportunity to make a new start. As Kenneth now reflects on that moment, he's convinced that it was the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Nine years later, Kenneth was hospitalized with what appeared to be a heart attack. During the doctor's examination, it became evident that there were more factors involved than a diseased heart. Kenneth was stressed and discouraged, had low self-esteem and very little will to live. It was determined that Kenneth's pain was real, but not caused by a heart attack.

The doctor encouraged him to make an immediate change in his way of living—for not only his own sake, but for his family's. He also introduced Kenneth to his very Special Friend who cares very much for every one of us, regardless of your choices. Again, Kenneth felt the leading of the Holy Spirit and saw this crisis as a “wake-up call” to develop a relationship with this Special Friend who he believed had intervened in his life.

Kenneth took his doctor's advice, and the very next Sabbath he and his family attended church. A sense of “coming home” brought tears to his eyes.

Joshua had his own experience, having survived two serious automobile accidents, and so did Carol. The doctor told her that not only could she have lost her sight, but she could have very easily been killed. She and Joshua each longed for a relationship with that Special Friend.

On September 26, 2009, Kenneth, Carol and Joshua were baptized. After 41 years of living apart from his Adventist heritage, Kenneth had finally come home and brought his family with him. Now the Caudill family's desire is to serve the Lord, and they are doing so by telling everyone they meet about their Special Friend, Jesus, and what He did for them.

Joyce Blake, communication secretary, New Albany Church



On October 24, 2009, Tessa Turner (right) entered the waters of baptism and showed all her love for Jesus Christ. Also pictured: Justin Childers, pastor, Tell City Church

Indiana For the past few years, Carolyn Nash, a member of the Tell City Church, has brought her grandchildren to church, and she was overjoyed when her granddaughter, **Tori Nash**, was baptized last year. Tori's experience made a real impression on her cousin's twin sisters, **Tessa Turner** and Roxi Turner, who also had an interest in being baptized. They began Bible studies with Deborah Seibert and Stacy Huffman, members of the Tell City Church, who used the Kid Zone Bible guides as outlines for their studies. After completing the lessons, Tessa wanted to

continue studying, so she completed a set of studies which introduced Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world. By the time she completed the studies, Tessa had made her decision to be baptized.

This decision was not an easy one for Tessa. She and her sister both attended public school and had enjoyed the many activities that took place on the Sabbath. But with their newfound faith and confidence in their Friend Jesus, they have the courage and desire to stand up for God, and refuse to participate even in the required functions that take place on the Sabbath.

Sabbath, October 24, 2009, was an exciting day for Tessa as she took her public stand by entering the waters of baptism. During the service, her church family learned how difficult the decision had been and they responded with praise and thanksgiving that she made her bold choice for Jesus Christ.

Justin Childers, Tell City Church pastor, as shared with Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*



Christian Ronalds, Oxford Church pastor, welcomes Cristine Jones (right) to her new church family. Cristine says, "May God continue to bless me so I can bless others."

Wisconsin I (Cristine Jones) had many injuries while growing up, but I was devastated when I burned my eyes. My work involved a new technology using intense ultra violet rays. Though I wore safety glasses, my eyes were burned—literally peeling and shedding layers while trying to heal. I didn't know for some time whether this damage would be permanent.

Prior to burning my eyes, I was on a journey getting to know Jesus by reading the Bible and praying. Once I burned my eyes, I was no longer able to read the Bible. During my recovery, I suffered from intense sensitivity to light, which forced me to rest in a dark, cave-like environment. I was

limited to listening to Christian programs and praying to become closer to God. Although I had prayed before, I had never prayed like this—with my whole body, soul and spirit. I became so close to Jesus that it seemed we were one, and then little by little I received my eyesight back. I was then blessed with seeing things much closer visually and spiritually than before. I knew I wanted to go deeper into God's work for Him.

My family and I joined a study class on the book of Daniel with Wendell Springer, a pastor. While at church I learned about many different missionary events going on around the world, and that subject struck a spark of interest as well as a childhood memory. I can remember seeing returned missionaries talk about their journey in the mission field. Oh, how I envied the work they did for Christ. One day when Wendell stopped at our house, he mentioned a mission trip to Peru and asked if I would like to go. I immediately said yes, and he said he would keep me informed.

I continued to have study classes, next on the book of Revelation with Dale Mishleau as teacher. Dale sure knows how to explain things thoroughly—people get the full understanding and grow spiritually. I was learning so much truth in God's Word.

A year went by and I learned the Peru mission trip was in full swing. As I grew closer to the Lord, I began to realize that I wanted and needed to be baptized prior to going on the trip. I was baptized on August 15, 2009, at the Oxford Church, along with my mother, Linda Jones, and Laurie Roberts. My father, David Jones, entered into church membership through Profession of Faith. Christian Ronalds, pastor, officiated the baptism and Dale Mishleau joined us in the baptismal tank.

More than 30 people participated in the Peru trip, and three from the Oxford Church. I was so thankful and grateful to go on this mission trip to do God's work. I know this is a new beginning—to live my life to the fullest with God by my side, traveling all over the world on mission adventures spreading the Good News.

Thank you to all who helped me make a dream come true in becoming a Seventh-day Adventist, and a missionary with your donations to send me, as well as learning new truths in God's Word and how to truly love like the Ten Commandments ask us. May God continue to bless me so I can bless others. Lastly, may this story encourage others to dream big dreams and ask God to help fulfill them, for *all* things are possible through God.

Cristine Jones, member, Oxford Church

'Tis the Season to Adopt a Family

BY ASHLEIGH JARDINE

Christmas is a holiday for kids. Just ask Katherine and Reger Smith, leaders of the Pioneer Memorial Church's *Adopt a Family for Christmas* program. Every year, the Smiths see to it that dozens of children receive winter clothing and small gifts during the holidays. How? They ask people in the community to "adopt" families who are struggling financially.

The program began in 2001 under the direction of the Smiths, two retired social workers who have served church families for many years.

"We were in charge of the emergency assistance program at the church that reached out to folks in need, student families, other church members and families in Benton Harbor," says Katherine. "We discovered that so many families were struggling financially! That's how it all started."

Using resources from the emergency assistance program, Katherine and Reger began to contact families who were having financial difficulties. Designed to meet the needs of children, adoptees have the opportunity to share their children's names, ages, clothing necessities and Christmas lists with those who could help.

The two families often build lasting relationships. Adopters hand-deliver the items and sometimes go above and beyond, inviting their "new relatives" to Christmas dinner or providing groceries and presents for the parents, as well.

"I'm just really surprised how much people are willing to give. It is an amazing number of folks who want to be involved in helping needy families," says Katherine.

It's true. Many people, and sometimes even groups, in the community willingly give their time and efforts to the program each season, including the Andrews University *Lady Cardinals* basketball players. During the 2008 Christmas season, Coach Ivan Davis and sophomore Neola Siv-



The true meaning of the season is evident on the faces of the Lady Cardinals as they prepare gifts for their adopted family.

alingam were searching for ways to involve the team in a community service project.

"When Coach brought up the idea of adopting a family, I immediately thought it was an excellent idea. There are so many families in need around our community," says Neola.

The team sponsored a small family and surprised them by

showing up one evening with gifts.

"They were very, very surprised," recalls Neola. "It made me grateful for my family and for all the blessings God has given us, for the basketball team and for a helping community. It was a humbling and amazing experience that I will never forget."

This Christmas, the *Lady Cardinals* adopted a family of four. The boy is nine years old and asked for a brand new remote control truck. Besides winter clothing, the four-year-old girl's Christmas list included a "Dora the Explorer" doll. The team was excited about the opportunity to help out and delighted to see the kids' faces when they received the gifts.

It's something the *Lady Cardinals* will continue to do in the future, and it's inspired them to seek out other ways to get involved. "There's little question that it is a natural outgrowth of the campus climate and service orientation," says Ivan. "It's a great way to celebrate Christmas in a meaningful way."

Ashleigh Jardine is a student news writer at the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.



Short-Term Mission Trip: Long-Term Partnership

BY GLENN RUSSELL

Since 2000, Pioneer Memorial Church Youth Missions teams have traveled to Honduras where R.E.A.C.H. (Render Effective Aid to Children) International sponsors the “Hogar de Niños”—a daycare center, an elementary school and a secondary school. This partnership has been so beneficial that another trip was planned for December 2009.

“This was my fifth time going to Honduras as a team member,” commented Bradley Smith, religion and education major at Andrews University. “The kids are really maturing. They really appreciate our friendship, and often remind me of the memories we have had together over the years.” Bradley taught Bible in Spanish for the approximately 130 children who came to the day camp, and they loved his creative lessons.

“The children in Honduras remind me that we don’t need material possessions to express love. They ask me to hold them, sing to them and play with them. They know how to make others happy and they kept on saying ‘Thank you for the camp,’” comments Risa Maeda, an Andrews education major from Japan, who renewed friendships while teaching *origami*.

Scott Schalk served as the F.L.A.G. (Fun Learning About God) Camp director. He returns to Honduras to continue his friendships with the children and to support the ministry of the staff who serve so faithfully. This year Brenda, Scott’s wife, and their three children also experienced a taste of missions as a family. Businessman Garren Dent and his wife, Bonnie (a physical therapist), took their three children who actively participated in ministry.

One Sunday, the team took children to the beach. “Even though it was raining and the salt was stinging our eyes, there wasn’t one face that didn’t have a huge smile on it,” stated Laci Frazier, who shared and learned a lot on the trip.



In Honduras, the Youth Missions team continues a partnership of giving, growing, learning and doing with the children and staff of the Hogar de Niños.

When the bus stopped to get gas, the children noticed some homeless boys lying on the sidewalk, trying to keep dry under some cardboard. One of the children from the Hogar walked over to the boys and gave half of her lunch to the smallest street child. One by one kids started giving their food to these needy children.

Tunisia Peters, an Andrews alumnus and medical professional, remarked, “The children demonstrated such compassion toward those boys; my heart was touched by seeing Jesus’ love in action.”

The Youth Missions team participates in lots of activities: leading a branch Sabbath school in a little village nearby; being the guests of an hour-long live, local television show; taking walks with the children; singing and praying during worships; working and playing, listening and sharing. Jonathan Rios, Andrews religion major, put it well, “Jesus said the kingdom of Heaven belongs to children. When I first set foot at the Hogar, one child after another was throwing their arms around me, laughing with me, putting their trust in me—yet they had just met me. What a lesson!”

The friendships continue through e-mails and letters, and the team looks forward to next year’s journey. Yes, it was a short-term mission, but it’s a long-term partnership—giving and growing and learning and doing.

Glenn Russell is an assistant professor of religion at Andrews University and team leader of the Youth Missions trip.



Who Me? Cheat?

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

Here are the facts!

Nearly two-thirds (71 percent) of high school students admit they cheated on an exam at least once in the past 12 months. Forty-six percent said they did so two or more times.

Almost all (92 percent) lied to their parents in the past 12 months. Seventy-nine percent said they did so two or more times.

More than two-thirds (78 percent) lied to a teacher. Fifty-eight percent lied two or three times.

More than one-quarter (27 percent) said they would lie to get a job.

Forty percent of males and 30 percent of females say they stole something from a store in the past 12 months.

Sad as these current statistics are, they also say something about the future. Young people are much more cynical than their elders. They are considerably more likely to believe that it is necessary to lie or cheat in order to succeed. Cheaters in high school are far more likely as adults to lie to their spouses, customers and employers, and to cheat on expense reports and insurance claims.

So what's a parent to do? We need to admit that we can't keep our children from lying and cheating. Sometimes it's experimental. They do so out of fear or they see other kids getting by with it and wonder what rules work for them. Being consistent and not over-reacting is important. Having age-appropriate conversations about our values, plans and goals for our children help set them up for success.

Others are like Crystal, 13 years old, who said, "If you try one big lie, you're going to keep doing it, over and over." Michael Josephson, the founder of the Josephson Institute on Ethics, suggests these attitudes and practices of teens reveal "a hole in the moral ozone." He further states, "Being sure children can read is certainly essential, but it is no less important that we deal with the alarming rate of cheating, lying and violence that threatens the very fabric of our society."



So what's a parent to do? Be mindful that you are potentially the best and most important teacher of your child. As a Christian parent, turn to Scripture, read books on character development and grow in your understanding of child development, exercise your faith, teach your children to live with honesty and integrity day by day. Character is developed

from what is "caught" as well as what is "taught."

Consistency, concreteness and creativity are all important in instilling morals and values to a child, suggests Michael. The moral messages we send must be clear, consistent and repetitive. Over and over, use specific language that conveys your values for trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. Messages need to be explicit, direct and relevant to the lives of your children. Role-playing, using games and being actively involved in your child's relationships with others, allowing them to make real decisions, and using teachable moments are all creative ways of developing character in children.

As Ellen G. White wisely shared, "To a great extent, parents hold in their own hands the future happiness of their children. Upon them rests the important work of forming the character of these children. The instructions given in childhood will follow them all through life" (*Testimonies to the Church*, Vol. 1, p. 686).

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.

For more information on The Josephson Institute of Ethics, The Character Study and character-building activities to use at home and at school, visit <http://josephsoninstitute.org>.

A misdiagnosis can create unnecessary hardships.



Children can outgrow food allergies.

Food Allergies

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

Runny nose, itchy red rash, watery eyes, coughing and sneezing, diarrhea, wheezing, abdominal cramps and hives—these or other symptoms are commonly experienced by those with allergies to such things as mold, dander, dust, pollen or certain foods. Food allergies in children are more common when the parents have allergies such as hay fever or asthma.

The number of food allergies has risen during the past decade by about 20 percent. Food allergies affect about six to eight percent of children under the age of four, while three to four percent of adults have food allergies. Allergic reactions to food are most commonly caused by accidental exposure to certain foods.

For adults, the foods that most commonly cause allergic reactions include shellfish, peanuts, tree nuts, fish and eggs. In children, the foods that most commonly cause problems are eggs, milk, peanuts and tree nuts. Adults usually retain their allergies for life, while children sometimes outgrow them. Children are more likely to outgrow allergies to milk, egg or soy than allergies to peanuts.

Allergic reactions to food can sometimes cause serious illness and death. Tree nuts and peanuts are the leading causes of deadly allergic reactions called anaphylaxis, which account for more than 100 deaths a year in the U.S. Only about one in 200 persons are allergic to peanuts and tree nuts.

It is reported that one out of every three people either believe they have a food allergy or modify their diet or their family's diet because of a suspected allergy. Thus, while food allergy is commonly suspected, healthcare providers diagnose it much less frequently. A true food allergy is an abnormal response to a food triggered by the body's immune system, in which the antibody IgE is produced.



A misdiagnosis in children can result in needlessly restricting their diet of certain foods which may provide essential vitamins and minerals not easily obtained elsewhere. The misdiagnosis may also unnecessarily subject a person to ridicule or to social burdens involving behavior change and isolation.

What some consider as food allergy symptoms may actually be symptoms associated with a food intolerance. Food intolerances are more common than food allergies. Examples of food intolerances include food poisoning from contaminated food; lactose intolerance from consuming certain dairy products;

reactions to foods containing high levels of histamine such as cheese, wines and certain kinds of fish; flushing, headache or chest discomfort from consuming large amounts of the flavor enhancer MSG; and severe bronchospasm resulting when asthmatics consume large amounts of foods containing sulfites (used to prevent mold growth).

The memory of an unpleasant event in childhood that was tied to eating a particular food can also trigger an unpleasant reaction to the food consumed later in life. An ulcer can also cause symptoms (such as abdominal pain) similar to those seen with a food allergy. Clearly, it is better to have a food allergy diagnosed by a healthcare practitioner than by self diagnosis.

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



EXTREME GRACE

Playing by the Book

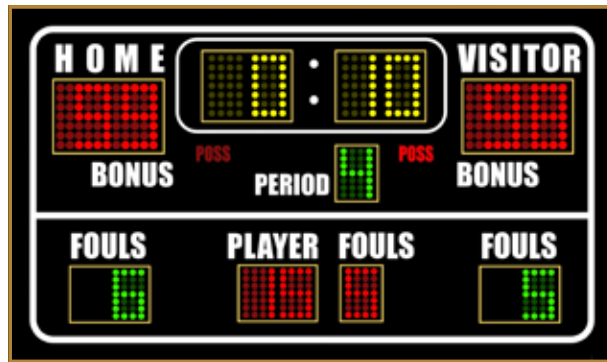
BY GARY BURNS

Dressed in a nice suite and tie, he paces the sideline—eyes darting back and forth as they follow the ball down the court. His team is behind by three points and there are only 47 seconds left on the clock. The opposing guard reads the next pass like “see Spot run,” and picks the ball out of the air like a trout catching a mayfly. His momentum gives him a comfortable lead down the court for an easy lay-up. The coach stomps his feet in disgust and signals for a time-out.

The team quickly huddles for the game-saving instructions: “Okay, here’s the plan. We’ve got to make six points in the next 43 seconds. Mike, see if you can draw a foul. That will stop the clock and get us some points. You’re hot tonight. And if their Number 27 gets the ball, foul him. He’s their worst foul-line shooter. Let’s go man-to-man. Remember how we practiced. Ready, ‘Break!’”

Well, everything went according to plan and they won. They won by playing by the book. Following the rules—even intentionally breaking the rules to their advantage—what a great lesson for life!

Basketball has rules. Several times over the years, the rules have been modified as the game has developed. According to the National Basketball Association, there are only 12 rules, but each one can have as many as 18 sections with up to 17 sub-parts each. In addition, there are specific guidelines for administering the rules and another 16 principles, some of which include dress and speech. Jerry Krause went to the trouble of interpreting the rules and spelling them all out in detail. It’s called *The Basketball Bible*. There seems to be a “bible” for everything: *The Fly-Fisherman’s Bible*, the *Quilting Bible*, the *Java Script Bible*, the *Crystal Bible*, even the *Atheist’s*



Bible—each one claiming to be “the definitive guide” to their subject. Is that all the Bible is? A definitive guide to the subject of God?

Our coach in the story knew all the rules and how to use them to his advantage. To him, *The Basketball Bible* was not so much a guide to how to play

the game, but a guide to how to play the game of playing the game. His purpose was not to comply with the intent of the rules; his purpose was to win, within the parameters and the limitations of the rules. Some approach the Bible, and the subject of God, the same way. It’s not about engaging in a relationship with God, it’s about “What are the rules, and how can I use them to my advantage to win the game?” That’s raw legalism in its purest form! The Pharisees were experts on the law and used their knowledge to their advantage. Christ confronted them: “You think you know the scriptures...” (see John 5:39)

Grace is not living by the book; it’s living by faith in the One whom The Book is about. “Playing the game” of life is legalism. Letting Jesus live out His life in you is Grace—extreme Grace.

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

I Need to Talk to You

BY DON JACOBSEN

I need to talk to You. It's about Haiti. I know, most tragedies only stay in the public consciousness in America for about six days, then our collective interest moves on to something else; but I just can't get this one out of my mind.

Dear God, have you seen Port-au-Prince? Well, of course You have; but I mean, the devastation there is beyond description. A third of their 10,000,000 citizens were traumatized, and it was not uncommon to see pictures of the medics doing amputations in the middle of the street with a hacksaw—and without anesthetic—on kids. It is beyond my ability to comprehend, let alone try to describe it.

So, help me understand. I mean, granted it's a nation where voodoo is rampant and even the largest Christian church there has absorbed some of its error. But I somehow can't see this as some kind of Divine cataclysmic retribution. I mean, look at some of our own nation's streets and what goes on here...

I am reminded that there have been events of this magnitude throughout history, and Your people, while trusting You, have still struggled to make sense of them. And while seeking to make sense of them, have still trusted. I guess that's my goal right now.

I know You don't mind questions, hard questions; I learned that fact from King David. And I am somehow comforted even to be able to ask them. Please check me out and see if I've got this right.

Here's what I think I know...

Without Your Word we wouldn't have a clue. Your Book draws back the curtain and gives us an idea of what is really happening. A friend of mine likes to say, "God's got a bigger thing goin' on than these little bitty eyes can see." Without the insights from Scripture we would not know

about the universe-wide spiritual warfare that's in process. So that's where I have to begin.

Further, the Book says that our planet would not be terrorized by destruction from every direction if it were not for the presence of sin. Jesus said when He was here, "An enemy has done this." You made everything perfect. There were no tremors in the Garden of Eden before the enemy put in his appearance. I'm convinced that the effects of sin have imperiled our planet in ways we have yet fully to understand.

One of the toughest parts of tragedies like the one in Haiti is that it seems so unfair. But as I read the Inspired Record, I am reminded that there is nothing about sin that is fair. We can ask that same question about a thousand other injustices that haunt us as we look around. I recall You never promised every step of the journey would be fair—only the outcome.

We will never know how many died in the Haiti earthquake. But You know, and in Your great heart there is no such thing as an unmarked grave.

So the pain is still there, as I know Yours is. And You and Your children share a deep passion—to see this whole thing over and peace restored. Meanwhile, we will give what we can to help. And for the injured, the grieving and those helping ... we will pray. Often and fervently. Thank You for hearing.

Your friend.

Don Jacobsen is the former president of Adventist World Radio. He writes from Hiawassee, Georgia.



Laborers Together in Christ

BY URSULA CARMONA

It was Sunday, October 11, 2009, 12:45 p.m. The International Vegetarian Food Fair was due to start in 15 minutes, and already students from the University of Illinois were pouring into the hall. The church members rushed to finish arranging tables for the Food Fair, while a small group gathered in a nearby foyer as Raymond Plummer, pastor, led in prayer. They prayed the Lord would bless this outreach event, and use it for His own purpose. And bless it, He did!

The Food Fair drew more than a hundred community guests, of which a third requested information on health and religion. At registration, attendees were provided with a grab bag containing a complimentary recipe booklet, a free Bible study offer and other goodies. Once inside, they viewed the Food Fair's displays on the benefits of a healthful lifestyle and vegetarian diet, and obtained free informational handouts. At the church booth, they found other materials such as *Happiness Digest* and *Ten Commandments Twice Removed*.

It was the organizers' and participants' desire to enlighten the community about Seventh-day Adventists and answer any questions visitors might have. However, it was not the displays or free materials that quickly filled up the rented hall on campus. It was the advertisement of free vegetarian food that drew the largest crowd.

The church members faithfully prepared their favorite vegetarian and vegan dishes as samples. Several guests commented that the food was excellent, and they seemed to really enjoy the international emphasis. Overall, it appeared to be a success. Many satisfied faces came out of the Food Fair hall that day.



Church member Wendy Lee serves the students a spoonful of the vegetarian dish she prepared for the International Food Fair.

To the common attendee it may have been just another family-friendly event with delicious foods and freebies, but it was so much more. Three parties combined their efforts to produce this outreach event: The Adventist Christian Fellowship, a student organization located at University of Illinois, and two churches—the Champaign Church of the Illinois Conference and the Park Avenue Church of the Lake Region Conference.

Overcoming the boundaries of age, culture, conference and color, they labored side-by-side. God blessed each willing spirit, each decided effort—from the homework-laden university student who posted fliers on campus to the Pathfinders standing diligently on each corner to direct people; from the shy member who handed out fliers the day before to the outgoing who manned the registration booth the day of; from the men and women who cooked to the young and old who served food. Therein lay the greatest blessing: to be co-laborers together with God. And yet, they anticipate another great blessing—what God can do for the people they met that day.

Ursula Carmona is the Health Ministries director and the International Food Fair coordinator at the Champaign Adventist Church in Central Illinois.



REDIMIDOS POR SU GRACIA

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“El alma redimida y limpiada de pecado, con todas sus nobles facultades dedicadas al servicio de Dios, es de un valor incomparable; y hay gozo en el cielo delante de Dios y de los santos ángeles por cada alma redimida, gozo que se expresa con cánticos de santo triunfo” (El camino a Cristo, p. 126).

Cuando era niño tenía la impresión que mi madre no era del todo feliz. Parecía estar buscando algo que no hallaba. Sin embargo, siendo ya adolescente, comencé a notar que había un cambio en su actitud, y me pregunté: “¿Qué le pasa a ella?” Mi madre había comenzado a asistir a una iglesia los sábados y regresaba siempre con una sonrisa. Y luego cuando nos mudamos a Puerto Rico, ella continuó yendo los sábados a una iglesia en el pueblo de Fajardo. Noté también que ella traía a la casa algunas señoras para estudiar con ella, las que se veían muy felices. Con el pasar del tiempo noté que su manera de actuar estaba cambiando, y cuando comencé a asistir a la iglesia adventista, comprendí la razón de ese cambio. No tenía duda alguna de que Dios había tocado su corazón y que ella llegó a ser una persona redimida por la gracia de Dios.

“Redimida por su gracia” es el tema de nuestro próximo Retiro de Damas en la Unión del Lago, que se llevará a cabo en la Universidad Andrews del **23 al 25 de julio** de este año 2010. La oradora principal para este retiro será Liz Enid Polanco. La hermana Polanco viene de Puerto Rico, donde ha servido como maestra de escuela y conferenciante en campamentos de la mujer y retiros matrimoniales. Además, por más de cinco años ha dado campañas de evangelismo y semanas de oración en diferentes lugares en los Estados Unidos y la República Dominicana. Está casada con el pastor Osvaldo Acevedo, quien trabaja como pastor en Puerto Rico, y tienen tres hijos. Además de ser la oradora principal, ella dirigirá también el seminario: “La felicidad del perdón”.



Liz Enid Polanco, oradora del Retiro de Damas de la Unión del Lago

El costo de la registración para el fin de semana es de

\$70. Esto incluye los gastos de comida, los seminarios y los materiales. El costo de hospedaje en las residencias de estudiantes por dos noches es \$35 por persona (con dos personas en un cuarto). Para inscribirse para el retiro recomendamos que se comunique con la directora de ministerios de la mujer de su iglesia o de su asociación. Para confirmar su hospedaje llame al teléfono número 269-471-3664. Si tuviera alguna pregunta puede también llamar al departamento

hispano de la Unión, al número 269-473-8239.

Animamos a las damas de nuestra Unión a que asistan a este evento especial para poder así aprovechar de las bendiciones que sin duda el Señor enviará.

Carmelo Mercado es el vicepresidente general de la Unión del Lago.



This appears to be the only photo of the evangelist's tent pitched at Johnson's Corner, near Keene, North Dakota. (circa 1917)



This North Dakota postcard portrays Great-Grandpa Johnny Budd's homestead in McKenzie County, North Dakota. (circa 1914)

The Bible that Wouldn't Burn

BY JOSIE M. BURNS

Four books are stacked on the mantle above the fireplace in my parents' living room. They are very special books, very old and worn from daily use. My great-great-grandmother Steiner's big German Bible bears evidence of her constant devotion. Some of its pages are falling out, and the last Sabbath school lesson she had been working on is still a placeholder for the text. Tucked in its pages are a number of letters written to her daughters—all in German. There's a small German New Testament and another book. But the book that my eyes are always drawn to is the simple, small German Bible, its cover cracked and frayed. It belonged to my great-grandmother Josie. It is precious, handled rarely and only with the utmost reverence and care.

My great-great-grandfather Melchior Steiner was an Austrian Jew from Vienna who emigrated to the United States in 1882. He later found himself in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he met Mary Eggar, an emigrant from Pamhagen, Austria. Melchior, though non-religious, saw something special in this devout young girl with the rosary and they married in 1886.

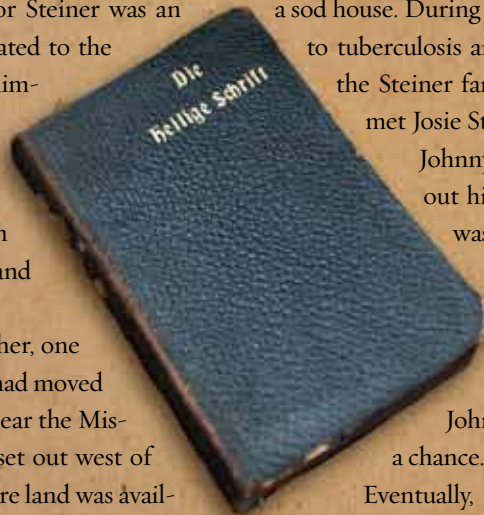
The couple had eight children together, one dying shortly after birth. By 1907 they had moved to McLean County in North Dakota, near the Missouri River. Their oldest son, Joseph, set out west of the Missouri to McKenzie County where land was available. He met up with a Scots-Irish adventurer who worked the ranches breaking horses and cooking for the other cowboys from his chuck wagon. His name was Johnny Budd. Johnny and Joseph homesteaded adjacent land while living in

a sod house. During the summer of 1914, Joseph succumbed to tuberculosis and died. Johnny took his body back to the Steiner family. While at Joseph's funeral, Johnny met Josie Steiner.

Johnny went back to his sod house, now without his friend or any family of his own. Loss was a familiar and uninvited guest to Johnny, who had lost his mother and sister to influenza when he was a boy back in Vermont. Deserted by his father and taken in by a reluctant family, Johnny set out on his own as soon as he had a chance. Alcohol became his only real comfort.

Eventually, the Steiner family moved further west and took up residence at their son's homestead in McKenzie County, which made Johnny and Josie neighbors and a close friendship was formed.

One day, an itinerant evangelist pitched a meeting tent



down the road at what was known as “Johnson’s Corner.” Soon the tent was full of ranchers curious to see what the preacher had to say. Perhaps out of curiosity, or maybe something stronger, Johnny literally stumbled into the tent one day with Josie and her sister, Rosalia. They heard the gospel, the messages of the Three Angels and of Christ’s plan to rescue His people. Johnny felt God rescued him that night, and believed there was truth in the prophecies he heard. Soon the three began attending the meetings regularly. This newfound love for the Scripture was not welcome in Melchior’s home. Josie and Rosalia had to climb out of their bedroom window to hear the truths they thought were presented especially for them. The sisters kept their German Bible tucked away in their dresser drawer.

One day when Josie and Rosalia were out, their father found their Bible and decided he would rid his house of this menacing Word once and for all. In a rage, he took the Bible and threw it into the burning wood stove. Later, when their mother, Mary came to stir the fire, she opened the door and found the Bible intact and unharmed. She called Melchior, and to his horror he realized the Bible remained untouched by the flames. He took the Bible out of the ashes, wiped it off and commanded Hannah, his youngest daughter, to put it back in the drawer. Melchior warned Mary and Hannah not to speak a word of it to anyone, threatening them with their very lives if they did.

New Life on the Prairie

Johnny and Josie married and began sharing the truths they held so dear with everyone they met. They were so eager to share what they had learned that they became colporteurs and traveled by train to Bismarck, North Dakota, and sold the Adventist books they had come to love. They had ten children between 1919 and 1938. They faithfully prayed for each of their children every day and taught them the importance of spending time with God’s Word. Each followed closely in the footsteps of their parents.

It wasn’t until years later that my Grandma Josie learned the story of her precious Bible, which she had kept safe and

close to her heart for so many years. It had accompanied her from North Dakota back to Minnesota, and then across the mountains of Montana and Idaho to where they settled in the Walla Walla Valley, where her precious children could receive a Christian education.

My Grandma Josie passed her love for the scriptures on to each of her ten children, including my grandmother, Hazel. My earliest memories of my grandmother are of crisp winter mornings, long before light. I don’t know why I would awaken so early when staying with Grandma and Grandpa, but I would open the door of my bedroom, the room which had belonged to my father when he was a boy, and quietly tip-toe to my grandparents’ room. There I would find my grand-

mother on her knees. It was a sacred time that I knew not to interrupt. I quietly knelt beside her and attempted my own conversation with Jesus. Sometimes I opened my eyes to notice tears streaming down her cheeks—tears of joy as evidenced by her beaming smile.

When Grandma finished her time in prayer, she gathered me up in a warm blanket and took me to the kitchen to sit on the bench in front of the wood stove with her well-worn and marked-up Bible in hand. As I reflect on the warm images of her stoking and stirring the fire, I realize she was also kindling a fire in me. We’d talk and read the Bible until long after the sun came up. God’s Word became as precious to me as those times we spent together.

When my Grandma Josie died, she left her Bible with her oldest daughter, Rose. Before Rose passed away several years ago, she gave Grandma Josie’s Bible along with some of her library to my father. It is a precious piece of family history, but more than that it is a constant reminder of God’s faithfulness. God accomplished His purpose for our pioneer family by protecting His Word, and He assured me He will accomplish His purpose in my life, too.



Grandma Josie (right) stands with her sister, Rosalia (left), just before the girls moved to McKenzie County, North Dakota.

Josie M. Burns is completing her studies at Andrews University in English, Communication and French, and she works at Lakeland Hospital as a psychiatric therapist assistant.



Ellen G. White



J.N. Loughborough



G.I. Butler

People of the Book

BY GARY BURNS

By the time I was in my 30s, I was full of my own opinion and nearly empty of the Word of God. I say nearly empty because there were still some memory verses and songs of Scripture floating around in my head. Through an encounter with God (see “The Dusty Bible,” September 2008, www.lakeunionherald.org), He and His word came back into my life. I read the Bible through and through, trying to nail down what I believed and why, filtering everything I read through the life of my newfound hero—the radical and unconventional Man from Galilee.

I’ve had a few heroes in my life. My biggest hero is my dad. As I’m getting older I surprise myself and others in my family with little idiosyncrasies and mannerisms that are *so* Dad. It comes from years of emulating the life of my hero. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mohandas Gandhi are two of my other heroes.

I realized that each of my heroes were molded by the life and teachings of Jesus, so I decided to go to the source—to choose Him to be my hero, too. I began reading all the red letters in my red-letter edition of the New Testament. I figured if I filled my mind with the words of Jesus, my ears would be tuned to His voice. “My sheep know my voice,” He assures us (John 10:27). That’s the experience I wanted and sought desperately in my ministry. As a new pastor I was fearful of trusting in my own wisdom and sought to place every decision, every venture, every method, every relationship under the scrutiny of the life of Jesus.

Working with young people, there were a number of times we received counsel from concerned parents, teachers or colleagues in ministry. I guess we functioned outside of their comfort zone. But that’s what we found Jesus doing—bringing comfort to the hurting and irritation to the comfortable. I was excited to discover that what I was experiencing personally our Church founders experienced corporately. They searched the scriptures diligently and passionately, seeking to know and understand the object of their affections—Jesus. Studying the Bible is not about information, knowledge and data. It’s about relationship. It’s all about Jesus and emulating Him.

In a letter Ellen White wrote to her friend, George Butler, in 1903, she urged him as then president of the Southern Publishing Association to publish the experiences of the early days of the Adventist Movement. Something happened back then that had been lost by

1903. Listen to the tone of her letter:

We must study to find out the best way in which to take up the review of our experiences from the beginning of our work, when we separated from the churches and went forward step by step in the light that God gave us. We then took the position that the Bible, and the Bible only, was to be our guide; and we are never to depart from this position. We were given wonderful manifestations of the power of God. Miracles were wrought.

Again and again, when we were brought into strait places, the power of God was displayed in our behalf. At such times souls were convicted, and amidst the scorn and derision of the opposing churches they bore testimony in favor of the truth.¹

What an exciting time in our history! Can you imagine being part of a community whose one passion and purpose is to seek the mind and heart of God? To live by the conviction that the Bible and the Bible only would be your guide? It stands to reason that the leaders in that community were between the ages of 17 and 24! Ellen's friend, George, was baptized at the age of 22 by J.N. Andrews, and later was instrumental in raising funds to start Battle Creek College (now Andrews University) and Pacific Press. George served twice as president of the General Conference and served as president of the Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association. He presided over the controversial 1888 General Conference Session in Minneapolis. Already, by 1888, the Movement had begun to calcify. Ellen records her reflections on the conference:

In Minneapolis God gave precious gems of truth to His people in new settings. This light from heaven by some was rejected with all the stubbornness the Jews manifested in rejecting Christ, and there was much talk about standing by the old landmarks. ... All this cry about changing the old landmarks is all imaginary.

Now at the present time God designs a new and fresh impetus shall be given to His work. Satan sees this, and he is determined it shall be hindered. He knows that if he can deceive the people who claim to believe present truth, [and make them believe] that the work the Lord designs to do for His people is a removing of the old landmarks, something which they should, with most determined zeal, resist, then he exults over the deception he has led them to believe.

The work for this time has certainly been a surprising work of

various hindrances, owing to the false setting of matters before the minds of many of our people. That which is food to the churches is regarded as dangerous, and should not be given them. And this slight difference of ideas is allowed to unsettle the faith, to cause apostasy, to break up unity, to sow discord, all because they do not know what they are striving about themselves.²

Ellen longed for those early days when God's Word was the only guide, and in her letter to George she encouraged distribution of a book by John N. Loughborough, recounting the history of our movement to inspire a new generation.³ Interestingly enough, the book was lost when the Review and Herald burned down that same year. *Hmmm*. Two years later, John produced another book, *The Great Second Advent Movement*.⁴

John had a passion for the movement of "The Movement." Back in 1861 he wrote: "The first step of apostasy is to get up a creed, telling us what we shall believe. The second is, to make that creed a test of fellowship. The third is to try members by that creed. The fourth to denounce as heretics those who do not believe that creed. And fifth, to commence persecution against such."⁵

My friends Rodney MacCullum and Sam Bonello, interfaith workers for the Michigan Conference, shared that their friends in the Muslim community refer to Adventists as a group mentioned in their writings: the true "People of the Book." Ellen said, "The Bible, and the Bible only, was to be our guide." Are you ready to be part of a radical and unconventional community of faith? to be known as people of the book?

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

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Sola Scriptura

LA BIBLIA SOLAMENTE, THE BIBLE ONLY

BY C. RAYMOND HOLMES

Speaking of Luther and the other reformers, Ellen G. White wrote: “The experience of these noble reformers contains a lesson for all succeeding ages. ... In our time there is a wide departure from their [the Scriptures] doctrines and precepts, and there is need of a return to the great Protestant principle—the Bible, and the Bible only—as the rule of faith and duty. ... The same unswerving adherence to the word of God manifested at that crisis of the Reformation is the only hope of reform today.”¹

The question is who will stand firm, united on Scripture and in the authentic Christ revealed in the Bible, and lead that revival? I believe the Seventh-day Adventist Church has emerged from within Protestantism and is being prepared by God for this very hour. Its witness is global. It has a common cause. Furthermore, it constitutes the true ecumenical movement designed to call God’s people to a unity based on Scripture, not on eclectic compromise. I believe that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the genuine emerging church, having appeared during the 19th century just when it was needed the most, calling renewed attention to the Bible as the Word of God, protected and guided in that mission by the Spirit of Prophecy which lifts up Christ and references the Bible on virtually every page.

Spiritual revival will come only when we reaffirm the sources that shape Adventist spirituality, the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. It will come only when we stop deceiving ourselves and open our eyes—when we doubt our doubts, and believe our beliefs—and when we preach, teach, and live the message that brought the Seventh-day Adventist Church into being in the first place.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church today is faced with twin theological, hence spiritual, dangers. Extreme Pharisaism, salvation on the basis of what one does, and extreme evangelicalism, salvation in spite of what one

does. It is the destiny of the church to face danger in this world, as it seeks to be faithful to its message and its mission. This is especially true of the church that believes it has the last message for a world poised on the brink of disaster, that believes lines are being drawn and forces gathered for the final conflict over the eternal salvation of mankind. The enemy of biblical Christianity does not rest content with tempting persons in respect to morality and ethics. He drives to the very heart of things, to the very doctrinal/spiritual center of the faith.

Over and over again in the writings of the apostle Paul we read the phrase “the gospel.” He constantly refers to “the gospel.” Without a doubt it was the gospel that informed his own faith and drove his mission and ministry. So it should be for any person called by the Lord to Christian service—whether that service be the ordained ministry, or the ministry into which every believer is baptized. Ever since I was first ordained back in 1960, and faced the challenge to preach week after week, I have been thinking about the nature of “the gospel.” All through the years I have wanted to know what the Bible teaches about “the gospel,” so that I can preach it accurately and clearly, and with conviction and passion.

The question of what exactly is “the gospel” was very much on my mind when I went to the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary as a student in 1970.

I thought I knew what it was by then. However, I was forced by circumstances to discover that what I had learned about the gospel in seven years of ministerial training, and ten years in ministry, was not all there was to know. I didn't have all the answers to my questions. Those of us who preach and teach "the gospel" want what we preach and teach to be biblical—based on the Bible, informed by the Bible, true to the Bible and growing out of our understanding of the Bible, and growing out of the Bible itself and not out of some theologian's ideas, or out of some popular system of theology. It may be interesting and informative to read what theologians have to say, but what they say should be only of incidental interest.

"What does the Bible say?" should be the question uppermost in the mind of the preacher and teacher, because when it comes to the matter of human salvation, only what God's Word says really matters. Does the gospel preached today hold out false hope to sinners? Does it tell them that they can have eternal life in spite of the fact that they so often are living in rebellion against God and what His Word teaches? Does the contemporary "Pop" gospel encourage people to "accept" Jesus as Savior apart from any consideration of the obligation to

1 Peter 1:22–23, which says that the believer is "purified ... by obedience to the truth" and that this is what it means to be "born again"? Does the "Pop" gospel make no call for transformation—no moral, ethical, demands on those who claim redemption? Has the "Pop" gospel brought into being a whole generation of so-called believers whose behavior in no way distinguishes them from the unregenerate?

If, as recent statistics indicate, there are more than two billion Christians in the world, that fully one-third of Americans claim to be "born again," where is the visible impact of that number in today's world? We ought to be able to see the evidence of it. But the sad fact is that in our own society shocking forms of open immorality are everyday fare. Outrageously immoral, crude and lewd talk show hosts are applauded and approved by vast numbers. Why not, if the pulpits of America offer eternal life apart from the necessity of obedience to divine authority? That kind of "Pop" gospel just perpetuates the wretchedness of the unconverted, and is not without enthusiastic adherents who insist that behavior has no relationship to spirituality. That obedience is optional. Who howl the loudest when the biblical gospel is preached and yell "legalism" when any suggestion



"What does the Bible say?" should be the question uppermost in the mind of the preacher and teacher.

obey Him as Lord of their lives? Does the "Pop" gospel promise people deliverance from judgment, while at the same time fail to promise them victory over sin? Does the "Pop" gospel, in fact, offer false security to those who succumb to the sins of the flesh and spurn the way of righteousness? Does the "Pop" gospel separate faith from faithfulness? Does it proclaim that there is no such thing as obedience to the truth, which is a denial of

is made that faith without obedience is no redeeming faith at all?

This is why Francis Schaeffer, in his last book *The Great Evangelical Disaster*, said that "much of evangelicalism has been accommodating to the destructive and ugly world spirit of our day."² He wrote the book to help young Christians "stand courageously against this accommodation" and because "The last few generations have

trampled upon the truth of the Bible and all that those truths have brought forth.”³ The apostle James asks, “What good is it, my brothers, if someone has faith but does not have works? Can that [kind of] faith save him?” (James 2:14) Nobody wants to be a legalist, so we not only cringe when the accusation is hurled at us, we are intimidated into silence or to the dumbing down of the biblical message. Let me ask you, “Which is most authentic—a person’s verbal testimony of faith in Christ, or a daily demonstration of Christlikeness?” To know just how serious this is, from the perspective of the Word of God, let’s read Paul’s warning to anyone who tampers with the message of “the gospel”—a sharp warning to any preacher/teacher who corrupts it in any way. “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should

pel” and the One “who called you.” We cannot distort “the gospel” and yet claim a relationship with the Savior. Why? Because “the gospel” is “the gospel of Christ.” We don’t know Christ apart from “the gospel” message about Him. Implication? If we preach/teach a message that is in any way distorted, “contrary to the one” that has been revealed in its fulness in Scripture, then the Christ it proclaims is a false Christ. A distorted message equals a distorted Christ! It is “contrary.” A contradiction. Incompatible. In opposition. Totally “different.” Leading to an erroneous conclusion.

Any other message, says Paul, is one “that man made up” (Galatians 1:11). In contrast, “the gospel” Paul preached he “received ... by revelation from Jesus Christ” Himself (Galatians 1:12)—which is precisely why that Gospel, and only that Gospel, is trustworthy. Only that Gospel can be relied upon to show us the right Way, get us on the right Way, and keep us on the right Way. For that reason, we need an unambiguous understanding of what Revelation 14:6 calls “an eternal gospel.” The bib-



“Which is most authentic—a person’s verbal testimony of faith in Christ, or a daily demonstration of Christlikeness?”

preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed” (Galatians 1:6–8).

Why such strong words from the great apostle? Because the biblical doctrine of salvation is at the heart of everything we preach and teach! No preacher/teacher can with confidence and assurance, with conviction and passion, show anyone the way to eternal life if he/she has not got “the gospel” right. Paul says that anyone who distorts “the gospel of Christ” is a deserter of the very One “who called you in the grace of Christ.” So this is not simply an intellectual matter, it is a relational matter. There is a most intimate relationship between “the gos-

lical fact is that “the gospel” is a call to discipleship—not just a call to believe, but a call to live the life of faith. It’s not just an invitation to receive Christ, to make a decision. Jesus sets people free from sin’s bondage. Free to follow Him. Free to become like Him. Free to serve Him. Yes, “the Gospel” offers repentant sinners forgiveness of sin and eternal life. But at the same time it is a rebuke to those who are merely outwardly religious—whose lives do not give evidence of righteousness. The martyred Dietrich Bonhoeffer, writing to his Lutheran Church that had been preaching justification through

faith since the Reformation, understood this, and said: "Cheap grace means the justification of sin without the justification of the sinner. ... Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without Church discipline, Communion without confession, absolution without contrition. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate. ... It is a fatal misunderstanding of Luther's action to suppose that his rediscovery of the gospel of pure grace offered a general dispensation from obedience to the command of Christ, or that it was the great discovery of the Reformation that God's forgiving grace automatically conferred upon the world both righteousness and holiness. ... It was not the justification of sin, but the justification of the sinner that drove Luther from the monastery back into the world. ... In the depth of his misery, Luther had grasped by faith the free and unconditional forgiveness of all his sins. That experience taught him that this grace had cost him his very life, and must continue to cost him the same price day by day. So far from dispensing him from discipleship, this grace only made him a more earnest disciple. When he spoke of grace, Luther always implied as a corollary that it cost him his own life, the life which was now for the first time subjected to the absolute obedience of Christ. Only so could he speak of grace. Luther had said that grace alone can save; his followers took up his doctrine and repeated it word for word. But they left out its invariable corollary, the obligation of discipleship. ... [Luther] always spoke as one who had been led by grace to the strictest following of Christ."⁴

Dietrich was right on, and so was my Lutheran professor who was fond of saying to his eager students, "Good works do not save you, but their absence will damn you." Some in contemporary evangelicalism, even a few in our own ranks who are critical of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, would have it join in the preaching of cheap grace and easy discipleship, holding that any consideration of sanctification and holiness is legalism. But to throw out *sola scriptura* is also to throw out belief in the power of grace to transform the sinner into a faithful and obedient child of God.

I found in the Seventh-day Adventist Church the understanding of the Gospel that Lutheranism, as well as other evangelicals, was abandoning in favor of ecumenism, the resolution of social issues, and the political establishment on earth of the kingdom of God. I found the saving faith of Christ and the commandments of God set forth as the two foci in the doctrine of justification/righteousness through faith and identified as the great truths of biblical Christianity and of the Protestant Reformation—truths rescued and placed within a larger framework of other Bible truths (such as the Sabbath, the Sanctuary ministry of Christ, His return, and the message of judgment in Daniel 8 and Revelation 14) that had been entrusted by God to this worldwide revival/reformation movement, preached with amazing results, and without apology, to the whole world.

More than 59 years as a Christian I have observed significant changes within the Protestant churches. Most of the mainline Protestant churches in the United States have failed Christ and America by a gradual, almost imperceptible to constituents, abandonment of the major Reformation principle of *sola scriptura*. When the biblical message is preached (sin, repentance, conversion, surrender to Christ and His Lordship, empowerment by the Holy Spirit and the indwelling Christ for obedience to God's commandments, righteousness, walking in newness of life, justification and sanctification, discipleship), inward transformation is the divinely intended result. If we want spiritual revival it is not going to come about by pandering to our culture, or by abandoning *sola scriptura*.

Raymond Holmes B.A., M.Div., M.Th., D.Min., retired from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in 1994 and has continued his pastoral ministry at Christ Community Seventh-day Adventist Church in Bessemer, Michigan. He is currently writing a book entitled *The Road I Travel: Spirituality—An Adventist Perspective*. This article is from the chapter, "Let No Man Deceive You." The book will be published next year.

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Bruce Powell

Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital nurses Brenda Lumpkin (left) and Susan Memmel received honors for nursing excellence at a recent gala.

Nurses honored for excellence

Two nurses at Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital have been recognized for nursing excellence at the hospital's second annual "High-Performing Nurse" gala. The black tie-optional gala, held Dec. 16, at the Bolingbrook Golf Club, was designed to recognize those nurses who go above and beyond the call of duty to provide excellent care to patients on a daily basis.

Two nurses were singled out for exceeding expectations. Susan Memmel, R.N., an emergency room auditor, received the Nursing Legacy award. The Nursing Legacy award is bestowed upon nurses with an extensive history with Adventist Health System who demonstrate compassion and personal values that inspire other nurses.

The award is designed to honor nurses of passion and conviction who have overcome significant personal adversity or whose body of work will follow them throughout their career.

Memmel joined Adventist Bolingbrook Medical Center in 1983 when it was a free-standing emergency department, working the night shift in order to take care of her young children during the day.

Seeing their mother working hard in a career she loved had a positive impact on Memmel's children. Two of her four children—daughters Jennifer Raddatz and Sara Matlock—also work as nurses. Matlock works at Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital, while Raddatz works at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital.

"My mom always told me nursing was the best profession for mothers," said Raddatz. "She was so proud of nursing and she's always loved her job,

so it was an easy decision for me to go into that field."

Memmel said she loves working with her co-workers, who "take care of each other" and stand beside her through the ups and downs of life. "I've always been very proud of Adventist Bolingbrook," she said. "I would bring my family to the ER before I would consider taking them anywhere else. And I have! We've gone through a lot of emergency visits through the years."

Brenda Lumpkin, clinical nurse manager for the Intensive Care Unit, received the Nursing Leadership award. This award is bestowed upon nurses who demonstrate extraordinary service in the execution of balanced performance and embrace a philosophy of excellence in the areas of staff development, clinical quality, patient satisfaction, physician relations and stewardship of hospital resources.

"I never have felt like I need any recognition because, when everything is said and done, it's really all about the patient," said Lumpkin. "We face challenges in the ICU, but we face them as a team. I couldn't ask for a better place to work."

Additionally, a group of nurses that serves on the hospital's Quality Improvement Team received the Nurse Quality award. The Quality award is bestowed upon nurses who demonstrate the delivery of exceptional patient care as reflected through compliant quality documentation and support for principles of continuous quality improvement to achieve measurable improvement. Nurses Christina Karkari-Adejong, Charleen Dillman, Margarita Lopez, Kristina Salcedo, Peggy Korzenecki and Stefanie Carr received this honor.

Julie Busch, regional manager, public relations, Adventist Midwest Health



Kerstin Mitchell, IMC student photographer

By forming a human chain, volunteers found an efficient way to transport the 2,500 pounds of goods into the Neighbor to Neighbor store rooms.

Students put MLK's legacy into action

For the students of Andrews University, the Martin Luther King Jr. weekend was an experience of both celebration and service. Through the MLK Food Drive, students, staff, faculty and members of the community joined together for a common cause: to help those in need.

For more than a week leading up to King's birthday, a group of volunteers collected food donations for Neighbor to Neighbor, a community service organization located in Berrien Springs, Mich. Donation boxes were placed in

multiple locations across campus and at a handful of local schools. Students were also able to donate money from their own meal plans, which generated nearly \$3,000 in donations. Then, on Monday, Jan. 18, all the volunteers gathered in the Office of Campus Ministries.

"We were expecting about 50 volunteers. In the end, we had a total of 111 volunteers," said student Louise Albert, a coordinator for the event.

The volunteers gathered all the donations and delivered a total of 2,500 pounds of goods to Neighbor to Neighbor.

"I knew a lot of people would be coming out," said Laura Meyer, executive director for Neighbor to Neighbor, "but I didn't imagine it would be so many. We really appreciate so many students taking this time out of their day off."

Sandie Martins, a pre-med freshman at Andrews, didn't see it as much of a sacrifice at all. "Actually, I loved it. I feel like doing this every day," she said. "You get to both spend time with people and help out in a way that's

just so useful instead of sitting in your dorm room all day watching a movie."

The event was scheduled to take several hours, but volunteers finished processing all the donations in just two hours. Many stayed by to continue doing whatever odd jobs needed doing at the center.

"Martin Luther King Jr. gave up his time, energy and even his life to help others," said Martins. "Giving an hour or two of our time really represents him."

Kristina Penny, student news writer, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication



Kerstin Mitchell, IMC student photographer

Volunteers made quick work of organizing items once the donations were delivered to Neighbor to Neighbor.



Easter Passion Play
Andrews University

Now accepting reservations for the 7th Annual Easter Passion Play

Easter celebrations have never been more life-changing. Join Andrews University for the seventh annual Easter Passion Play on Saturday, Apr. 3, for an interactive indoor/outdoor walk-through play depicting Christ's final

days, the crucifixion and the resurrection.

Step back in time to experience the sights, sounds, tastes and smells of the ancient Middle East during the time of Christ. Crowd-favorites include a marketplace setting with live animals, shops and food samples. Each rotation will travel to seven scenes across the campus of Andrews University, literally following in the footsteps of Christ during the hours leading up to and including His crucifixion. The event culminates with a spiritually inspiring indoor resurrection scene. Visitors are invited to stop by the Hospitality Center following the play for hot or cold drinks, a chance to pray with a volunteer and a special Kid's Corner.

First held in 2003, the Easter Passion

Play was created under the direction of Ron Whitehead, executive director of the Center for Youth Evangelism at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. With the help of hundreds of community and University volunteers, the event ministers to thousands of visitors each year.

Performances take place in 30-minute increments. The first rotation begins at 9:00 a.m. and the last at 6:30 p.m., with Spanish showings at 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. The event is free-of-charge, but reservations are required. Place your online reservation or learn more about the event at www.passionplay.andrews.edu.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist,
Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication

[EDUCATION NEWS]



Hinsdale Adventist Academy students Martha Plasencia, Josh Bautista and Laura Perez research symptoms and manifestations of different enteric diseases with their science teacher and coach, Tami Darrow.

Hinsdale seniors place in science competition

Illinois—A team of three students from Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA) placed second in the science competition at Southwestern Adventist University’s “Brain Games” held Jan. 21–23 in Keene, Texas.

The students, all seniors at HAA, are Josh Bautista of Hinsdale, Martha Plasencia of Darien and Laura Perez

of Joliet. The “Brain Games” is a science and math competition sponsored by Southwestern Adventist University, in which students compete for scholarship money and grants for the science and math departments of their schools.

Fourteen Seventh-day Adventist high schools from throughout the United States participated at this year’s event, and Team HAA took second place in the science competition.

Brain Games is hosted by the mathematics and science departments at Southwestern Adventist University and began in 2004 with the theme of marine biology. Previous themes were robotics, astronomy/robotics, crime scene investigation and emergency room, in conjunction with the nursing department.

This year’s theme was “Outbreak Southwestern.” Students used their deductive thinking skills to piece together where the “outbreak” started and what the particular disease was. To prepare, students had to learn symptoms and manifestations of different enteric diseases. They also needed to be familiar with press release protocol to earn points for being the first epidemiological group to report on the outbreak.

Having a strong science curriculum

is very important to us, given our relationship with Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. To finish second in our first trip to the competition is quite an achievement. Tami Darrow, the high school science teacher who was coach and sponsor for Team HAA, was extremely happy with her students’ performance and stated, “I’m proud of these students for the teamwork and creativity they showed during the ‘outbreak’ activity. The weekend was full of labs, lectures and activities, and our students worked hard to learn and then apply that knowledge.”

According to Plasencia, “There were a lot of extremely smart kids there! It was amazing!”

Bautista added, “The student who won the Mathletics (math competition) was awesome!” Though HAA didn’t place in the math competition, the HAA students were excited and extremely impressed with the level of mathematics knowledge demonstrated at the games.

We are very proud of our students.

Information on the Brain Games can be found at www.braingames.swau.edu.

Rebecca Garrett, director of marketing, Hinsdale Adventist Academy



[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Investment still works!

Indiana—As Investment leader for our local church, I encouraged the Sabbath school members to have an Investment project. On the last Sabbath of October 2009, there was a plastic bag in the offering that contained 200 dimes and the following letter from Gen James, one of our members. It read:

“The Lord blessed me this past summer with nice tall tomato plants. Three to four tomatoes grew on the lower part of each plant but then the leaves started turning dark, like the plant was dying from the bottom up. I was just sure ‘this was it.’ No more tomatoes this year!

“In Sabbath school, we were encouraged to invest something for this year’s Investment project. I told my husband, ‘This is what I need to invest.’

“He had no idea what I was talking about. When I explained, he said, ‘Oh, sure!’

“I told the Lord, ‘I’ll give one dime for each tomato we pick after this.’ There were very few blooms. In the past I have seen what the Lord can do, but I must say with those plants looking like they did I, too, was somewhat of a doubting Thomas on this request for help.

“As new blossoms appeared, I counted them. The new fruit on the plants grew in clusters. They weren’t real big, but there were many tomatoes at the top of each plant. Even though I never heard

my hubby say a thing about the change in the plants, he had to see what the Lord can do! And as I counted 200 new tomatoes, I saw that God still blesses our Investment projects for Him.”

Janet Schlunt, Investment leader, Terre Haute Church



The leaves on Gen James’ tomato plants began to die. When she dedicated them to the Lord for Investment, she saw the plants begin to flourish and she soon had 200 tomatoes, for which she donated 10¢ each to Investment.



More than 15 names were called to recognize Honor Roll members who gave 50 or more years of selfless service and membership to the Burns Church. A plaque will hang in the church to commemorate their contributions.

Burns Church celebrates 75 years of blessings

Lake Region—Burns Church members in Detroit, Mich., celebrated their church's 75th Diamond Anniversary through a week of activities during mid-November 2009, concluding on Sabbath, Nov. 14, 2009. Through the creation of an Anniversary Committee, under the leadership of G. Ian Fisher-Curley, the season of celebration was a time to reflect on corporate challenges overcome, treasure memories of pioneers at rest, praise God from whom all blessings flow and look forward to continuing the gospel ministry in this corner of God's vineyard. The adopted theme, "And the Blessings Continue," symbolized God's continued mercies to the Burns Church family during its 75 years of existence.

Charles Ray Osborne III, the current church shepherd, delivered the Divine Hour message based on the experiences of the Bible prophet, Zechariah. As a bonus to members former pastors, William Joseph Jr. and Julius Everett Sr., conducted prayer and thanksgiving services during the week. Robert F. Tolson, interim pastor of Burns Avenue Church in 1964 and 1965, also made a special guest appearance and offered the Divine Hour benediction. The Sabbath afternoon service was a journey through the musical history of Burns Church as countless songs, hymns and choruses

of yesteryear were performed, bringing back memories and untold joy to the performers and listeners. The evening culminated with a season of remembrance of those pioneers, members and friends of Burns Church (200-plus) who are now at rest.

Many former members and friends of Burns Church attended the Sabbath services, some of whom were sick, transportation disadvantaged or shut-in; but, each made a special effort to be present on Sabbath. One such member was Judge Broughton, in his late 90s, who was a former head deacon at East Side Mission (forerunner to Burns Church) in the late 1930s. Indeed, God enabled the weather during the week to be favorable, which of itself encouraged members and friends to attend services.

Letters of commendation and congratulations were received from several dignitaries, including Kenneth Cockrel Jr. (president of Detroit City Council) and The Honorable Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (member of Congress, 13th District of Michigan).

As a tribute to acknowledge 50 or more years of selfless service and membership to the Burns Church family, an Honor Roll was established. More than 15 names were called, and a plaque with these names will hang at Burns Church in their honor.

Oliver Page, Ph.D., communication director,
Burns Church

Read a brief history of the Burns Church following the online version of this article at www.lakeunionherald.org.



Robert F. Tolson (Burns Avenue Church interim pastor in 1964, 1965) concluded the Divine Hour worship with the benediction.



Present for the 75th Diamond Anniversary was Judge Broughton, first head deacon of the East Side Mission (forerunner of the Burns Church).





Linda Reece

After attendees to the Indy Health Expo complete the computerized Health Age Assessment, Jessica Dellen (left) reviews the results and offers suggestions for improved health.

Indy Health Expo provides opportunity to help community

Indiana—Carmel Hope Fellowship Church members and other volunteers partnered with Indiana Healthy Choices, an Indiana Conference initiative, to participate in the Indy Health Expo held Jan. 23–24 at the Indiana State

Fairgrounds. Two hundred vendors were present representing health, beauty and fitness.

Free cholesterol and glucose checks were offered by the church, as well as a computerized Health Age Assessment. Carmel Hope also offered a drawing for a free *CHIP* (Coronary Health Improvement Program) class, which will be held the beginning of March. The event provided an exceptional opportunity to advertise the upcoming class, as well as gather names and addresses of those interested in other topics of programs the church can offer in the future.

Linda Reece, administrative assistant for health ministries, recalls, “I was amazed at how popular our booth was in comparison to the other booths around us. As I was helping with the cholesterol/glucose screening, I looked up and saw at least 15 to 20 people deep, waiting in a line that extended past our booth and past the booth next to us. I said, ‘Are all these people in that line

waiting to get tested?’ And the reply that I got was, ‘Yes!’ That line stayed that consistent for several hours.” She added, “A lady visiting the booth said, ‘I don’t think this is by chance that I came to this booth.’”

More than 187 Health Age Assessments were done as well as approximately 200 cholesterol screenings. One young man, age 24, was found to have a cholesterol of 260! If only one individual’s life is saved as a result of the screenings it will be well worth the effort of the two days! As the blood test was being done one conversation turned to spiritual matters and the individual was eager to receive a copy of *The Great Controversy* in the mail. Health work is an entering wedge to receive further truths. Surely the Lord is in this work!

Susan Landess, director, Indiana Healthy Choices

To learn more, visit <http://www.lifestyle4health.org>

Muncie and New Castle members present historic program

Indiana—“The year was 1859 and Ellen G. White was encouraging civil disobedience.” Thus begins the factual narrative/musical program presented by members of the Muncie and New Castle Churches. It combines narration and American negro spirituals to describe the connection Ellen White had directly and indirectly with emancipation and human rights activists of her day. The program has been performed in a number of churches.

White had a warm friendship with Sojourner Truth, a former slave who walked to freedom in 1849. Sojourner spoke publicly alongside Frederick Douglass, the famous Black emancipation orator. Douglass’s daughter, Rosetta, became one of the first Black female converts to the Seventh-day Adven-



(From left) Multi-cultural performers in the program were Addie Weesner and Sarah Weesner (seated); Debbie Gross, Dorothy Nixon, Eric Weesner, Richard Byrd, Phil Rowe, Jeff Weesner, Damita Miller, Etosha Rahming, Laryl Cortner and Barbara Cortner (standing).

tist Church. Rosetta shared a speaking platform with Harriet Tubman, the “Moses” of the Underground Railroad. John Newton, a former slave ship captain who wrote “Amazing Grace,” brings them all together through his poignant lyrics. The backgrounds of these historic figures were presented in the program, as well as their connection to the Adventist Church.

“The program really brought the past and its historic value to life,” said Judy Thomas, a member of the Muncie Church. American negro spirituals

performed during the program included “Steal Away,” “Give Me Jesus,” “Down by the Riverside” and “Wade in the Water.” Slides were mingled into the program and provided a greater understanding of those historic persons and events. This thought-provoking program captivated adults and children alike as listeners were presented with the love of God and His grace in a way most had never thought about before.

Barbara Cortner, member, Muncie Church

Pathfinder director prays, God answers

Michigan—The Edwardsburg Explorers Pathfinder club attended their first camporee at Camp Au Sable in September 2008. The Explorers had just received their first Certificate of Operations from the Michigan Conference the previous August. While at the camporee, club director Ken Leak talked to God about a problem—how to raise enough money in less than a year to bring a few kids from a four-year-old church plant to the biggest Pathfinder event ever, the 2009 Pathfinder International Camporee at Oshkosh, Wis.

The Explorers owned one tent and a fire ring; every other piece of equipment on that particular campout was borrowed. They presented a list of equipment needs to their church. To raise money the Explorers worked hard. They held a free car wash for senior citizens, veterans and active military persons at the American Legion, sold honey, held a trash-a-thon and other such efforts. Little by little the Lord blessed, and the funds, donations and equipment came in. Their club membership also grew.

By January 2009, the Lord had blessed the club with the necessary gear, and Leak figured he would need a trailer for the trip. So he went back on his knees and then back to the Church Board and membership. Several months later a member happened to see a trailer on the side of the road. It was a 2006 6'x10' gray, enclosed trailer at a great price. One church member donated the funds to purchase the trailer and another the funds to get it lettered.

By God's grace, the trailer problem was solved. But how do you get 15 Pathfinders and adults to Oshkosh? Leak went back on his knees then back to the Church Board and membership. During the discussions, it was decided a bus would solve a number of problems. In addition to Pathfinder events, a conference-approved bus would provide safe and legal transportation to vacation Bible school, children/youth Sabbath



The trip to Oshkosh, Wis., for the 2009 International Pathfinder Camporee "was a spiritual and safe blessing" for the Edwardsburg Explorers. It was also a learning experience as they watched God supply the club's needs to get there.

school and other church functions.

A friend who was instrumental in helping the Niles Westside Church acquire their bus referred Leak to a vehicle Web site. One bus that caught his eye was a 2002, 28-passenger city bus with adult seats and belts, working air conditioning and a wheelchair lift. Leak received permission to contact the seller and to make an offer. Leak offered \$1,000 below list price, and it was accepted! Another answer to Leak's continued prayers.

Two church members volunteered to fly to New Hampshire and drive the bus back. Another church member, a public school bus driver with all the endorsements, offered to drive the bus to Oshkosh. Everything was found to be in good working order on the bus, and it drove quite nicely. The same friend who helped Leak with the Web site is a certified vehicle inspector; he found only one thing wrong—a loose connection on the air conditioner. The plating followed in short order. The last two requirements were the lettering and the installation of a hitch, which two more church members donated. By God's grace and our members' faithfulness, the bus was ready for Oshkosh!

The Explorers loaded their gear and boarded the bus with excitement. Their first overnight was spent at Camp Wakonda. Leak recalls that experience: "After the campsite was pitched and as we sat around the tables for the evening devotion, I asked the Pathfinders to reflect on everything the Lord had blessed them with for this trip and beyond. I pointed to the camping gear and equipment, then the trailer and then the bus.



En route to the 2009 International Pathfinder Camporee, the Edwardsburg Explorers spent a night at Camp Wakonda in Wisconsin. That evening, after setting up camp, they reflected on all God's blessings which allowed them to go to the Camporee.

Their expressions grew thoughtful as they took in all that God did for them."

The Oshkosh trip was a safe, spiritual blessing for the Pathfinders. Since the Camporee, the "Miracle Bus" has taken church members and visitors to the Historic Adventist Village in Battle Creek, Mich., and has provided safe transportation of local children to and from the church on Sabbaths. And it all started with one man on his knees praying for a special blessing for kids.

Teresa B. Buwa, communications secretary,
Edwardsburg Church



When the newly-formed Edwardsburg Explorers attended their first camporee at Camp Au Sable, all they had was a tent and a fire ring. As they look back on the blessings of 2009, they are thankful for all God provided the club since that first camping experience.



To help raise funds for the Pathfinder ministry, Edwardsburg club members participated in a variety of fundraising initiatives. One project was to help Edwardsburg community leaders clean up untidy areas. The Pathfinders collected 25 large leaf bags of trash and one "very dead muskrat."



Incoming Andrews University freshmen take time to serve God and His children by taking Kids Zone, a children's evangelistic program, to the streets of Benton Harbor, Mich.

Kids Zone takes Jesus to the streets

Michigan—In an ongoing partnership, Harbor of Hope Church teamed up with Andrews University Outreach to take Kids Zone out of the church gym and onto the streets. Harbor of Hope, with its passion to reach the children of Benton Harbor, and Campus Ministries, with its mission to develop student leaders, worked in synergy to share the love of Jesus in the challenged community of Benton Harbor. With a bus full of enthusiastic students and a portable sound system, we had our first mobile Kids Zone in two separate apartment complexes.

The energetic group of students from Andrews helped in two ways:

by spending time with the kids and helping to set up for the program. One group of students spent one-on-one time with the kids playing games, having fun and forming relationships. The students who took the time for this met one of the greatest needs of children anywhere—that of a friendship with a caring, Christian adult.

The second group of students helped set up a portable sound system and organized props in preparation for the teaching program. There were a few kinks the first time around, but by the time they arrived at the second location the team had everything down to a science. This was good since this location had an incredible turnout of 55 kids! The owners of the second apartment complex were very cooperative,

even down to saving parking spots for us by their main office. They made it as easy as possible for our enthusiastic students to play games with the kids and share God's message of creation on their own front lawn!

When the program transitioned from relational ministry to dynamic, child-oriented biblical teaching, the students from Andrews did their part by sitting with the kids and helping them pay attention. In a manner that was uniquely suited for children, we shared that God created them for a reason: to worship and glorify Him with their lives. The conclusion of our program saw all 55 kids accept God as their Creator!

This event was the start of an effort to expand our ministry from two to six apartment complexes, doubling the number of locations we minister to. In the last year and a half, Kids Zone volunteers have reached more than 850 children! With an average attendance of approximately 130, we have only begun to tap both the ministry potential in Benton Harbor and the opportunities to partner with Andrews students. God continues to increase our attendance, volunteer base and bus fleet (now expanding to five buses!). We are now beginning to process the idea of purchasing our own facility that will accommodate the continued growth of this ministry into the next decade.

To learn more about this ministry and how you can help, please visit our Web site at www.harborofhopesda.org.

Paul Torchia, Kids Zone director, Harbor of Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church

[UNION NEWS]

Lake Union welcomes new team members

The Lake Union welcomes new members to our team. We invite you to take a few moments to get better acquainted with these women who enhance the ministry in our Union.

Janell Hurst was invited to be women's ministries coordinator, and she is excited about working with women in our territory. Janell believes, "The mission of women's ministry is to nurture, equip and disciple women in their unique roles." She also shares her conviction that as "women become disciples of Jesus and members of His

church, they are called to ministry." She envisions that "through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, each woman will participate in their area of strength."

Janell is no stranger to ministry; she was born into a pastor's family. Janell attended Mt. Pisgah Academy and then Southwestern Adventist University. There she met Van Hurst, and she says,

“The rest is history.” They have been ministry partners in Iowa, Oklahoma, Texas, the Dakotas, Nebraska and now in Indiana.

Janell has a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction, and both secondary and elementary teaching certification. Though Janell has served as a teacher and a superintendent of education, she is currently using her talents in other ministry areas. Janell writes for Christian Record Services (CRS) for the Blind. Her stories are published in a variety of ways, such as *NCBC News*, appeal letters, the CRS Web site and in e-mail news.

Van and Janell have one daughter, Kortnye, a communication major at Union College.

Barbara Livesay accepted the invitation to become the associate director for early childhood education and care. She assists the local conference Education Department with the development of curriculum, procedures and guidelines for the ministry and safety in our daycare centers. This includes all church and school facilities that provide Adventist education and nurturing for the zero to kindergarten age group.

Barbara also accepted the invitation to be an associate director in the Treasury Department, with an emphasis in risk management and human resources. She will support and serve the conferences of the Lake Union and Union office. Barbara assists the local conferences with their background checking process for volunteers who work with children. She has worked on the conference level as director of the Risk Management

Department, and most recently as the risk management director of the Oregon Conference.

With more than 28 years of experience in Adventist education ministry, Barbara has served both as a teacher and school administrator. She graduated from Loma Linda University, La Sierra Campus, with a B.S. degree in Education and from Pacific Union College with a M.A. in Education.

Barbara and her husband, Don Livesay, have two married daughters and three grandchildren.

Josefina Sanchez is the new administrative assistant for the vice president (Carmelo Mercado), who is also director of the Multicultural Ministries Department and the Union representative to the Lake Union chapter of Adventist-laymen’s Services & Industries (ASI).

Josefina was born in the Dominican Republic. She first came to the U.S. with her father and older brother when she was only ten years old. Josefina attended middle school in Manhattan, New York, and later a portion of high school in New Jersey before returning to her homeland. In her late teens, Josefina was invited to attend an evangelistic series of meetings in her hometown. A little while later, she began taking Bible studies along with a number of others. Soon, she committed her life to the Lord and was baptized.

Josefina attended Antillian College in Puerto Rico. She studied to become a secretary there, and a year later she met Luis A. Sanchez. She kept a promise to her father that she would graduate from college before getting married. Her

graduation date was May 16, and she and Luis were married two days later on May 18. They have two adult children, Arlene and Luis Samir, and three grandchildren. Josefina says, “We love them so much, and we thank God for our family and all the blessings He has given us; we look forward for the day when together we will all see the Lord coming and we’ll live with Him for eternity.”

Joanna Sudds is the new secretary in the Education Department. She provides support for the department director (Garry Sudds) and the associate director for early childhood education and care (Barbara Livesay).

Raised in New Jersey, Joanna was only nine when she gave her life to Jesus and was baptized. She attended Lake Nelson Elementary School in New Jersey, and then graduated from Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Penn. During her years at Atlantic Union College, Joanna met Garry Sudds, and they were married in 1969.

Joanna has worked in the Seventh-day Adventist school system for most of her career. She served God as an elementary teacher, a secondary teacher, a food service supervisor, a conference education assistant, and office manager and testing coordinator at Andrews University.

Joanna and Garry have lived in Michigan for 16 years. They have two adult children, Robert Sudds and Lori Ingwalson.

Diane Thurber, assistant communication director, Lake Union Conference



Janell Hurst



Barbara Livesay



Josefina Sanchez



Joanna Sudds

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

Obituaries

BOTIMER, Joann M. (Davis), age 76; born May 15, 1933, in Merrill, Wis.; died Dec. 28, 2009, in Kalamazoo, Mich. She was a member of the Kalamazoo Church.

Survivors include her husband, Richard L.; son, Patrick C.; daughters, Michelle A. Ancel, Renee L. Welsh and April S. Delange; and nine grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Michael Nickless and Daniel Ferraz, and inurnment was in Fort Custer National Cemetery, Battle Creek, Mich.

IATTONI, Hazel (Krueger), age 98; born Apr. 20, 1911, in Merrill, Wis.; died Dec. 16, 2009, in Irma, Wis. She was a member of the Merrill Church.

Survivors include her sons, James L. and Richard P.; daughters, Lois M. Jaecks, JoAnn D. Clegg and Glorian E. Iattoni; sisters, Fern Folkedahl Gulke and Delores Harris; 10 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Rowell Puedivan, and interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Rock Fall, Wis.

KAHLOW, William, age 82; born Oct. 12, 1927, in Mayville, Wis.; died Jan. 3, 2010, in Randolph, Wis. He was a member of the Beaver Dam (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Gertrude (Anfinson); sons, George, Steve and William; seven grandchildren; one step-grandchild; four great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Steve Aust, and inurnment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Horicon, Wis.

KENNEY, Johnny L., age 61; born Feb. 8, 1948, in Dumus, Ark.; died Nov. 28, 2009, in Milwaukee, Wis. He was a member of the Sharon Church, Milwaukee.

Survivors include his sons, Michael and Johnny L. Jr.; stepson, John T. Cunningham; daughters, Pamela Kenney, Collette Kenney and Sharita Kenney; brothers, Curtis and Albert Pugh; sisters, Mae Jones, Pearlie Dedmon and Elise Kenney; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Eric Bell, with private inurnment.

KOPITZKE, Norman L., age 77; born Sept. 19, 1932, in Gillett, Wis.; died Dec. 25, 2009, in Kokomo, Ind. He was a member of the Kokomo Church.

Survivors include his wife, Lois (Thornburg); son, Steven D.; daughters, Meri S. Arnett, Cherie L. Neuhauser and Anita K. Wolven; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Blake Hall, and interment was in Sunset Memory Gardens Cemetery, Kokomo.

MARSHALL, Marjorie L. (Sallee), age 77; born Dec. 4, 1932, in Junction City, Ky.; died Dec. 20, 2009, in Nashville, Ind. She was a member of the North Vernon (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Rick and Jeff; daughters, Joyce Marshall, Teresa Marshall and Janice Reder; sisters, Jean Welsh, Ann Johnson and Judy Kemp; 11 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors Manuel Ojeda and Gary Case, and inurnment was in Dupont (Ind.) Cemetery.

PELTON, Ellen F. (Cove), age 88; born May 5, 1921, in Goodells, Mich.; died Nov. 10, 2009, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her son, Robert. Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Sharon Terrell and Arnold Swanson, and interment was in Union Cemetery, Berrien Center, Mich.

RHODES, Gordon W., age 87; born Oct. 21, 1922, in Jamestown, Mo.; died Nov. 28, 2009, in Berrien Center, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his son, Galen; daughter, Carrie Rhodes; brother, Charles; and one grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Arne Swanson, and inurnment was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Berrien Springs.

SCHERENCEL, Cora N. (VanderJagt), age 84; born Sept. 10, 1925, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Dec. 11, 2009, in Ferrysberg, Mich. She was a member of the Wright Church, Coopersville, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Ronald; sons, Randy, Donald and David; daughter, Rhonda Caldwell; brothers, Floyd, Howard, Leonard, Ken and Don VanderJagt; sisters, Ellen Rozema, Marian Alderink, Betty Baker and Nancy Torgelson; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ron Mills, and interment was in Maple Hill Cemetery, Coopersville.

WETTERLING, G. Edward, age 101; born May 7, 1908, in Sweden; died Nov. 10, 2009, in Phillips, Wis. He was a member of the Tomahawk (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his two grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were conducted by Pastor Chuck Kohley, and interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Ogema, Wis.

WHEEKER, George L., age 90; born July 22, 1919, in Detroit, Mich.; died Dec. 6, 2009, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his wife, Donna Mae (Winslow); sons, Larry and Brian; daughter, Sallie Alger; sisters, Natalie Weaver, Shirley Hamilton and Beverly Leffler; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

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

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Mar 5	Mar 12	Mar 19	Mar 26	Apr 2	Apr 9
Berrien Springs, Mich.	6:40	6:49	7:56	8:04	8:11	8:19
Chicago, Ill.	5:46	5:54	7:02	7:10	7:17	7:25
Detroit, Mich.	6:27	6:35	7:44	7:52	7:59	8:07
Indianapolis, Ind.	6:41	6:49	7:56	8:03	8:10	8:16
La Crosse, Wis.	5:59	6:08	7:16	7:25	7:32	7:41
Lansing, Mich.	6:33	6:41	7:50	7:58	8:05	8:13
Madison, Wis.	5:52	6:01	7:09	7:17	7:25	7:33
Springfield, Ill.	5:55	6:02	7:10	7:17	7:23	7:31

All classified ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$32 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$43 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 or check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors. Submission eligibility guidelines are listed at www.LakeUnionHerald.org.

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Travel Opportunities

COLLEGEDALE, TENNESSEE, GUESTHOUSE: Fully-equipped condo with kitchen

and laundry, 1.5 bedrooms, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. Guests say "absolutely delightful." \$60/night for two (two-night minimum). For information, contact Roger King at 423-236-4688. To see pictures, visit www.rogerkingrentals.com.

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 more information, e-mail reservations@kahilipark.org, or call 808-742-9921.

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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 Elizabeth Boyd at 207-729-3115.

Miscellaneous

WANTED TO BUY: 1-10,000 Adventist books. **FOR SALE:** used Adventist books. The half price sale was a huge success, and I'm continuing the sale for all book sales not just at my house. For more information, call John at 269-781-6379.

SPONSOR A CHILD! \$30 a month can send a child in India to an Adventist school. It pays for tuition, housing, food, clothes and medical. Adventist Child India is an official project of Southern Asia Division of Seventh-day Adventists. For more information, call 303-530-6655; e-mail childcare@sud-adventist.org; or visit www.adventistchildindia.org.

Employment

OKLAHOMA ACADEMY, a supportive ministry of the church, is accepting applications for the following positions: Boys Dean, Girls Dean, Accountant/Bookkeeper and Computer/Science teacher. For more information, call 405-454-6211, or e-mail oa@oklahomacademy.org.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for the position of Director of Institutional Assessment (DIA). The DIA reports to the Provost and is responsible for accreditation compliance, data collection and analysis, and providing pertinent information to University decision makers. The ideal candidate will possess the demonstrated ability to work well with people and rally support. Candidates must have an earned master's degree (Ph.D. preferred). For more information and to apply, visit http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_salaried.cgi.

PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Hidden Treasure

BY DIANE THURBER



It was dark outside, and the only illumination other than the large, red CVS letters on the store was a bulb that dimly lit the sidewalk. Beneath the stream of light was a man dressed in a plaid flannel shirt and bib overalls. He appeared to be near 50. Leaning against the brick wall by him was his bicycle—no gears, no gel seat, no hand brakes. Taped to it were a four-foot fiberglass pole with a bright orange flag and gadgets that covered his handlebars. The bike had been around awhile. Intrigued, I took it all in. He held a well-worn book in his hands.

I exited the car to enter the store. He read loudly and expressively from that book—his Bible. I greeted him, but could tell he was focused on one thing—the wisdom he found within.

One could surmise by his bicycle, dress and voice that he was a simple man without means, yet it was obvious he had something valuable—a trust in His Savior and a determination to live by the Book. He was often there on other nights, in the same spot, partnering with His God.

"If you accept my words and store up my command within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God" (Proverbs 2:1-5 NIV).

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

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY seeks full-time faculty in areas of Early Childhood Education and Developmental Psychology. Graduate degree required (doctorate preferred). Experience in administration and teaching in early childhood education programs beneficial. Position requires that the applicant be a member of the Adventist Church, in good and regular standing. Please submit a résumé and letter of application to John Wesley Taylor, Dean, at e-mail: sep@southern.edu; fax: 423-236-1765; or mailing address: P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF VISUAL ART AND DESIGN seeks full-time professor to teach painting, foundation drawing/design and color theory. M.F.A. in painting strongly preferred. Current teach-

ing experience desirable. Must be a member in good and regular standing of the Adventist Church. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae (including a statement of teaching philosophy), portfolio samples and at least three references to Randy Craven, School of Visual Art and Design, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370.

SAN JOAQUIN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL seeks a full-time Employee Health Nurse (EHN). Qualifications and requirements: You must be a graduate of an accredited school of nursing, and Bachelors of Science in Nursing preferred. A current Calif. RN license is required, Education preparation in Workers' Compensation is desired and Certification in Occupational Health Nursing is preferred. For more information or to apply, visit our Web site at www.sjch.us.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS seeks applicants for a full-time tenure-track position in Management/Human Resource Management beginning Sept. 2010. An earned doctorate with emphasis in management is preferred, along with demonstrated teaching experience and

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School Notes

BY CARMEN
MAGRAY

One morning at worship my students and I talked about how people would be traveling on the roads during the Christmas break. I suggested we pray for the safety of those driving on the highways that day.

The sun was close to setting as my daughter Maria and I traveled home from school that day. I remember thinking, *The traffic is sure heavy today!* All of a sudden a car veered quickly into my lane. I tried to avoid being hit by going into the lane to my right. However, my car hit a patch of black ice and we spun around and hit the guardrail on my right head-on. The impact caused my purse to hit the gear shift, throwing

the car into neutral. Our car started to spin across the road the other way. I couldn't control what was going on. Then everything stopped, and I was parked on the side of the road facing the same way I was originally going. I just sat there, hands gripped tight to the wheel. The car rocked back and forth as a huge semi zoomed past us. Maria and I were alright.

At home that night, I remembered our prayers that morning in my class. God answered our classroom prayers in a way I didn't expect. I had no idea the persons who needed protection that day would be me and Maria.

Carmen Magray is the K-2 teacher at Green Bay Adventist Junior Academy in Wisconsin.

Answered Prayers



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Announcements

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

Andrews University

Andrews University Music and Worship Conference: **Mar. 25-27** will mark the seventh annual Andrews University Music and Worship Conference. Hosted on the University campus, this conference is a training event for pastors, worship leaders, church musicians and lay leaders involved in worship ministry. Come and be inspired to honor God more fully in your worship. Be equipped to minister more effectively through worship and worship music. Connect with others who share your passion for God and your desire to serve Him. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to grow in your ministry! To register or for more information, visit our Web site, auworshipconference.org; e-mail worshipconference@andrews.edu; or call 1-800-968-8428.

Adventist Engaged Encounter (AEE), an enrichment weekend for engaged and recently married couples, is being re-established on the Andrews University campus. AEE will be held the weekend of **Mar. 26-28**. The registration deadline is **Mar. 19**. For further information and registration materials, contact Campus Ministries at 269-471-6241 or e-mail cm@andrews.edu.

The 46th Annual International Food Fair is Sun., **Mar. 28**. The event takes place from noon to 7:00 p.m. in the Johnson Gym on the campus of Andrews University. Each year, about 20 campus clubs representing traditions from around the world come together to offer visitors a taste of the internationally diverse cultures represented among the student body. Admission to the event is free. Food tickets can be purchased the day of the event at the ticket office of the Johnson Gym.

2010 Easter Passion Play: Join Andrews University for our next exciting journey with the 2010 Easter Passion Play on

Sat., **Apr. 3**. Our Easter Passion Play is an interactive indoor and outdoor walk-through experience for the entire family, depicting the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The first rotation begins at 9:00 a.m. and the last rotation begins at 6:30 p.m. English rotations begin every 30 minutes. Two Spanish rotations will be offered. Bring your family or your church group! Reserve your free event reservation online at www.passionplay.andrews.edu.

Illinois

Broadview Academy Alumni Association is pleased to announce that the BVA Alumni Weekend will be held **Apr. 30 and May 1** at the North Aurora Seventh-day Adventist Church, corner of Mooseheart and Randall Roads. All alumni are encouraged to attend—don't miss it! Honor Classes: 1950, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90 and 2000. Friday night Vespers at 7:30 p.m.; Sabbath school at 9:30 a.m. and Church at 10:45 a.m. There will be a POTLUCK lunch, so please bring dishes to share. A music program will be held in the afternoon at 3:00 p.m. For communication purposes, WE NEED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESSES. POSTAGE IS TOO EXPENSIVE. Send it to scross@broadviewacademy.org, or call her at 630-428-4182. Area accommodation options are now available through the front page of the Web site, www.broadviewacademy.org.

Indiana

Annual Musical Festival is **Apr. 8-10** for Indiana Adventist young people in grades 5-12. To register contact Katrina Koch, Indiana Academy music teacher, at 317-984-3575 or e-mail katrina.koch@gmail.com.

Sabbath Celebration is **Apr. 10** at the Indiana Academy gymnasium in Cicero.

Sabbath school begins at 9:20 a.m. Van G. Hurst, president of Indiana Conference, is the speaker for the 11:00 o'clock worship service, with special performances by the Music Festival band and choir. Bring your lunch and picnic in the auditorium at this annual state-wide mini camp meeting. Our young people will be performing at the Musical Festival afternoon program at the Cicero Church, beginning at 2:30 p.m. A highlight will be performances by winners of Indiana Conference's fourth annual Scripture Song Contest.

Lake Region

Legal Notice: Notice is hereby given that the regular Triennial Session of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held on Sun., **May 16, 2010**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. EST, at the Pioneer Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church, 8655 University Blvd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103. The purpose of the session is to elect officers and departmental directors for the ensuing term and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates to this session are duly appointed representatives of the various churches of the conference. Each church is entitled to one delegate for each 35 members or major fraction thereof. Per Lake Region Conference constitutional requirements, the Organizing Committee, made up of duly appointed members from churches, will meet in advance of the main Triennial Session on Sun., Mar. 28, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. EST, at the All Nations Seventh-day Adventist Church, 4259 E. Snow Rd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103-9223.

Jerome L. Davis, *president*
Donald L. Bedney, *executive secretary*

Legal Notice: Notice is hereby given that the regular Triennial Session of the members of the Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc., a corporation, will be held on Sun., **May 16, 2010**, in connection with the 26th session of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at the Pioneer Memorial

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 8655 University Blvd., Berrien Springs, MI 49103. The first meeting of the association will be called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. EST. The purpose of the meeting is to restate and amend the articles of incorporation and by-laws, to elect trustees for the ensuing term, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the delegates. Delegates from the churches in attendance at the 26th Triennial Session of the Lake Region Conference comprise the constituency of the Association.

Jerome L. Davis, *president*
Donald L. Bedney, *executive secretary*

Lake Union

Lake Union ASI Spring Conference: Come join ASI members and non-members as they attend the annual 2010 spring conference, "Share the Joy!", on the campus of Andrews University, **Apr.**

White Memorial Medical Center
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White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA is currently looking for a Director of Facilities and Security. Eligible candidates must have at least 5 years of experience as a Director of Facilities or similar position/title in a 200+ bed acute care hospital. Must be a member of ASHE for at least 5 years as well as being certified as a CHSP with CHFM certification preferred. Strong working knowledge of OSHPD, JCAHO, DHS, NFPA, ADA, and building codes is also required. Please contact Eileen Lange, Manager of Recruitment and Retention, at 323.260.5832 or by email at Langeea@ah.org



16-18. Plan to put the stresses of life aside and bask in the joy of the Lord. Speakers include Ron Whitehead, Dwight Nelson and Dan Augsburg. Also, come enjoy uplifting music by Jee Wong (piano) and Christina Piccardi (vocal). To register, visit www.asilakeunion.org. Visit standout.andrews.edu to learn of a special retreat for your children, grades 9-12, that will be held simultaneously. For questions, please contact Carmelo Mercado at 269-473-8200.

2010 Hispanic Youth Congress: The Lake Union invites young people to attend our 2010 Hispanic Youth Congress that will be held at Andrews University, **June 4-6.** Featured speaker will be José Vicente Rojas. Other speakers include renowned youth pastors Carlos Acosta, Harold Altamirano, Milton Coronado and Elden Ramirez. A variety of seminars will be available, such as "Street Art Ministry" and "Puppet Ministry." The entire event will be presented in both English and Spanish. Registration fee includes meals, materials and seminars. Housing can be arranged through Andrews Guest Services at 269-471-3664. For more information, go to www.conectate2010.org.

Offerings

- Mar 6** Local Church Budget
- Mar 13** World Budget
(Adventist World Radio)
- Mar 20** Local Church Budget
- Mar 27** Local Conference Advance

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering

- Mar 27** East-Central Africa Division

Special Days

- Mar 6** Women's Day of Prayer
- Mar 7-13** Adventist Youth Week
of Prayer
- Mar 20** Disabilities Awareness
Sabbath

Michigan

'Academy Days' at Andrews Academy: Eighth-grade students in formal education or home schooling are invited to participate in the "Academy Days" experience beginning with registration at 7:45 a.m. in the gymnasium on

Mar. 2. The program will run all day and will conclude with a grand assembly around 2:30 p.m. in the chapel. That evening at 6:30 another similar program, "Academy Adventure," is open to the same students and their parents as they learn more of the culture of everyday activities. That program begins with a light supper followed by four separate stations giving information about the Andrews Academy journey. For more information on this event, call the school at 269-471-3138.

Buddy Houghtaling in concert on Sat., **Mar. 27,** at 7:00 p.m. at the First Flint Seventh-day Adventist Church. The proceeds will benefit the Flint Arrows Pathfinder club and the First Flint School. For more information, contact John Stevens at firstflintsda@sbcglobal.net.

Great Lakes Adventist Academy is looking for all students in grades 8-11 to come for an awesome experience at "Academy Days," **Apr. 18-19.** Visit classes, make new friends, enjoy current students and experience boarding academy life. Registration is from 4-5 p.m. on Sunday. To register, call Hilda Reichert at 989-427-5181, or e-mail glaa@misda.org. Contact GLAA today!

'Ye Olde Cedar Lake Academy Reunion' will take place at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA), **June 3-6,** for alumni and warmly welcomed schoolmates of 1960 and earlier. Honor classes: 1930, '40, '50, '60. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. Also, you may contact the GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181, or visit www.GLAA.net for further information. Please do pass the good word.

North American Division

Los Angeles Adventist Academy Alumni Homecoming: Mark your calendars for **Mar. 12-14** as the LAAA Alumni Association honors all Lynwood Academy/Elementary alumni, and sponsors the first *Lynaires* reunion. Our theme for 2010 is "Reunited: Many Experiences, One Purpose," and we will honor the classes of 1960, '70, '80, '90, 2000 and 2010. For more information, e-mail alumnilaaa@gmail.com.

'Just Claim It!'-2nd NAD World Youth Prayer Conference: The Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America will host its second World Youth Prayer Conference on **Apr. 7-11** in Columbus, Ohio. Themed "Just Claim It: Experience the Power of Prayer—Claiming Communities for Christ," youth from all over the world will participate in this power-packed experience to claim the power of God in their lives. For more information on the conference, registration, schedule details or to be a volunteer, please visit www.jci2.org; send an e-mail to info@jci2.org; or call 301-680-6420.

Washington Adventist University Alumni Weekend (Columbia Union College, Washington Missionary College) will be held **Apr. 9-11,** and will include Music Center Groundbreaking, President's Banquet, worship services, class reunions, evening concert, Alumni Brunch and WAU Family Fun Festival. Honor Classes: 1930, '40, '50, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90 and 2000. For more information, visit wau.edu/alumni, e-mail alumni@wau.edu, or call 301-891-4133.

La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend, Apr. 23-24: Friday Golf Tournament, Vespers, Sabbath services at LSA gym, class reunions, basketball game. Yearbooks available for sale. Visit your campus, renew your friendships! Honor classes: 1940, '50, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90, '95, 2000, 2005. For more information, contact the Alumni office at 951-351-1445, ext. 244, or e-mail Isaalumni@lsak12.com.

Cruise with a Mission, Dec. 12-19: The Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE) is holding its third "Cruise with a Mission" trip! This is an experience of a lifetime that offers mission work, a cruise and a spiritual retreat all wrapped up in one. The ports we will be visiting this year are Key West, Fla.; Falmouth, Jamaica; Georgetown, Cayman Islands; and Cozumel, Mexico. For more information, call 269-471-8341 or 800-YOUTH-2U; or e-mail cwm@adventistyouth.org. Please visit adventistyouth.org/CWM to book your "Cruise with a Mission!"

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My Amazing Miracle

BY ADISLEN PEREZ-VARELA

Placetas, Cuba, is a small city where everyone knows each other. My family was well known and loved in this town. My mother was a physician, and my father was a prominent businessman. They were respected and had many friends. I lived an enviable life. Our busy, comfortable lifestyle did not have time for God. One day our lives changed forever.

My Aunt Sonia sent applications to the Cuban government for her two sisters to come to the U.S. My mom said to her sister, “Niña (little girl), don’t sign me up because I’m not interested in going to the United States. I like my life and job here, and I don’t want to leave.” Out of the thousands considered, the person who did not want to go was chosen.

My mom took two years to decide about coming to the U.S. When her visa was about to expire she was given a little push (perhaps a Divine intervention) from her cousin in North Dakota, who invited us to go there. After making the necessary arrangements and with passports in hand, my mom and I were on our way to America.

Arriving in Florida, we were given a few states to choose from in which to live. Confused about geography, we chose Michigan—believing it to be the closest state to North Dakota. We arrived in Lansing on December 21, 1998.

Soon after we arrived in Michigan, we learned my mom’s cousin didn’t want us in North Dakota. This destroyed all hope for prosperity and success. Alone in this faraway country, we settled into an inner city apartment. My mom, unable to work as a physician in this country, worked many hours in manufacturing to raise our standard of living. I felt my mother’s pain and wanted to make my mom as proud as possible, so I worked very hard at my school work. Our future was dark and helpless, but God had other plans.

On a cold, snowy January afternoon, my mother took a look at me. “Adi, what’s wrong?” she asked.

“Mommy, my chest hurts a lot and my cough is not going away,” I replied. She knew I needed medical attention right away, but everybody she called was too busy to help us.

The Lord sent two loving Christian neighbors, Felix and Luz. Felix rushed us to a hospital, and I was treated for pneumonia. As I look back, the Lord allowed me to become physically sick in order to heal our spiritual needs. Felix and Luz were Seventh-day Adventists. We became close friends, and soon they invited us to attend their church and take Bible studies. This began a new life of faith and hope. Felix and Luz introduced us to Paul and June Sanchez, the pastor and his wife. The Sanchezes encouraged me to attend the Greater Lansing Adventist School (GLAS). There, my life changed.

Both my mom and I became Christians. I learned the Lord is always there and nothing is impossible for the Creator of the universe (see Mark 10:27). God allowed me to pass through difficult situations in order to change my life. He is willing to do the same for you; but unless you are willing to risk failure, you will never have the opportunity to grow.

Although we miss Cuba, we now have a lot more than we could have ever wished for—a Christian family, loving friends and the promise of a new home in Heaven.

Adislen Perez-Varela is a senior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy.



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Contributors: Writer guidelines are available online at www.LakeUnionHerald.org.

Indexed in the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index



Andrew Ashdon

Andrew Ashdon, 18, is a senior at Battle Creek Academy (BCA). He is a member of the Battle Creek Tabernacle, which he attends with his parents, Larry and Sue Ashdon.

Andrew has the unique ability to look ahead and take appropriate action. He is a conscientious worker who genuinely wants to help his community. This is evidenced by his 1,000-plus hours helping with construction and renovation projects at BCA.

Andrew has been a class officer for the past three years and is currently sergeant-at-arms. He played saxophone in the BCA band program for nine years, and was equipment manager three years. "I know when I ask Andrew to take care of a job, big or small, it is done well," says Michele Stark, BCA music director.

Andrew cites the awesome band trips as his most memorable experiences at BCA, because "BCA Band rocks!!!" Band is also his favorite class, because "the teacher is awesomely cool and fun to work with!"

While at BCA, Andrew says the most important thing he learned is "that having a good relationship with God is key."

After graduating from BCA this year, Andrew plans to join the Sprinkler Fitters Union in Michigan.



Cynthia Barrett

Cynthia "Cindy" Barrett, 18, is a senior at Battle Creek Academy (BCA). She is a member of the Battle Creek Tabernacle, which she attends with her parents, Rick and Robin Barrett.

At BCA, Cindy is admired for her sunny disposition, positive attitude and respect for everyone she encounters. "It is not inappropriate to say that our school would not be the same if she were missing from our student body," said Eric Velez, BCA Bible and history teacher. Cindy is a very responsible student, and she also loves music. She is the clarinet section leader of the BCA Band. "She is someone who can be counted on. She is a leader of the Band," stated Michele Stark, BCA music director. Her natural leadership qualities combined with her love for the Lord have enabled Cindy to be the student body's spiritual leader this year.

Cindy says, BCA taught her "the importance of being a diligent person" in her studies and in her "relationship with Christ."

One of Cindy's most memorial experiences was the church's mission trip to El Salvador. She went to an orphanage and helped build a cement wall to protect the children from intruders. The mission team also offered a vacation Bible school and medical clinic.

After graduation, Cindy plans to attend Kellogg Community College. Later, she will attend Southern Adventist University to complete a bachelor's degree in nursing. Cindy looks forward to being a pediatric nurse one day.

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