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



in this issue...

Control Contro

I enjoy meeting new colleagues in ministry. One of the questions I usually ask is, "How did you come to know the Lord?" This past month we traveled throughout the Lake Union and visited five pastoral teams. We hope you appreciate their willingness to share their personal journeys, and are blessed by how God has shaped their lives to serve you.



Gary Burns, Editor

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Pastors Partnering with Christ

hen a pastor truly partners with Jesus, marvelous results can be expected. I had an experience many years ago that inspired my own pastoring style, and it intensified my desire to be a partner with the Lord, Jesus Christ.

I was an intern observing an older worker who had entered the ministry late in life. He was unorthodox. He wasn't articulate. He hadn't studied Christology, the Pauline Epistles, or Greek. Yet, he was very successful as a pastor and evangelist.

This pastor never received a large evangelistic budget, yet he was a steady, annual producer of baptisms. He was never assigned to a large congregation, yet the people he shepherded seemed to love him and were willingly led by him. He always produced the goals set by the conference administration without fanfare.

I remember one year when he unfolded the tent sent by the conference for his summer campaign. It was rotten and fell apart. He pitched the one solid section of the tent and preached night after night. I just knew that no one would attend such a shabby-looking meeting. I was correct, to a degree. Not a single person who thought like me attended.

But there were apparently many folk who did not think like me, and they came in good numbers. They hungered for knowledge of Jesus Christ. I recall that the baptismal count reached 55 precious individuals!

I know that many times we bring our plans to Christ and ask Him to bless them. This dear man spent hours with the Lord, asking Him for a plan. Each time the Lord gave him a plan through inspiration, the partnership was renewed.

Listen, pastor friend. I believe that formal preparation for ministry is more critically important now than at any previous time. Get all of it that you can possibly get. It will make you a better partner for Christ. But if you neglect the heart preparation and development of the total dependence on God that this wonderful pastor had, you will not be a good partner.

In the final accounting, we do not work for goals or baptisms of precious individuals, but for the satisfaction, peace, and sense of accomplishment that comes from having Jesus as our partner. After all, what we really want to hear at the end of our careers is, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matthew 25:21).

NEW MEMBERS

Indiana The Huntingburg and Tell City Church members rejoiced when two ladies recently joined their church families. Here are their stories.

In Spring 2006, **Carlon Maxey** attended a vegetarian taste testing event at the Hungtingburg Church. At that event, Shawn Boonstra's meetings, *Unlocking the Signs*, were advertised.



Heather Cronin and Carlon Maxey are reaching out to their communities, following their baptisms. From left (back): Heather Cronin, Justin Childers (pastor), and Carlon Maxey; (front): Natalie Cronin and Audry Cronin

Carlon attended about half of the Unlocking the Signs meetings, and then she began to attend the Huntingburg Church about twice a month. She was a member of another denomination, and asked the Adventist pastor, Justin Childers, if she should stop attending her church. He encouraged her to study the Sabbath message and the principle behind it, even though she would continue to attend her church. Carlon attended both churches for a few months. In the meantime, she also studied Amazing Facts' "Storicals of Prophecy" lessons with Justin. Carlon completed those lessons in December 2006.

After Carlon recovered from a major surgery, Justin reviewed the book, *In His Steps*, with her, and a baptismal date was set for April 28.

Carlon has participated in several outreach projects with Huntingburg Church members, and her grandson recently attended Teen Camp at Timber Ridge Camp. Several times, Carlon has commented to Justin that she is glad she found the truth. In April 2007, **Heather Cronin** attended a Share*Him* series of meetings presented by Justin at the Tell City Church. There were 21 meetings, and Heather attended 20 of those meetings. Before the pastor presented a message on healthy food choices, Heather informed him that she had already gone to her refrigerator and thrown out all her pork products.

Even though Heather attended a church of another denomination, she didn't object to any of the Bible truths she was taught. After the meetings concluded, Justin spent three weeks reviewing the book, *In His Steps*, with Heather. Justin was accompanied by church elder, Jim Howe, and his wife Ana Lou Howe, who helped take care of Heather's two daughters, Audry and Natalie, while the pastor and Jim met with Heather.

Heather was baptized on April 28, and she continues to grow in Christ. She helps out in the Community Services department at church, and recently assisted with a vegetarian taste testing event held in downtown Tell City at a yearly local festival.

Justin Childers, pastor of the Cedar Ridge, Huntingburg, and Tell City Churches

Michigan During the past few months, Urbandale Seventh-day Adventist Church members have begun to see evidence of God's Spirit at work in response to their fervent prayers as they have shared the Bible with members of the community. It is their desire to lead 100 individuals to the Lord in 2007.

Fran Crow served in the military medical field for seven years. She lost her husband in April 2006, and his family was a great support to her during her grief recovery. Fran's sister-in-law, Kay Crow, was engaged in Bible studies that led to her baptism earlier this year. Fran quietly observed the changes that the studies were producing in Kay's life.

Kay and another sister-in-law, Muriel Crow, invited Fran to attend prayer meeting and, later, worship services at the church. Fran accepted the invitation, and things began to change for her. She asked for weekly Bible studies, which she enjoyed for some time. Eventually, she sensed the Holy Spirit prompting her to take the next step with God.

After her pastor presented the topic of baptism, Fran suggested, as she put it, "Let's step it up." From that point on, she had two Bible studies a week with Muriel leading out. Since Fran was eager to respond to what she had been learning, she completed a decision card and handed it to the pastor at prayer meeting one evening.



Terry Nelson, Urbandale Church pastor, prepares to baptize a joyous Fran Crow.

Fran was ready to join up for the second time in her life, only this time she chose to join the Lord's Army. A beautiful baptism occurred on July 29, where Fran publicly declared her loyalty to Jesus and pledged her allegiance to His leadership. Because of her testimony at her baptism, nine other individuals accepted the call that day to prepare to follow Christ through baptism. Five of the nine are already participating in Bible studies. Pray for Fran as she helps with the prison ministry studies, shares her new faith with her family, and lives her life to glorify His name.

Burgess Grubbs, BSH, health educator and Urbandale Seventh-day Adventist Church member

Wisconsin Without hesitation, **Shane Jon Abrahamson's** response to the question, "What is one of your favorite Bible verses?" is "Psalm 46:10: Be still and know that I am God...."

Shane and his parents, Donald and Patricia, along with his four older siblings, grew up on the extended paternal family farm in Independence, Wisconsin. The youngest in his family, Shane felt cared for and protected. His dad worked outside the family farm as a local butcher, and his mother was the oldest of 14 children, which groomed her to become a great mother—a calling to which she is still faithful. Shane's parents were married for 35 years before the premature death of his father in 1989. Shane's long spiritual journey began years ago when his mother took him to Bible school and worship services on Sunday. In July 2006, Shane began to feel a big, empty spiritual hole inside his life, and he wondered if the Holy Spirit was at work. This led him to pick up his Bible and, with a new religious curiosity, he began to read it. The very next night he awoke at 3:00 a.m. As he peered into the darkness he was startled, and believed he saw a demon at the side of his bed. He turned to switch on his bedside lamp and could see nothing there. This experience prompted Shane to want to study the Bible even more during the coming days.

In the autumn of 2006, a storm caused the electricity to go off in Shane's home. When he began to reprogram his television set, a new TV signal appeared that he had

never seen before. It was the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN). As he watched the programs on this new network, he began to learn new things that were taught from the Bible.

A few months later, a flier advertising the Madison Community Church's Adventures in Prophecy meetings with evangelist Ric Swaningson arrived in his mailbox. Shane decided to attend, and came virtually every night. It was during these meetings that Shane made his decision to become a Seventh-day Adventist Christian.



Shane Jon Abrahamson believes a series of providential events led him to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. After attending an Adventures in Prophecy series of meetings at the Madison Community Church, and following conversations with the church pastor, Abraham Swamidass, and an evangelist, Ric Swaningson, Shane felt convicted to commit his life fully to Christ through baptism.

After personal conversations with the evangelist and Abraham Swamidass, pastor, Shane found that all his questions were answered in the Bible, and he was baptized April 7. Shane is thankful for what God has done for him in such a personal way, working through circumstances to meet his needs at just the right time. We rejoice with him and say, "Amen, Lord Jesus!"

Leslie-Anne Endres, Madison Community Church member, and Bruce Babienco, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

DUTH in Action.

Youth for Jesus! **BY JOYCE BLAKE**

ast year when New Albany Church members prepared for their youth to participate in the Elijah Project (see March 2007 Lake Union Herald), they were not aware that Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) would hold its 2007 International Convention right across the river in Louisville, Kentucky. ASI was instrumental in funding the Elijah Project, and they also sent representatives to witness the young people in action.

How happy the New Albany Church members were to learn that ASI would include their church in the Youth for Jesus project, scheduled immediately before the 60th ASI Convention, which was held August I-4.

In January, ASI provided a project coordinator, and in February a site coordinator was assigned to work with just the New Albany Church. Bible workers arrived in April, and in June everyone was happy to receive more Bible workers and some of the students who participated in the Youth for Jesus training school.



From left: Andy Haub and Jeremy Wong, from the New Albany (Indiana) Church, spoke to a crowd of several thousand during the ASI Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. When asked what the Youth for Jesus program meant to them, both agreed it had definitely changed their lives.

After studying the Bible with many interested people in the area, the Bible workers invited their students to attend the Revelation Speaks evangelistic meetings, which began July 6 and continued the the rest of the month. Four Louisville-area churches two Indiana churches, and one satellite church in Frankfort, Kentucky, participated. The Bible workers, along with the Youth for Jesus students, provided the preaching and helped with the music, children's programs, greeting, and ushering for the meetings. The New Albany Church youth also

session to prepare church members to give Bible studies

participated in preaching, special music, greeting, and the children's programs. The Frankfort Church, which had been

> closed for two years, re-opened with more than 20 people participating in a branch Sabbath school.

> The series of evangelistic meetings culminated in an area-wide baptismal service on July 31 at the Pewee Valley Church in Kentucky. Mark Finley delivered a wonderfully encouraging message. Following his message, area pastors baptized 45 new members; 33 others had already

been baptized. In all, 149 precious individuals made decisions to follow Christ.

Beginning in April, there was an eight-week training

correctly. Forty of the New Albany members attended the course. Many held Bible studies with their neighbors and friends.

The Bible workers and students flooded the neighborhoods, knocked on doors, and followed leads from Amazing Facts, It Is Written, and other sources. They also searched their communities for others who were looking for Bible truths. They

enrolled many in Bible study courses. During this time, church members also held a Stop Smoking clinic, a health expo, and a vegetarian cooking class.



Jeremy Wong, from the New Albany (Indiana) Church, preached several sermons during the ASI Youth for Jesussponsored meetings.

Joyce Blake is the New Albany Church communication secretary.

BEYOND our BORDERS

The Bible Says... BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

hey came night after night. Some walked miles from their homes; some came crowded on the back of a large lorry. Each night they came, 2,000 to 3,000 strong. They sat on the wet, grassy field of Eriku Park on pieces of cardboard cartons, plastic shopping bags, banana leaves, and rocks that provided a dry platform for them. Attendees listened for two hours each night to various local choirs, a health talk, and the Word of God preached forcefully in Pidgin, their native tongue. Some nights the mud was ankle deep and it took some negotiating not to get stuck, but everyone had joy in their hearts.

A group of eight youth from Avondale College and the Avondale Memorial Church, along with their senior pastor, Adrian Craig, conducted the two-week evangelistic meetings in mid-July in Lae, on the eastern seaboard of Papua New Guinea. Lae is the second largest city in Papua New Guinea, and home to the Seventh-day Adventist Union Mission headquarters. The theme of the nightly meetings was "Baibel Itok" (The Bible Says). The Avondale youth provided music, puppet items, and audiovisual support for the meetings. Adrian Craig preached from Daniel and Revelation.

Temperatures hovered around 80 to 85 degrees night and day,

with very high humidity. It usually took two to three days to get washed items dry. July is a very rainy month, and tropical rains in this region normally fall during the late afternoon and evening. However, in answer to the prayers of the team members, the weather was different during the two weeks of the meetings. Heavy rains fell after midnight and also during the morning hours, leaving the fields soaked, but the skies were mostly clear during the early evening for the meetings. Only on the first night did the rain fall, as if testing everyone's faith. However, no one left, and a few



Adrian Craig preached about Daniel 2 in the Pidgin language.



A choir from Lae provided music at the evening meetings.

umbrellas were launched to provide a few dry spots on the field.

I had the privilege of providing a ten-minute health talk each evening before the sermon. Topics presented included malaria, good nutrition for the family, the harmfulness of smoking and chewing betel nut, alcohol, and using colas and other sugar-laden soft drinks.

At the end of the meetings, more than 300 people responded and came forward in commitment to Christ. Two dozen peo-

ple were baptized the last weekend, and others were being prepared for September. A large



majority of those attending the

meetings and responding at the end were young people. All looks very promising for the future of the young church in Papua New Guinea. Out of a population of 5 million people there, about 300,000 are Seventh-day Adventists.

As a show of love and appreciation, all members of the evangelistic team were presented with a native bilum (hand-woven bag) and a large mounted native butterfly at their farewell.

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

FAMILY TIES

Unexpected Outcomes

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

e all long for a healthy baby. Most pregnancies proceed without many complications. Even when complications do occur, Western medical science provides women with treatment for nearly every complication related to pregnancy. The sad truth is that with all the medical interventions possible, parents can still experience miscarriages, stillbirths, neonatal deaths, or have babies born with life-long challenges.

During pregnancy, the unknowns about a baby encourages parents to hope and dream about what their baby will be like. Often parents develop an idea or mental picture of the perfect child-to-be. This can include the sex of the child, talents, or other characteristics important to the parents. Sadly, at the birth of their child, parents may be faced with a reality that the hoped-for child and the real child are not the same child.

When parents lose a newborn child to death, or when they have a baby born with birth defects, parents experience a cycle of grief and loss. It isn't so much about the severity of the condition as it is about mourning the loss of the healthy child they imagined they'd deliver. Unconsciously, the parents' minds recognize the death of the dream of the hopedfor child and this moves the parents into a cycle of grief.

Shock and Panic—The first stage is one of disbelief and disorientation. Often parents respond in the same manner that they always react in panic—withdrawal, eating, hysteria, talking, etc.

Searching—After the shock, the parents begin to search for the hoped-for child. This may be done through denial, searching for a diagnosis, or placing blame.

Experience of Nothingness— This is often a time of strong emotions as parents realize the child can't be "fixed," and the parents must face the reality of the child's disability. At this time parents ask why this happened to him or her. Anger, guilt, depression, and rage are some of the emotions felt at this stage.

Recovery—During this stage, parents take the intense emotions and begin to resolve them in positive ways. He or she integrates the hoped-for child with the real child—seeing the child's assets along with the disability. Values, goals, and family life are restructured to include the child. Now the child is loved for who he or she is.

Maintenance—The parents reach a relatively stable state of equilibrium at this stage. He or she has found internal and external coping mechanisms to help deal with each new hurdle or obstacle. The parents realize that true resolution can't occur as long as the child is alive. The grieving cycle can and does start all over again when they are reminded that their child is disabled or malformed.

Unexpected outcomes are just that—something we don't anticipate. If you are an expectant parent, consider making a "What if?" list. Anticipate

sider making a "What if?" list. Anticipating the joys and coming to terms with the fact that sometimes pregnancy and childbirth experience doesn't yield our desired outcomes is an essential and necessary step in becoming a parent.

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

HEALTHY CHOICES

We all need some fat in the diet, but which is best?

Does coconut oil have miraculous healing power?

at. The mere mention of the word creates fear in the mind of some. But we all need some fat in our diet. It helps with the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins and health-promoting phytochemicals, and delivers essential fatty acids that are important precursors for a variety of vital hormones.

Good Fats, Bad Fats

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

The real issue is which fat is better, and which one should be avoided? The fat that comes naturally with plant foods such as avocado, olives, and nuts is healthy fat. But what should one choose from the many salad oils and spreads available?

Corn oil, soy oil, and sunflower seed oil are all rich in polyunsaturated fat that lowers the risk of cardiovascular disease. Extra virgin olive oil is rich in monounsaturated fat and various health-promoting polyphenolics that lower

heart disease and cancer risk, and is a favorite for use in salad dressings. Flaxseed oil, like walnut oil, is rich in omega-3 fat that helps lower triglycerides and the risk of blood clots.

Canola oil, an oil rich in omega-3 and monounsaturated fat, is both safe and effective at reducing elevated cholesterol levels. A widely circulated Internet message claiming that canola oil causes glaucoma, shortens your lifespan, and has other detrimental effects is false!

Fast foods such as fries and various bakery products are made with hydrogenated vegetable oils, which are unhealthy due to their significant content of trans fat and saturated fat. Both of these fats have an adverse effect on your blood lipids.

Recently, there has been a lot of Internet activity promoting the so-called miraculous

healing properties of coconut oil. In *The Coconut Oil Miracle*, Bruce Fife claims that coconut oil prevents bacterial, viral, and fungal infections, helps to control diabetes, does not raise cholesterol levels or promote blood clots, and helps promote weight loss due to its rich content of medium-chain fats. None of these health claims have been experimentally proven, however, and research has shown that coconut *does* raise cholesterol levels and increase the risk of clot formation.

People often ask which is more healthful—butter or margarine? Soft tub margarines made from liquid vegeta-

ble oils have no cholesterol and contain only one-third as much saturated fat as butter,

and are known to lower cholesterol levels. Trans fat content of margarines is of less concern now that the food industry has started to use a new process of random interesterification of oils. However, one should limit the use of the hard stick margarines as they do contain significant levels of trans fat.

The American Heart Association recommends that we use those margarines that contain no more than two grams of saturated fat per tablespoon. One should be careful not to use too much fat. A tablespoon of margarine or oil represents about 20 to 30 percent of your daily fat needs.

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

EXTREMEGRACE Missionaries Everywhere BY DICK DUERKSEN

ne Wednesday night—way back in the old days—Frank Sheppet turned to me and asked, "So pastor, whatcha gonna do here?"

I was a ministerial intern in Arizona, and the conference had assigned me to the church family in Wickenberg. All of the members were AARP certified and on Social Security. I was their leader, and about the age of their grandkids.

"What would you like to have done?" I asked Frank.

He leaned forward and spoke for the entire congregation. "We'd like to have an elementary school goin' right here beside our church. How else is this building gonna be full of families ready for Jesus to come?"



The members started on the school, working with God to make a miracle happen. They talked with the conference, planned with the county, and sent fliers in the community inviting every kid within ten miles to come to VBS. "That's so we'll have their names and addresses," Frank said. "We'll need those when the school opens next year."

I thought about Frank a couple months ago when I was standing with Ron Kelly, a pastor from Cicero, Indiana, while on the scaffolding of a new church building in Palugo, Ecuador.

"This is the 11th Maranatha Mission trip for our congregation," Ron reminisced. "And those yearly trips have certainly changed the members in our Cicero, Indiana, church!"

Ron continued laying blocks as he spoke. "I think what people are really hungering for is a chance to make a difon mission trips," Ron says, "because mission trips make the difference. Our mission trips are a jump start on our sense of mission everywhere and because we engage in them seriously, we've become generous, purposeful, and joyful. When you become a missionary somewhere else, it reminds you that you need to be a missionary back at home."

"There's another benefit," Ron smiled above his trowel, "my people are so into the mission of the church that I don't have to deal with most of the griping that goes on when people don't feel they're being served right. Serving others takes care of that!"

"God's called us to do this," that's what both Frank and Ron would say!

Dick Duerksen is the official "storyteller" for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may contact Dick at dduerksen@maranatha.org.

PS: Frank helped cut the ribbon on the new Wickenburg school.

ference. We've got about everything you can get in America, but we're missing out on what life really needs, and that's purpose!"

Ron's dream for his church sounds a lot like Frank's dream for Wickenburg; he sees it filled with members who are on fire for God and who are active in service to others. "We go

ADVENTISM ASI: Sharing Christ in the Marketplace

dventist-laymen's Services and Industries[®] (ASI[®]) marked its 60th anniversary this year at the annual convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

ASI, the organization of Seventh-day Adventist lay persons involved in professions, industry, education, or services, exists to provide challenge, nurture, and experience in "Sharing Christ in the Marketplace" as well as support for the global mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

ASI began back in Madison, Tennessee, in the days of Ellen G. White. She strongly supported establishing an industrial school near Nashville, Tennessee. E.A. Sutherland, later the first president of ASI, and Percy Magan started the school in 1904 with a work-study program that would allow students to work and pay



ther, Neil Martin, attended Madison in 1908 and stayed in the Madison vicinity until 1925. Neil was a charter member of ASI, attending the first convention in 1947 along with Edwin's brother, Charles. Though he did not attend that first gathering, Edwin says, "I've been associated with ASI on and off since it first

At the convention, ASI members looked back at how the organization began. These are attendees at the first self-supporting convention at Madison, Tennessee, in 1909.

for their education. This later became Madison College.

Out of the model of this self-supporting school, other self-supporting entities were started. Workers met together at Madison every year, sharing experiences and encouraging each other.

In 1946, E.A. Sutherland was asked by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to serve as secretary of the newly-formed Commission on Rural Living. The next spring a group of self-supporting workers and General Conference representatives met in Cincinnati, Ohio, to organize what became the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Self-Supporting Institutions. When the association grew and gradually included lay people in business, the name was changed to its current one in 1979.

Long-time ASI member, Edwin Martin, has a rich heritage in the church and self-supporting ministries. His fabegan." He is probably the oldest and longest-attending member at conventions these days.

At each convention, a special offering is taken to fund ASI-sponsored projects in the coming year. Projects in 2007 include, among others, establishing a meal program in the slums of Phnom Penh, building a second floor to the dormitory at Eden Garden Orphanage, establishing a medical and dental clinic in Guatemala, and sponsoring Bible workers in Nepal. For a complete list of ASI-sponsored projects, visit www.asiministries.org.

You are invited to join this dedicated group of laypersons. For ASI membership information or to learn about the 2008 ASI convention in Tampa, Florida, visit www. asiministries.org.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director. Judy Thomsen is communication director for Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries.

SHARING our HOPE



lint, Michigan, has one of the highest crime rates in the country, high unemployment, and a bleak economic outlook. If there's a city that needs prayer, Flint's it.

In Biblical times, Jesus sent forth His disciples two by two. Responding to His call, Fairhaven Church members similarly went forth to pray for those who needed it most in their community. The members did this in cooperation with a city-wide effort to blanket Flint with prayer warriors.

A consortium of Flint-area churches of various denominations held a Prayer Chain Day on Saturday, August II. Participating churches were asked to claim a street in the city that branched off of Saginaw Street, a main thoroughfare that runs the entire length of the city of Flint. The prayer warriors were to walk the selected area, knock on doors, and pray for the people they met.



Fairhaven Church members who participated in the Prayer Chain gathered downtown at Flint City Hall after praying with people on the streets.

Charles Osborne, Fairhaven Church pastor, stressed the importance of the church getting involved in the Prayer Chain Day event. He abbreviated the Sabbath services at the church, so the members could go minister on the street, like Jesus did. Coinciding with the Prayer Chain Day event,



Fairhaven Church leaders purchased T-shirts to provide church members with a uniform identity while out in the public.

The event started out with prayer and praise offered downtown at City Hall. Then the

groups of Christian prayer warriors hit the streets to make a difference for Jesus. Three hours later, the prayer warriors gathered once again in front of City Hall for a praise service and to tell their experiences. Some participants told how eager people were to be prayed for. Others said they were shrugged off. And still others shared stories of persons they met who decided to accept Jesus as their Savior. the radio host how she was having a difficult time, but a pastor had stopped by to pray with her, an experience she said she would never forget. She noticed his license plate was "Pastor O." The pastor knew she was talking about him, and he was surprised to learn the impact his prayer had on her. He said, "It was important for us to be involved with this project because the Flint community needs to know that we are a part of them and that we are willing to do our part to make a difference."

There are plans in place to make the Prayer Chain Day an annual event. Fairhaven Church members plan to go back to their assigned area a few months after the event to survey community residents to learn how the church can minister to them.

Trevor Schluter is the Fairhaven Church communication director.

Chris Stuckey, a Fairhaven Church young person, prayed with an elderly woman and her husband who were experiencing some tough times. "They wanted a blessing to help them make it through," he said.

The Fairhaven Church pastor later learned about a woman who called a Christian Radio station after the Prayer Chain Day. She told



CHICAGO PARA CRISTO

"En la ciudad de Nueva York, en Chicago, y en otros grandes centros de población, hay un numeroso elemento extranjero, multitudes de personas de varias nacionalidades, y todas ellas prácticamente sin amonestar. ...Su pueblo necesita actuar cuerdamente. Necesita poner en marcha esta obra en las ciudades con fervoroso esfuerzo. Hombres de consagración y talento han de ser enviados a estas ciudades para ponerse al trabajo. Han de unirse muchas clases de obreros en la conducción de estos esfuerzos para amonestar a la gente," (Servicio Cristiano, p. 248)

n el año 1981 tomé un curso de evangelismo en Chicago enseñado por el pastor Mark Finley. En ese tiempo la Unión del Lago había decidido establecer un Centro de Evangelismo en Chicago e invitó al pastor Finley para que fuese el director de dicho centro. Yo estaba pastoreando en la ciudad de Hammond, estado de Indiana, en ese tiempo y siendo que el Centro estaba cerca de Hammond, decidí tomar el curso de entrenamiento. El curso duró tres meses y hubo alrededor de 30 personas que participaron incluyendo laicos y pastores.

Un día el pastor Finley nos contó por qué había decidido trabajar en esa ciudad. Nos explicó que poco después de haber llegado a Chicago subió uno de los edificios altos en el centro de la ciudad, desde donde vio a una gran multitud. En ese momento se convenció que tenía que hacer algo extraordinario para guiar a las ovejas perdidas de Chicago al redil de Jesús y por eso aceptó el desafío de trabajar en esa ciudad. El resultado final de sus esfuerzos fue que cientos de almas llegaron a unirse al puel



Los pastores que componen la comisión administrativa de la campaña evangelística Chicago Para Cristo. Sentados de izquierda a derecha Eddie Allen y Justo Morales. Los que están de pie izquierda a derecha, Adalberto Gómez, Héctor Leger, Rodolfo Rosales, Enrique Campbell y Ernesto Sánchez.

cargodelpastorAlejandroBullón. La División Norteamericana ha tomado un interés especial en este proyecto y está haciendo planes de transmitir la campaña vía satélite para que todas las iglesias hispanas en la División puedan beneficiarse. La campaña se llevará a cabo los días 10 al 17 de agosto del año 2008.

Como líder hispano en la Unión pido a todos los hermanos de las cinco asociaciones que oren por este proyecto. Si usted vive en el área de Chicago pido

de almas llegaron a unirse al pueblo adventista.

Otra vez nuestro Señor Jesús está dirigiendo a su pueblo a hacer algo extraordinario para llegar a las multitudes de personas hispanas que viven en la gran ciudad de Chicago. Enfatizo la palabra extraordinario, porque por primera vez en la historia de la Unión del Lago los líderes y pastores hispanos de dos asociaciones—la Asociación de Illinois y la Asociación Regional del Lago—han decidido unir sus esfuerzos y recursos para tener un año intensivo de evangelismo, culminando con una campaña metropolitana a no solamente sus oraciones, sino también su participación en lo que planeamos hacer. No tengo la menor duda que Satanás está muy preocupado en lo que nos hemos propuesto hacer y hará todo lo posible para poner obstáculos en el camino. Pero doy gracias a Dios porque tenemos a un grupo de hermanos y pastores que desea más que nada, hacer la voluntad de Dios y confío que con nuestros esfuerzos unidos y con el poder del Espíritu Santo, Dios nos dará una gran cosecha de almas.

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



A Family Called to Serve

amily has always meant much to me. I think of my parents and the six siblings I was privileged to grow up with. Then there is the vast Lake Union family of brothers and sisters. Good families are known to be supportive, and I am so grateful for the support of my Lake Union family. Your prayers, messages, flowers, and visits have sustained me and my wife Jackie during the last four years with my health struggle.

The Lord heard your prayers, and I am on the mend and doing very well. It feels so good to be back in the office, chairing committees, planning outreach, and preaching and fellowshipping in the churches. Thank you, from the depths of my heart, for your family care and love.

Then there is the family of Lake Union pastors. They are as fine a group as you will see anywhere. Each serves in their own unique way with the special gifts that God has placed within them. They pray for our needs, feed us wholesome spiritual food, marry the loving couples, baptize our trophies for the kingdom of Heaven, dedicate our babies, visit and pray for our sick and troubled, and bury our dead. And all the while, they help raise and nourish their own families.

I count it a special joy to honor our pastors in this month's *Herald*. We have been careful to select a cross section of these blessed servants of God from throughout our Lake Union territory. Maybe one of the selections is your pastor; maybe none of them. But there is one thing for sure: they belong to all of us, and we pay them special tribute and thanks. Ladies and gentlemen, these men represent Lake Union's finest. Please pray for them and support them as members of the family.

Walter Wright is the Lake Union Conference president.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, a time set aside to honor pastors and pastoral families for their dedicated service. We invite you, our readers, to find creative and personal ways to acknowledge and celebrate your pastor's commitment to the call. In addition, you may nominate your pastor to receive a special gift by e-mailing your words of affirmation and appreciation to editor@luc.adventist.org. Pastors will be selected from various parts of the Union. Serving the Eldorado, Marion, and West Frankfort Churches in the Illinois Conference



BY DIANE THURBER

arol and Dale Barnhurst were freshmen at Andrews University when they met. Carol worked in the cafeteria, and it was there where Dale got her attention. Carol says it was Dale's "sparkly eyes" that first drew her to him. Dale recalls intentionally choosing to go through her serving line because he "liked her smile." Through mutual friends, Carol and Dale later learned each other's names, and a great friendship began.

Dale was a math major, but during his freshman year he attended a week of prayer where he heard an invitation extended to students who wanted to commit their lives to pastoral ministry. Dale says that's when he started running, and he ran from the idea of ministry for close to a year. He began to make excuses as to why he shouldn't pursue ministry, such as he was an "introvert" and "didn't speak real well." Dale also wanted to try to draw some family members back to church and thought being a minister might hinder those plans. He says one day he just became convinced being a minister was what the Lord wanted him to do. He was impressed that God was telling him, "I want you to do it and if you don't do it, it's going to hurt our relationship." Dale remembers saying, "Okay, Lord, I get it."

At the same time the Holy Spirit was working on Dale's heart, Carol also formed a new relationship with God. Carol's father died during her junior year in academy, and she had begun to run from God. Carol was angry because He let her father die, and says she made choices that weren't the best for her life. But during a week of prayer—the same week of prayer where Dale heard the invitation to commit his life to ministry—Carol recommitted her heart to the Lord. She remembers thinking, Yes, I want to serve the Lord.

Carol had been told earlier in life, "You'd make a good pastor's wife." But she couldn't see herself in the role of the stereotypical pastor's wife. Carol remembers thinking, "No. I don't think so." She didn't play the piano, didn't sing up front, and says she wasn't good with feltswhich she believed was expected of a pastor's wife. So when Dale shared his conviction about changing majors so he could be a minister, Carol wasn't real excited, but she wanted to be his wife. She told Dale, "Okay, if that's what

<image>

Dale often witnesses God's hand at work when he studies with an individual. At times he also watches Him leading at other events or places, such as youth events, camping outings, or float trips. He says baptism is just the culmination, but it's the actual change in someone's life that brings him joy. Many times, Carol and Dale see God pulling an individual to Him, but the person's response is not always instantaneous. It brings them great joy to learn about commitments made even after they leave a district.

> Carol still doesn't see herself filling the role of pastor's wife she once thought was

you want to do. If that's what God's wanting you to do, you better do it."

One and a half years later, Carol and Dale enrolled in the first Engaged Encounter class taught by Sue and Don Murray. They united their lives shortly thereafter and soon began an adventurous ministry journey together.

Carol and Dale currently serve the members of the Eldorado, Marion, and West Frankfort congregations in the Illinois Conference. What really excites Dale about ministry might surprise you. "It's the paycheck," he said emphatically. But the paycheck he's talking about is when he sees an individual's life being changed by God. He enjoys seeing the light go on in someone's eyes as they are led to Christ, and when they all of a sudden say, "Yeah, this is what I've been looking for." likes being with people and helping people. She said, "Being a pastor's wife kind of puts me in a position sometimes that I can see other people's needs a little more clearly, and gives me an opportunity to help people out."

expected of her, but she has learned that she

Carol and Dale both believe God has placed people in their lives throughout their years of ministry to be a special support and encouragement, and they don't have trouble coming up with names—professors, pastor friends, and conference presidents. They both have always been blessed by church members, too, who go out of their way to encourage them. One woman liked to send cards. Dale remembered one card in particular that Carol received. It reminded them, "As you are tending the garden of your ministry, don't spend all the time chasing the rabbits, but tend the garden, too." They appreciated her gentle message and said it stuck with them a long time. As they looked back at these special friendships, Carol and Dale say they didn't necessarily choose them. Dale says, "A bond developed and it just took off." Carol is pretty sure each of the individuals they mentioned had, at one time or another, said they were praying for them. She said, "That,

to me, is so awesome, when someone out of the clear blue says, 'I've been praying for you,' in our church. And I know they mean it. It isn't just something trite, because I know those particular people are prayer warriors. And when they say they are praying for us, they mean it. It is usually quite specific and genuine."

Dale believes God placed these individuals in their lives as a gift, and a support. And he believes prayer is the foundation of their relationship with Christ. Dale and Carol pray together every day. Dale says, "It's what makes our relationship with God work, and makes it stronger, and makes it relevant. With-

out it, ministry wouldn't happen. We have to have a prayer life to make ministry happen, because we're not the ones that makes things happen; it's God that makes it happen. If we're not asking, then we're not receiving. If we're not receiving, we're not getting a blessing, and we're not able to be a blessing."

Dale says the most important message God has given him to share is the importance of a relationship with Jesus. As Dale spoke, his thoughts drifted back to his childhood. He and a special friend used to say to one another, "We're really good friends, but our Best Friend is Jesus." Though Dale admits He drifted away from Christ for a while, it was after his high school years while reading through *The Desire of Ages* that he put his relationship with his Best Friend back together. That experience stuck with him, and now he focuses



on the importance of building that relationship with Jesus. As he prepares every sermon, he asks himself, "How does this help me in my relationship," and he wants to be sure it will help his church members in their relationship with Jesus Christ, too.

When Dale encounters individuals who question whether they want to be a Seventh-day Adventist, he continues to encourage them to take a look at their relationship with God to be sure it is intact and growing. "If it is," he tells them, "God will guide them." Dale has seen the ministries of individuals flourish as they realize that a relationship with Jesus is the key, and they once again put their lives in God's hands.

Dale says, "If our relationship is intact and growing, we will want to do what He wants us to do. Everything

He asks us to do is easier to do. It's a given, whatever He asks us to do then we'll do. That, for me, is the most important [key] in my own life and in our ministry."

Dale's message to you is, "Keep loving Jesus and keep faithful to what He wants all of us to do, because I believe He is coming soon."

Diane Thurber is the Lake Union Conference assistant communication director.

Serving the Bedford and Bloomington Churches in the Indiana Conference



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PRAYER GUIDED THEM

BY GARY BURNS

he young student from Colombia squirmed in his seat. It was the week of prayer at his boarding school and the speaker from New York was making an appeal. He had survived other appeals, convincing himself that they were intended for others—not him. Even when he felt he should respond, he was held back by

fear of his buddies laughing at him.

Fernando Ortiz was raised in an Adventist home and had already been baptized, but he knew he had never experienced that special relationship of walking with the Lord. In fact, he had become rather rebellious and had little interest in spiritual things. But during that week, there was a different atmosphere on campus, and changes were already beginning to happen in Fernando.

As Jorge Grieve continued his appeal, students began to respond. Fernando could sense the Holy Spirit calling on his heart. This time he thought, I don't care what my friends are going to say; I want to commit my life to the Lord.

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Fernando got up and made his way down the long aisle as tears began to fill his eyes. When he arrived at the front, he was surprised to see that some of his friends were there, too. That was a defining moment in Fernando's life. A few years later, Fernando moved from Costa Rica to California. Some time had passed since the day he walked down the aisle. It was evident that he had allowed some distance



to develop in his relationship with God and the church.

Knowing that our faith only grows when put to work, his perceptive pastor asked

Fernando if he would like to help with the youth at the church. Fernando thought, *Sure. Why not?*

"I don't know why I said 'Yes," Fernando later reflected, "but I did. That served as an affirmation—not only because the Lord helped me to do the work with the youth, but because some men of God affirmed that in me. So I thought, *You know, I can do that.* And that was the beginning of a long journey."

As Fernando helped organize activities and served the youth, he discovered that he liked it. During the next several years, he became more involved and worked with several different pastors. To his surprise, each pastor felt impressed to tell Fernando that he should become a pastor.

Sensing that they may be right, Fernando said "yes" to God's call, and returned to Costa Rica to study theology. Later, while at the seminary at Andrews University, a friend From the first call, there was this spark, and from then on it was just wonderful."

Her name was Daniela, a beautiful girl who had worked with children and youth since she was 14. Raised in an Ad-

ventist home, Daniela was especially influenced by her grandmother, who had great faith in the Lord. Daniela gave her life to Jesus at the age of 12, during a large evangelistic series by an American evangelist, just after communism had fallen in her country. Even at a young age, she learned so many things about God and prophecy from the Bible, and she was impressed she should totally dedicate her life to the Lord.

The church where she attended believed very strongly in its youth and provided opportunities for them to be involved, so ministry became a part of Daniela's life. Her faith was challenged often, but through study and prayer she grew stronger. Daniela attended the university in her city, and was the secretary of a student outreach organization called Amigos. They created all sorts of activities to connect the university students to the Adventist church.

When Fernando finally placed that first telephone call to Daniela, their friendship grew through conversations about

of his who had worked at an orphanage in Romania returned, and said, "Fernando, I have found the perfect wife for you!"

Fernando was not so sure. He had no interest in developing a relationship with someone on the other side of the Atlantic. Later, Fernando admits, "The Holy Spirit had his hand in it, because He impressed me to call.



ministry, and he decided to go visit Daniela. But when she learned that her new friend, Fernando, was studying for the ministry she thought, *I would* not be a good fit for a pastor's wife. *I do not want to marry a pastor. I* enjoy my life here, *I am preparing* for a career, *I like my country, and I am comfortable here.*

Daniela felt God had called her to her ministry for her university and community, and it was difficult to think He would ask her to leave it, and her family, and go far away to another country.

Daniela and Fernando both wanted God's best, and often prayed together on the phone to seek His direction



provide the inspiration for them to be all that God wants them to be. And I think in doing it that way, they will give glory to God."

Daniela realizes, "It is God who transforms lives. We don't have power over that. We have seen it over and

over again. Sometimes we struggle when

for their lives. In addition, Daniela spent nights in prayer asking, "What do you want me to do? Is this your calling or not?" One night as she prayed, she just needed God's assurance. His answer came through Romans 8:28: "All things work for the good of those who trust the Lord." That was a very decisive moment for Daniela. Yes, I think the Lord is calling me to this, she resolved. And even if I don't know a lot about ministry, I don't know what it means to be a pastor's wife, I don't know what I need to do, I'm willing to go for it! Daniela knew that God had really called her that night.

Daniela and Fernando both came to know the Lord and grow strong in their faith through being engaged in ministry to others. It was that shared passion for ministry that brought their hearts together. They realized that God had prepared them to serve Him, and they saw His providence in bringing them together to serve Him as a team.

When asked about the focus of his ministry, Fernando responded, "I see ministry as empowering. Ministry, for me, is a person who gives the tools to the members for them to get a closer communion with the Lord—tools to serve, tools to learn, tools to be what God wants them to be. My part is so humble and so little, but it's a part. My part is to say, 'You know, here are the tools. Go to work.' So when they do it, they say, 'It's not Pastor Ortiz. It's God!' And my part is to we go and have a Bible study, and we try to convince them of something, and the person doesn't buy into it as much as we want them to, [even though] we show that it's in the Bible. We cannot do anything. But what we do is we go home and pray, and we say, 'Please, Holy Spirit, impress that upon them. It's Your truth, and You're the One who can reveal Yourself in their lives.'

"Sometimes it takes years, and sometimes, like in the case of [one] couple, sometimes it's the next day, and they call us and they're excited because they get convinced. So it's God who does all the transformation. We don't have that power."

God has placed Daniela and Fernando in southern Indiana to serve the Bloomington and Bedford congregations. They live in a university town where Daniela is continuing her education, and they feel that God is prompting them to have a strong presence on campus like Daniela had at the university in Romania. They are now leading a group of young people in that ministry. Fernando is encouraging them with his studies in Galatians on walking in the Spirit, with the attitude that Daniela has embraced as her life motto: "I no longer live, but it is Christ who lives in me."

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

Serving the Ypsilanti Church in the Lake Region Conference



PRAYER SUSTAINED THEM

BY GARY BURNS

s a young boy, Claude was inspired by his pastors. So much so that he even entertained the idea of becoming a pastor himself. But as it came time to choose his course of study, Claude considered the lives of these men of God and felt he wasn't good enough. The bar was too high. Still having a desire to help the hurting people in the world, he chose psychology instead.

Claude completed two years at a junior college and then transferred to Oakwood College. As he completed his application and declared his major in psychology, he couldn't silence the calling to be a pastor. So Claude put God to the test. "All right, Lord, I'll enroll with a double major in psychology and theology. If I can graduate with both in two years, then I'll become a pastor." The test seemed simple enough, and safely impossible.

Claude's experience is not unlike many pastors whose call to ministry is not the calling of choice. It was the call of the Lord that made him change his career path.

Claude made his way to the dormitory to discover that his seven suite mates were all theology majors. *This won't do*, he thought. So he politely requested another room assignment. To his surprise, his new suite mates were all theology majors as well. God was answering his challenge. Before long, Claude found himself at the Seminary, completing his ministerial training.

Kathryn was sitting at a table when she noticed Claude enter the cafeteria. A rather adventurous person, she had nank you for Being our past

chosen a teaching position in a community where she was the only African-American teacher in the entire town of New Lothrup, Michigan. After two years, she decided to go back to Andrews University to earn her masters in guidance and counseling. A graduate student, not yet attached, she



noticed that Claude could be a delightful option

for a life partner. Then she learned Claude was studying at the Seminary. A friendship and then a romance developed, and the teacher and pastor married.

Kathryn had no plans of being a pastor's wife. In fact, at the beginning of their marriage, she fought with the idea. She struggled with becoming a pastor's wife until she learned that God wanted her to be herself, and that He wanted to develop a relationship with her where she could be herself in ministry.

Now, as she reflects, she sees how God has led in their lives by bringing them together for a shared ministry. As she has met different challenges, Kathryn has sensed the Holy Spirit leading her each step of the way. As a history teacher, Kathryn has been called upon to teach Bible—a responsibility that is almost overwhelming when she recognizes that children's salvation is at stake.

Claude began to experience the fulfillment of his calling combining his desire to help hurting people with his gift of teaching. "Every human being has a desire to know if God is real. In the pastorate and preaching," Claude reflects, "there is a constant interaction with God. You know that you do not have the wisdom to affect anybody's life. When you realize that the Lord actually gives you words that prove to be positive in people's lives, it is an affirming thing. You can feel the interaction between you and the Holy Spirit. When you interact with God, you know He is real."

Amidst the long hours of a shared ministry, with its challenges and uncertainties, the joy of their lives was born—little

Marquita. With all the wisdom that a teacher-mom and psychologist/pastor-dad could bring to bear, Marquita grew to be a delightful, intelligent, and outspoken child. She loved the Lord and interacted well with adults. Marquita was a joy to the whole community.

Just when all seemed well, Marquita developed a brain tumor.

"It intensified my spiritual life," Kathryn testifies. "God was there for me during that time of struggling, not understanding all the time why this had to happen—because we prayed. We had people all over the country praying for her. She had been through six surgeries successfully, and we just felt that God had His hand over her and that He was guiding her, that He was directing her. But due to a mishap in the hospital with her seventh surgery, she had complications, and then two months later she passed."

"When our daughter was passing," Claude relives the ordeal, "the Lord reminded me that she was my only daughter, but Christ was His only son. There was really an intense experience that went along with that. I had gotten to the place that I thought I had suffered more in losing my daughter than God did, because He only had to offer Jesus once on the cross, and she went through eight surgeries and each time you go into surgery, that's life or death—you don't know if you are going to come out.

"I was sitting there feeling really sorry for myself, and the Lord said, 'You are going through this because this is My will, and there is a reason. But tell me this, which of these would you give your daughter for?' When He said 'which of these,' it began to run through my mind like a rolodex on steroids—all the people that I knew. After each one I was That was twelve years ago, and Marquita would have been 24 years old on the 25th of September.

After Kathryn's loss, her friends noticed something unusual about her prayers, giving evidence that God had been in her life in a remarkable way. Her advice to them is, "Be willing to say, 'Lord, no matter what happens, I'm willing to trust you.' It's a decision. Each day requires a decision from us."

saying, 'I wouldn't give her for her, I wouldn't give her for him.' I guess, in that moment, I was shown the difference between me and God, and between us and God. Because when it came down to it, I really didn't think anybody was worth the life of my daughter. But Jesus thought all of us were worthy of His life."



"I guess, for me," Claude adds, "it has sensitized me to the pain of others. It's been a test in whether or not you can trust God through the hard times. I have to tell you I haven't always passed. There have been some struggles with one step forward and two steps back. I guess pastors, like a lot of Christians, sometimes think that we are favored territory. We serve the Lord, so nothing really bad like that is going to happen to us. And when it does, it takes you back. You have to trust God through the hard times. There's a song that I like that says, 'Sometimes He calms the storm, and other times He calms His child.' It means that He doesn't always take away the trials that you have to go through. You just have to trust that somehow all things really work together for good. One thing that it has done is, it has intensified my longing for Heaven." "It's really true," Claude adds, "when the Lord says, 'your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk ye in it," learn to hear and respond to that voice.

"We need to sensitize ourselves to the voice of God. The greatest quest of any created being is that we might know God. Some people think that you can

live life without God. After what we've been through with some of our trials, I don't know how we would have made it without the Lord, without the faith and the strength that He gives with His presence."

In the classroom, Kathryn freely shares her experience with her students, telling them that no matter what the pain, God is there to help them through, assuring them that if they are willing to trust God, He can help them.

"I know the Lord has been leading in both of our lives, because I see His hands," Kathryn pauses to remember. "When I was 16 years old, I got hit by a train, and I lived to survive it. And God has placed me here to share the story with you."

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

Serving Grand Blanc, Otter Lake, and South Flint congregations in the Michigan Conference





PRAYER UNITED THEM

BY GARY BURNS

t had been four long years since graduation, and Melvin Santos was very discouraged. As a young boy, he had always dreamed of being a physician. But during his sophomore year in high school, Melvin felt God calling him to pastoral ministry. He helped his parents and another family organize the Glendale Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church.

As the oldest youth in the new church, Melvin became the youth leader, the Pathfinder leader, and Vacation Bible School director. He gained much valuable experience, and ministry seemed to be a good fit. When Melvin entered Pacific Union College (PUC), he was still undecided between being a physician and a pastor, so he declared a double major. By his junior year, Melvin felt God was really calling him to pastoral ministry, so he shifted his emphasis to theology.

Melvin participated in the interviews at the end of his senior year, along with all the other theology majors, and was convinced that he would be given a position at one of the churches. He had been very active in ministry during college, and had worked with a number of people from the conference. Melvin thought God had everything all set. But the call never came.

Questions welled up within him, "God, why am I without a call? Where are you taking me?"

The answer came: "Mel, are you willing to trust Me in this ministry?"

Trusting meant waiting, and although Melvin waited, he did not remain inactive. Ministry was in his heart. He organized Youth Ministers International (YMI), a ministry of several youth pastors and lay youth leaders that provided programs for ministry. Not long after graduation, Melvin was asked to return to campus to present a Bible study seminar. Accepting that invitation gave his life a whole new dimension.

While celebrating her 18th birthday with some friends, Juliet slipped away from the festivities to do



some personal reflection with God. Already a nursing student at PUC, and recognizing her 18th birthday to be a major milestone, Juliet thought, *You know, Lord, I'm getting really old. I'd better start planning out what it is I want in life.* So she wrote a letter to God. In the letter, she listed 27 qualities that she was looking for in a husband—being kind to his mother, treating others well, being kind-hearted, and funny, etc. Being a pastor was not on the list! After planning out her life, she put the letter in her bible where it remained unopened.

Juliet involved herself with spiritual things, so when she heard about the Bible study seminar, she made plans to attend. During an "after glow" service following the Friday night meeting, there was an invitation to find a prayer partner. As Juliet looked around for a partner, it seemed that all her friends were already paired up. Then she noticed the speaker, Melvin, coming her direction. Feeling nervous and a little intimidated, she had no choice but to accept the speaker's offer to be her prayer partner.

Melvin returned to Glendale and his self-initiated ministry with YMI, wondering, Why am I still not getting a call? God, did I make a mistake? Am I not supposed to be a pastor? Should I have gone to medical school instead? During this, "wilderness experience," a neighbor from down the street approached Melvin in his driveway. "Mel, I want to give you some advice. If you can get out of the ministry, get out of the ministry." Melvin was shocked. He had highly respected this man as a mentor and had valued his counsel. Was he now speaking a word from the Lord to give up his dream?

The friend continued, "But, if God has

truly called you, no matter how long it will take, just trust God, and He will open up a way for you to be in the ministry." Then he added, "If none of the conference presidents call you, give me a call. I'll help you out." With a smile of encouragement, H.M.S. Richards Jr. continued on his way.

With that affirmation, Melvin knew that he would just have to trust God to work things out in His own time. God's timing was perfect.

As a second-year nursing student, Juliet would need to continue her practical training in Glendale—Melvin's hometown. When he learned of Juliet's plans, Melvin was eager to take up the responsibility of being her welcoming committee, introducing her to the church community. Soon, Juliet began to participate in a number of ministry activities with Melvin, and they became the best of friends. That friendship developed into a romance and, at the age of 19, Juliet received her proposal from Melvin. Thinking she was a little too young for marriage, Juliet suggested they wait two more years until she was 21. They got married after her birthday and moved to Andrews at the end of the summer, where Melvin entered the Seminary.

After two years, the honeymoon was over, and their marriage was on a bit of a rocky road. Juliet began to entertain doubts and she wondered, *Did I do something wrong here God? Did I marry the wrong person?* Then she remembered the unopened letter tucked in her Bible. She sat down and made another list of all the good qualities she saw in Melvin. To her surprise, she came up with 43. Then she opened the letter. Melvin not only met all 27 of the virtues that Juliet considered to be "must haves" in a husband, he exceeded them by 16. God had answered her desperate prayer nearly five years before. That's all she needed to determine to A friend of Juliet's handed her a book one day. It was on *The Prayer of Jabez*. She finished the book and said, "Okay, God. I'm going to pray that prayer." And as soon as she did, things started to happen in her life. At first, there was just an unsettling—an impression that God intended something more. A year later, the prayer resulted in her establishing a retail-based clinic to provide affordable and accessible health care, combined with teaching the basic health

stay committed to their marriage and do whatever it takes.

It took a lot.

After Seminary, they had three churches and three children. Melvin worked many more hours than is expected, yet, without results.

Juliet shared her perspective: "We figured out the hard way that you can do any ministry for God. If you are doing it for God, but you didn't ask God if He



principles that Seventh-day Adventists have to share.

During this time, Juliet began to wake up in the middle of the night and pray for two or three hours before God. "Now I believe in prayer," Melvin confesses. "I believe in praying effectively, but I told God, 'God, I need my sleep. I can't get up early in the morning like Juliet's doing. I'll pray during the daytime when I'm awake."

Melvin realized that he had

been watching Juliet pray—seeing the Lord work through her in a miraculous way—while he was trying to preach that God was trying to prepare a people to be like His Son, yet he was forgetting that Jesus also woke up early in the morning to pray. That realization stirred his life. Melvin said Juliet was basically the one who has inspired him to say, "You know Mel, you need to do the same thing—to get up early in the morning and pray."

God knew, that Friday night when they reached out their hands to each other in prayer, that prayer would unite them for ministry—would unite them for life.

Gary Burns is the Lake Union Conference communication director.

Serving the Madison and Oakland Churches in the Wisconsin Conference



PRAYER CHANGED THEM

BY CONNA BOND

ow does a tough young steelworker you wouldn't expect to see in a church hear the Lord calling him to ministry? Just like Jonah!

Bill Ochs grew up as a Christian of another faith on the east side of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Long before he desired to know God, he desired to know a girl from the south side, where his family eventually moved. She was his friend Ralph's sister, Gladys. Bill admits he used Ralph to get to Gladys. She had a good personality. Bill was shy, but she got him to talk, and he liked that. (Gladys says Bill was the best "stray" her brother ever brought home.)

They married and had children, and by their early 20s were looking for a church "for our kids." As they visited different congregations, Bill developed a deep hunger to know God. About that time, he read a Stephen King novel (he doesn't remember which), and the story line involved the Israelites. That got him interested in reading the Bible, since he loves history. Bill was excited about what he read and tried to share it with Gladys. She wasn't interested. But then a female literature evangelist called the house in response to a card Gladys had sent in for children's books. The funny thing was, every time the literature evangelist called, Bill had just been laid off from work, and money was tight. Gladys kept telling the woman to call another time—and she did. Finally, Gladys asked, "Why are you doing this anyway—for the money?"

She replied sincerely, "No. I'm doing it because I love Jesus."

nank you for Being our pastor



Gladys knew Bill was interested in the Bible, so when the woman invited them to a Bible study Gladys said, "Yes." She did it "for Bill."

They arrived at the Bible study,

and were greeted by someone in the parking lot who really connected with them and introduced them to the friendly group inside. They all just studied the Bible together—no pastor was involved. Bill and Gladys had a great time.

They returned, week after week, and grew close to that loving little group in Franklin, Wisconsin. Bill still looked a little rough on the outside, but his new friends just saw him as a person, and that really inspired him. He returned from the gathering each Friday night and studied and prayed more about what he had learned. He sensed God's presence and, for the first time, realized God loved him just the way he was.

Bill told the group he would like to quit smoking, and would try if they would pray for him. So each Friday night they prayed together that Bill would quit. From then on, as soon as Bill arrived at the study, they asked, "Did you quit?"

"No, not yet."

"That's fine!" they replied. "We'll keep praying."

He finally got down to five cigarettes a day, and they praised the Lord. But he felt bad because they kept asking, and he still hadn't quit.

One night he told them he had quit when he really hadn't. He went home feeling so terrible for lying that he stayed on his knees until well after midnight, crying and praying for forgiveness. He had really wanted to quit, but now he wanted to even more after seeing that it made him lie. He woke up Gladys and asked her to forgive him. And that's when it happened—his desire to smoke went away, just like that!

Bill went back to the group the next Friday night and confessed his lie, sharing that he had really quit this time. They rejoiced over his victory, and their love for him was so real. That was the point when Bill believes he really came to know Jesus. Gladys was still watching from the sidelines to some extent. She'd grown up in a religious home, but was disillusioned with her church. She didn't want anything to do with the Bible

and didn't think there really was a God. But when she saw the big changes in Bill's life, she started looking at the Bible a little differently. When Bill was at work, she picked up the Bible and read, wondering, *What is he reading in this book to make him change*?

When the pastor showed up one day at their home to talk to Bill about baptism, he asked, "Gladys, would you like to be baptized, too?"

"Maybe in a couple of years," she answered.

Bill and Gladys were baptized together—two weeks later in the Milwaukee Central Seventh-day Adventist Church. Right away, Bill started sharing his faith with anyone who would listen, beginning with his own family. Though shy, Bill got excited whenever he talked about the Bible.

At one point, Bill was invited to be a literature evangelist. He found that he enjoyed talking with people and giving Bible studies. In fact, someone had to remind him he was supposed to be selling books. But he was better at giving Bible studies than selling books.

After a couple of years, Bill transitioned into prison ministry at the House of Correction in Franklin. He started out working with someone else, but one week the other guy didn't show up. Bill prayed for courage to go into the prison alone, but he couldn't. He was too scared.

The next week the other guy again didn't show up. Bill went in alone, and discovered he didn't need someone with him to give Bible studies and tell the story of what God had done in his life. "I saw miracles in prison," he says, "that could only be explained by God."

In the summer of 1986, Bill invited a visiting pastor to the prison to see the work he was doing. The pastor asked, "Did you ever consider going into the ministry?" As sure as sunrise, Bill knew it was the voice of God speaking to him. There was only one problem: he was a high school dropout. He had passed the GED, but never considered going to college. And



he had never heard of Andrews University. Bill had three children and not much money.

Bill started talking with people about this new idea, seeking guidance. One day he shared his feelings with Bill Wilson, a ministerial director.

"Willie, do you want to get swallowed by a whale?" Bill Wilson asked.

"Uh, no," Bill replied.

"Then I think you ought to go to school."

Pretty soon Bill enrolled at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, and eventually he became an undergraduate student at Andrews.

Meanwhile, Gladys was along for an uncomfortable ride. "I married a steelworker," she shares. "I was comfortable with that. This whole road he was traveling was uncomfortable for me. I got used to the idea that God was loving and accepting, and I was okay with that—but not with being a pastor's wife. I was a little mad at God."

But Gladys decided if God could change Bill like that, then He wouldn't abandon her in Berrien Springs, Michigan. So she and the kids accompanied Bill to Andrews. "He didn't have to drag me," she says. "I was willing to go."

The day they left for Andrews, Bill received a letter from his dad, a Christian who had never approved of Bill becoming an Adventist. In the letter, Bill's dad disowned him. It was discouraging, but it didn't outweigh all the evidence that God was leading.

By the end of Bill's term in the Seminary, his dad was helping him financially through school. He'd started to become supportive when Bill and Gladys sent him a tape of some music they liked. "If this is the music you're listening to, "said his dad," then you must love Jesus." Life came full circle in 1992 when Bill graduated from the Seminary and received a call to Milwaukee Central—the very church where he and Gladys had been baptized almost ten years earlier. Not long after, he stood

before the congregation and announced, "I'm ten years old today. It's my birthday. I was baptized in this church exactly ten years ago."

Today, Bill's ministry continues to be driven by his love for people. "One thing that keeps me energized," he reveals, "is that I love to talk with people. I love getting to know them. I like dealing with different kinds of people."

Gladys is the perfect teammate for Bill. "The thing about Gladys," says Bill, "is that she can reach people who are sometimes forgotten. She's not the typical pastor's wife. A regular person can approach her."

"A lot of people in church are hurting," Gladys says. "They're down or someone has offended them. They really need that kind touch or word."

When asked whether God has called her as well as Bill, she responds without hesitation, "I know it! If I sit back now and look at things in the past, I can see how I was pruned for this job. I have a deal with God that I'll go anywhere He wants me to go and do what He wants me to do."

Gladys leads a small-group Bible study for women. Some have fallen away from the church; some are new. Friendships grow, as does the group. It all started when she began praying with one woman about something, then invited another to join, and so on. They're her "girls" and she's the "mom" of the group, even though she's younger than most of them.

Together, Bill and Gladys Ochs daily respond to the calling God has placed on their lives. They haven't seen any whales, and they aren't looking back.

Conna Bond is a freelance writer and columnist for Renewed & Ready magazine.

Partners in Mission: Paul and Martha Mawela

BY DIANE THURBER

tepping off a bus in Dwarsloop, in the province of Mpumalanga, South Africa, I walked down a dusty road and past a rusted sign that directed me to Nhlengelo Home Based Care. In the yard beside the road were scantily clad children playing and hens clucking. It was surreal to be in Africa, a country I dreamed of visiting from the very first time I sang "A Boat Goes Sailing to the Mission Land" in Sabbath school and heard stories of the brave missionaries in a land far away. The road opened to a courtyard. It was there the smiling faces of approximately 50 uniformed women—the caregivers greeted me. In the center of the group were two of the most remarkable people I have ever met—Paul and Martha Mawela with smiles as wide as their hearts, I would later learn. In fact, there wouldn't be a Nhlengelo Home Based



At a special dedication service, the Nhlengelo caregivers were presented with certificates of appreciation, a Hope for Humanity scarf, flowers, and money to purchase a new pair of shoes.

Care community center without the Mawelas—Paul, former president of South Africa's Trans-Orange Conference, and Martha, his life-long partner in ministry. Their love of Jesus and their compassion for the Tsongan people compelled them to continue a life of service after retirement.

Paul desired to build a Seventh-day Adventist Church for his people so they could learn more about the saving love of Jesus. His attempts to do so were met with great resistance. Villagers were wary of another church in their community. Some even proclaimed he was a Satanist instead of a Christian. While many would be discouraged and give up, Paul petitioned the Lord to open a door.

He called together community leaders and pastors to pray for those they served. The relationships Paul forged with these leaders were the springboard for Nhlengelo Home Based Care—a collaborative humanitarian project to minister to those in their community impacted by HIV one parent to AIDS (www.avert.org). One organization estimates there will be 18 million AIDS orphans in South Africa alone by the year 2010 (www.amref.org).

So under the leadership of Paul and Martha, and with the support of the other local church leaders, a program was established to train caregivers to bring hope and help to those suffering with HIV, AIDS, and other illnesses, and to discover the vulnerable children left alone when parents die. The individuals they accept in the program are volunteers from each of the churches in the Dwarsloop community. They become caregivers who walk door to door in their villages to find those who need care.

The prevalence of misinformation about HIV and AIDS in South Africa has created prejudice toward people living with the diseases. These caregivers model the love taught to them by the Mawelas—a love born in their hearts through a relationship with Jesus—as they feed the sick, bathe the

and AIDS. Nhlengelo means "Standing together against the enemy." These community leaders are now committed to stand together against HIV and AIDS and other issues that confront their community, in a country where life expectancy is 42.45 years, unemployment 25.5 percent, and 50 percent of the population lives below the poverty line (www.consultancyafrica. com). It is a unique multichurch social project that receives major funding from Hope for Humanity (formerly



After enjoying games with one of their new American friends, Ramon Ulangca (Fort Wayne, Indiana, Church pastor), these orphans sang for the Hope for Humanity ambassadors.

dirty, clean houses, carry water, and give of their own meager means to comfort the afflicted. In homes and communities where HIV and AIDS victims are shunned, the caregivers shine a light all the way from Heaven into the hearts of those they touch for Jesus.

The orphans, left abandoned to deal with the grief of losing parents, find themselves in an economic crisis as they are forced to care for themselves and, often, younger siblings. Many child-headed households are located in

It was as Paul participated in funeral services, where he buried "too many young people," he recalls, that he first became convicted something should be done to help the orphaned children left alone. By the end of 2005, Africa was home to an estimated 12 million children under the age of 18 who lost at least



Martha Mawela said, "Pile it on. These children are very hungry." The orphans patiently waited to receive the food provided at Nhlengelo.



Throughout the Nhlengelo courtyard, the orphans relaxed as they enjoyed the food provided for them. For most orphans they served, this was the only meal they would eat all day.

close proximity to extended families; however, there are simply not enough resources to support additional fam-

ily members. So the children live in homes—with no running water, no public transportation, and no electricity—that they used to share with their parents. Sometimes their parents' graves are in their backyard. The orphans are forced to survive as best they can in an adult world they don't understand.

The Mawelas have opened their arms to the orphans. Through Nhlengelo Home Based Care, approximately 1,000 children receive one hot meal daily. This is the only daily meal for most. When I helped serve the orphans a meal, Martha



It brought much joy for Paul Mawela to baptize his brother who he had prayed for most of his life. While helping Paul build the church, his brother learned more about Paul's commitment to Christ, his dedication to his community, and God's plan of salvation.

said, "Pile it on. These children are very hungry." Other staple items provided include corn meal, beans, vegetables, and

> cooking oil. When funds are available, the orphans also receive charcoal, soap, clothing, blankets, and school uniforms. Without school uniforms, the orphans can't enroll in school. Additional support includes help with homework and daily guidance as the orphans manage a new reality of life without parents.

> Because of their unwavering love and compassion, the Mawelas are now affectionately known as "Papa" and "Mama." Many orphans have "adopted" them as their new parents. Rich Bauer, a teacher at Otter Creek Christian Academy in Wisconsin,



Untouched by family and friends, the gentle caress of caregivers as they wash the feet of those suffering with AIDS and other diseases brings the loving touch of Jesus to so many in their community.



Martha Mawela lined the children up before they were served lunch, and asked them to sing for the Hope for Humanity ambassadors. The children were so patient, polite, and cooperated with her request.



Martha Mawela (front center) spoke gently and softly in the Tsongan language to an elderly woman with AIDS who warmed herself in the sunshine outside her home as Nhlengelo caregivers and Hope for Humanity ambassadors observed.

witnessed the Mawelas' compassion. He said, "As I watched [Mama] interact with them, I could see that she had a real interest in them. It reminds me of the great interest Christ has for each one of us."

Ramon Ulganca, Fort Wayne (Indiana) Church pastor, said, "Paul and Martha Mawela are contemporary examples of Abraham and Sara. In leaving the comfort and safety of their congregation at the prompting of God to confront AIDS where no Adventist Christian had ever gone be-

fore, they are faith war-

riors in the truest sense

of the word. Their vision

that the children of God

need to 'stand together

against an enemy' and

their desire to partner

with Christ and other

Christian churches to

make a difference in the

world for the kingdom of

God is an inspiration to

us all. Through them and

others like them, God is

Because of the Mawe-

las' desire to be used by

God, land for a church

healing our land."



Never shy in front of the camera, these orphans enjoyed the sweetness of their bananas together. Others tucked them in their pockets for their evening meal.

South Africa is a beautiful

country filled with incredible

people, but many desperately need hope. Please become

"Partners in Mission" and give

generously to Hope for Hu-

manity this year. Your tax-

free donations will benefit the

Mawela's ministry at Nhlenge-

lo Home Based Care and other

projects like theirs all over the

globe. For more information,

contact Maitland DiPinto,

Hope for Humanity director, at

Maitland.DiPinto@nad.adven-

tist.org or call 301-680-6439.

The Nhlengelo caregivers visited this woman with AIDS. She was excited because now that she is 60 years old she qualifies for government assistance. Many do not live long enough to receive benefits.

was granted. Hope for Humanity partially funded a small church dedicated in August 2006, but it is now filled to overflowing each Sabbath. Seventh-day Adventists are no longer considered Satanists; they are called saviors.

Keeping their homes and yards tidy is important to the residents of Dwarsloop. Here, a Nhlengelo caregiver is sweeping the yard of a person with AIDS who is no longer able to do it for herself.

Diane Thurber is the Lake Union Conference assistant communication director.

1. Hope for Humanity is the oldest Seventh-day Adventist humanitarian ministry. It assisted Nhlengelo Home Based Care by providing fencing to keep out thieves and wild animals from their gardens. It has also provided a bore hole (well), lapa (thatch-covered meeting room), and other necessary

Living the Dream: Adventist GlenOaks Hospital Goes Live with iConnect Project

Adventi

Adventist GlenOaks Hospital (AGH) became the first hospital within Adventist Midwest Health (AMH) and the 23rd hospital in the Adventist Health System (AHS) to launch a new electronic medical record system.

The project, called iConnect, was launched in July after more than a year of preparations and training. By the end of 2007, all AMH hospitals will implement the new technology.

With iConnect, treatment plans continue without interruption for seamless patient care. Any tests, reports, or lab work are immediately updated in the patient's record, and caregivers can view the information simultaneously. Plus, it eliminates issues with illegibility.



Bruce Caldwell, Jay Rienton, Paul Guagliardo, and Mel Goings were part of the Information Services team that assisted with the project.

When a patient arrives to register, all information is collected *one time only*, and the electronic medical record builds from there.

"We should embrace the changes the new system brings," said Todd Anderson, chief financial officer at AGH. "It is my hope that we look back two to three years from now and wonder how we ever functioned."

"This has been a monumental year for Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, with the opening of the new Emergency Department in June and now the launch of iConnect," said Brinsley Lewis, CEO of AGH. "Our army is a very small one, but we're very mighty," he said.

On Saturday evening, July 21, the night before the official go-live, AGH hosted a special dinner and campfire. Staff, super-users and trainers, plus the many Information Services members who contributed to the conversion were honored. A candle lighting ceremony and a prayer and special message were offered by Walter L. Wright, chairman, AHS Board of Directors.

Wright spoke of his favorite Bible verse,

John 16:33, and applied it to iConnect, much to the enjoyment of his audience. He said, "These things I have spoken unto you, that you may have peace. In the world of IS, there has been tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the iConnect."

"Sometimes progress can be challenging," Wright continued. "When we stay in contact with a loving God, we have the assurance He will help us over the rough spots."





Brinsley Lewis, Adventist GlenOaks Hospital CEO, his wife Betty, and Jackie and Walter L. Wright, chairman, AHS Board of Directors, participated in a special candle lighting ceremony.



The special evening event featured a campfire, complete with s'mores and snarklers

On go-live day, an overhead announcement was made, saying iConnect was now live. "Everyone logged on, and now we're really living this dream," said Mary Murphy, chief nursing officer at AGH. "I'm blessed to be a part of this project that will forever change the way we deliver care."

> Julie L. Busch, public relations specialist, Adventist Midwest Hospital

Andrews 🛆 University



Andrews Receives Second National Science Foundation Grant

Andrews University has been awarded a second National Science Foundation (NSF) grant totaling \$54,112 to study the factors that contribute to the unusual success of the Biology Department's undergraduate students.

Students in the department were doing unexpectedly well, with freshmen graduation rates of more than 70 percent, rankings in the 90th percentile on Major Field Tests, and medical school acceptance rates of around 85%—more than twice the national average.

In 2003, biology professors John Stout and Gordon Atkins applied for a \$490,600 NSF STEP Grant to figure out what was causing the students' unexpected success. After an evaluation of their study, however, the NSF urged for a different approach. "NSF said we were doing mechanical things, but that we needed to know what people who have gone through the program think is working," Stout explained.

With the guidance of Elaine Seymour, an expert in science education assessment, and the School of Education's Larry Burton, professor of teacher education, a whole new assessment plan was developed that would evaluate biology graduates as well as current students. Burton will serve as the principal investigator on this portion of the project.

Once the factors of the program's success have been determined, NSF plans to share the biology program's model with other universities around the country. "NSF considers our current biology program as one of the best models of transformational science education in the

country," Stout said.

The evaluation process is already underway, and the project has a final completion goal of 2009.

> Robert Moncrieff, student news writer, University Relations

New School Year Ignites with All Fired Up!

It's not every week at Andrews University that students get to enjoy Beach Olympics at Warren Dunes, breakfast with their advisors, and a Wednesday night pizza feed. On August 19–26, however, incoming freshmen and transfer students experienced all this and more at the *All Fired Up!*

orientation week.

After getting situated in the dorms, students gathered in front of Nethery Hall for the "Get Acquainted Corn Roast," which gave them a chance to socialize and make new friends. "The most important aspect of All Fired Up! by far is the relationships that are established," said Steve Yeagley, assistant to the vice president for Student Services and orientation organizer.

On Wednesday evening, after a day-long crash course in college protocol and testing, students met for the first time with their family groups. "Family groups are the launching pad to establishing a good support system of friends," said Yeagley. "Our job is to help them feel like they have a home here."

Family groups are led by returning Andrews students, many of them sophomores, who can give fresh, relevant advice to first-year students. "A large part of my decision in becoming a family group leader was the influence that my family group leaders had in making me feel part of a family my freshman year," said Sarah Sweeney, a sophomore English major.

All good things must come to an end, however, including *All Fired Up!* And the sad thing is that although you might be a senior for many years, you can only be a first-year student once. But there is always a chance to relive *All Fired Up!* as a family group leader. Sweeney says, "I enjoyed it so much that I just had to come back and pay it forward."

> Robert Moncrieff, student news writer, University Relations



Monique Pittman (left), newly-appointed director of the Honors Program and assistant professor of English, assists two new freshmen as they began the registration process.



Faithful Giving Enlarges the Family of God in India

Indiana—During the Christmas and New Year's holidays last year, a group of 35 Adventists from Indiana were separated from their local families so the family of God could grow.

The Hope for India mission team was comprised of men, women, and children from the Cicero Seventh-day Adventist Church, nine Indiana Academy students, and some members of other Adventist churches. The team's mission was to share the good news of Jesus on the other side of the planet in the Andhra



Pradesh region of India. The team preached in eight outlying villages. The Lord blessed the trip, and many lives were changed. In each of the eight

sites, five new Adventist church groups now worship together on Sabbath. However, these 40 groups awaited a house of worship. In the Indian culture, if your god is unable to provide a place of worship, the people believe that he must not be very powerful. A church becomes symbolic of a god's strength.

On Sabbath, June 2, the Cicero Church members celebrated the completion of fund-raising to erect churches for the 40 church groups raised up during the *Hope for Indía* trip. Aaron



The Hope for India mission team visited the Taj Mahal before leaving India. They, and members of the Cicero (Indiana) Church who weren't able to travel to India, enlarged the Family of God in India with their faithful giving.



The contributions of Cicero (Indiana) Church members and the gifts of a few others will be used to erect 40 houses of worship in India like this one. These churches will be built in the villages where the Hope for India team preached.

Clark, pastor in training at Cicero, spoke of the unity that service in Jesus brings, and asked the congregation to join hands as he prayed for the new churches. The church family sang together the theme song for the *Hope for India* participants, "Hark! the Voice of Jesus Calling," and then the joyful reminder of Jesus' return in the song, "When He Cometh." Clark's sermon on Christian stewardship tied in with the celebration, reminding those present that the currency of Heaven is the precious individuals we lead to Jesus!

For a year and a half, Cicero Church senior pastor, Ron Kelly, encouraged his members to give sacrificially to the *Hope for India* initiatives. Ingrid Jacobs prepared goal devices, and as money was donated the sanctuary was filled with hundreds of cards with an outline of India, each one representing \$15 donated to lead one individual for Jesus. The cards were glued like wallpaper on the goal devices

surrounding the sanctuary so church members could see the fund-raising progress.

As more money for the new church buildings arrived, brown paper churches were added to the goal devices. Members were reminded weekly of the needs of their fellow brothers and sisters in Jesus in India. The final church was placed on the last fund-raising goal device on June 2, and church members reflected on what God did through their faithful giving. In addition to the \$57,495 raised for the team's air travel to India and funds collected for their other personal trip expenses, a total of \$20,000 was raised to purchase land for 40 churches. One hundred-twenty-thousand dollars was raised to erect the 40 churches at \$3,000 per church. The church funds were primarily from Cicero Church members, but donations for three churches came from members of other Adventist churches. One family donated money for a church in honor of their deceased son.

Church members also contributed \$40,000 to help defray expenses for each of the 40 evangelistic series they conducted. Another \$10,000 was donated for 5,000 Bibles in the Telugu language, which were given to the newly-baptized Adventists in India by *Hope for India* team members. In addition, the church members raised \$36,000 to pay for a Bible worker for each of the 40 churches for the next three years. The Bible workers will become the pastors of those churches at a later date.

While in India. team members discovered additional needs among those they served and generously gave of their own funds. For example, the team members donated money for 300 cataract surgeries, and left \$1,000 for computers and a new water system for a new Adventist school they visited. On the last Saturday night of their trip, just hours before the group departed on the train, they presented a treadle sewing machine to a 16-year-old girl who dreamed of becoming a seamstress so she could be self-sufficient in a land where poverty is the norm. This young woman was considered too old to go away to school.

We are reminded in Scripture, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1). And may God find us faithful.

> Collene Kelly, newsletter editor, Cicero Church, and Diane Thurber, assistant communication director, Lake Union Conference


Ricky Trammell and his wife Maria D. Peña joined the new Maranatha Hispanic Company following their baptisms. They made a commitment to Jesus during the evangelistic meetings presented by Richard Piñero, pastor and leader of the new Maranatha Hispanic Company in southern Illinois.

Hispanic Company Holds First Baptism

Illinois—Saturday, June 16, was a glorious and historical day for the Adventist Church in southern Illinois. The Maranatha Hispanic Company (the first Hispanic congregation in southern Illinois) celebrated its first baptism, for the glory and honor of God. As a result of a series of evangelistic meetings presented in April, the Maranatha Company witnessed the promise of Isaiah 55:5 being fulfilled before their eyes: "Surely you shall call a nation you do not know, and nations who do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and the Holy One of Israel; for He has glorified you" (NKJV).

The evangelistic meetings were preceded by a health clinic held in the Crossings neighborhood in the city of Carbondale. Richard Piñero, a pastor who leads the congregation, presented the meetings. As a result of this effort, Ricky Trammell and his wife Maria D. Peña dedicated their lives to

Christ and were baptized. In addition, 12 people are receiving Bible studies and plan to be united to Christ and His church through baptism.

Praise God for His wonderful works among His people! Let us pray



The first baptism of the brand new Maranatha Hispanic Company in southern Illinois was held outside of the church, with a view of the cemetery in the background.

for the Holy Spirit to continue to work in the hearts of all the Hispanics in southern Illinois.

Rachel Terwillegar, assistant to the president for communication, Illinois Conference

VBS Teaches How to Be a Brave Believer

Michigan—"Brave Believers" was the theme at the Urbandale Vacation Bible School (VBS), held July 16–20. When God's "Brave Believers" follow His plan, the results are far beyond any humble expectations. VBS opened with 25 children and grew to a total of 42, while maintaining an average of 33 children per night.

It is always a joy to watch the growth of each child as they learn new songs, recite Bible verses, create crafts, taste snacks, and hear stories from the Bible. Stories were shared about various "Brave Believers" such as Daniel, Rahab, Miriam, Elijah, and Samuel. As a story was told, each child was given

the opportunity to participate in the story as the Bible character. They were encouraged to share their faith by inviting others to VBS to become "Brave Believers."

Mary Alice Boling and Elizabeth (Ellie) Gain were so excited prior to VBS that they got involved by helping stuff pillow batting into craft kits. These two girls had so much fun stuffing, counting, laughing, and counting again that it was obvious they were young "Brave Believers."

Closing night exercises were about to wind down and another year of VBS was coming to a rapid end when we learned that two brothers, Devin and Isaac Gillett, spent the summer playing on the local little league baseball team and were in the final week of playoffs. When asked if they wanted to attend VBS or finish the game, they chose VBS because they believed "VBS is fun," and they were tired of ball. Jesus calls for "Brave Believers." What is your response? Here am I?

Velda Grubbs, Urbandale Church communications secretary



More than 42 children learned what it means to be a "Brave Believer" at the Urbandale Church Vacation Bible School.

[NAD NEWS]

New Certification Plan Unveiled for Adventist Communication Professionals

A plan to enhance, update, and strengthen communication skills of professionals serving the world Seventh-day Adventist Church in communication capacities was announced.

Certification will be available in up to six tracks, including Media Relations, Journalism, Web Communication, Public Relations, Corporate Communication, and Media Production. The Media Relations and Journalism tracks will be available first.

The Communication Certification Program's (CCP) first events and electives for certification will be delivered at the Society of Adventist Communicators convention in Nashville, Tenn., October 11–14, according to Fred Kinsey, assistant to the president for communication for the North American Division (NAD).

"With a wide variety of seminars being offered at the annual SAC (Society of Adventist Communicators) convention, it will be very convenient for Adventist communication professionals to earn the NAD communication certification in a few years," said Kinsey. "We hope people will take advantage of the professional development courses so they can earn the NAD communication certification," he added. Requirements for certification include a core course in journalism fundamentals, an exam over the Seventh-day Adventist Communication Department Code of Ethics and the *AP Stylebook* or its international equivalent, an externship, professional readings, and elective CEUs that apply toward various tracks. Candidates will have three years to complete the program.

"Communication personnel function at higher levels than ever before in today's complex information environment. They are counselors, high-level strategists, crisis communicators, and spokespersons to media entities," said Rajmund Dabrowski, director of communication for the Seventh-day Adventist world church. "Not only will certification address foundation skills necessary for effective day-today operations, but certification will also provide high-end skills to help the Church communicate its strategic mission focusing on unity, growth, and quality of life.

"Communication professionals must be up on Adventist corporate identity, communication theory, communication laws and regulations, and trends in new technology, including social networking," Dabrowski said.

"More than ever, communicators are intricately involved in supporting the direction, strategies, and visions of the world church with embedded and intentional communication plans," Dabrowski added. "Certification of our professionals will help the world church be more effective in building relationships and protecting our reputation."



Adventist communication professionals meet once a year during the Society of Adventist Communicators convention. This photo was taken during last year's meeting held in Baltimore, Md. This year's meeting will be in Nashville, Tenn. from October 11 through 14.

The Society of Adventist Communicators will offer a number of workshops, presentations, and seminars that will apply toward certification, according to George Johnson Jr., associate director of communication for the NAD and executive director for the SAC. For an application and more information about the SAC annual convention, go to www.adventistcommunicator.org and click on the area on the right titled "New Certification Plan Unveiled."

Pamela Maize Harris, a consultant, researcher, and professor of communication at Andrews University, believes the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the only denomination offering certification to its employees and members. Dabrowski, Harris, Johnson, and Kinsey were the architects of the certification program.

For more information, please contact George Johnson Jr. at (301) 680-6057 or by e-mail at george.johnson@ nad.adventist.org.

George Johnson Jr., associate director, Office of Communication, North American Division

Family Celebration Sabbath Convenes on Andrews University Campus

Family Celebration Sabbath (FCS) took place at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary on the campus of Andrews University on July 20 and 21.

Attending from the United Kingdom, Bernie Holford (South England Conference Family Ministries director) lauded, "Family Celebration Sabbath was a tremendous inspiration for me to make a positive, practical difference in my home. I loved the ideas for Friday night worships and learned how Sabbath and the family were always intended to be celebrated together every week! Thank you for organizing such a wonderfully encouraging and affirming Sabbath."

The weekend included presentations by David Taylor, from the School



Jane Thayer was honored as the recipient of both the North American Division Distinguished Service Award and the Spaulding Award for Distinguished Service. From left: Ron and Karen Flowers, Willie Oliver, Jane Thayer and her husband Jerry, and A. Allan Martin

of Religion at Loma Linda University, and Richard and JoAnn Davidson, professors at the Seminary. A. Allan Martin, associate professor of discipleship and family ministry at the Seminary, gave leadership to this new event.

"Family Celebration Sabbath was truly a celebration of God's goodness in putting us all into one big, loving family and providing one day a week for building relationships with our heavenly Father and our family in Christ!" shared Karen Flowers, co-director, Department of Family Ministries, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (GC). "There was Good News, good music, good friends, good food, good conversation. Who could ask for more?"

During closing ceremonies, two prestigious awards were given to Jane Thayer, retiring director of Religious Education at the Seminary. In honor of her many years of dedicated service to family ministries, Thayer received the Distinguished Service Award from the North American Division (NAD) Department of Family Ministries, and the Spaulding Distinguished Service Medallion from the GC Department of Family Ministries.

FCS is the successor of Adventist Family Conference. It was developed to strengthen networking opportunities between family ministries [leaders] and the Doctor of Ministry in Family Ministry cohort as well as individuals pursuing the graduate certificate in family life education. We congratulate the following eight persons who are completing coursework for their graduate certificate summer of 2007, and received certificates during the closing ceremonies. The graduates are Sun Jung Cho, Sherry Galvez, Hyun Young Jeong, Su Jin Kang, Zelda Felix-Mottley, R. Elaine Myers, Deborah Rivera, and Leslie White.

Co-sponsors of FCS include the Religious Education Program at the

Seminary, the Adventist Association of Family Life Professionals, Advent-*Source*, and the Departments of Family Ministries for the GC and NAD.

"I was blessed beyond measure," affirmed Donna Mitchell, a family ministries coordinator from Baltimore, Md. "I was in God's presence along with His children, and that was a bit of heaven on earth for me."

FCS will continue as an annual event on the campus of Andrews University, open to Berrien Springs and surrounding communities, as well as to our family ministries network across North America and around the world.

Alexis A. Goring, editorial assistant, Department of Family Ministries, North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists

[WORLD CHURCH NEWS]

ASI Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Louisville, Ky., was the scene of the ASI International Convention August I-4, 2007. ASI®—Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries®—marked its 60th anniversary this year. There were more than 500 children and youth in attendance on Sabbath. In the beginning, about 150 were served lunch on Sabbath. This year nearly 2,000 were served in a record 50 minutes. We've grown. Devotionals, prayer time, stirring messages, testimonies, music—this is the ASI convention. Twenty seminars covering topics from health (Neil Nedley, "Improving Emotional Intelligence") to education (James Standish, "Becoming an ASI Ambassador to National Leaders"), and 18 additional subjects provided excellent learning experiences.

The Member in Action feature is inspirational. Willard Regester, a physician from Grants Pass, Ore., places an ad in the local newspaper to offer Bible studies. One of his contacts, Evelyn, was baptized in February. John



Debbie Young, whose four years as ASI president ended at the 2007 ASI Convention in Louisville, Ky., prays for the new president, Donna McNeilus, from Dodge Center, Minn.

and Paula Moriarity, of Pewee Valley, Ky., have 20 non-Adventists who meet in their home every Sunday for a Bible study. Sherene Becca, of Austin, Texas, is a freshman at Baylor University. She wants to minister to fellow students, "to reflect God in all ways and bring glory to His name." Viorel Catarama, of Hinsdale, Ill., went to Tanzania where he helped train 300 people in successful evangelism methods. This is only a small sample of the dozens of stories told.

Complete programs for children and youth, including community outreach, were provided. And the everpopular exhibit hall had more than 300 exhibits showcasing ministries and witnessing opportunities.

The annual offering has supported hundreds of ventures through the

continued...

years. The offerings and pledges given this year to support 40 projects were in excess of \$1.6 Million. The overflow offering, monies in excess of the \$1,269,000 goal, will fund the DVD and *Train Them Now* initiative, a joint effort of the General Conference and ASI to utilize lay members to train and equip others to conduct evangelistic meetings using the multiple translations of the *New Beginnings* DVDs.

For the ninth year, ASI's Youth for Jesus program took place prior to the convention. Forty-three youth worked at locations in the Louisville area, leading out in *Revelation Speaks*. Churches hosting the youth were New Albany and Jeffersonville, Ind., and Pewee Valley, Shelbyville, and the Magazine Street Church in Kentucky. The Frankfort (Ky.) Church hosted students from Ouachita Hills College. There were a total of 149 decisions for baptism. At the time of the convention, 77 had been baptized with more preparing to take the step.

Michael Ryan, a vice president of the General Conference, dialogued with several about missions and the DVD program. Literally thousands of people have been touched by the good news of salvation through these endeavors. He said, "Active, committed lay people telling the gospel story have affected the whole world!" ASI is all about people telling the world—and telling them now!

For more information about ASI and the 2008 convention in Tampa, Fla., visit www.asiministries.org.

> Judy Thomsen, communication director, Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries

Adventist Musicians Gain International Exposure

Thanks to the new Adventist Mission DVD, produced by the General Conference Office of Mission, Seventh-day Adventist musicians are being heard all over the world. The DVD features many video mission stories and at least one music video. The music videos feature a variety of music including original compositions, ethnic religious music, and traditional hymns that evoke deep spiritual memories for many church members.

Nicholas Zork, a former youth pastor in Indianapolis, Ind., has had requests for his featured song, "Our Prayer."

"Some have asked to use the song for other DVDs," he says. "Others have used the song as a congregational worship song. It's been a blessing to see God use this piece of music for His glory."

Kathlyn Bearce, a teenager from Maryland, was particularly struck by the message of Zork's song, which talks about Christians going out and "reaching the world" that Jesus longs to save. "I just started crying—it's so true," said Bearce. "I thought, *This is what the Lord wants us to do.*"



Nicholas Zork's song, "Our Prayer," was recently featured on an Adventist Mission DVD. Since then, he has received many requests for his featured song. "It's been a blessing to see God use this piece of music for His glory," said Zork.

All of the musicians view music as a central part of outreach and an important aspect of the Adventist Mission DVDs. "Music is a powerful means of communication," says Zork. "Through music we are able to reach listeners who may not listen otherwise, and we are able to communicate in ways that are broader and deeper than words alone."

Peter Dixon's song, "Standing at the Cross," was featured on the second quarter 2006 DVD and has been heard by Adventists from New York to Auckland, Norway.



Peter Dixon's song, "Standing at the Cross," was featured on the second quarter 2006 Adventist Mission DVD. Since that time, he has received e-mails from people all over the world. Dixon (with guitar) is pictured here with his band members. They hope to tour in the U.S. soon.

"After the song was used on the Adventist Mission DVD," says Dixon, a worship leader in Cooranbong, Australia, "I began getting many e-mails from people all over the world. Most wanted the sheet music to the song and gave me encouragement to continue writing songs."

"I am humbled by these messages and e-mails," he says, "I never expected such a response. I feel undeserving of the attention but also very excited with the knowledge that songs, music, and multimedia can so effectively help spread the gospel."

Zork is currently working on a new album, and Dixon and his group have just released a new CD, "Heaven is Calling." His song of the same name is already receiving airplay, and the group is actively touring Australia and New Zealand. They hope to tour in the U.S. soon.

"It's my hope," said Dixon, "that young Adventists can be inspired to dedicate their talents and skills to the church and to make a life-long commitment to God and the church. If my music can help motivate people to do this, then I thank God for the opportunity to do so."

Talented Seventh-day Adventist musicians who have recorded original or public domain songs and would like to share them with Adventist Mission should visit www.AdventistMission. org/dvdmusic.

Matthew Herzel, intern, Office of Adventist Mission, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists 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 in the masthead on page 47.

Anniversaries



Gerald "Jerry" and Dulcinea "Duci" Hulick celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 2, 2007, by an open house at Timberridge Manor, Berrien Springs, Mich. They have been members of the Berrien Springs Village Church for 21 years.

Gerald Hulick and Dulcinea Hernandez were married Aug. 18, 1957, in New Egypt, N.J., by Roy L Lewis. Jerry has worked as Property Management director for the New Jersey Conference, assistant Plant Superintendent for College Wood Products and Cabinetmaker foreman at Andrews University, Plant Service director for Indiana Academy, and is currently working as a cabinet-carpenter for Lakeland Health Systems in St. Joseph, Mich. Duci has worked in the secretarial field since graduating from high school, and most recently retired from the Home Health Education Service at the Lake Union Conference office after ten years of service.

The Hulick family includes Heidi and Rick Camacho of Berrien Springs; Tammy and Rick Wheeler of Orlando, Fla.; Wendy Karpe of Evansville, Ind.; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.



Charles and Ramona Trubey celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 8, 2007, by an anniversary reception hosted by their children, with more than 250 guests, at Indiana Academy Cafeteria, Cicero, Ind. They have been members of the Cicero Church for 46 years.

Charles Trubey and Ramona Greer were married July 7, 1957, in Holly, Mich., by Elder Gordon Carle. Charles was farm manager at Indiana Academy Farm for more than 37 years, retiring in June 1998. Ramona has been a housewife and dedicated volunteer for the church and schools.

The Trubey family includes Annette and Bob Moon of Apopka, Fla.; Leon and Lisa Trubey of Hickory, N.C.; Andy and Cindy Trubey, and Celia Trubey all of Cicero, Ind.; and eight grandchildren.

Arthur and Esther Nelson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 25, 2007, with family at home in Pleasant Plains, Ill. They have been members of the Springfield (Ill.) Church for many years.

Arthur Nelson and Esther Miller were married Aug. 25, 1957, in Ore. Arthur has been in denominational service for more than 40 years. Esther has been in denominational service for many years.

The Nelson family includes Jere and Jeannie Nelson of Montgomery, III.; Debi and Edward Skinner of Pleasant Plains; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Weddings

Jennifer M. Jayoma and Angelo O. Austria were married June 8, 2007, in Warren, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastors Paul Larsen and Melvin Santos.

Jennifer is the daughter of Constancio Jayoma of Tornoto, Canada, and the late Dulzura Neri Jayoma, and Angelo is the son of Elizabeth Austria of Lucena City, Philippines, and the late Angelito Austria.

The Austrias are making their home in Toronto.

Shannon E. Prosser and Joe Yoon-Ho Lee were married June 10, 2007, in Taylor, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastors Steve Conley and Samuel Koranteng-Pipim.

Shannon is the daughter of James and Paula Prosser of Fenton, Mich., and Cathy and Mark Dunning of Howell, Mich., and Joe is the son of Jai and Mija Lee of Ann Arbor, Mich.

The Lees are making their home in Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Tabitha E. Gage and Joshua J. Quick were married July 12, 2007, in Holly, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Steve Vail.

Tabitha is the daughter of Randy and Chris Gage of Flushing, Mich., and Joshua is the son of Paula and James Prosser of Fenton, Mich.

The Quicks are making their home in Le-High Acres, Fla. Andrea R. Edwards and Dylan A. Tribbey were married June 2, 2007, in Farmington Hills, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Mark Jensen.

Andrea is the daughter of Steve and Ellen Edwards of Waterford, Mich., and Dylan is the son of Stuart and Lynn Tribbey of Oshkosh, Wis.

The Tribbeys are making their home in West Bloomfield, Mich.

Obituaries

DAVENPORT, Elton J., age 81; born June 29, 1926, in Lapeer, Mich.; died Aug. 7, 2007, in Columbiaville, Mich. He was a member of the Lapeer Church.

Survivors include his son, Chris; daughter, Marsha Greco; and sister, Sarah Swett.

A memorial service will be held at a later date, with private inurnment.

DEYOUNG, Irene G. (Chapman), age 88; born Jan. 28, 1919, in Paris, Mich.; died Mar. 30, 2007, in Zephyrhills, Fla. She was a member of the Fremont (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Maynard; son, Leonard; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Don Williams, with private inurnment.

HUGHES, Mark E., age 58; born Mar. 14, 1949, in Dayton, Ohio; died June 14, 2007, in Cassopolis, Mich. He was a member of the Village Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Arlene (Hornyak); daughters, Diana, April, and Joni Hughes; brother, Norman Yeager; sister, Sharon Woolf; and one grandchild.

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

JOHNSON, Mildred M. (Hoogerhyde), age 103; born July 2, 1904, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Aug. 20, 2007, in Grand Rapids. She was a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors David Glenn and Willie Iwankiw, and interment was in Garfield Park Cemetery, Grand Rapids.

MUNSON, Barbara J. (Sutton), age 66; born Jan. 23, 1941, in Marion Springs, Mich.; died July 18, 2007, in Owosso, Mich. She was a member of the Owosso Church.

Survivors include her sons, Loren and Leslie; daughter, Cassidy Munson; brothers, Jack and Glenn Sutton; sisters, Dorothy Knecht, Ardith Trubey, Linette Kelley, and Christina Peterson; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Larry Pumford, Curt DeWitt, and Danny Velez, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Holly, Mich. ROLLINS, Gene L., age 74; born May 18, 1933, in Ludington, Mich.; died June 18, 2007, in West Branch, Mich. He was a member of the Fremont (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Arlene (Greene); son, Jerry L; daughters, Patricia Taylor, Deborah Leonard, and Janet Johnson; brothers, Robert, Calvin, and Charles; 12 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Don Williams, and inumment was in Otto Cemetery, Muskegon, Mich.

SCHANKE, Albert C., age 90; born Oct. 7, 1916, in Rock Springs, Wis.; died Oct. 26, 2007, in Harrison, Tenn. He was a member of the Baraboo (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Audrey M. (Erickson); daughters, Alberta Cross and Anita McGrath; six grandchildren; and eight greatgrandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor William Ochs, and interment was in Walnut Hill Cemetery, Baraboo.

SHAFER, Shirley E. (Moreau) Lemay, age 81; born Mar. 19, 1926, in Brampton, Mich.; died July 7, 2007, in Escanaba, Mich. She was a member of the Escanaba Church.

Survivors include her husband, George; son, Stan Lemay; daughters, Judy Talvitie, Sharon Hanson, and Sharon Curtin; brother, Thomas Moreau; sister, Midge Bizeau; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor John Glass, and interment was in The Gardens of Rest Cemetery, Escanaba.

SISSON, Joel E., age 50; born Aug. 22, 1956, in Flint, Mich.; died Aug. 3, 2007, in Flint. He was a member of the First Flint Church.

Survivors include his wife, Pamela S. (Henson); daughter, Melanie M. Davis; step-father, Ronald Taylor (whom Joel considered his father); mother, Joan (Johnson) Sisson Taylor; brothers, David, Daniel, Paul, Mark, and Matthew Taylor; and one grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Douglas Carlson, and interment was in Mt. Morris (Mich.) Cemetery.

WORCESTER, Franklin G., age 73; born Sept. 27, 1933, in Pontiac, Mich.; died Aug. 1, 2007, in Delta Twp., Mich. He was a member of the Grand Ledge (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Allegra (Kroll) Collatz; stepson, Charles Collatz; daughter, Susan Mervine; stepdaughters, Sandra Rzanca and Susan Krug; brothers, Don Worcester and Jack Thorne; 19 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jeff Dowell, and interment was in Deepdale Memorial Park Cemetery, Lansing, Mich. All ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$27 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$37 per insertion for all others. A form is available at www.lakeunionherald.org for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order/check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors.

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WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK seeks applicants for tenure-track position (½ teaching; ½ coordinator) in Billings, Mont. See details at www.wwc.edu/services/ employment/facpos.html. For more information, contact Pamela Keele Cress, Dean, School of Social Work and Sociology, Walla Walla University, 204 S. College Ave., College Place, WA 99324; or e-mail crespa@wwc.edu.

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Sunset (Caler	ndar		-	-	the state
	Oct 5	Oct 12	Oct 19	Oct 26	Nov 2	Nov 9
Berrien Springs, Mich.	7:22	7:IO	6:59	6:49	6:40	5:32
Chicago, Îll.	6:27	6:16	6:04	5:54	5:46	4:37
Detroit, Mich.	7:08	6:57	6:46	6:35	6:26	5:18
Indianapolis, Ind.	7:22	7:II	7:01	6:52	6:43	5:36
La Crosse, Wis.	6:41	6:28	6:17	6:05	5:56	4:47
Lansing, Mich.	7:14	7:02	6:51	6:40	6:32	5:23
Madison, Wis.	6:34	6:22	6:10	5:59	5:50	4:4I
Springfield, Ill.	6:36	6:25	6:15	6:05	5:57	4:50

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dward R. Murrow once said, "The newest computer can merely compound, at speed, the oldest problem in the relations between human beings, and in the end the communicator will be



of what to say and how to say it." In an increasingly technological world. communicators still face the issues of what to say and how

to say it. Due to the constant change in the world of communication, it is necessary for those in our field to stay informed; this is why the Society of Adventist Communicators was formed. Specifically, the annual SAC Convention is a time where communication personnel can learn about the most recent trends in communication, discover the best technological tools available, and network with other professional communicators.

We hope you will attend the 2007 SAC Convention, where we will deal with both the newest computer technology and the communication

basics what to sav and how to say it.





When Jesus arrived at Bethsaida, the people brought a blind man to Him, begging Him to touch him. Jesus took the man by the hand and led him from the village. After touching him once, the man began to see. He touched him again, and his vision became clear.

MARK 8:22-25 -

When Jesus was on Earth, the blind, the deaf, the paralyzed found comfort and renewal in His outstretched hand, regardless of means or status. He established a ministry centered on the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of people who were desperate for a healing touch.

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Miscellaneous

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Wintley Phipps Saturday, February 9, 2008 8:00 pm—\$20/\$10 (TERRACE)

Take 6 Saturday, March 29, 2008 8:30 pm—\$35/\$20 (TERRACE)

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Andrews University

McElmurry Ethics and Society Lectureship to be held **Oct. 11-13** in Garber Auditorium of Chan Shun Hall. The topic is Prison: An Expensive Way to Make Bad People Worse? or "A Pathway to a New Life." John Thompson, executive director of Kairos Prison Ministry International, will be the keynote speaker. Various local prison ministries will be highlighted. Lectureship is free; no registration required. For further information, call 269-471-3214.

Questions on Doctrine 50th Anniversary Conference: No other book has aroused so much controversy in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church as



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Seventh-day Adventists Answer Questions on Doctrine. On **Oct. 24-27**, 50 years after its publication, scholars, church leaders, and pastors across the theological spectrum of Adventism, along with guest scholars from the evangelical world, who have given careful study to its theology and Adventist history of the past half-century, will convene at Andrews University Theological Seminary for an engaging, reflective, scholarly dialogue. For more information about the conference—schedule, presenters, and registration—visit www.qod.andrews.edu.

Illinois

Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church Celebrates 100 Years: The Hinsdale Church will hold a Centennial Celebration the weekend of Oct. 26-28. Church leaders are currently gathering historical information about the church and photos of activities throughout the years for display at the celebration and publication in a centennial booklet. If you have photos, clippings, newsletters, correspondence, or other items, please send them to Dorothy Deer, Communication Ministry Director, Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church, 201 North Oak St., Hinsdale, IL 60521. For more information. contact her at 630-293-4920, or e-mail d.deer@comcast.net. Please send photos on a disc.

Indiana

The South Bend Seventh-day Adventist Church will host its third Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) beginning on Thurs., **Oct. 4**. To register or for more information, please call the church office at 574-234-3044 between 9:00 a.m. and noon, Mon.-Fri. The church is located at 1936 E. Altgeld in South Bend.

Indiana Academy (IA) Alumni Association welcomes all graduates/attendees to the IA campus for Alumni Homecoming, Oct. 12-13. Honor classes are 1957, '67, '82, and '97. In addition, the classes of 1977 and '87 will be recognized. Special recognition will be given to the golden-age classes of 1929-1956. For more information, contact Jimmy Arnett, alumni president, at 219-629-1177, or e-mail jimmyArnett@vfc.com. Or you may contact Bill Hicks, IA development director, at 317-984-3575, ext. 228, or e-mail bhicks@isda.org. As part of the weekend activities, the 17th annual Alumni Golf Classic and Auction will be held Fri., Oct. 12. For information regarding the golf/auction event, contact Lawrence Johnson at 765-649-7256, or e-mail ljohnson@ mustinbuilders.com.

Lake Union

Offerings:

Oct 6	Local Church Budget			
Oct 13	Voice of Prophecy			
Oct 20	Local Church Budget			
Oct 27	Local Conference Advance			
Special Days:				
Oct 6	Children's Sabbath			
Oct 7-13 Health Education Week				
	(Vibrant Life)			
Oct 20	Spirit of Prophecy Sabbath			
Oct 27	Pathfinder Sabbath			

Michigan

The Michigan Boarding Academies Alumni Association invites all alumni from Adelphian, Cedar Lake, Grand Ledge, and Great Lakes Adventist Academies to Alumni Weekend **Oct. 12-13** on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy. This year's theme is "Road to Success: Motivated by a Mission."



This year's honor classes are 1957, '67, '77, '82, '87, and '97. Come join us for a memorable weekend. For more information, visit www.glaa.net, or call the Alumni office at 989-427-5181.

Andrews Academy Homecoming: Andrews Academy will be holding its alumni Homecoming weekend on **Oct. 19-21**. All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy, and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Fri. evening and all day Sabbath. Honor classes are 1938, '43, '48, '53, '58, '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98, and 2003. For more details, contact the Academy Alumni office at 269-471-6140, or e-mail acadalum@andrews.edu.

A Michigan Singles Retreat will be held at beautiful Camp AuSable (Grayling, Mich.) Oct. 25-28. Mark your calendar and join fellow singles (18 and older) for a relaxing retreat. Pastor Jim Micheff and staff have planned a Christ-centered, uplifting program. Come and meet new friends, or renew previous acquaintances, but most of all fellowship with us while enjoying Northern Michigan! Registration forms will be available mid-Sept. at www.misda.org. For more information and prices, contact Lyn White at the Michigan Conference at 517-316-1570, or e-mail lwhite@misda.org.

Announcements

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> G. Edward Reid, Esq. Erika Puni, Ph.D. NAD Stewardship Director GC Stewardship Director

PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Cookie Messages

t was test week my first semester at college. Tired and stressed out, I looked forward to going home to the sights, sounds, and smells of the Christmas holidays. It couldn't come quickly enough, but first I had to get through my exams and finish that last term paper.

Hearing a knock at my dorm door, I opened it to find my R.A. She placed a package in my hands. "For you," she said. I couldn't imagine who would send me a package the last week of the semester. There was only an address on the brown paper wrapper, but I smiled when I noticed it was from my hometown.

Unwrapping the package, I lifted the lid on the box inside. I found a \$5 bill, a handwritten note, and some homemade chocolate chip cookies. I smiled, and began to munch on a cookie (I had skipped lunch to study). Unfolding the note, I began to read, "We hope you are having a good week. We're sure it is stressful with your exams. We just wanted you to know we are praying for you. See you soon."

My pastor, Walt Williams, and his wife Carol wrote the note and sent the package. They partnered with God that week to encourage the hearts of all the young people in the Spartanburg (South Carolina) Church who were away at school. They didn't send a sermon, but every bite of the cookies conveyed a caring message to me.

Diane Thurber is the Lake Union Conference assistant communication director.

ONE VOICE [YOUNG ADULTS SPEAK THEIR MIND]

Answered Prayers BY LOGAN STEELY

very summer my grandma spends time at her cabin, located about 20 miles outside of Ely, Minnesota. My family goes up each year to visit her, and to fish, ski, and just have fun in the water. This year was a little different.
On June 30, the first full day we were there, I had a seizure and blacked out for more than 45 minutes.

Since we do not have cell phone service at the cabin, my grandma used a land line phone at a friend's house across the lake. My dad and brother carried me to the car, and they raced to meet the ambulance coming from town. I woke up immediately when I heard the ambulance. I didn't know what was going on, so I just followed the paramedics' instructions.

They did some tests at the hospital, and I was released about two hours later. The physicians were not sure why I had the seizure. We returned to the cabin and I rested.

On the Fourth of July, I was feeling really bad, so we all went back to the hospital. The doctor did a spinal tap on me, and I was admitted overnight. Again, none of the tests were conclusive.

On July 6, I decided to go home with my parents. My brother and sister planned to stay another week. We left late in the afternoon and stopped at a hotel in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. That night I was tense, and I couldn't really move. It took about an hour for my parents to get me relaxed.

Morning came, and I felt better. However, the spinal tap I had earlier made me sick when I stood up for a long time. So I got dressed and laid down. A couple minutes later, my muscles tensed up. I yelled something out, and then I blacked out again—another seizure.

The rescue firemen came, and it took six firemen to get me out of the hotel room and into the rescue truck. Luckily, the hospital was across the street.

Three days went by before I woke up. My parents told me about a lot of tests the physicians had ordered. I didn't know what to think. I wanted to know that I was safe, and that I wouldn't have another seizure. The doctors performed many tests on my nervous system and brain. They finally made a diagnosis of Viral Encephalitis, which they found in the left frontal area of my brain.

> I was released from the hospital on July 10, after three days in the Intensive Care Unit. We left for my uncle's house in Green Bay to stay the night. My parents told me people were praying for me all across the country. I was still weak, but I knew those prayers would help me. It gave me more faith in the power of prayer.

> As a result of all of this, I'm on an antiseizure medicine for awhile. The most important thing, though, is a closer relationship with God, and a stronger belief in the power of prayer. I am thankful for all the people who were part of the prayer chain for me.

Logan Steely, of Battle Creek, Michigan, is a freshman at Andrews University. He will receive a \$100 scholarship since his article was selected for publication.

Profiles of Youth [BATTLE CREEK ACADEMY]

Camden Bowman, 17, is a senior at Battle Creek Academy. His favorite subject was Spanish II because "there were only two students in the class, so we were able to get a lot done in a pretty relaxed environment. Plus, I love Spanish!"

His most memorable experience was a mission trip to Honduras last year, where Camden helped build a dormitory for an orphanage. He says, "It was really cool to get to know the kids in

the orphanage. They taught me what it meant to love your neighbor." Camden loved the experience so much that one day he plans to work for a disaster relief agency in a third-world country.

The most important thing Camden has learned in academy is to "put God first and keep going, even when you're stressed." And he certainly has enough to keep him busy. Last school year, Camden was president of the National Honor Society, pastor of the Concert Band, and director of Campus Ministries. He presented many chapel programs, led chapel song services, and is very active in youth ministries at church. This year he will have many more leadership opportunities.

Camden's parents are Kristi and Michael Bowman of Augusta, Michigan, and the Bowmans are members at the Battle Creek Tabernacle.



Kristina "Christy" Kubasiak, 17, is the daughter of Gillett and Gary Kubasiak. She lives in Battle Creek, Michigan, and is a member of the Urbandale Seventh-day Adventist Church.

A senior, Christy loves music and is an active participant in the school's extra curricular activities. She has played flute and piccolo in the Concert Band since eighth grade. She also participated in the "Children's Christmas Program," an event

Christy Kubasiak

for underprivileged community children.

Christy loves the Lord. This became evident after a mission trip to Honduras last spring. Working with orphans and helping with building improvements at the work site increased her enthusiasm and desire to do what God wants. Christy says that "in order to do anything, get anywhere in life, you have to keep God first priority."

Determination is Christy's greatest attribute. Her passion for excellence was rewarded when she became a member of the National Honor Society. Christy has been blessed with the gift of leadership. As a result, she was selected class president each year in high school.

Christy enjoys volleyball, sports, swimming, and camping. After graduation, she plans to study forensic science at a university close to home.

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

Address Correction

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

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