

Lake Union HERALD

JULY 2008



The
**HEALING
POWER of
PRAYER**

Adventist Midwest Health

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



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Transforming Care, Transforming Lives *by David L. Crane*

Adventist Health Midwest is dedicated to an important task in its history. Without question of doubt, the healing ministry of Christ is great; our hospitals are creating a strategic place to lead us into the future.

The Adventist Midwestern Health Service has been providing health care to individuals and communities throughout the Midwest since 1906. Adventist Hospital, a core part of the service, has been serving our community for more than 100 years. The importance is drawing patients near and the "healing presence" of Christ and the community.

Adventist Hospital, located in Berrien Springs, Michigan, continues to offer the most advanced technology in interventional radiology, orthopedic and cardiac care. The physicians are distinguished as medical leaders in their specialties, bringing patients from across the country.

Adventist Hospital Health System is known for being one of the fastest growing communities in the country. The hospital has become a trusted community resource. When departments in the hospital—radiology, emergency and surgery—were merging, much lighter and easier to move around the building.

One unique goal in our mission here is extending the healing ministry of Christ far beyond this daily contact. When from health, the professionals will be of help and their skills will be used. We are called to extend the love of Christ to those who are sick or suffering. When no one else can see the potential here, God's love finds a way to pass through our hands, giving the healing and healing touch—our unique glowing presence—doctors, physicians, staff

and volunteers and community residents from all levels throughout the organization.

We are seeking to expand our services to each location where we will treat our offices and clinics as we sell them. We will launch new marketing plans and establish strong community partnerships. Quality initiatives and patient satisfaction are our top priority.

We will leverage and build upon our physician partnerships to develop and offer new services to patients. We'll look at growth opportunities as well, keeping our focus on quality, safety, and ethical standards.

While we focus on our patient experience, the ministry remains no less for doctors and others. We want physicians and pharmacists to become more engaged and involved in new ways of thinking and interacting. Doctors interact with patients in a variety of ways, so we must increase Christian values in our everyday work. We must embrace our calling.

What won't change is our elevation point of clinical excellence. Our values of Christian service, membership, community and inclusion will remain. The culture of Adventist Hospital is a family with the heart of Christ.

Adventist Midwest's mission requires service. We will begin to change lives only when we reach out in Christ's ministry and act in the words of healing.

Prayer: The Heart of Our Mission *by Lisa Parro*

Persons expect a visiting chaplain or cleric to pray with them. But it isn't the main reason people turn to prayer in the health-care setting. That's the impetus behind Adventist Midwest Health's new "Praying Hands & Heart" program, which provides training for hospital volunteers, physicians and chaplains who want to pray with patients.

"Praying hands and hearts is another way that we as Christian health-care leaders can fulfill our mission of providing whole-person care and promoting wellness," says Lisa Parro, administrative producer of Christian ministries at Adventist Midwest Health.

To identify themselves, praying hands participants wear lapel pins that feature a cross of Christ as an icon. It's a symbol that patients can be comforted with emotionally and spiritually. Participants have their own prayer bags, which contain prayer cards, a small Bible, a cross and a small bell.

"It's important because I don't feel like I'm alone in the healing ministry," says Parro. "I feel like I'm part of a team." She adds, "Praying hands gives us a chance to connect with someone on a level I might not otherwise."

Praying hands participants are given a name tag with a picture. They are also assigned to periodically clean the prayer room or the prayer office to keep the space clean and organized. They are also asked to periodically clean the prayer room or the prayer office to keep the space clean and organized.

"As far as possible, acceptance and involvement are essential," says Parro. "We try to pray within the person's religious tradition." Training materials for praying hands participants include sample prayers in the Protestant, Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox traditions. Other popular prayers include Psalm 23 and Ephesians 6:10.

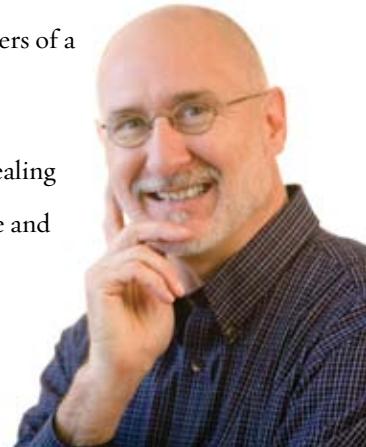
"The program really goes to the heart of our mission," she said.

in this issue...

Those who serve as medical professionals have the privilege of participating in the healing ministry of Christ on a daily basis. Those who share in the healing include the entire staff and volunteers of a hospital or clinic.

You will be blessed as you read about the stories of healing in this issue, and how God demonstrates His love, grace and healing touch through willing servants.

Gary Burns, Editor



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The *Lake Union Herald* (ISSN 0194-908X) is published monthly by the Lake Union Conference, P.O. Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs, MI, and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription price is \$8.50. Vol. 100, No. 7. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: *Lake Union Herald*, P.O. Box C, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

BY WALTER L. WRIGHT, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

‘Your Faith Has Healed You...’

We hear the phrase oft repeated throughout the New Testament. Sometimes it is applied to the person being healed or helped. At other times, as in the case of the paralytic borne of four, it is applied to the helper (Mark 2:5). Though not using the exact phrase, the Apostle Paul applied the principle in Acts 14:8–10 in healing the crippled man at Lystra.

We are reminded in Hebrews 11:6 that “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (NIV). And the emphasis is given again, “And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven” (James 5:15 NIV).

I am a personal witness to the importance of attitude and faith in the healing process. It prompted my oncologist to say to me, “I am not worried about you. Whatever the outcome of the treatment, you will not second-guess your decision. You possess a special confidence.” I think he meant faith.

But is God limited to the amount of faith a person possesses in order to heal? I read with interest the story of the man by the pool of Bethesda who had an infirmity for 38 years (John 5:2–9 NIV). When Jesus asked him if he wanted to be made whole, he launched into a tirade of complaints about the lack of help available to him. I find it very significant that Jesus’ only response was, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” Of course the voice that had commanded “Let there be light” and “Lazarus come forth” brought the immediate result of the man being healed.

Did this man have enough faith to be healed? He certainly had not exhibited any faith in Jesus, though he apparently had faith in the troubled waters of the pool. Jesus healed him anyway. I have to believe that faith is a definite advantage to divine healing, but God, in His divine wisdom, can intercede wherever He finds a need.

I was called to the hospital bedside of a dying member of my church several years ago. The family was assembled around her bed. A nurse pricked her legs and feet with a pin, and no response. I offered a pastoral prayer and asked God for a miracle of healing, making sure to include the face-saving “not my will, but Thine be done.” The dear saint sat up in the bed, swung her feet over the edge and asked for her clothing so that she might go home.

Believe me, this preacher was maybe the most astonished person in the room. She lived many more years. Was it her faith, or did the Lord act to increase the faith of His servant? It really doesn’t matter because He did act.

I am still convinced that doctors treat and God heals. That is why it is such a privilege for the employees of Adventist Midwest Health hospitals to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Please pray for them—the administrators, doctors, nurses, technicians and staff. It just might be that when He sees their faith He will act.



NEW MEMBERS

Michigan **Gin Donna** had wandered from the Adventist church before she met **Joe Donna**. During their courtship, she came to believe he was a good and understanding man underneath, though he had a rough exterior. They soon fell in love, got married and began a life together.

Gin and Joe experienced some difficulties, as many families do. One day Joe mentioned to Gin that he would like to learn more about her beliefs and what made her the person she was. At the time, she wasn't very proud of her Christian experience, but she did tell him that whenever he was ready she would be glad to share. She sincerely believed the Holy Spirit had touched Joe's heart.



Gin and Joe Donna praise God for all the providential leadings which have changed their whole lives.

you are really interested in my beliefs, this is absolutely the best way to learn them." He looked the brochure over and suggested they could probably go to a few presentations.

At the first meeting Gin and Joe were hooked. They learned perfect attendance would earn them a beautiful Bible, and the warm greeters made them feel welcome. The wonderful messages from Dan and Patsy brought them back again and again. Actually, Joe did not care for the health talks at first, but as time went on he was convinced Patsy's talks were correct and meaningful.

Gin silently observed Joe's responses, saying little to him, but prayed the messages would take effect. Once, when they discussed Dan's messages, Joe said he could probably accept part of them, but not to expect too much. Gin explained she was concerned with her own spirituality, but he would need to follow his own heart.

During the meeting, cards were distributed to provide a way for a person to indicate if they wanted a visit from a pastor. Finally, Joe said, "I am going to invite Pastor Towar over, and do I have some questions for him!" Surprising to Joe, all his questions were answered during the seminar. While Gin knew the doctrines, and it was a review for her,

the messages were a major revelation to Joe who was raised in a different faith. He was impressed to hear Dan tell everyone to search the scriptures for themselves, but Dan also quoted from not just one but several Bible texts to support the doctrine he was presenting.

Eventually, the nightly meetings were continued on Sabbath mornings, so Gin and Joe began coming to church to worship. They also heard a sermon by the local pastor, Gene Hall. Of course, they loved the fellowship dinners each Sabbath.

Dan and Gene visited the Donna home with Keith, a lay person, and Joe decided to give his heart to Christ and be baptized, while Gin chose to be re-baptized. Now the Donnas cannot seem to learn enough from the Bible. They read the Bible at daily family worship, attend the Wednesday night prayer meetings, study at Sabbath school, and are being blessed by the pastor's sermons. Today they are praising God for all the providential leadings which have changed their whole lives.

Madlyn Hamblin, Jackson Church member, as shared with Bruce Babienko, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

Indiana Recently the Lord brought two individuals to the Irvington Church. These are their stories.

In 1973, I (**Lela Bertram**) had my first Bible lessons at an Adventist church. As I studied what they taught from the Bible, I was amazed at what I was learning. Most of all, hearing about the seventh-day Sabbath was a real shock to me.

Back home, I got up in the middle of the night to study my Bible. My studies always included some more about the Sabbath. I just could not believe that as a dedicated Christian, I kept the wrong day all my life. It took a lot of extra study and prayer on my part to wrap my mind around that truth. However, one night as I again studied about the Sabbath, something clicked in my mind. I came to believe the seventh-day Sabbath was the right day to worship God. After that night, I never again doubted the Sabbath.

However, many years passed before I had another chance to hear the Adventist message. This time I listened to a Bible instructor preach and teach basic Bible messages. I remember on the last night the speaker asked if anyone wanted to come forward and give their life to Christ. I declined, but the speaker continued, "I pray if there is someone here [who] God is speaking to, and they are not

responding to His call, I pray they will not rest until they respond." You know, I believed those words were spoken just for me as I surrendered my heart to Jesus.

Now, 34 years later, I am finally baptized. As I review my past, I believe if I had given my life to Christ when I first learned about the Adventist message, I would have been happier, healthier and wiser. I'm just glad God didn't give up on me because today I am a member of His family.

I (**Teresa Warner**) am 46 years old. I was raised in a church where I was baptized by sprinkling at age seven. After I reached adulthood, I moved away from home and began to worship in congregations of many different denominations. This church-hopping experience left me disheartened and spiritually numb, so I walked away from all churches for about 20 years. Through a series of dreams and tragedies in my life, I felt an urge to get back to the scriptures.

Almost a year and a half ago, a man came up to my husband Jim in a grocery store parking lot and asked for \$3 in exchange for a book entitled *National Sunday Law*. Jim gave the money. When Jim came home, he handed me the book saying, "This is something I think you would be interested in."

I picked the book up to read casually, at first, but the more I read, the more enraptured I became. I did not put it down until I was finished. Then I went to my Bible and began to read the truth about the Sabbath, and end-time prophecies. A whole new window had opened for me. Still needing further confirmation, I went to the library the next day. I was so engrossed, I sat on the floor of the religious aisle with books all around me. I remember saying, "Oh, merciful God, Saturday is the Sabbath!"

The next week I began to keep the Sabbath at home. Before this, I did not think anyone but those of the Jewish faith kept the seventh-day Sabbath. I kept the Sabbath at home for about six months. During that time, I was introduced to the Amazing Facts radio and TV programs. I started their 27-lesson Bible correspondence course and received my diploma.

As an eager reader, I soon began to read books authored by Ellen G. White. One day, I telephoned Amazing Facts to



Diligent students, Teresa Warner (right) and Lela Bertram (left) discovered new truths about the Bible Sabbath, and later committed their lives to Jesus. Also pictured: Fred Troxell, Irvington Church pastor

ask about their School of Evangelism and was told about the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I called the church nearest to me that evening, and began to attend the next Sabbath. I asked how I could be baptized. I was given a 32-lesson Bible study course. Nine months later, on May 5, I, along with Lela Bertram, was baptized at the Irvington Church by Fred Troxell. Oh, what a wonderful day it was.

It all began with me reading the *National Sunday Law* book. I want to say "thank you" to the author for sharing his love of the truth, and for changing and saving my life. It has been a long journey, but I am rejoicing in the Divine intervention which revealed to me Jesus and His last-day message.

Lela Bertram and Teresa Warner, members, Irvington Church, as shared with Charlotte Dodd, Irvington Church communications leader, and Bruce Babienko, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent

Share the Good News!

Do you know of someone who recently made a decision for Christ? Submit your story to the editors at our website: www.lakeunionherald.org

Hungry but Blessed in Chicago

BY REBECCA GARRETT

When 40 Hinsdale Adventist Academy students signed up for the World Vision 30 Hour Famine event, they were more than a little worried about going without food for 30 hours!

On Friday, April 25, at 1:00 p.m., the students stopped eating and began a journey that brought them closer to God and each other. First, they demolished a specially painted van that was parked outside the school in a "Smash Out Hunger" activity. That evening they attended a student-led evangelistic series (see page 22), then made sandwiches to distribute on Sabbath to the

homeless in downtown Chicago. The students created box shelters to sleep in, played Bible games, signed a prayer wall and spent time in a prayer room. Then they walked to downtown Hinsdale and left messages for the merchants that read, "You have been a victim of a drive-by prayer from the students of Hinsdale Adventist Academy!"

Following Sabbath morning worship, the students distributed sandwiches to the Chicago homeless, and many ended up talking and praying with complete strangers downtown. Doug DeMills tells his story:

"I decided to go into [a] deli and ask for a cup of water. When I walked in, there was a sailor separated from the group [of sailors]. At this point, something just pushed me to talk to him. I introduced myself and said, 'How's it going? My name is Douglas DeMills, and I'm from Hinsdale Adventist Academy. I just want to personally thank you and tell you how much we appreciate the sacrifice that you, and all the people in the Armed Forces, make to ensure our



The 30 Hour Famine participants from HAA paused for a photo in Chicago after passing out sandwiches to the homeless there.

safety here at home. Do you mind if I pray with you?"

"He looked at me [intently] and said, 'Sure!'

"I paused for a second and asked Jesus to speak through me. After I said 'Amen,' I shook his hand and said, 'Thank you.'

"No, thank you," he replied. He had a look of reverence and peace on his face that surprised me. ... I turned around and walked

out of the shop and crossed the street with a new perspective on what I could do for Jesus!"

The event touched our students in a special way. "It was a complete submissive experience," recalls Jackie Ryba. "It meant for me to give up something that is a part of my everyday life for the cause of helping others. I felt God really spoke to my heart, and He opened the door to things I never learned before and opened my eyes to things I had never seen."

Jason Garrett expressed the impact the experience had on him: "I felt a deep connection with God. It was a big step in my walk with Christ. It was really purifying; it felt like I was physically and mentally cleansed, and I felt closer to God and all the people who participated."

The students raised more than \$2,000 for World Vision and helped others, but they received the biggest blessing of all ... a new connection with God!

Rebecca Garrett is the director of marketing at Hinsdale Adventist Academy.



BEYOND our BORDERS

‘I Left My Hard Hat in Ecuador’

BY JUDY L. SHULL

Across the equator and up the Andes Mountains, all the way to the other side of the world, was just the beginning of a Christmas adventure for a group of volunteers from the Grand Rapids Central Seventh-day Adventist Church. With ages ranging from six to the mid-70s, the group left snow-covered Michigan in December 2007. A day later they arrived in Guayaquil, Ecuador, ready to travel up into the Andes.

The mission team included several family groups who left the rest of their family and familiar traditions back home during the Christmas holiday. It was their desire to build a Seventh-day Adventist church in Ricaurte, Ecuador. Their adventure was part of the Maranatha Volunteers International \$10 Church building program (see page 26).

The Ricaurte church building site is nestled in the mountains, 8,500 feet above sea level. One of the last projects Maranatha funded in Ecuador was for the growing church family in Ricaurte. Until this building project, the local congregation used a small second-floor room for their sanctuary with three very small Sabbath school classrooms below. The Michigan team arrived in Ricaurte to build a large sanctuary on the property of the current church.

Few in the group had masonry skills, but they were eager learners. Soon the walls began to rise. Block after block was laid as volunteers, old and young, constructed the new building. Even on Christmas day, the team worked in the rain and mud, rejoicing to build for the future of the Adventist church in Ricaurte. Local church members joined them and helped wherever possible.

Each evening local church members joined volunteers to conduct an evangelistic series and vacation Bible school. These shared experiences quickly formed close friendships.

By the week's end, one of the volunteers asked a church member, "What did you think the Americans would be like?"



The Grand Rapids Central Maranatha Team traveled to Ecuador to construct a sanctuary in Ricaurte.



The church member paused before answering, and then replied, "We thought you would come here and push our culture aside. That was okay with us because we wanted your help with the church. We did not think you would become our friends like you have."

The church, with a membership of 120, expects to grow to a membership of 200 in the

not-too-distant future. On the Sabbath after Christmas, church members in the new church, with a roof and a dozen new pews, overflowed with joy.

That last Sabbath in December was a day of celebration. Members thanked the volunteers who built their new church. The groups shared a potluck lunch, and then the visiting continued in the afternoon. After sundown and supper, the volunteers and church members joined together for games. The evening included a great deal of running and laughter, some singing and a few tears as the new friends said good-bye.

As the two groups parted, some of the local church members were given hard hats, signed by the volunteer team members.

"I left my hard hat in Ecuador," one volunteer said. "I don't want them to forget us. I know I won't forget them." Maranatha! Come, oh Lord.

Judy Shull is a member of the Grand Rapids Central Seventh-day Adventist Church.





FAMILY TIES

There's No Place Like Home

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

Most people with Alzheimer's disease have a strong desire to live in their homes as long as possible. Families share this desire. Paradoxically, the home is often the best place and the worst place for Alzheimer's care.

The major benefit of home care is that the care is provided in a familiar place by familiar people. Routines can be maintained, your family member can still enjoy his favorite chair, wear all her favorite clothes, play with the cat or dog, and feel safe and secure. The person who is able to live at home can still be a part of the neighborhood and larger community and is more likely to see old friends and relatives.

The major drawback is that the care that's most often provided is by the spouse, which is demanding and emotionally stressful. While the difficulties are many, including asking for help and coping with changing roles and relationships, there are some ways families can embrace having a loved one at home. Caregivers who isolate themselves are bound to have more difficult experiences.

Common emotions and feelings of persons with Alzheimer's include loss, isolation and loneliness, sadness, confusion, worry and anxiety, frustration, fear, paranoia, anger and embarrassment. Considering the needs of these important people and their caregivers, here are some ideas for caregivers to consider:

Be open with others about your family situation. Sometimes because we are ambivalent about our own feelings, we don't want to "bother" others with our concerns, or it's difficult to say we need help, so we quietly go about our days without sharing clear and direct information about our circumstances. We don't know what support we are missing, and we isolate ourselves rather than letting others in.

Make an honest assessment. It's important to have realistic expectations about the person and oneself and to review these expectations often.

Continue to be a part of the community. It's important to let a loved one enjoy routines as long as possible. Going out for breakfast, enjoying a concert, taking a daily drive, going to church and doing things outside the house are important. Creativity is a key here. If the restaurant is too crowded, the church service too long, consider altering the time and length of stay.

It's also helpful to let the restaurant staff and fellow worshipers know of the diagnosis so they can extend extra support.

Recognize that some patterns and rituals may change.

Many hold on to the standards of how a household should be run. It's not possible with the onset of dementia. One caregiver shared that she began to think of her husband as a "welcomed house guest" and determined to treat him as she would a visitor, with patience and kindness rather than with sharp words and admonitions.

Simplify the environment. Part of the knack of good Alzheimer's care in the home is to simplify the household. If the person struggles with decisions about what to wear, clear out the closet, and offer just a few choices. If the person has poor judgment, put valuable and breakable collectibles away.

Value and focus on the present. Try to let go of past differences. As a result of this disease your loved one has forgotten these bad times.

Turn busy work into real work whenever possible. If your loved one can still sweep the floor, rake leaves or fold the laundry, incorporate tasks into the day's routine.

Enjoy quiet moments and simple pleasures. A morning cup of hot tea, listening to music, sitting out in the warm sunlight can be enjoyed by both the person and the caregiver.

Don't wait too long to take advantage of community resources and services. Families often wait and wait to use needed services. Finally, when the family member has deteriorated beyond the family's ability to provide her with good care, they seek help.

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

These and other resources may be available at your local Area Agency on Aging office:

Bell, V. & Troxel, D. (2003). *The Best Friends Approach to Alzheimer's Care*. Revised edition. Baltimore, Md.: Health Professions Press.

FitzRay, B.J. (2001). *Alzheimer's Activities: Hundreds of Activities for Men and Women with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders*. Windsor, Calif.: Rayve Productions.

HEALTHY CHOICES

Health is more than the absence of disease.

Seeing the Bigger Canvas

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

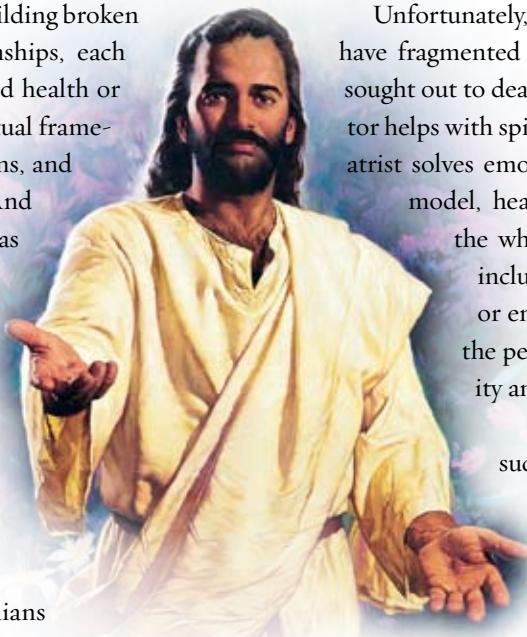
Health is more about God than us.

You won't find a "sermon on the mount" devoted to the benefits of a healthy lifestyle anywhere in Scripture. There is no wellness list in the Bible—a list that admonishes us to get eight hours sleep a night, eat nine or more servings a day of fruit and vegetables, exercise 30 minutes a day and drink six to eight glasses of water a day, in order to secure good health.

Since God is in the business of rebuilding broken lives and restoring fractured relationships, each passage of Scripture that refers to good health or disease prevention is set within a spiritual framework. God says, "I will forgive your sins, and heal your diseases" (Psalm 103:3). And again, "I wish for you good health, as your soul prospers" (3 John 2). If we walk in partnership with God, we are promised protection from common diseases (Exodus 15:26), and the enjoyment of a long and prosperous life (Deuteronomy 5:33).

Since our body is a priceless temple of God, all our eating and drinking practices and our total life should bring glory to Him (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 10:31). In the covenant language of Deuteronomy 28, God's people are promised success, their families and possessions would be blessed, and they would not be afflicted with fevers and inflammations if they followed God's commands.

When Jesus was here on this Earth, He combined comprehensive teaching and preaching with a broad-spectrum healing ministry (Matthew 4:23) that weakened the oppressive power of the devil (Acts 10:38). Jesus often told people that their faith in Him was the trigger for their healing (Matthew 9:22).



Unfortunately, following the Greek model, we have fragmented human beings. The physician is sought out to deal with physical problems, the pastor helps with spiritual problems, while the psychiatrist solves emotional problems. In the Hebrew model, healing involved the restoration of the whole person. Health and wellness included the spiritual, physical, mental or emotional, and social well-being of the person, and included their prosperity and security.

Our health message could be more successful and have wider appeal if we worked from the bigger canvas.

Health is about more than just lowering blood pressure and cholesterol levels, and turning people into fitness gurus.

A healthy lifestyle must be understood within the context of a Christian life reflecting the image of God.

On the other hand, an unhealthy lifestyle can handicap us, preventing us from enjoying a meaningful partnership with Him. Inactivity encourages the advancement of disease processes, and alters the quality and length of our ministry. Sleep deprivation, unmanaged stress and the use of unhealthy substances can affect our memory and depreciate the quality of both our service to God and our relationships with others.

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



"The Invitation" by Nathan Greene, © Hart Research Center. Used by permission, all rights reserved.

EXTREME GRACE

Healing Angels

BY DICK DUERKSEN

Lolita, Deanna and Pat have real jobs—along with being full-time mothers and wives, family counselors and family taxi drivers. Yet, at least once each week, they slip into a phone booth and trade their “mom duds” for “angel wings.”

Lolita, Deanna and Pat love Grammy. Not because they’re related to her, but because we love her.

Grammy is 94, of sound mind and broken body. It’s one of the devil’s most effective curses—stealing mobility but leaving a mind alive.

That’s where Grammy’s landed. Her knees are undependable, her left side functioning “only a bit,” and everything’s jabbing painful messages toward her alert brain. Medication dulls the pain, but nothing dulls the sadness.

“I didn’t want to end up this way,” she sighs as aides lift her from bed to wheelchair and back to bed throughout the day and night.

Often she holds her hands, commanding them to dance the tunes of Bach or Beethoven or to play old favorite hymns on the church organ once again. But they respond little, resting quietly on her lap.

“My hands are silent,” she says, “but my mind is playing and, oftentimes, singing Fanny Crosby’s words, ‘Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!’”

Grammy’s in a nursing home, where she receives efficient care. Sometimes, it’s “personal” care, filled with touches of compassion from professional caregivers who have become trusted friends. But in a world where everyone is caring for more “grammys” and “grandpas” than ever before, loneliness is often the emotion of the day.

Except when the angels come.

Lolita’s an angel who brings her two teenage daughters at least once a week. “This is way, way outside my comfort zone,” she says, “but Grammy Ruby’s lonely and I can listen.”

Usually they find time to push Grammy and her wheelchair out the side door, through the rose garden and around



Lolita's two teenage daughters, Kayla and Tatiana, visit Grammy Ruby at least once a week because they sense her loneliness. The girls often practice their violin and flute for Grammy Ruby in the gazebo near the nursing home. Also pictured: Brenda Duerksen

to the gazebo beside the gardenia bushes. The girls pick roses, test Grammy’s smelling skills and then practice their violin and flute for her in the gazebo. Grammy cries, tears that flow like happy rivers down the creases of her face.

Often the curtain sweeps aside as Deanna or Pat fly in. They come often, straightening the covers, reading Grammy her mail, asking about the photos on the wall, listening again to old stories they have come to know well. When they’re there, laughter mixes with the tears and healing comes.

It’s even better when Grammy’s daughter Brenda slips past the curtain and touches her mother’s hand. The love bond is so strong that they both glow in each other’s presence. Loneliness slips away, and “family” sings an encore. They talk of grandchildren, of Minnesota weather, of broken televisions, of phones that are hard to listen through and of favorite foods. The conversation is endless, always including the quiet squeezes of those who love.

When the angels come, Grammy smiles; the tears stop flowing, and her eyes twinkle with the joy of companionship.

“I love it when people come, people who care!” she says.

Grammy is still Ruby—Dorcas leader, mother and wife, college board member, piano teacher, organist for a dozen churches, baker of fine desserts and filler of hummingbird feeders. But those are often lonely memories, fading photos on the walls of her life.

But when God’s angels come, peaceful healing happens.

Dick Duerksen is the official “storyteller” through words and photos for Maranatha Volunteers International. Readers may write Dick at dduerksen@maranatha.org.

Ambassadors of Peace

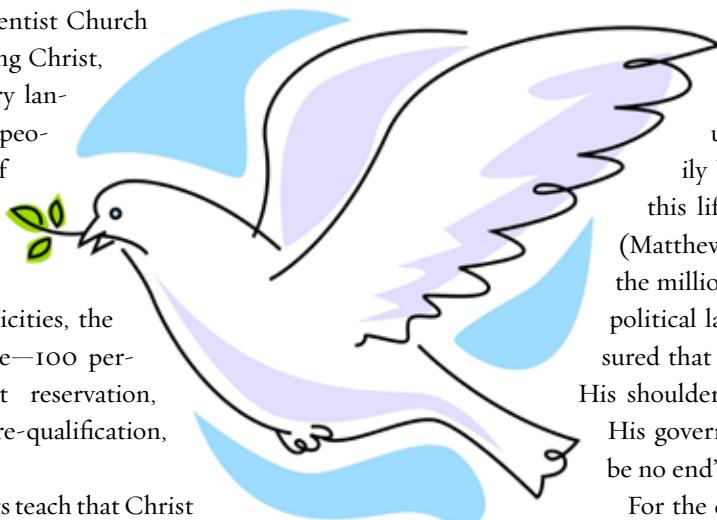
BY CYNTHIA AND J.W. WARREN

Christ's infinite love for every human being is repeated in the last chapter of Revelation. Before the awesome end-of-history events prior to Christ's second return, He urges every person to, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life (Revelation 22:17 NIV).

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a world leader in offering Christ, the Living Water, to every language, tribe, nation and people. While this message of reconciliation and peace is expressed uniquely in different cultures, nations, languages and ethnicities, the core objective is the same—100 percent inclusion. Without reservation, exception, exclusion or pre-qualification, everyone is invited.

Seventh-day Adventists teach that Christ is solely responsible for making the first step in everyone's personal peace: "God demonstrated his own love for us and poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. At just the right time, when we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:5–8 NIV, adapted). Moreover, this gift of peace about one's personal shortcomings is absolutely free and given without measure to all who ask: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast (Ephesians 2:8, 9 NIV). While the approximate 15 million members and more than 20 million worshipers continue to grow, the Seventh-day Adventist Church rejoices that individuals can find genuine peace with Christ through worshiping and serving Him in their own distinctive and culturally specific ways.

The peace invitation is especially attractive to persons uncertain about their futures as discouraging global events



unfold. To the stressed and hurried, Jesus speaks words of comfort, "Come unto Me when you are heavily burdened with the cares of this life and I will give you rest" (Matthew 12:28 NIV, adapted). For the millions subject to ever-changing political landscapes, each can rest assured that "the government will be on His shoulders ... and of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end" (Isaiah 9:6, 7).

For the countless who are displaced by war, economic reversals and natural disasters, they have Christ's promise, "And surely, always, I will be very close beside you in all manners of troubles, even to the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20 NIV, adapted). All who suffer food and water shortages may claim this assurance: "Those who have accepted My peace will live safely in My fortress. Their bread will be supplied and their water will not run out" (Isaiah 33:16 NIV, adapted).

One of the greatest joys of Adventism is the privilege of participating with Christ as ministers of reconciliation and peace. As ambassadors of Christ under the direction and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are assured victory, "as though God (Himself) were making His appeal through us" (1 Corinthians 5:20 NIV, adapted).

Cynthia and J.W. Warren co-founded Spring Hope Ministries to celebrate and promote the joys and benefits of the Adventist lifestyle. They have three children and reside in Berrien Springs, Michigan.



SHARING our HOPE

Historical Messages of Hope

BY TRACI JACOBS

In January 2007, Mark Hunt put together a large faith-based ensemble to present "Babylon: The Musical 2008," a play he wrote about the Book of Daniel. At the time no one knew how big the project would become. Or, should we say, how big the Lord intended it to be!

The mission was to use the creative arts to present Bible prophecy to the local community in a contemporary style. The Bible has, time and time again, proven to be the greatest history book in the world, and that is how those involved wished to introduce the book's message to the community. By using a musical as a delivery system, participants appealed to people from different religions and ethnic backgrounds. A large crowd of 800 gathered on May 17 at the Lake Michigan College Mendel Center for the premiere performance.



The actors who portrayed the enslaved children of Israel and Daniel (center stage) brought history alive in "Babylon: The Musical 2008."

The musical opens with a dramatic New Year's Festival celebration including singing and praises to King Nebuchadnezzar, played by Ed Harden. Excitement grows as the procession moves down the aisles.

The gates of Babylon illuminate with brilliant colors as the music heightens and members of Progressive Missionary Baptist choir, Pilgrim Rest Baptist choir and select members of All Nations Adventist Church and children from the Ruth Murdoch Elementary School give attendees an extraordinary peek at what it would have been like to live in ancient Babylon.

The enslaved children of Israel and Daniel, played by Marlon Reid (pastor of the Beacon of Joy and Altgeld Gar-

dens Adventist churches), follow the dramatic introduction. The children of Israel depict some of the same challenges that we struggle with on a day-to-day basis.

The musical culminates when Daniel interprets King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Daniel instructs the king that God had given him the king-

dom of Babylon. What Nebuchadnezzar did not know was that God was going to take it away from him as well.

Babylon was the ultimate world power. Its inhabitants had no worries. They were wealthy and well taken care of. They were living in the dark. In 2008, we are living in the dark, too. God's people are in a routine and in desperate need of a shaking.

From the youngest child to the young at heart, we have been given a message to preach to the world.

The goal is for everyone to take something away from the musical that they can relate to and apply to their own lives. More than 20 attendees signed up for Bible studies, which will be led by Watson Afaese, the musical's pastor. Church members will adopt and minister to these individuals in the upcoming months.

God has blessed us with a special work to do. Please keep us in your prayers as we follow God's leading. If your church would like to present "Babylon: The Musical 2008" in your area, please contact us at 269-757-2609. You may also visit our website, www.babylonthemusical2008.com.

Traci Jacobs is co-producer of "Babylon: The Musical 2008."



EN MANOS DEL ALFARERO

POR CARMELO MERCADO

El alfarero toma la arcilla en sus manos y la moldea y le da forma de acuerdo con su propia voluntad. La amasa y la trabaja. La rompe y vuelve a unirla... Así la transforma en una vajía digna de ser usada. Del mismo modo el gran Maestro Alfarero desea tenernos en sus manos y formarnos. Y tal como la arcilla se comporta en las manos del alfarero, así debemos colocarnos nosotros en sus manos. No debemos tratar de realizar la obra del alfarero. Nuestra parte consiste en someternos al trabajo del Obrero Maestro (Elena de White, Testimonios, t. 8, pp. 186-187).

En el libro de Jeremías se relata el encuentro del profeta con un alfarero que está trabajando en una rueda, cuando de pronto el vaso que está moldeando se rompe. El alfarero decide moldear de nuevo el vaso en vez de desecharlo. Entonces el Señor dice estas palabras:

He aquí que vosotros sois en mi mano como el barro en la mano del alfarero, oh casa de Israel (Jeremías 18:6).

Dios desea sobre todas las cosas, proveernos una vida feliz y victoriosa. Quiere moldearnos para que tengamos el carácter de nuestro Salvador. Con ese fin se ha planeado el retiro de damas a nivel de la Unión este año, con el lema "En Manos del Alfarero". Este evento se llevará a cabo en la Universidad Andrews. Comenzará el viernes 18 de julio, continuará todo el día sábado y concluirá con un desayuno especial el domingo 20 de julio. La oradora principal será Sara Bullón, esposa del renombrado evangelista Alejandro Bullón. La Sra. Bullón es oriunda de Perú y vive actualmente en Brasil con su esposo. Lleva más de 40 años trabajando en el ministerio con su esposo; es bibliotecaria de profesión y su objetivo principal es "formar lectores para la eternidad", que incluye incentivar el estudio de la Biblia y aplicar sus principios en



Sara Bullón, oradora principal para el retiro de damas.

el mantenimiento del hogar.

Además de las pláticas de la hermana Bullón habrá seminarios sobre la violencia doméstica, la oración eficaz y cómo entender a nuestros hijos. El sábado de noche se ofrecerá un delicioso banquete.

El costo de la matrícula para el evento es \$65.00. Esto incluye las diversas reuniones, los seminarios y las comidas.

Para matricularse, recomendamos se lo haga a través de la directora de ministerios de damas de la iglesia local.

El alojamiento en la universidad es un costo aparte, y para esto, cada persona que desea asistir deberá comunicarse directamente con la universidad llamando al 269-471-3674.

El Señor desea moldear a sus hijos para prepararlos para su pronta venida. Animemos a las damas de nuestra Unión para que aprovechen este retiro tan especial que tiene como objetivo cambiarnos a la imagen de Dios.

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

Transforming Care, Transforming Lives

BY DAVID L. CRANE

A

dventist Midwest Health has reached an important time in its history. With our mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ to guide us, our hospitals are creating a strategic plan to lead us into the future.

The Adventist Midwest Health hospitals have made some wonderful achievements and advancements.

At Adventist Glen Oaks Hospital, a new Emergency Department

opened last year with a unique no-waiting room concept. The department is drawing praise from near and far—from patients, physicians and the community.

Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital continue to offer the most advanced technology in interventional radiology, orthopedics and cardiac care. Our physicians are recognized as national leaders in their specialties, attracting patients from across the country.

Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital made history in January as the first hospital to open in Illinois in more than 25 years. Located in one of the fastest growing communities in the country, the hospital has become a cherished community resource. Many departments in the hospital—maternity, emergency and surgery—are seeing volumes much higher than projected.

Our ultimate goal is to transform lives by extending the healing ministry of Christ. But what does this really mean? When Jesus healed, He transformed the life of the patient. And that's what we will do. We are committed to creating a memorable patient experience. When we take good care of the patient, we honor God. Our patients feel God's compassion through our hands, giving them hope and healing.

Our strategic planning process involves physicians, staff,



David L. Crane, president and CEO of Adventist Midwest Health, discusses the strategic plan with a hospital employee.

board members and community residents from all levels throughout the organization. We have identified medical specialties at each hospital where we will focus our efforts and resources so they will flourish. We will launch new marketing plans and establish lasting community partnerships. Quality initiatives and patient safety will be at the forefront.

We will leverage and build upon our physician partnerships to develop and offer new services to patients. We'll look at growth opportunities as well, keeping an eye on market share and demographic growth, as well as stewardship and financial stability.

While we focus on our patients' experience, the transformation we aim for doesn't end there. We want employees and physicians to become more engaged and transformed into a new way of thinking and interacting. In order to provide this level of quality healthcare, we must incorporate Christian values at every level of service. We must embrace our calling.

What won't change is our relentless pursuit of clinical excellence. Our values of Christian service, stewardship, integrity and inclusiveness will remain intact. Our culture of working together as a family will be stronger than ever.

Adventist Midwest Health's mission requires action. We will truly begin to change lives only when we reach out to extend Christ's ministry and act as His vessels of healing.

David L. Crane is the president and CEO of Adventist Midwest Health.

Prayer: The Heart of Our Mission

BY LISA PARRO

Patients expect a visiting chaplain or cleric to pray with them. But it can be much more powerful when a doctor clasps a scared patient's hand, closes his eyes and petitions God to protect her as she heads into surgery. That's the impetus behind Adventist Midwest Health's new "praying hands and hearts" program, which provides training to hospital volunteers, physicians and employees who want to pray with patients.

"Praying hands and hearts is another way that we, as a Christian health care leader, can fulfill our mission of providing whole-person care and promoting wellness," said John Rapp, regional vice president of ministries and mission at Adventist Midwest Health.

To identify themselves, praying hands participants wear lapel pins that feature a pair of hands clasped in prayer. It is expected that prayer will be offered with sensitivity and good taste. Participants learn that a patient might appreciate prayer at various times during his or her hospital visit, such as when he or she exhibits fear or anxiety, expresses discouragement, asks for a chaplain or clergy member, expresses doubts about God, makes reference to faith, asks "Why has this happened?", lacks the support of family or friends, or comments on one of the praying hands lapel pins.

Natalie Lesher, admitting director at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, proudly wears her praying hands pin as a way to connect not only with patients but also with everyone she comes into contact with at the hospital.

"It's nice to have something visible to show," Natalie said. "Although I haven't come across a patient who's asked me to pray with them, they do tend to talk with me more about their religious beliefs because they see



Patrice Beal, an employee health nurse at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, participates in the Praying Hands and Hearts program.

Photos by Bruce Powell

me as someone they can connect to."

Natalie said being involved in the praying hands program adds an important spiritual dimension to her everyday work.

"For me, it's important because I deal in the finance world," Natalie said. "Praying hands gives me a chance to connect with someone on a level I might not have otherwise."

Praying hands participants seek permission to pray with a patient. They also are advised to partially close the patient's door or draw the curtain, offer to touch the patient on his or her shoulder or hold the patient's hand, and be cautious of asking for miraculous healing.

As far as possible, employees and volunteers are encouraged to pray within the patient's religious tradition. Training materials for praying hands participants include sample prayers in the Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish and Muslim traditions. Other popular prayers include Psalm 23 and Ephesians 3:19.

"This program really goes to the heart of our mission," John said.

Lisa Parro is a public relations specialist at Adventist Midwest Health.

Employees who participate in the "praying hands and hearts" program wear praying hands pins so patients can easily identify them.



Joy in Service

BY LISA PARRO

A 55-year-old woman was dying of breast cancer. She believed she was being punished by God, and wondered what, if anything, was beyond this life. That's when she met Linda Liu, a volunteer chaplain at Adventist St. Thomas Hospice.

"When I first met her, she was terrified of dying, terrified she would be outside of God's love," Linda recalled.

Linda spent the next seven months ministering to the woman. She didn't know much about the Bible but was eager to learn more.

"Journeying with her over those seven months, we had a really incredible walk together," Linda recalled. "She would always challenge me if I said, 'Jesus said this' or 'the Bible says that.' She would make me point out chapter and verse. She wanted me to back it up."

Just before she died, the woman told Linda it was the first time in her life that she knew true peace and was genuinely happy.

"That had the biggest impact on me," said Linda, who has been a chaplain for five years and is enrolled in Adventist Midwest Health's clinical pastoral education program. "That moment, that journey was very, very sacred."

Linda is one of two volunteer chaplains at Adventist St. Thomas Hospice in Burr Ridge, Illinois. They are part of a team of professionals and volunteers providing medically directed, quality care in the comfort of the patient's own home or nursing home. Care is available to anyone who has a limited life expectancy verified by a physician.

"Our volunteer chaplains are such an important part of our team," said Pam Mezyk, executive director of Adventist



Adventist St. Thomas Hospice volunteer chaplains Ed Partyka and Linda Liu feel their work is a calling.

St. Thomas Hospice. "They are very dedicated to the mission and vision of our organization, and they give very generously of their time."

Ed Partyka has served as volunteer chaplain for Adventist St. Thomas Hospice since 1989. For Ed, one of the challenges is helping patients recon-

nect with their faith. Many have been away from church for years, often because of illness, disability, or relocation to a nursing facility or family member's home. That disconnection can create anxiety and feelings of unworthiness. "We try to help the patient get reconnected with God. We always meet them where they are spiritually and never try to impose our own faith or belief system. Each person's faith journey is respected."

"Being part of such an intimate time in a patient's life is very rewarding," remarked Linda.

"People often ask me, 'How can you work in hospice—isn't it depressing?'" Linda said. "It truly is the most fulfilling thing I've ever done. As odd as it sounds, there's great joy in it. It's a privilege."

Lisa Parro is a public relations specialist at Adventist Midwest Health.

Reflections of Christ's Ministry

BY LISA PARRO

D

on Jiskra, a retired photographer and media producer, believes God spared his life so he could create a mural telling the story of the miracle of God's creation at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital—the very hospital where his own miraculous recovery took place.

"Doctors called me 'the miracle man,'" said 76-year-old Don, "but I had nothing to do with it. This mural is dedicated to everyone who administered to me and prayed for me. They were the miracle workers."

The expansive creation mural across from the hospital chapel includes photos of the Earth in orbit, landscapes, animals and people, digitally blended together to tell the Genesis creation story.

Don and his team created additional artwork: a mural featuring photos of moms and babies for the Adventist Hinsdale Hospital's maternity ward entrance, a creation mural at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital, seven pictures telling the creation story at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital, artwork expressing wellness principles at both Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital and Chippewa Valley Hospital, and a staff tribute featuring hospital workers and vintage photos of the early days at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital.

Nature photographs take center stage at Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital. Each hospital floor is named after a season of the year, with artwork carefully selected to reflect themes of spring, summer, autumn and winter.

"The artwork throughout our facilities was carefully chosen to reflect Christ's ministry of com-



Adventist GlenOaks Hospital chaplain, DeLora Hagen, poses in front of the hospital's creation mural.

passion, healing and hope," said John Rapp, regional vice president of ministries and mission at Adventist Midwest Health.

Most of the hospitals feature works by Christian artist Nathan Greene. The Adventist Hinsdale Hospital corridors include Nathan's "The Difficult Case," which features Jesus resting His hand on the shoulder of a doctor deep in thought, demon-

strating Christ's involvement in making man whole, and Nathan's "The Family of God," which features Jesus surrounded by children from different world cultures, health care workers and everyday people. That piece reflects Adventist Midwest Health's value of inclusiveness, John said, "which invites and affirms people from a spectrum of ethnicities and cultures to join with us in a healthcare ministry that extends the ministry of Christ.

"When Jesus healed, in a practical sense it was about the life of the patient, not about Him, though theologically it was a sign of the arrival of the kingdom of God," John added. "God is honored, the ministry of Christ extended, the spirit extended when the patient is taken care of well. We want to demonstrate that in all facets of the hospital, including our art pieces."

Lisa Parro is a public relations specialist at Adventist Midwest Health.

Praying 24/7

BY LISA PARRO

T

wenty-four hours a day for an entire week in April, prayers filled the Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital chapel. Doctors prayed for patients, hospital staff prayed for colleagues, and patients' family members prayed for loved ones. Each connected with God in a continuous chain that lasted seven days, part of a global movement called 24/7 Prayer.

Elisa Brown, assistant chief financial officer at Adventist Bolingbrook Hos-

pital, had participated in several other 24/7 prayer events and wanted to bring one to the hospital.

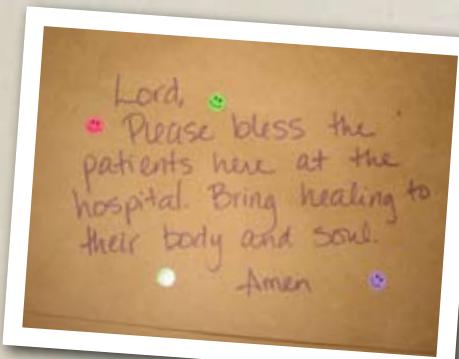
"The experience can be a little more freeing than a traditional church or chapel setting," Elisa said.

The chapel was turned into an interactive space to encourage all hospital visitors to stop in for a moment of reflection. Participants were asked to remove their shoes before entering the sacred space. The piano, chairs and podium were removed to create a more peaceful atmosphere. Bibles and pillows were scattered about the room, which featured low lights and soothing instrumental music. Different stations provided various prayerful activities.

"Using all of your senses to pray—by drawing, writing or nailing your prayer request or confession to the cross—really creates a personal connection to God," Elisa said.

One activity invited people to confess their sins, record the act on paper and then nail that paper to a large cross in the back of the room. This activity symbolized confession and forgiveness of sins.

Visitors were invited to write their prayer requests on a paper-covered wall. The wall also featured drawings, including one of a rainbow to symbolize God's covenant with His people.



Visitors to Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital's weekly House of Prayer wrote their prayer requests on a paper-covered wall in the chapel.

"Father, please fill this room with your presence," one prayer warrior wrote on the wall. "We dedicate this sacred space to you. May your people be blessed. Amen."

The experience moved many to tears, including Vicky Syren, the hospital's manager of pastoral care.

"The Bible tells us that even one person's prayers are powerful, but when two or three are gathered to pray together, the power of prayer becomes exponentially stronger," Vicky said.

Yong Kim, a physician, prayed for his family, colleagues and patients.

"When patients are sick, they're looking for help," Yong said. "They want healing, comfort. They may not accept Jesus Christ right away, but they say, 'I need help.' We treat the whole person: body, mind and spirit. This is an institution that believes in God, which is very important to me as a Christian."

Kathy Mitchell, the hospital's chief nursing officer, said the week of continuous prayer strongly relates to the hospital's mission as a faith-based institution.

"I'd like our chapel to look like this year-round," Kathy said.

Lisa Parro is a public relations specialist at Adventist Midwest Health.

Extended Mission

BY LISA PARRO

Although 14 months old, Maria weighed less than nine pounds. And part of that weight was edema and parasites. Her tiny stature and sad eyes told the story of malnutrition caused by the extreme poverty rampant in rural Honduras.

Nutritional deficiencies nearly took the life of eight-year-old Wendy, who was so severely anemic and swollen she received a blood transfusion at a government hospital in Honduras. She is now recovering at a nutritional hospital/orphanage.

"There were so many kids there that just broke my heart," said John Rapp, regional vice president of ministries and mission at Adventist Midwest Health.

John was among 26 people who spent a week in Honduras in January for Adventist Midwest Health's 2008 international medical mission trip. Adventist Midwest Health sponsors an annual trip for a team of physicians, employees and guests. Participants were divided into a clinical team, a vacation Bible school team and a construction crew. Altogether the group helped about 1,500 patients through the Pan American Health Services, their host on the mission.

"These mission trips are natural extensions of our mission to extend the healing ministry of Christ," John said. "They remind us of the three dynamics that people took away from their interactions with Christ: compassion, healing and hope."

For Jim Today, administrative director of facilities at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, this was his fourth—and best—mission trip with Adventist Midwest Health. Jim was in charge of the three-person construction



Baby Maria and an older girl were treated by Adventist Midwest Health physicians, staff and guests during a mission trip to Honduras earlier this year.

team that built an addition which will serve as a boys dormitory.

"There was really a great spirit in the team that was different than any other mission trip I've taken," Jim said. "The spirit was [evidence] of what the healing ministry of Christ is all about."

Liz Hulford, a chaplain at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, served as a Spanish interpreter, doing intake and translating for doctors at the clinic. She also offered pastoral

care to domestic violence victims and others. A major part of the medical team's work was educating the patients to take proper care of themselves by drinking bottled water, taking time to rest during strenuous physical activity and avoiding fatty foods, Liz remarked.

"We really saw God working through us to touch the lives of people there and our lives as well," said Liz.

Lanny F. Wilson, an obstetrician/gynecologist who treats patients at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, said the trip reminded him that God is in all human beings.

"I was worried about not understanding tropical diseases and being outside of my hospital comfort zone," Lanny said. "Then I realized this trip was not about me; it was about what God would do through our mission team and those whom we would serve."

Lisa Parro is a public relations specialist at Adventist Midwest Health.

Physician gives major gift to Adventist GlenOaks Hospital

A long-time emergency physician at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital has pledged a \$500,000 gift to the Glen Oaks Hospital Foundation, the largest gift the foundation has ever received.

Joseph Shanahan, M.D., medical director of Emergency Services at the hospital, has worked at the hospital since it opened more than 25 years ago. He said he and his wife Joann wanted to give back to the hospital in a meaningful way.

The gift will go toward the Foundation's \$1.5 million capital campaign for the new Emergency Department, which opened in June 2007. With Shanahan's pledge, the campaign has raised \$1.1 million. The Emergency Department will be renamed the Shanahan Emergency and Trauma Center later this summer.

"Dr. Shanahan's gift demonstrates his commitment to the hospital," said Larry Golden, chairman of the Glen Oaks Hospital Foundation Board of Directors. "He's willing to go above and beyond to show how much he believes in the Emergency Department and the kind of care patients receive there."

Adventist GlenOaks Hospital's Emergency Department has a unique concept—there is no waiting room.



The new Emergency Department at Adventist GlenOaks Hospital was opened to the public on June 13, 2007.



Joseph Shanahan, M.D., (center) presents a check to CEO Brinsley Lewis (left) and Larry Golden (right), chairman of the GlenOaks Hospital Foundation Board of Directors. Shanahan pledged a \$500,000 gift to the hospital's Emergency Department, which will be renamed in his honor.

Upon arrival, patients are escorted directly to a private treatment room where they are promptly treated. Shanahan is credited with bringing the idea to fruition after seeing a similar design at Ball Memorial Hospital in Indiana.

"We dared to be different," Shanahan said. "We felt we could truly differentiate ourselves with an efficient design and patient comforts that can make for a good patient experience."

That experience includes private rooms big enough to accommodate family members, high ceilings, natural light, soundproofing, flat screen televisions, Internet access and much more.

The Emergency Department offers a patient-centered approach to emergency care, which is often overlooked in emergency treatment, said

Brinsley Lewis, president and CEO of Adventist GlenOaks Hospital.

"The Emergency Department will be Dr. Shanahan's legacy to his community," Lewis said. "The department is the physical outcome of his philosophy of how an emergency room should operate."

When the decision to expand the Emergency Department was made, Lewis looked for ways the hospital could stand apart from other emergency departments in the area. The department already was promising a 15-minute wait time, and the hospital wanted to build on that concept. Lewis saw a story about the no-waiting room concept at Ball Memorial and asked Shanahan to research the idea.

"I'm always ready to listen to ideas that can improve patient care and service," Lewis said. "Everything Dr. Shanahan came up with has the patient in mind. It was easy to support his vision."

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

National challenge for Adventist Robotics League comes to Andrews University

On May 12, elementary and high school students from throughout North America met at the Howard Performing Arts Center at Andrews University to compete in the Super Bowl of science competitions in Adventist education: the North American Division Adventist Robotics League Challenge. Teams with creative names, like the Green Electrifiers, Cloud Nine and the Biobots, traveled from Calif., Wash., Va., Tenn. and Mich. to put their skills to the test for this year's challenge theme: Power Puzzle.

Each team designed and built battery-powered robots with miniature computer modules, programmed to navigate a tabletop obstacle course, complete with power lines, windmills, a dam and river, and a satellite.

The overall champions of the competition and the new owners of a Lego-inspired trophy were the Brick Boys of Cleveland, Tenn., a team of home-schooled students.

"This event exemplifies the North American Division Office of Education philosophy of 'Journey to Excellence' in that it creatively inspires students to grow and learn in an authentic environment," said Larry Blackmer, vice president for education for the North American Division of

the Seventh-day Adventist Church. "We're so proud of the nine teams and their dedicated coaches and sponsors who made this memorable opportunity happen for them here at Andrews University."

Robert Moncrieff, news writer,
University Relations

up to be," he cautioned.

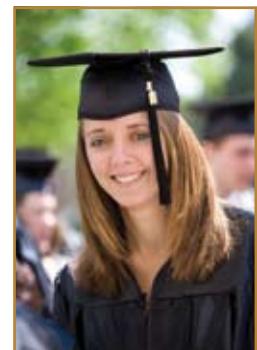
On Sun., May 4, commencement services were held at Pioneer Memorial Church. Author, consultant, management educator and Andrews University alum

Gary Hamel (B.S., '75; M.B.A., '76) addressed graduate students on the subject of "Exceeding Expectations." Hamel, who was recently ranked No. 1 on a list of influential business thinkers by *The Wall Street Journal* over journalist Thomas Friedman and former CEO Bill Gates, encouraged Andrews graduates to think and do outside the box. Hamel also received an honorary Doctor of Business Administration degree.

Jeff Fettig, chairman and CEO of Whirlpool Corporation, spoke at the undergraduate commencement ceremony. His address, "Innovation: Your Career Lifeblood," spoke about the importance of innovation, having worked with a company that went from good to great through creative ideas, people and products.

On behalf of the faculty, Patricia Black Mutch was awarded the John Nevins Andrews Medallion in recognition of her many contributions to Andrews University.

The dust will eventually settle and the responsibilities of real life will begin to sink in, but for some students the culmination of their studies at Andrews felt like a dream. "Graduation was a bit surreal for me," said pre-med music major Paul Byssainthe. "I don't think it really has hit me that I am a college graduate."



Tori Steely from Augusta, Mich., graduated with a B.S. on May 4, 2008.

Sarah Lee

Commencement ceremonies held for class of 2008

During the first weekend of May, 380 undergraduate and graduate students donned their caps, gowns and regalia for commencement ceremonies at Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. Friends and family from around the world gathered on campus to honor the graduates.

On Friday evening, Pierre Quinn (B.A., '04), coordinator of annual giving for Andrews University, addressed the graduates at the consecration service. Quinn challenged the graduates to strive for excellence in all aspects of life as reflection of the Andrews motto: "Seek knowledge. Affirm faith. Change the world."

Speaking to the graduates on Sabbath morning, May 3, Bill Knott (M.Div., '83), editor and executive publisher of *Adventist Review*, gave the graduates of 2008 a spiritual send-off with his baccalaureate address, "Jericho in the Mist." The days to come will be filled with celebrations and gifts, followed by job interviews and relocation for the soon-to-be graduates, but the message Sabbath morning served as a reminder, "Do not mistake the crossing of the river for the taking of the city. You'll find being on the other side of Jordan is not all it's cracked



Each team programmed their robot to navigate a table top obstacle course with power lines, windmills, coal, a dam and river, and a satellite.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist,
University Relations

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Student meetings draw people of all ages

Illinois—The high school students at Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA) demonstrated their passion and love for Jesus Christ when they recently held the “Truth for Today ... Hope



The student praise team from HAA opened each meeting with uplifting music.

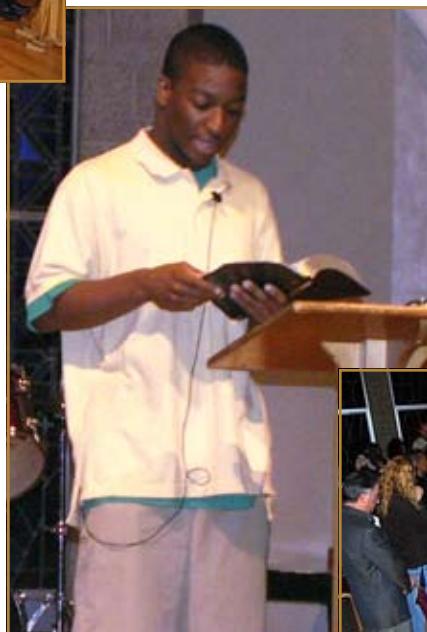
for Tomorrow” Bible lecture series at the Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church. The presentations were offered by five high school students and one fourth grader, each preaching twice. Topics such as “Whatever Happened to Right and Wrong?” and “Where Do You Go When You Die?” were among the many subjects covered during the two-week period. The meetings drew people of all ages from the Hinsdale community and the surrounding area.

Tom Dunham, HAA’s social studies/history teacher wrote: “After praying for this series for so many months, it was incredible to see how God blessed each and every one of the meetings. One couldn’t wait until the next evening to see what God would do to minister to those who were seeking after Him. I was confident the speakers would gain a blessing. However, I firmly believe that every single participant in the series had their life impacted in ways they never could have imagined. And, it was so very exciting to see students, parents, teachers

and staff coming each night to support those who participated. The Holy Spirit moved in a powerful way, and we have laid a spiritual foundation that promises to make next school year very exciting here at HAA.”

The student speakers were senior Andre’ Artis; junior Jackie Ryba; and sophomores Arielle Pickett, Isaiah Horton and Laura Perez-Arias. The youngest student to preach was David Dunham, the fourth-grade son of teacher Tom Dunham. “Words could never begin to express how proud I was of my son David, who preached two of the twelve sermons. It was especially thrilling that his first sermon ever was on my birthday!”

Horton, the final speaker, says, “It has been evident that



Isaiah Horton, sophomore, delivered a convicting message on the last night of the series.

the end is near. While the signs of war, disease, famine and natural disaster are prevalent, some other signs have gone overlooked. ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy...’ (Acts 2:17).

“There has been a revival of the



David Dunham, a fourth-grade student at HAA, was the youngest speaker during the series of meetings entitled, “Truth for Today ... Hope for Tomorrow.”

youth here at Hinsdale Adventist Academy. Many have accepted God’s sprinkles of the Latter Rain. Our youth have started to come boldly to the throne of Grace. By doing so, many have been quickened with a sense of urgency, whether big or small, to be about God and His work.”

If the number of people who came forward at the end of Horton’s sermon to commit or recommit their lives to



The powerful preaching of Isaiah Horton resulted in a huge response from people of all ages to commit or recommit their lives to Jesus.

Jesus Christ is any indication of the impact the meetings, let us say, “Praise be to God for the way He is using the students at Hinsdale Adventist Academy!”

Rebecca Garrett, director of marketing,
Hinsdale Adventist Academy

Week of Prayer yields blessings

Michigan—Ruth Murdoch Elementary School in Berrien Springs recently completed the annual spring Week of Prayer. The blessings were many for those who presented and those who listened. The theme in the lower



Dressed in period costumes, Deborah Park and one of her 27 students welcomes classes to Week of Prayer.

grades of K–6 focused on lessons from the life of Christ when He was on Earth.

Deborah Park and her sixth-grade class hosted the lower grades with the preparation and presentations done by the students. They created a middle-eastern tent in their room, complete with a stuffed camel and palms. Student guests drank grape juice and tasted Bible-time breads. Every day the



The students praised God with instruments from Bible times.

students were greeted by “soldiers” at the door, and warmly welcomed by students dressed in biblical costumes.

After each day’s presentation there was also an interview with someone who had experienced or met Christ. Singing was especially fun using instruments like the ones used in Bible times.

The junior high meetings were also led out by students who focused on using Bible characters to help their peers consider the all-important question, “Are you ready for Jesus to come?” Their week culminated with an agape feast and rich testimony time.

All who participated enjoyed God’s rich blessings as we worshiped Him during our school day. Many joined in prayers and support as we helped our children discover the joy of complete surrender to God’s will.

Lizzette Mattson, principal’s assistant,
Ruth Murdoch Elementary School

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Church members touch neighborhood for Jesus

Illinois—On Dec. 9, 2007, the Church Board of the 34-member Eldorado Seventh-day Adventist Church embraced a plan to present a gift from the church to area homes, the Police Department and nearby businesses. The plan was to fill gift bags with pound cakes, the magazine version of *Steps to Christ* called *Peace Above the Storm*, a brochure entitled *What Is a Seventh-day*



Junior high students performed a skit, thanking God for always being here.

Adventist⁷, and several *Signs* pamphlets.

When the idea of placing a pound cake in each bag was first presented to the Church Board, no one realized it would take six stores in four towns to fill the order of 68 cakes.

The week before Christmas, four church members gathered to fill the gift bags in assembly line fashion. Following the “Birth of Christ” program, on the Sabbath before Christmas, the distribution plan was put in place.

Vickie Baugher delivered to the Police Department. Amanda Horn and Nella



The Eldorado Church members accepted the challenge from Illinois Conference leaders to “Touch Every 1 for Jesus.” One of the ways they are accomplishing this was to present gift bags to residents of their community, the Police Department and nearby businesses.

Gunnels took the street in front of the church, which included the library. Jim and Coco Wilkerson delivered bags to homes on the street behind the church. Mike and Jessie Smith surprised residents on the side streets and a few nearby businesses.

Everyone who received a gift bag was happy and thankful. Some said they were surprised that a church would even do this. Those who participated in handing out the bags said they enjoyed it and would consider doing it again this year.

The Illinois Conference leaders challenged members to “Touch Every 1 for Jesus,” and the Eldorado Church initiative is just one of many ways the Illinois church members are accomplishing this.

Michael Smith, head elder, Eldorado Seventh-day Adventist Church

'Ghetto Preacher' Willy Ramos brings message of hope to Hinsdale

Illinois—Willy Ramos, also known as "The Ghetto Preacher," brought a message of hope to the Hinsdale Church during the Youth Week of Prayer, Apr. 2–5.

From the first evening when Ramos spoke, people of all ages listened. He emphasized that a person's "mess can become your message, your tests can become your testimony, and your misery can become your ministry."

"There was happiness and joyfulness spread throughout our church we have not seen in years," said Ole Mercado, director of the Hinsdale Adventist Trailblazers Pathfinders. "The Hinsdale Adventist Church will never be the same. History was made in this church. The words from Willy filled us completely. He is certainly an effective tool from the Lord."

Born in the Chicago area but raised in South Florida, Ramos has pursued many avenues of entertainment. A member of a gang from an early age, Ramos said that he was "ultimately rescued by a Jewish Carpenter named Jesus." After dropping a loaded gun that he planned to end his life with, Ramos received his answer to a prayer that he called his last. He understood that he was a prodigal son returning to the fold.

Though not formally trained as a minister, Ramos has now devoted his life to prayer and preaching the gospel. He is a popular speaker at youth events across the country. Ramos recounted his life-changing experience, and was amazed that eight years later, here he was, preaching in the upscale community of Hinsdale.

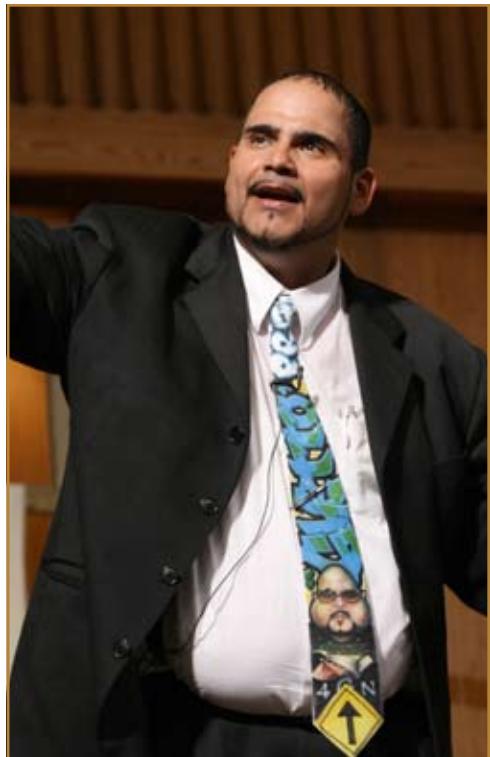
Through ghetto-style poetry, sermons and a touch of humor, Ramos' true desire is to share his testimony, conviction and knowledge about the one true God to all people. His "ghetto version" of "Jesus Loves Me" was a crowd favorite.

Ramos said, "The Christian life is a lot like a gang initiation—we must go through many hardships before entering the Kingdom of Heaven."

"We talk more on the phone, than to the Throne," and "Satan can knock you down, but can't knock you out," are samples of his memorable statements, interspersed with numerous Bible texts and quotes from Ellen G. White.

Originally scheduled to preach to a mostly youth audience in the Hinsdale Adventist Academy (HAA) gymnasium Sabbath morning, schedules were changed at the last minute to give the entire Hinsdale congregation the opportunity to hear Ramos' message at the main worship service.

The series culminated on Sabbath evening with nine baptisms (including several rebaptisms), welcoming individuals into membership to the Hinsdale, Downers Grove and Aurora Hispanic churches. It was one of the largest baptism events in recent church history.



Christian Probasco

Willy Ramos captivated the congregation with his descriptive and poignant presentations.

"I liked Willy's stories about how God gives us many chances in life," said Priscilla Vasquez, 11, who was baptized at the end of the meetings. "The way he spoke brought me closer and closer to God."

Her sister, Larisa, 12, who was also baptized, agreed. "Willy spoke in a way that was easy for kids to understand.

His life story is amazing," she said.

Jackie Bobek, an eighth-grade student at HAA, was one of the nine individuals baptized at the end of the series. She had been studying the Bible with Kenneth Parker, pastor, but hadn't yet set a date for baptism. She was "deeply touched" by the sermon Ramos preached on Sabbath morning and said, "If someone's message could affect me that much, I wanted to be baptized that very evening by him." Jackie's brother, James, was also baptized.

"This was an awakening for



Christian Probasco

"Ghetto Preacher" Willy Ramos brought a message of hope to the Hinsdale Church during the Youth Week of Prayer. His series culminated on Sabbath evening with nine baptisms. From left (back row): Ron Schultz, pastor, and Frank Kean; (front row): James Bobek, Jackie Bobek, Brittney Kean, Karisa Vasquez, Estefanie Hage (Downers Grove Church) Priscilla Vasquez, Fidel and Trey Mendoza (Aurora Hispanic Church), pictured beside speaker Willy Ramos; (center): Jesus "Jesse" Gonzales

the church. I saw kids give their lives to Christ, and it was amazing," said Mercado.

Mercado reported that Ramos was "so energized after the baptisms, he hadn't slept at all when I came to pick him up at 3 a.m. Sunday to take him back to the airport."

Ramos said, "God was surely in Hinsdale. You cannot deny that Grace was in this house of the Lord."

Several of Ramos' presentations are available to download at the Hinsdale Church website. Go to www.hsdac.com and click on "Streaming Video" to view selections from Apr. 3–5. DVDs are also available for purchase.

Lisa Ziegele, correspondent, Hinsdale Adventist Church

[LAKE UNION NEWS]

Indiana Conference delegates convene for 39th Constituency Session

On Sun., May 18, the Indiana Conference held its 39th Constituency Session at Indiana Academy in Cicero. Walter L. Wright, president of the Lake Union Conference, chaired the opening of the session. Prior to the session, the nominating committee had completed its task and presented a report that day which affirmed each of the current officers and directors and called for them to continue serving the Indiana Conference during the next four-year session. The constituents overwhelmingly supported the return of the current



On Sun., May 18, at the 39th Constituency Session of the Indiana Conference, delegates overwhelmingly supported the return of the current officers and departmental directors. From left: Gary Thurber, Indiana Conference president; Diane Thurber; Rhonda Crumley; and George Crumley, Indiana Conference secretary/treasurer

officers and departmental directors.

Re-elected were Gary Thurber, president; George Crumley, secretary/treasurer; Gary Case, trust services/stewardship/religious liberty director; Mark Haynal, education superintendent; Peter Neri, ministerial/evangelism/church ministries director; and Charlie Thompson, youth ministries director.

Gary Thurber, newly re-elected president, then chaired the rest of the session.

The major agenda item was a report from the articles and bylaws committee. They had worked to incorporate significant changes to bring the Indiana Conference into harmony with recommended policies from the North American Division. During their report, each proposed change was

presented and explained. The changes were accepted and implemented.

Another agenda item dealt with progress on the sale and relocation of the conference office due to the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) limited access freeway project. Current INDOT plans will land lock the conference office site. It was voted to continue the plans to rebuild the conference office as set forth at a special constituency meeting in 2006. Following discussions and input from constituents at town hall meetings, any residual funds from the property's sale and relocation will be allocated by the Conference Executive Committee.

Gary Burns, communication director, Lake Union Conference



Conference leaders discuss strategic stewardship plan

Lake Region—As a further step in necessary visioning and planning, an initial stewardship strategic planning session was convened under the direction of the Lake Region Conference stewardship secretary, vice president Eddie Allen. This meeting constituted another response to the mandate voted by Lake Region constituents, calling for a conference-wide strategic plan. That plan was formulated and voted by the executive committee under the direction of Jerome Davis, conference president.

The stewardship planning meeting, held Mar. 31 at the Lake Region headquarters, included stewardship associates, Leon Bryant, Eric Bell and Ron Williams (pastors), and administrative associate Josie Essex. The conference area leaders, including William Joseph, Leroy Logan, Zebron Ncube and Michael Horton, were also present and involved in the discussion, and were joined by Richard Terrell, stewardship director for the Lake Union Conference.

The session began with prayer and a devotional service led by Allen, presenting the sufficiency of Christ as our eternal hope. Pastors then surveyed the strengths of the conference, such as the dedication of the membership, their dedication to the Lord and Bible truth. The weaknesses or challenges were also examined, including the changing economic conditions and the rising unemployment in the Rust Belt states. Opportunities and threats were considered to form an initial document for discussion and feedback from the conference membership at various levels.

The stewardship team recognizes that for the plan and vision to be effective, improved dialogue, incorporating the insights and perspectives of local church pastors and leaders, is indispensable. Therefore, the process has advanced to the area meetings in Detroit, Indianapolis, Chicago and Berrien



Springs to create forums for the views, concerns and counsel of the various pastors, workers, treasurers and leaders at our churches.

While the Lake Region Conference is making significant strides in the areas of finances and stewardship, it was recognized that a concerted effort, rooted in a spiritual collaboration of administration, members, ministers, local church boards and workers, needed to be clearly formulated. William Joseph, pastor and area leader of Detroit, led out in developing initial PowerPoint presentations, entitled "Executive Privilege" to support that effort.

The committee constructed a biblical, mission-driven approach to stewardship. This holistic view, encouraging every member to know and utilize their spiritual gifts and talents, to re-embrace the health message which is the right hand of the gospel message, to be better managers of the finan-

cial resources given to us by the Lord, and to appreciate and utilize the time given us through active evangelism and service to glorify His name, focuses on the call to faithfulness in all the areas of stewardship.

Michael Horton, local church elder,
Hyde Park Seventh-day Adventist Church

[NAD UNION NEWS]

Lake Union members build \$10 churches with Maranatha

It seems impossible, but Maranatha Volunteers International builds churches for \$10! Now donors and recipients are celebrating the 200th miracle \$10 Church. These solid sanctuaries are the pride of their communities, and many have served as a refuge

in earthquakes or tropical storms. Faithful donors from around the world have been giving small gifts to build churches for 20 years now. In March 2008, the 200th \$10 Church was built and paid for.

The \$10 Church fund, initiated in 1988, combines small monthly donations to build churches for Adventist congregations in urgent need. People want to be a part of a ministry that makes such tangible difference. The program now has more than 4,000 individuals participating every year. These faithful donors just built the 200th church building, with monthly donations of \$10 each.

Maranatha president Don Noble says, "People love being part of The \$10 Church. They feel good about making an important difference in the world. I can assure you that these churches truly make an impact for Christ. It is all happening because thousands of people join together to help."

Donors to The \$10 Church fund are very diverse. Sabbath school groups, elementary schools, college students, business people, children, families and retired folk contribute each month, and delight in the monthly update letter with a picture of the church they built.

Donor Jean Buchanan of South Range, Wis., has supported Maranatha through The \$10 Church program for several years now. "Thank you for the privilege of being a part of building a church—each month! I am in awe of God's ideas, and I'm grateful and humbled to be a part of the team of brothers and sisters who care. To think—two churches a month—where people can go to worship and learn about Him! My heart is touched, and I'm so glad to be a part of this project. God bless you and your workers AND your givers!"

A donation of \$10 is so manageable that anyone can

be a part of this solution. Through the years people have discovered creative ways to raise funds for churches. Many people have a special place to drop their spare change at the end of the day. God blesses those jars full of pennies, and turns out churches! Others collect aluminum cans and glass bottles for recycling refunds, or donate all money found on the ground to The \$10 Church. Others are even more industrious, selling soda or Popsicles at school or the workplace or holding other small fundraisers. The result is something that 20 years ago, no one could have imagined.

Today 200 congregations are meeting in a building instead of a shack. Figures have shown that within a few years of Maranatha building a church, membership increases by 300 to 400 percent.

After volunteer Tootie Teeter of Cicero, Ind., and her family experienced mission projects for themselves, they signed on to help support The \$10 Church. "Thank you for the opportunity to help the Lord!" she says.

For more information or to join The \$10 Church, visit www.maranatha.org or call 916-920-1900.

Maranatha Volunteers International is a non-profit organization that mobilizes volunteers to construct urgently needed buildings all over the world.

Carrie Purkeypile, communication specialist,
Maranatha Volunteers International

Fun Facts:

\$10 Church donors have now built churches in more than 20 countries including:

- Barbados
- Belize
- Brazil
- Chile
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Honduras
- India
- Irian Jaya
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Turks and Caicos
- United States
- Venezuela



This photo shows just one of the many happy congregations in front of their new \$10 Church in Huaynacancha, Peru.

SONscreen 2008 celebrates excellence in artistry and sincerity in faith

The SONscreen Film Festival concluded Sat. evening, Apr. 12, with the finesse of a well-orchestrated production. The third festival to be hosted at the Adventist Media Production studios in Simi Valley, Calif., featured three film screening sessions of both amateur and professional films and concluded with an awards ceremony where student works were honored in categories including comedy, music video, drama, public service announcement, documentary and animation.

The "best high school student award" was renamed the "Jonathan Dulan High School Award" in memory of the SONscreen executive planning committee member who died in January and whose energy and spirit were deeply missed this year. Dulan's wife, daughter, father and extended family were on hand to witness the renaming of the award and spoke of his passion for the festival and the young artists it mentors.

Entertainment industry professionals conducted workshops on topics such as animation, scriptwriting and cinematography. Attendees were given lectures on theory as well as hands-on experience meant to raise the bar of professionalism in their productions.

SONscreen regulars who have come to expect a Sabbath worship experience that is both spiritually uplifting and intellectually challenging were not disappointed this year. Worship was led by the praise band of the Hollywood Seventh-day Adventist Church under the direction of Lennox Fleary, and the sermon was delivered by senior pastor Ryan Bell.

The Hollywood Church congregation, whose ministry is the subject of a documentary film being produced by Vervent Church Resource Center of the North American Division and directed by filmmaker Melody George,

has a unique challenge to live out the gospel in the context of a community that is immersed in producing stories that arrest the attention of the world. Bell challenged the gathering of young filmmakers to, like Jesus, tell stories that are mini-narratives of the kingdom of God.

The Sabbath afternoon panel discussion featured actors, directors and production professionals and was moderated by award winning filmmaker and executive planning committee member Rik Swartzwelder. Panel members, Chris Ackerman, Tamara Goodrich, Cheryl Jenkins, James Arnold Taylor and Korey Scott Pollard, each shared from their personal faith journey and how it affected their professional lives. At times, the panelists were brutally honest about their humanity and humble about the times when they believed God used them to be a witness to show His love and grace to others in the most unexpected ways and sometimes seemingly inconvenient times.

Highlighting the festival was the Sat. evening Awards Gala where \$250 awards were given for each category. Mickey Seiler and Ben Van Allen received the Best Comedy award for the film "A Bright Past." Timothy Wolfer won the award for best music video "Safe From All Alarms." Uly and Ray Mostrales were awarded best drama for the film "The Green Light." Emile Moline Jr. received the award for best PSA with "Be a Star in Someone's

Life." Best Documentary was given to Maranatha Hay for her film "Diary of a Japanese Soldier." Josue S. Martinez was awarded best animation for his film "2th Boys."

Monique Esparza's film "Children in Sweatshops" won the "Jonathan Dulan High School Scholarship award." As the winner she is eligible for a collegiate scholarship from one of the following Adventist schools: Southern Adventist University, \$2,000; Pacific Union College, \$1,000; Southwestern Adventist University, \$1,000. Stacey Sausa's film "Presence" was the Audience Choice Award for the festival. The Best in Fest Sonny Award winner was Philip Sherwood and Kevin Ekvall who won the \$2,000 cash award for their film "The Yearbook."

"SONscreen is like a family reunion," commented Melody George in the minutes preceding the opening ceremony where she would be introduced as the incoming festival programmer. "I am looking forward to connecting with friends that I met last year and meeting new ones," noted Southwestern Adventist University student Aaron Weber whose film "Dead Air: Spot 1" screened Thurs. night.

The 2009 SONscreen Film Festival will take place Apr. 16–18, 2009, at the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, Calif. For more information, please visit www.sonscreen.com.

Garrett Caldwell, assistant to the president for communication, Upper Columbia Conference



Photos by Garrett Caldwell



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

Anniversaries



Billy and Emma Fouts celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Mar. 6, 2008, in Crandall, Ind. They are members of the New Albany, Ind., Church.

Bill M. Fouts and Emma J. Miller were married Mar. 6, 1943, in Byrne, Ind., by John Byrne. Billy has been a truck driver, retiring in 1985. Emma has been an Adventist all her life.

The Fouts family includes Larry and Barbara Fouts of Louisville, Ky.; the late Leland Fouts, and Susan Fouts of Calif.; Sherry and Kenneth Davis of Corydon, Ind.; Dallas Fouts of Milltown, Ind.; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Obituaries

BENNER, Marie P. (Koch) Pesak, age 83; born Feb. 8, 1925, in Novy-Perov, Czechoslovakia; died Apr. 8, 2008, in Rochester, Ind. She was a member of the Rochester Church.

Survivors include her sons, Robert, Karl, Tony, Milton and Andrew Pesak; daughters, Maria Mangun and Marcella Boener; sister, Magda Vasak; 24 grandchildren; 36 step-grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Blake Hall, and interment was in 100F Cemetery, Rochester.

DELONG, Joani C. (Mayer), age 68; born Sept. 9, 1939, in Lakeview, Mich.; died Mar. 24, 2008, in Owosso, Mich. She was a member of the Owosso Church.

Survivors include her husband, Cecil; son, Douglas Rowden; daughter, Lori Rowden; brothers, Rolland and Lawrence Mayer; and three grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Curt DeWitt, with private inurnment.

DEVROY, Grace M. (Schulke), age 91; born Nov. 5, 1916, in Lemmon, S.D.; died May 9, 2008, in Green Bay, Wis. She was a member of the Green Bay Church.

Survivors include her husband, Lavern; son, Randall W.; daughters, Faye M. Dev-

roy and Chilson Johnson; sisters, Violet Howard and Mavis Boulanger; and nine grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Delmar Austin, and interment was in Shrine of the Good Shepherd Mausoleum, Green Bay.

ECKERMAN, Elvera, age 90; born Mar. 10, 1918, in Redlands, Calif.; died Apr. 12, 2008, in Redlands. She was a member of the Alpena (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sister, June Joseph.

A memorial service was held in May, and her body was donated to Loma Linda for research.

FLYNN, Ronald G., age 68; born May 27, 1939, in Detroit, Mich.; died Feb. 4, 2008, in Roseville, Mich. He was a member of the Warren (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Peggy (Diedrich); sons, Kevin and Brian; and sister, Catherine Fouler.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Paul Larsen, with private inurnment.

JACKSON, Bette L. (Garber), age 73; born Mar. 9, 1935, in Montgomery Cty., Ohio; died Apr. 8, 2008, in Indianapolis, Ind. She was a member of the Lafayette (Ind.) Church.

Survivors include her husband, Irving L.; daughters, Vada Jackson and Jane Klinker; brother, Robert Garber; sister, Delores Yoder; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Clinton Meharry, and interment was in Tippecanoe Memory Gardens Cemetery, West Lafayette.

LARSON, Margie L. (Miller), age 85; born Sept. 25, 1922, in Choctaw, Okla.; died Mar. 18, 2008, in Niles, Mich. She was a member of the Buchanan (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sons, Victor, Allen and David; daughters, Donna Gatz, Esther Jones, Jean Larson and Lynn Hansen; brothers, Frank and Jim Miller; 14 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Walter L. Wright, and interment was in Lakeview Cemetery, Ludington, Mich.

MCCHESNEY, Norman T., age 91; born Mar. 24, 1917, in Arpin, Wis.; died May 5, 2008, in Twp. of Packwaukee, Wis. He was a member of the Oxford (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include his son, James; daughter, Janice Walters; sister, Roselyn Edwards; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Wendell Springer and Christian Ronalds, and interment was in Underhill Cemetery, Twp. of Packwaukee.

PIERCE, Edna M. (Booth), age 100; born May 26, 1907, in Mio, Mich.; died Apr. 17, 2008, in St. Louis, Mich. She was a member of the Frost Church, Stanton, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Rhonald J. and Audley A.; daughters, Jewel Buck, Ramona Snively and Juanita Retzlaff; brother, Cecil "Pete" Booth; 14 grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; 11 step-great-grandchildren; and many great-great- and step-great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Elders Paul Yeoman and Ken Micheff, and elder Dick Retzlaff, and interment was in Cedar Lake (Mich.) Cemetery.

RICHARDSON, Donald G., age 84; born Mar. 25, 1923, in Clay Twp., St. Clair Cty., Mich.; died Mar. 13, 2008, in Macomb, Mich. He was a member of the Blue Water Church, Marysville, Mich.

Survivors include his sons, Gary P. and Dana G.; daughters, Lorraine M. Ziomba, Janice E. Sutton, Leigh E. Dimond and Marjorie L. Donnelly; brothers, Kenneth and Leon; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Chris Ames, and inurnment was in Oaklawn Cemetery, Algonac, Mich.

SAWDY, Ruth E. (Gemmill), age 95; born Apr. 11, 1913, in Cambria Twp., Mich.; died Apr. 24, 2008, in Coldwater, Mich. She was a member of the Coldwater Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Kay Flower and Susan Whiteside; stepdaughters, Doris Brown and Carolyn VanRiper; eight grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors David Gotshall and Mark Howard, and interment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Ransom Twp., Mich.

SICKLER, Annie L. (Rhodes), age 94; born Apr. 27, 1913, in Webster, Wis.; died Dec. 13, 2007, in Amery, Wis. She was a member of the Clear Lake (Wis.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Gordon; brother, John Rhodes; sisters, Edith Rosek and Verna Geates; 20 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Curtis Denney, and interment was in Reeve Cemetery, Vance Creek Twp., Wis.

VADEN, John T., age 64; born Sept. 19, 1943, in Wyandotte, Mich.; died Mar. 29, 2008, in Greenville, Tenn. He was a member of the Detroit Oakwood and Pontiac (Mich.) Churches.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen M. (Fortin); sons, John T. and Luciano S.; stepsons, Kevin and Courtland Shea; daughters, Kristin E. Lahti and Kathleen E. Sias; mother, Virginia (Senker); brother, Henry; sisters, Virginia J. Stevenson, Carol Schmidt, Janene Alexander, Bonnie Fuller and Susan Meseraull; and eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Allan Williamson and Terry Dodge, and interment was in Ottawa Park Cemetery, Clarkston, Mich.

WEESNER, Earl, age 79; born Oct. 4, 1928, in Grant Cty., Ind.; died Mar. 22, 2008, in Muncie, Ind. He was a member of the Muncie Church.

Survivors include his wife, Janet S. (Campbell); sons, David, Lloyd, Jeffrey and Eric; brothers, Duane and John; sisters, Eu-nice White and Joan Pring; five grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dwight Kruger, and interment was in Salamonia (Ind.) Cemetery.

WILSON, Helen L. (Meadows), age 91; born Oct. 13, 1916, in Paris, Ill.; died Apr. 10, 2008, in Marshall, Ill. She was a member of the Paris Church.

Survivors include her son, Arnold; daughter, Linda Lawson; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jerry Lastine, and interment was in Grandview (Ill.) Cemetery.

WOODHAMS, Elizabeth "Bettie" J. (White), age 82; born Nov. 14, 1925, in Glendale, Calif.; died Apr. 23, 2008, in Ventura, Calif. She was a member of the Saginaw and Petoskey (Mich.) Churches.

Elizabeth was the wife of the late Pastor Wilbur Woodhams. Survivors include her sons, Dan and Wayne; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Duane O'fll and Lyle Davis, and interment was in Conway (Little Traverse Twp.) Cemetery, Petoskey.



Classifieds

All ads must be sent to your local conference for approval. No phoned ads will be accepted. Allow at least eight weeks for publication. Fifty words maximum. No limit of insertions. Rates: \$28 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$38 per insertion for all others. A form is available at www.lakeunionherald.org for printing out and filling in your ad. Ads must be prepaid. Make money order/check payable to the Lake Union Conference. There will be no refunds for cancellations. The *Lake Union Herald* cannot be responsible for advertisements appearing in its columns, and reserves the right to edit ads in accordance with editorial policies. The *Lake Union Herald* does not accept responsibility for typographical errors.

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We'll look for ways to grow and improve as we continue to "Share the Light" in the Lake Union.

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In His service,

Walter L. Wright, president
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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is seeking a Linguistics professor. Opportunities will include teaching, advising students, serving on University committees, researching and publishing in area of expertise. Ph.D. in Linguistics required, teaching experience and experience/expertise in cross-cultural studies preferred. Apply at www.andrews.edu/hr/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi.

ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER, PORTLAND, OREGON, is seeking applicants for the Administrative Director, Family Birth Place. B.S.N. degree required; master's preferred. Seeking excellent communication skills, knowledge of management principles and a demonstrated ability to maintain good interpersonal relationships. Must have a minimum of two years comparable experience in OB-GYN leadership role. Current Oregon RN license and AHA Healthcare Provider CPR card will be required prior to hire. If interested, contact our recruiter at AMCjobs@ah.org.

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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY COUNSELING & TESTING CENTER is seeking a staff psychologist. This is a full-time twelve-month appointment, reporting directly to the Director of Counseling & Testing, beginning August 2008. Minimum qualifications include full Michigan state license as a counseling or clinical psychologist with an earned doctorate degree from an accredited institution. Preference will be given to

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Sunset Calendar

	Jul 4	Jul 11	Jul 18	Jul 25	Aug 1	Aug 8
Berrien Springs, Mich.	9:23	9:20	9:16	9:10	9:04	8:55
Chicago, Ill.	8:29	8:26	8:22	8:16	8:10	8:01
Detroit, Mich.	9:12	9:10	9:05	8:59	8:53	8:44
Indianapolis, Ind.	9:16	9:14	9:10	9:05	8:59	8:51
La Crosse, Wis.	8:50	8:47	8:43	8:37	8:29	8:20
Lansing, Mich.	9:20	9:17	9:13	9:07	9:00	8:51
Madison, Wis.	8:40	8:37	8:33	8:27	8:20	8:11
Springfield, Ill.	8:31	8:28	8:24	8:19	8:13	8:05

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— LUKE 4:40 —

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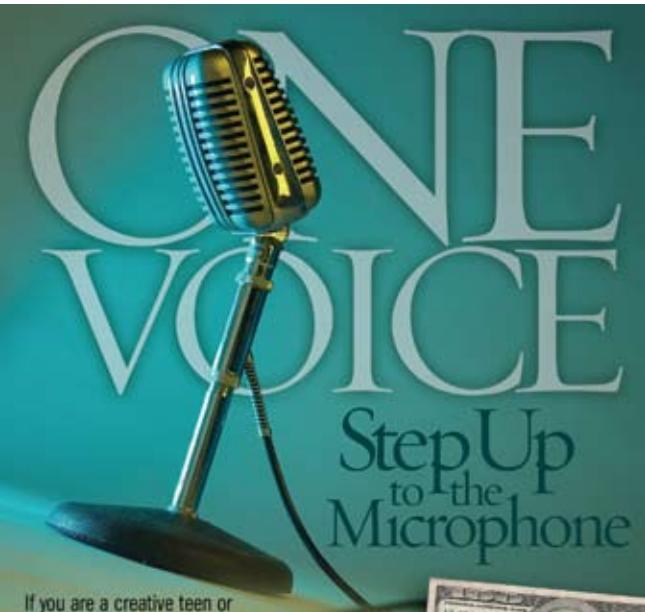
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Announcements

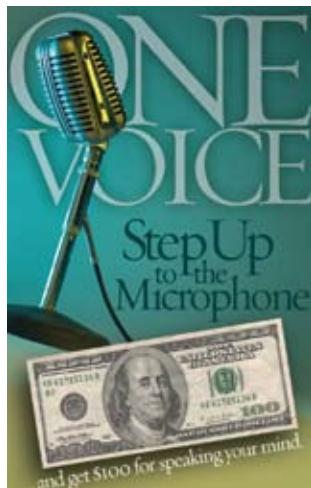
Churches, schools, conferences, institutions, and organizations may submit announcements to the *Lake Union Herald* through their local conference communication directors. An easy way to do this is to visit the *Lake Union Herald* website at www.lakeunionherald.org and submit the announcement online.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

Illinois

Correction: Wilderness Adventure Camp will be held **July 17-28** at Camp Akita. For more information, contact the youth department at the Illinois Conference office at 630-856-2857; e-mail info@campakita.com; or visit website campakita.com.

Indiana

Family Life Seminar in Fort Wayne: Walter Wright, Lake Union Conference president, will be the guest speaker for a family life seminar entitled "Traits of a Functional Family: Helping Your Family Grow Close," at the Fort Wayne Church, **July 25-26**. The seminar starts Fri. evening and is scheduled from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and continues



Sabbath afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Wright will also speak for the main worship hour. A fellowship lunch will be available for guests. For more information, call 260-745-1594.

Teen Canoe Trip is **July 29 to Aug. 1**. Canoe down one of the most scenic waterways in the world on the Current River in south-central Missouri. Activities will include cave explorations in and out of your canoe. All you need is a tent (unless you want to sleep under the stars!), a sleeping bag and a swimsuit. The rest is provided. A fee of \$110.00 provides your transportation from Timber Ridge Camp to the river, your food, canoe rental and camping fees for this very special four-day event. For registration information, call the youth department at the Indiana Conference office at 317-844-6201.

The North Vernon Centennial Celebration will begin **Fri., Aug. 8**, at 7:00 p.m. and will continue **Sabbath, Aug. 9**, with a special Sabbath school at 9:30 a.m., followed by the worship service at 11:00 a.m. Bring food for a fellowship dinner. There will be an afternoon program of music and history of the church, located at 3105 North State Highway 7, which is northwest of North Vernon. All former members and friends are invited to come and celebrate this milestone together. For further information, call Mary Perkins (communication secretary) at 812-591-3805, or Manuel Ojeda (pastor) at 812-342-6292.

Home School Outdoor Education Week is for all home-school families, and will be held **Aug. 18-22** at Timber Ridge Camp. The retreat includes outdoor education classes, crafts, recreation (horse-back riding, canoeing, swim-

ming, sea sled, etc.), worships and a talent program. Plus it gives parents from different areas an opportunity to dialog about their curriculum and teaching successes. Contact Dean Whitlow for additional information and registration: phone 812-829-2507 or e-mail dwhitlow@hughes.net.

Hispanic Family Retreat is **Aug. 29-31** at Timber Ridge Camp. Contact Antonio or Wanda Rosario for additional information at 317-856-5770.

Women's Ministries Fall Weekend Retreat is **Sept. 19-21**. Keynote speaker is Sally Streib. Must register by Sept. 5. For details, contact Tammy Begley by e-mail: tammy.begley@gmail.com or phone: 317-919-5318.

Lake Union

Offerings

July 5 Local Church Budget

July 12 Women's Ministries

July 19 Local Church Budget

July 26 Local Conference Advance

July 29 World Mission Budget Offering

Special Days

July 12 Home Study International Promotional Day

Michigan

Notice is hereby given that the 31st session of the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Cedar Lake Church in Cedar Lake, Mich., **Sept. 21, 2008**, with the first meeting called at 9:30 a.m. Reports of the previous five years will be rendered, proposed constitutional changes may be considered, the election of conference officers, departmental directors, and members of the executive committee will take place, and any other business will be transacted which may properly come before the session. Delegates are those duly elected by the various churches of the conference and delegates-at-large as provided in the constitution. Each church in the Michigan Conference is entitled to one delegate for its organization, and one additional delegate for each 100 members or extended fraction thereof, determined by the membership as of Dec. 31, 2007. As provided by the bylaws, the organizing committee (composed of one member from each church, plus one additional member for each 500 members or major fraction thereof, as of Dec. 31, 2007) will meet on Sept. 20, 2008. The meeting will begin with vespers at 7:30 p.m., at the Cedar Lake Church. Jay Gallimore, president James Micheff Jr., secretary

North American Division

Amazing Facts & Weimar Institute Join Ministries.

After two years of heartfelt prayer, study, discussion and observing the leading of the Lord, Amazing Facts and Weimar Institute voted on Apr. 6, 2008, to proceed with a bold, new joint venture. Their respective boards approved an agreement whereby the operations of Weimar Institute will be administered by Amazing Facts with a new board of directors providing direction to both ministries. It is our firm conviction that this co-operative venture will ultimately save resources while strengthening the primary ministries of evangelism, education and health. Both organizations are excited about this new synergistic opportunity for Christian mission. The new AF/WI board will soon proceed with selecting new key administration for the Weimar Institute. Many details remain to be worked out which will be announced at a later date. Please join us in prayer that this new association will be blessed of the Lord and be used to expand His kingdom by combining teaching, preaching and healing in accordance with His example. "Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people"

Announcements

(Matt. 9:35). Watch for future announcements as plans unfold at [www.AmazingFacts.org!](http://www.AmazingFacts.org)

Eagle (Idaho) Seventh-day Adventist

Church 100th Anniversary Celebration: All members (present and previous) and family and friends of the Eagle Church are invited to the 100th Anniversary Celebration to be held Fri. and Sabbath, **July 25 and 26**. Fri. evening program will be at 6:00 p.m.; Sabbath programs will be at 9:30 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The celebration will be held at 538 West State St., Eagle, Idaho. For more information, contact Myrna Ferguson at 208-939-6568 or e-mail myfer40@msn.com.

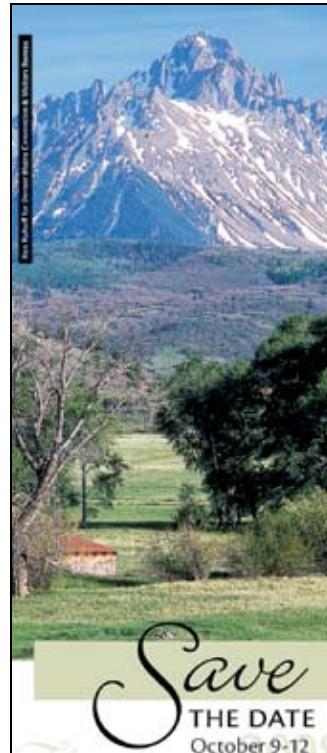
College View Academy Alumni Weekend

Oct. 10-12. Honor classes: 1948, '58, '68, '78, '83, '88 and '98. Special feature Sat., Oct. 11, 11:00 a.m., is Bill Chunestudy, class of '68 and vice president for Academic Administration for the California Preparatory

College in Redlands. All former students welcome. Come enjoy a great weekend. For more information, visit www.collegeviewacademy.org.

Wisconsin

4th Annual Cruisin' For Christ Wisconsin Academy Motorcycle Rally to be held **Aug. 1-3** at Clear Lake, Wis. Visit the beautiful St. Croix river valley astride the transportation that creates joy—your motorcycle. Spend the weekend camping, in an R.V. (hookups for electric and water) or in a nearby hotel. We will enjoy great meals, inspirational programming, bike trips and plenty of time to spend with friends and to meet new ones. Cost per couple: \$100; single: \$60. For more information, contact Sally Johnson at 715-263-2811 or e-mail kare4us@ln@gmail.com, or visit www.madisonadventistchurch.com/motorcycle_rally.htm.



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BY GARY BURNS



Mopping up body fluids or dodging trash-bag bombs whistling down the garbage chute may not seem to be very important work, but just leave it undone for a day, and see what happens. Most of my high school counterparts had clean jobs, like pushing wheel chairs, running errands or delivering meals. I felt closer to those who worked in the dish room. They kept me busy with some of the most disgusting arrangements and combinations of leftovers. Their trash room had the most intense aroma.

My work took me to every nook and cranny of the hospital and exposed me to the entire spectrum of healing that takes place there. One place was the lab, where a pretty girl with sparkly eyes cleaned urine bottles and test tubes (we just celebrated our 35th anniversary). Cleaning the ER was always a challenge,

because the trauma never ends. The outpatient clinic was lonely, dark and empty, but with every evidence of a busy day.

For every disposed syringe, every used bandage, every empty bottle, there was a story of pain, anxiety and fear—and someone who provided healing in a smile or a touch, a procedure or a prayer. But the story doesn't end there. The washing and cleaning, the dusting and sanitizing, the mopping and disposing that followed, provided a safe and clean environment for the next day.

Each of us has a unique role—an important part to play. Our Creator has placed each one of us in the community, just as He pleased (see 1 Corinthians 12:18). To serve in that role, to bring hope, help and healing in partnership with Him, is the greatest honor and privilege.

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



ONE VOICE

[YOUNG ADULTS SPEAK THEIR MIND]

The Window

BY FILIP MILOSAVLJEVIC

Sometimes we do things that are wrong and get caught in the act. Well, in the world we live in we seem to think we get away with so much. When we cheat on homework, have impure thoughts about the opposite sex, gossip about our friends when they are not around or even neglect to do the right thing, we don't think anyone is watching or even cares to watch.

People see everything we do and hear all we say, just like being on surveillance. That is not even the worst thing. When we see or hear something "wrong" we act like it never happened and look the other way. We make excuses for what we saw, and we say, "It's none of my business."

In the end we are only cheating ourselves and God. The horrible thing is that it doesn't even bother us. We go on living our lives. We don't really see the effects of cheating, lust, gossip, lying, backstabbing, and we certainly don't hold one another accountable to what we might say, do or even think! So, we keep on living and "minding our own business."

Are we really just looking through a window like it seems, and watching the world around us pass by?

Or, can we interact with one another and hopefully guide one another to better choices? Do we really have to just look the other way when we see a sheep is going astray? How far do we let them go till we look for them? Have we become too politically correct to step out and make hard black and white calls?

We need to stop looking through windows and start walking outside with each other. We need to start calling each other out on the things we know are just plain wrong.

*I sat outside your window,
Looking into the world you live in.
I saw what you are really like.
You're not as friendly as I thought,
You're not as loving as you seemed,
You're not as Christ-like as you said you were.
Who are you anyways?
No really, who are you?
Who do you think you are in the big picture?
I sat outside your window,
And saw who you really are.
I sat outside your window.*
—Filip Milosavljevic

A good slap in the face once in a while from a friend is not as bad as it is from a stranger. My friends in a band in Seattle sing about this very thing in a song called "Accountability Movements." It says:

*If you have a friend who tells you 'you got something wrong'
You got spinach in your teeth and tissues on
your heals
A wound is better from a friend
Than a kiss from the worst of enemies
Don't let go, don't let go of them*

They're the best of friends."

A friend says awkward things like that, but that's what friends do. More importantly, a friend fights for a friend; we actually are our brother's keepers. There are forces out there fighting against us.

Let's not fight against each other by our indifference. Let's make a difference, starting with ourselves, and then moving from the windows to holding one another accountable. Let's make the hard calls; a little pain now is not as bad as the pain of not seeing them there one day, if you know what I mean.

Filip Milosavljevic is a sophomore theology major at Andrews University. He lives in Mesquite, Texas.

"Accountability Movements" is on the album, *Let Those Who Have Ears Hear*, by Garage Voice (www.garagevoice.com), released April 2007. Lyrics reprinted with permission. Listen to "Accountability Movements" at www.myspace.com/garagevoice or iTunes.

Lisa M. Cunningham, 18, is a recent graduate of Wisconsin Academy. She attends the Meadow Creek Church in Rice Lake, Wisconsin.

Lisa is a cheerful, positive girl who is a friend to all. She worked hard as the senior class secretary and girls club pastor during the 2007–2008 school year. Her gentle personality helps her to be a servant/leader with a love for her fellow students.

The most important thing Lisa learned in school is “to trust in God for everything and to rise above difficult situations and let God handle it.”

Lisa says the most memorable experiences she had at Wisconsin Academy were the mission trips she went on to Mississippi and Texas. Both trips were for Hurricane Katrina relief. She also enjoyed the opportunity to be yearbook editor. She said, “Working on it and accomplishing it was a very good learning experience.”

During academy, English and *Choralaires* were her favorite classes. Lisa says, “I like reading different books ... and I love to sing.”

After graduation, Lisa plans to pursue a psychology degree at Andrews University. She also plans to spend a year as a student missionary following her freshman year in college.



Lisa Cunningham



Lacy Swanington

Lacy M. Swanington, 18, is a recent graduate of Wisconsin Academy. She attends the Milwaukee Northwest Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Lacy has a friendly attitude that makes students feel welcome. She was selected by her peers to be both the senior class pastor and Student Association pastor. She has many interests in her life, including her horses, her friends, traveling and seeking to understand people.

The most important thing Lacy learned in school is to “get along in different environments, with many different types of people.” Her most memorable experience at Wisconsin Academy was “the continuous growth of relationships developed.”

Lacy enjoyed Bible class, “because it presented some interesting views on life and relationships that were Christian based.”

After graduation, Lisa plans to attend Barron Technical College in Rice Lake, Wisconsin, to take general education classes. Then she will go to Andrews University to study elementary education.

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