

Lake Union HERALD

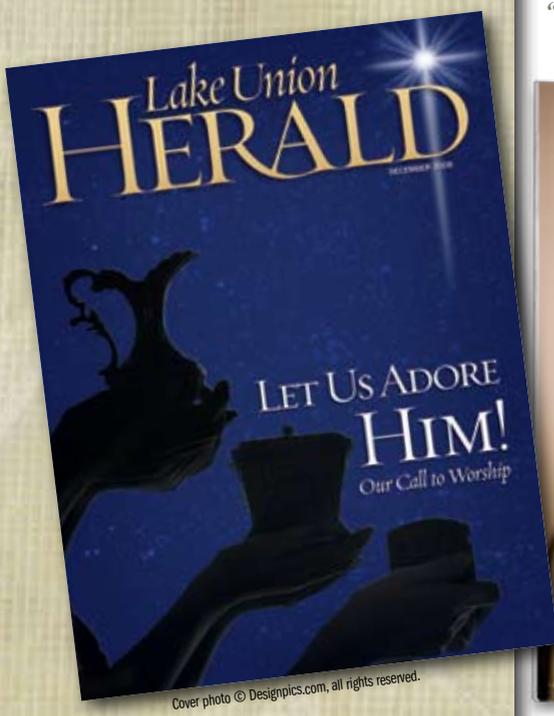
DECEMBER 2008

The background of the entire page is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, bright stars. In the upper right corner, a larger, more prominent star with a bright white core and a multi-pointed starburst effect radiates light. In the lower half of the page, three hands are shown in silhouette, holding up ornate chalices or cups. The hands are positioned on the left side, with the arms extending towards the center. The chalices are also in silhouette, showing intricate designs. The overall mood is reverent and spiritual.

LET US ADORE
HIM!

Our Call to Worship

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



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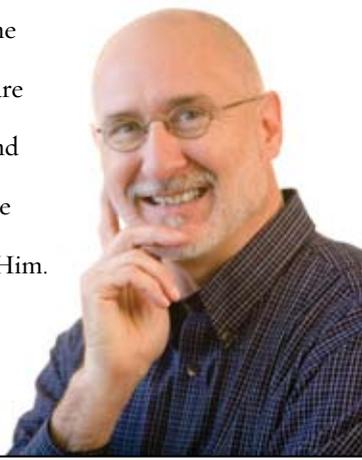
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For me, the Christmas season is a reminder of our basic and fundamental call to worship. Strip away the ribbons and bows, the lights and trees, the sleigh bells and chestnuts, and you are left with a cold, dark cave that wreaks of animal urine and feces. In this offensive setting is cradled the Savior of the world and the Hope of all creation. Come, let us adore Him.

Gary Burns
Gary Burns, Editor



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GUEST EDITORIAL

BY RODNEY GROVE, LAKE UNION CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

We asked Rodney Grove to write the editorial in keeping with the bylaws, which call for the executive secretary to carry out the responsibilities of the president in the president's absence. —*The editors*



Worship Is Giving

David just couldn't win! All he wanted to do was get the ark of the Lord to Jerusalem. The first attempt was a disaster. A man was dead. A family was in mourning. Israel was fearful. And David was mad at God.

This time was different. After six cautious steps, David stopped the procession and offered sacrifices. Then he threw off his robe and danced before the Lord with all his might—all the way to Jerusalem. The ark was home, and David was overwhelmed with joy and generosity—until he pulled his chariot into the palace driveway. Michal saw her husband's display from the palace window, and it evidently made her blood boil. "How the king of Israel has distinguished himself today," you can hear the sarcasm in her voice, "disrobing in the sight of the slave girls of his servants as any vulgar fellow would!"

His response was simple, "You ain't seen nothing yet!"

David and Michal didn't agree on what constituted worship. God, however, defended David.

The conference president asked me to be the pastor representative in a study group on worship. Somehow, opposing opinions instinctively migrated to opposite sides of the table. The study group chair opened the service with comments on Christ-likeness, but the discussion immediately became anything but. Suddenly, an individual stood, leaned across the table, pointed a finger and shouted, "How am I supposed to get anything out of the worship service when I am subjected to that noise you call music?"

My mind flashed back to our previous Sabbath service when students in grades one through four from our school provided the music. Their young, untrained voices didn't blend well. The apparently tone-deaf were the loudest. Noise? Musically, it was awful! But they sang before the Lord with all their might. Parents beamed. Grandparents took pictures. Members smiled with the satisfaction that dollars spent on Christian education were the best investment they could make for their future.

I was brought back to the moment when someone on the other side of the table stood and turned to the group. "Well, I might as well stay home if I am expected to get something from a service that would bore the dead."

The remark introduced a new thought to me. I had never thought about getting something from worship. To me worship is giving!

Shepherds were led to a stable filled with animal smells and sounds, where in an empty stall they found a poorly clothed Newborn. They bowed and worshiped.

From their study, the wise men learned of the birth of a new King. Led by the star, they made their way to the house of the baby King and presented the appropriate gifts as an act of worship.

Did they get anything out of their worship? I can imagine how they returned, filled with joy from being with the King of the Universe.

Yes, to me worship is giving. Just as returning my tithe is my acknowledgment God owns everything, my gift of worship is my declaration He is Ruler of all. Do I get something from worship? More than I deserve, but it's in giving myself in worship that I receive.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Michigan Jerry Weiler of Bay City, Michigan, has a hobby and business of raising pigeons. Back in 1992, his friend, John Drew of Georgia, ordered some pigeons. When the pigeons arrived, John made a video about the pigeons, demonstrating that they had arrived in perfect shape. As Jerry watched the video he could see that John was delighted with the new birds and was enjoying them very much. As he watched his friend, John, and his new pigeons, suddenly there was a blip in the video and “a prophecy talk” appeared, hosted by evangelist Kenneth Cox.

The partial program on prophecy caught Jerry’s interest, and he asked John to please send him more video tapes of Kenneth Cox’s messages, which John was very pleased to promptly send. He chose a series of tapes on the book of Daniel called, “Hope Beyond 2000.” After watching the series, Jerry discovered the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) and became a regular viewer.

As his interest grew, Jerry remembered an old friend, Bill McPherson, whom he believed to be a Seventh-day Adventist. He looked in his telephone book for the address of the Bay City Seventh-day Adventist Church where he thought Bill had been a member. When Jerry found the Bay City Church, he learned that Bill was a church elder.

Bill invited Jerry to attend worship services with him in the spring of 2007. After the service he introduced Jerry to his pastor, Frank Lugo, and they set up a schedule for a series of Bible studies.

On a beautiful Sabbath morning in December 2007, Jerry demonstrated his love and commitment to Jesus



When Jerry Weiler (left) watched a video about pigeons sent to him by his friend, John Drew, he discovered a biblical message by Kenneth Cox, inadvertently included because it was not erased when copied over. He requested more Cox videos and continued to learn biblical truths from those and Bible studies before his baptism in December 2007. Also pictured: Frank Lugo, pastor, Bay City Church

Christ by being baptized in the Bay City Church. Who would have thought that a flock of pigeons would lead a man to discover Jesus in the remnant message of the church of his old friend?

Melojeane Zawilinski, communications leader, Bay City Church, as shared with Bruce Babienko, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*



Before their baptisms on September 7, Kris (Everett) Sutton and Rich Sutton were united in marriage by Walt Williams on a bluff overlooking the beach in South Haven, Michigan.

Michigan September 7, 2008, was a momentous day for Kris Everett and Rich Sutton, as well as their daughter Olivia. They were married by Walt Williams on a bluff overlooking the beach in South Haven. Later, their family and a few friends witnessed their baptisms in Lake Michigan. Kris was baptized by Joe Kidder, and Rich by his father, Richard Sutton.

While Rich grew up an Adventist and then left the church, Kris did not grow up with God in her life. A few years ago, she made a New Year’s resolution to find God, and a relationship. The next day, a friend sent her Rich’s online profile.

Last year, Kris and Rich began coming to Niles Westside, and studying the Bible with John Abbott, former pastor. Because of his friendship and study with them, as well as Walt Williams, and Joe’s continued study with Kris and Rich after John moved, they made the decision to get married and then be baptized on the same day.



After exchanging wedding vows, family and a few friends were present to witness Rich and Kris Sutton (center) commit themselves to Jesus through baptism.

Congratulations, Suttons! May God bless your marriage and lives together.

Gina Meekma, editor, *Niles Westside News*

Indiana I (**Jackie Steuerwald**) was “born again” in 1986, but had many questions about why there were so many denominations: Which one was the right one? Was it the one with the largest membership? Every denomination seemed to have some correct Bible truths, which one should I join?

In searching for answers, I was guided by two scriptures: “Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” (see Philippians 2:12), and “But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you” (1 John 2:27). I didn’t know who He was, but I asked Him to be my Teacher.

As I continued growing in the Lord, I became very interested in Bible prophecy. I attended a prophecy seminar at the Brownsburg Seventh-day Adventist Church. Intrigued with what I learned, I considered attending that church, until I found out they worshiped on Saturdays. I would have attended, but I knew my family would not.

Later, I met an Adventist who heard me speak. She told me she thought I was a Christian, and loaned me a book to read. Following this, I began to question my response to the fourth commandment. Different individuals were giving me answers to my questions, but none satisfied me. Later,

I met some believers of another faith and worshiped occasionally with them on the Sabbath. Still, I did not have a correct understanding of worship on the Sabbath, beyond the fact it was observed on Saturday.

In 2005, I met Michael Jeffries who worshiped at the Irvington Seventh-day Church. I asked if I could attend with him. The first



Jackie Steuerwald (right) studied the Bible with Fred Troxell, Irvington Church pastor (left). Those studies, she said, clarified her “questions about denominations, church membership, eating God’s way, eschatology, the Sabbath, baptism and much more.”

doctrinal teachings I noticed were their references to Sundaykeepers, the difference in clean and unclean foods, and an emphasis on baptism. I had been baptized three different times—once in the Jordan River—and didn’t believe the Bible taught church membership was necessary.

I asked if I could begin Bible studies, and the Irvington Church pastor, Fred Troxell, was willing to be my mentor. My first lesson dealt with the subject of the Trinity, Satan and spiritual warfare. I couldn’t believe that what the Holy Spirit had been teaching me was taught by a denomination.

The studies were based on Scripture and historical evidence. I did my lesson right away and couldn’t wait until the next one. By the time I was finished, I had learned many new Bible teachings that would forever impact my life. It clarified my questions about denominations, church membership, eating God’s way, eschatology, the Sabbath, baptism and much more.

I decided to make a new start with Jesus Christ by being baptized.

Jackie Steuerwald, member, Irvington Church, with Charlotte Dodd, communications leader, Irvington Church, and Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*

Indiana **Darci Reed** did not grow up in a Seventh-day Adventist home; however, her grandmother, Betty Lime, was a Seventh-day Adventist. Betty made sure Darci went to Sabbath school and church with her every time she possibly could attend. Darci’s grandmother’s influence and assistance also made it possible for Darci to attend a Christian school.

Thanks mostly to her grandmother, Darci always knew about Jesus Christ, and experienced how to lean on Him. The hard times in Darci’s early life helped her understand how much she needed Jesus, and how she could always count on Him. He was always there to supply His grace to overcome.

Strange as it may sound, Darci believes her mixed-up religious background was a good thing. Because circumstances did not allow her to grow up always keeping the Sabbath or being a responsible steward who paid tithe and offerings, it was more special to her when she was old enough and understood what the Bible taught. It was her decision to be baptized, and not something she felt she had to do.

Today Darci is glad to have been baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Irvington. By God’s grace, she hopes to be used to bring the rest of her family to a knowledge of Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. She is sure her pastor, Fred Troxell, will help answer her prayer to reach her family for Jesus.

“And a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).



Darci Reed is thankful her grandmother taught her about Jesus early in life and took her to Sabbath school and church.

Charlotte Dodd, communications leader, Irvington Church, as shared with Bruce Babienco, volunteer correspondent, *Lake Union Herald*

Not by Might, by His Spirit

BY ARTEM DMYTRIYEV AS SHARED WITH RON CLARK

I came to Illinois as a literature evangelist, on a one-year internship from Zaoksky Adventist University in Russia. When I first arrived, I did not know English at all. It was so frustrating for me. At the first few doors I felt totally overwhelmed. After I repeated to people the English canvass I had memorized, they would respond and I couldn't understand a thing they were saying. This led me to seek the Lord earnestly in prayer: "Lord, please help me to understand ... not only the language of these American people, but help me to understand them—their needs, their fears and their hopes." God answered my prayer, and although I sound like a foreigner, I have no problem understanding what people are saying to me.

One day as I was working in an affluent neighborhood, I met a lady who immediately directed me to her husband. As I walked to speak with him in their multi-car garage, he immediately asked me, "Are you Christian?"

"Yes, I am," was my response.

"Get out of my house, I am [from another faith]. I hate Christians!"

As I started to walk away, I couldn't help saying to him, "Sir, okay, but before I go, I just want you to know something. I love people [of your faith]. I have many friends [of your faith] back home in my country."

When he heard that, he softened, saying, "Okay, I don't want any books from you, but just so you will stop going around saying that people [of my faith] are bad people, I will give you a donation."

"Sir," I responded, "I never said people [of your faith] are bad people. Don't you have children? Here, look at this children's cookbook; it will be good for them, and for you."

When the man gave me his donation, and I gave him the book for his children, the total atmosphere had changed.



Before knocking on doors, Artem Dmytriyeu prays the Lord will help him understand the needs, fears and hopes of the people he meets.

We parted with an embrace and well wishes. I praise God for the love of Jesus Christ!

A day or so later, I rang one doorbell. Before I knew what was happening, two huge dogs burst through the door and jumped up on me. It took my breath away. I was gasping, unable to exhale, and thinking I would never breathe again!

When the lady came to the door and ordered the dogs in, I still could not speak. Before I could recover from my fright the lady's husband drove aggressively into the driveway and headed toward me in a threatening manner!

I said, "Sir, I am not the lover, or the secret friend; I am a student missionary working on a scholarship program! Here, see for yourself!"

To my amazement he and his wife both listened to what I had to say and bought my books.

Truly, as the Bible says, it is, "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts" (Zechariah 4:6).

Artem Dmytriyeu is a literature evangelist in the Chicagoland area, and Ron Clark is the director of the Illinois Youth Challenge program, a Review and Herald Publishing Association initiative.



Missionaries to MONTANA

BY TERI ANZURES

On July 13, 75 missionaries from the Village Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan, as well as other local church members, headed to the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Poplar, Montana. Forty-four missionaries loaded an Amtrak train in Niles, Michigan, wearing fluorescent green T-shirts outlining Genesis 1:1 in English and the Dakota language. These shirts generated many unexpected opportunities to witness for Jesus on the 48-hour train ride there and back.

The train group met the driving group and began Native American culture immersion upon arrival when all participated in setting up 12 authentic tipis with two Native Americans showing all the intricate steps. After approximately five hours, the campsite was finished.

VBS began the next day. Attendance grew daily with an average of 70 to 90 children per day. One highlight was relationships made with our members and the Native American children. As the week progressed, the children stayed longer and longer after VBS, and some returned with their families to the evening meetings. Another highlight was a unique craft the children made. They painted the days of creation on a walking stick and then presented the sticks to their parents at the closing program on Sabbath.

Literature was passed out at the jail, Bible studies were given and prayer led one man to give his life to Christ. "When the man at the jail gave his life to Christ in prayer, it was the most exciting day of my life. I'll never be the same knowing that God used me that way," recalls Bill Keith, one of the trip's organizers.

Community service projects included painting a local church, cleaning and refurbishing outdoor recreation ar-



The mission team began Native American culture immersion immediately upon arrival when all participated in setting up 12 authentic tipis. They were guided by two Native Americans who demonstrated all the intricate steps.



Seventy-five missionaries from Michigan traveled to the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in Poplar, Montana, where they participated in community service projects, VBS programs, health classes and other witnessing opportunities.

cas and tearing down a burned trailer. Some Native American children helped clean up their community.

The Native Americans provided a speaker every night to teach the missionaries about their culture, crafts and food. On Friday, Kate Keith presented health talks to community health leaders. They were so impressed by the messages, and they wondered how they could present this information to their people. Through Spirit-led discussions, it was decided to send two health leaders to be trained in the Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) program and then provide it to their community.

At Sabbath vespers, every missionary told a blessing they received from the experience.

"What changed my heart and attitude were the VBS kids. They were so loving and happy despite their circumstances. This mission trip changed my life," said Laura Miller.

It became apparent that the Lord richly blessed each member of the trip in a unique way as they sought to serve the Native Americans.

Teri Anzures was a member of the mission team to Montana, and is a member of the Village Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan.





FAMILY TIES

The Gift of CONVERSATION

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

With all the choices for Christmas presents this year, how about giving children the gift of conversation?

Conversation is defined as the verbal communication of thoughts and feelings. In a world in which communication is becoming increasingly electronic, direct talking time is decreasing. Good conversation is an important aspect of creating a collaborative family atmosphere, one that enhances children's growth and enables them to learn the lessons parents most want to teach. Sensitive parents focus on creating harmonious parent-child relationships and work toward establishing secure attachments between themselves and their children. This attachment, in turn, encourages cooperation and willingness to attend to parents' requests as their parents attend to them. Real conversations are an important part of this mix.

It's easy to converse with young children because they are eager to share their experiences, and they don't worry as much as older children about criticism and negative reactions. For parents of young children, the most routine event is fertile ground for a conversation. Storytelling isn't just about telling a formal story, it's about making a conversation out of ordinary, everyday happenings. For example, telling a young child about what a parent and other family members will be doing on a Sunday morning helps a child see how different activities fit into the whole family's needs and schedules.

When a parent talks about the rules and the reasons for them, children can understand why rules are important. Talking about the rules within a normal routine, and when someone hasn't just broken one, weaves these values into a child's world. Talking when everyone's emotions are calm increases the likelihood that your child will hear and take in what you are saying. Even a young child who doesn't understand all the words will catch the tone of voice and learn that there is a routine to follow. As a child gains greater

verbal understanding, clarity about the purpose of the rules helps the child to remember the rules and follow them.

Older children can be more cautious, involved in their own activities, and reluctant to give opinions that may trigger criticism. Parents are responsible, however, to create a climate where good conversation can flourish and to stimulate their child's thinking and reasoning. In her book, *Is Your Bed Still There When You Close the Door? and other ponderings*, Jane M. Healy, Ph.D., an educational psychologist, came up with some imaginative questions to spark family conversations:

If you could talk to animals, what would you try to find out?

Try to imagine what life would be like if you were the size of a mouse.

Imagine a world in which everyone looked alike.

What if suddenly all the people in the country woke up speaking different languages and no one could understand anyone else?

How would the world be different if people were born with wheels instead of feet?

Bible verses can be great conversation starters as well. Use Revelation 3:20, 21, for example. Ask, "What do you think God's throne is like? What would it feel like to sit next to God on His throne? What are some questions you want to ask God?"

The rules of a good conversation are that everyone listens to what each person says without interrupting, criticizing or putting down other's responses. These questions get people talking, but Jane suggests that it's up to parents to keep the conversations going in day-to-day life.

This year, why not give children the gift that keeps giving—conversation!

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.

HEALTHY CHOICES

Brisk walking produces a surge of immune cells.

WINNING *the* COLD WAR

Elder and echinacea may provide some relief.

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

With the arrival of winter months, we usually see an increase of cold and flu symptoms. Over the course of a year, Americans contract about 1 billion colds. Influenza infection is a leading cause of morbidity, with 20 to 25 million doctor visits per year. Annually, there are about 190 million lost school days due to colds and flu. Conventional anti-inflammatory and anti-fever medications, as well as decongestants, provide for relief of symptoms. Other modalities have been suggested, some being effective and others not, to boost the immune system or curtail the annoying symptoms associated with colds and flu.

A number of companies sell enhanced foods and beverages, some using the word *immunity* in their branding, that supposedly boost or enhance the immune system. These products, containing various herbal, vitamin and mineral additives, do not function as their label claims. While zinc can block cold-causing rhinoviruses from adhering to the nasal lining, zinc lozenges or nasal sprays are unreliable ways to reduce cold symptoms.

Four decades ago, Linus Pauling claimed that three to five grams of vitamin C a day would prevent or cure the common cold. After 30 clinical trials involving more than 11,000 participants, we can clearly say that vitamin C does not prevent colds. Research suggests that vitamin C slightly reduces the duration and severity of colds, but there is no benefit to exceeding 250 mg/day, a level easily obtained from consuming the recommended nine servings a day of fruits and vegetables.

A product using a standardized extract of American ginseng root is approved in Canada for the relief of cold symptoms. Healthy adults who took the ginseng product for four months had fewer colds with milder symptoms while elderly people experienced fewer respiratory infections. The flowers of European elder are known to reduce



the severity and duration of cold and flu symptoms while garlic, a wide spectrum antibiotic, is commonly taken to help fight the common cold and upper respiratory infections.

Echinacea preparations are widely used in Europe to boost the immune system and shorten the duration and severity of a cold. Unfortunately, with herbal remedies their effects are not always predictable, since the purity and identity of the product may not be guaranteed, and the ideal dosage is often not known.

We should keep our immune system healthy by eating meals rich in fruits and vegetables, getting adequate sleep, managing stress appropriately, and getting regular exercise. When you exercise moderately, such as walking briskly, the natural killer cells and neutrophils start circulating at an increased level. These immune cells defend the body against invading bacteria and viruses, and stay elevated for about three hours after a 45-minute walk. They then drop to normal levels until you exercise again, emphasizing the importance of regular exercise since the benefit from immune cells is short lived.

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



EXTREME GRACE

Appius Remembers Christmas

TRUE WORSHIP CALLS TO THE HEARTS OF THE UNCOMMITTED

BY DICK DUERKSEN

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child (Luke 2:4, 5 NIV).

I love to travel, especially when it includes an opportunity to get away from the humidity of the Mediterranean. So, you can imagine how quickly I agreed to the trip back into Bethlehem to coordinate the census and tax collection for that district.

Caesar is always coming up with new ways to resolve his economic disasters, and this time the Hebrews were his choice source for coinage. His “census” command got them scurrying all over the country, lining up to confirm their parentage and donate to the treasury. No, none of them were pleased with the process, but in Bethlehem all were proud to be “of the lineage of King David.”

My job was to make sure everyone got on Caesar’s list and paid their unjust portion ... and to keep the Hebrew tax collectors from stealing the shekels. The list was easy. The shekels were slippery. And Bethlehem was chaos.

I took over the innkeepers’ soft bed, since they didn’t have time to sleep anyway. But I didn’t get much sleep either, because the place was a madhouse! Everyone was shouting at each other and cursing the emperor. Shouts in the morning, shouts at lunchtime, shouts in the evening and shekels all day long!

My “office” was a stone seat above the city gates where I could watch the crowds coming to the city. It’s amazing how much one man can get onto the back of a donkey.

I was there when they came in—the woman, pregnant to the extreme, hanging side-saddle onto the donkey while leaning against a wooden contraption that carried their belongings. *Clever*, I thought, admiring the pack saddle. *He must be a woodworker of some kind. That means a richer tax!*

That’s when I noticed his eyes—brown orbs pulsing with terror and teary with relief. I leaned over the wall to watch the story unfold.

They broke from the tax line and asked a gatekeeper

for directions to the inn. I immediately thought of my nice warm bed and wondered how it might do as a birthing room. One of my collectors ran over to hassle the man for the tax and census data, but the man pointed at the woman and promised to return “in the morning.” The collector looked up for instructions, and I waved him off. “Tomorrow,” I shouted. “He’ll be easy to find!”

I thought no more of them till morning. At the inn, everyone was talking about the new baby. “Born in a stone manger,” they said.

“Wrapped in the clothes of a poor family.”

“Father is a carpenter in Nazareth.”

“But they’re descendants of David.”

“I’m sure the baby is the Messiah.”

“Imagine, the King of the Jews born in one of David’s old Bethlehem caves!”

“Right,” I laughed, and began walking to the city gates.

Suddenly, the roads were filled with scores of worshipers shouting, “Alleluia!” while telling tales of angel choirs and city-visiting shepherds. “Been ten years since Old Ahmed has been in town!” someone laughed. “We’ll never get the smell of sheep and wood smoke out of the city.”

We Romans listened from our side of the room, laughed loudly at the absurdity of it all, and then went back to work. I wonder if there is a way to tax angel singing and shepherd dreams? I made a note to make sure we got the shepherds on the census list. This job is a real zoo.

Oh, yes, I made sure to add one more mark for the newborn “king.” Sure would be nice to have a king worth worshipping.

I wonder what they’ll name him?

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



Morning Praises

BY DIANE THURBER

One of my earliest childhood memories includes a dim light shining down the hallway of our home around 5:00 a.m. each day. I recall the first time my curiosity was piqued, so I decided to tiptoe down the hall as quietly as possible to see who was up so early and why.

Sitting in his reading chair was my dad. A warm light from the nearby lamp spilled across the chair and illuminated the pages of the gently worn Bible on his lap. His eyes were closed. I watched for just a few minutes, but turned because I had the odd sensation I was interrupting something very personal—conversations between Dad and God. I slipped back down the hall and jumped under my warm bed covers, but that image in my mind didn't fade. Often, I



remember that moment and contemplate the importance of creating a special place and time to meet my Creator, too.

Dad almost always turned in to bed earlier than the rest of the family. When I was younger, I assumed it was because he was tired from a long day at the office, where he spent most of the day bent over patients' mouths as he fixed painful teeth and gums, taught oral hygiene and looked for ways to slip into a conversation about Jesus. But as I grew older, it dawned on me that Dad went to bed early so he wouldn't be too tired for his most important appointment of the day. I asked him about it one day, and I was right. It wasn't laborious for him to arise before light each morning, rather it was something he looked forward to.

I used to think Dad just sat in the chair each morning and read his Bible and prayed, but on one "fishing trip" in the seat cushions, I discovered a notebook tucked out of sight. Opening it, I discovered pages filled with poems by Dad, "love letters" he jotted down every morning as he

contemplated his Heavenly Father, the Son and the Spirit and their impact on him and our family. As I read, line after penned line revealed to me the special relationship between Dad and Heaven. Each poem showed his committed heart and represented a private worship service, where the adoration in Dad's heart flowed out in rhyme for unseen heavenly eyes as he communed with God each morning.

I've often thought of my Dad's personal worship experiences. I have no doubt that during those sacred hours, carved out of sleep, my Dad treaded on holy ground. And when he did, he discovered a welcoming relationship. His poems revealed to me that he couldn't contain his adoration. In those quiet hours, when everyone else slept, he created early morning worship praises to be shared between him and God alone.

Ellen White often contemplated her Savior and couldn't contain her adoration either. She exclaimed, "I will not hold my peace. The praise of God is in my heart and upon my lips. We can rejoice in the fullness of our Saviour's love. We can feast upon His excellent glory. ... Awake, and adore thy Redeemer for His wondrous love! (*Christian Experience and Teachings of Ellen G. White*, p. 153).

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

Read a poem by the author's father, Kenneth Wynn, in the online version of this article at www.lakeunionherald.org.

Committed Messengers of Hope

BY JOHN C. SCATTERGOOD

Twice a week the jailhouse doors bang shut behind Alice Kelley, 92, of Salem, as she and her much younger companion, Phyllis Knox, 62, of Centralia walk into a small recreation room.

The day before one of her walks, Alice said she had walked the 16 blocks from her Salem home to take advantage of a beautiful spring day, while saving gas money and getting some exercise in the process.

Alice seems to have found her way of making it through life and making each day count.

“I take it one day at a time,” Alice said. “I’m happy with that day. All my days [are] happy,” she added. “I won’t accept one that isn’t.”

The two women and their pastor, Florin Liga, are among the few people currently venturing into the county jail to spread the Gospel, according to Florin, who pastors Seventh-day Adventist churches in Salem, Centralia, and three other communities.

Florin also pastors in Big Muddy Prison and said, having once lived in communist Romania, surviving a bloody revolution, he believes it’s important to a church that people like Alice and Phyllis take a lead role in spreading Christianity, “and not only do the easy things.

“I do believe in what we call empowering leadership,” Florin said, referring to what the two women have been doing week after week by going to the jail. “It takes commitment and passion to do that,” he said of the women.

One of the messages Alice delivered to the four jails she and Phyllis were speaking to the other day was a tough one—things happen that aren’t always fair.

“Where’s fair?” she questioned. “You are not going to get fair until you get to Heaven.”

“There are drug dealers that have parties for children,” Alice added. “What’s fair about that?”

Yet, Alice knows that things haven’t been fair for at least some of the prisoners. Some she has met “don’t remem-



Alice Kelley, 92, and her younger companion, Phyllis Knox, 62, are among the few people who venture into their county jail to spread the Gospel.

ber their mom and dad,” she said. “They’ve lived in foster homes all their lives.

“Some had no training,” Alice said, with a touch of anger in her voice. “Some have been raised like animals.”

Most of the time is spent on the Bible lessons, with the two women setting a fast pace, whipping back and forth with each other, men-

tioning parts of the Bible and smiling at each other and at the prisoners.

Alice speeds along, mentioning Bible verses and sometimes having not only the chapter and verse memorized, but also calling out the page numbers for the prisoners.

One of the female inmates kept pace for most of the two hours and seldom took her eyes off of the women as she concentrated on what Alice and Phyllis had to say.

As at the start, so too was it at the end of the session when the women reached out their hands to each other and said a prayer together.

When asked why she’s spent so much time over the years in jails, Alice answered, “Why do people do anything they do?”

“I want to do my part for spreading God’s word,” she said. “I know the jails are kind of the neglected part of God’s work.”

John C. Scattergood writes for the Centralia (Illinois) *Sentinel*. This article was originally published in the *Sentinel* on May 8. It was edited for space by Bruce Babienco, *Lake Union Herald* volunteer correspondent, with permission from the author.



EL MEJOR MÉTODO DE HACER EVANGELISMO

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“Los esfuerzos personales e individuales y el interés por vuestros amigos y vecinos realizará más de lo que se pueda estimar. ... Vuestra obra puede realizar más bien verdadero que las reuniones más grandes, si en ellas falta el esfuerzo personal. Cuando se combinan ambos, con la bendición de Dios, se puede realizar una obra más perfecta y acabada....” (El ministerio de la bondad, p. 99)

Entre las personas que se bautizaron en la campaña de La Red 2008 en Chicago estaba el señor Phil Vázquez. El señor Vázquez había sido criado como cristiano pero no iba con frecuencia a la iglesia. Un día, Delicia Chirinos, miembro de la Iglesia Adventista y quien trabajaba en la misma empresa que Vázquez, lo invitó para ir a su iglesia. Al principio asistió a algunos cultos pero no siguió yendo con regularidad.

A comienzo de este año decidió ir con más frecuencia y comenzó a tomar estudios bíblicos usando el curso *La fe de Jesús*. Además, los hermanos y el pastor de la iglesia siguieron animando al señor Vázquez en su crecimiento espiritual. Después de su bautismo llegué a platicar con él en la Iglesia Central de Chicago y noté la sonrisa de una hermana que estaba a su lado. Era Delicia Chirinos, la misma mujer que lo había animado primero a asistir a la iglesia. Fue una evidencia más que el evangelismo más efectivo y esencial para ganar almas para Cristo es el evangelismo personal.



Phil Vázquez recibe felicitaciones de Delicia Chirinos, después de su bautismo.

El año 2009, que ya se aproxima, va a ser un año especial porque la División Norteamericana lo ha designado como el “Año de Evangelismo.” Los líderes de la iglesia han propuesto que cada hermano y pastor se dedique en una manera especial a apoyar las campañas evangelísticas en cada una de las 5,800 iglesias en nuestra División con el propósito de bautizar a 100.000 almas, por lo menos, en el año. La realidad es que el blanco es algo extraordinario

ya que la División acostumbra bautizar a alrededor de 38.000 personas por año. Al principio me pregunté --¿será sabio designar un blanco tan elevado? Pero entonces pensé que el enfoque no debe ser el blanco aparentemente elevado de la División sino el compromiso que *cada individuo* tiene con Dios de trabajar por las almas que le rodean.

Me impresionó mucho el testimonio del hermano

Vázquez al decirme que él ahora siente la responsabilidad de compartir con otros lo que Dios ha hecho en su vida. Pienso que si todos nosotros sintiéramos esa misma responsabilidad no habría duda que el blanco sería fácilmente alcanzado y aún superado con la ayuda del Espíritu Santo.

En los próximos meses se hará mucha promoción a favor de este proyecto. Pido sus oraciones para que el Señor guíe a su pueblo para hacer en el año que viene un esfuerzo extraordinario en evangelismo personal para así fielmente llevar a cabo la gran comisión de nuestro Señor.

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

I WILL



WORSHIP!

BY MICHAELA V. LAWRENCE

As the blended notes of instruments moved our voices along, I stood on the platform anticipating the key change. And then the moment I'd been waiting for arrived. "I sing for joy at the work of Your hands."

As I sang those words, I raised my hand as a sign that this was real for me. I was singing for joy. And as I sang, I couldn't help but think of how much harder this moment could be if I hadn't started the day with at least "a little talk with Jesus."

It had been a stressful morning, but what I'd read about God that morning and the words the two of us exchanged through prayer allowed me to believe what I was singing—so much so that I didn't want to stop. If I'd had my way, we would have sung the whole song again, a cappella, carefully listening to each other praise God. There's no one quite like Him.

I wake up fully aware of my need for God—most days. Frustrated by the jarring sound of an alarm, I rely on God to end my slumber. To the right of my bed sits a Bible, pages interrupted by sermon notes and potential essay topics. I glance at the leather-bound book, wondering if reading it a bit later in the day would really be less effective than reading it immediately. And I'm quickly reminded that yes, now is the right time. So I open it up and try, between yawns, to listen.

God speaks in a variety of ways. The last thing I want to do is limit my ability to hear Him. So aside from reading my Bible and talking to God soon after waking, I have no strict traditions.

I'm currently reading the Psalms. I practiced the "Psalm-a-day" method a long while back, focusing more on getting through them than on taking them in. These days I sometimes get stuck on a sentence like "establish the work of our hands" from Psalm 90 or a word like *help*.

The Psalms don't always reflect my current murmurings, but they always remind me of our human condition—we need a Savior. This is why I worship. This is why I ask God to be Lord of my life and I try to live as though I mean it.

The more clearly I recognize my need for God, the more challenging worship becomes, because I like my independence. I'm almost addicted to a DIY (Do It Yourself) way of life. From repairing an appliance to refinishing a table, there's a warm, satisfying calm that comes over me when I look at the finished product and bless it with my pride. Yes, I did that. Yes, it took skill. Yes, it looks wonderfully unique.

The crazy thing is, very few projects actually receive such praise because very few are thoroughly completed. There's never enough time in a day or money in my pocket to do all that I want to do all by myself. The unfinished pieces around me serve as reminders that I wasn't made an island; I was made a human being in need of community, in need of help, especially in need of God. None of my efforts will save me.

Worship is apparently a verb. Whether kneeling for prayer or being kind to a neighbor, action must be present for worship to be anything more than intellectual assent. And yet action sometimes gets the best of us.

I'll admit that leading a congregation in singing can give me a high, not because I think I'm the best voice out there, but because the experience has a strong emotional dimension. To not only sing a song but to hear a crowd sing out with me is beyond exciting. It gives some credence to what I do and energizes me to continue. I walk away believing that something really good just happened, and I'll do it again as soon as I can.

But the high only lasts so long. I must come down to reflect on the experience, confess that I'm never enough, and thank God for being there. I rest in His presence.

Just this morning I got another reminder of God's presence as my friend, Jody, and I went running. We have a particular meeting area and I was late; so as soon as I got out

the door and down the staircase I began to run. The air was cold but not as cold as it had been other days—three layers weren't necessary. Such relief.

I ran along the path counting my blessings and finally met up with Jody. As usual, we began swapping stories of how God's been good to us. It's a double blessing: it reminds us of God's faithfulness and makes the run fly by. And when we get to the end, we catch our breath and then we pray. I look forward to that time. We always thank God for running with us, praying as if He's standing right there, because He is.

I wish all worship experiences were so beautifully simple, but worship is typically a challenge, and it is seldom flawless. The submission of my will to God's doesn't always happen as soon as it should, so I mess up along the way.

It would be no big deal if I served some distant being that I couldn't talk to or expect to hear from. But God is so close. He's my Creator and He made me so that I could worship Him, because in worshiping Him, I take part in His big salvation plan. It's so big that I can't afford to live a compartmentalized life: a religion box, a school box, a work box, a health box.

Everything has to work together so that who I am on Sabbaths actually directly relates to who I am on Tuesdays. With this unified approach, my life should reflect a desire to be obedient to what Jesus says. Obedience is worship.

And I don't want to follow that up with "oh, what better way to live!" because that sounds so trite. I want worship to be much more than a slogan, strewn across virtual realities and disconnected from the everyday journey. Worship is essential. I want to keep it alive and dynamic, and I want to help others do the same.

So I sing. I use music to talk about God, optimistically believing that God wants us to worship Him using the things we enjoy. Why give them to us otherwise?

I often second-guess my optimism, however, supposing that selfishness has gotten the best of me. After all, how can sacrifice and enjoyment coexist?

Thankfully, experience has taught me that sacrifice is in the surrender of my singing to the will of God. Instead of putting all my energy into fun and easy performances, I have to be available for the less predictable, the opportunities that grow my skills and challenge my faith in God.

I have to sing and mean what I sing, even when I'm tired

and I don't think people are listening. In these times, God is somehow able to speak to me and I am able to listen. I take my gift and give it back through praise, and then, the Almighty talks to me. Me! He takes the time to let me know that He's glad I'm worshiping Him.

But He also reminds me that this is not about me or my good intentions. The Holy Spirit is in charge. I've done my best to prepare, but God's running this. So I've got to let it go, stop clinging to my labor, stop hedging in the blessing.

Planning well and then surrendering all my plans to God is extremely difficult. Just imagine organizing a workshop and then giving it to someone else to lead. No matter how clear your instructions, you know the workshop won't go exactly the way you planned. Even if the participants learn the material, a part of you wants them to have the experience you had in mind—the one that only you could provide. But the point is that they learn, not that they experience you.

It's the same in worship. Even though I've spent time intentionally preparing a music set, once I get up to sing the attention shouldn't be on me. When I act as though it should be, God doesn't sit still. He interrupts my day and says, "Allow Me to introduce Myself to you once again. Perhaps you've forgotten that I am the object of your worship. You worship Me because I made you and take care of you. You worship Me because others need to know that I am their God, too."

Okay. But what does that mean Lord? Really. It sounds difficult, like that whole "faith without works is dead" concept John talks about. How do I make You the object of worship? What is it You really want from me? Questions pour out of an honest search for understanding.

I don't always feel comfortable raising my hands, and I don't always want to kneel. I don't always know what the physical manifestation of my spiritual experience should be. But that's not what matters most. Somehow I must allow God all the time He needs to reveal Himself to me as Creator, because then I'll better understand Him as Savior.

There's a time to sing and a time to sit still—a time to do and a time to simply be. And in each, God just wants to speak. I will listen. I will worship.

Michaela V. Lawrence is a student at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University and a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church worship team.

[“WORSHIP THE LORD IN HOLY SPLENDOR.” —PSALM 96:9]



WORSHIP *and the* CROSS

BY GARY BURNS

What comes to your mind when you hear the word *worship*? Is it the name we give the program that usually begins at 11:00 o'clock? Is it the evening program that parents provide for their children before bedtime? Is it a high-church experience where, between intermittent rumblings and blasts from cathedral pipes, a pin drop can be heard 50 yards away? Or is it an emotional ecstasy where one loses oneself in a frenzy of songs, shouts and chants?

It was the Sabbath morning worship hour, and it was a beautiful experience. Everything was going along just fine. The words and the music were complementary. It was apparent the worship leaders were keenly aware of the presence of God. Their expressions of praise were personal and authentic. They were responsive to the Spirit.

Surrounded by a chorus of joyful worshipers, we lifted our voices in adoration and praise. We sang about the cross. Then it happened.

I tried to sing the next line, but the words caught in my throat. My heart felt like it was going to spill over with gratitude for the One on the cross—and it did. It spilled from the corner of my eye, down my cheek and into my beard. My hand seemed weightless as it ascended to acknowledge my desperate need. I was in the *presence* of the Lamb.

Birthered from a sinner's heart, worship in God's presence flows with expressions of gratitude and humility for unmerited grace and redemption. Salvation, then, is the ultimate

cause for the response of praise. It is the theme of the “New Song” that only the redeemed can sing. The cross is their central theme. Paul says, “May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Galatians 6:14).

Through His death on the cross, He not only reconciled us to Himself as our Creator and Redeemer, He demonstrated His love and His worthiness to be praised—His worth-ship.

Psalm 100 is a wonderful tutorial on worship.

“Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.”

Of special importance to Seventh-day Adventists is the message of the angel who declares the everlasting gospel: “Fear God and give him glory, ... and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water” (Revelation 14:7).

We often focus on the judgment, but if you look at the language and the structure of the sentence, the primary message is a call to worship our Creator. The loud voice is saying, “Worship!” The prepositional phrase, “for the hour of his judgment has come” speaks to the urgency of the message to worship the Creator.

According to Jesus, “true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit *and* truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit *and* truth” (John 4:23, 24, emphasis supplied).

For nearly 150 years, Seventh-day Adventists have emphasized the call to worship God in truth by proclaiming the true Sabbath—God’s only commandment that gives His identity and states the purpose for worship. The right “who” is essential. We must worship in truth. But what about the *spirit* of worship? How do we fear God and give glory to Him?

“Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD; give praise, O servants of the LORD, you that stand in the house

of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God. Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for he is gracious” (Psalm 135:1–3).

Worship, then, is a spiritual response—a love response to the Creator-Redeemer—an experience between the creature and his Creator, the redeemed and her Redeemer. It is personal. It is emotional. It is truth grasped by faith and expressed in the Spirit of love. Worship happens within the context of our relationship with Jesus Christ.

“*Through him*, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name” (Hebrews 13:15, emphasis supplied).

Yet, how often is the fruit of our lips blighted with unbelief, doubt, discouragement and difficulties? How often do our lips bear the fruit of criticism?

The brother of Jesus spoke from painful personal experience:

“And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so” (James 3:6, 9, 10).

It is the cross, and only the cross, that frees us to worship in spite of our own feebleness, faults and failures. It is only in the cross that we can be at peace with God and at peace with one another. It is only as we die in Christ on the cross that pride and envy are crucified—that love, forgiveness and acceptance are ratified.

“Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross” (Philippians 2:5–8).

That’s a tall order for our human nature. It may be the reason why some of us find it very difficult to enter into a

worship experience. We can observe it. We can appreciate it. We can find enjoyment and comfort in it. We can be entertained by it and often bored by it. We can even fill a role and participate in it, yet never personally, spiritually, enter into the worship experience. Something is amiss. Could it be our fundamental and basic resistance to the cross? “For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things” (Philippians 3:18, 19).

It was the Sabbath morning worship hour and everything was *not* going just fine. The pastor was embarrassingly unprepared. Worship participants were caught up in their own performance. The remarks from the pulpit were insensitive to a number of special guests present—guests for whom church was a rare experience.

Attendees—I can’t call them worshipers—mouthed the words of the song. I tried to sing, but no sound came out. My heart felt like it was going to break. And it did—“weeping between the temple porch and the altar” (Joel 2:17 NKJV).

I ached for the people present, overwhelmed with sorrow at their apparent drudgery of duty. Just one more hour of obligatory attendance and they would be free. Did God’s own words apply?

“You also say, ‘Oh, what a weariness!’ ... And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick; Thus you bring an offering! Should I accept this from your hand?” (Malachai 1:13 NKJV).

As I travel to various churches, I wonder if the reason why so many of us—and when I say us, I mean all of us—have difficulty engaging in the experience of worship is because it is so foreign to our sinful humanity. We find it awkward, if not improbable, to participate with Heaven in worshipping our Creator. We have not yet died to the world and been raised to the heavenly. We do not yet view ourselves as actually *being in* the resurrected Christ.

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with

Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory” (Colossians 3:1–4). Embracing this reality by faith transforms the worshiper into the very presence of God. It is in the context of this intimate love partnership that worship is birthed as a gift from God.

Embrace that reality with me—right now! Imagine hearing the invitation, “Come up here.” Enter through the open door (see Revelation 4 and 5). See One sitting on the throne that glows with the color of embers—the promise of grace encircling His throne.

Hear the heavenly beings say, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.” Join in the response, and lay your tribute at His feet. Gush out the words between sobs of joy, “You are worthy, my Lord and my God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created me and everything else, and by Your will I was created and have my being.”

Cry aloud, “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,” with the intense and awful realization that He was slain for you.

Worshiping by faith in the presence of the Lamb incorporates our whole being and includes all of the senses. It expresses itself in the spontaneous wellspring of joy and praise that blesses God, blesses us and blesses those around us. The reality of being in the very presence of God transforms our worship and praise. The experience is a contagious wonder that draws others into fellowship with their Creator. Worship itself becomes a ministry of reconciliation.

“I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears” (Psalm 34:1–3).

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

Scripture references are from the New International Version unless otherwise noted.

Adapted from *A Manual for Teen Prayer Ministry*, North American Division, Silver Spring: Maryland (1998).



W O

“Creation Song (Glory to the Lamb)”

Words and music: John Andrew Schreiner & Eddy Duhan
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“Creation Song” is performed by Fernando Ortega on his “Hymns of Worship” CD.
This and other resources for personal worship and reflection are available through
your local Adventist Book Center.

Photography: Dick Duerksen

Visit www.MountainFriendsPhotography.com.
You’ll discover more nature photography and stories of inspiration
to enhance your worship experience.

RESHUDD

Creation Song

He wraps Himself in light
As with a garment,
He spreads out the heavens
And walks on the wings of the wind.

He sends forth the springs
From the valleys
They flow between mountains.
The birds of the air dwell
By the waters,
Lifting their voices in song—

Singing glory, glory!
Glory to the Lamb!
All praises and honor forever.

He made the moon for its seasons,
The sun knows its setting,
He looks at the Earth and it trembles,
He touches the mountains
And they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord all my life,
I will sing praises to my God—
As long as I live,
Praises to the Lord, oh my soul.

Singing glory, hallelujah!
Glory to our God!
All praises and honor forever.



Children donate birthday gifts to hospital's pediatric patients

Put most six-year-olds in a room full of birthday presents and they'd unwrap the pile faster than you can say "Webkinz." Aidan and Kendall Kelly, however, aren't most six-year-olds. After their birthday party, the twins looked at the carload of presents—gifts from their kindergarten classmates—and thought there were just too many to keep for themselves. Their mom, Julia Kelly, asked the little ones what they wanted to do with their toys.

"We should give them away to kids who don't have toys," Kendall answered.

Julia suggested donating the gifts to Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. Aidan and Kendall each chose one present from their birthday party

and packed up the rest to deliver to the hospital's pediatric unit, where they will be distributed to patients. Even their four-year-old sister, Claire Kelly, donated a few presents from her birthday.

On the way to the hospital Aidan was unusually quiet, prompting his mother to ask if he was having second thoughts.

"No," he replied. "I know these toys are going to kids who need them more than we do."

More than 30 presents will benefit the hospital's pediatric patients. Michelle Nottoli, R.N., clinical manager/coordinator of surgical pediatrics, accepted the gifts on behalf of the unit.

"We are so thankful to the Kelly family for their generosity," Nottoli said. "To make an adult decision at such a young age speaks volumes about these little ones and their parents."

Lisa Parro, public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health

Hospital opens outpatient Wound Care Center

For most people, cuts and scratches heal within days or weeks. But for those whose natural healing process is hampered, a simple sore can become a complex medical problem. Without proper treatment, these wounds can hamper physical activity, quality of life and, in some cases, be debilitating. Patients suffering from problem wounds can turn to Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital's new Wound Care Center.

"We are excited to have added this important service to our continuum of care," said Karen Gonzalez, clinical coordinator of the Wound Care Center. "Not only does the Wound Care Center complement the quality care already available at the hospital, but it also fills an important need in the community. In the past, people may have had to travel long distances to receive this level of wound care. Now we are able to offer the latest techniques right here in our own community."

An outpatient, hospital-based program, the Wound Care Center works in conjunction with the patient's primary care physician, serving as an adjunctive service for the referring physician and specializing in the treatment of problem wounds.

Fatima Jaffer, M.D., the program's medical director, is assisted by a team of experienced physicians that specialize in general surgery, infection control, internal medicine, podiatry and orthopedic surgery.

"We are excited to be able to provide this much-needed addition to our program," Jaffer said. "Our entire multidisciplinary team of physicians and nurses are trained to provide comprehensive treatment and care to the community."

Lisa Parro, public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health



Six-year-old twins Aidan (left) and Kendall Kelly (right) flank their four-year-old sister, Claire Kelly (center), as they drop off a load of birthday presents for pediatric patients at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. Behind them are hospital employees (from left): Tonya Smith, Marilyn Vorsanger, Kathy Puffer and Michelle Nottoli.

Detriot Free Press, PBS journalists speak at Andrews

Two noted journalists visited Andrews University to address students during the first week of October. Caesar Andrews, executive editor for the *Detriot Free Press*, shared his passion for journalism with a group of students on Tuesday, Oct. 7.

"I have a job that allows me to use my skills and ideals in order to make something—a community, an organization—better." These inspiring words serve as a sort of mantra for Andrews, executive editor of the *Detriot Free Press* since 2005. Andrews has also worked for such high-profile news agencies as *USA Today* and Gannett News Service.

Later that same week, Ray Suarez, award-winning broadcast journalist and Washington-based senior correspondent for PBS's "*The NewsHour*," was the featured speaker for University Forum. He addressed students in the filled-to-capacity Howard Performing Arts Center. The monthly Forum, often presented by noted leaders, focuses on major issues of concern to Christians as they live and work in the world.

"It's a joy to be on a Seventh-day Adventist campus. I've long admired the church for its steadfast fidelity to its own way of being Christian and its strong defense of the free exercise of minority faith, and most especially for the church's rigorous and consistent defense of the separation of

church and state," he said.

Suarez, author of *The Holy Vote*, a look at the convergence of faith and politics in America, gave an eye-opening look at the current religious climate in the political arena. Immediately following the Forum, Suarez was the guest of honor at a Leadership Luncheon with student leaders from across campus.

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

Grand opening of new milking parlor and Visitor's Center celebrated

One hundred and one years after their first cow was milked, the Andrews University Farm and Dairy celebrated the grand opening of a new milking parlor and Visitor's Center on Friday, Sept. 26.

During the dedication ceremony in the new Visitor's Center, Niels-Erik Andreasen, Andrews University president, acknowledged the importance of the farm and dairy not only to Andrews, but to underdeveloped countries around the world. "It's a university farm and it's a good one, and it helps the university reach out around the world and support people in need."

The new facility allows

the simultaneous milking of 40 cows by machines with automatic take-off devices that sense when the milk flow has dropped low enough to remove the machine and stop milking that cow. Three milk-

ings a day, 365 days a year, resulted in shipping more than 2.4 million gallons of milk in 2007. The milk produced at the dairy is marketed by the Michigan Milk Producers Association Cooperative. Some of it is used locally to make cheese at Old Europe Cheese Inc. in Benton Harbor, Mich.

The Farm and Dairy takes pride in its educational, research-focused facility offering students hands-on experience at a commercial operation. The herd, comprised of approximately 1,250 cows, is housed at both Andrews University and Indiana Academy in Cicero, Ind. Young heifers are sent to Indiana Academy at four months old and return to Andrews to join the milking herd at 22 months.

The facility also provides hands-on opportunities for students studying in any of the five degrees offered by the Department of Agriculture. A memorandum of understanding with Zaoksky Adventist University (ZAU) in Russia is in development to allow agriculture students from ZAU to transfer to Andrews to complete their degree. The department prides itself on preparing "agricultural specialists" for service in underdeveloped countries and around the world, including providing support to grow vegetables and eggs for use at a center dedicated to assisting orphans in Swaziland.

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



Caesar Andrews, executive editor for the *Detriot Free Press*, shared his passion for journalism with a group of students.



The new milking parlor was made possible by a portion of an \$8.5 million gift to Andrews University in March 2007.

[EDUCATION NEWS]

Project Faith: God's blessings delivered at alumni weekend

Lake Region—Last October 2007, during the celebration of City Temple Church's 100 Years Celebration banquet, Greg Mathis, of the nationally syndicated reality-based court show, *Judge Mathis*, and a former student of Peterson-Warren Academy (PWA), made a commitment to match up to \$50,000 to benefit PWA. The seed was planted, and it started to grow. Juanita Martin, PWA principal, Jerome Davis, Lake Region Conference (LRC) president, and Alice Dent, Peterson-Warren Alumni Association president, reached out to the constituent churches, alumni, family, friends and the community to solicit support for Project Faith.



Greg Mathis (left), of the nationally syndicated reality-based court show, *Judge Mathis*, and a former student of Peterson-Warren Academy, presented the school with \$60,000, which included an additional \$10,000 above the amount pledged. Also pictured: Juanita Martin, Ed.D., Peterson-Warren Academy principal

There has never been such excitement as churches and schools throughout LRC contributed to this cause! It was a blessing to see so many people come together to show their support and love for Christian education. The alumni association proved its worth

once more, as it solicited funds from alumni in the Metro Detroit area and beyond. God blessed their efforts as funds began to come in from as far away as Huntsville, Ala.

Davis rallied the churches throughout the LRC to support this worthy cause by contributing \$500 or more to the matching campaign. Once the communication was made by Davis about PWA needs and a Project Faith DVD created by Ray Young (LRC communications director), funds began to pour in from large and small churches in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan. The ten constituent churches, led by William Joseph, pastor and LRC area ministerial leader, pressed their congregations harder to solidify the matching goal of \$50,000 by the Aug. 31 deadline.

PWA Alumni Weekend began with anticipation and celebration as everyone prepared for the annual third weekend of September's gathering. The alumni association recognized the pioneer schools during roll call. The pioneer schools are Berean, Hartford, Davison, Frank L. Peterson and Sharon Junior Academy. Alumni and former faculty traveled from as far as Jamaica in the West Indies to fellowship and worship with their former classmates, teachers and friends. Class members of '68, '78, '88, '98 and 2008 were the featured guests honored.

Philip Willis Jr. ('88), a chaplain in the U.S. Army deployed in Iraq, sent greetings and well wishes for PWA's continued success. A touching tribute honored Servonia Jones for her dedication to and beyond Christian education. Also honored were Clarence Barnes (first PWA principal), Sharon Beard-Smith (first graduate of the PWA class of '68) and Shirley Tatum ('64). Cory Jackson, keynote speaker,



Servonia Jones (seated) received a touching tribute for her dedication to and beyond Christian education.

delivered an inspiring message and charged the alumni to take responsibility and claim ownership of PWA. To this date, one new enrollment can be attributed to his charge. Outstanding music was rendered by PWA alumnus, Justin Davis ('98), and fellow students from Andrews University.

Later that evening, hundreds of guests were warmly welcomed to the long-awaited Project Faith banquet, sponsored by the alumni association. Hearts were lifted with a renewed spirit as Kym Worthy, Wayne County prosecutor, continued with the message presented Sabbath morning by Jackson. During the banquet, soul-stirring music was rendered by recording artist, Chuck Arrington, and alumnus Iris Hankins of "Tuesday Musicale Opera of Grosse Pointe Hills."

The banquet was well supported and attended by alumni, pastors, churches and representatives from the LRC, including the president; Donald Bedney, secretary; Ruth Horton, superintendent of education; and Yvonne Collins, interim treasurer.

Alumni and guests were touched by many of God's surprise blessings as Mathis awarded the school an additional \$10,000 on top of the \$50,000 commitment. Another highlight was a generous gift of \$50,000 from the Peterson Warren Endowment Association (PWEA), presented by Stephen

Barber, PWEA president. Because of the faith of Christian education supporters, PWA received a grand total of \$160,000.

God has delivered so many blessings to PWA, and we give Him all the glory, the honor and the praise!

Ray Young, communication director, Lake Region Conference, as shared by Juanita Martin, Ed.D., principal, Peterson-Warren Academy

Indiana Academy's National Honor Society gains new members

Indiana—The National Honor Society (NHS) new member induction ceremony on Sept. 7 resulted in the largest number of members in the Indiana Academy (IA) NHS chapter in recent history. The local chapter, called CIOWOL (Christ Is Our Way Of Life) was chartered in 1960, and has welcomed many students into its ranks. The addition of nine new members brings the total number of current IA NHS members to 18.

Inclusion in the National Honor Society is based on four areas of selection: scholarship, service, leadership and character. Junior and senior students are eligible for consideration for membership in the local IA chap-



On Sept. 7, new members were added to the Indiana Academy National Honor Society chapter. From left (front): Diana Ferguson, Meagan Garey and Arlette Pitogo; (back) Kaleb Eisele, Brandon Baptist, Jae In Kim, Jason Ruiz, Zachary Trapp and Tyler Yasa

ter. Colleen Lay, local chapter advisor, chairs the NHS Faculty Council and coordinates the induction process. In addition, she oversees the chapter's community service component.

The induction ceremony, rich in tradition, includes a review of the four areas of selection shared by four members of the chapter. Candle lighting and reciting the NHS pledge are also features of the bi-annual event. As part of the September ceremony, Richard Garey, IA teacher, provided words of wisdom to the NHS members, parents and friends as a highlight of the event.

Inducted at the September ceremony were the following students: Brandon Baptist (Rock City, Ill.); Kaleb Eisele (Noblesville, Ind.); Diana Ferguson (Tipton, Ind.); Meagan Garey (Cicero, Ind.); Jae In Kim (South Korea); Arlette Pitogo (Merrillville, Ind.); Jason Ruiz (Indianapolis, Ind.); Zachary Trapp (Elizabethtown, Ind.); and Tyler Yasa (Noblesville, Ind.).

Welcoming the new inductees into the CIOWOL chapter were the following members: Sheldon Baptist (Rock City, Ill.); Christa Betts, chapter secretary (Freedom, Ind.); Toni Crumley, chapter vice president (Atlanta, Ind.); Dain Kwon (South Korea); Larry McConnell, chapter pastor (Beech Grove, Ind.); Christian Pinango, chapter president (Greenwood, Ind.); Deanna Sturghiss (Terre Haute, Ind.); and Elisa Wright (West Carrollton, Ohio).

Beth Bartlett, registrar, Indiana Academy

[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Children's bell choir makes a joyful noise for God's glory



The children in the Spencer Church bell choir enjoy being a part of the worship service.

Indiana—The children's bell choir at the Spencer Church recently celebrated their sixth anniversary performing music together. The members have expressed what a wonderful blessing the bell choir has been to the church. One lady said, "They are a dedicated, sensitive group of children who really enjoy the part they play in the divine worship service. They are faithful in practice, generous with one another, and loyal to their commitment to play for the Lord."

Any child in the church is welcome to join the bell choir at the age of three. They usually stay until they feel too old to be part of a children's group. Some of the nine-year-olds in the bell choir have participated since the choir was originally formed. The children have also enjoyed playing for other churches in the area.

Children usually have few opportunities to serve their church at such a young age, and the Spencer Church bell choir provides even our littlest ones a special place in the service of the Lord. May they always make a "joyful noise" for God's glory and pleasure!

Katie Franklin, bell choir director, Spencer Church

Gifts improve quality of life for Minneapolis homeless citizens

Lake Region Conference—At the Glendale Church in Minneapolis, Minn., the community services ministry got off to a good start in 2008. Under the leadership of Liz Moore, the church members started the year with a paper drive to benefit homeless individuals in the greater Minneapolis area. Items collected for the homeless consisted of paper towels, facial tissue,

toilet paper, baby diapers and other paper products. Members placed the items in attractive bags and included information about their church and the Sabbath. The personal ministries department, under the direction of Alphonzo Knox, provided the literature.

Goodie bags were also prepared to distribute as well. The goodie bags contained a comb and brush, toothpaste and a toothbrush, deodorant, a wash cloth and other toiletry items.

Supplementary Angels of Community Services Inc., a privately owned non-profit business under the direction of Bertie Williams of Brooklyn Center, Minn., provided friendship

pillows. The pillows came in a variety of designs, sizes and colors and were stitched with a message that the pillows were sewn by the Seventh-day Adventists.

The paper products, goodie bags and friendship pillows were transported to the Project Homeless Connect event held at

the downtown Minneapolis Convention Center on April 28. The Project Homeless Connect event was sponsored by the Department of Human Services/Mental Health Division and Hennepin County Social Services. According to the Project Homeless Connect Web site (www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org), this event “based on a nationally implemented model, is designed as a one-stop shop of services for people experiencing homelessness.” More than 2,800 homeless people were provided free goods and services at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Some who received the gifts from Glendale Church members commented, “This is great; they should do this more often. God bless you.”

Church members who helped with this project also received a blessing. One commented, “This was truly a blessing being able to help people like this. We didn’t realize that there were this many people who needed help like this.”

Debra Davis-Moody, president, Chicagoland Community Services Federation/Diane Thurber, assistant communication director, Lake Union Conference



Lake Region members in Minneapolis desired to help the homeless in their community, so they collected paper products and essential toiletry items to distribute at the Project Homeless Connect event held at the downtown Minneapolis Convention Center.

Church’s FM broadcasting system brings truth to neighbors

Illinois—You never know who may listen to the words you speak. Services at the South Hispanic Adventist Church in Chicago are held in Spanish; however, for those who understand English better than Spanish, the church provides translation via a low-power FM broadcasting system. These people can hear the message in English by tuning in to the church’s

broadcast on small FM radios.

One day, it became apparent that they were not the only ones tuned in to the translation. In a house behind

the church, other ears were hearing unfamiliar truths. A neighbor named Veronica appeared at the church and joined the others for worship services.

She had been listening on her radio at home and decided to attend the service in person.

Soon the former pastor, Julio Morales, began to study the Bible with Veronica at her house. Before long, the studies included Veronica’s sister and brother-in-law who live in the same building. God works through many different means to touch others for His kingdom. Some of these means go beyond our original intentions, but they serve His purpose.



Julio Morales, former pastor of the South Hispanic Adventist Church in Chicago, discovered an FM broadcasting device used for church attendees also reached neighbors nearby.

Glenn Paul Hill, communication director, Illinois Conference

Parents, adoptees and Korean War veterans learn about Korean heritage

Michigan—The Kalamazoo Korean Company invited Korean War veterans and families who have adopted Korean children to the first Korean Cultural Festival in the southwest Michigan area, held April 13. More than 100 people enjoyed Korean food, Korean storytelling, *Samul nori*, Tae Kwon Do and Korean crafts.

Several activities included playing the Korean musical instrument, *Samul nori*, making food and cookies like *Kimbab* and *Dalgona*, enjoying crafts like Korean kites and *Jong-ee jub-gee*, playing



A young visitor to the Korean Cultural Festival wears a Korean costume.

Korean games like *Paeng-ee* (top spinning) and *Gongki* (Korean jacks) and *Jegee-cha-gee* (Korean shuttlecock game), and writing calligraphy. Members appreciated several Korean students from Andrews University who came and helped with the event.

The festival was planned to help form new friendships while providing an opportunity for adopted Korean children to learn about their birth country's culture. The activities, storytelling and food at the Korean Cultural Festival provided an essential experience for the children, and by becoming immersed in Korean culture, their parents learned more of their children's heritage than can be provided by books or videos. In addition, the festival provided an opportunity to express appreciation to the Korean



Guests enjoyed making kimbap, (Korean sushi).

War veterans. Those who attended received gifts, including Korean books, pens and souvenirs.

Many parents who attended the festival sent e-mails expressing that they had a great time and enjoyed seeing all the other children. Lisa Burns said it was really wonderful for their family to keep in touch with Korean culture and for their kids to see such positive role models. Mary Holtapp, an international adoption agency social worker with Bethany Christian Services in Kalamazoo, encourages adoptive families to learn about their children's birth country. She said, "It's one of the ways to help kids put together who they are."

John Munnelly, a retired colonel, attended the festival with his Korean wife Connie. They shared that their four children are Korean-American with two different cultures. Connie observed, "It's very important that the adopted children are raised with an awareness of where they are from." John, a veteran of the Korean War, said he was proud that he served in the Korean War and saw the country as very prosperous in high technology.

Although the Kalamazoo Korean Company has very few members, they enjoy the festival and plan to make it an annual event.

Jennie K. Yoo, secretary, Kalamazoo Korean Company

Sheridan members touch neighbors for Jesus following flood

Illinois—On the weekend of Sept. 12–14, rain fell in record amounts in northern and north-central Illinois. With the rain came flooding that created disaster in many communities located downriver of the areas hit by the rain. The communities of Sheridan and Wedron, Ill., were hard-hit areas.

These two communities, and their adjoining subdivisions, are located along the Fox River. As floodwaters farther north raced down this river, these little communities watched as water rose some three to four feet above the river's banks. People in these communities soon realized they would have to flee their homes.



Two days later, as the waters subsided, the people returned to see the devastation. Furniture and interior walls were soaked with dirty river water. Food stuffs were destroyed. Fortunately, there were no injuries or loss of life.

As clean-up and recovery efforts began, Sheridan Seventh-day Adventist Church members had an opportunity for the next couple of weeks to witness their faith in Jesus Christ as they aided in the relief effort. Several members (Betty Platt, Steve and Cristie Bell and family, and Myrtle DeLay) assisted in cooking and supplying meals at the local VFW-American Legion Post to those who needed assistance. Disaster and Relief coordinator for the church,

John Czarney, helped organize relief efforts in the several communities that were affected. Students from the Sheridan Adventist Elementary School

helped deliver sandwiches, water and clean-up kits to many of the people as they returned to clean up their homes. Some students also helped in the clean-up effort by shoveling river silt from sidewalks, yards and decks of inundated homes.



Sheridan Church members help make sandwiches for flood victims at the local VFW. From left: Geoffery Bell, Aaron Bell, Cristie Bell and Justin Bell.

Their service to the community provided an opportunity to “Touch Everyone for Jesus” who had been affected by the flood.

Mike Weakley, pastor, Sheridan Seventh-day Adventist Church

[NAD NEWS]

Adventist communication specialists converge at annual convention

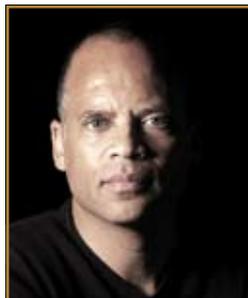
The 19th annual Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) Conference was held Oct. 9–11, in Denver, Colo. With so many innovative individuals in one place, it’s no surprise the event was packed full of creative collaboration, cutting-edge technology and inspiring seminars for the 170 attendees. The theme, “The Communicators Edge: Taking it to the Peak,” resonated throughout the conference, as participants explored ways to expand their communication effectiveness.

The conference kicked off with an opening reception on Thursday evening. Attendees enjoyed a “meet and greet” before the evening program where a new feature, the “Communication Showcase,” was introduced. Six individuals shared the creative process behind recent campaigns, as well as fresh approaches to tackling potential setbacks. Following, a business meeting was held to address various organizational issues, including a new membership structure.

A new paid membership

program has been introduced to help the Society’s continual growth. The \$25 annual membership fee provides members with a wealth of resources, including online conference seminar podcasts, an online learning center, membership directory, and professional development resources that include resume and career postings.

The evening came to a close with the SONscreen Showcase. The best films of the 2008 SONscreen festival were presented, highlighting young adults using film and video as a mode of communicating social awareness, community outreach and inspiring entertainment.



At the 2008 Society of Adventist Communicators convention, the late Reger C. Smith was recognized for his years of service and contribution to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He was also awarded posthumously the Lifetime Achievement Award, which was accepted by his wife Delores.

The second day began with a keynote address by the Small Family Associates LLC. The seminar, “Free Your Effectiveness for Peak Communication,” explored an innovative concept: By understanding one’s natural God-given thinking patterns, one can unleash their full potential as a communicator. Breakout sessions provided

participants with the opportunity to focus on their individual interests and job requirements. The day’s program ended with the concluding chapter of the keynote address as an inspirational evening vespers program.

Attendees congregated on Sabbath morning for a prayer breakfast and Sabbath school. A panel held a discussion on “Living the Adventist Mission.” The Union College *Golden Chords String Quartet* performance set the tone for a moving worship service. The message for Sabbath was Richard Stenbakken’s dramatic presentation of Nehemiah.

The success of the conference continued into the night at the awards banquet and farewell. Comedian Taylor Mason dazzled the audience with a witty and engaging performance. Individual efforts were awarded during the ceremony: the Student Award, winner Natalia Lopez-Thismon; Young Professional Award, winner Marnel N. Niles; Award of Excellence, winner William Armendaris for PCJovens.com; and Lifetime Achievement Award, winner Jeff Wood.

The late Reger C. Smith was recognized for his years of service and contribution to the Seventh-day Adventist Church; he was also awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award. His wife Delores was there to accept. As a tribute to him, the Cutting Edge Award was introduced as a new award category, acknowledging forward-thinking individuals and projects.

The conference proved to be a time to explore, hone and celebrate the many talents God has blessed us with. As gifts from Him, they should be used for Him. In everything we do, we should commit to excellence; we should take it to the peak.

Save the date: Society of Adventist Communicator’s annual convention, Oct. 15–18, 2009, San Diego, Calif.

Julie Zaiback, corporate communications specialist, Adventist Health System

Guide magazine receives \$75,000 grant for outreach project

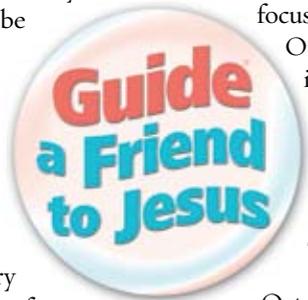
Guide magazine has received a \$75,000 grant from Versacare, a Seventh-day Adventist nonprofit organization, to help launch a new outreach magazine for children.

Building on more than 50 years of ministry to Seventh-day Adventist children, ages ten to 14, Guide now wants to target young people who don't attend an Adventist church. The planned monthly outreach version of the magazine, slated for release in early 2009, is designed for church members to share with children they know through a program called "Guide a Friend to Jesus." Guide is raising \$350,000 to fund the development and promotional costs of launching the new magazine successfully.

"This may well be the largest child evangelism project in the Adventist Church since Guide began in 1953," said Guide editor Randy Fishell. "We are very grateful to Versacare for their generous support."

Versacare, based in Corona, Calif., seeks "to serve humanity by engaging in activities that will further the kingdom of God and restore the 'Image of God' in man," according to the mission statement found at the organization's Web site, www.versacare.org. Through its nonprofit foundation, Versacare provides about \$1 million annually to projects worldwide. Past grants have assisted causes as diverse as health care, education, evangelism, historic preservation and child care.

"This new undertaking is exciting, and challenging, and we wish you well as you continue to develop it," wrote Versacare vice chairman and president Robert E. Coy in a letter to Guide.



Guide is currently holding a contest to name the new magazine. For more information about the outreach project, including ways to get involved, visit www.guidemagazine.org/friend or call 301-393-4037.

Nick Bejarano, periodical marketing manager, Review and Herald Publishing Association

[WORLD CHURCH NEWS]

Ministry leaders tackle crisis of youth 'slipping out the back door'

First annual 180° Symposium convenes at Andrews University

The youth of the Seventh-day Adventist Church are slipping out the back door. This paramount concern of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was the focus of the "180° Symposium: Slipping Out the Back Door—Issues in Ministering to Millennials," a gathering of ministry professionals from around the world sponsored by the Center for Youth Evangelism at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich.

This three-day symposium, held Oct. 21–23, started with an open session where many participants presented research papers followed by a Q&A discussion. The symposium provided a forum allowing candid, honest presentation of concerns and discussion of possible solutions to the mass exodus

of young people who are "leaving the church like water between our fingers," according to a reference made in the paper presentation by Ron Whitehead, executive director of the Center for Youth Evangelism (*Global Youth Ministry—7 Strategic Themes & Emphases*, 2006–2010). The opening session began with this alarming statistic: According to Roger Dudley, director of the Institute of Church Ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, who has researched the church-going habits of Seventh-day Adventist youth and young adults for over 30 years, "40 percent to 50 percent of those who are baptized members in their mid-teens will drop out of the church by the time they are halfway through their twenties."

Whitehead, the first of 22 scheduled paper presenters, set the tone for the symposium with a story close to his heart: During alumni weekend at his high school, he realized more than 50 percent of his class was no longer spiritually active.

The following day, symposium participants delved deep into the papers through a process of peer review and evaluation. After identifying the main themes and issues repeatedly floating to the surface, five critical themes facing Adventist youth were identified: relationships, service, leadership, identity and spirituality. They took these findings to a group of both regular and non-regular church-attending Millennials.* The Millennials concluded relationships were the most important theme, and while they wanted leadership to respect





Ron Pickell, coordinator of Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF), a public college campus ministry for the North American Division, pointed attention to what he calls a "fundamental blind spot in Adventist youth ministry."

them, they don't respect leadership. "I believe every generation from the get-go has said, 'If you give it to me, I'll run it. I'll show you how it's done,'" said Japhet De Oliveira, associate director for the Center for Youth Evangelism. "When I was a teenager, I knew everything. When I was in my twenties, I had the energy to do everything. When I was in my thirties, I believed I could take the world wherever it needs to go. Yet, sometimes when we get older, we forget we still need to learn."

De Oliveira continued, "We need to fundamentally change our entire leadership culture: move it away from management to leadership; away from control to encouragement and empowerment. We have a lot of those types of leaders already, but we simply don't have enough of them."

The symposium participants then took the Millennials' feedback and separated into five groups to narrowly target the issues and possible solutions in the five categories.

This symposium, the first of its kind within the Seventh-day Adventist church, caught the attention of Peter Landless, associate director of health ministries for the General Conference. Originally scheduled to attend an overseas conference along with his director, Landless changed his plans. "I didn't feel it was important [to attend]; I felt it was essential. We spend a lot of time evangelizing, yet we have—right in our homes and our schools—young people who are being pulled and drawn away

by so called 'millennialism.' We, as a church, have to start listening, meeting, talking and acting."

Ron Pickell, coordinator of Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF), a public college campus ministry for the North American Division, researched what he calls a fundamental blind spot in Adventist youth ministry: all of the attention is focused on the Adventist education system. "My hope and prayer is that what we are doing here will help change Adventist youth ministry. If a youth

isn't in our educational system, then we don't see you." While there are 23,000 Adventist young people attending a system school, there are 50,000 Adventists who are attending school outside of the Adventist system and 19 million students on public college campuses in North America. "I represent a big part of that group that is matriculating out. We have little money, little support and little focus toward them. But ACF is a start. It's a beginning. I'm hopeful that this symposium is going to make some difference."

Like Pickell, Lisa Hope, director of Adventist Christian Fellowship in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, works closely with Adventist students on public college and university campuses. She brought a unique perspective to the 180° Symposium. "The views of many of our students who attend public universities are sometimes quite different than Adventist students in an Adventist setting. It's very important to me to be able to voice their views—views very much immersed in post-modern, secular culture. They want to know how being an Adventist really makes a difference practically," she says. "I'm very passionate about wanting the voice of young adults to be heard, particularly the young adults who have walked out the back door."

These concerns are echoed around the world. Jeroen Tuinstra, youth director for the Netherlands Union, worked in the core group focused on identity. "A clear identity has to be given to our

youth because they are actually asking, 'Where do we belong as Adventists? What are we?' The problem is the identity we provide is already fragmented and it is a very old identity."

More than just a chance to exchange ideas, the 180° Symposium was an opportunity for men and women committed to ministry to share in the challenges and pressures of this Christ-focused vocation. Corrado Cozzi, youth director for the Euro-Africa Division, said, "This kind of work is not administrative work: it is a passion, a vocation and a mission. I want to be reassured I am not alone, and I discovered that I am not. Every one of us has the same struggles, the same problems, the same challenges, and we can support each other."



Participants in the 180° Symposium worked in groups to identify principles and recommend action plans.

The research presentations coupled with the proposed action plans for each of the five areas will be compiled into a book. The book will be made available at the January Adventist Ministries Convention, a gathering of administrators and ministry directors of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.

The 180° Symposium was part of the E.L. Minchin Lectureship. It was co-sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, the Center for Youth Evangelism, the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and *AdventSource*.

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

*Millennials are young people who were born between 1980 and 2000.

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.

Weddings

Julie Roush and Nathan Fountain were married May 31, 2008, in Lansing, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Gary Thurber.

Julie is the daughter of Duane Roush of Grand Ledge, Mich., and Nathan is the son of Harry and Claudette Fountain of Plymouth, Mich.

The Fountains are making their home in Plymouth.

Jayne Payne and Daniel Smith Jr. were married Aug. 10, 2008, in Chicago, Ill. The ceremony was performed by Pastors Famous Murray and Leon George.

Jayne is the daughter of Joyce and the late James Payne of Chicago, Ill., and Daniel is the son of Daniel Sr. and Aloma Smith of Belize.

The Smiths are making their home in Hammond, Ind.

Kiechea Austin and Larry Steele were married Aug. 16, 2008, in Chicago, Ill. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Famous Murray.

Kiechea is the daughter of Paul Sanders and the late Sylvia Hudson of Chicago, and Larry is the son of Larry Barnett and his adopted mother/grandmother, Mary Steele of Kankakee, Ill.

The Steeles are making their home in Chicago.

Sherry L. Savoie and Berry L. Strang were married Sept. 7, 2008, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Mike Szykowski.

Sherry is the daughter of Josephine Farero and the late Lavern Nichols of Sault Ste. Marie, and Berry is the son of Earl and Joyce Strang of Hagerstown, Md.

The Strangs are making their home in Hagerstown.

Sarah D. Horne and Marcus P. Trayer were married June 15, 2008, in Niles, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Michael Dauncey.

Sarah is the daughter of Eileen and the late Franklin Horne of Berrien Center, Mich., and Marcus is the son of Norman and Anne Lora Trayer of Hope, British Columbia, Canada.

The Trayers are making their home in Loma Linda, Calif.

Ma. Adelina Z. Grabata and Eric L. Weesner were married Feb. 1, 2008, in Portland, Ind. The ceremony was performed by

Pastor Dwight Kruger.

Ma. Adelina is the daughter of Emmanuel and Leticia Grabata of Quezon City, Philippines, and Eric is the son of Earl and Janet Weesner of Portland, Ind.

The Weesners are making their home in Portland, Ind.

Obituaries

BICKNELL, John A., age 89; born Apr. 3, 1919, in Deer Lodge, Tenn.; died Aug. 24, 2008, in Berrien Center, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his wife, Eleanor (Gohde); son, Larry A.; daughter, Linda Steen; brothers, Lewis and Leonard; sisters, Betty Donesky and Geraldine St. Clair; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

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

BISHOP, Richard J., age 71; born Apr. 9, 1937, in Maple Grove Cty., Wis.; died July 2, 2008, in Marquette, Mich. He was a member of the Iron Mountain (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Eunice (Smith); son, Thomas; daughter, Tammy Bishop; sister, Barbara Jean Wilcox; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Jim Nephew, and interment was in Elm Lawn Cemetery, Pulaski, Wis.

DICICCO, Remo "Ray," age 91; born Jan. 17, 1917, in Chicago Heights, Ill.; died Aug. 17, 2008, in Milwaukee, Wis. He attended the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include his sons, Roger and Michael; daughters, Evelyn Petrarca, Sally DiCicco and Phyllis Zunica; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Arnold Friedrich, and interment was in Skyline Memorial Park Cemetery, Monee, Ill.

JENKINS, Harvey D., age 70; born June 12, 1938, in Grand Rapids, Mich.; died Aug. 22, 2008, in Coral, Mich. He was a member of the Big Rapids (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Carol (Swarts) Dockham; stepsons, Steven, Scott and Shawn Dockham; daughter, Jennifer Hendricks; brothers, Gordy and Larry; sister, Connie Opper; and eight step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor David Gotshall, and interment was in Riverside Cemetery, Langston, Mich.

JOHNSON, Beulah H. (Benton), age 85; born May 30, 1922, in Sand Lake, Mich.; died Jan. 2, 2008, in Rockford, Mich. She was a member of the Sparta (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her son, Gary E.; daughter, Sheila A. Antor; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Ron Mills, and interment was in Howard City (Mich.) Cemetery.

JOHNSON, Paul A., age 83; born Aug. 21, 1924, in Hamilton Cty., Ind.; died Mar. 26, 2008, in Anderson, Ind. He was a member of the Anderson Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mary P. (Tumulty); daughters, Joyce Reutebuch and Marsha McKnight; five grandchildren; and nine step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Terry Nennich, and interment was in Memorial Park Cemetery, Anderson.

JONES, Edna E. (Gambow), age 93; born Jan. 25, 1915, in Stratford, Wis.; died Aug. 16, 2008, in Antigo, Wis. She was a member of the Antigo Church.

Survivors include her sons, Ronald and Lester; daughter, Sara Rowland; sister, Verona Seifert; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Lester Jones, and interment was in Bent Cemetery, Bryant, Wis.

PEAK, Herbert D., age 69; born May 19, 1938, in Superior, Wis.; died Feb. 7, 2008, in Tomahawk, Wis. He was a member of the Tomahawk Church.

Survivors include his wife, Lavonne (Sherwin); son, Evan; daughter, Charlyn Marsh; and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Reuel Bacchus, and interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery, Irma, Wis.

PEDERSON, Maxeen F. (Follis), age 92; born Dec. 4, 1915, in Minneapolis, Minn.; died July 4, 2008, in New Albany, Ind. She was a member of the New Albany Church.

Survivors include her son, Carl; daughter, Gretchen M. Cooper; sisters, Florence Highsmith and Dorothy Faudi; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastors John Peckham and Jerry Higgs, and interment was in Bordeaux Seventh-day Adventist Cemetery, Nashville, Tenn.

PORTER SR., Thomas D., age 80; born Apr. 11, 1928, in Springville, Tenn.; died July 19, 2008, in Chicago, Ill. He was a member of the Shiloh Church, Chicago.

Survivors include his wife, Elma (Sissac); sons, Thomas II, Christopher, Keith, Brian, Bruce, Barton, Lamar and Michael; stepsons, Eugene and Carl Sissac; sisters, Clyde Porter and Inez Gray; and eight grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Famous Murray and Harold Allison, and interment was in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, Ill.

RIDEOUT, Dorothy M. (Metzger), age 89; born Aug. 29, 1918, in Rochester, Ind.; died Apr. 18, 2008, in Junction City, Kan. She was a member of the Urbandale Church, Battle Creek, Mich.

Survivors include her sons, Richard M. and Stephen A.; daughter, Connie L. Lorenz; sister, Edith Applegate; three grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Chet Damron, and interment was in Hicks Cemetery, Pennfield Twp., Mich.

ROGERS, Robert H., age 65; born Aug. 17, 1942, in Oakland, Calif.; died Aug. 10, 2008, in Kalamazoo, Mich. He was a member of the Hartford (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include his wife, Glenda Lee (Holmes); son, Robert L.G.; daughter, Amber M.M. Brown; and sister, Debra G. Shafer.

A bonfire and social celebration of life was held at Bob and Glenda's home in Lawrence, Mich., with private interment.

YOUNG, Randy A., age 52; born May 20, 1956, in Madison, Wis.; died May 20, 2008, in Madison. He was a member of the Madison East Church.

Survivors include his father, Allan; mother, Carolyn (Fuller); and sisters, Donna Kulavanijaya and Brenda Paulsen.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Bill Ochs, and interment was in Highland Memory Gardens Cemetery, Madison.

YOUNGBLOOD, Marlynn M., age 55; born Oct. 30, 1952, in Hammond, La.; died July 1, 2008, in Baton Rouge, La. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Suntharalingam Arunasalam; and brothers, Manley A. and Ian M. Youngblood.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Orval Brissett, and interment was in Greenlawn Cemetery, Hammond.

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: \$36 per insertion for Lake Union church members; \$49 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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	Dec 5	Dec 12	Dec 19	Dec 26	Jan 2	Jan 9
Berrien Springs, Mich.	5:15	5:15	5:16	5:20	5:25	5:32
Chicago, Ill.	4:20	4:20	4:22	4:25	4:30	4:37
Detroit, Mich.	5:00	5:00	5:02	5:05	5:10	5:17
Indianapolis, Ind.	5:20	5:20	5:22	5:26	5:31	5:37
La Crosse, Wis.	4:28	4:28	4:29	4:33	4:38	4:45
Lansing, Mich.	5:05	5:05	5:06	5:10	5:15	5:22
Madison, Wis.	4:23	4:23	4:25	4:28	4:33	4:40
Springfield, Ill.	4:34	4:34	4:36	4:40	4:44	4:50



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Announcements

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

Andrews University

Howard Performing Arts Center Events

For more information about the HPAC events, call 269-471-3554 or visit howard.andrews.edu.

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Sun., Jan. 17, 2009, 3:00 p.m. Michigan's third largest professional orchestra, with 77 musicians and an 87-year history, the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra is recognized throughout the country as a "regional orchestra of excellence." Under the direction of conductor Raymond Harvey, the Symphony will present an evening featuring a world premier by composer Kenji Bunch commissioned to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth by the KSO and the Michigan Abraham Lincoln

Bicentennial Committee. Admission: \$20

Mark Lowry "Be the Miracle," Sat., Jan. 31, 2009, 8:00 p.m. He's been making people laugh, cry and think for more than 28 years—renowned Christian singer, songwriter and comedian Mark Lowry in the "Be the Miracle" tour. The performance will feature Mark as he shares his exciting and revitalized message of God's love and grace. A former member of the *Gaither Vocal Band*, Mark wrote the well-known Christmas song, "Mary Did You Know?" Admission: \$30

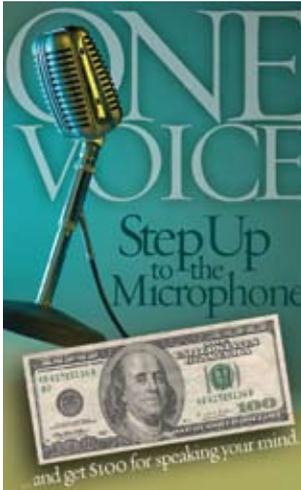
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Winter Ski Fest for youth in grades 7-12 is **Jan. 8-11**. Ski on Fri. and Sun., and enjoy a special Fri. night and Sabbath with your friends at Timber Ridge Camp. For applications or additional information, go to www.trcamp.org, or call the youth department at the Indiana Conference at 317-844-6201.



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Indiana Youth Rally '09: Last year more than 500 converged for this annual event just for youth. This year's guest speaker is Sam Leonor, chaplain at La Sierra University. To obtain additional information about this **Feb. 20-21** event, go to www.trcamp.org, or call the Indiana Conference youth department at 317-844-6201.

Lake Union

Offerings

- Dec 6** Local Church Budget
- Dec 13** Inner City
- Dec 20** Local Church Budget
- Dec 27** Local Conference Advance
- Thirteenth Sabbath Offering**
- Dec 27** Northern Asia-Pacific Div.
- Special Days**
- Dec 6** Bible Sabbath

North American Division

La Sierra Academy '09 Alumni Weekend includes a Golf Tournament on **Apr. 24** and Alumni Sabbath on **Apr. 25**. Honor classes are 1949, '59, '69, '79, '89, '99 and 2004. Keynote speaker: Lewis Walton. Come celebrate friends and memories on the LSA campus. Call the Alumni office at 951-351-1445, ext. 244, or e-mail Isaalumni@lsak12.com to update personal information, to find missing class members and to share news and class reunion gatherings. Large selection of back year-books for purchase.

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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

Opposing God?

BY GARY BURNS



While leading out in a national teen prayer and ministry conference, I learned an important lesson from an ultra-conservative. As was typical with each of these national conferences, our turnout had nearly doubled the registration. During the process of making adjustments for the hundreds of unexpected teens, a decision was made by the hosts to present one of their campus musical groups at the beginning of the Friday night program.

The group's performance was very professional. The response of the teens, however, was in marked contrast to the response of their adult sponsors. Several of the leaders huddled to figure out what to do next. Sharp criticisms were rampant. Most were concerned about the flow of the program and maintaining control. Others were fearful of a possible backlash from sponsors.

In a calming and humble voice, the one who represented the far right of our team offered a surprising perspective. Could it be that we might actually find ourselves opposing God?

When David disobeyed and danced before the Lord, Michal's response was similar to ours. When the Pharisees objected to the children's impromptu praise service in the temple, Jesus was quick to defend them.

We were silent in personal reflection. Like the Pharisees who dropped their stones, we each dispersed. The conference continued according to plan. More than 800 teens came back Sabbath afternoon from their experiences in personal ministry overflowing with praise and telling stories of great and amazing things God did.

Many more conferences followed and the team continued to provide what we believed to be our best, but an important lesson was learned along the way. All through Scripture, God showed up in ways and means that were unexpected. Jesus was opposed by opinion, culture and tradition at every step. How sad it would be to be found opposing God, while defending our personal comfort.

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

When All Alone I Stand

BY LAUREN BROOKS

Being a Seventh-day Adventist in a public school was something I wasn't prepared to face. I attended elementary and junior high school at a Christian school where some teaching conflicted with my spiritual beliefs. Going to a public school was a new thing for me. No one, as far as I knew, believed in God. I was left alone to believe in the One I knew would never leave me.

During my sophomore year of high school, my mom suggested that my brother and I attend a conference called Standout. I was a little wary to go since it was at Andrews University. I was expecting it to be the same old thing—other Adventists getting together telling me to be pure, eat right and don't do things on the Sabbath. I was pleasantly surprised! We were some of the first people to arrive, so we got to talk to the college students at registration. They actually knew exactly what I was going through at my public high school.

That weekend I met so many people who were going through the same things I was going through. I found ways to strengthen my faith through standing up for what I believed. The weekend was great—our team even won the dodgeball tournament! At a small awards assembly at the end of the weekend, I received the award for the girl standing out for Christ. What I learned at the conference gave me strength to continue to make decisions regarding my place in a public high school.

Homecoming is a big event at our high school. For the Homecoming football game, one lucky senior gets to solo



in the National Anthem. Even though I was encouraged by many friends and the chorus teacher to audition, I felt God telling me, “No.” It was heartbreaking, but I knew that I had done the right thing. Attending Standout gave me the strength to stand alone and honor Sabbath.

As a result of decisions I have made regarding my non-participation in sports or marching band competitions on Sabbath, I have been more respected as an individual.

“When I look at you I see a Christian and I want to be just like you.”

One of my friends said that to me before I left for college. I never knew that I had an impact on people's lives. When people see you standing out in a crowd, there is an impression there that will never leave.

Lauren Brooks lives in Normal, Illinois, and is a member of the Peoria Seventh-day Adventist Church. She is a freshman at Southern Adventist University where she is majoring in public relations and Spanish.

Public high school students are invited to attend the next Standout weekend at Andrews University, April 17-19, 2009. For more information visit <http://connect.andrews.edu/standout/schedule.php> or e-mail questions to standout@andrews.edu.

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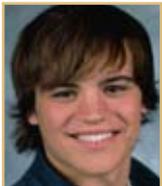
Summer Boyd is a member of the Thompsonville Church and a senior at Thompsonville Adventist School. Although the school is only an eight-grade school, there is a special program connected with Griggs University which makes it possible to complete high school level education on site (with assistance from the local teachers).



Summer Boyd

Summer is very involved with her local church. In addition to playing the piano regularly for Kindergarten Sabbath school and for the church worship services, she prepares the PowerPoint slides for the church's song services. Summer also serves as a substitute camera operator for 3ABN (Three Angels Broadcasting Network). She has helped to produce the 3ABN *Today* program and also helped to film the 3ABN 2008 autumn camp meeting.

Summer loves to work with animals. Caring for her goats and chickens helps to prepare her for a future career involving animals. When asked what advice she might give other students, Summer stated, "Don't get distracted. Keep working." Summer should know; it takes focus and hard work to complete high school through a distance learning program while still serving her church and keeping up with work.



Jake Sokolies

Jake Sokolies of Bolingbrook, Illinois, is a junior at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (GLAA) in Cedar Lake, Michigan. He and his parents, Eric and Cynthia Sokolies, are members of the Downers Grove Church.

Jake used to be kind of a quiet kid, but this changed when he entered academy. He was drawn to attend GLAA because of his interest in gymnastics, and since Jake had a sister attending the school when he was a freshman. By Jake's second year at GLAA, one of his dreams came true when he became a member of the *Aerokhanas*, the GLAA gymnastic team. He served as a base in various gymnastic formations.

Jake works at The Cedar Reader, a book store. But one of the things that has deeply impacted his life is a local ministry started by students a few years ago—Flamekeepers. Flamekeepers are people who meet for prayer and Bible study two times a week on each of the dorm floors. Jake was elected as a Flamekeepers leader last year. He values this opportunity to encourage his fellow students in their spiritual life. Jake tells other young people, "Come to GLAA, because there is a lot of spiritual stuff to do and they have so many physical activities while remaining academically challenging."

After graduation from GLAA, Jake plans to attend Andrews University.

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