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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

Changing Our World One Life at a Time



God's Plan for Tithe

Last month I shared some of my thoughts after participating in the General Conference Use of Tithe Commission. This reaffirmed that tithe is holy unto the Lord—it is His and not mine—and that tithe is to be used for the support of the gospel ministry.

So how does tithe flow through the church and for what is it used? The Seventh-day Adventist Church has defined the conference as the “storehouse” much as ancient Israel defined local collection points throughout the land to collect the tithe and offerings. As tithe and world church offerings for mission are collected at the local church, they are remitted to the conference, which is the geographical and administrative place for overseeing and supporting mission in the local church.

State and regional conferences provide for the financial support of pastors for the engagement of the message and mission of our church. Without this practice a significant number of our pastors would be forced into bi-vocational ministry, holding down a side job in order to make enough income to serve the church. The church financially supports pastors so they can dedicate themselves to full-time ministry. A portion of educators' salaries are also paid from tithe funds to recognize both educational ministry and the evangelism that are a central part of our schools.

In addition, tithe funds are used for outreach in various forms, including public and personal evangelism. Special ministry functions, such as youth ministries, women's ministries, community services, family ministries and others, are some of the additional ways the church disciples and cares for members. And finally, there are costs of administration and employee support for church employees. In recent years, our conferences have placed more resources into local churches while streamlining administrative and departmental functions.

The union level of church structure serves the following functions: supporting Adventist education through guidance and accreditation, centralizing payroll software support, communication, religious liberty, providing conferences with administrative support and consultation in governance issues, and coordinating mission focus between conferences. Also, the union represents its territory to the world church and vice versa within church governance processes. The Lake Union Conference continues to be one of the most streamlined union operations in our division, taking direction from our conferences as to which services to provide, shift or illuminate.

And finally, the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists gives leadership to the world church, of which the North American Division is included. Because a portion of the tithe goes to world mission, we have seen continued and dramatic growth in membership and attendance. Worldwide, we now have 17 million members; but more exciting, there are an estimated 24 million attending Adventist churches and Sabbath schools. This happens because we are a world church, a movement called into existence by God for this time in Earth's history.

My wife Barbara and I are committed to bring our “whole tithe into the storehouse” (see Malachi 3:10 NASB) each month and to then allocate another similar amount as offerings to be divided between our local church, conference, world missions and other ministry needs. Tithe is to support the local work of our conference and beyond; offerings are for the many places great ministry also blesses the mission of the church. We are blessed to trust in God's plan.



Saved for a Purpose

BY KEREN TOMS

What I remember most about Thanksgiving every year is hearing the shattering of glass and the sound of crunching metal—the sound of change—the sound of a moment that would completely change my life.

They tell me it was a good thing I was asleep. If I had been awake and tensed up, it would have caused devastating damage. Then again, if I had been awake I probably wouldn't have crashed. Still, driving to work early one crisp Sunday morning in November during my senior year at Andrews Academy, I was overcome with sleepiness and dozed off behind the wheel. The impact sent my car rolling several times and snapped my neck, fracturing the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae.

Unaware of how much time had passed or exactly what happened, I was hardly able to answer the questions of the police and medics who arrived on the scene. Who should they call? I think I mentioned Superman would be a good place to start. Somehow they managed to contact close family friends as they rushed me to the hospital. After a series of x-rays, medical personnel determined I was fine, removed the neck brace, and jostled and rolled me around. It wasn't until several hours and an MRI later that they discovered the seriousness of my injury.

After getting over the initial shock of totaling my first car, I became conscious of the fact I could have been killed or paralyzed. Any number of things could have happened, but nothing did. I realized I had a purpose. Whatever I was going to do, I needed to do it with purpose and with passion—and it needed to be in line with whatever God was asking



Keren Toms hugs a camper at Timber Ridge Camp in Spencer, Ind. Keren served as camp pastor for Junior Camp 1 in 2009 when Dondrell of Benton Harbor, Mich., was a camper.

Joshua Pedroza

me to do. He had saved me for a purpose. God saved me for a reason, and I needed to take that seriously. Now, I felt it was my job to figure out what that was.

Upon completing my last year at Andrews University, I spent time as a student missionary working at our school, Nile Union Academy, outside Cairo, Egypt. Through leading worship, teaching Bible and building relationships with the students, I learned two things: First, I really liked telling those young people about Jesus—the Jesus I love and the God I know (the misconceptions people have about Him—that He's angry and violent and made bad things happen to good people—just didn't sit well with me). I wanted to work on correcting those misconceptions. Second, I realized I needed further training if I wanted to

be better prepared to answer their questions. Yet, each young person who gave their heart to the Jesus I love seemed to be the confirmation I needed to head in the direction of ministry. After returning to the States, I enrolled in the Seminary at Andrews.

After studying in the Seminary for a year, I was offered an interim position as outreach chaplain at the University. I thought, *Outreach—that's like missions. I like that. And I get to work with college students? Even better!* I began retroactively mapping my life and was amazed at the many intersections that only God knew where they would lead.



Keren Toms fell asleep while driving her first car and rolled it several times.



Following the accident, Keren was rushed to the hospital where doctors initially didn't realize her neck had been broken.

This was another one of those moments, it was a huge one for me; I was only 23! But then I remembered the words of Jeremiah 1:5, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations” (NKJV). After my first year, the temporary position became full time.

My work is incredible. I see so much potential in the students here. I’m passionate about developing in them their ability to see need in people and not look down upon them. It’s taking the Beatitudes, “Blessed are the poor in spirit... Blessed are the meek...” (see Matthew 5) and giving them a perspective of what it means to tie social justice into evangelism.

That accident helped me realize there was something more to what I needed to be doing, more than just doing things for me. You can read, “For I know the plans I have for you” (see Jeremiah 29:11) all you want, but it’s when I actually experienced with decisiveness and clarity that is actually the case, as in me being not dead or paralyzed, that I woke up. To me, that was God saying, “I do know because you are alive.”

Recently, I had the opportunity to speak to the student body about being involved in outreach. I asked how many of them had been involved in service. Would you believe every single hand in the audience shot up! Then I asked what service was. Giving time? A class? A program? Something we do when we have too many speeding tickets? What is service? I asked them to look with me at Acts 3:1–12, a passage which contains the story of how a lame man at the temple gate, Beautiful, was healed by Peter and John.

What if Peter and John had taken the time for service that day? They could have sat down and talked to the man, which would have comforted him for a time. Or perhaps given him a morsel of bread, which may have satiated him for an afternoon. They might have even been able to give gold or silver,

which would have supplied his needs for several days. That would have been service. But what service is Christ asking us to do? In verse 6, we see Peter’s reply to the lame man, “silver and gold I have not, but what I do have I will give you. In the name of Jesus, walk!” Peter and John had something greater than service to give; they had a transformational change brought about by the power of Christ working in them. It was giving of self, both powerful and empowered—it was thinking big. It was a miracle. That is outreach.

The lame man was desirous of money alone, a temporal want that could have been met by Peter and John. But what they gave him instead was his eternal need met by God. That was outreach.

When faced with moments were we can serve, or we can take part in the transformation of the life of another, we must remember that when we join our weakness to His strengths, our ignorance to His wisdom, our unworthiness to His righteousness and our poverty to His exhaustless wealth we will be rightly equipped to continue the life-changing work Christ has called us to do.

Keren Toms is chaplain of outreach at Andrews University and an associate pastor at Pioneer Memorial Church.



Darren Heslop

Keren Toms leads out during a time of worship at Pioneer Memorial Church.

Sisters United in Service

BY SAMANTHA SNIVELY

Sisters Kemily and Kalicia “Kali” Morrison are familiar faces at Andrews University, Pioneer Memorial Church (PMC) and in the local Christian music scene. From their dedication to mentoring teens through the PMC Evergreen Club, to their regular leadership in worship services at Andrews, to sharing their music far and wide, this pair is committed to actively sharing God’s love at every opportunity.

The Morrises joined Pathfinders at an early age, and as they grew they transitioned to mentoring teens who come through the program. When their family moved to Berrien Springs, the sisters became PMC Evergreen Club members; and later, after earning their Master Guides, they became staff. Kemily began as a counselor for the tenth graders, later becoming co-director of the club and leader of the teens. Kali took on the role of counselor to the Friends, Companions and Explorers classes. “Everyone always wants to work with the fifth graders,” says Kemily, “probably because teens are considered the ‘difficult’ ones. They can be difficult sometimes, but they are also searching for answers.”

With teens, the sisters find any conversation can turn into an opportunity to explore their faith. While teaching the stewardship honor, Kemily answered questions about many fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. “I could see they were struggling to know the truth,” says Kemily. “They grew up in the church and have heard all the Bible stories, but a lot of them are looking for a personal relationship with God.”

Both Andrews University students, Kemily, a speech-language pathology and audiology major, and Kali, an elementary education and music major, have a burden to mentor teen girls. They encourage them to become involved in Pathfind-



Kemily and Kali Morrison lead song service at an Evergreen Pathfinder Club event.

ers and in the church, knowing these will help them remain faithful and pure.

The sisters’ music has turned into a ministry called *Kindle*. Their mission is to “kindle the love of Christ in other people.” *Kindle* now performs across the country. After a concert in Arkansas, a man approached them. Their song, “Courage to Stand,” spoke to him. Kali and her guitarist talked and prayed with

him, and he gave his life to Christ that very night. “It was so cool that our music could touch someone and help them open up to us,” says Kali.

The sisters find the devil always throws roadblocks in their way—but God brings them through every time. Kemily once lost her voice before a concert, but by the time it began she was able to sing. A special campout planned for teens was canceled due to weather; but in an alternate setting, the teens opened up and discussed difficult topics.

As Pathfinder leaders, the girls relate to the teens “as people who are going through or have just gone through the same things as we have,” says Kemily. “They don’t feel like they can open up with a lot of people and ask ... spiritual questions. We just give them a safe space to do that.” Both their music ministry and their involvement with Pathfinders offer that safe space to those searching for God’s love.

Samantha Snively is a student news writer in the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.



Painting with a Purpose

BY BRIAN MANLEY WITH KERI SUAREZ

A 50-foot long white and salmon colored wall loomed before me. I had about a day, 15 students and no paint or paintbrushes to complete a Noah's Ark themed mural on the wall of an orphanage in northern Jordan. Overwhelmed, to say the least, I jumped into the project feet-first with full confidence that God was in control.

I, along with several other members of my group, had been part of the Tell Hesban archaeological excavation in Jordan prior to journeying to northern Jordan to participate in a week-long experience known as Abraham Path. It's a walking and cultural tourism route following the footsteps of Abraham. Part of the experience involves a day of community service. We were scheduled to pick up trash in a forested picnic area, but when our tour guide, Mahmoud, learned I was an artist he asked if I would be willing to lead a mural painting project at a local orphanage.

Fifteen Andrews University students, along with a few from Missouri State University, were interested in the project. We quickly met to discuss our plan, decided upon a Noah's Ark theme and created a few concept sketches before retiring for the night.

Large murals take days, weeks, sometimes months to complete. We had a single day. Did they have paint? Enough paintbrushes? How big was the wall? Had the wall been primed? There were so many unknowns. I prayed for wisdom and God's intervention in this project, one that had many implications well beyond a painting: cross-cultural bridge-building, interfaith ministry, children and orphan ministry, and an important opportunity for all of us as international visitors (or tourists) to serve a local community.

The next morning we piled into three taxis and headed across town, arriving at the orphanage by about 10 a.m. We were taken to our project headquarters where I saw the wall, which had been painted a two-tone white and salmon color, probably several years before. The staff brought out a box containing a few old quart-size cans of half-used paint. It was



Painting the Noah's Ark themed mural turned out to be a miraculous two-day accomplishment.

crusty, dry and completely unusable.

I took a deep breath and set several of the students to work on the wall. Using sticks of charcoal, they began to sketch out the ark and animals. Meanwhile, an orphanage staff member and I set out in search of a paint store. We came across a hardware store that sold paint, but another challenge quickly presented itself. Neither of us spoke

much Arabic, so in what I can only describe as some interesting linguistics acrobatics, we managed to communicate what colors we needed. Amazingly, he had most of the colors available.

When we arrived back with the paint, the sketches were complete. Forming small groups, we started painting right away. We completed the main part of the mural in about six hours. The following day we returned and spent four hours putting on the finishing touches.

Along the way, we all became close friends with a number of the orphan children and the staff members. We ate together, laughed together and played soccer together. They shared their unique life stories with us and we shared ours with them.

It turned out to be a miraculous two-day accomplishment. But, it was more than that. Reflecting on the project during our taxi ride home the second day, the comment was made, "Imagine, a group of Protestant Christians painting a biblically-themed mural in an Argentinean Catholic orphanage, surrounded by a Muslim community."

In some ways, all three groups were positively impacted. I know I certainly was.

Brian Manley is an assistant professor of art in the Department of Art & Design at Andrews University. He shared this story with Keri Suarez, media relations specialist, Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication.



Ten Questions to Ask Your Parents

BY SUSAN E. MURRAY

How long has it been since you've had a conversation with your parents about their finances? If you are like most people, the likely answer would be, "Never!"

Questions related to financial concerns and end-of-life issues are some of the hardest to ask our parents, even though we are adults. However, your parents may surprise you and be ready to have this conversation, so take the risk. You'll never know unless you ask!

1. Who is advising you on financial issues? Although most are fiercely private about their finances and want to maintain their independence, it's important in case of an emergency that you know how to contact your parents' attorney, financial advisor, accountant and insurance agent(s).

2. Who will help manage your finances in the coming years? Have you named a durable power of attorney? The DPOA is considered one of the most important personal legal documents for any older adult to have. This is someone who can make financial decisions on their behalf should they no longer be mentally competent.

3. What resources do you have to use for living expenses in retirement? This includes retirement benefits, Social Security benefits, veteran's benefits, cash, lifetime income annuities, etc.

4. What kind of health insurance do you have? Unless your parents are adequately insured, a prolonged illness or injury could threaten their retirement. Ask if they have a Medicare supplement plan or long-term care insurance to help pay for their care.

5. What kind of life insurance do you have? If your parents have term life insurance, find out when it expires. If they have full life insurance (sometimes termed permanent), see how it fits into their overall estate plans.

6. Do you have an updated will or living trust? Is an executor named? This can help make sure your parents' medical wishes are upheld in the event of a medical emergency.



Be sure the original isn't in a locked safety deposit box, as that will be inaccessible unless you are named on their bank account as well.

7. What kind of funeral arrangements have been made and with whom? If there aren't financial and location provisions already in place, you may have to ask the even harder question about whether they wish to be buried or cremated, and what is to be

done with their remains. Some other questions would be, "What do you want on your tombstone?" and "What do you want said or done in your funeral or memorial service?"

8. Do you anticipate needing financial or other kinds of support? We're living longer than ever, which means more people are outliving their retirement savings. Ask your parents whether they have enough to sustain themselves for the rest their lives. If not, how much support will they need? They may also need at-home assistance, someone to drive them to appointments, etc.

9. Where is all this stuff? If your parent has an accident, stroke or heart attack, the last thing you want to worry about is what his Social Security number is, what health insurance she has, or whether the mortgage has been paid. That's why it's important to sit down before a crisis hits and find out what kind of bill-paying system is in place, and where important papers are located. Although some may balk at sharing this kind of personal information, reassure your parents that you don't have to see these private papers now—you just need to know where they are to ensure their financial well-being in the event they aren't able to take care of it themselves.

10. What else would you like me to know?

A helpful resource for adult children is www.caring.com.

Susan Murray is now professor emeritus of Behavioral Sciences at Andrews University, having retired this past summer. She is a certified family life educator and a licensed marriage and family therapist.

One bacterium dividing every one-half hour can produce 17 million bacteria in just 12 hours.



E. coli from animal manure is a major cause of food-borne illness.

Fearful of Fresh

BY WINSTON J. CRAIG

We are accustomed to regularly hearing about large recalls of beef, chicken and turkey, meats that are commonly contaminated with *E. coli*, *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella*. During the past 15 years, three out of every four outbreaks of the virulent *E. coli* resulted from ground beef. In 2007, more than 400 tons of frozen ground beef were recalled due to a major outbreak of *E. coli* O157:H7 contamination.

Recently, some fruits and vegetables have shown up with problems. Some are asking, "Just how safe is our food?" In 2006, an outbreak of *E. coli* O157:H7 from contaminated spinach sickened more than 200 people across Canada and the U.S., 103 were hospitalized and three died. The ready-to-eat, triple-washed spinach from farms in California produced bloody diarrhea, permanent kidney damage, seizures or permanent nerve damage in those who ate the spinach which had been contaminated by animal manure from a nearby farm. Most of the lettuce, cabbage, arugula, kale, spinach and endive come from California and Arizona where



new rules have now been put into place to protect the consumer. Greater vigilance is required to prevent wild animals from getting access to fields where food is grown and to prevent water from draining from animal pastures to farm crops.

In the summer of 2008, more than 1,400 cases of *Salmonella* poisoning occurred in 43 states, and two persons died in a major U.S. food-borne outbreak. The outbreak was first attributed to raw tomatoes, but later to raw jalapeno or Serrano peppers transported from Tamaulipas state in N.E. Mexico. Authorities found that a rare strain of *Salmonella* contaminated the water used to wash the peppers before shipment to the U.S. There are more than 200,000 facilities outside the U.S. that produce food for the U.S. market, and

the FDA inspects only about 100 facilities per year. Since these outbreaks, more inspectors have been employed by the FDA.

Food-borne illnesses most commonly target the young, the very old, pregnant women and transplant patients. Since these groups typically have a compromised immune system, they should avoid raw sprouts and any juice or beverage that has not been pasteurized.

Following some basic food handling rules will help protect all consumers. Most leftovers should be stored in the refrigerator no longer than three to four days. Fresh cut produce, such as bagged salad greens, should be purchased only if refrigerated. Firm produce like cucumbers and cantaloupes can be scrubbed with a clean brush. A number of fruit and vegetable washes are available to help provide cleaner produce. Fruits and vegetables should be washed under running water just before cutting, cooking and eating. Hands should be washed with warm water and soap for 20–30 seconds before preparing any food.

Fortunately, for the consumer, companies have become more vigilant in doing self inspections and putting in place a quality control system to better detect contamination in fresh produce before it can spread.

Fortunately, for the consumer, companies have become more vigilant in doing self inspections and putting in place a quality control system to better detect contamination in fresh produce before it can spread.

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



EXTREME GRACE

Francisco's Amazing Miracle

BY DICK DUERKSEN

Recruiting students to attend Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities is one of the most adventure-filled jobs in the church.

Imagine traveling to distant exotic places (like North Dakota, Kenya, California, Hong Kong or Brazil), where you spend exhaustive hours talking with students and parents about life goals, personal finance, educational achievement and spiritual commitment. And all the time you think about the challenges a student will face by traveling to a new and different community like Berrien Springs, Michigan. It's never easy, but it's always exciting.

The recruiting adventure is best when you are constantly praying for God to lead you to the students He has prepared for your visit. Recruiting is far more than finding students and enticing them to come to your school. It's following God's lead to the families whose prayers He is answering through you.

Like last August when Niels-Erik Andreasen, Andrews University president, flew to Brazil with a small recruiting team and visited several Seventh-day Adventist high schools and colleges.

"We came to Instituto Adventista Petropolitano (IPAE) near the city of Rio de Janeiro," says Niels-Erik. "I had been studying Ecclesiastes and had chosen to use a little story from chapter 9, verses 13 and 14 for my sermon."

The "little story" is one you probably haven't read recently. It's about a small town that was attacked by a powerful king—and was saved by a man who was poor but wise.

Niels-Erik told the story directly from Scripture and listened carefully as his words were translated into Portuguese. Nowhere in the presentation had anything been said about where the story is found in the Bible.

"When the translation was finished," Niels-Erik remembers, "I was sure that no one in the room had ever heard the



Marlin Lee

story before, and so told the students that I would give a full one-year scholarship to anyone who could give me the text where the story is found. I knew I was safe."

What Niels-Erik didn't know was that the angels had been preparing one very special student for his visit, and for his sermon.

As an IPAE senior, Francisco Silva Jr. had been worrying about his future. His dream to be a Seventh-day Adventist pastor seemed impossible, yet his daily prayer was for God to "open the doors so he could go to a university and study for the ministry." His mother constantly encouraged him, but his work as a colporteur in the *favelas* of Rio wasn't bringing in enough money to even cover his high school costs.

The night before Francisco prayed his "pastor" prayer and then opened his Bible to study. Instead of the verses he had been reading that week, the pages opened to Ecclesiastes.

"It was like an angel's voice," Fernando remembers, "telling me to study Ecclesiastes nine."

Francisco listened closely to Niels-Erik's sermon, thinking about the Ecclesiastes stories God had led him to study the night before. Then he heard the offer.

"I have decided to award a full one-year scholarship to any student who can tell me the text where this story is found."

Francisco burst from his seat as if angels were lifting him to their shoulders.

"I know, I know the text!" he shouted. "It's from Ecclesiastes 9:13, 14, and I'm going to Andrews University to study to become a Seventh-day Adventist pastor!"

It was a cheer-filled worship service.

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



Dear God...

BY DON JACOBSEN

Dear God,
Could I talk to you about the more than 80,000 students who enrolled in our elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities across North America during the last few weeks? That's a bunch of energy ... more than what the new Dallas Cowboys football stadium holds.

I was thinking about them today, about how important they are to us—to me, to You and to my church. What they think, what they believe, what they are, is what my church will think and believe and be in the next little while.

As a former teacher I find that to be an awesome and exciting reality. It renews the huge respect I have for those who have committed their lives to serve the students in the classrooms of Seventh-day Adventist schools. As a parent and a grandparent I want to paraphrase Winston Churchill and say, "Perhaps never ... have so many owed so much to so few."¹

Our culture seems determined to drain the majesty and mystery out of where we came from and where we're going. Our teachers help keep the truth about a celestial Creator alive in our kids' hearts.

Our entertainment industry seems determined to convince this generation that morals don't matter. Our teachers help them remember that they can "glow in the dark" and that they take their marching orders from the One who says, "Only those who are pure in heart can be truly happy" (see Matthew 5:8).

The mindset of many is that truth is relative; it's whatever works for you. Our teachers help students learn how to discern between truth and error and the thrill of distinguishing between the two.

Our news media spews bad news and fear across the landscape. Our teachers help students find as-

urance in discovering how the story ends, and also Who writes the last chapter.

Our reward system teaches that those who succeed are the smartest, the most persuasive, the most brazen. Our teachers—no matter the subject matter they teach—help our students remember that greatness is measured by service.

Our financial system teaches us to admire those who are able to get. Our teachers help students understand that the important people in the world are those who have learned how to put a face on grace, to give of themselves, to endure personal inconvenience in order to bless others.

Our natural desires are selfish and greedy and self-serving. Our teachers help students find a life-transforming relationship with Jesus that hooks them into a Supernatural Power so they leave school not just with more facts, but also with new hearts.

So I want to thank You, God, for these men and women who understand that a Christian education is more than dispensing information in a church-owned building, that it is providing students with a world view shaped by Your world view. It is helping students look at others through Your eyes. They know that a Christian education means helping students move from their own self-driven agenda on to Your agenda ... Your eternal agenda.

Please give them rich measures of Your grace during this school year so that every school can be exactly what You want it to be.

Amen,

Your friend.

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

1. Churchill, Winston. "The Few." *The Churchill Society*, 20 August 1940. 24 August 2010. <<http://www.churchill-society-london.org.uk/thefew.html>>.



This Little Light of Mine

BY KERI SUAREZ

“**T**his little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine...”¹ It’s a song we start hearing as infants and sing as children in hopes that it will translate into a creed of conduct during our adult years. For Mimi Weithers-Bruce, it has. Her light shines every time she pulls out her Bible, a Bible so well-used that a rubber band is holding the pages together. The mere sight of her well-worn Bible is sometimes just the conversation starter she needs to begin sharing her faith.

When Mimi was a student at Andrews University in the early 90s, one day she bought a Bible as a gift for a friend. Her friend didn’t really want the Bible so Mimi gladly took it back and put it on her bookshelf. She used it for a couple of religion courses and eventually for her daily Bible reading.

After graduating from Andrews University, Mimi entered the workforce in a corporate America setting. A stark contrast to the college, faith-based community she was accustomed to, Mimi was surrounded by believers from other Christian traditions, Eastern religions and some with no faith at all.

“People would start asking questions about why I was so ‘weird.’ I went to church on Saturday, I didn’t drink—all these things that were very foreign to them,” says Mimi. “When they asked me why, all of a sudden I needed to really ask myself, ‘Why do I do that?’ or ‘Why don’t I do that?’”

Mimi carried her Bible with her every day, so she would just pull it out and start sifting through the pages to find the answers she needed. “It came in pretty handy for a lot of discussions,” says Mimi.

The questions from coworkers helped further spur her interest in learning more, to really discover the amazing



A glimpse of Mimi Weithers-Bruce’s Bible, held together with a rubber band, is sometimes just the conversation starter she needs to begin sharing her faith.

things the pages of her Bible held. A bit of a history buff at heart, Mimi stumbled upon various tidbits or guides to the Bible from time to time. Not wanting to forget these helpful bits of information, she tucked little notes or printouts into the appropriate book of the Bible for future reference. During a sermon, when she hears something that suddenly makes another part of the Bible come alive with understanding, she’ll jot down a note on a piece of paper and carefully tuck it in between the pages.

“Over the years, I’ve carried it with me to work, church and used it at home,” says Mimi. “The pages are falling apart and I have to use a rubber band to hold it together.” Some have offered to buy her a new Bible, and Mimi has other, more intact Bibles at home, but she says when it comes to her study time, “It’s my Bible—my own kind of study Bible. I don’t want a new one.”

*“All around the neighborhood, I’m gonna let it shine...”*²

Keri Suarez is a media relations specialist in the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University. Mimi Weithers-Bruce is the executive assistant to the provost at Andrews University.

1. Words and music by Harry Dixon. Public domain.
2. Ibid.



UN CURSO SUPERIOR

POR CARMELO MERCADO

“Debiera procurarse que todos nuestros jóvenes reciban las bendiciones y oportunidades de una educación en nuestros colegios, para que reciban la inspiración de llegar a ser colaboradores con Dios. Todos necesitan una educación que los capacite para ser útiles, y calificados para ocupar lugares de responsabilidad tanto en la vida privada como en la vida pública” (Conducción del niño, p. 312).

Este año mi hermano y su familia están pasando momentos felices pero a la vez un poco tristes. La felicidad se debe a que su hija menor acaba de graduarse de la academia adventista. El tipo de educación que ella recibió es muy interesante pues cursó todas las clases de nivel secundario por medio del Internet desde su casa durante un período de cuatro años. Como resultado de sus estudios recibió su diploma de Forest Lake Academy con la ventaja de que pudo permanecer en su hogar con sus padres hasta graduarse.

Aunque ella y su familia están felices porque ha sido aceptada para estudiar en la Universidad Andrews, a la vez sienten algo de tristeza pues saben que es un momento de transición para su hija. Ella se mudará al Hogar de Señoritas y de esta manera dará los primeros pasos hacia su independencia en preparación para una carrera.

En la Biblia se encuentra la historia de otra familia cuyos miembros tuvieron los mismos sentimientos en un tiempo de transición. El libro de Lucas relata la historia del niño Jesús quien a los doce años tomó los primeros pasos hacia la independencia en preparación para su ministerio. Sus padres lo buscaron ansiosamente por dos días y al hallarlo se sorprendieron cuando lo encontraron compartiendo su conocimiento con los eruditos en el templo. Sin duda sintieron gran felicidad al hallarlo sano y salvo, pero es fácil imaginar que su madre María sintió cierta tristeza al oír las palabras de su hijo: “¿No sabíais que en los asuntos de mi



Padres e hijos en Pioneer Memorial Church durante los días de inscripción en la Universidad Andrews.

Padre me es necesario estar?”

Sabemos que los hijos no son realmente nuestros, sino que Dios nos los presta para que los cuidemos por un poco tiempo. Lo que Dios nos pide es que les enseñemos el camino de la salvación y que puedan ser usados como instrumentos de salvación para otros.

Sé muy bien que hay muchos padres que han sacrificado su tiempo y sus recursos para mantener a sus hijos en el

camino de Dios. Sólo quiero animar a los padres que leen este artículo a que procuren una educación adventista para sus hijos como la más alta prioridad. El costo elevado y los desafíos que se deben afrontar parecen a veces ser invencibles, pero no hay duda alguna que cuando llegue el tiempo de transición en que los hijos se alejen del hogar y caminen solos, los padres sentirán gran felicidad por sus logros mientras siguen en los caminos de Dios.

Carmelo Mercado es el vice presidente de la Unión del Lago.



Following the Light

BY KERI SUAREZ

My first encounter with Ray McAllister was via e-mail. I knew he was completely blind so when an e-mail written by Ray and sent by Ray popped into my Inbox, I was a bit surprised. *He doesn't even let something like sight keep him from typing a perfectly spelled and grammatically-correct e-mail*, I thought to myself. But his typing skills aren't what set Ray apart from his peers. Ray is the first blind student to ever graduate from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and, according to the Society of Biblical Literature and National Federation for the Blind, perhaps the first completely blind person to ever tackle a degree so heavily dependent upon biblical languages, including Akkadian, Hebrew, Greek and even Cuneiform.

When I arrived at his home for our interview, I was warmly greeted at the door by Ray himself. In his hands were a few bright, intricate paper flowers. "I'd like to give you a piece of *origami*, made from my own designs," he said. I selected a small purple vase full of pink flowers surrounded by green leaves, and all carefully constructed from pieces of *origami* paper. I had barely spent five minutes in Ray's company, yet it was quite clear to see ... this man was remarkable in more ways than one.

Ray was born in 1975 with a degenerative eye condition known as Peter's Anomaly. At the age of five, one eye was removed. Then at the age of 12 his one "good" eye finally died, resulting in total blindness. That didn't prevent Ray from going to school, eventually graduating from a main-stream high school and earning three higher education degrees: Bachelor of Theology, Master of Divinity and Ph.D. in Religion.

At an early age, education quickly emerged as one of Ray's passions. "When I was three or four, my mother was a janitor at a school where my father was a teacher. I loved to hang out in the classroom, and one teacher gave me a desk, some crayons and some paper. I liked watching the class and following the rules, so when the other kids would take their worksheets up to her desk, I would go stand in line and show the teacher the pictures I drew," he says.

Ray would go home and teach his stuffed animals everything he learned at school. During his elementary and high school years, Ray was mainstreamed: attending classes at a traditional school with the additional help of an aide. He embarked upon his pursuit of higher education at Pacific Union College where he majored in theology. Ray used a number of methods to complete his studies, including hiring readers to dictate the text to him and using DOS computer software to transliterate the text, including Greek, to

him. (Transliterate is a method of converting text from one writing system into another in a systematic way.)

After earning his Master of Divinity from Andrews University in 1999, Ray headed back to the west coast to Loma Linda, California, feeling called to train for hospital chaplaincy. He quickly realized this wasn't the path for him and returned to Andrews. "In the spring of the year 2000, I was impressed to begin a most exciting adventure: getting a Ph.D. in the Hebrew Bible," says Ray. "While I would learn much useful and interesting technical information on this journey, what has been most powerful is the knowledge I've gained as my spiritual eyes were opened in so many new ways." In the fall of 2000, Ray was officially accepted into the Ph.D. in Religion program at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

"From the moment I began taking doctoral level classes, I saw God's hand of providential leading," says Ray. First, the Michigan Commission for the Blind committed to assisting and supporting his journey. He used an old DOS-based Bible software program from the mid-90s, which enabled him to study the Hebrew Bible while reading English letters instead of Hebrew symbols text-to-speech screen readers couldn't recognize. Using scanning equipment, Ray was able to "read" English books on his computer.



But some material, like commentaries with Hebrew letters, wouldn't scan properly. "God had a way around that problem, too. In my Ezekiel and Malachi class, one of the other students and I were allowed to choose similar enough research topics so we could share sources. He would read his commentaries which he needed onto a cassette tape, and I would take notes from that for my paper," says Ray.

"God knew, though, that I would need assistance on a more constant and intense level," says Ray. "This is where Sally enters the story." They met through their classes while studying for the Master of Divinity, and over the years their friendship grew. In the spring of 2000, Ray became increasingly aware of his desire to have a lifelong companion.

"Without any knowledge that it would be Sally, I was impressed to make a silent faith claim before God that by Christmas of that year, I would be in a close, serious relationship with the one I would marry," recalls Ray. Two weeks before Christmas, Sally confessed her love for Ray. Having already known each other for a few years, their three-month courtship and six-month engagement culminated in their marriage on September 13, 2001.

Sally's academic background proved to be a great source of support for Ray's studies. He took a course in theological French, a class Sally completed the previous year, so she could help him complete the required reading. Sally was given permission to sit with Ray in his Aramaic class where she read him the quizzes and exams. During his studies of Cuneiform, Sally took note cards, turned them over and created the impressions needed to represent parts of the Cuneiform language. "She also gave invaluable emotional support and encouragement through these and many other stages of my path," says Ray.

Now, as a newly-married graduate student, Ray's mind turned to matters of earning income. In the summer of 2002, Ray was given the opportunity to teach Old Testament Survey, a four-week intensive. It was the first time he had ever taught.

Whether he was a student in the classroom or an instructor in front of the classroom, Ray continued to find creative ways to effectively teach and lead discussions—despite being blind. "Since I cannot see raised hands, I led discussions as I learned to do as an amateur radio operator. When someone wishes to speak, the person simply calls out his/her name, and I answer that person when appropriate," says Ray.

When the time came for Ray to learn the art of chanting the Hebrew Bible, God once again provided. With no software to display the Hebrew markings, Sally dictated the verses to Ray along with the instructions on how to sing them. This method worked, but it wasn't ideal. Ray took to the Internet, searching for a better solution. In just a few hours, he found an Internet resource that, for a small fee, could provide him the entire Hebrew Bible in a text file that would work with his voice synthesized laptop. When the Michigan Commission for the Blind learned of Ray's Hebrew Bible text files and that his current laptop was getting out-of-date, they helped him obtain a laptop with a voice and a Braille display.

"Since I am blind, such a sound-based method made the Bible come alive for me in a new way, even helping me with certain subtle aspects of interpreting the text," says Ray.

When the time came for Ray to focus heavily upon his dissertation, God's leading and guidance continued to be there every step of the way. He selected a topic close to his heart: Blindness in Hebrew Scriptures. Ray scanned thousands upon thousands of pages into his computer, searching for and analyzing the different mentions of blindness in the Bible. Then Ray began to enter a phase he calls "spiritual darkness in my path."

"Little seemed available for employment except the one or two classes I would teach each semester; and, eventually, those would end as times changed. I began to wonder why God would call me as if onto a journey out into a wilderness where hardly anything would grow."

It was during one of those moments when Ray was reminded of Psalm 119:105: "God's Word is a lamp unto the feet and a light unto the path." He was impressed to focus more heavily upon memorizing Scripture, particularly the Psalms. "Learning to sing every one of the Psalms in Hebrew was healing and enjoyable, and definitely an excellent way to strengthen my Hebrew. I found I could explore feelings expressed in the Psalms that many don't feel comfortable sharing. I would review portions of what I'd learned every day, along with other memorized passages, and would maintain some sense of spiritual order in my life."

In April 2010, Ray defended his dissertation. "I remember counting down the days, hours, minutes, even seconds, until the moment when I could defend. Unfortunately, I had to add a few extra minutes onto the countdown because my external examiner got a flat tire driving to the campus." Just a few short months later, Ray donned his academic regalia and, led by Sally, he marched in the processional along with the rest of the Andrews University graduating class of August 2010.

Ray may be at the end of this academic journey, but he is anxiously and faithfully looking ahead to what God has in store for him next. "God will provide the means to do whatever He calls you to do. Don't be afraid to reach out for assistance, though, as sometimes God does His work through the hands, feet and eyes of those around us."

Ray is pursuing an employment opportunity as the Southwest Michigan Representative for Christian Record Services, a publisher of materials for the visually impaired. He looks forward to pursuing other opportunities more directly related to ministry.

Keri Suarez is a media relations specialist in the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.

Models for Encouragement

A mini golden calf, a small six-point deer and a crocodile floating down the Nile River are just a few of the amazing miniature creations Ray has styled completely out of paper. His *origami* hobby began several years ago when some *origami* enthusiasts shared a few patterns with Ray. He quickly discovered that he not only enjoyed fashioning mini creations out of paper, but he also enjoyed creating his own patterns.

When you enter Ray's home, a box full of intricately folded paper flowers and mini bouquets sits near the door, serving as tokens of appreciation for your visit. In Ray's office, there are several shallow containers holding different scenes, all completely created in *origami*. Near the door is a small basket holding a host of angels, Mary, Joseph and a small manger in the center with an infant lying in the manger. Over by the window, Ray has a replica of the Old Testament tabernacle. Richly-colored red and purple curtains mark the walls of the Holy Place where replicas of a golden lampstand, incense altar and table of shewbread occupy the space. In the Most Holy Place stands the ark of the covenant.

After getting a hands-on tour of the Horn Archaeological Museum at Andrews, Ray translated his touch memories into several pieces for his "Egypt in a Box," a three-dimensional display with a man riding a camel, a step-pyramid, water pitchers and even a sarcophagus with a mummy inside. He sometimes uses the models as sermon illustrations or props for children's stories. One of Ray's creations, one of two tabernacle models, is on public display in the Department of Old Testament in the Seminary at Andrews University.

Aside from simply enjoying the art form, Ray says, "I like the joy it brings to people, receiving a model for encouragement."—Keri Suarez



Changing Our World

STORIES OF FAITH ABOUT ANDREWS FACULTY AND STAFF

BY KERI SUAREZ

“And now, as we set forth, we commit ourselves to the merciful protection of God, and we especially ask the prayers of the people of God that His blessing may attend us in this sacred work.” –J.N. Andrews, September 15, 1874

When J.N. Andrews set forth from a Boston harbor 136 years ago, he had no idea his service as the first overseas missionary for the Seventh-day Adventist Church would one day serve as a creed of Christian service at a university named in his honor.

Today, virtually every corner of the Earth is represented in the student body at Andrews University. Likewise, the cultural and ethnic diversity of its faculty and staff only serve to further enhance this internationally diverse, faith-based campus community. This is a place where seeking knowledge and affirming faith is how the university prepares its students to set forth and change the world. While they are at Andrews, the students spend their days, weeks, months and years actively living out Christ's example of telling the world about God's love. Andrews faculty and staff are right there behind them, every step of the way, encouraging their Christian walk using the spiritual gifts God gave them. Then, when the day comes that they set forth, Andrews students are rest-assured of those special connections and relationships with the faculty and staff, the kind of resources and

support they'll rely on as they begin their own journey to tell the world of God's love.

Everyone has a story: a life-changing event that redirected their course; a time of spiritual darkness from which they awakened with a renewed sense of purpose; or a series of smaller events in their life that gradually led them to the place God had planned for their life. In the pages to follow are just a few such stories from the faculty and staff community at Andrews University.

Their stories are reflective of the myriad of others, but serve to offer you a glimpse of the people who, together, are serving our school, our church and ultimately, our Creator.

Keri Suarez is a media relations specialist in the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.

John Nevins Andrews is best remembered as the first official Seventh-day Adventist missionary to work outside North America. This sculpture by Alan Collins depicts the Andrews family, pausing dockside in Boston, September 15, 1874, ready to depart for Switzerland. Andrews, still grieving the death of his wife Angeline, departed as a 45-year-old single parent, accompanied by Charles, 16, and Mary, 12.



From Africa to Andrews

GEORGE AGOKI, CHAIR AND PROFESSOR OF ENGINEERING,
DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE



The child of a missionary pastor in Kenya, George Agoki grew up in an Adventist atmosphere. After moving to Uganda in fifth grade, he attended Bugema Missionary College until 12th grade. During that time, the Seventh-day Adventist atmosphere provided a “hedge” around him, as he calls it, filtering the outside world and not presenting a test of faith.

All that changed when George began attending a public advanced high school, in preparation for university. Two years before, his older sister lost part of her leg in a car accident, and his lifelong fascination with “how things work” transformed into a desire to understand the causes of accidents and how to prevent them. George approached the missionary at his elementary school to ask if the Seventh-day Adventist Church would sponsor him to study engineering at a public university or abroad. He was told, “The church in Africa does not require the services of an engineer.” But that didn’t stop him. It “was always on his heart to become an engineer,” says George. There were no Adventist schools that offered engineering degrees, so he entered the University of Nairobi shortly afterward, and encountered quite a different world.

“In my country, a degree is everything,” says George. And to earn that degree, students are required to attend all classes—even those held on Saturday. Examinations were held on Saturday, and it was not uncommon for Adventists to cave in and take the tests on Saturday. The students were told, “Get your degree first and come back to your religion later.” But George and a group of his friends were determined not to turn their backs

on God. He and his friends miraculously passed their classes and earned their degrees. George continued at the University of Nairobi, earning his Master’s and Ph.D.

At age 26, George was hired by the University of Nairobi to teach. Together with the other Adventist professors on campus, George sponsored the Adventist students. He and his colleagues took the students determined not to attend class on Sabbath to church, invited them for meals and spent the day with them. In the evening, students and professors returned to the school where the exams would be administered. George encouraged students to maintain both their faith and their commitment to the discipline, but “all the time I was serving God from the sidelines ... part-time,” he says.

Before his mother died, George promised her that when an opportunity to serve the church full-time arose, he would not look back. While serving as chair of the civil engineering department at a second university in Nairobi, George received a phone call from Roland McKenzie, vice chancellor of Baraton University, and Godson Mgeni, university registrar, asking him to be registrar of Baraton University. After “much prayer and wrestling with the Lord,” George and his wife decided to accept.

The foremost intellectual in the early Adventist movement, Andrews made significant contributions to the development of several doctrines, notably the Sabbath, tithing, sleep of the dead, church organization and the noncombatant status of military draftees. He also served as the third president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (1867–1869). His example set in motion a tide of other missionaries, his *History of the Sabbath* persuaded thousands,

and his journal gave birth to congregations on three continents.

It was to memorialize his commitment to scholarship and to the worldwide mission of the Seventh-day Adventist church that, in 1960, the Trustees chose the name Andrews University.

This little family’s commitment challenges people of all ages, gender and position to lead lives of wholehearted service to church, community and the world.—Keri Suarez

Five years later, as principal of Kamagambo Adventist College, George was a delegate to the Toronto General Conference Session in 2000, and was elected to the General Conference Nominating Committee, which Niels-Erik Andreasen, president of Andrews University, chaired. Following the Session, George and his wife visited his younger brother, a student at Andrews, and visited the United States.

His sister-in-law “casually mentioned” the Department of Engineering & Computer Science at Andrews. While visiting the facilities, George met a former student who asked him, “Professor, why don’t you teach here?” George didn’t consider the question at the time; he was concerned with helping Kamagambo grow. Because of his desire to help his college enhance their curriculum and develop an Adventist engineering program, George asked to meet with the president to ask for financial aid. The president was none other than Niels-Erik himself.

George returned to Kenya. At a meeting of the East African Union he was offered the position of associate youth director, which he accepted. That December, a package arrived from Andrews University. “By that time I had completely forgotten about Andrews,” says George. But Andrews had not forgotten about him. He was their first choice for associate professor of engineering, and they wanted him to start in July. Six months was a very short amount of time to move his family of six to the

United States, but with God’s leading they accomplished it.

The Agokis were originally scheduled to fly into the United States on September 12, 2001. “Were it not for the airline having an opening for us to fly into Chicago,” says George, “we probably never would have made it to the States.” The Agokis arrived a week before September 11.

In 2002, the Department of Engineering & Computer Science began “mounting a full-fledged engineering program.” Six years later, they received full accreditation from the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology. Work is underway to get the Computer Science program accredited as well. George continues to hope that an Adventist engineering program will one day be established on the African continent.

Samantha Snively is a student news reporter in the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. George Agoki works with students to beautify Kamagambo Adventist College campus (1996–2000).
2. George Agoki, deputy vice chancellor, University of Eastern Africa Baraton (UEAB), Kenya; Humberto Rasi, director of education, General Conference; Lyn Behrens, president, Loma Linda University; and Asenath Omwega, professor, Kenyatta University, visit the UEAB Farm in 1994.
3. George Agoki, professor of engineering, Department of Engineering & Computer Science, now teaches at Andrews University.

Answering God’s Call

ESPERANZA ALVAREZ-MUÑIZ, ASSISTANT DEAN OF WOMEN, LAMSON HALL



1



2



3

Esperanza Alvarez-Muñiz has never been afraid to question God. In everything, she asks for His guidance—and it usually takes the form of a sign or a test. “I’m a very shy person,” she says, “so whenever I felt God wanted me to do something, I would always test Him.” Two years ago, God led her to the position of assistant dean of Lamson Hall—and she began asking God the hard questions.

Esperanza came from a primarily Catholic family in the Dominican Republic, although her mother was an Adventist. Esperanza was born asthmatic, and throughout her teenage years her attacks became chronic. Unable to do the same things her friends were doing because of frequent hospital visits, Esperanza grew miserable. At one point, she felt she would rather die.

One day, when she was 19, Esperanza had an asthma attack so severe she didn't think she would live. Esperanza was able to ask her mother to pray for her. "I didn't hear the prayer," she says, but when her mother finished praying Esperanza was able to breathe with difficulty and waited until an ambulance arrived. When she recovered, she realized that although she wasn't paying attention to God, He was ready to answer her prayer in an instant. Esperanza began going to church because "He had been good with me, and it just went on from there." She was baptized within several weeks.

Esperanza wanted to work with young people. She taught high school and Pathfinders, but she felt God was calling her to do more. While preparing a youth Sabbath school program, she was encouraged to attend a ministerial training seminar led by José Cortez. So she asked God if it was His will, and to provide a ride if that was the case. When she attended the seminar that weekend, a call went out for young people to do the work of preparing the next generation. Esperanza again asked God what His will was. "Okay Lord," she said, "He didn't say 'women.' So if you really want me to go and prepare, he's got to say it—because in my Spanish culture, women are not into ministry that way." And sure enough, José asked for men *and* women. After talking to José, Esperanza decided to come to the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. Her family was shocked because she left a good job with good pay to study for the ministry, but they have noticed God has led every one of Esperanza's steps.

While attending the Seminary, Esperanza worked as a student dean at Lamson Hall. When she graduated in 2007, there were no positions available, so she returned to New York City to teach. The next year she was married and received the call to come to Lamson as assistant dean of women.

Two months after her marriage, Esperanza was diagnosed with a tumor that grew rapidly and was determined to be cancerous. "Dreams shattered and I almost lost my faith. You could say it was challenged in a deep way," Esperanza says. Her family had watched God lead throughout her life, but when she received her diagnosis, her fam-



ily had a hard time comprehending why she of all people would get such news. "She's the one who's been doing all the good things—why her?" they asked. "That made some of my family members really mad at God," says Esperanza. Her sister and husband were "numb." She thought, *What do I say to them? There are no words for me to comfort them. Where's my faith? Should I keep my faith, not only after I lose my ability to have kids, but now this?* At times when she could not read the Bible, she asked her sister to read her Psalm 46. "And as she read it to me," says Esperanza, "I was at peace. I said to them, 'You know, I might have to go through a second surgery and chemo, but I know I'll be back. The Lord would not give me something so beautiful to take it away.'"

Esperanza recently got the results of her latest checkup. The tests are clear and she is cancer-free. Her health is still monitored, but "I'm not scared," she says. "I feel that it's not my time. I still have work with the young people."

Her experiences are gradually bringing Esperanza's family to God. She prays for them every day, and one by one they are seeing God in her. Esperanza's father would always wonder why she was spending so much time involved with her church instead of living her life, but she would continually tell him what God had done for her. Before he passed away, she told him what Heaven would be like. She says he "loved the idea that we would be together forever, and with Jesus, someone who had died for him." Esperanza's sister has begun reading the Bible and going to church, and she continues to pray for the rest of her family.

Samantha Snively is a student news writer in the Office of Integrated Marketing & Communication at Andrews University.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. Esperanza Alvarez-Muñiz and her husband Paul celebrate her last day of chemotherapy.
2. Esperanza Alvarez-Muñiz greets some of the young people from her home church.
3. Esperanza Alvarez-Muñiz is warmly greeted by a student at a social event. Alvarez-Muñiz is sponsor of Kappa Phi Gamma, the Andrews University Women's Club.
4. Esperanza Alvarez-Muñiz is delighted to be back at work in Lamson Hall after completing chemotherapy.



Digital mammography now at Adventist La Grange Memorial

The latest technology in breast cancer detection is now available at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. Two digital mammography units, a digital stereotactic biopsy table and DEXA bone scan system have been installed at the hospital. To accommodate the new technology, the radiology unit is undergoing a major face-lift that includes a new waiting room and changing area in a more relaxed environment.

Digital imaging has the potential to detect breast cancer at an earlier stage than traditional X-ray mammograms, and early detection is a key factor in breast cancer survival.

“Finally being able to offer digital mammography builds on our tradition of providing outstanding health care to patients right in their own backyard,” said Rick Wright, chief executive officer of Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. “It has been a long time coming and we are proud to offer services and advanced technology to detect and treat breast cancer.”

For Mita Majmundar, director of breast imaging and intervention at Adventist Midwest Health, providing cutting-edge technology to patients is extremely important. Digital mammography complements the breast ultrasound and breast MRI services already in place at Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital. Patients appreciate having comprehensive breast care services in a single location.

“My main goal is to diagnose breast cancer at the earliest stage possible,” Majmundar said. “Digital mammography will allow us to do just that.”

Just as digital cameras, cell phones and computers have changed the way people take and share photographs, so have similar technological improve-



From left: Halina Slodyczka, mammographer; Cathie Kukec, breast patient navigator; Karen Coffey, mammographer/navigator; and Rene Lave, mammographer, celebrate the addition of digital mammography services at ALMH.

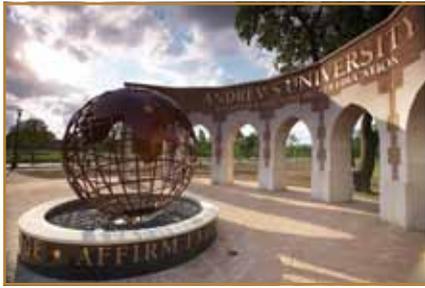
ments changed medicine. Not only does digitalization improve the quality of images, but it also reduces the amount of radiation to which patients are subjected and speeds the process of scanning and storing images. With digital mammography, technologists can see the image of the breast tissue right in front of them in just seconds and can digitally alter the amount of contrast or make it lighter or darker to aid viewing.

In 2009, Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital was granted a three-year full accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC), a program administered by the American College of Surgeons. Accreditation by the NAPBC is only given to those centers that have voluntarily committed to provide the highest level of quality breast care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance. Only eight hospitals in Illinois have attained this achievement.

Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital also offers a unique resource to help patients find their way through the health care system: patient navigators. These experts not only serve as patient advocates and educators, but also help patients regain a sense of control while they find the strength to heal. They provide resources to patients and their families from serving as a liaison between the patient and physician to offering emotional support. They also offer information about cancer care, support services, prevention, clinical trials and education.

The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2010, there will be 209,060 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed and 40,230 men and women will die from breast cancer.

Lisa Parro, senior public relations specialist,
Adventist Midwest Health



Andrews recognized by Forbes, U.S. News & World Report

Andrews University has again been named one of the “Best National Universities” for 2011, as reported in *U.S. News & World Report’s* “America’s Best Colleges 2011” issue. Andrews was also recently ranked on Forbes.com’s 2010’s “America’s Best Colleges.”

Of the more than 1,400 institutions of higher education in the

United States, only 262 are recognized as national universities, which are schools providing masters and doctoral programs in addition to an array of undergraduate degrees. Only 98 private institutions are classified as national universities according to *U.S. News & World Report*, and Andrews is the only Seventh-day Adventist institution included in this classification. Andrews University is tied for being the fifth most racially diverse national university and tied for sixth among national universities in its percentage of international students.

Forbes.com’s 2010 list of “America’s Best Colleges” has ranked Andrews University as No. 446 out of 610 of “the best public and private colleges and universities—from the student’s point of view.” Andrews is the only Seventh-day Adventist institution to make the list. This also puts Andrews

among the top seven percent nationally of all accredited higher education institutions.

This is the third annual ranking compilation of “America’s Best Colleges” by Forbes and the Center for College Affordability and Productivity.

Stephen Payne, vice president for Enrollment Management and Integrated Marketing & Communication, is quite pleased Andrews was recognized on both lists. “At Andrews, we’re terribly proud of the quality of our faculty and students, and what happens when they come together on campus to pursue our ambitious goals to Seek Knowledge, Affirm Faith and Change the World. In turn, we’re pleased and honored to be recognized for the commitment, passion and success of our campus community.”

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

Andrews employees give Bibles to freshmen

This year’s freshmen class received an extra-special welcome to Andrews University. During a retreat held the Sabbath before classes began, each new freshman was presented with an *Andrews Study Bible* courtesy of the University and its faculty and staff.

This summer, under the direction of Ron Whitehead, assistant to the president for spiritual life, Andrews University employees set a goal of giving every incoming freshman a copy of the new *Andrews Study Bible*. The target was 400 Bibles. The University covered the first \$20 of the cost of the Bible. Whitehead says, “After that, for every \$25 employee donation to the Bibles for Freshmen project, a new freshman received a Bible. We asked our University family to share in the cost of putting this outstanding resource in



Each new Andrews University freshman was presented with an Andrews Study Bible.

the hands of our new students,” says Whitehead. “We want to make it clear that the Bible is an absolute essential in the Andrews experience and the *Andrews Study Bible* is the ideal gift to accomplish that.”

Pledges and donations were received throughout the summer, with the majority of the goal met during Fall Fellowship weekend, a time of spiritual renewal for faculty and staff. On Sabbath, August 14, a special dedication of the Bibles was held during second service at Pioneer Memorial Church. The following weekend, during Freshman Retreat, the Bibles were presented to their new owners.

The *Andrews Study Bible*, published by Andrews University Press, was released in June, with the official launch at the General Conference Session in Atlanta, Ga. Funded by Andrews University and the General Conference, with oversight from church leaders and the Biblical Research Institute, its publication marks the first time an Adventist publishing house has released a formal, full-featured study Bible.

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

[YOUTH NEWS]

Camp Wagner baptisms follow week of training

Lake Region—If you love to hear the voices of youth cheering and singing praises to our God, then you would have loved to witness the Lake Region Conference Camp Wagner summer camp baptism. Two precious young people made the decision to follow Jesus Christ after participating in week-long camp activities and youth evangelism training. The camp's theme was "Mission Possible," and leaders prepared to instruct youth to do evangelism by equipping them for service.

Members of the Seventh-day Adventist World Church children's ministries team arrived equipped to teach the campers along with the summer camp staff about how much fun it is to tell others about Jesus and His soon coming. For one week, Delia Talley and her team taught the campers how to witness to others through storytelling, face painting, balloon art and other effective ministry tools. So

exciting were the classes that two of our campers, Devon Davis from Chicago, Ill., and Kortney



Ralph Shelton, Lake Region Conference youth director, prepares Devon Davis (left) and Kortney Hendrix (right) for baptism. They were later welcomed into the church family by campers and staff.

Hendrix of Detroit, Mich., listened to their hearts and were baptized by the Lake Region Conference youth director, Ralph Shelton.

The summer camp baptism service was held during the AYS (Adventist Youth Society) hour at the Calvin Center Church, located at the entrance of the campgrounds. Prayers were answered and hearts filled with joy as two new believers were hugged and welcomed into the church family of God by campers and staff. Many are sure

Heaven rejoiced with them as those present held hands and asked for God's blessings on each person and family represented. The group also prayed that the evangelism skills learned during this camp session would be used to tell many others of the love of Jesus. Just think, two more campers will be spreading the Good News! That's exciting! To God be the Glory!

Kathy Howard, co-director, Camp Wagner

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[LOCAL CHURCH NEWS]

Book rack placement leads to baptism

Indiana—Someone wanting to share the good news and the truth about our loving God went to the time and effort to place a book rack in a local supermarket. It contained free copies of *The Great Controversy*, a book by Ellen White. One day a customer, Don Owen, was drawn to the display. Don took a copy of the book and read it. What he discovered prompted him to want to learn more.

Don's family had exposed him to several faith traditions as he grew up. However, when he was on his own he



Don Owen (right) smiles with joy on his baptism day. He is welcomed to fellowship by his pastor, Justin Childers.

made a decision not to attend church regularly. He says he also became involved in the enticements of the world around him and believes these decisions pulled him away from God even more.

Eventually, Don met and married his wife, Janelle. It happens that she had been raised in the Cedar Ridge Seventh-day Adventist Church in Paoli, Ind., but no longer attended.

When Don shared his desire to learn

more about what he had been reading, Janelle recognized *The Great Controversy* as one of the books from the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They soon began attending the Cedar Ridge Church and Don even joined a Bible study group. When the church held evangelistic meetings last fall, Don and Janelle were among those who attended and were encouraged in their growing faith.

Don made his decision for Christ

and was baptized on Dec. 5, 2009. Since then, he has already had the opportunity to preach at his new church and senses God may be calling him to the ministry. In God's time, Don knows that someday he will be able to preach the gospel wherever God wants him to go.

Justin Childers, pastor, Cedar Ridge, Huntingburg, Tell City districts



The discipleship class at the Fort Wayne Church in Indiana included three gentlemen who shared the same first name: Paul. The three Pauls were convicted by what they studied and learned and made a decision to be baptized along with three ladies from the class on the same Sabbath. Remarkably, shortly thereafter the pastor learned of three more Pauls who wanted to give their lives to Jesus and be baptized. Pictured with the class are Paul Smith, Paul Smith Jr. and Paul Varro. Each of the members of the discipleship class have been baptized and are now active members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Fort Wayne.

God weaves the story of six Pauls

Indiana—Paul means “small.” The Apostle Paul was thus appropriately named because he was reportedly undersized in stature. However, what God did through him was anything but small because our Lord is infinitely big! Often, if I pay attention, He reminds me of this reality in ways that make me smile.

The Fort Wayne Seventh-day Adventist Church's mission statement is simple and clear: Making disciples for Jesus. One of the ways it pursues this mission is through a discipleship class led by the pastor, Ramon Ulangca. On a Sabbath morning last April, six people from this class joined God's church. Three were ladies, and three main actors in this story were the three men—Paul Varro, Paul Smith and Paul Smith Jr.

Immediately obvious was the fact that all three men were named Paul! Paul Varro was convicted by the Holy Spirit of the true Sabbath through reading his Bible. Paul Smith and his teenage son, Paul Smith Jr., came to church after discovering the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN).

It may seem mere coincidence that all three men who joined the church that Sabbath were named Paul, except for what happened next. After witnessing their testimonies and commitment to Christ, another gentleman approached the pastor at the end of the service and said, “Pastor, I wish to become a part of this church. Would you prepare me for baptism?” His name was Paul Chambers, and he was not alone in his decision.

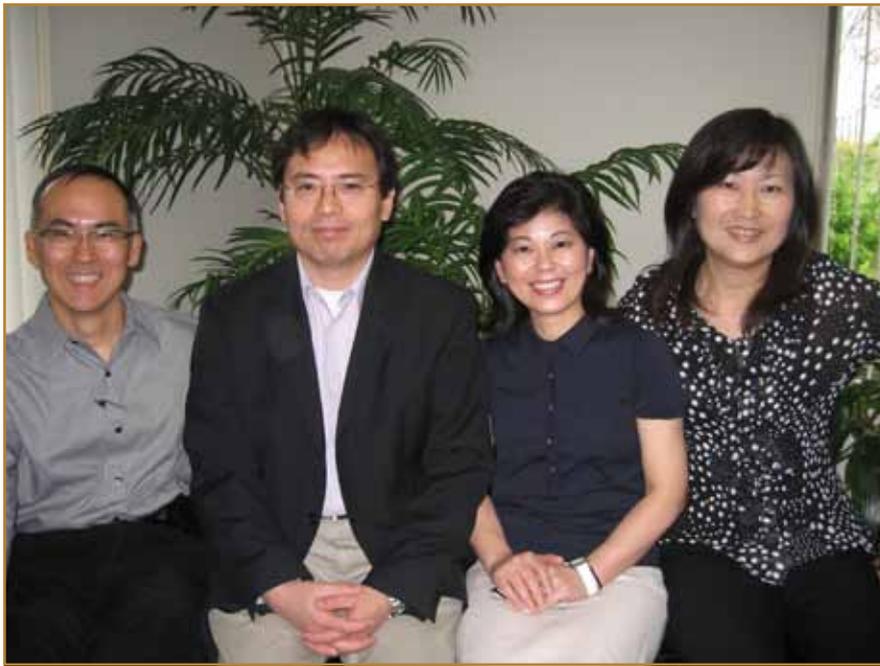
When Paul Chambers showed up for class on Sabbath morning, he was accompanied by his son, Paul Chambers Jr. Together, with a group that has now

outgrown the pastor's study and are meeting in the fellowship hall, the father and son are preparing for their own baptisms.

But God was not finished yet! When Ulangca got home that Sabbath and checked his e-mail, one in particular stood out. It was a message from his yet-to-be-baptized friend in Cicero, Ind., Paul Hufnagel, saying he had been praying for the baptisms that day. Almost a year earlier, Paul Hufnagel and his wife, Tia, opened their home to Ulangca for the week-long Indiana Camp Meeting. Tia was a Seventh-day Adventist, but her husband, Paul, was not. He had been studying with Ron Kelly, Cicero Church pastor, for several years but in Tia's words, her husband was “stuck in his spiritual journey.” That camp meeting week, as Paul Hufnagel and Ulangca began sharing a common journey, God somehow got Paul Hufnagel “unstuck” and moving forward again. Paul Hufnagel was baptized at the Cicero Church on July 24, and Ulangca was there to sing God's praise!

All told, at the end of that amazing Sabbath, God had taken the “six Pauls,” or as Ulangca says, the “six smalls,” and connected their spiritual journeys into one big story that glorified His name! In reflection, Ulangca added, “Discipleship is about allowing God to link your spiritual journey with someone else's so that both of you can grow in Him. If God can do that with ‘six smalls,’ just imagine what He can do with yours!”

Judith Yeoman, correspondent, Indiana Conference, as shared by Ramon Ulangca, pastor, Fort Wayne Church



Metropolitan Church members Mika and Yusuke Kuramochi and a Japanese Bible worker, Sadako Tukuno (not pictured), shared their knowledge of Jesus with Yukiko and Takahide Takeda. From left: Yusuke Kuramochi, Takahide Takeda, Yukiko Takeda, Mika Kuramochi

Metropolitan Church welcomes new members

Michigan—The Metropolitan Church family recently welcomed new members to their fellowship. In Awajishi, Hyogo-ken, Japan, near Kobe and Osaka, is where the journey to Christianity began for Yukiko and Takahide Takeda.

Yukiko Takeda says, “In spring 2004, when I was still in Japan, I remember there was a desire that popped into my heart: *I want to try to read the Bible.* At that time, I had concerns at home and at work, and I couldn’t find a way out from all these problems around me.

“In the fall of 2004, a pastor’s wife who lived in the same town where I lived randomly told me that, ‘You will be led to the U.S. by God.’ I was surprised. Soon after that, my husband came to Michigan for his job; and I came with him. It’s still mysterious as I think of it today.

“In Michigan, I joined this Bible study group thanks to my friend’s invite in 2007. Later, I met Mika Kuramochi and she brought me to join Bible studies led by Adventist Seminary students. That led me to have Bible studies with Sadako Tokuno, who was a Bible worker from the Metropolitan Church [in Detroit], to learn more about God’s word at a deeper level. I started attending Sabbath school and worship services, regularly. Around the same time, I joined the choir and started singing hymns.

“As I learned more and more, I found myself not worrying over things around me anymore. In the past, I could not forgive so many things in my life as I was having problems. But the more I learned, the more I realized the meaning of ‘forgiveness’ and the beauty of it. I could even forgive myself though I couldn’t before. It’s completely different from what I used to do, which was just give up when I knew that there was nothing I could do about it. I found hope.

“Also, I realized that God is always next to me as I look to Him. God cares for me—even a person like me, a little dust—and He shows me how great His love is. God has spoken to me at the best time in the best ways and He made a way for me. All I could see before was a path in darkness, but now I see the path in the light. Just the desire to learn about God is now a conviction that God is the only one, and the only thing that I could truly believe. I feel peace in my heart. I want to thank God for giving me this opportunity to share this joy with you all.”

Takahide Takeda recalls, “As I look back on my spiritual journey, the time that I felt that God was beside was when Sadako-san, the Bible worker, came to our place and talked about God. As I continued to study the Bible, I came to believe in God who loves me, and I learned that desires for fame, money and self-centered way of thinking are sins. It seemed to be impossible for me to run away from my sins, and this thought kept coming back to me, *It is difficult for me to live as a Christian.*

“But I felt the joy that came from the bottom of my heart as I shared my new faith with Toru Nakamura, a pastor from Japan now serving part-time at the Central Los Angeles Japanese Church in California. I sensed that God has forgiven me, and the joy that came from faith. I feel God’s love the most when I think of that day. I was baptized because God had heard all the prayers that my wife and I prayed. I wouldn’t be here without the support of many, especially the Kuramochis. I truly feel thankful for these things. I pray with a thankful heart in the name of Jesus.”

Joy Hyde, communication secretary,
Metropolitan Church



Samantha Nelson

A dental crew from Sarah Bush Lincoln Dental Services and Bill Wall (right), a dentist and member of the Mattoon Church, provided free dental care education, screenings and exams to children and women in the community near the church.

Church offers free dental screenings

Illinois—On Aug. 10, the Mattoon Seventh-day Adventist Church partnered with Sarah Bush Lincoln Dental Services (an entity of Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Systems) to provide free dental care education, screenings and exams for children and women. The high-tech dental truck was parked in the church's parking lot for the three-

hour event. "We were busy nonstop from the time the program started until it ended," said Bill Wall, a dentist and church member. The community learned of the free program through radio and newspaper advertising and by word of mouth.

There were 35 individuals who participated in the educational program, and of that number 22 children and four mothers received necessary services from Wall and the

professional staff from Sarah Bush.

Display tables were filled with helpful information, and Sarah Bush volunteers dressed up in colorful, dental-themed costumes and offered educational information about eating healthy foods and avoiding sugar while the children awaited their exams. They were encouraged to choose wisely when they decide what to eat, instructed how to properly brush and floss their teeth, and informed of the damage caused by tooth decay. The fun and games were all educational in nature and the program was a benefit to the community.

Everyone was thrilled with how the program turned out, and the staff were especially grateful for the opportunity to provide their services in connection with the church outreach. This is the second year the church has partnered with the Sarah Bush organization (see www.sarahbush.org). "This was the most successful outing we've had in the mobile unit since it was put into operation in January 2010," said Monica Dunn, the program coordinator for Sarah Bush.

Samantha Nelson, correspondent, Mattoon Church

VBS attendees give their life to Christ

Lake Region—The Emmanuel Church located at 5201 E. Pleasant Run Parkway in Indianapolis, Ind., set sails high and was overcome by the waves of God's love on their "High Seas Expedition." The church's ninth annual Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held July 11-15. There was a total of 60 children present, which included several visitors and 15 adult volunteers. Volunteers participated in a devotional nightly to prepare their hearts and minds to minister to the children.

For the second year, Emmanuel Church offered VBS for the adults facilitated by the church's personal



A total of 60 children attended VBS at the Emmanuel Church in Indianapolis.

ministries leader. The class was anything other than simple nightly Bible studies. It was an extraordinary class that shared God's Word with thought-provoking questions that

connected with the theme for that evening. As a result, there are several parents who are interested in continuing Bible studies.

The highlight of the expedition was children and youth, a total of 15, who indicated a desire to give their life to Christ and learn more about Him. VBS is all about fulfilling the mission we are commissioned in Matthew 28:19, 20 ... which also includes the children! Joshua Chapman, a VBS attendee, keeps asking, "When are we going to do VBS again? That was fun!"



Tamara Allen, correspondent, Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church

[WOMEN'S NEWS]



Muriel Wilson assists the ladies at the Adventist Book Center's booth.

Glendale Church hosts Women's Ministries Weekend

Indiana—Last May, under the leadership of Paulette Taylor, women's ministries leader, the Glendale Church hosted a weekend of spiritual and physical renewal not only for the ladies of their local church, but also for all the pastors wives of the Indiana Conference. The theme was "You Never Walk Alone." Rosa Banks, associate secretary of the Seventh-day Adventist World Church, was the guest speaker for the worship service. Under the guidance of L.T. Gates, a Glendale Church elder, men from the church prepared and served a delicious Sabbath dinner to all the ladies in attendance.

Sunday was "Spa Day" in the fellowship hall. The ladies enjoyed massages, mini-manicures, a prayer-life improvement workshop, food, fellowship, door prizes and many beautiful products were available from various vendors.

Claribel Ojeda, who serves the Columbus, Seymour and North Vernon churches with her pastor-husband, Manny Ojeda, said, "This weekend was wonderful! It refreshed my body, soul and spirit! I wish every pastor's wife in the Conference could have been here!"

Judith Yeoman, correspondent, Indiana Conference

[UNION NEWS]



A special sign of the grace of God was manifested when six precious individuals were baptized in Lake Wakonda on Sabbath afternoon. They will unite with the Watertown, Maranatha and Milwaukee North Spanish congregations. From left: Edulfo Mejia; Cosme Alejo; Melissa Sendoya; Adrian Olvera; Evelio Miranda, Hispanic ministries coordinator, Wisconsin Conference; Griselda Olvera; and Fernando Martinez

Hispanic Camp Meeting emphasizes proclaiming God's grace

Wisconsin—"Proclaiming the Grace of God" was the theme of the Wisconsin Conference Hispanic Camp Meeting held at Camp Wakonda Aug. 20–22. More than 750 traveled to the camp to enjoy the blessings of God. Roger Hernandez, Hispanic coordinator for the Oregon Conference, was the featured speaker for the adults. He told those present how to receive the grace of God in their lives and how to build bridges for better family relations to better proclaim the grace of God for those who have not yet received it. Hernandez's presentations were really practical and inspirational, full of the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, and delivered with enthusiasm. Attendance at each meeting was excellent, surpassing all expectations, for which all gave the glory to God.

The youth were also blessed with the preaching of Danilo Colindres, a pastor, whose presentations were titled, "The Author of Grace," "The Grace Which Forgives Us" and "The Grace that Gives Us Salvation." Each of the presentations encouraged the young people to

proclaim the grace of God in their daily living.

The younger children were also blessed to receive the grace of God as they learned more about the story of the life of Jonah and the people of Ninevah. For the first time, the children enjoyed a program designed especially for them thanks to the leadership of Noemi Miranda and a group of children's Sabbath school teachers from several churches in the Wisconsin Conference.

Special musical selections were also very inspirational, and they prepared listeners' hearts to receive the grace of God through the preaching. Several people from various churches participated, led by Hugo and Arody Carrazzo.

A special sign of the grace of God was manifested when six precious individuals were baptized in Lake Wakonda on Sabbath afternoon.

Many expressed their thankfulness to the Lord for allowing them to experience His grace during the Hispanic Camp Meeting. Make plans now to attend the next camp meeting, which is scheduled for Aug. 19–21, 2011. The keynote speaker will be Alejandro Bul-lón.

Evelio Miranda, Hispanic ministries coordinator, Wisconsin Conference

[WORLD CHURCH NEWS]

AHS medical brigades extend Christ's healing ministry

Early morning, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, city dwellers line up before sunrise—anxiously waiting to be seen by the medical brigade. Some have walked long distances with no way of knowing whether or not they will be seen. The medical brigade continues through the day, tending to the streams of people patiently waiting. They will see as many people as time and supplies allow.

The medical brigade is made up of clinical and non-clinical volunteers who minister to the local community with medical and spiritual care. The team members all have full-time jobs and full-time lives back home in the U.S. and abroad. But they take the time out of their busy schedules to travel to Honduras and help people in critical need. Russ Soliman, a member of the medical brigade, is also a member of the Midwest Region of Adventist Health System Information Services. Together with wife Debbie, Russ has traveled to Honduras four times. Working with World Gospel Outreach, an organization committed to ministering to the poor in Honduras, Soliman aids in providing the local community with essential medical treatment, dental and optical care, and spiritual nourishment.

“This is something I never thought I would do,” says Soliman. “God softened my heart, and put this opportunity in front of me.”

Approximately 30 medical brigades take place every year, each lasting one week. The medical brigades are made up of international volunteers who travel with their suitcases laden with supplies. More than 2,400 people visit the medical brigade sites, receiving medical, pharmaceutical, dental,



Russ Soliman, a member of the medical brigade from the Midwest Region of Adventist Health Systems Information Services, has traveled to Honduras four times to minister to the poor. He aids in providing essential medical and dental care, and spiritual nourishment.



City dwellers line up before sunrise, anxiously waiting to be seen by the medical brigade. The stream of people continues throughout the day, and services continue as long as time and supplies allow.

optical and/or ministerial care. A children's ministry is also included where children can receive hair washing, lice treatments and hear the Gospel story. The site locations for medical brigades are determined through a local Honduran church, ensuring that spiritual support is still available after the brigade is completed.

For Soliman, volunteering his time and talents to the people of Honduras is a responsibility and a privilege. It is

another way to live out the mission of our organization—to extend Christ's healing ministry to everyone in need.

“Jesus humbled himself to help the poor, sick and lonely,” says Soliman, “and that's basically what this is—leaving the comforts of home and sharing Christ's love with the less fortunate. If we are going to live our mission, that's what we have to do.”

Julie Zaiback, corporate communication specialist, Adventist Health System

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

Rebecca Sauer and Andrew White were married June 27, 2010, in Lansing, Mich. The ceremony was performed by Pastor Craig Harris.

Rebecca is the daughter of Glen and Laura Sauer of Marshall, Mich., and Andrew is the son of Phil and Linda White of Eaton Rapids, Mich.

The Whites are making their home in St. Johns, Mich.

Anniversaries

Bruce and Marilyn Christensen celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 25, 2010, by a family dinner hosted by their children in the Lake Union Conference social hall, Berrien Springs, Mich. They have been members of the Buchanan (Mich.) Church for 60 years.

Bruce V. Christensen and Marilyn R. Kidder were married July 30, 1950, in Berrien Springs by Pastor Otto H. Christensen. Bruce has been an engineer for Clark Equipment Co., retiring in 1986. Marilyn has been a homemaker.

The Christensen family includes Judi and Gary Doty of Berrien Springs; Jim and Cheryl Christensen of Stevensville, Mich.; Mike and Debbie Christensen of St. Joseph, Mich.; Bob and Sue Christensen of West Bloomfield, Mich.; and six grandchildren.



Charles and Martha Reed celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 5, 2010, by a surprise party with family and close friends hosted by their children at The Club House of Fountain Hills Golf Club, Alsip, Ill. They have been members of the Chicago Shiloh Church for 55 years.

Charles Reed Jr. and Martha Stuart were

married June 5, 1960, in Chicago by Pastor Eric Dillett. Charles has been a department manager for the Jewel Food Store Chain for 40 years, retiring in 1998. Martha has been a phlebotomist/receptionist for a local hospital hematology Lab for 38 years, retiring in 2009.

The Reed family includes Stanton and Monica Reed of Orlando, Fla.; Darlene and Eric Reed-Jackson of Chicago; and three grandchildren.



David and Edith Thompson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Apr. 10, 2010, by a surprise brunch with family and friends at The Shack in White Cloud, Mich. They have been members of the Kalamazoo (Mich.) Church for 15 years and currently the Fremont (Mich.) Church for 15 years.

David N. Thompson and Edith J. Bement were married Apr. 10, 1960, in Marion, Ind., by Herbert Pettingell. David has been a salaried employee of General Motors in Marion and Kalamazoo for 32 and a half years, retiring in 1992. Edith has been an employee of Bronson Hospital, Kalamazoo, retiring in 1992.

The Thompson family includes Dawn and Gary Geigle of White Cloud; Darla and Jeff Wilks of Chesterton, Ind.; and five grandchildren.

Obituaries

BRADFIELD, James T., age 80; born Jan. 11, 1930, in Grahamstown, Cape, S. Africa; died May 27, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. He was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include his wife, Carol L. (Ambs); sons, Neville, Martin and Derek; brother, Dennis; sisters, Marj Tim, Daphne King and Cynthia Coetzee; and four grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor Fred Thomas, and inurnment was in Mountain Home Cemetery, Otsego, Mich.

EAGER JR., Kenneth V., age 63; born Mar. 2, 1946, in Lincoln, Neb.; died Apr. 10, 2009, in Niles, Mich. He was a member of the Niles Westside Church.

Survivors include his wife, Ellie (McLaughlin); son, Paul R.; daughter, Michelle Oliphant; mother, Mabuta A. (Reeder) Eager; sister, Nancy Rader; and two grandchildren.

Memorial services were conducted by Pastor William Dudgeon Sr., with private inurnment, Niles.

FORD, Dorothy V. (Hyatt), age 88; born Sept. 24, 1921, in South Bend, Ind.; died June 29, 2010, in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Survivors include her son, James B.; sister, Virginia Evans; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Skip MacCarty, and interment was in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Osceola, Ind.

JORGENSEN, Monica (Terhurne) Carlson, age 67; born Aug. 9, 1942, in Lansing, Mich.; died May 26, 2010, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Cecil Jorgensen; sons, Cecil R. Jorgensen II, and James and Duane Carlson; stepsons, Roger and Hans Peter Jorgensen; stepdaughter, Cecilia (Jorgensen) Carwile; one grandchild; five step-grandchildren; and eight step-great-grandchildren.

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

LEONHARDT, Joan L., age 82; born Dec. 17, 1927, in Aurora, Neb.; died June 17, 2010, in St. Joseph, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her twin sister, Joyce Leonhardt.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Arnold Swanson, and interment was in Longmont View Cemetery, Longmont, Colo.

O'NEIL, Estelle "Susie" (Wheeler), age 84; born June 15, 1925, in Mumfordsville, Ky.; died June 3, 2010, in Fenton, Mich. She was a member of the Holly (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Michelle A. Yaste; sister, Phyllis Medanich; three grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastors Dan Towar and Brandon Korter, and Chaplain Dwight Murphy, and inurnment was in Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Louisville, Ky.

RIMUI-MUNGAI, Joyce W. (Baiya), age 44; born Dec. 12, 1965, in Kabete, Kenya; died May 22, 2010, in Buchanan, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her husband, Stephen Mungai; son, Walter Rimui; brothers, Francis, Stephen, Peter, Joseph and Charles Kamau; and sisters, Jane Githiri, Rose Mwaniki, Catherine and Elizabeth Kamau, Mary Nyaga and Ann Muturi.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Arnold Swanson, and interment was in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Buchanan.

SMALL, Ann Diane, age 68; born Jan. 16, 1942, in Detroit, Mich.; died May 28, 2010, in Lawrence, Mich. She was a member of the Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Survivors include her son, John Lanphear; stepsons, Stanley Girven, Terrie McCurry and Joel Welch; daughters, Elizabeth Harding, Beth Bird and Marie Grant; stepdaughters, Sandra Smith and Sherri Sifuentes; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor John Lanphear, and interment was in Hill Cemetery, Lawrence.

WILLIAMS, Margaret G. (Ulrich), age 95; born Oct. 8, 1914, in Cleveland, Ohio; died July 8, 2010, in Flushing, Mich. She was a member of the First Flint (Mich.) Church.

Survivors include her sisters, Theresa Bowman and Elizabeth Mall, and special niece, Dona Hall.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Justin Ringstaff, and interment was in Flint Memorial Park Cemetery.

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

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Andrews University

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Sabbath - Saturday, October 23

10:00 AM - Jim Gibson and Richard Davidson
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Saturday night, October 23

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF RELIGION seeks professor for winter semester 2011. A Ph.D. or D.Min., developed skills in evangelism, and ministerial training required. Candidate must manifest contagious

love for Jesus, strong commitment to authority of Scripture, and deep passion for Adventist message and mission. Ability to engage students in the classroom is essential. Send résumé, statement of teaching philosophy and three references as e-mail attachments to Greg King, Religion Search Committee Chair at e-mail: gking@southern.edu; phone: 423-236-2975; or fax: 423-236-1976.

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Jumping for a Cause



School Notes

BY PHYLLIS ESSEX

Last school year, students in grades K-3 at Battle Creek Academy (BCA) in Michigan helped raise money to help build a new mission school near Maluti Adventist Hospital in Mapoteng, Lesotho, in southern Africa.

The primitive old school was overcrowded and could no longer serve the needs of mission families and the children in the community. Students were learning in an environment created by converting old shipping containers to classrooms and a library. Adventist students and teachers from North America, along with Hope for Humanity, recently partnered with those in Lesotho and the Southern Africa Union Conference to raise funds for the new school.

BCA teachers are always looking for ways to help the students learn to give to others. When they told their students about the need for a new school, the young people decided to be a part of this project. Because some of the children were jumping more than 100 consecutive jumps in P.E. class, the teachers decided a jump-a-thon would be a good way for students to raise money

for the mission project. The children collected pledges for consecutive jumps they could complete from sponsors. Parents, grandparents and other family members pledged a penny per jump. The students raised almost \$800!

Nicole Mattson, K-1 teacher said, "The students were excited about the project and worked hard to raise the money. They also experienced the joy of helping others."

Student volunteers from North America were invited to travel to Lesotho to participate in the school's construction. These students paid their own expenses to participate in the project. A total of \$250,000 was needed to complete the school. The new building was erected, but funds are still needed to purchase chairs and desks. To learn more about this initiative undertaken by North America students in Adventist education, visit <http://www.nadeducation.org/maluti>.

Phyllis Essex teaches second and third grades at Battle Creek Academy. Additional information added by Lake Union Herald staff. In the photo, Emma Burke jumps for the new Maluti Adventist Christian School.

Announcements

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

Andrews University

Adventist Engaged Encounter (AEE), an enrichment weekend for engaged and recently married couples, is being re-established on the Andrews University campus. AEE will be held the weekend of **Nov. 12-14**. For registration information, contact the Office of Campus Ministries at cm@andrews.edu or 269-471-6241.

Illinois

Are you ready ... for what is soon to take place? This question is the focus of a Bible prophecy series conducted by Pastor Steve Nelson for the Noble Church Thurs., Fri. and Sat., **Oct. 28-30 and Nov. 4-13**, starting at 6:30 p.m. This series will take a look at Earth's final events as mirrored in the life of Jesus. For more information, go to <http://fairfieldsdachurch.org> or www.unlockingtruth.org.

Indiana

The Indiana Academy Alumni Association welcomes all graduates/attendees to the IA campus for Alumni Homecoming, **Oct. 8-9**. Honor classes this year are: 1960, '70, '85 and 2000. In addition, the following classes will be recognized: 1940, '50, '80 and '90. For detailed information regarding the alumni weekend, contact Bonny Dent, IAAA president, at 269-422-6464 or dent@andrews.edu. For information

regarding the alumni golf/auction event on Fri., contact Lawrence Johnson at 765-649-7256 or ljohnson@mustinbuilders.com. For RV and/or hotel information, visit www.iasda.org or call IA at 317-984-3575.

October 23: International Day is a time to worship the Lord of all creation and celebrate the international flavors of the Glendale Church, 2900 E. 62nd St., Indianapolis. This year's theme is "We're All God's Children." Guest speaker for the 11:00 a.m. worship service is Van Hurst, Indiana Conference president. Taste just a little of the eternal fellowship of Heaven at the special international concert immediately following the International Food Fest. For additional information, contact Paulette Taylor, International Day coordinator, at Paulette2525@comcast.net or 317-910-0128.

Lake Union

Offerings

- Oct 2** Local Church Budget
- Oct 9** Voice of Prophecy
- Oct 16** Local Church Budget
- Oct 23** Local Conference Advance

- Oct 30** Conference Designated
 - IL: Illinois Evangelism;
 - IN: Indiana Advance;
 - LR: Campground Development;
 - MI: GLAA Greenhouse Project;
 - WI: Wisconsin Academy

Special Days

- Oct 2** Children's Sabbath
- Oct 3-9** Health Education Week
(*Vibrant Life*)
- Oct 16** Spirit of Prophecy Sabbath
- Oct 23** Pathfinder Sabbath

Michigan

The Michigan Boarding Academies Alumni Association invites all alumni from Adelpian, Cedar Lake, Grand Ledge and Great Lakes Adventist Academies to Alumni Weekend **Oct. 8-9** on the campus of Great Lakes Adventist Academy. This year's honor classes are 1960, '70, '80, '85, '90 and 2000. Pastor Doug Batchelor from Amazing Facts will be our speaker. Come join us for a memorable weekend. For more information, visit www.glaa.net, or call the Alumni office at 989-427-5181.

Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 15-17: All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Fri. evening

and all day Sabbath. Honor classes are 1936, '41, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, 2001 and '06. For more details, contact the Academy Alumni office at 269-471-6140, or e-mail acadalum@andrews.edu.

North American Division

College View Academy/Union College Academy Alumni Weekend 2010 will take place **Oct. 8-10** in Lincoln, Neb. More events this year! We have lined up two great speakers and the basketball tournament is back. For more information on the weekend, contact Ryan Lindbeck (Class of '99) at 402-483-1181, ext. 15, or e-mail rlindbeck@collegeviewacademy.org.

Greater Boston Academy Reunion will be held **Oct. 15-17** at Stoneham Memorial Church, 29 Maple St., Stoneham, Mass. Schedule: Fri. light supper at 6:00 p.m. and Vespers at 7:30 p.m.; Sabbath: Church at 10:45 a.m. with guest speaker Dr. John Grayson, Ph.D. (1960), and 1:00 p.m. fellowship luncheon at GBA followed by activity; Sat. night: Class reunions and alumni basketball games; Sun.: School Fall Festival. For additional information or directions, contact Tom Giampa at 508-243-7458 or tdg606@aol.com, or call GBA at 781-438-4253.

Sabbath Sunset Calendar

	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct 15	Oct 22	Oct 29	Nov 5
Berrien Springs, Mich.	7:28	7:17	7:05	6:55	6:45	6:37
Chicago, Ill.	6:34	6:22	6:11	6:00	5:50	5:42
Detroit, Mich.	7:16	7:04	6:52	6:41	6:31	6:23
Indianapolis, Ind.	7:29	7:17	7:07	6:57	6:47	6:40
La Crosse, Wis.	6:48	6:35	6:23	6:11	6:01	5:52
Lansing, Mich.	7:22	7:09	6:58	6:46	6:36	6:28
Madison, Wis.	6:41	6:28	6:16	6:05	5:55	5:46
Springfield, Ill.	6:43	6:31	6:21	6:11	6:01	5:54

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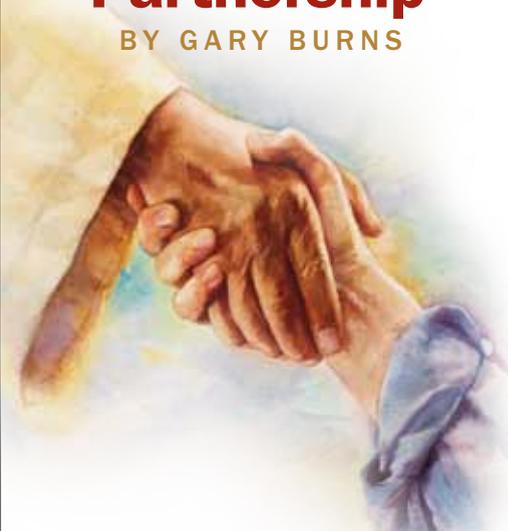
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PARTNERSHIP with GOD

An Unlimited Partnership

BY GARY BURNS



God has used a number of people at just the right time to make a profound impact on my life. Few have contributed more to my growing relationship with God than Henry Blackaby, author of *Experiencing God*, and co-founder of the denominational prayer leaders network. His teaching and coaching have been such a blessing.

I'm currently reading a book by his son, Richard. *Unlimiting God* is the product of his questions: "If God is truly all-powerful, why doesn't He manifest His awesome strength more often through me? Why isn't God's power more evident in more congregations—including my own?"

He suggests we limit God. We have a limited partnership. Not in the legal sense, but a partnership, a relationship, on which we have placed certain limi-

tations. "God, I want a relationship with you, but I have my limits. I'll pay tithe, give an offering, keep out of trouble and attend church most Sabbaths, but let's keep things at a comfortable, non-invasive level."

A good example of such a relationship was the rich young ruler in Matthew 19. His problem was that he did not want a partnership with an unlimited God. It's uncomfortable and inconvenient.

I guess when I ask God the same question, "What do I lack?" I discover I've been limiting God in our relationship in a variety of ways. I'm not willing to remain where I am spiritually. I'm prepared to do whatever it takes at whatever the cost. With my whole heart I will seek a relationship, an unlimited partnership with God.

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

A Full Experience

BY VIKRAM PANCHAL

It was 8:30 a.m., July 23! The General Conference pages from Andrews University navigated their way through the Georgia World Dome to our reporting destination—Building E. It was there we were assigned our responsibilities for the next ten days. As we parted ways, I walked through the hallways circling the Dome to find myself approaching the main platform where I had been called to serve. Amazed by the sheer size of the stage and stadium, I looked around pondering what the next few days had in store.

On Thursday, June 24, I was given the opportunity to meet with Mark Finley. I first heard him speak in Australia, in 2006, during a Spirit-filled rally for evangelism. At that time, because I was recently baptized, his title of “GC vice president for evangelism” did not ring any bells. Four years later at the 59th General Conference Session for the Seventh-day Adventist World Church, I nervously held onto a printed time card designed to let Mark know he had 15 ... 10 ... 5 minutes left to close his message!

On Wednesday, June 30, an unforgettable experience came about when I was asked to say the prayer of invocation for the World Church during the morning devotional. This was a blessing from God as it also happened to be my birthday. A couple of time slots had opened up in the schedule the previous day that needed to be filled. Later that day, a surprise birthday party was organized by the pages, disguised as a meeting to pull me away from work.

As the final Friday came around we were surprised to see a large painting with Nathan Greene, the artist, standing beside it. As we stood back and watched the unveiling, the bright colors of the rainbow encircling Jesus and the angels immediately captured our attention as well as that of the photographers gathered to catch



Donald May

the first glimpse of the new painting. Little did we know that moments later we would be carting the painting on a small roller down to Nathan’s art gallery. It was a 20-minute walk along a sometimes dimly-lit passageway with camera flashbulbs illuminating our pathway. Needless to say, we had to be extra careful!

An unforgettable experience took place on the final Sabbath when 70,000 Adventists gathered together to hear an inspiring sermon by Ted N.C. Wilson, newly-elected president of the World Church. Truly this gathering was a world church representing every nation, tribe, tongue and people! The thought flashed into my mind of what it would be like to one day stand on the Sea of Glass in Heaven and rejoice with the multitude of the redeemed. It was with that lingering thought that I made my way back to Andrews with the lyrics of the song performed by the Andrews University Singers gently playing in the recesses of my mind, “Even so Lord, come quickly. This is my fervent prayer. For I caught a glimpse of glory and I’m longing to be there.”¹

Vikram Panchal is a graduate student studying at the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. He is originally from the bustling city of Mumbai, India. Vikram hopes to become a local church pastor and trainer.

1. Huntsinger, David. “I Have Fixed My Mind (On Another Time).” Church Choral Series. Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. 2009.



Amy Michelle Hahn, 21, is a junior theology major at Andrews University. Her home church is the Reedsburg Seventh-day Adventist Church in Reedsburg, Wisconsin. At Andrews, Amy is a leader of the Homebound Ministries, which provides the residents of Timber Ridge Manor, a retirement home located in Berrien Springs, Michigan, with companionship and spiritual programs.



Amy Hahn

Amy particularly enjoys outreach. In fact, that was why she came to Andrews University in the first place. "I have always been interested in missions, whether in the United States or internationally," she says. In addition to Homebound Ministries, Amy also works with the children at the Harbor of Hope Church in Benton Harbor, Michigan. "Doing both helped me grow spiritually and has helped me come to the conclusion that *all* are searching for something to make them happy ... the happiness that never leaves," she says.

These experiences led Amy to realize that she "wants her life to focus on sharing how great God's love is" to all those she meets. Amy spent the past year in Cambodia as a high school teacher.

Amy credits her spiritual growth to all the opportunities available to be involved in at Andrews. She has not decided what she wants to do in the future, but is considering entering into ministry.



Phillip Somers

Phillip "Phil" James Somers, 19, is a graduate of the Indiana Academy class of 2009. He is now studying at Andrews University where he is majoring in religion and biology with a minor in chemistry for secondary education certification.

Phil is an Andrews Ambassador and is involved with the *Impressions of the Master* drama team. During the school year, he is actively involved with the media team at Pioneer Memorial Church and is a TLT leader (Teen Leader in Training) in the Pioneer Memorial Church Evergreen Pathfinder Club.

In Phil's first year at Andrews University, he was "blown away by the support" he found in his professors. They, along with the staff at the Counseling & Testing Center, formed relationships with Phil and helped him succeed during his first year at Andrews.

Phil's long-term goals are to work with youth in the church, and he looks forward to becoming even more involved with ministry and outreach opportunities at Andrews during the next year. Phil is a member of the Cicero Church in Indiana.

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

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2010-11 UNIVERSITY PREVIEW EVENTS

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 - **October 17 & 18, 2010**
 - **November 7 & 8, 2010**
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 - **March 6 & 7, 2011**
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