

Wisconsin Conference Evangelistic Update

Evangelism in the Wisconsin Conference is in a great state! Even in times of economic challenge, churches and members are still active in working for interested people.

- ◆ Milwaukee Central had an eight-day evangelism emphasis conducted by Pastor Marshall McKenzie. Eight people have taken their stand for Jesus with six already baptized.
- ◆ Rice Lake Church held a major series with Evangelist Steve Delong. Eleven people were baptized with five more in preparation.
- ◆ Sturgeon Bay held a revival/harvest series for one extended weekend. God blessed with one dear man making his decision to join God's remnant church.
- ◆ Rhinelander and Tomahawk collaborated for a three-week reaping campaign. Five people were baptized with five more preparing for baptism. One couple drove 130 miles each night to attend.
- ◆ A man from Rhinelander had a disturbing dream of strange animals and images the night the meetings began. The next morning he received a brochure with pictures of the exact strange animals he had seen in his dream. He came faithfully to the meetings and was baptized.

God is still doing miracles. Your support in prayer, in witness and in finances allows the work of evangelism to continue moving forward.

James Fox
Evangelism Coordinator

"To every one who becomes a partaker of His grace, the Lord appoints a work for others. Individually we are to stand in our lot and place, saying, 'Here I am; send me.' Upon the minister of the word, the missionary nurse, the Christian physician, the individual Christian, whether he be merchant or farmer, professional man or mechanic—the responsibility rests upon all. It is our work to reveal to men the gospel of their salvation. Every enterprise in which we engage should be a means to this end."

E.G. White
Review & Herald, Sept. 6, 1881

Combined Health and Reaping Meetings

In October, 2011, the Rhinelander and Tomahawk churches jointly held simultaneous reaping and health meetings for three weeks.

Pastor Chuck Kohley led out one night a week in a program called, Super Foods of the Bible. Ancient Bible health secrets were presented and delicious vegetarian cuisine was served as guests mingled and got acquainted.

At the same time, Elder James Fox, evangelism coordinator for the Wisconsin conference, held reaping meetings four nights a week reviewing Biblical beliefs that church members had already been introducing to their friends.

Throughout the three weeks, 15-20 interests attended. At the close of the meetings, five were baptized. Their stories are amazing:

- ◆ One lady had taken Adventist Bible studies with a church member over 20 years ago. Six months before the meetings, she again began studying the Bible with another church member. Now she is attending church again.
- ◆ Another lady had been having Bible studies with a member and attending church for many months. She made her decision for Jesus.
- ◆ Listening to Doug Bachelor on 3ABN radio, another lady became convinced Saturday was the Sabbath. She had met a church member while out walking and was surprised to discover he was an Adventist. He invited her to church. She got involved in Super Foods of the Bible and the fellowship of the church. On the closing Sabbath of the meetings, she sealed her decision for Jesus in baptism.
- ◆ Five others are preparing for baptism
- ◆ Another five are very interested.

They all had something in common—they were friends with Adventist people and had been taking Bible studies when the meetings began. They were in relationship with contagious Christians.

The face of evangelism is changing in Wisconsin. Church members are becoming key players in God's work of seeking and saving the lost. The Rhinelander and Tomahawk Churches each expended less than \$1,000 on these meetings.

For information on being a witness for Jesus, email James Fox jfox@wi.adventist.org, Cindy Stephan cstephan@wi.adventist.org, or call 920-484-6555.

James Fox
Evangelism Coordinator

Reaching Teens and Young Adults

Evangelizing 18-35 year-olds is difficult. My concern as I minister to this group is that we as a church use a vernacular only familiar to the Judeo/Christian mind. Most teenagers and young adults today have no comprehension of, or familiarity with, the meta-narrative of the Bible. So what should we do? Simple, speak their language.

The Bible message can be summarized as follows:

1. What Jesus has done for you
2. What Jesus is doing for you now
3. What we have done
4. What we are doing
5. What we should be doing

As we learn to highlight these simple concepts in today's language, others will better understand us.

In any evangelistic effort, we must speak the language of our audience and go where they are. That is what the apostle Paul was trying to do among the Greeks in Athens. We can't wait for this generation to simply walk into our churches.

Let's find a blending of our incredible Seventh-day Adventist message with innovative ways to witness. We need to be able to do this without fear that our innovation will be rejected by the congregation we are trying to bring new members to.

In *Words of Encouragement to Workers in the Home Missionary Field* p. 23-24, Mrs. White says:

"Speak and act to the glory of God. Say 'In thought, word and deed I will be a blessing to those I meet. I will let light shine forth.' Enter into conversation with the people. Become familiar with their experience... Take with you into their homes the sunshine of heaven. Outside of the truth, there is little enough of this sunshine now in the world. As you seek to become acquainted with those who have no knowledge of the truth, as you strive to speak words in season, remember that you are God's helping hand, and that He will teach you to speak words which will cause light to shine into darkened minds. Doors will open for the work of soul-saving."

Over one hundred years ago, God told us exactly what we need to do: infiltrate the spaces this generation calls "home," and share the reason why they haven't found "home" yet.

Jean-Marcel Clouzet
Youth Pastor, Madison East SDA Church

WISCONSIN BUDGET GOAL 2% of Income

Thru December 2011

	MEM.	GOAL	GOAL	AMT RECVD	AMT OVER	%
			THRU	THRU	(UNDER) GOAL	OF GOAL
CHURCH		2011	12/31/2011	12/31/2011	12/31/2011	RECEIVED
Middleton	26	570.36	570.36	1,572.50	1,002.14	275.70%
Fish Creek	11	2,686.03	2,686.03	2,462.00	(224.03)	91.66%
Antigo	45	3,107.86	3,107.86	2,441.87	(665.99)	78.57%
Sturgeon Bay	31	9,583.33	9,583.33	7,475.00	(2,108.33)	78.00%
Beaver Dam	38	10,294.80	10,294.80	6,312.91	(3,981.89)	61.32%
Frederic	65	16,173.71	16,173.71	8,771.39	(7,402.32)	54.23%
The Shepherd's House	160	27,019.04	27,019.04	13,954.03	(13,065.01)	51.65%
Wisconsin Conference	260	58,022.67	58,022.67	28,608.71	(29,413.96)	49.31%
Oxford	82	28,559.00	28,559.00	13,872.69	(14,686.31)	48.58%
Watertown	43	2,537.51	2,537.51	1,199.00	(1,338.51)	47.25%
Clearwater Lake	72	11,048.58	11,048.58	5,088.61	(5,959.97)	46.06%
Wisconsin Academy Church	280	68,027.89	68,027.89	31,228.76	(36,799.13)	45.91%
Reedsburg	53	8,163.87	8,163.87	3,597.15	(4,566.72)	44.06%
Pound	45	4,096.99	4,096.99	1,804.76	(2,292.23)	44.05%
Tomahawk Community	21	7,526.00	7,526.00	3,302.60	(4,223.40)	43.88%
Bethel	96	9,125.44	9,125.44	3,816.61	(5,308.83)	41.82%
Baraboo	26	2,604.70	2,604.70	1,084.65	(1,520.05)	41.64%
Rhineland	132	20,512.13	20,512.13	8,511.18	(12,000.95)	41.49%
Shawano	38	8,822.33	8,822.33	3,581.01	(5,241.32)	40.59%
Almond	38	8,476.95	8,476.95	3,431.54	(5,045.41)	40.48%
Evansville	20	4,612.21	4,612.21	1,839.14	(2,773.07)	39.88%
New London	61	5,401.20	5,401.20	2,138.74	(3,262.46)	39.60%
Menomonie	87	11,208.41	11,208.41	4,259.95	(6,948.46)	38.01%
Kenosha	51	1,679.39	1,679.39	621.11	(1,058.28)	36.98%
Oakland	49	11,486.36	11,486.36	3,961.23	(7,525.13)	34.49%
Tomah	69	5,682.06	5,682.06	1,946.64	(3,735.42)	34.26%
Spooner-Trego	10	266.58	266.58	90.00	(176.58)	33.76%
Chippewa Valley	206	42,092.07	42,092.07	13,910.42	(28,181.65)	33.05%
Sparta	33	4,900.75	4,900.75	1,485.95	(3,414.80)	30.32%
Prairie du Chien	18	2,767.86	2,767.86	834.18	(1,933.68)	30.14%
Portage	89	12,358.95	12,358.95	3,674.14	(8,684.81)	29.73%
Marshfield	128	23,515.35	23,515.35	6,961.91	(16,553.44)	29.61%
Fox Valley	255	37,346.28	37,346.28	10,799.32	(26,546.96)	28.92%
Lancaster	47	7,383.27	7,383.27	2,100.10	(5,283.17)	28.44%
Wisconsin Rapids	122	23,275.52	23,275.52	6,449.25	(16,826.27)	27.71%
Woodland Community	207	11,915.78	11,915.78	3,259.97	(8,655.81)	27.36%
Christ Community	144	27,093.35	27,093.35	7,016.02	(20,077.33)	25.90%
Milwaukee Southside	43	7,514.93	7,514.93	1,944.38	(5,570.55)	25.87%
Ashland	53	5,045.30	5,045.30	1,287.29	(3,758.01)	25.51%
Fond Du Lac	19	5,367.66	5,367.66	1,317.11	(4,050.55)	24.54%
Waukesha	198	40,575.06	40,575.06	9,281.17	(31,293.89)	22.87%
Hudson	37	7,040.29	7,040.29	1,603.21	(5,437.08)	22.77%
Clear Lake	94	23,864.17	23,864.17	5,409.11	(18,455.06)	22.67%
Rice Lake	160	29,596.83	29,596.83	6,707.21	(22,889.62)	22.66%
Madison	479	85,267.65	85,267.65	19,215.99	(66,051.66)	22.54%
Durand	57	11,752.02	11,752.02	2,637.39	(9,114.63)	22.44%
Madison Community	241	30,312.91	30,312.91	6,496.17	(23,816.74)	21.43%
Lakeland	21	4,164.97	4,164.97	810.50	(3,354.47)	19.46%
Hylandale	86	12,466.19	12,466.19	2,366.93	(10,099.26)	18.99%

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CHURCH		2011	12/31/2011	12/31/2011	12/31/2011	RECEIVED
Delavan	82	18,970.46	18,970.46	3,200.14	(15,770.32)	16.87%
Beloit	42	8,192.24	8,192.24	1,343.75	(6,848.49)	16.40%
Sheboygan	128	28,450.66	28,450.66	4,614.54	(23,836.12)	16.22%
Richland Center	91	14,891.21	14,891.21	2,351.19	(12,540.02)	15.79%
Green Bay	548	98,916.88	98,916.88	15,364.81	(83,552.07)	15.53%
Stevens Point	103	12,429.63	12,429.63	1,860.66	(10,568.97)	14.97%
Superior	62	9,109.97	9,109.97	1,353.14	(7,756.83)	14.85%
Milwaukee Central	223	53,380.55	53,380.55	7,447.63	(45,932.92)	13.95%
Racine	138	15,209.55	15,209.55	2,070.65	(13,138.90)	13.61%
Waukesha Spanish	43	6,158.86	6,158.86	780.41	(5,378.45)	12.67%
Merrill	18	4,943.50	4,943.50	626.25	(4,317.25)	12.67%
Monroe	55	8,767.63	8,767.63	1,048.27	(7,719.36)	11.96%
Raymond	153	38,716.45	38,716.45	4,620.31	(34,096.14)	11.93%
Watertown Hispanic	41	4,284.75	4,284.75	475.57	(3,809.18)	11.10%
Milwaukee Northwest	219	32,456.56	32,456.56	3,277.27	(29,179.29)	10.10%
LaCrosse	87	20,723.78	20,723.78	2,046.37	(18,677.41)	9.87%
Racine Spanish	48	6,323.05	6,323.05	615.00	(5,708.05)	9.73%
Milwaukee La Hayes Spanish	69	7,819.56	7,819.56	713.67	(7,105.89)	9.13%
Milwaukee North Spanish	164	24,047.58	24,047.58	1,989.47	(22,058.11)	8.27%
Milwaukee Central Spanish	168	19,547.73	19,547.73	1,563.77	(17,983.96)	8.00%
Green Bay Hispanic	25	2,093.98	2,093.98	120.00	(1,973.98)	5.73%
Hayward	25	10,212.01	10,212.01	582.60	(9,629.41)	5.71%
Sheboygan Spanish	43	6,978.77	6,978.77	359.60	(6,619.17)	5.15%
Milwaukee Maranatha Spanish	45	1,965.44	1,965.44	86.10	(1,879.34)	4.38%
Kenosha Emmanuel SDA	33	4,877.95	4,877.95	205.54	(4,672.41)	4.21%
Neillsville	40	2,890.06	2,890.06	82.00	(2,808.06)	2.84%
Everlasting Gospel	8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
TOTAL	7,347	1,265,271.33	1,265,271.33	341,340.21	(923,931.12)	27%

Dear Church Family,

As we continue our work on closing the books for 2011, it's a good time to look back and see how the Lord has blessed our conference. As you may be aware, 2011 was a difficult budget year, largely because we experienced a tithe loss in 2010. Pay reductions, and other economies, were implemented in order to balance the budget. While the final results for 2011 are still being tabulated, here are some results from 2011 that we can share with you.

Tithe for 2011 was up by 3.27%. This represents an increase of just over \$207,000. A big thank you for your faithfulness to the Lord in the very difficult economy we are all experiencing.

Last year about this time, a special appeal was made for the Wisconsin Budget to help with funding needed for Wisconsin Academy. A faith goal of \$320,000 was set. This represents an increase of over 34% (\$83,000) of what was received last year. I am happy to report that this year ended with \$341,340 for Wisconsin Budget. This represents a (43.8%) \$104,014 increase over last year. Thank you for your part in making this goal a reality.

We are very excited about what is happening at Wisconsin Academy. Your continued support of Wisconsin Budget for 2012 is critical as we maintain the essential support needed this year by Wisconsin Academy. May God continue to bless and honor your faithfulness to Him in 2012 as we look forward to His soon return.

Brian Stephan
Secretary/Treasurer



NAD ACS Convention

March 22-25, 2012



Training Tracks

Community Services
Sung Kwon, Presenter

Disaster Response
Joe Watts, Presenter

Tutoring & Mentoring
Sandra Brown, Presenter

Elder Care
Marilyn Renk, Presenter

Crisis Care
Steve Willsey, Presenter

YES-Youth Empowered to Serve
Justin Vibbard



Cemetery Lots for Sale: Some individuals, not needing plots they had previously purchased have donated them to the conference. We have lots in Madison, Fond du Lac, Wautoma and Rhinelander. You can get a good price and be a blessing to the Lord's work at the same time. For more information call 920-484-6555 and ask for Brian Stephan.

New Wisconsin Academy website coming March 2012: www.wisacad.org. Check it out!

Why Almira Funded A Gift Annuity

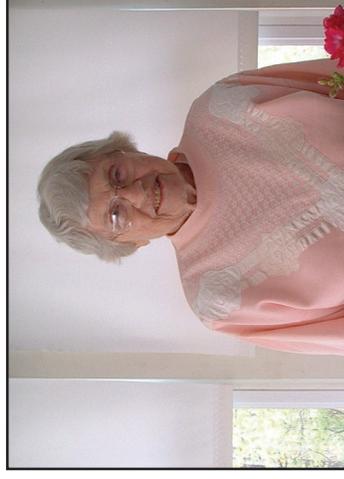
took an extra job and paid off that house in a year and a half," Almira says. Life experiences such as these and a commitment to Biblical principles have contributed to her wisdom.

"Don't spend what you don't have," she'll say. "Don't borrow. Save and pay cash. Don't try to keep up with the Joneses. Don't pay for a dead horse. "The borrower is servant of the lender." (Proverbs 22:7)

Almira decided a Gift Annuity with the Wisconsin Conference made good financial sense and was good stewardship at the same time. "What better place to put some money and get good interest and ultimately bless God's work?" Almira says.

To find out more about Gift Annuities paying up to 9% and other financial opportunities, contact the Wisconsin Conference Trust department at 920-484-6555.

Richard Habemicht
Planned Giving Director



Almira Pavek of Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, is careful with her money. Ask about her personal finance philosophy and she is likely to tell you about working for 10 cents a day as a kid and being paid 5 cents to fill the manure spreader. She will tell you about buying a house and discovering how much of each payment was interest. "I

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	2011	2010	% Change
December Tithe Income:	\$919,741.49	\$770,737.81	19.33%
YTD Tithe Income:	\$6,543,198.71	\$6,335,947.55	3.27%
December Wisconsin Budget:	\$46,766.89	\$33,285.35	40.50%
YTD Wisconsin Budget:	\$341,340.21	\$237,326.95	43.82%

GROSS TITHE INCOME

Our conference uses 61% of gross tithe to support pastors and other ministries in Wisconsin. We send 39% of gross tithe on to higher church organizations, such as the Lake Union, North American Division, the General Conference, and Andrews University where it is used for wider ministry including world missions.

WISCONSIN BUDGET INCOME

Wisconsin Academy Operations	65.63%
W.A. financial assistance	17.19%
Evangelism	13.75%
Church, camp, W.A. capital funds	3.43%