

LAMP LETTER

A publication of the Wisconsin Conference

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May 2008

Camp Meeting 2008

Camp Meeting is a spiritual and relational highlight for the people of God:

- 1. The Holy Spirit speaks to your heart when you dedicate eight days to prayer, Bible study, healthful living in a natural setting, and spiritual contemplation.
- 2. Inspirational speakers open your mind to new concepts and understandings that flavor the rest of your year.
- 3. Reconnecting with old friends and beginning new friendships is a wonderful benefit of the June gathering.

Camp Meeting Highlights

Jim Gilley, President of 3ABN, will be our opening weekend speaker. Elder Gilley is a wonderful presenter



Elder Jim Gilley

in his own right. He has served His Lord and Church as Evangelist, Pastor, Conference President, and North-American Division Vice President. He will launch our Camp Meeting program on the opening Friday night.

Evening Speaker, Lee Venden, will begin ministering to us on



Lee Venden

Monday evening. The son of Morris Venden, Lee is a gifted presenter. He will also be our closing weekend



Van Hurst

Van Hurst, Youth and Church Ministries Director for the Mid-America Union, will be our Young Adult speaker. His presentations are thoughtful and spiritual. Young Adults of all ages will be blessed.

We regret to inform you that Jere Patzer and Roscoe Howard will not be able to attend Camp Meeting.

1001	speaker.	James Fox	
	Seminars, Pathfinder events, marvelous music by Jennifer Jill and others, and Holy Spirit blessings.	Inside this Issue	_
	Revive us Lord is the theme for Camp Meeting. We invite you to make this the prayer of your hearts also so that God can bless us abundantly with His Presence.	President's Message Camp Meeting Financial Highlights Constituency Report Church News	6

President's Message

Contagious Churches



This article is not designed to be a Greek class but there are three Greek words used in the New Testament that outline what a church is to do—and to be. The first is <code>kerygma</code>—this is the proclamation of the message. This can be done through teaching, preaching and evangelistic outreach. The second is <code>koinonia</code>, this is the dynamic fellowship that is to exist within the church which Paul often described as "brotherly love." The third is <code>diakonia</code> which is service— ministering to people to extend the helping and healing ministry of Jesus.

Every church that is to be "contagious" for Jesus needs these three dynamic forces operating within it. As one person said, "it is by kerygma that the Christian faith is taught, and by koinonia that it is caught, and a by-product of diakonia is that the Christian faith is bought! (*The Contagious Congregation* by George Hunter III).

I believe that as Adventists, we have traditionally been effective with *kerygma*, and that is pleasing to the Lord. We have at times struggled with *koinonia*, in providing the warm, loving, united atmosphere where believers are nurtured and grow in Christ. We

sometimes think of our Christian responsibility only in individual terms; but throughout the New Testament, we are challenged to think corporately. The "people of God" is not just a term referring to a collection of individuals but a dynamic, united, mission-minded body that depicts the qualities of Christ to the world. How we relate to people and build them up in Christ is a vital quality of being His body—His church. How can we practice *koinonia* better?

Christ made *diakonia*, the test as to who were his authentic disciples at the end of time (See Matthew 25). Christ states that those on His right hand will be those who have ministered to Him by ministering to others. Recently I had a meeting at the Milwaukee Central Church which involved several pastors. During our meeting a car pulled up to the door and church members started unloading food. I thought, this is going to be a great fellowship meal in the church. However, the pastor enlightened me that they are preparing to feed the homeless in the city. This ministry has been going on for about seventeen years. I must admit that I rejoiced at what I saw with the diligent efforts to bless others. How can we practice *diakonia* better in our churches?

I would be pleased if every church would take time during their board and business meetings to discuss these three ingredients in their church. The question could be asked, "Are we a contagious church for Christ." Do we have the qualities of *kergyma*, *koinonia* and *diakonia*? May we allow Jesus to fashion us as His body.

The Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the Adventist Book Center cordially invite you to the Grand Opening of our new offices.

Our new offices are located at N2561 Old Highway 16 Road, Fall River, Wisconsin.

The festivities will take place from 2:00 — 4:00 pm on May 25, 2008. A brief ceremony will take place at 2:00 pm after which tours will be provided and refreshments will be served.

Plan now to be part of this great celebration.

Camp Meeting, June 20-28, 2008

Red Hat Society News

Monday, June 23, will be the 5th annual Christian Women's RHS "gathering", featuring a "High Tea" luncheon from 11:30-1:15 pm in Cedar Lodge. A very special program is being planned for your enjoyment. Bertha Bigford will be our featured guest speaker. She will share a wonderful story of a special friendship with a Lutheran minister and his wife.

Please bring to share: Scones, crumpets, dainty finger sandwiches, fresh fruits, veggies, and finger desserts. Herbal teas, Barley Coffee, and table service will be provided.

We will celebate ladies turning "50" in 2008. Red Hat attire is appropriate for this very special occasion. Purple and red for ages 50+, and pink and lavender for ages 18-49.

Our society helps to sponsor SDA schools in Wisconsin. The Green Bay School was chosen to be the recipient of our financial "love gifts" this year. Please continue saving your pennies, nickels, dimes and dollars for our featured school.

Annual \$2.00 dues will be collected at the door during registration.

Any questions, please contact Donna Aust: 920-484-6161 or Sue Toye: 920-432-9185.

Camp Meeting Choir and Band A Great Tradition!

Plan now to be part of the choir that will provide worship music for the June 28 church service in the Pavilion.

Practices will be held the first weekend on Saturday and Sunday evenings following the service in the Pavilion, as well as weekdays from 1:15 to 2:10 p.m. Second weekend practices will be Friday evening following the service in the Pavilion and the second Sabbath morning at 8:00 a.m in the Pavilion.

We look forward to having <u>all</u> singers, trained and those not trained, join the camp meeting choir and help provide inspiring worship music during the Sabbath morning service. If you play an instrument, you are invited to join. Elaine Corson will coordinate the group by providing music. Practice is at 8:30 am, Sabbath, June 21 and 8:45 am, Sabbath, June 28. The band will accompany song service for Sabbath School in the Pavilion.

Phyllis Corkum, Music Committee Chairperson

Meal Prices for Camp Meeting 2008

Adult Child Senior 11-59 3-10 60 & over Ages Breakfast \$5.50 \$4.50 \$5.00 Lunch \$6.00 \$5.00 \$5.50 Supper \$6.00 \$5.00 \$5.50 Children 2 and under no charge Meals for Camp Meeting 2008 will be charged as a flat rate. Meal tickets can be purchased by calling the Conference Office at 920-484-6555. Tickets can be used for Sabbath or weekday meals. Orders received prior to June 12 will be mailed to you. Ticket orders received after June 12 will be available at the Administration office at the campground. Tickets may be purchased at the administration office beginning Friday June 20. Please purchase Sabbath meal tickets prior to 8:00 pm Friday. Seniors are encouraged to obtain a 10% discount card at the administration office.

Teachers and Helpers Needed

Camp Meeting is around the corner and we need teachers and helpers for Beginners and Kindergarten at Camp Meeting. If you are interested, please contact Kitty Crary at 920-484-6555 or kcrary@wi.adventist.org

Cafeteria Workers Needed

We are looking for people who are interested in helping with the food service during camp pitch and camp meeting (especially a supper cook). If you are at least 16 years old and would like to help either with food preparation, serving or helping in the dish room, please call Roger Driver at the Conference Office 920-484-6555

Hallelujah Hustle

It's time to pull out your athletic shoes and gear up for the second annual Hallelujah Hustle. This 5k (3 mile) run/walk will take place on Sunday, June 22 during camp meeting at Camp Wakonda.

At last year's Hustle, 139 participants ran or walked their way around the campground on a cool Sunday morning. Many participants had prepared for the run/walk by following the training program designed especially for the event by the Wellness Department at Southern Adventist University. Participants ranged in age and fitness levels, but all contributed to a good cause: proceeds from the race entrance fee were used to purchase an Automatic External Defibrillator for the Westfield police department.

Be a part of this year's Hallelujah Hustle. To get started, visit www.hallelujahhustle.com to download a sign-up form, view the training program, and even watch a Hallelujah Hustle commercial. Register by Friday, June 6 to guarantee yourself a 2008 Hustle T-shirt. Pre-registration is \$12; registration Saturday night, June 21, or Sunday, June 22 is \$15. Sign up early to take advantage of this discount. For more information, email 5k@hallelujahhustle.com or call Jenney at 1.608.873.8019.

Kristy Brown Lust

Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Financial Highlights

March 31, 2008

	2008	2007	Difference	% Change
Tithe - Month-to-Date	590,470.65	656,015.14	-65,544.49	-9.99%
Tithe - Year-to-Date	1,409,552.19	1,518,642.34	-109,090.15	-7.18%
Wisconsin Budget - MTD	19,605.65	22,313.98	-2,708.33	-13.81%
Wisconsin Budget - YTD	45,696.01	50,689.53	-4,993.52	-10.93%
3	,	,	,	
Cash				
Checking	265,201.16	194,920.37	70,280.79	26.50%
Money Market Certificates	615,610.90	939,260.11	-323,649.21	-52.57%
Securitites & Investments	1,695,746.25	1,695,604.01	142.24	0.01%
Total Cash and Investments	2,576,558.31	2,829,784.49	-253,226.18	-9.83%
Total Cash and Investments	2,570,550.51	2,023,704.43	-200,220.10	-5.0570
Accounts Receivable				
Churches	4,274.85	637.09	3,637.76	85.10%
	·		·	21.27%
Schools (Including WA)	484,719.04	381,634.25	103,084.79	
WA (Separately)	391,982.13	281,519.61	110,462.52	28.18%
Current Ratio (Note 1)	10.56:1	7.48:1	N/A	N/A
Evangelism - Unrestricted Func I	Bal 53,390.03	40,750.78	12,639.25	23.67%
Evangelism - Restricted Func Ba		27,554.66	-879.40	-3.30%
<u> </u>				
Actual - 2008	Budget - 2008	Difference	Actual - 2007	Fav/(Unfav)
Income	1,714,193.00	1,744,957.00	-30,764.00	1,853,811.00
Expenses	1,660,022.00	1,858,918.00	198,896.00	1,796,098.00
Net Incr/(Decr) Before Transfers	54,171.00	-113,961.00	168,132.00	57,713.00
Fund/Funct Transfers	-13,333.00	50,447.00	-63,780.00	-16,435.00
Net Incr/(Decr) After Transfers	40,838.00	-63,514.00	104,352.00	41,278.00
Net Assets - Beginning	2,948,213.00	2,948,201.00	12.00	2,959,603.00
Net Assets - Ending	2,989,051.00	2,884,687.00	104,364.00	3,000,881.00
Expense (Selected Functions)				
Pastors	522,363.10	547,719.00	25,355.90	521,685.77
Evangelism	48,012.02	122,983.00	74,970.98	58,510.40
Church School Oper	381,006.69	381,406.00	399.31	412,665.39
Academy Operation	113,512.97	114,700.00	1,187.03	114,429.80
Group Medical Plan	-57,079.05	8,790.00	65,869.05	485.18
General & Admin	82,912.73	87,522.00	4,609.27	122,360.08

Note 1 - The Current Ratio is the ratio of Current Assets to Current Liabilities.

New Dorms for WA

The March 5, 2008, Constituency of the Wisconsin Conference was a special constituency dedicated to a single purpose – approving a plan for the renewing of the dormitories of Wisconsin Academy. Two hundred and seventy-three regular and "at large" delegates gathered on time to conduct the business of the session.



Don Corkum and Roger Driver enjoy a light moment with delegates as they open the March 5, 2008 Special Constituency Session.

After the presentation of reports by the President, Treasurer, Academy Principal and the Academy Treasurer, delegates began consideration of alternatives for the renewing of the dormitories. Roger Driver presented the report from the WA Dormitory Feasibility Committee concerning dormitory renovation and new construction options . Two options were presented:

- Tear down the existing dormitories (one at a time) and build new, smaller, more energy efficient buildings that would serve our present needs
- Tear down the existing dormitories (one at a time) and build new, smaller, energy efficient buildings and build extra rooms
- 3. Renovate the existing buildings
 After much discussion, the delegates voted by secret ballot 191 to
 60 to build new dormitories. In follow
 up motions, the constituency voted:
- 1. To add Geothermal heat to the new dormitory buildings
- 2. To address the water problem

- (high mineral content, bad smell and taste, rust and lime deposits, etc.) at WA before building new dormitories
- 3. To make provision for additional rooms in the new dormitories
- 4. To add solar panels to the new dormitories to reduce energy consumption.

Conference Administration presented the slogan, "Together We Can" as the name for the dormitory renewal project. Substantial funds are available from the sale of the Conference Office property in Sun Prairie to begin the voted construction. Fund raising will be necessary with each interested person doing their part. Fund raising actually began at Constituency Meeting with delegates being invited to donate and pledge their support.

Demolition and new construction will begin sometime after graduation services at Wisconsin Academy on May 25, 2008. Please pray for God's leading in this renovation of dormitories. Please pray that God will make plain to you what he wants you to do with either a pledge or an outright donation to provide new dormitories for our young people at Wisconsin Academy.

James Fox

Lay Advisory Meeting and Statistical Review

Each year, the Conference Executive Committee meets together with the Lay Advisory, elected delegates from each church, to review the Conference's financial status. This year's meeting convened on April 6, 2008.

The group heard the President's report, ministry reports from Departmental Directors, progress reports on the Conference office building project and the Treasurer's report and budget proposal. Delegates responded enthusiastically to the reports of soul winning,

service, and progress in the work of God in Wisconsin.

The delegates were challenged as they learned of the financial demands placed upon the Conference. With the cost of a gallon of gasoline (it just went down to \$3.61 in my area), a loaf of bread, or a pound of rice going steadily up, Conference finances are suffering. Health Care costs have skyrocketed and cost of living and housing continues to rise for employees.

In an effort to balance the budget for 2008, the Lay Advisory gave recommendations to the Executive Committee:

- To delay all Cost of Living increases to employees
- To budget \$50 per month less per employee in the hope that health care costs will go down
- To consult with all employees for the purpose of reducing the cost of housing allowance by ten percent

These recommendations were wise and prudent in the face of a worsening economy. As the Executive Committee met, there was discussion of an unwillingness to balance the budget "on the backs of the employees" but there seemed to be no other options.

Roger Driver, Conference Treasurer, made a brilliant recommendation to the Committee to avert this method of addressing the deficit: there is a function in the Plant Fund that had a little used account that had adequate funds to meet the deficit for this year. The Committee joyfully voted the recommendation and the crisis was avoided! The employees would not have to look at reductions in remuneration this year.

Perhaps a better description of the solution was that the crisis was averted for one year. We have to begin balancing next year's budget

Continued from page 5

now. This will require that we will have to live the following values:

- Rely more on volunteers and less on employees. Godly men and women serve our churches as elders and deacons, lay pastors, deaconesses etc. We will need to "step up" and do the things we can do to free up our pastors to do the things they are uniquely called to do – training and equipping the saints for ministry.
- 2. Work smarter. We need to minimize discretionary spending and expectations; Pastors (who are reimbursed for their travel) need to consider whether a phone call would be more effective in accomplishing the work. Teachers need to consider what expenses are necessary and what expenditures could be minimized. Each of us needs to do the work of evangelism rather than paying the postman to deliver invitations to hear the gospel.
- 3. **Practice wellness**. The best way to control health care expenses is to be healthy. Walk more, eat better, exercise and be cheerful as you trust in God. (Prov 17:22 NIV) "A cheerful heart is good medicine, . . ."
- 4. Encourage good stewardship. Tell the wonderful stories
 of how God blesses us when
 we put His kingdom first.
 Encourage one another to good
 works, create a culture where
 generosity to God is part of
 who we are. Decide what you
 need to live on and if you
 receive more, consider donating it rather than spending it.
 Become a living channel
 through which God can bless
 the church and the world.
- 5. Pray earnestly. When we

pray, God is able to bless in ways that He otherwise could not do. As God blessed the faithful widow's two mites (Luke 21:1-4), He will bless our generosity to His Church.

These are wonderful values when we take them to heart and live them. May God bless the Wisconsin Conference with wisdom and grace to control costs where we can and increase income for His kingdom so the work can go forward.

James Fox

A Baptism and a Wedding

Tim Hays and Kayla Falch were united in marriage in August 2007. Tim and Kayla's journey towards each other had taken many turns in the previous few years as they grew in their relationship with Jesus and with each other.

Kayla had always felt that God was important in her life, but her search became more serious when she



Tim and Kayla Hays

was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis. After visiting a non-denominational Christian church with her sister, Kayla felt led to start reading the Bible and praying every day. At this point she was seriously dating Tim who did not have any interest in religion.

Soon after giving her heart to Christ, Kayla started working at a restaurant with a waiter who was a Seventh-Day Adventist. One day he witnessed to her and everything he said made so much sense, that they started doing Bible studies and Kayla was baptized 8 months later.

Kayla dearly wanted Tim to share her new found faith, but during the next two years of their relationship that just did not happen. It was only after Kayla listened to the voice of the Holy Spirit urging her to put God first and Tim second that Kayla was able to make the decision to leave the relationship with the man she dearly loved rather than to be unequally yoked for life.

But God had been working with Tim's heart all during this time! Little by little Tim became convicted to accept the invitation that the Lord was giving to let God totally lead in his life. Tim was baptized in June of 2007, and two months later Tim and Kayla were married. Kayla added, "It was the longest 3 ½ year wait of my life waiting to be with Tim, and it finally happened! God is good and answers prayer!"

Marcia Harycki

JAWHI Reports New Baptisms

On March 9, JAWHI celebrated youth Sabbath in the Milwaukee Central Spanish Church. It was a very good program —good music, drama, preaching, but there was more: 12 people committed their lives to Jesus through baptism. We praise our God for these new members and for the work of our youth who are dedicated to Christ and the mission of His church.



The new members are from Madison, Watertown, Waukesha Company, Waukesha Fellowship, Maranatha, Central Hispanic and Hayes

Women's Ministries Events Draw Women to Christ

The *Fourth Annual Empower-ment Weekend* was held at Camp Wakonda April 11-13, 2008. DeAnn Judson was the speaker and encouraged all the attendees in their Christ-given identity: *daughters of the loving Lord*. The ladies who attended were not only inspired by DeAnn's presentations,



Group photo of the "Fashion Show"

but also benefitted from the small group discussions. These have become a welcome and expected feature of the Empowerment weekend. The small groups provide an excellent forum for the ladies to explore various aspects of their lives and strategies for dealing with issues. The ladies also enjoyed a fun evening on Saturday night with a hilarious fashion show, where the ladies dressed themselves in fashions that defy description (see photo). It was a great way for the women to relax from daily life pressures. Inspirational music and vespers, along with delicious food and fellowship helped to make the weekend memorable. Plan to join us next April for our Fifth Annual Empowerment Weekend!

20th Anniversary Women's Retreat

Will be held November 7-9, 2008 at Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. The theme is "Everlasting Praise", with an emphasis on praise to the Lord for His countless blessings and His miraculous changes He makes in our lives. Please contact Susan Boon if you have a life-changing testimony you would like to share at the retreat regarding how the retreats have affected your life. The Retreat committee continues planning to make sure that this year's retreat is unforgettable and inspirational. Chula Vista is making their El Grande 1,500 square foot Condos available to our retreat attendees at a discounted price! Tower rooms will also be available. Registration forms will be available in late June; however, NOW is the time to start planning and saving so you can be at Women's Retreat.

Please contact Susan Boon via email (boon@toast.net) or phone (262.878.5931) with any questions and/or your willingness to be part of our program.

Homeless in Green Bay

In Green Bay, our Young Adults Sabbath School Class has been reaching out into the community with different projects. Last year, we began our work with a Habitat for Humanity home. By God's grace, the home is finished.

Our latest project has been raising money through donations from the congregation to assist with needs at a local homeless shelter. This shelter is special as it is in a gym at a church in downtown Green Bay. Volunteers lay out 50-100 cots a night with blankets for the homeless to come in and sleep. Different community organizations contribute the evening supper. In the early morning, the cots are folded up and those who slept in the comfort of the gym have to return to the street for the day.

This winter Green Bay has had record snow fall and several days of sub-zero temperatures. Our class raised \$217.00, which God multiplied as we shopped. We were able to purchase 2,480 Styrofoam plates, 1,050 cups, and 1,850 pieces of plastic ware. Most



Handwarmers purchased by Green Bay Young Adult Sabbath

importantly, we purchased 586 hand warmers which are distributed in the morning as everyone gets ready to leave.

God loves the homeless. I wanted to share this story so other people may be inspired to help the homeless by relieving their physical suffering, especially with hand warmers.

Kris Guido Green Bay church

The Lamp Letter is the Newsletter of the Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Donald Corkum President

Roger Driver SecretaryTreasurer

James Fox Editor

Kitty Crary Secretary

Carol Driver Layout Editor

Your comments and submissions are welcomed:

Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists N2561 Old Hwy 16 Fall River, WI 53932

Attn: James Fox or

jfox@wi.adventist.org

http://wi.adventist.org Phone: 920-484-6555 Fax: 920-484-6550

The Year of the Family for the Wisconsin Conference

This is an exciting year filled with opportunities for families to be nurtured and to find encouragement in the journey of life. The week at camp meeting could be a time of heart turning for your family.

Do you desire to walk more closely with Jesus and to see His transforming power working in your family? Do you wish that God's peace, joy, and love would pervade the atmosphere of your home? The answer for most of us is an easy "Yes!"

If you desire to open your heart to Jesus and His plan for your family, come and be blessed as Bruce & Dorothy Hayward share, "God's Heart Call for Families" each afternoon at 2:15 pm, Monday - Friday at the Young Adult tent. Bruce and Dorothy Hayward live in Berrien Springs, Michigan and serve on the pastoral staff of the Village S.D.A. Church. Bruce is associate pastor and Dorothy directs the WellSpring Family Life and Counseling Ministry. If you wish to schedule a counseling appointment or talk with them personally, sign up at the Family Life Cabin during Camp Meeting. If you're up and mobile by 6:30 each morning, you may wish to start each day this week with a family life devotional message presented by Pastor Ron Kelly of the Indiana Conference. He will be speaking in the Pavilion about "Strengthening Families."

If you'd like to know what's been happening in our Conference or what's going to happen in regards to Family Life Ministry, stop by the Family Life cabin and be inspired. You can get great ideas for Family Life Ministry for your church and you may find a few surprises as well. Stop by and enjoy!

Abraham Swamidass

Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists PO Box 100 Fall River WI 5932

Return Service Requested

Wakonda Work Bee

Come join the team to clean-up and prepare Wakonda for camp meeting and summer ministries. Our annual work bee will be May 18 and 19. Meals will be provided free of charge to workers.

Projects will include building two new cabins, clearing branches and trees that have fallen over our hard winter, washing windows and general cleanup tasks. So whether you are a skilled builder, or are just "willing to help where needed", please come.

Mike Edge

Summer Camp 2008

On your mark, Get set, Go for a week of excitement, fun and friendships! Ski, ride horses, swim, blob, compete in special "Olympic" activities! You'll be caught up in the wonder and thrill of summer events and activities!

Junior Camp	Ages 8-10	July 6-13
Tween Camp	Ages 10-12	July 13-20
Teen Camp	Ages 13-16	July 20-27
Family Camp I	All ages	July 27-Aug. 3
Family Camp II	All ages	Aug. 3-10

Register now for summer camp 2008 at Camp Wakonda. Get applications by calling Aileen at: 920-484-6555, or e-mail to: akking@wi.adventist.org.

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Madison WI 53707 Permit No. 2783