

Lamp Letter

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From the Word

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it."

Matthew 16:24-26



The Middleton Miracle



The phone trembled in my hands as I tried to grasp what my ears were hearing. "Would you lead out in a church plant in Middleton?" My wife and I had prayed for five years that a church plant would be able to start up on Madison's west side, but we didn't think it would really happen. Now, out of the blue, Pastor Ochs was on the phone asking us to lead out. "Lord," I breathed, "I don't have a job. I've got five kids. This could really take a lot of time!"

That night, my wife, Caryn, and I prayed earnestly for wisdom. When we opened our Bibles, we read how Nehemiah was instructed to take care of God's household first, then his own household. God would take care of the rest. "I feel like we should go forward with this," Caryn said. I felt it too. "I'm certain God is going to take care of us," I told her, and we decided to act in faith.

After local church board approval and several organizational actions, about a dozen of us started meeting two Sabbath afternoons a month to talk over key elements: What is our mission? What should be our worship style? Where should we meet? What are the neighborhood needs and interests? What are the strengths and weaknesses of our group?

We thought it would be great to start with a health food store or wellness center. We would be in touch with people every day plus help support the church plant. But all our plans kept falling through.

At the 2009 camp meeting, Robyn Sandin walked up and handed me her house keys. "I'm not living in my house," she explained, "It's there. Just use it. Church, prayer meeting, whatever you need - just use it." We were blown away! The house was in Middleton. Nothing else had turned up. So our planning group met in the house one Sabbath afternoon in July to talk and pray about it. We all sensed God's miraculous leading.

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"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name."

Psalm 100:4



Magnetic Love

One of the most inspiring people I've ever met was a retired physician by the name of Dr. Johnson. Several years into retirement, Dr. Johnson still had patients who would travel hundreds of miles to visit him. They didn't come because he was their doctor. They traveled hundreds of miles because they loved being with him.

As I got to know Dr. Johnson I understood the reason why people came. When you talked with him, you were the only person in his world. You had his complete attention. It didn't matter if you were an adult or a child; a CEO or a person off the street, you were important to Dr. Johnson. And he had time for you.

Dr. Johnson understood how Jesus treated people. Jesus took time for a woman who couldn't keep a husband, a tree climbing tax collector, and a man who was too embarrassed to be seen with Jesus in the day time. He rebuked his disciples so children could jump into His lap, and allowed a notoriously sinful woman to wash His feet with her tears. He took a stormy boat ride across the Sea of Galilee so He could meet two wild men in a graveyard. He willingly associated with sinners and tax collectors who could do nothing to enhance His image.

There were no "little people" in Christ's world - only people who needed love. Lack of position, power, status, looks, or even the ability to carry on an interesting conversation, made no difference to Jesus. Outcasts were not an interruption; they were His focus.

Jesus' message is magnetic when it is lived out by His people. People who are willing to truly listen, no matter what is being said. People who treat the grubby 6-year-old or the developmentally-challenged 36-year-old with the same respect they offer their boss. People who help others, whether or not the favor can be returned.

Jesus gave one clear mark of His people: "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." The "one another" Jesus was talking about includes the lepers of our society, as well as the socially important.

Healthy churches are magnets, drawing people to Jesus through people like Dr. Johnson - treating everyone they meet with kindness, care, and the respect of giving them attention.

As we contemplate the life of Jesus, let's actively imitate Him in the way we treat others. Through our love, may Wisconsin know that we belong to Jesus.

Mike Edge
President

Mike's Sabbath Schedule

November

- 6 Year-end Meetings
- 13 Elders' Retreat
- 20 Executive Committee
Orientation Retreat
- 27 Vacation

December

- 4 Fox Valley Church
- 11 Oxford Church
- 18 Rice Lake Church
- 25 Christmas

January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 8 Milwaukee Convocation
- 15 LUC Presidents' Cabinet
- 22 Men's Conference
- 29 Shawano Church

To request speaking appointments
contact Jane Gerndt at 920-484-6555
or jgerndt@wi.adventist.org

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"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.' We must cultivate love and unity throughout the churches of our Conferences, until we shall be bound one to another by cords of love and tender sympathy. If we individually abide in Christ, and Christ abides in us, we shall be of one heart, of one mind, and will love as brethren."

RH, Sept. 30, 1890 par.3

The Middleton Miracle *cover story*

It looked like a church to us. It was big enough for expansion. All round, it seemed perfect!

Our home church, Madison East, provided us with Sabbath School quarters, children's papers, and some old hymnals. Our sister church, Monroe, said they had a church-plant fund in their budget and could give us \$3,000 start-up money. With that money we bought chairs, tables, new hymnals, kitchen supplies, and such. Once again, God was providing.

We had been planning for almost a year, and the Madison Church had just voted new officers. "This is a good time to exit," we decided. So we started meeting at our new location in September, 2009.

We thought we would start small and gradually expand. But no! People just came out of the woodwork. We began that first Sabbath with 35-40 people - seven families. Everyone came on board ready to do something. We were an up-and-running church immediately! We had Sabbath school divisions for adult, junior, primary, and a combined kindergarten/cradle roll. I preached for the first seven weeks straight.

It took a lot of work. There is a lot of effort behind the scenes, but the Holy Spirit was leading us every step of the way and He pulled it all together. We have always tried to push a health emphasis, but God hasn't allowed that for some reason. I'm learning we have to surrender things and let the Spirit lead at the right time.

Everyone involved in a church plant needs to be aware that the spiritual battle becomes very intense. Know right from the beginning that people, even good people, are still people. We're going to have conflicts. Try to

remember to tackle problems, never people. You need ground rules.

People learn much more by watching than by listening. One lady went to the grocery store with my wife and cooked meals with her. "This is what I need!" she said. "I needed someone to show me." I had a man tell me that he learned how to interact with his family by watching us. People need to be mentored one on one.

Before this church plant, Caryn and I never had the privilege of leading someone to the Lord from the beginning right through to active service. Now we have. In the book, *Evangelism*, p.333, Ellen White says, "There is no greater bliss on this side of heaven than in winning souls to Christ." According to polls, very few people sitting in the pews have had that opportunity. They're missing one of the most pleasurable things about being a Christian!

We have a burden for our people to just pull away from the world and be totally consecrated to God. Pray every day, "Lord, who can I reach out to? Who can I touch? Guide me to people who I can lead to You today." See what God will do. The thing that really drives us is seeing people have their lives miraculously changed by God. That's what it is all about! That's the reward!

The Wisconsin conference executive committee voted on August 25, 2010 to organize the Middleton Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventist as a "company". Becoming a company is a step toward full church status, organizationally and financially.

By Scott Erb and family
as told to Juanita Edge



Testimonies

PAM: In a small church family everyone needs to take a role. It's forced me to do more things and take more responsibility. I really like that. I was hoping to find an intimate group of people to worship with and this has been that and more! We pray for each other and share some of the issues going on in each other's lives. I've even allowed more people to become involved in my life. It's nice to know you can just pick up the phone and people are there to support you.

PAT: I attended prophecy meetings years ago and have been watching 3ABN since then. Dale Bossenberry called and encouraged me to attend the Madison Eastside church. I said, "Oh, no, that's too far." Then he told me about this home church right here in Middleton, and I've been coming ever since. I was one of the first people to be baptized here. I love this church and everyone who comes here.



Lisa Clark was baptized by Lesa Isensee and attends the Middleton Fellowship

Interested in planting a church?
Contact Marshall McKenzie, church
planting coordinator at ohforjoy@gmail.com,
or 262-468-6586.

Things We Learned Along the Way

1. Pray. Everything rises and falls on prayer.
2. Find a core group of people who sense God calling them to church plant.
3. Do analysis of your group's strengths and weaknesses.
4. Demographics. Study the area. Is it upper class? Low income? University district? Small town?
5. Learn. Read books. Find a mentor to help you do visioning.
6. Once you define your community, find a facility that meets your needs and mission.
7. Keep waiting on the Lord. Let Him pull it together.
8. Constantly communicate with your core group, church pastor, and mentor. The devil always works through misunderstanding. Be open with people. This is key!

Steps to Christ: Our Stories of Freedom, Discovery, & Joy



VERN & ELLEN WHITE

After our first visit to the Fredrick Adventist church, we just couldn't keep away. We learned so much! And it was all straight from the Bible! We had always attended church faithfully on Sundays, but had become discouraged, feeling like we weren't learning anything. When my sister, Janice Petz, invited us to try the Adventist church, we were open. As we learned about the Sabbath we thought, "Why haven't we heard about this before? It's right here in the Bible!" Keeping the Sabbath has been very easy because, if that is what God is asking us to do, then that's what we should do. After all, He's done so much for us! We had never heard the Bible teaching about what happens when a person dies, but it's all right there in the Bible. We learned so much we never knew before. It was, and is, so exciting! My husband, Vern, and I eagerly joined the Rice Lake Seventh-day Adventist church on May 1, 2010.

I've been surprised at our friends. They are very kind, but they do not want to hear about what we've learned. I'm not sure if they are afraid, or just not interested, but we keep praying for them and inviting them to come to church with us.

As a girl, I never liked my name, Ellen. It seemed so old fashioned. Now that I've learned about Ellen G. White, a prophet of God, I feel my name is a treasure! I'm interested in Ellen White, and enjoy learning about her. My grandmother's name was Ellen Gould, and as she was from Maine, like Ellen Gould White, I've wondered if there could be a connection. It could be interesting to find out.

Ellen White
as told to Juanita Edge

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit."

John 15:5



WALTER & JANICE PETZ

We received a flyer about a Revelation Seminar being held at the Seventh-day Adventist church. Having just finished a study on Revelation at our Sunday church, and feeling there was something lacking, we decided to give it a try. After the first meeting we said, "We have to go back!" The 30-mile drive didn't matter. We just couldn't help ourselves! Every night we learned something new.

Everyone in our Sunday church had received the Revelation flyer and several talked about attending, but we were the only ones who did. We shared with them what we were learning. Everyone said we were making a big mistake, but we knew better.

Our minister told us we could pick whatever day we wanted for worship. He and his wife had picked Thursday, even though they had church on Sunday. Yet the Bible says "Remember the Sabbath", not a Sabbath! We found this was a situation where we couldn't turn back. On November 14, 2009 we were baptized in the Fredrick SDA Church.

Every Tuesday night at the Fredrick church we study the book Steps to Christ with Pastor Denney. It is a wonderful book! Every Tuesday night is more exciting than the Tuesday night before!

There is so much to learn, and at our age, we can't just sit idly by! Paul Hasman, an Adventist Bible worker, agreed to help us. Every Wednesday afternoon he meets with us, along with my sister and her husband, Vern and Ellen White, to study the Bible. We are so grateful to know about what will happen at the end of time. We want to be obedient. I think we always knew there was more to the Bible, but just needed someone to walk through it with us. We are so happy. Every time we study the Bible we say, "What a blessing we have here!"

Janice Petz
as told to Juanita Edge



STEVE THEIL

In high school I worked construction with an Adventist guy named Don Shebo. He asked me questions, and told me things about the Bible. I could see the way he lived was a lot different from the way I was living.

In high school I started partying and drinking. I was having fun, but in the back of mind I remember thinking, "Isn't there more to life than this?" I looked at the person I had become and I didn't like what I saw.

Don Shebo had told me about being ready for Jesus' coming and sent me *Signs of the Times*. Then I had a startling dream. I saw a bright light. People were blinded by the light, and the wicked were trying to hide their faces. Then I saw the face of Jesus. He said to me, "It's too late for you." I sat right up in bed. I did not feel afraid of God, but I felt afraid for the results of my life. I quit drinking.

Then my brother was killed in a car accident. I threw in the towel. I wanted nothing to do with God, and went back to drinking. Then one day, I looked around the bar and thought, "Man, is this all these people live for? Everybody is counting on tomorrow, and they don't know if they have tomorrow!" Right then and there I said, "I quit!" By the grace of God I haven't touched a drop since.

I decided to read my Bible from front to back. It took me over a year, but I read it clear through. I also started praying regularly, and keeping the Sabbath at home by myself.

When I finally got the courage to attend the Clear Lake SDA Church everyone just welcomed me in! It was amazing. We started Bible studies right away and I have been involved ever since. In March 2009, I was baptized. Whenever I start to struggle, or get a bit discouraged, I claim Philippians 1:6, "God, who has begun a good work in you, will be faithful to complete it."

Steve Theil
as told to Juanita Edge



JOE ANDERSON

As a child I was raised in a denomination that never made sense to me. I asked questions, but didn't get the answers I needed. I attended to please my parents, but when I turned 18, my church attendance dropped off.

I left the church with a bad taste in my mouth, and started down the wide path to destruction. If you mentioned God, church, or religion, I would spit and walk away.

In 2001 I was in a serious accident. For a time, the doctor didn't expect me to live. Flat on my back I had a lot of time to analyze my life and realize what dumb mistakes I had made. I realized Jesus Christ had kept me alive.

I tried a lot of religions after that, and even studied with a guy who believed animals have immortal souls. Each time I thought, "Nope, that's not it." Then I met a guy from the Seventh-day Adventist church and he made a lot of sense. We got to be friends over the years and I visited his church a few times. I saw a difference in him.

Things I was doing wrong started bothering me. One day I was sitting in the library in a very discouraged frame of mind. Suddenly the words came into my head, "If you leave right now, you'll have time to get to church." I got up and went to the Seventh-day Adventist church, and have been going ever since. God and the Devil were battling, and God won.

There has been a miraculous change! I'm a totally different person. What I used to think were the greatest things in the world don't even interest me anymore. I think all my rebellion against religion was really rebellion against false theories about God and the Bible. When I heard the truth, it made sense and softened my heart.

Joe Anderson
as told to Juanita Edge

Welcome to the Family!

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved." Mark 16:15,16



Wisconsin Conference Constituency Meeting

On October 3, 2010 we held our Wisconsin Conference Constituency Meeting. Two-hundred and ninety-eight delegates attended, representing every church in the conference.

It was obvious by the reports that in spite of the financial challenges we have faced over the past few years, God has blessed our conference. It is also clear that there will be challenges in the future, but we are trusting God to see us through these difficult times.

The highlight of the day for many was the opportunity to tour the Wisconsin Academy campus and interact with the staff. Many were able to tour the new dorms for the first time.

One of the main focuses of the meeting was the election of our conference leaders. Elder Mike Edge, conference president, and Roger Driver,

secretary/treasurer, were given overwhelming support for their leadership in the past. We look forward to God working through them as they lead us in the future.

Elder Edge shared a passionate message about building our conference. We've built a lot of buildings over the last few years which have been a blessing to our conference and have enabled ministry to take place. Now we are turning our full attention to building up people for the kingdom.

God has worked in a mighty way in the past. We look forward to what He will do in our future.

Join me as we pray for God's leading in the next four years of our conference.

Adam Case
Wisconsin Academy Church Pastor



From the Education Desk

When the leaves turn shades of red and yellow you know it is that time again - another school year is in progress. Students are studying and participating in service projects, teachers are requesting testing materials, field trips are planned and there is a bit of excitement in the air.

Something is a little different this year; I would like to share this with you. In preparation for a new school year, teachers were challenged to spend forty days in study and prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to lead and guide in their lives. This is a commitment to develop a closer personal relationship with Jesus and to reach five people that God has placed on their hearts to pray for every day. This is simply following the example of Jesus during his time on earth.

"Daily He received a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the early hours of the new day the Lord awakened Him from His slumbers, and His soul and His lips were anointed with grace, that He might impart to others. His words were given Him fresh from the heavenly courts, words that He might speak in season to the weary and oppressed." Christ's Object Lessons, P. 140

Teachers around the Wisconsin Conference have taken the challenge and are engaged in the *40 Days* study and prayer devotional book by Dennis Smith. They are reading and discussing each section with a partner then offering specific prayers related to the day's lesson. Each teacher has chosen five individuals to pray for throughout the *40 Days* project.

The challenge for us is that we pray for all the teachers and students in this conference whether they are in church schools, public schools, or home schools. The outcome is preparation for Jesus' second coming and the fulfillment of our mission in Christian education: "Developing leaders today who will walk with Jesus into Eternity."

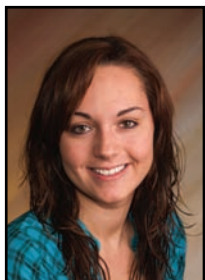
Linda Rosen
Superintendent of Education

Families Adopt Students

Otter Creek Christian Academy, Eau Claire, has started an Adopt-a-Student program with our church. Each student has been adopted by two families who keep their identities secret. The families will reveal who they adopted at the church/school Christmas program. Notes, small gifts, cookies, etc. for each student are left in a box in the lobby. Our goal is to draw the church and school closer together. It is working.

Mike Meadows
Otter Creek Christian Academy

A Team Effort: Our Family's Experience with Wisconsin Academy



SARAH SCHOULTZ

I was home schooled all my life and really didn't want to go to a school. I had a lot of friends around my house and a lot of free time. Mom told me, "You are going to try it, at least for one semester. If you don't like it, you can change." I cried. I really didn't want to go, but I went.

Actually, part of the reason I didn't want to go to WA was because I was afraid I wouldn't be able to handle the classes. The hardest class was Algebra II, but the teacher really helped me, so it turned out good.

When the semester was over, Mom never brought up the "end of the semester" thing, and I had forgotten about it. I liked school at WA and wanted to stay. I'd made new friends, and I still got to see my old friends on home leave every month.

Being here has made me more responsible. Mom's not behind me saying, "Do your homework." I think being here has also brought me a little closer to God. We have worship together every night, pray in all the classes, and they plan stuff for every Sabbath.

I try to get extra hours in at the cafe' to help with the cost of my education. Last summer I worked with my mom and helped a lady paint her house and scrape wall paper.

Our church is helping my sister and I be here. They told us not to get into trouble. They are also encouraging us to help other kids like us who want a christian education when we are older.

I like WA. If someone is wondering whether they should come or not, I would say give it a try, like I did!



EMILY HANGARTNER

I was really happy when Mom said my sister and I were going to go to the academy last year. I had home schooled since first grade, and was ready to do more on my own and make new friends. A church member suggested Mom check into WA, and she did.

When I first came to WA I was afraid it was going to be like for nuns and stuff, but it turned out to be fun. People here are nice. It's relaxed and not all that hard overall. We have time to do our school work, have a job and still be with friends. I'm in gymnastics, choir, taking violin lessons, and really enjoy volleyball.

I work three hours a day in the office. During the summer I worked helping my grandma because she needs a caregiver. My uncle paid me. Half of my summer earnings went for my school bill. The other half I spent for my clothes and stuff. Being at WA has kinda changed the way we dress. It's more modest. It's good.

Dorm life is really fun. During the week it's more structured, with study hall and stuff. Then on weekends we sometimes get to have sleep overs, which are really fun.

It's been a blessing for me to be here. I get a good background in Bible, and all the classes have a spiritual side to them, even my photography, computer, and gymnastics classes. The teachers really help you out.

We have outreach activities where we hand out literature door to door, visit nursing homes sometimes and other things. Being here can bring you closer to God, but you have to try. If you just shrug everything off, it will just be like nothing to you.



JOANNE HANGARTNER

I'm a single mom with three girls, Sarah, Emily, and Elise. I became an Adventist when the girls were ages 1, 4 and 6. I wanted to give them a Christian education, and felt private schools were too expensive for me, so I home schooled.

Last year Pastor John and Teresa Glass introduced me to Wisconsin Academy. Sarah was ready for her Junior year and wasn't sure she wanted to go away to school. I said, "Well, why

don't you try it. You can do anything for a few months." She got involved and ended up loving it!

Emily wanted to go also. I hesitated, as she would only be a Freshmen. I was afraid of sending her too soon, but now I wonder if I should have sent Sara sooner. WA encourages the morals and principles the girls were raised with. I think it's a nice step after being home schooled, in preparation for college. I like that they have a work/study program. I am glad I'm choosing to go this way, because they offer a lot at the school.

When it came to finances, I didn't know what to do. I talked with Darrin Gottfried, Wisconsin Academy treasurer, and he told me everything I needed to do. The church helped, the school helped, friends are helping, and I send a monthly payment.

I explained to the girls that I needed them to get good grades because, even though they are not getting cash in hand, their effort to do well will pay in their learning, and maybe open the door to college scholarships. They know it is a sacrifice for all of us. We moved this summer to reduce our living expenses.

It's been a team effort. It's been wonderful to have a church that is just like family. God's got ways to do things we don't know about.



DARIN GOTTFRIED

The current economic condition has made it very hard for many families to be able to attend Wisconsin Academy. They see the bottom line and think there is not a chance they will be able to afford it.

This year there are many churches that participate in the matching program we have set up for members of their church. Other churches, that don't have members attending our school, are open-handedly providing matching funds for students. The generosity of our churches is greatly appreciated. Even though the economy is in a slump we are seeing more support than ever from our churches.

Students are also able to work off a portion of their bill through our student work program. Not only does this help relieve some of the financial stress from parents, but it also is meant to help prepare students for life after high school.

In addition to student labor and our church matching program Wisconsin Academy also gives additional financial assistance to those who have need. These funds are made available by the Wisconsin Budget and donors who give to our school. We are greatly blessed to have those who are willing to give to help others experience God at Wisconsin Academy.

Just because the bottom line makes it appear like it is not possible to afford, remember that God always has a way.

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Blessed!



Jessica Stotz, a member of Frederick church, is taking a year away from her courses at Andrews University to serve as a student missionary at Maxwell Academy in Kenya.

The Maxwell student missionaries took a trip into town today to pick up supplies and to go out for a bite to eat. As we rattled and clattered our way from one road to another, I began to see stick and mud huts with tin roofs; goats grazing in the ditches, herded about by seven-year-old boys with sticks; small lean-tos with acacia thorn branches for fencing.

How absolutely blessed I am! These people live in homes as small as the bedroom in my apartment at Maxwell Adventist Academy. This is a ten month detour in my life; this is what they expect for the rest of their lives. I couldn't decide what to leave out of my suitcase; they'd have a hard time filling one. I have friends and family willing to dig deep into their pockets so I could experience the world with Jesus; these Kenyans probably never see the other side of Nairobi. I have free room and board at a gated private school; they'd only dream of attending one. I have a hope that burns within my heart; they fear what tomorrow brings.

Many friends told me that my year as a student missionary would mirror subsistence living; instead, I realize more and more how privileged I am to be a Stotz, a Wisconian, an Andrews Universite, and an Adventist. "Thanksgiving" isn't just a holiday!

*Jessica Stotz
Member of Fredrick SDA Church*

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

Philippians 4:6

Campestre Hispano de Wisconsin

Proclamando la Gracias de Dios fue el lema del Campestre Hispano de la Conferencia de Wisconsin en Wakonda, que se llevo acabo del 20-22 de Agosto del 2010. Más de 750 personas asistieron, asiendo este el numero máximo de que se tiene constancia. El Pr. Roger Hernández, Coordinador Hispano de la Conferencia de Oregon fue el orador principal. Compartio pensamientos práctico e inspiradores y nos mostró como recibir la Gracia de Dios en nuestras vidas y como construir puentes para mejores relaciones familiares. Hugo y Arody Carrazco dirigieron la parte musical y el Pr. Danilo Colindres fue el orador de los jóvenes.

Por primera vez los niños se gozaron al tener sus propios servicios diseñados especialmente para ellos y esto gracias a la dirección de la hermana Noemí Miranda y otros maestros de niños de diferentes iglesias. Esta adición bien recibida se centró en la vida de Jonás.

*Pastor Evilio Miranda
Coordinador Hispano de la Conferencia de Wisconsin*



Wisconsin Hispanic Camp Meeting

Proclaiming the Grace of God was the theme of the Wisconsin Conference Hispanic camp meeting held at Camp Wakonda, August 20-22, 2010. Over 750 people attended, making this the highest number on record. Pastor Roger Hernandez, Hispanic coordinator for the Oregon conference, was the featured speaker. He shared practical and inspirational thoughts of how to receive the grace of God and build stronger family relations. Hugo and Arody Carrazco lead the music, and Pastor Danilo Colindres lead the youth meetings.

For the first time the younger children enjoyed a program designed especially for them, thanks to the leadership of Noemi Miranda and other children's Sabbath School teachers. This well received addition focused on the life of Jonah.

*Pastor Evilio Miranda
Hispanic Ministries Coordinator*



Forty Attend Hylandale Vacation Bible School



Hylandale SDA Church had its annual Vacation Bible School in Rockland August 2-6. With the leadership of Twyla Hallock, a crew of 27 volunteers worked together with 40 boys and girls, under the theme "Lava, Lava Island... Where Jesus' love flows." The children enjoyed songs, crafts, plays, videos, games, snacks, as well as insightful stories about island living shared by Pastor Michael Tuionetoa. Each night, children were given a "daily challenge," with ideas about how to integrate what they learned into their lives and share Jesus with others. On the closing day, the parents were invited to join on a special program featuring a drawing for a quilt with the VBS theme and squares made by the children. We praise the Lord for His blessings on this program and the opportunity to share His love with 20 children and families from our community.

Joan Cornejo
Hylandale SDA Church

Pathfinders Hone Skills at Annual Camporee



Van loads of excited Pathfinders arrived at Camp Wakonda for the annual Pathfinder Camporee on September 10th. After getting tents up and fires started, the campers gathered for a Sabbath evening of singing and stories with Steve and Carol Mertins.

Sabbath morning began with a little rain, the smell of wood smoke and pancakes. Worship involved activities mixing story, song and pantomime. After lunch everyone divided into four groups and enjoyed applying spiritual lessons to camping activities. For supper pathfinders gathered around the campfire and baked bread on a stick. In the evening

everyone displayed their expertise at pitching a variety of tents, including some antique canvas ones that created some laughs and challenges.

Sunday, Pathfinders built benches and tables by lashing sticks together, started a fire with a magnifying glass, sharpened knives and axes safely, tied useful knots, and packed a light and useful backpack for survival.

Over a hundred Pathfinders had the opportunity to build practical skills and strengthen Christian friendships in the beauties of nature.

Sandy Magray,
Northeastern Area Pathfinder Coordinator
As told to Juanita Edge

Closing the Back Door

The Oxford Church has noticed that in years past, several new members stopped coming to church after about three years and dropped out of sight. The question came up, "What can we as a church do to close the back door?" It was suggested we should not stop studying with them after baptism; that their nurturing would be as valuable as the initial Bible study. We noticed that in other countries people come to church and plan to stay all day, singing, studying together, and witnessing. It sounded like a good suggestion!

So we invited any new or regular members to join us on Sabbath afternoons to study the book of Daniel. Several joined, including a family of three who were not members. The fellowship was as valuable as the studies. Questions were asked that probably would never have been asked if they weren't in this kind of setting.

We went through one lesson a week of the Prophecy Seminar by Russell Burriel. This took us almost one year. Next we went through a Revelation Seminar. After this was completed we felt the need for giving them a better understanding of how the Oxford church and the world church operates, so did a study of the Church Manual and a seminar on Spiritual Gifts.

Today the family of three who joined our study group have joined our church, and most of the others in our group have church responsibilities such as Sabbath School teacher, assistant Sabbath School superintendent, deaconess, community service leader, deacon and social committee member.

These people have been a wonderful blessing to our church. Do we have challenges? Oh, yes; it is always a challenge to work together as a large family.

But the same God who brought us together will enable us to work together as a body under the guidance of His Spirit.

Wendall Springer
Retired Pastor

Moments From the Past Silent Evangelists

Peter Hanson was a young Seventh-day Adventist selling religious books from town to town across Wisconsin in the late 1800's. He had just finished delivering his last *The Great Controversy* book, when one of his customers discovered Sabbath-teaching in the book. He then began an organized campaign, going from home to home to inform the others about the "Sabbath heresy." They arranged a set time to confront the colporteur at his rooming house. Learning from his host about what time Hanson could be expected, they all arrived with their books, and began stacking them on the dining table. What a shock awaited Peter! A score of buggies lined the road, and inside were stacks of books and rows of angry faces.

"This book is full of heresy," the spokesman began, "and we all want our money back!"

"It is?" Peter calmly returned. "Now, I wasn't aware of that. I certainly wouldn't want to be selling a book with heresy in it. Show me where it is."

The leader found the page, and read, "The Bible points to the seventh day, not to the first, as the Lord's day." Peter looked intently at the passage, then observed, "There are Bible references at the bottom of the page. Suppose we look them up and see how they read. Anyone have a Bible? A Bible was brought, and many gathered about to see what the text said. There was mutual assent that the passage in question agreed with the Scriptures.

"But just listen to this one," continued the complainer, 'How utter revolting is the belief that as soon as the breath leaves the body, the soul of the impenitent is consigned to the flames of hell!' Now, Peter, surely you will not deny the Bible teaching of hell?"

Peter studied the passage thoughtfully, and again suggested they look up the texts given at the bottom of the page. By this time, nearly everyone was looking over another's shoulders to read the texts. One by one they began to leave, taking the books with them. When books and buggies had all disappeared, Hanson's host turned to him and asked, "Did you say that I might have a copy of that book?"

The early work of Adventism in Wisconsin was nurtured and stabilized largely through message-filled periodicals and books. These silent evangelists sought out many families where no minister had been.

Adriel D. Chilson
Adapted from *Trial and Triumph on the Western Frontier:*
Thrilling Stories of Adventist Pioneering

Northern District Meetings



Marshall McKenzie, pastor of Milwaukee Central Church, was guest speaker for the annual Northern District Meetings held September 25 in the Rice Lake SDA Church. Pastor McKenzie described clearly our need to be disciples so we can reach the people we need to reach. The Pilgrim Singers, an African group from Minneapolis provided animated national music from their home country, Kenya. People from nearly a dozen churches gathered to enjoy the day of worship and fellowship.

Juanita Edge
Communications Director

Cancer Awareness Event



Dr. Howard Bailey of the University of Wisconsin presented information on chemo prevention during Sabbath School time at the Madison East Health Advantage Weekend. During the worship hour, conference president Mike Edge shared the history of the Adventist health message. In the afternoon, Dr. Bailey and Dr. Arlene Gayle, oncologist and health ministries director at Madison East, discussed various forms and treatments of cancer. Finally, Shaundi Davis, a cancer survivor, shared her testimony.

Sarah Hillebert
As told to Juanita Edge

Campmeeting Media Source



If you missed campmeeting or are looking for that perfect gift, DVD's, CD's, & MP3's are still available. Order forms are on the conference website: wi.adventist.org or contact Jane Gerndt at 920-484-6555 Ext. 1 or jgerndt@adventist.org

CD - \$6 DVD - \$7 MP3 - \$75

W.A. Spiritual Emphasis Week Prompts Decisions

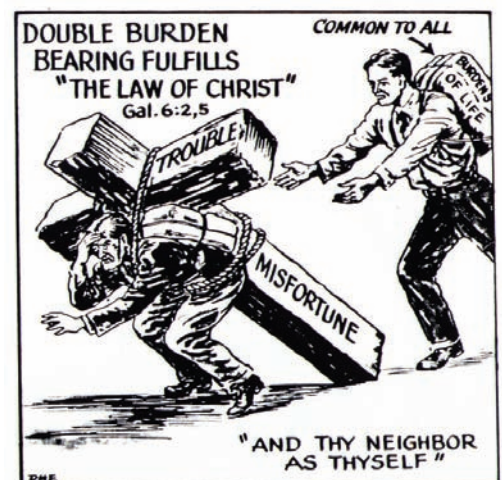
Anytime a young person makes a decision for Christ there is reason to celebrate! And we do indeed have reason to celebrate as sixteen young people made a first-time commitment to follow Christ. Twenty-five students rededicated their lives to Christ and four students shared a desire to be baptized. Matt Kohls, a passionate youth worker from Lansing, Michigan, shared with our young people themes based on 1 Timothy 4:12. He connected well with students through his honest, personal stories and easily approachable personality. Chaplain Carter is conducting Bible studies in anticipation of baptisms in the near future. Please pray for the students that they will continue to grow in Christ and be faithful to Him.

Chaplain Jimmy Carter
Wisconsin Academy

W.A. Students Positively Impact Their Community

The freshmen and junior classes volunteered their time and energy cleaning up highways, cleaning and sorting books at Columbus Public Library, baking and delivering cookies as a "thank you" to the Fall River and Columbus Police and Fire Departments, and sorting and bagging over 8,500 pounds of potatoes and onions at Second Harvest Food Bank in Madison.

Chaplain Jimmy Carter, Wisconsin Academy



"Let the tenderness and mercy that Jesus has revealed in His own precious life be an example to us of the manner in which we should treat our fellow beings."

Ellen G. White
My Life Today p.235

Speak the Truth to My Neighbor

“These are the things you shall do: Speak each man the truth to his neighbor; Give judgment in your gates for truth, justice, and peace.” Zechariah 8:16

To all who are working with Christ I would say, wherever you can gain access to the people by the fireside, improve your opportunity. Take your Bible, and open before them its great truths. Your success will not depend so much upon your knowledge and accomplishments as upon your ability to find your way to the heart. By being social and coming close to the people, you may turn the current of their thoughts more readily than by the most able discourse.

Take along the publications and ask them to read. When they see that you are sincere they will not despise any of your efforts. There is a way to reach the hardest hearts. Approach in the simplicity and sincerity and humility that will help us to reach the souls of them for whom Christ died.

Allow no opportunity to pass unimproved. Visit those who live near you, and by sympathy and kindness try to reach their hearts. Visit the sick and suffering and show a kindly interest in them. If possible, do something to make them more comfortable. Through this means you can reach their hearts and speak a word for Christ. Eternity alone will reveal how far reaching such a line of labor can be.

Those who do not take up this work, those who act with the indifference that some have manifested, will soon lose their first love, and will begin to censure, criticize, and condemn their own brethren.

Those who go forth in the spirit of the Master, seeking to reach souls with the truth, will . . . become more and more vitalized as they give themselves to the service of God. It is a joyous work to open the Scriptures to others.

Ellen G. White
My Life Today p.233



Holiday Health Tips

Ever wonder why you often get sick around Thanksgiving and Christmas? Consider this: each of your white blood cells kills about 14 bacteria. When you eat ½ cup of pudding, each white blood cell loses about 25% of its destroying power. Eat a medium slice of cheese cake and you are down to a one on one between your white blood cell and the bacteria. Give your body a 14 to 1 fighting chance to fight off that cold this holiday season by eating less sugar!

Here are a few other things to rev up your immunity:

1. Exercise
2. Drink plenty of water
3. Avoid stress
4. Lose weight
5. Eat plenty of green and orange vegetables
6. Include garlic and almonds in your diet
7. Get your sleep

“Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.” 3 John 2 NIV

Juanita Edge
Health Ministries Director

If you don't make a will, you won't have a say.

Your Will is a promise for the future, a promise to your loved ones and to your favorite charities. We've all been told that the least we should do to take care of our legal affairs is to write a Will. That's good advice. If you do not make a Will before your death, Wisconsin law will determine who gets your property (probably not whom you would



have chosen). A judge will decide who gets your children and the judge will appoint an executor of the state's Will for you (usually an attorney he knows).

Making a Will allows you to protect your wishes and your family. Take a moment to contact the Wisconsin Conference Planned Giving Department and see how they can help you. We would be glad to answer your questions and help you get a Will in place.

Wisconsin Conference
Elder Richard Habenicht **920-484-6555**

This information is not intended to provide advice for any specific situation. Advice from a qualified attorney should always be obtained before implementing any of the strategies described.

Visit the Horn Archaeological Museum

At Andrews University

The Siegfried H. Horn Archaeological Museum, open every Sabbath from 3-5 p.m., is home to many important artifacts from the lands in which many Bible events took place. A new exhibit features Egyptian tomb construction, a real Ibis mummy, ancient Egyptian jewelry and shabti servant figurines. Also on display in the museum are a brick from Babylon with Nebuchadnezzar's name stamped in it, a real Ba'al figurine, Roman nails from the time of Jesus' crucifixion, and much more. There are no tours on Sabbath but a helpful professional will be on hand to answer questions and provide unique insights as requested. For tours during the week, please call 471-3273 to make an appointment.

Canaanite storm-god Ba'al from Syria on display at the museum.



Wisconsin Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
PO Box 100
Fall River WI 53932

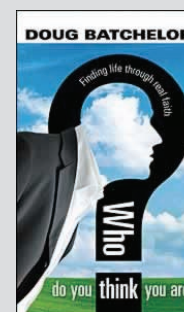
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Wisconsin Conference Calendar of Events

Nov.	5-7	Share Him Boot Camp - Camp Wakonda	18	Green Bay Church Christ- mas Concert - 10:45 am
	7-13	NAD Week of Prayer	25	Christmas Day
	8-11	ABC Closed	23-26	Conference Office Closed ABC Closed
	12-14	Elders' Retreat - Camp Wakonda	31	Conference Office Closed ABC Closed
	14	ABC Open 10 am - 4 pm	Jan. 1	New Year's Day
	19-21	Executive Committee Orientation Weekend - Camp Wakonda	8	Milwaukee Convocation
	20	WA Instrumental Ensemble- Wisconsin Academy - 11:00	8	WA Instrumental Ensemble- Wisconsin Academy - 11:00
	25	Thanksgiving Day	9-11	Pastor/Teacher Meetings - Conference Office
	25-26	Conference Office Closed ABC Closed	17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Conference Office Closed
Dec.	3-4	WA Senior Dedication/ Benefit	21-23	Men's Retreat - Camp Wakonda
	4	Youth Baptism Sabbath	22	WA Choralairs/Bells Tour - Bethel Church - 11:00 am
	11	WA Choralairs/Bells Tour - Milwaukee Sharon - 11:00 Milwaukee Northwest - 3:30	24-28	WA Student Week of Spiritual Emphasis
	12	ABC Open 10 am - 4 pm	25	K-12 Board - Wisconsin Academy
	18	WA Choralairs - Wisconsin Academy Church - 11:00 WA Christmas Concert 4:00	26	Executive Committee Conference Office
			28-30	Public High School Retreat- Camp Wakonda

Sharing Book: *Who Do You Think You Are?*



Do you know who you really are? Many people don't. Selfishness and pride camouflage the real person. It is obscured by popular culture, repackaged by the deceptions

of the media, and warped by the "cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things" (Mark 4:19).

Only in the light of Christ's sacrifice can we even begin to appreciate how much we are worth to God. The Father unlocked the vault of heaven and emptied it to save us and nothing will deter Him from His purpose to liberate the people Christ ransomed with His own life—and bring them safely home.

The goal of this book is to help fan away the chaff, exposing the essence of who you really are—and more important—who you can really become through Christ! Available at your local *Adventist Book Center*.