

# Lamp Letter

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## From the Word

"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying, 'This is the way: walk in it.'"

Isaiah 30:21



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*The Lamp Letter is a bi-monthly publication of the Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.*

*To view past issues, visit the communication department on the new conference website at: [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org).*

*For information or to submit articles or pictures, contact Juanita Edge, editor at: [jedge@wi.adventist.org](mailto:jedge@wi.adventist.org) or 920-484-6555.*

## "Con Mi Espiritu"

### *The Living Room Miracles*



Las bendiciones recibidas en las iglesias hispanas de Wisconsin, durante el año 2010 han sido muy abundantes. Muchos miembros fueron añadidos a la familia de Dios debido al poder del Espíritu Santo y al trabajo dedicado de los hermanos y pastores

Cada una de las iglesias hispanas ha tenido al menos dos campañas Evangelísticas al año y algunas han tenido hasta cuatro esfuerzos evangelísticos. Los grupos pequeños han desempeñado un papel bien importante en la predicación del evangelio.

En la iglesia Hispana de Waukesha, la hermana Amarilis Cornejo y el hermano Ramiro Mendoza, Directores de Obra Misionera, han hecho un trabajo excelente en la organización de los grupos pequeños en la iglesia. Uno de estos grupos pequeños se organizó al final del año 2010 en el hogar de la hermana Alma Perez.

El deseo de la hermana Alma de que su familia conociera el amor de Jesús, especialmente su esposo Fernando, la llevo a orar muy ferviente al Señor y brindar la sala de su apartamento para ser la sede de un grupo pequeño.

cont. en la pagina. 3

Alma Perez longed for her family to know more about Jesus, especially her husband, Fernando. She had prayed earnestly for him to love Jesus as she did. But Fernando was not interested. He scoffingly called Alma a Jew. Only a Jew would keep the seventh-day Sabbath and refuse to eat pork.

At church, many small Bible study groups were forming, and Alma decided to have a group meet in the living room of their small apartment. Surprisingly Fernando, agreed.

Eight people came the first Thursday night, including Alma, Fernando and their two children. As Fernando opened the Bible, and heard the words of scripture, his heart was moved. He had felt the Bible was good for priests and pastors, but wasn't of much use to him. Now, under the conviction of the Holy Spirit, he changed his mind. This was an amazing book!

Without Alma knowing, Fernando told all his family members and friends about the amazing study group meeting at his apartment, and urged them to come. "It's all in the Bible!" he said. "Everything I learned is taught from the Bible!"

cont. on page 3



## President's Perspective



### Mike's Sabbath Schedule

#### March

- 5 Family Weekend
- 12 Kenosha Church
- 19
- 26 Hispanic Men's Retreat

#### April

- 2 Shawano Church
- 9 Lakeland Church
- Clearwater Lake Church
- 16 ASI Spring Fellowship
- 23 Superior Church
- 30 Reedsburg

#### May

- 7 Middleton Company
- 14 Hispanic Brotherhood
- 21 Madison Community
- 28 Wisconsin Academy

To request speaking appointments  
contact Jane Gerndt at 920-484-6555  
or [jgerndt@wi.adventist.org](mailto:jgerndt@wi.adventist.org)

### President's Update

I would like to share with you some recent updates and developments from our January K-12 and executive committee meetings regarding academy and conference financial developments.

Due to limited space in the *Lamp Letter*, these updates are available at [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org).

### Alive And Well

Recently I re-read the story of the original exodus with Moses and the Children of Israel. Thousands rejoice as they leave Egypt in a new freedom won by the repeated miraculous hand of God. Suddenly they find themselves with water in front, mountains on either side, and the pursuing Egyptian army closing in from behind.

In panic they turn, not to God, but to Moses, and cry out *"Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."* (Exodus 14:11-12)

Where is their short-term memory? Don't they remember just a few days before God had delivered them by a mighty hand? Haven't they seen with their own eyes the working of God in their lives?

We sometimes look at those ancients with scorn and wonder why they could not believe God would protect and provide. Could it be that we are not too much different than those of long ago? Could it be that all too often we look up to God and say, "What have you done for me lately?" neglecting the abundant evidence of God working in our lives.

It is very easy to be overcome with events and circumstances beyond our control. Stress at work, lack of money, health challenges or rejection. Satan uses each of these to take our eyes off of Jesus, and to shorten our memories of God's leading in the past.

If you are at one of those points, wondering how you are going to pay the mortgage and your child's education, if you are facing yet another test ordered by the doctor, if you just got word that your job is in jeopardy - remember, God has not forgotten you.

Do a quick rewind in your life, and recall recent times and ways God has acted in your behalf. Take a few moments to read promises from God's Word. Spend some time on your knees talking to the One who parted the waters. The same God who delivered slaves out of Egypt, and led them to the shores of the Red Sea is still alive and well, and will provide a way for you to come out victoriously, as certainly as He did so long ago. Be assured, *"The path where God leads the way may lie through the desert or the sea, but it is a safe path"* (PP 290).

Take courage friend. Jesus said *"I will never leave you nor forsake you"* (Joshua 1:5).

### Camp Meeting 2011 Sneak Peak

Camp meeting will be held June 17-25 at Camp Wakonda, near Westfield, WI. Our theme is "Revival and Reformation." Watch for more information on the web and in the next issue of the *Lamp Letter*. Here's a sneak peak at a few of our guest speakers:

#### Don Schneider

Former North American Division President  
1st Weekend Speaker

#### Ron Clouzet

Director of the NAD Evangelism Institute  
Weekday Evening Speaker

#### Don Livesay

Lake Union Conference President  
2nd Weekend Speaker

#### Jim Nix

Director of the Ellen G. White Estate  
Weekday Morning Speaker

#### Robyn Sandin, MD

Family Practice Doctor at Chippewa Valley Hospital  
Weekday CHIP Seminar Presenter

For more information about camp meeting and periodic updates, visit: [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)

If you are interested in working in the cafeteria or dish room during camp meeting, contact Jean Schwark at [jschwark@wi.adventist.org](mailto:jschwark@wi.adventist.org) or (920) 484-6555.

## Bill and Gladys Ochs Transfer to Green Bay



Pastor Bill Ochs has accepted a call to be head pastor of the Green Bay Adventist church. For the past ten years he and his wife, Gladys, have pastored the Madison East Adventist church.

Both Bill and Gladys grew up in Milwaukee. After the birth of their first child, they decided to find a church. An Adventist friend invited them to a Friday evening small group Bible study. "That group taught us to love Jesus and to love the Bible," said Bill. "We noticed the group would always say to each other, 'See you tomorrow!'", said Gladys, "but to us they said, 'See you next Friday.' Finally we asked, 'Why is it we can come on Fridays, but you don't invite us on Saturdays?' After that we started coming to church and keeping the Sabbath." Bill and Gladys were baptized on May 21, 1982 in the Milwaukee Central SDA Church.

Bill worked as a literature evangelist for two years after his baptism, then felt the call to pastoral ministry. Before pastoring he would need to go to school. This was a big commitment, as he had been a high school dropout. "God just worked one miracle after another, to help us get through," said Bill. After much hard work he finished high school, and with his wife and three children completed four years at Andrews University. He went on to graduate from the Theological Seminary under the sponsorship of the Wisconsin Conference. Bill first pastored as an intern in the Milwaukee Central Adventist church, the same church where he and Gladys were baptized.

"I love people," says Bill. "I like creating an atmosphere where people can enjoy their relationship with Jesus and grow close to Him. I have a passion for the small group setting. I guess it's because that is how we found Jesus. It's a great place for people to be transparent, grow, and discover their gifts."

## "Con Mi Espiritu" *portada*

Durante los primeros estudios Bíblicos, el mensaje del amor de Jesús, impactó muy fuerte la mente de Fernando, el esposo de Alma y, el gozo de compartir con otros lo que es estaba aprendiendo, lo motivó a invitar a sus familiares y amigos.

La reacción que se dio en la mente de Fernando es una replica de lo que la Biblia dice en Juan 1:45, "Felipe halló a Natanael, y le dijo: Hemos hallado a aquel de quien escribió Moisés en la ley, así como los profetas: a Jesús el hijo de José, de Nazaret". Esta es la manera como el Espíritu Santo trabaja en los corazones como los de Felipe y Fernando y de todos los que se someten a su poder.

El Jueves siguiente, día del estudio bíblico, efectivamente allí estaban todos los invitados de Fernando y en la sala de su apartamento no había lugar vacío, habían muchas personas en el grupo pequeño deseosas de saber más del Evangelio de Jesús.

Los estudios bíblicos continúan en el hogar de Alma y Fernando y los invitados continúan llegando a las reuniones y están muy felices de conocer más del amor de Jesús.

No cabe duda que el Espíritu Santo está trabajando en el corazón de Fernando y Alma no solo por la disposición de abrir las puertas de su hogar para los Estudios Bíblicos, sino por el deseo de aprender más de la Biblia y compartir ese gozo al invitar a otros.

El Espíritu Santo del Señor está dispuesto a hacer muchas cosas en nuestro favor, si tan solo le abrimos las puertas de nuestro corazón y las de nuestros hogares.

Evelio Miranda  
Coordinador del Ministerio Hispano

The following Thursday, sixteen people crowded into their apartment. Alma was amazed, as every chair in the house was filled!

As of today, Alma and Fernando's living room continues to be filled on Thursday evenings with people hungry to hear the gospel message of Jesus. Fernando now accompanies Alma to the Waukesha Hispanic Church each Sabbath as well. "I am so surprised at the way the Lord has turned everything around!" says Alma, unable to hide her smile.

One hundred and three new members joined Wisconsin Hispanic Adventist churches last year. Each church held two to four evangelistic campaigns in 2010, and developed many small groups where people could fellowship and study the Bible together. These small groups, led by the Holy Spirit, have played a key role in bringing people to Christ.

There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit is willing to do many things for us if we will open the doors of our hearts and homes.

Evelio Miranda  
Hispanic Coordinator



Fernando y Alma Perez

## Participa! Get Involved!

Para obtener más información acerca de cómo puede participar en el ministerio de grupos pequeños en su iglesia, puede comunicarse con Pr. Bill Ochs, coordinador de grupos pequeños o el pastor de su iglesia.

For more information about how you can become involved in small group ministry at your church, contact:

Bill Ochs, small groups coordinator:  
gbsdapastor@gmail.com

Find out more at: [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)

Juanita Edge  
Communication Director



## News & Events

### George & Karla: Growing In Jesus



#### George's Story

About 40 years ago I started a Seventh-day Adventist Bible study course called *New Life* by mail. Years later, in 1990, my wife, Karla, and I went to a Bible prophecy seminar. In 2010 I took the courses *Discover*, *Focus on Prophecy* and *Amazing Facts* by mail and received diplomas in each. After these studies I realized it was necessary to be baptized. On August 11, 2010 I was baptized into the Madison East Seventh-day Adventist church. I was so pleased to find the Seventh-Day Adventists could answer my Bible questions. I feel that knowing Bible answers is very helpful, yet the ultimate joy for me is to have a personal relationship with Jesus and to grow with the Holy Spirit daily.

#### Karla's Story

After going to Bible studies and church with George for a while, I (Karla) felt a need and desire to be baptized. Pastor Ochs kindly offered to help me study for it. When I asked about smoking, the pastor said I had to quit, and that it would help to quit coffee and chocolate. There was total panic on my part. After 50 years of smoking I never even considered quitting! George, the pastor and others prayed for God to help me quit. Thank you all. The response was a true miracle for me, George and our family. It has been six weeks now. I am overwhelmed when I think of how blessed I am. I thank God every day for helping me to overcome my addictions.

I now see personally how powerful the Holy Spirit can be! I hope if anyone needs help that they will ask with faith. They will see the Lord help them in more ways than they can imagine. George and I read *40 Days: Prayers and Devotions to Prepare for the Second Coming* and learned so much valuable information. We have a better prayer life and have learned to pray for others. We both want to thank Pastor Ochs, the church and our Wednesday and Sabbath Bible study groups for their guidance, kindness and enrichment in the Word.

George & Karla Bedord  
Madison East Seventh-day Adventist Church

## Walk for LIFE

ADVENTIST FITNESS PLAN 2011

### Ashland Walks for Life



Ashland church family takes to heart the walk around the world for exercise as 25 members take to showshoes for a 4 mile nature walk after church January 29th at the Visitor Center outside Ashland. Little ones from a couple of years old on mother's back on up to 60 years old and over participated. God provided a beautiful eight-inch snow fall the night before, and a sunshiny calm day for this outdoor adventure. It was a blessing!

Annette Carlson  
Ashland Seventh-day Adventist Church

Eight churches have reported their miles to date (2/16). We have currently walked:

## 3,396.5 miles

To find out more about *Walk for Life*, visit:  
[wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)

## Wisconsin Conference Launches New Website

The Communication Department is pleased to announce the launch of the new Wisconsin Conference website at [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org). Our goal is to connect people with a wide variety of local church ministries as well as linking them with world-wide church resources.

This new site is hosted free of charge through *Adventist Church Connect*, a service of *AdventSource*. This free, updated website and a reduced *Lamp Letter* of eight pages reflect our ongoing search for cost-effective solutions to meet our communication needs.

Questions or comments about our new site?  
Contact us: [jedge@wi.adventist.org](mailto:jedge@wi.adventist.org)

### Emmanuel Church Organized



On January 22, 2011, the Emmanuel Company was officially organized as the Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church. The ceremony was held at the Racine SDA church. Elder Mike Edge, conference president, and Elder Richard Habenicht, interim executive secretary, officiated.

The Emmanuel group was organized as a company on June 25, 2007 with nineteen members. The new members prayed for God's direction and began sharing the gospel in their surrounding community. They held several clothing and food fairs, and held five prophecy seminars. Eight people were baptized and eight more transferred from other congregations.

This new church of thirty-three members is currently meeting at 6530 Sheridan Road in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Elder Carlos Ancheta is the pastor. Horace Gentle serves as head elder. Harold Thompson and Samuel Varda also serve as elders.

Pastor Carlos Ancheta  
Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church

The new website features:

- ☒ Current news stories
- ☒ Calendar of upcoming events
- ☒ Camp meeting information
- ☒ *Lamp Letter* archives
- ☒ Exclusive feature stories
- ☒ Church manual and bylaws
- ☒ Conference initiatives
- ☒ Stewardship resources
- ☒ Ministry resources and links
- ☒ Financial updates and more

[wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)



## Youth On The Move



**I**t has been quite a journey since December 20, 2010. My wife and I loved our home and church in Indianapolis and were not looking to leave. That being said, we have learned that the safest path to travel is the one God has given. We accepted the call, moved to Wisconsin, and have had a blast ever since.

My first interaction with young people in Wisconsin came at the Wisconsin Academy Youth Rally on January 13. Chaplain Jimmy Carter put on an outstanding weekend that featured Pastor LeClare Litchfield as guest speaker. I was very impressed by the student leadership of the Wisconsin Academy students.

That Sunday, I was able to attend a JAHWI leadership meeting. As many of you know, this is a very motivated group of Hispanic youth that are deeply involved in ministry. I left that meeting inspired by their enthusiasm.

I am also encouraged by the dedicated leadership in place for our Pathfinder ministry. We have eleven clubs preparing for this year's Bible Achievement. The leaders of the local clubs are incredibly motivated and seem to have a firm understanding of just how powerful this ministry is.

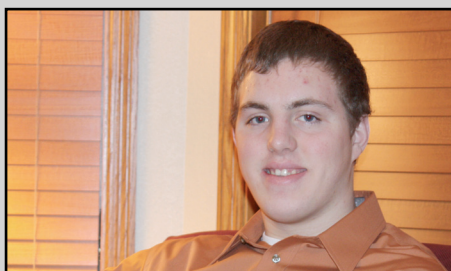
In January, I began recruiting summer camp staff at Andrews University. Jim and Linda Johnson accompanied my wife and I. We left very fulfilled and convinced that the Lord is providing. Our theme for this year's summer camp is "The Amazing Race." It will be based upon Paul's numerous allusions to the Christian life being like a race.

Our youth are not only the "future" of the church, they are also the "present." They will one day be its leaders, but they also have creative talent that our church desperately needs right now. They are not satisfied with a one-day-a-week faith. They want to make a difference. I pray that our churches will provide the discipleship these amazing young people need. Pray that our service will help youth come to know and serve Jesus as well.

Greg Taylor  
Youth Director



## W.A. Youth Rally Makes Memories



**I** have so many memories from the Wisconsin Academy Youth Rally I can't just name one as my favorite. Everything was wonderful! The speaker, Pastor Litchfield, was really good. He talked about how to walk with God, then we divided into "family groups". Our "family group" really got to know each other. It was fun. We even did a skit on a Bible story we studied.

Another great memory was staying in the dorm. My roommate and I had really interesting conversations. It was great to be around people from my own generation and talk to them about God and Christianity. I don't get to do that at my school.

We went tubing, swimming at the YMCA, and watched the gymnastics team from Southern Adventist University. They are really good!

By far, the best highlight for me was the agape supper Friday night. I'm not the kind of guy to get up front and talk. Yet, I got a strong impression that night to get up and give my testimony. I started praying, "God, what are you doing?" I got up front and shared how God is working in my life. It seemed like the Spirit of God came down on our whole group. His presence was really there! I came away with a better understanding of who God really is. I always assumed I was an Adventist just because I was born into an Adventist family. I didn't really understand who Jesus was, but I have come to understand more of Him over the weekend. This weekend at Wisconsin Academy really inspired me to keep getting to know Jesus.

Michael Schwark  
As told to Juanita Edge

Learn more at: [www.wisacad.org](http://www.wisacad.org)

## Plan Your Giving

**S**tatistics can be boring or thought provoking. Here are two. I read that churches receive 33% of all charitable donations in America. What I found interesting is that, in the light of this figure, churches receive only 8% of all charitable giving from estate gifts in America.

Religion ranks first as America's favorite charity but it ranks fourth when it comes to bequests. Why would individuals who love their church more than any other charity fail to remember the church in their will or with a planned gift? Maybe the attorney, who helped them, didn't suggest it. In addition we know that many don't get around to making a will.

The issue is whether you will write your own will or let a court write it for you. If you fail to write one, then you die without a plan. You take all these assets God has given you such as children, money, homes, stocks, automobiles, and boats and you just lay them on the judge's desk and say, "Here, God gave me all this, but you decide what happens to it now."

I don't think God gave you all that you have for someone else to determine its best use. He wants you to decide and if you don't, I think it could be considered irresponsible stewardship as well as creating a problem for your family.

If you have a plan that doesn't include God's work maybe you would like to rethink that. If you don't have a plan at all, then be a good steward and get one in place. If you don't have your own attorney, give the conference's Planned Giving Department a call and let us help you. Call 920-484-6555 and ask for "Planned Giving." We will help you accomplish your wishes.

Richard Habenicht  
Planned Giving Director





## News & Events

### How I Became A Seventh-day Adventist



Shortly after I got married, my wife told me she was taking Bible studies with a Seventh-day Adventist. She assured me there was nothing to worry about. She was not going to join them, only study with them. "Only study!" I replied. "You will see that they want you to be baptized!"

"Oh, no," she assured me.

Weeks later my wife said, "I have something to tell you. I have decided to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist church."

"I don't mind," I said. "Just don't ask me to go to church with you, because it is only crazy people who go to church on Saturday! And don't come telling me anything about the Bible."

She didn't tell me anything about the Bible. Not a word. But the church had trained her well. She started leaving tracts on the table, in the bathroom, on the kitchen sink, everywhere! I didn't mind. I was certain these

tracts did not agree with the Bible. I started reading them so that one day I could go to that church and prove them wrong.

That day did not come. When I found there was no contradiction between the tracts and the Bible, my heart changed. I told my wife nothing, but went to the Adventist pastor and he studied with me in his basement every Sunday afternoon.

There was only one thing I did not believe. I did not want to believe God was asking me to return a 10% tithe. I made \$5,000 a month and liked the way I lived. Finally I went to my knees and told the Lord I would give Him a try for three months. If I could still do all the things I had been doing, then I would obey Him in tithe and be baptized. At the end of three months, my life seemed to be the same, so I decided to obey and pay tithe. I still had told my wife nothing.

On Sabbath the pastor made an alter call, and I went forward to be baptized. My wife cried for joy with her hands on her head saying, "Lord have mercy!" Soon I was baptized and became one of the "crazy people" like my wife.

Today I am a commissioned lay pastor and head elder in the Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist church. I have not been sorry one day for the choice I made.

Horace Gentle  
Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church

### Bethel Students Do The Master's Work



For a Bible Labs activity in November, students from Bethel Junior Academy distributed Thanksgiving greetings and small missionary books to surrounding neighbors. Generally we don't receive feedback from such an activity. However, right before Thanksgiving break dismissal, a slight lady appeared at our classroom door. All smiles, she cordially thanked the students for drooping by her home and leaving the "precious" card and book. The visit, she said, had made her day!

Then, in December, instead of drawing names for a gift exchange at our annual Christmas party, the students donated money to the Angel Tree Project. This project is sponsored through the local Social Services Department and facilitates the giving of gifts to children in foster care homes. After our young recipient received our gifts, a social services representative shared this with our coordinator, "He was overjoyed to receive not only the toy given, but the clothing items he had asked for as well."

In *Messages to Young People*, p. 311, under the caption "Holiday Presents" it reads, "Shall we not, during the coming holidays, present our offerings to God? Even the children may participate in this work. Clothing and other useful articles may be given to the worthy poor, and thus a work may be done for the Master."

I can't help but think that a small portion of the Master's work is being done through the students at BJA.

Holly Roy  
Principal, Bethel Junior Academy



Karen worked at a Taco Bell. One day as she handed a bag of food through the window, the customer said, "Thank you! Here's something for you," and handed her a GLOW tract entitled "When Jesus Comes Again". That night, as she read the tract, she became so interested, she called the number of the back and requested the free Bible studies.

Roofy found a GLOW tract someone left in a Wal-Mart grocery cart. It caught his attention. It was entitled, "A Day to Remember". "This is a direct answer to prayer!" he thought. He and his wife had been praying to understand the Sabbath of the Ten Commandments. Roofy called the number on the back, and today he and his wife are enrolled in Bible studies.

Stories like this are beginning to come in from across the United States in response to a new literature ministry called GLOW. Now you can get involved. It's simple, effective, fun, and can be done by everyone!

Simply get GLOW tracts through your church, and distribute them in an intentional way. To get your church involved, contact the communication department at Wisconsin Conference at 920-484-6555 and ask for Juanita Edge, or visit [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org) and click on GLOW.



### Did You Know?

The first Wisconsin SDA church school on record was opened in 1867 with Mrs. Marian Truesdale teaching. Learn more at: [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)



## Teach Us To Pray

Please pause, pray and read Luke 11:1-13. The Lord's Prayer (verses 2-4) so familiar, yet ...

An amazing strategy of Satan when you stop to think of it... so simple yet so far reaching, the ability to erase the depth of its meaning... by making the words so common place, even knowing them by heart, yet never digesting their meaning. Amazing.

I asked God, why this prayer (only 58 words) was important enough for teaching us to pray. I wondered again at verse 13? "...how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" I prayed for applied eye salve. Slowly reading again & again...praying..."what do You mean?" Suddenly words like: "Our", "us" & "we" spoke! Remembering sermons on Luke 11:2-4... believing those personal pronouns where for God's family, 'us' who love Him. Now I felt how God sees prayer for His world... All those around us.

Jesus invites us to include every person in His Prayer, we stand together before *our* Father's throne. Some don't know what to say or how to approach Him, but we do. Others don't care to know our God (maybe if we 'lifted Jesus higher' He could draw them to Him). Like our Teacher, we should pray in their behalf. They need us...just like we need Jesus to intercede for us. We're avenues for His love, His grace to flow through us as we kneel in His knee prints.

Won't you stop just now, find a quiet place to be alone and allow yourself to come into His throne room (bringing the people you know) into His presence, believing He is their Father too. Pray as if their life depended on it. Ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit to teach you what to pray.

Lesa Budd  
Prayer Ministries Coordinator



Wisconsin Conference is participating in the worldwide "Revival & Reformation" initiative of the General Conference.

## Worldwide Days of Fasting & Prayer

The first Sabbath of each quarter in 2011 has been set aside as a day of fasting and prayer. This is a time to come together and pray for the Holy Spirit to revive us, reform us, and unite us as a body of believers.

A special prayer vigil will be held at the conference office the first Friday evening of each quarter from 7:00-11:00 p.m. It will be led by Greg and Lesa Budd, our conference prayer coordinators. Everyone is welcome. These prayer vigils will be held on April 1, July 1, and October 7.

Each church is invited to hold their own quarterly prayer sessions anytime during the designated Sabbaths: April 2, July 2, and October 8.

For information on Biblical fasting and holding a prayer vigil at your local church, check the conference web site at: [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org).

## The Great Controversy

As a part of the Revival and Reformation emphasis, all members are encouraged to read and study *The Great Controversy* for revival in 2011 in preparation for a major distribution of *The Great Controversy* around the world in 2012.

Find out how you may read, download, or listen to this book in nine languages on the conference website at:

[wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org).

## 777 InPrayer

Join **Seventh-day** Adventists at **seven** a.m. or **seven** p.m. **seven** days a week, in prayer for the Holy Spirit. Actually, any hour of the day, you will be joining thousands of Adventists in some time zone for prayer. "A chain of earnest praying believers should encircle the world...to pray for the Holy Spirit" RH, Jan. 3, 1907.

The InPrayer mobile application for iPhone or Android is available at: [www.revivalandreformation.org/iphone](http://www.revivalandreformation.org/iphone).

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	2010	2009	percent change
Gross Tithe Income:	\$6,335,947	\$6,576,408	(3.66%)
Wisconsin Budget:	\$237,326	\$223,142	5.98%

### GROSS TITHE INCOME

The above gross tithe is adjusted for incomplete church reports and by comparing 52 Sabbaths for each year. 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.

(Through December 31, 2010 our tithe was down 3.66%. This means the conference had to operate on \$203,437 less tithe than in 2009.)

### WISCONSIN BUDGET INCOME

Each dollar received as Wisconsin Budget stays in Wisconsin and is distributed as follows:

Wisconsin Academy Operations	50%
WA financial assistance	25%
Evangelism	20%
Church, camp, WA capital funds	5%

(Through December 31, 2010 our Wisconsin Budget was up 5.98%. This means the conference received \$14,185 more than in 2009.)

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

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

Return Service Requested

## Wisconsin Conference Calendar of Events

Mar.	5	Conf. Level Bible Achievement - Wisc. Acad. Church
	11-20	W.A. Spring Break
	13	S.N.O.W Day Green Bay Church
	20	Childrens Ministries Workshop - Conference Office
	25-27	Hispanic Retreat - Camp Wakonda
	26	Union College Gymnastic Team - W.A.
	26	Choralaires/Bells Tour - Madison East Church
Apr.	1-2	Hispanic Lay Training - Best Western Airport
	2	LUC Level Bible Achievement - Berrien Springs
	7-9	W.A. Music Festival - Wisconsin Academy
	8-10	Women's Empowerment Weekend - Camp Wakonda
	9	W.A. Gymnastic Homeshow - Wisconsin Academy
	16	NAD Level Bible Achievement - Andrews University

	22-24	Alumni Weekend - Wisconsin Academy
	22-24	Hispanic Men's Retreat - Camp Wakonda
May	14	W.A. Spring Music Concert - Wisconsin Academy
	14	Hispanic Brotherhood Day
	15	Academy Day - Wisconsin Academy
	20-22	Pathfinder Fair - Camp Wakonda
	27-29	W.A. Graduation Weekend - Wisconsin Academy
	30	Memorial Day - Conference Office Closed

### More Calendar Information

Further information about many upcoming events is available on the new conference website. Some events are accessible directly from the front page. For the rest, visit the conference calendar and click on an event to learn more. We will provide detailed information as it becomes available.

[wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)

## Holeman to Speak at 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Empowerment Retreat

Dr. Virginia Holeman, better known as Toddy, will speak on the healing power of forgiveness. Toddy is a professor of counseling at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. Her areas of expertise include marriage, family therapy, and clinical applications of forgiveness. Toddy loves the Lord and enjoys swimming, walking, and gardening.

The retreat will be held at Camp Wakonda April 8-10, 2011. For more information, contact Susan Boon at 262-878-5931 or at [boon@toast.net](mailto:boon@toast.net).

