

# Lamp Letter

News for our Wisconsin church family

October/November 1997

## WA Off to Great Start

School year 1997-98 began with a dedication service led by Principal John Thomas. Student leaders, faculty members and Wisconsin Academy church members came forward to pray that God would empower them to live out a life of obedience and service during the school year.

Registration for the new school year saw enrollment soar to 130, a 25% increase over last year. Eight-five percent of the students are from Wisconsin. There are four foreign students from Brazil, Angola, and the Ukraine.

Wisconsin Academy has a new Bible teacher and chaplain, Londa Edsell, who is replacing Oliver Archer. Oliver recently accepted an invitation to a similar position at Andrews Academy. Miss Edsell graduated from Andrews University with a Master of Divinity degree. She is known by many for her work in Michigan at Camp Au Sable's youth camp, and as assistant pastor for collegiate students in the University Seventh-day Adventist Church in East Lansing, MI.

## Prayer Warriors Ministry

Wisconsin Academy is continuing the prayer ministry that it started last year. Our goal is to match one person in the Wisconsin churches with each student and staff. The response we have received so far, however, only covers the freshmen and half of the sophomore classes. These sponsors are asked to pray for their student daily, as well as send notes of encouragement and occasional care packages. We are still in need of about 80 prayer sponsors, and it could be your privilege to be one of them.

"Any earnest prayer Warrior has full rights to sponsor teenagers before God, pushing back the powers of darkness...If..the church were to go into prayer battle for them, we would see miraculous changes in the lives of young people around us (*Prayer Warriors*, p. 79). Many of the students face struggles and spiritual battles that you, as a prayer sponsor, could fight with them. It is our prayer that the lives of the students at WA will be changed this year through the power of prayer.

If you would like to be involved in this ministry, please send your name, address, and the number of students/staff that you would like to sponsor to: Jeannie Buchholz, PO Box 525, Cambria, WI 53923. If you have a specific interest, please include the name of a particular person.

## Youth Prayer Ministry Conference

September home leave was an exciting time for the 21 WA students who traveled to the Youth Prayer and Ministry Conference in Keene, TX. The conference is another of God's movements that involves young people in prayer, Bible study and deployment into the streets to do ministry.

Jose Rojas, NAD Youth Director, was a featured speaker. Besides telling how the Lord has lead in his life, Rojas explained his leading role in President Clinton's program for youth volunteerism. He meets with Clinton and Colin Powell, chairman of this program, and shares strategies on how to organize youth for volunteer programs--something the church has been doing right along.

"It was an abounding experience," says Heather Herr of the Prayer Conference. "A true blessing to be with other people my age worshipping together and learning more on how to witness." On Friday and Sabbath the 600+ young people ventured out into the streets of surrounding towns on "prayer walks." They prayed for opportunities to witness to whomever they happened to see. And witness they did! "My group went into a convenience store where two employees were sitting down taking a break. We began talking with them, giving our personal testimonies, sang and prayed with them. When we left they were both in tears and had asked the Lord into their lives," says Herr. "We went into an elementary school and prayed with the principal. He shared some personal burdens that he had and was so happy that we took the time to come in and encourage him," said Seth Johnson. "It was impressive to hear how the Lord is using our church and the youth of the church!" stated Londa Edsell, WA chaplain.

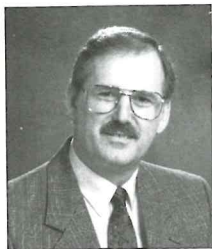
## Benefit Concert

A special benefit concert will be held at Wisconsin Academy on Sabbath, October 25 at 7:00 PM. Sean Sinnett will be the featured violin soloist. Tickets are \$10.00 and all proceeds will benefit the Student Scholarship Program. Please call 920-623-3300 or write to Wisconsin Academy, N2355 Duborg Rd., Columbus, WI 53925 for tickets and information.





## President's Message



### Focus on the Harvest

Jesus appeals to us to be moved by the plight of people in need. People who suffer from physical hardships as well as those living without God need to feel Christian compassion. Princess Diana and Mother Teresa both were eulogized for their empathy for underprivileged people. What legacy will be told about our concern for people?

"But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." Matthew 9:36

Jesus response is designed to challenge us. When we walk through our neighborhoods and see people gripped with materialism, loneliness or brokenness, our hearts too should be moved with compassion.

Then Jesus said, "the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore that the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest."

Jesus wants us to focus on the harvest. Reaching the people that need to be reconciled with God. He also wants us to pray for more laborers to enter the harvest field. In fact, He wants every person to find their place in the harvest.

During the first weekend of September it was encouraging to witness about 150 people coming to Camp Go Seek to be trained to do Bible ministries. Twenty-five young people from Wisconsin Academy were among this group. There was an excitement present that God could use them to do a great work for Him.

Do we have a plan to help with the harvest? Christ will help clarify where He desires us to serve. Let's allow our Lord to give us His compassion for lost people.

Let's begin this fall with a focus on the harvest and bless Jesus in seeking people for His kingdom.

--Donald Corkum, President

### Congratulations

Everett and Isabelle Edminster celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

September 28.

Everett was our camp ranger both at Portage and Camp Go Seek for many years.



### Disciple Training Weekend

Over 150 people gathered September 5-7 at Go Seek for a Disciple Training Weekend. Jesus said "go into all the world and make disciples." Those coming to this weekend came to learn how to be good disciples for Jesus.



Don Gray, a lay trainer for many years and organizer of the Net '95 and '96 Bible study preparation programs and author of the new Discover Bible Study Guides, was the lead presenter. He was joined by Cindy Tutsch, Senior Youth Director for the Washington Conference. Cindy is a pacesetter in North America for training young people how to witness. Marge Gray, author of Bible study materials and co-presenter with her husband Don in training events around the world, added her special gifts.

In addition to the adults, twenty-five students from Wisconsin Academy were trained by Cindy and Don. These Academy students are ready to witness now! Academy chaplain, Londa Edsell, has organized these young people for witnessing outreach in the Columbus area. Church members have volunteered their time to transport them to their Bible studies.

Exciting reports keep coming in from around the Conference of how God is leading in personal evangelism. If your church hasn't started yet, contact your pastor. If the Conference can help, please call Steve Gallimore at the Conference office.

### New Pastors in Wisconsin

Steve Aust is the new pastor of Milwaukee Northwest and Watertown district. Steve and Donna have given many years of service to this conference in the education field and we welcome them to pastoral ministry here.

Kevin Ferreira is the new pastor for the Rhinelander, Tomahawk, Lakeland and Clearwater Lake district. Kevin originates from South Africa. Kevin and Rose came to us from pastoral work in Ohio.

Pavel Roudoi is the new pastor for the Stevens Point, Almond and Wisconsin Rapids district. Pavel originates from Russia and comes to Wisconsin from Andrews where he has been working on his Doctor of Ministry degree. His wife Elena also is from Russia.

## New Schools

**Ashland** — Parents and grandparents in the Ashland church have been concerned about Adventist education for their youth. But the final push to establish a school was evangelist, Bill Zima. Zima held a series of meetings and baptized nine people at Ashland in July. Part of his message was that the youth in Ashland needed an Adventist school. Pastor Dan Adels agreed and worked diligently to make it happen.

The Lord knew all this was going to develop and arranged for a professional teacher with Master's degree in education (and a law degree) to move with her husband to Ashland just two months before any human knew a school would be developing. We praise the Lord that He arranged for Sara McGuire to accept the challenge of starting a school and teaching nine students in our new school in Ashland! Please add this school and Mrs. McGuire and her students to your prayer list.

**Eau Claire** — It has been many years since the Eau Claire Church has had a church school. Recently, there has been renewed interest by parents and church members in providing Adventist education to the young people in the Eau Claire area.

Pastor Art Miller has been very enthusiastic and worked hard to rally the necessary support. Church members have worked to get the equipment together and raise the needed funds.

Steve Dennis, who taught eight years in Stevens Point accepted the challenge to be the teacher at the new school. Parents have committed time and money. Thirteen students are being blessed by this new beginning. Please pray that the young people will be led to a closer walk with Jesus, a commitment to His church and the training to help finish His work on earth.

## Distance Learning

The Raymond School is one of eight schools in the North American Division to be a part of the distance learning program organized by the NAD. Jonathan Sumner, principal/teacher of the school is on the NAD committee studying use of technology in education.

This project is labeled "AE21" which stands for Adventist Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The teacher's studio is in the Florida conference office. Greg Thompson, former teacher at the Madison School, is the teacher from outer space. Thompson conducts distance learning and interactive classes three hours a day now connected and uplinked to the schools by satellite technology.

The students can talk by telephone with the teacher at any time during class. Homework is immediately faxed to Thompson in Orlando, corrected there and faxed back to the Raymond School.

This experiment is just that; an experiment using technology in Adventist education. There have been glitches and as a result, adjustments had to be made, as with any new endeavor. We will keep you informed as to the progress and possible use of these new technologies.

## Welcome New Teachers

Seven new teachers are joining the K-10 teaching staff in Wisconsin.

*Ann Burgess* has joined us to teach grades 7 & 8 in Madison. She comes to us from Pennsylvania.

*Keith Hatcher* was the teacher's aide in Rice Lake and is now the full time teacher there.

*Anita Jones* retired a few years ago, but just can't stay out of the classroom. She is teaching at Hylandale.

Some teachers like Jones and Hatcher, are teaching where they already live, but sometimes we go great distances to find great teachers. *Cheryl Lane* is from Guam where she was a missionary teacher. She now brings her rich background in teaching middle grades to the Madison School.

*Sara McGuire* and her husband moved to Ashland for his professional work and to enjoy the beauties of northern Wisconsin. It was only after moving there that they became aware of a need to start a new school.. Sara was sent by God before any of us knew a school would happen.

*Julie (Boehm) Messersmith*, a graduate of Wisconsin Academy and Southwestern Adventist University, is beginning her teaching career in Frederic.

Milwaukee Jr. Academy looked to Bismarck, ND to find their new teacher, *Gail Spilovoy*. She is teaching grades 7 & 8.

We welcome each of you. May God abundantly bless your ministry to our children.

## Recovering

Former pastor and Bible teacher at Wisconsin Academy, Gordon Hewlett, is recovering from by-pass surgery. Cards and letters are welcome. You can mail these to him at 5080 Pleasant Creek Road, Rogue River, OR 97537.

The Elmer's from Milton are no longer sending materials overseas. Please do not bring any more papers to the Conference office. Thank you!



## MEN'S MINISTRY

David B. Smith, associate director from It Is Written and the author of the Bucky Stone series, will be the featured speaker for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Men's Retreat, January 29-February 1, 1998. The impressive response last winter nearly quadrupled the group. It is anticipated that as many as 120 men will fill all three winterized lodges at Go Seek. Additional space in area motels may be used. The rates remain at \$55 for those registering by *January 15, 1998*. If you would like more information or a registration form, please contact the Conference office.

## Ukraine

Better than two dozen volunteers appeared at the Berton Crary home after a normal work day to assist in loading a 40 foot shipping container bound for the Ukraine. A vital part of the crew were students and staff from the Country Life school working side by side, to move the complete load of clothing and medical supplies by Wisconsin supporters. This work was completed in two hours.

At the invitation of Ukrainian Adventist leaders, a small group of Pathfinders and their leaders will accompany Crary to the Ukraine in early November. In addition to Pathfinder leader training, they will assist with the distribution of your gifts of love sent to the people of the Ukraine.

## Wakonda

The best staff we have ever had! Yes, but Elder Z usually believes that to be true. This summer's evangelistic series in a natural setting attracted 430 campers. Some local church districts had as many as five campers who decided to prepare for baptism and follow Jesus.



## Federation Meetings

The annual Community Services Federation meetings will begin October 13 at Rice Lake. Meetings will also be held at Bethel, October 14; Green Bay, October 15; and Lancaster, October 16. According to Deirdre Johnson, Federation President, a guest speaker from ADRA is expected. A potluck lunch will be served. Meetings will begin at 10:00 AM and conclude by mid-afternoon.

## ABC NEWS

Your Wisconsin Adventist Book Center has a new fax number and e-mail address: The fax number is (608) 825-1592 and you can e-mail using wisconsin.abc@pacificpress.com

## Book Review Corner

In *If Only God Would Answer*, author Steven Mosley addresses personal dilemmas we've all faced in our prayer lives. Moving beyond instructions on how to spend more time on your knees or muster up more faith, he offers practical insights into such questions as:

- † Does the number of people petitioning increase my chances of a divine hearing?
- † How long should I persist when God doesn't appear to answer?
- † Where is God when I'm most desperate?
- † How can I pray with more belief?

You'll learn how to break your big requests into small steps, how to become part of the process of answered prayer, and how to pray for what God can do rather than continually focusing on personal failure.

*This book is available from your Wisconsin Adventist Book Center.*