

## Watertown Recognizes the Adventurer Advantage

**W**hy start an Adventure Club? Isn't life busy enough? Sara Mertins, Adventurer Club director for the Watertown Church, believes the advantages of having an Adventurer Club are worth all the effort. "I really feel we need to be doing things together outside of church time," said Sara. "Getting together and building relationships with other church people during the week is really important. With Adventurers, we are doing something that is church related and fun. Kids need to know church things can be fun."

Watertown is a small church, and Sara teaches a combined Sabbath School for the children each week. Several years ago when looking for more nature and character building activities to add to her program, Sara discovered the Adventurer Club curriculum. She began incorporating select nature and Bible activities along with some Adventurer Awards. The children loved it! After a year Sara began holding regular club meetings one day a week in her home. "The children are eager to attend club meetings to play together and work on projects," said Sara. "They look forward to it and have developed a sense of camaraderie and community, which we all need to foster."

Throughout the year Adventurers complete Bible lessons, memorize Scripture verses, visit shut-ins, help people with projects, and many other activities designed to develop social skills



and turn their hearts toward others and Jesus. During the summer months the six-member Adventurer Club and eight member Pathfinder Club join together for weekly activities such as rafting down a river, going on a bike ride, playing softball, visiting a museum, swimming in a lake, skiing, camping, and plans are made to visit an alpaca farm. These activities allow the children to socialize with like-minded people outside of church time. Every second Sabbath of the month, Adventurers, along with Pathfinders, wear their uniforms and help lead out in the church service.

The Adventurer advantage is being felt in Watertown with a strengthened sense of church community and positive parent/child relationships. The children's

thoughts, motives, dispositions, and attitudes, are maturing, and they are enjoying positive experiences with other children as they express their love for Jesus in a natural way.

Adventurers serves children with six class levels: Little Lambs (age 4), Eager Beavers (age 5), Busy Bees (age 6), Sunbeam (age 7), Builders (age 8), and Helping Hands (age 9). If you are interested in learning more of how an Adventurer Club might benefit your church family, contact Eric Chavez, youth director for the Wisconsin Conference. @ echavez@wi.adventist.org.



Juanita Edge  
Communication Director



## The President's Sabbath Schedule

### August

- 3 ASI
- 10 Hispanic Camp Meeting
- 17 NAD Pathfinder Camporee
- 31 Coolee Region

### September

- 7 Reedsburg
- 14 Waukesha
- 21 Fox Valley Training
- 28 Northern District Meeting

### October

- 5 Almond
- 12 Lena
- 19 Sturgeon Bay
- 26 Wautoma

### November

- 9 Tomahawk
- 16 Wisconsin Rapids
- 23 Oxford

To request speaking appointments contact Mike Edge at [mgedge@wi.adventist.org](mailto:mgedge@wi.adventist.org).

## From the President's Desk

# Proportion of Our Success

Yesterday I arrived at the airport a couple of hours early for my flight back home. When I got to my gate it was empty except for one middle-aged lady sitting in a wheelchair. Over the next hour and a half we engaged in a lively, friendly conversation. In the course of the conversation she found out I was a Seventh-day Adventist. She told me of her health struggles, which included cancer. When I shared with her that my wife was also dealing with cancer and was receiving medical treatments, which seem to be working well, she looked at me puzzled. "Are you not like Jehovah's Witnesses regarding medical treatment?" I shared with her that we embrace healthful living as a part of our understanding of the teachings of Scripture, and told her of the many Adventist hospitals and clinics around the country including Loma Linda Medical Center. She recognized Loma Linda, but did not know it was Adventist.

She then said "I never figured out why people worship on Sunday." We talked a little bit out about Sabbath in the Bible, and how both political and religious factors had led many in the past to begin worship on the first day of the week.

As we moved on to other issues I reviewed in my mind, my prayer earlier yesterday

morning. "Lord, may I meet someone today that I can be a witness to." God provided an answer at the airport.

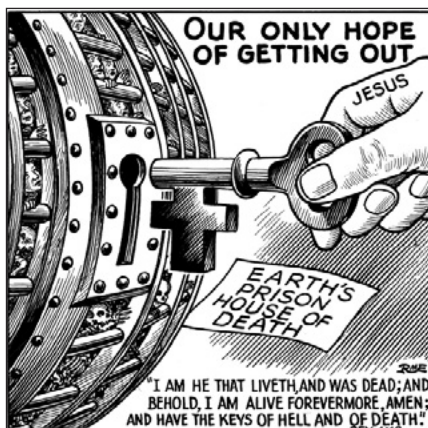
I could have turned to several Scripture passages to "prove" Sabbath to the lady. Rather I chose to listen to her share of the pain of her medical challenges, which opened the door for deeper conversation, and her own statements of faith. My prayer is that through out conversation she came to a new understanding about the Bible and Seventh-day Adventists from a person who cared for her.

"We live in a hard, unfeeling, uncharitable world. Satan and his confederacy are plying every art to seduce the souls for whom Christ has given His precious life. Every one who loves God in sincerity and truth, will love the souls for whom Christ has died. If we wish to do good to souls, our success with these souls will be in proportion to their belief in our belief in, and appreciation of, them. "Fundamentals of Christian Education p. 281

May God place someone in your path today that you can reveal His love in real and concrete ways.

*Michael H. Edge*

Wisconsin Conference President



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## Pastor Zachary Payne Ordination



Pastor Payne was ordained to the gospel ministry on the second Sabbath of camp meeting at Camp Wakonda on June 22, 2019. Below is a portion of his testimony.

"Looking back on my journey thus far, it's amazing to see what God has done in my life. At 30, I have spent almost half of my life responding to God's calling, and I can tell you that the times I embrace it are the times I really see the power of His Spirit working in my life. It is my hope to always follow His calling to the best of my ability, and I would encourage anyone to do the same.

"Ordination to me is a confirmation that when the Lord said, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us," my answer was like Isaiah's, "Here I am, send me." (Isaiah 6:8) But that call and my response is nothing new. I've been at this for a while. It all started cutting weeds at a summer camp in 2005, and eventually (by God's grace) I find myself as the senior pastor of a district of churches. The point being, we don't answer the call to be recognized. We answer because the God of the universe wants to include us in His plans to seek and save the lost. He is calling you, as you read this right now. How do you respond?"

Read Pastor Payne's complete testimony on the News & Events section of the Wisconsin Conference website, [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org).

Pastor Zachary Payne  
Racine District (WISN)

## Jim Muhlenbeck at Bethel Junior Academy



Jim Muhlenbeck has agreed to serve as Principal and teacher for grades one through eight at Bethel Junior Academy. He is coming from The Northern Tier Christian School in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, where he has served as principal and teacher of first through eighth grade for the past five years.

Jim grew up attending the Racine and Raymond Adventist churches here in Wisconsin. He received his elementary education degree from Andrews University, and also a BA in History for secondary education.

"I felt called to move," said Jim. "I told God someone would have to contact me if He thought it was time for me to move, and three conference called. Linda Rosen from Wisconsin gave me one of those calls, and I'm happy to be coming back to Wisconsin."

Jim and his wife, Aimee, have one son, Brant. In Jim's free time he enjoys restoring and tinkering with his grandpa's tractor, hiking, kayaking, and other outdoor activities.

Juanita Edge  
Communication Director

## Volunteers Needed for 3 Free Dental Clinic's

Oshkosh: August 15, 2019  
Marshfield: October 26, 2019  
Indianapolis, IN, GC: April 8-10, 2020

More @ Health Ministries - [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)

## Stephen Hall New Portage District Pastor



Stephen Hall has agreed to serve as pastor of the Portage District. He holds a BS degree from Southern Adventist University in Theology, and an AA degree in History from Valencia College. He is also a graduate of CSB School of Broadcasting. Over the past four years, Stephen has been teaching Bible and been assistant men's dean at Thunderbird Academy in Scottsdale, Arizona. He was born and raised in Orlando, Florida.

"I love Jesus, the Miami Dolphins, and pecan pie, in that order," said Stephen. He also loves military history and hiking. Stephen begin pastoring the Portage District the first part of July.

Juanita Edge  
Communication Director

## Women's Retreat October 4 - 6, 2019



Plan to attend this retreat at Camp Wakonda with guest speaker Tawny Sportsman. Check the Women's Ministries page for more information @ [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org).



## Sue Nelson, New Suprintendent of Education & Loren Nelson III New Madison East Pastor



Sue Nelson has accepted the call to serve as Superintendent of Education for the Wisconsin Conference. Sue is coming from the Dakota Conference where she served as Superintendent of Education, Sabbath School, and Pathfinder Director since 2017. Prior to this she served as Director of Outdoor School for the Dakota Conference from 2011-2017. She worked in Wisconsin as principal/teacher in our Fox Valley Seventh-day Adventist School from 1998-2004, and later as principal/teacher in Elkhart, IN.

Sue received her BS in Elementary Education from Andrews University with minors in Science and Language Arts. In 2015 Sue completed her Master's in Educational Administration.

Loren Nelson has accepted the call to serve as pastor of the Madison East District. Pastor Nelson has pastored here in Wisconsin before from 1998-2004 as an associate in Green Bay, and later as senior pastor in the Fox Valley District. Following that time Pastor Nelson pastored in Indiana before becoming the Youth Director and then Executive Secretary in the Dakota Conference.

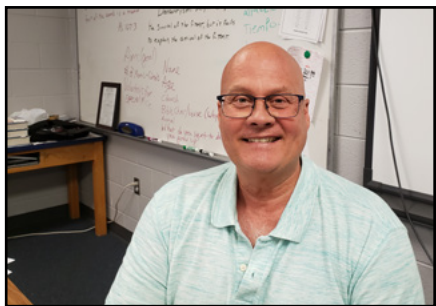
Pastor Nelson received his BA in Religion and a minor in Biblical Languages from Southern Adventist University, and completed Andrews Seminary in 1998.

"I chose pastoral ministry because I had good mentors growing up," said Pastor Nelson, "I wanted to be that kind of a person and give back to my church. My wife and I consider our churches and our schools family! We look forward to joining the Wisconsin team."

Sue and Loren, have two children, Lucas and Madison. They enjoy getting outside, bicycling, playing games, and being with friends.

Juanita Edge  
Communication Director

## Rick Blumenschin New Green Bay Principal



Rick Blumenschin has accepted the position of principal and teacher for grades 7-10 at Green Bay Adventist Junior Academy. Rick grew up in upper Michigan in the Escanaba/Wilson area. He attended Wilson Adventist school and later Great Lakes

Academy. Rick graduated with Elementary Education from Western Governor's University in Utah, with an emphasis on the multiple-grade classroom. Most recently he taught grades 6-8 in Michigan.

"I've always lived near Wisconsin, and Green Bay was our 'go to' city!" said Rick. "It's nice to be back in the area and I'm really looking forward to teaching here."

Rick has two grown children, Chad and Page. He has worked in the taxidermy business, and loves hunting, fishing, ice-fishing, camping, & climbing. He is a great Green Bay Packers fan.

Juanita Edge  
Communication Director

## New Lay Pastor for Kenosha Company



George Andrews recently agreed to be lay pastor of the Kenosha Company, and is grateful to the Lord for the opportunity. George loves to serve the Lord and share how God can give people the answers and peace they want in their lives. "I've been in management and leadership all my life," said George. "I've had a lot of influence. Unfortunately, much of it has been negative influence, but now it is a positive influence because of Jesus in my life."

George has experienced many bad situations, and now as he sees others experiencing tough times he tells them there is always hope. He's discovered nobody is beyond the Lord's repair. He first began coming to church sitting in the back pew, tired, weak, hurting, and searching. But in time, God repaired him and lead him to be a deacon, then an elder, head elder, and now a lay pastor. "I love to help keep people focused on the Lord," said George. "I figure my life experiences are preparation for my destination."

During the week George manages four campuses for Gateway Technical College, interviewing, hiring, and training their custodial & janitorial services. He also owns his own private janitorial services business.

George and his wife, Theresa, enjoy a blended family of eight children and 24 grandchildren. In his free time he enjoys golfing and taking his grandchildren fishing.

Juanita Edge  
Communication Director

## Bill Ochs New Planned Giving & Trust Director



Pastor Bill Ochs says, "I'm looking forward to serving you as Planned Giving and Trust Director for the Wisconsin Conference. I would welcome a visit with you at any time. Give me a call at 920-484-6555, or email me at bochs@wi.adventist.org so we can set up a time to get acquainted." Read more in the News & Event's or Planned Giving and Trust Services sections of the conference website at wi.adventist.org.

## New Milwaukee South School Teacher

Viviana Facundo

will be teaching grades 3 & 4 at Milwaukee SDA School, South campus. Viviana graduated with a bachelors degree in Psychology Emphasis School Guidance from Southwestern

Adventist University. She has served as Head Teacher at Lubbock Junior Academy, and most recently has taught 1st grade bilingual at International Leadership of Texas. Viviana has worked with Pathfinder clubs and at summer camp, and said that these experiences were a major influence in developing her love for working with young people. She enjoys reading, kayaking, being outdoors, and hanging out with friends.



## New Milwaukee North School Teacher



Ivelisse Gonzalez-Lozano is joining Milwaukee Seventh-day Adventist School North campus to teach first and second grades. She has worked at the school as a teacher's aide for five years while completing her Elementary Education degree, with a minor in Spanish Language and Culture, from Alverno College in Milwaukee.

"I began working as an aide at the Milwaukee Adventist school while studying Dental Hygiene," said Ivelisse. "I had never been in a Christian school before and the impact of seeing these students study and learn about Jesus and His truth was overpowering! It motivated me to change my major."

Ivelisse (Ivy) and her husband, Jose Luis, have two children, 10-year old Adriel, and 20-month old Ibrahim. When Ivy has a little extra time, she dedicates it to spending quality time with her family. Their favorite thing to do together is go for a walk.

Juanita Edge  
Communication Director

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

We now have our offering reports completed through the month of June. Our tithe is showing a decrease of -4.76% and our Wisconsin Budget is down -7.86. Both of these figures represent results year to date. For our camp meeting offerings, we received a little over \$9,000. In addition we received just over \$18,000 for Wisconsin Evangelism. As you may remember we have a goal to raise \$60,000 a year to support our full time conference evangelist. With total offerings given to Wisconsin Evangelism thru June we have received \$27,200. With six months to go and your faithful support, I trust that goal will be reached.

God has a great work for His church and His people. The book Education, page 137, says, "That which lies at the foundation of business integrity and of true success is the recognition of God's ownership. The Creator of all things, He is the original proprietor. We are His stewards. All that we have is a trust from Him, to be used according to His direction. This is an obligation that rests upon every human being. It has to do with the whole sphere of human activity. Whether we recognize it or not, we are stewards, supplied from God with talents and facilities and placed in the world to do a work appointed by Him." May God bless as we seek to fulfill His mission.



Brian Stephan  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	2019	2018	% Change
June Tithe Income:	\$307,266	\$427,147	-28.07%
YTD Tithe Income:	\$3,007,459 (26 wks)	\$3,157,617 (26 wks)	-4.76%
June Wisc. Budget:	\$14,031	\$16,954	-17.24%
YTD Wisconsin Budget:	\$118,566 (26 wks)	\$128,686 (26 wks)	-7.86%





from the principal's desk:

## The Work of Preparation

It seems like we just graduated seventeen wonderful young people, but here we are in the countdown for school year 2019-2020 to begin. This will be the seventieth year that our school has been on the campus in Columbus, and it is great to think of how many of you graduated from this wonderful school.

Well over one hundred years ago, Mrs. White wrote these words, "The admonition to 'search the Scriptures' was never more appropriate than at the present time. This is an age of unrest, and the youth drink deeply of its spirit. Would that they could be made to realize the importance and the peril of the position they occupy! ... Never were such momentous issues before any generation as await the one now coming upon the stage of action. Never were the youth of any age or country so earnestly observed by the angels of God as are the youth of today. All heaven is watching with intense interest for every indication of the characters they are forming—whether when brought to the test they will stand firmly for God and the right, or be swayed by worldly influences ...

God has a great work to be done in a short time. He has committed to the young, talents of intellect, time, and means, and He holds them responsible for the use they make of these good gifts. He calls upon them to come to the front, to resist the corrupting, bewitching influences of this fast age and to become qualified to labor in His cause. They cannot become fitted for usefulness without putting heart and energy into the work of preparation." - *The Youth's Instructor*, May 7, 1884.

How much more relevant are these words now, and how many more challenges do our young people face in these final days of earth's history.

We are praying God will send those young people He knows need to be at the academy and that both staff and students will understand better how much He loves us and wants us to be in that saving and life-changing relationship with Him. We are greatly encouraged to know that many of you are praying for and with us, and we ask that you will continue to be a part of this great work of evangelism.

Rosalie Rasmussen, principal  
Wisconsin Academy

## WA Offers



Earn your Maple Sugar Honor this summer at the Wisconsin Academy booth in the Education Hanger at the International Pathfinder Camporee at Oshkosh! Thousands of Pathfinders will be visiting from all over the world. At the WA booth, they will have the opportunity to earn the Maple Sugar honor, find out about Wisconsin Academy, and taste maple syrup tapped from our own trees on the WA campus. See you there!

## APPLY TODAY!

1. Complete our online application [www.wisacad.org](http://www.wisacad.org)
2. Talk to our registrar, Rosalie Rasmussen (920) 623-3300
3. Discuss finances with our business manager, Darlie Gagatam (920) 623-3300 ext. 302

## REGISTRATION AUG 4 & 18

## Enrique Serna New Dean of Men & Johanna Serna New Assistant to the Business



We are happy to announce that Enrique Serna will be serving as our new Dean of Men. Enrique is an alumnus of Wisconsin Academy, graduating in the class of 2009. He went on to earn a BA in Theology from Andrews University. Enrique served as Assistant Dean of Men this past year.

Enrique and his wife, Johanna, have a passion for spreading the Word of God and bringing kids to Christ. They plan to bring up their future family in the SDA Church. Enrique enjoys sports, outdoor activities, and handyman projects.

We are also happy to welcome Johanna Serna, who will be serving as our new Assistant to the Business Manager and working with development.

Johanna grew up attending the Wisconsin Frederic Adventist church, attended Wisconsin Academy, and graduated from Andrews University. Johanna likes to read, write, cook, crochet, hike, travel, work hard, and spend time with family.

## Investing in Eternity

We know that providing your son or daughter with a Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist education involves one of the most significant investments a family will make. We're here to help make this step as easy as possible. Here are some ways families like yours have made Adventist education a reality.

### Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)

The State of Wisconsin provides funds to financially qualifying families to cover private school tuition. Families may enroll in this program between February 2 and April 20 of each year. Contact Karen White at 608-345-2051.

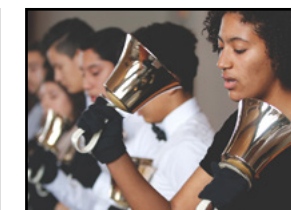
### Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP)

The state of Wisconsin provides funds to financially qualifying families living in Milwaukee to cover private school tuition. Families may enroll in this program on the 1st-20th of any month. Contact Karen White at 608-345-2051.

### Youth Education Scholarship (YES!)

YES! is a three-way financial assistance matching program. The funds a local church gives (up to \$2,000) will be matched by W.A. and Wisconsin Conference, yielding up to \$6,000 per student (\$4,000 for non-WI churches).

## Contact the Business Office at (920) 623-3300 ext. 302



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

Return Service Requested

## Calendar of Events

### August

2-4 Family Camp 2  
4 WA Pre-Registration  
4-6 Hispanic Camp Pitch  
5-7 Teacher In-Service  
7-11 Hispanic Family Camp  
12-17 Oshkosh International  
Camporee  
18 WA Registration  
19 WA Classes Begin  
21 New in Ministry Meeting  
22 Pastors Meetings  
23-25 Public Campus Ministry Retreat  
27 Board of Education  
28 Executive Committee  
30-9/2 WA Home Leave

### September

2 Office Closed  
3-5 Outdoor Education  
6-8 WA Senior Experience  
9-14 WA Week of Prayer  
19-21 WA Science/Art Festival  
20-22 Hispanic Marriage Retreat  
22 WA Sunday School  
25-29 WA Home Leave  
28 Northern District Meeting

### October

4-6 Women's Retreat  
11-13 Pathfinder Leadershop  
23-27 WA Home Leave  
25-27 JAHWI Retreat  
29 Board of Education

30 Executive Committee  
31-11/2 WA Ringfest

### November

1-3 Lay Pastor Cohort  
4 Science Fair at WA  
8-9 Senior Dedication  
10-13 LUC Department Meetings  
11-16 WA Week of Prayer  
17 Hispanic Womens Evangelism  
20 Executive Committee  
27-28 Office Closed - Thanksgiving

## New Hispanic Company Organized in Sparta



**Allissa Wright** is not returning to teach at Three Angels Christian School.

**Titus Naftanaila** pastor of the Madison East Church has accepted a call to pastor the Green Bay District.



**Kiana Roat** is moving and will no longer serve as Head Teacher of Green Bay Adventist Junior Academy.

**Althea Elliott** is moving and will not be teaching at Milwaukee SDA School North campus.

**Prima Glass** is transitioning to Pre-K and Kindergarten teacher at Milwaukee North.

**Iris Rivera** is transitioning from Milwaukee South campus to North campus as grades 3 and 4 teacher.

**Michelle (Willer) Lam** will not be returning to Milwaukee North campus.

**Jacie Reagan** will not be returning as teacher to Milwaukee South campus

**Melissa Chacon** is transitioning from Milwaukee North campus to South campus as Building Principal and grades 5 and 6 teacher.

**Melissa Boryca** is adding teacher responsibilities for grades 5 and 6 at Milwaukee North campus to her current Vice Principal role.

**Jeannie Buchholz** is transitioning from Petersen Elementary to Three Angels Christian School as grades 5 - 8 teacher.