

# Lamplighter — Wisconsin

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March, 2005

## Thank You for Your Faithfulness

The Wisconsin Conference led the Lake Union in tithe increase for 2004 reported Associate Treasurer, Jean Schwark. During 2004, tithe went up 5.45% over the previous year.

An increase in tithe signals the following for an organization:

- The blessing of God is resting upon His people.
- The people of God are being faithful in their covenant relationship with God - (Mal 3:10 KJV) "... Prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing . . . ."
- Our Church can continue to operate its program and fulfill its mission.

How will the increase be used?

Since Elder Hamilton accepted a call to California, there is a reluctance to make long term financial decisions until a new treasurer arrives.

Most likely, the increase will be used to fund our existing operations and shore up depleted operating reserves.

"Over the last few years, the Executive Committee has had to allocate nearly \$750,000 of our operating reserves for special needs, such as Wisconsin Academy. Both of the dormitories needed new furnaces, the roof on girl's dormitory needed to be replaced, and day to day operations required support," reported Jean Schwark.

Perhaps it is better to ask *what won't happen* as a consequence of the increase in tithe . . .

- The Conference is *not* dealing with emergency staff reductions as some of our sister conferences have experienced.
- The Conference is *not* shutting down any schools because of lack of Conference funds for the remuneration of teachers.
- The Conference is *not* calling for emergency offerings and special constituencies *just to sustain operations*.
- The Conference is *not* cutting Camp Meeting back to a long weekend event.
- The Conference is *not* cutting back on seminars, training events, or equipment and supplies for our church's work.
- The Conference is *not* asking employees to take a *rollback* in salaries while the cost of living keeps going up.
- The Conference is *not* fixated on saving money when we should focus on saving souls.

All of these drastic measures could be in our future if we take our eyes off the One who has led us thus far.

God's economy is bountiful to those who take Him at His Word:

(Luke 6:38 NKJV) "'Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same

measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.'"

As we give to God, He gives back to us in abundance. Sometimes, He gives us more than we can imagine: "The master answered, 'You did well. You are a good and loyal servant. Because you were loyal with small things, I will let you care for much greater things. Come and share my joy with me.'"(Matt. 25:21 NCV)

As we press into this new year, we want to thank you for your faithfulness—you have made a difference by doing your part. Even if it is the difference of all the things that will *not* happen in 2005.

James Fox

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### Cause For Rejoicing



Thank you for your faithfulness during 2004. As the reports came to the conference concerning baptisms in the churches and tithe and offerings, there is much for which to praise God.

There were 228 baptisms in the conference this past year. That represents a 3.4% increase when baptisms are compared to the membership of the conference. At the end of the year our membership is 6,773. We began the year with a membership of 6,685, so our net increase was 88 which is a good year for the conference. However, we voted to set an objective to be at 7,000 members by our 2006 constituency meeting. In order to accomplish this, 2005 would need to be an exceptional year. However, we know that each baptism represents a thrilling story

of God's grace. Already wonderful stories are coming in for 2005 of people who are being baptized into Christ and the fellowship of His church. This is what God desires the church to be—a rescue center for lost humanity.

Before leaving the conference, our previous conference treasurer, Brian Hamilton, calculated we would need at least a 3% tithe increase over the previous year in order to balance the budget for 2004. We prayed that this might happen so we would not have to make cuts in the program for the conference. The tithe increase was not 3% it was 5.45%! When this was announced at the office we all gathered and sang the doxology. December was a remarkable month with a 15% increase over the previous year.

Your faithfulness in winning souls and in returning tithe causes rejoicing in heaven. I think of the words in Gospel Workers p. 267, "The approval of the Master is not

given because of the greatness of the work performed, but because of fidelity in all that has been done. It is not the results we attain, but the motives from which we act, that weigh with God. He prizes goodness and faithfulness above all else."

2005 has already seen wonderful activities for God taking place. Evangelism is being planned in many centers. Some churches are using Net 2005 with Doug Batchelor during March. This will be a dynamic series. Several are desiring to launch new church plants—there will be a church planting convention in Milwaukee in March. Each area of the conference has exciting plans for outreach for God this year. We praise Him for His faithful people. Let's rejoice in God's grace as He uses us to accomplish the greatest work on this planet—reconciling people with God.

Don Corkum

## JAHWI Youth Conference 2005: "All For Him"

"He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it." Matthew 10:39.

For those who may not be familiar with the text, the quote may sound like an oxymoron; yet for others, the quote resurrects the sole purpose of our journey in this temporary world. Since the fall of man, God has sought and fought to maintain a covenant with His people; nevertheless, His children must give way for the Creator to work in their lives.

JAHWI: Jóvenes Adventistas Hispanos de Wisconsin, was officially launched in 2000 to exclusively unite and bring Hispanic youth closer to God in various forms of activities and programs. JAHWI's President, Gerardo Medina, and his staff gained full support from surround-

ing churches in the southeast region of Wisconsin in the first big event of 2005.

JAHWI's all-day Youth Conference on Sabbath, February 19<sup>th</sup> at the Milwaukee Junior Academy, focused on a renewal of covenant between God and His children. The theme "All For Him," was fit for the event, bringing spiritual rejuvenation to all who attended. More than 300 guests immeasurably benefited from a program of powerful song services, knockout sermons and sensational dramas.

JAHWI's Youth Conference event was stimulated by immense talent. Pastor David López, from Andrew's University, easily captured his audience's undivided attention sending powerful currents across every listener's heart. Crystal Alba, Edrey Oliveira,

Danny & Leif Cano, a breathtaking praise team from Southwestern Adventist University Texas, placed its crowd on a spiritual high all throughout the day. Drama presentations of Mary Magdalene, performed by Michelle Bordoy, and an ex-delinquent converted Christian, performed by Edgar Martínez, depicted lifestyle changes when these characters gave their all for Christ.

The energy did not stop at the end of day. JAHWI released its last thrust when it undertook a special plan of action. Each youth was given an "All For Him Certificate" that required a signature as a symbolic seal of giving their all for Christ. Each Youth Director supported their youth by also signing the certificate to help guide their youth in the renewal of their cov

**Continued from page 2**

enant with God. Mission accomplished.

ins are underway for next year's Youth Conference in February 2006. Stay tuned for JAHWI's next event consisting of a friendship banquet on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mary Mandujano,  
Racine Spanish Church

## Church Planting Training Event

When: ..... March 18-20

Where: ..... Milwaukee, WI

Who: ..... Tom Evans and The  
..... Texas Conference Team

Purpose: .. Train in Rationale and  
..... Methods for Planting New  
..... Churches in Wisconsin

Contact Kitty Crary for more  
information at 608-241-5235.

## Church Planting

The beginning years of the work of the Adventist church in Wisconsin were characterized by the development of new work. Groups were established in community after community. New people were reached, new communities were entered. As we prepare for the final harvest of God's work on the earth we need to be reaching out to new areas and not just serving existing churches. How can we do this best? The church planting convention in March will provide insights.



## Amazing Love

**The Easter Story as told  
through the eyes  
of Mary Magdalene**

**A Musical and Dramatic  
program  
presented by  
the Green Bay SDA Choir  
and Drama Group**

**Sabbath, March 19  
11:00 AM & 6:00 PM**

**Guests will receive the book  
"At Jesus' Feet"  
by Doug Batchelor**

**Please invite your friends  
and family  
members to join us for this  
special worship program at  
the  
Green Bay SDA Church**



*Pastor Abraham Swamidass  
baptized twin sisters, Janine and  
Jamie Vang. These were two of  
eighteen souls baptized in Madi-  
son Community Church on Febru-  
ary 19 (story on p. 5)*

## Bible Lands and Mission Opportunity

On Sunday, October 23rd of 2005, many of the pastors, staff and lay people of the Wisconsin Conference will embark on an 11 day tour of the Bible lands. The pricing is excellent for this tour—approximately \$1750 (maybe less) depending on the number of participants.

Pastors will be **partially funded** by the conference to participate in this tour because:

- The pastors have elected to forego their January and August meetings
- The General Conference Ministerial Pre-session has been cancelled for this year
- The pastors have a small continuing education grant that will be used for this trip

The fact is that since Chairman Yassir Arafat's death, travel in the middle east has become more secure and the violence in Palestine has dramatically decreased. It is an excellent opportunity for the enrichment of a tour of the lands where Jesus, Paul and Peter walked.

Many of our group will then proceed to an evangelistic mission to Bulgaria (yes, it is on the way) for twelve days.

This opportunity is not for pastors only—perhaps you would like to participate in this tour and evangelistic outreach. You can gain the benefit of group pricing and the company of fellow Christians from Wisconsin.

If you desire to go to on the Bible Lands Tour, contact James Fox [jfox@wi.adventist.org](mailto:jfox@wi.adventist.org) or Kitty Crary [kcrary@wi.adventist.org](mailto:kcrary@wi.adventist.org) for documents explaining the tour. You may call 608-241-5235 for additional information.

James Fox



## Christian Education just became more affordable in Wisconsin!

Wisconsin Academy was recently chosen as an official partner school with Pathways to Success, a division of the Commonwealth Foundation based in Silver Springs, Maryland.

When thinking about Christian education, it is hard not to consider the costs involved. On average, academies across the nation charge anywhere from \$10,000 up to \$15,000 per year.

"Christian education is expensive," says Derral Reeve, Wisconsin Academy principal, "but we have to weigh the cost of not sending our children to our Christian schools."

However, with WA's new partnership with Pathways to Success, the decision to enroll our children where they will receive this Christian education has become much easier. Pathways to Success is a scholarship program that offers funding of up to \$5,000 per year to students who are experiencing boarding school for the first time. To qualify to be part of this new exciting program, you must be a first time boarding school student in grades 9-12 and have a family income at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level. The family adjusted gross income (as determined by line 33 of the 2004 Federal Tax Return) must be at or below the following amounts:\*

- Family of 2 – cap is \$30,000
- Family of 3 – cap is \$31,340
- Family of 4 – cap is \$37,700 (in breakout box)
- Family of 5 – cap is \$44,060
- Family of 6 or more – cap is \$50,420

Considering that over 50 percent

of WA students receive some level of financial assistance, this program should be beneficial to many of our incoming students who might not have been able to attend otherwise. Unfortunately current students are unable to receive funding from this program because they are already in attendance at a boarding school.

"The faculty and staff are extremely excited, not to mention honored, to have this program move onto the WA campus," says Reeve. "Now more students have the opportunity to enjoy the WA experience that has been shared by so many before them!"

Pathways to Success Boarding School Scholarship program was

### Enjoy the WA Experience



The students that are accepted into the Pathways program will be able to reapply every year until they graduate. There is no minimum or maximum number of students that can apply for a scholarship. Participants will have opportunities to meet with Pathways representatives to share their school experiences. There is even a celebration meal with Pathways staff and other award recipients. Additional benefits include having a special birthday recognition and receiving a copy of the PathNotes newsletter featuring students and alumni of the Pathways program.

started in August of 1994 and has awarded approximately 2,000 scholarships. Wisconsin Academy joins twenty-seven other boarding schools throughout the United States in this program.

If you have any questions regarding the Pathways to Success program, please contact Michelle Shufelt, Director of Development at Wisconsin Academy, by calling (920) 623-3300 or e-mail [development@wisacad.org](mailto:development@wisacad.org).

Michelle Shufelt

## Growing Our Church Family

"After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands."  
(Rev 7:9 NIV)

The Lord is reaching people from every nation, tribe, people and language to come to know Him and his message of salvation. This has become a reality at the Madison SDA Community Church.



Janine, Jamie, Chinour, Yang Lee and Chai Vang

On Saturday, February 19, 2005, we had one of the largest baptismal services ever held in the history of the Community Church since its beginnings in the 1980s. On Sabbath afternoon, the church welcomed 18 new members. Of those newly baptized members, fifteen members of two Hmong



Panhia Yang, Jerry Xiong, Lisa Xiong, Fue Yang, Kaying, Kao, Yee Leng, Pader, Daomeng and Payee Vang

families added another international branch to our church family. The Madison Community Church has become a home to many SDAs from many nations, and cultures in the Madison area. Our new Hmong brothers and

sisters are a great addition to our family and we welcome them with open arms.

Arnold Tunis decided to recommit his life to Christ through baptism. For several years, Arnold has been a regular member of our church and has actively helped with many of our ministries. Arnold has been active with our prison and youth ministries. We are ecstatic about his decision to be baptized.



Annette and Gerald Franke, and Arnold Tunis

Finally, but not least, the Franke family also joined our church family in this memorable occasion. Gerald and Annette found the end of their spiritual search journey when they came to our church. After attending several churches and receiving several Bible studies, they made their decision to be "rooted" in our church.

Following the baptism, we celebrated this memorable occasion with a fellowship banquet where we had a chance to share and talk with the new members. It was just a small preview of what awaits us when we join Jesus at the Lamb's wedding feast.

We continue to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help us spread the Word of the Lord in our community and to every nation so we can fulfill the promise and be with our God soon.

...And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. Matt. 24:14

Ana Aquino-Perez

## Cars, Cars, Cars?

This school year has been good for WA vehicle donations and sales . . . until the end of 2004.

Vehicle donations have slowed way down since the first of the new year—I know the new tax law with regard to deduction allowance for donated vehicles has changed, but the need of the students at Wisconsin Academy remains. Pray for and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you to help the students at WA. Their need is great. And if you would like to help by donating a vehicle, boat, or camper, call Floyd Brock at 920-623-2055.

## Tsunami Thoughts

Tsunami—it wasn't too many years ago that I didn't know what the word Tsunami was and now it's a household word. It fits right into the vocabulary like hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires, mud slides, floods, etc. Are the four angels that hold back the winds of strife letting go? We are going to experience more disasters as the end of time comes near. More suffering and loss and people are going to ask, "Where is God in times like this?"

The question isn't where is God at a time like this, but "where are God's people at a time like this?" We are His hands and feet on this earth, in the community where we live. What are we doing to relieve the pain and suffering of His children? Aren't we ALL God's children?

Jesus told us in Matthew 25:40, "Verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Are you involved in your community? That is what He would have us do. If not, look around and see how you can be involved; look for the needs of other people; help where you can! Get involved and experience the joy!

Floyd Brock



## News for the Pews

### ***The Results Are In!***

For the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year the average **student** achievement test scores have increased in Wisconsin Adventist K-10 schools. Each year in November students in grades three through eight are tested with the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. Our student scores are compared to national norms. This year's average was at the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile. This means that our students would score higher than 68% of all students who would take this test nationwide. If the **school** averages for each grade are considered our average would be above the 80th percentile. **Our schools in the conference are in the top 20 % of all schools nationwide.** Although our top priority is to prepare our students for eternity, it is good to know that we are providing them with an excellent foundation for success in this life as well.

### ***Family Life Events***

Family Ministries Leader Training Event, May 1, 2005 with Dr. Len McMillian at Wisconsin Academy.

For more info or to register email [akking@wi.adventist.org](mailto:akking@wi.adventist.org) or call the conference office (608-241-5235, ext 104).

Pastors/Church Boards: If you do not have a Family Life Leader in your church you will want to elect one before May 1 so that individual can attend this valuable instruction.

Special Family Life features are being planned for Campmeeting (June 17 – 25, 2005)

Adventist Family Conference, July 21-24, 2005 at Andrews University featuring Dr. Barry Black.

For more info or to register, go to <http://www.adventistfamilyministries.org> or contact Aileen

King at the conference office.

Couples Retreat, December 2-4, 2005 with Tom and Alane Waters. Watch the Lampletter for further details.

### ***Women's Ministries events:***

Born to Soar, Green Bay WM 4<sup>th</sup> annual S.N.O.W. Retreat, February 27, 2005, 8:00 a.m breakfast; 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. program

For more info contact Becky Kraft, [bkraft@goodshepherdservices.org](mailto:bkraft@goodshepherdservices.org) or 920-833-2648

Empowerment Weekend with Gail Krawczyk at Camp Wakonda, April 29 – May 1, 2005. Brochures have been sent to your church. For more info contact Susan Boon, [boon@toast.net](mailto:boon@toast.net) or 262-835-4914

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Time of Refreshing Women's Retreat at Chula Vista, Wisconsin Dells with Shelly Quinn, October 28-30, 2005.

Brochures will be available at campmeeting.

### ***Want A Campmeeting Cabin?***

Two new cabins will be built at Wakonda in time for Campmeeting 2006. If you would like to jump to the head of the Cabin waiting list you could cover the cost of that construction (\$6,000 for a 2-family unit) and use it rent free for 3 years (plus a charitable deduction). Contact Aileen King at the conference office for more specifics if you are interested.

### ***Wisconsin Academy's First Open House***

Wisconsin Academy opened its doors on December 19, 2004, and invited 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents to learn first hand about WA life. Twenty prospective high school students attended the Open House.

As a result of the Open House,

Sam Ford, who recently moved from Nebraska to Rice Lake, WI, joined the freshmen class for the second semester of the 2004/2005 school year.

This event gave students and parents detailed information to help in the decision-making process to attend WA. Attendees met with Treasurer Paul Johnson about available financial assistance and talked with the registrar about credit transfers, possible class schedules, and other issues.

Students were also introduced to the Passbook program. This program gives students the opportunity to earn up to \$950 to apply to their bill during their first year at Wisconsin Academy. Potential students have the opportunity to earn money through, attending Academy Day, Music Fest, Science Fair, Youth Rally and coming to visit the school with their parents. They also can earn money by providing us with copies of awards they have received throughout their elementary years. If you would like more information about the program or to receive a passbook please contact Michelle Shufelt in the Development Office at 920-623-3300 ext. 18 or email [development@wisacad.org](mailto:development@wisacad.org).

### ***Men's Ministry***

Madison East joins the men's group revival that is happening around Wisconsin and across the nation. At 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 16, approximately 40 men gathered at the Madison church school gymnasium for food, fellowship, and fitness.

"The amount of food was unreal" said Bruce Davis. "There were four types of pancakes, oatmeal, granola, scrambled eggs, milk, soy milk, fruit juice, not to mention all

the fresh fruits."

As some men finished preparing breakfast others played basketball engaged in discussion as



Greg Allen, M.D.,  
PhD.

light-hearted as the football playoffs or as serious as spiritual growth. After breakfast Greg Allen, a church member who has his MD, PhD. and is currently doing oncology research at

UW Madison, challenged those assembled to greater health and temperance practices. His presentation is the first in a series on health in which he hopes to share the spiritual as well as the physical blessing of good health practices.

The spiritual role that men should fill has become unclear in modern thought and practice. It seems that men have often fallen and gotten stuck in one of two ditches when they pursue authentic spirituality. Men have either become so "macho" that they rarely show a soft heart for God or they have become so "sensitive" that the fire, passion, and drive that so often typified Christ's ministry is entirely lost on them.

The male leaders of tomorrow are taking their cues from the leaders of today. The church needs men who will stand against the flawed backdrop of male masculinity endorsed by Hollywood. An authentic masculine mystique is not easily attained on our own – we need to come together as men to clarify our roles and encourage

one another to follow in the footsteps of our Master.

### Church Social/Social Church

At 10 o'clock Sunday morning, January 16, sixty people converged on *Boulders Climbing Gym* in Madison for church renewal, church growth, and a whole lot of fun. The climbing gym is only one of numerous events that the church has planned since Drs. James and Grace Flood have agreed to become the social committee leaders. Other events have included: baseball games, laser tag, scavenger hunts, game



nights, small group potlucks, and a super bowl party at a local hotel with a big screen and pool.

Church socials are important because they give the church the opportunity to become family. In a family we don't just have worship together—we laugh and cry together as well. Church socials teach us how to minister to the whole person – warts and all.

A ministry that fails to do this will fail to create a balanced and vibrant Christian. When we set up ministries that attract people who normally don't attend or have never attended church, we gain an opportunity to build friendships – and friendships are the basis of everything we do.

Our time at *Boulders Climbing Gym* was one of the most important events that we have done this year because fifteen to twenty percent of those who attended were either people who hadn't

been to church in a long time or had never come at all. This was the first experience they had with our church and it was a good one. They learned that our church isn't weird and that Christianity can be fun. We hope that this positive experience will become a healthy



base for evangelistic endeavors in the future as the church embraces the time honored principle:

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, "Follow Me."—The Ministry of Healing, p. 143.

Jonathan Larssen

### Red Hat Society

First Sunday of camp meeting is our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Christian Women's



Red Hat Ladies Plus 1 gather for food, fun and fellowship

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**Continued from page 7**

Red Hat Society potluck at noon in Cedar Lodge.

A woman who had just turned 50 wrote an inspiring poem—*When I'm Old I Shall Wear Purple*. It is a light-hearted look at aging. She invited a number of her friends to her home for a party stipulating that those who were 50 or older must wear a decorated red hat and purple clothes. Under 50, a pink hat and lavender clothes.

For those who are looking for a unique way of Christian fellowship, plan to attend this potluck. Bring a dish that begins with the first letter of your name. Invite your friends.

Our group sponsors Christian Schools in Wisconsin. Last year the Frederic School was chosen for our project. We are still praying for the Frederic school.

A \$2.00 donation is being asked.

Any questions, please call Sue Toye at 920-432-9185 or Donna Aust at: 920-623-9543



**Mission Life  
In the Far  
East**

Jenni Ewers is a missionary in Seoul, Korea. It is a given fact that a mission trip's ultimate goal is to save lives, but for Jenni Ewers, that goal took on an entirely new meaning during her participation in a mission trip to the Philippines this past December.

Jenni, a member of the Madison Community Church and 2000 graduate of Wisconsin Academy, is an English teacher/missionary who has been serving in South Korea since last October with the SDA Language Institute. She had the opportunity to travel with a group of 35 members of her South Korean church family over the

Christmas break for a mission trip and adventure to the Philippines.

On the afternoon of Christmas Day, members of the group traveled to a beach area—there were 11 young people who had never seen the ocean, so they were excited to see the vast expanse of water. The warm afternoon sun enticed a few of them into the water. After awhile, Jenni, who was wading near shore, realized that three of the young people had gotten out a bit far, and she shouted to them to come back towards shore. She thought they could not hear her so she started moving out towards them.

As she reached them, she realized they hadn't followed her instructions because there was a strong undertow—the three children, a boy, 13, and two girls, 12 and 10, who were not strong swimmers, had been struggling to simply keep their heads above water.

As Jenni approached them, all three lunged for her, and pushed her under. Although she is not certified as a lifeguard, Jenni knows about water safety and she immediately disengaged herself from their grasp. She sent up an urgent prayer for wisdom and strength, because she realized she needed a miracle right then and there.

She started her rescue efforts with the youngest of the three, pushing the girl towards shore. When Jenni felt the 10-year-old was close enough and out of danger, she swam back to the two others. Jenni began to tire—she realized there would be no way she would have the energy to make two more trips, so she began pulling both children, urging them to kick as she pulled and worked diligently to time their efforts to coincide with the increasingly large wave swells. Eventually, she was forced to make the 13 year old boy swim on his own.

When they all finally reached shore, the three children were crying uncontrollably and all of them were shaking with exhaustion and coughing out seawater. A substantial crowd had gathered to watch the heroics, but no one had come in to help. It was only later that the mission group learned that the beach they had visited is famous for being a good surfing beach and a deadly one for swimming. At least one tourist drowns at the beach every year.

Jenni is grateful that she was able to be someone God could use to save lives and gives Him all the credit for helping her do it. She's "swallowed enough seawater to last a lifetime" and is hopeful she won't have to do it again, but she also prays for a heart that is willing to do whatever God asks her to do.

Tola Ewers

**Experience the Power  
Meetings Bear Fruit**



Pastor Carlos Ancheta baptizes Willie Buckner after the Experience the Power Meetings at the Racine SDA Church. The Sabbath truth became plain to Willie and he joyfully followed Jesus in baptism.



## Wausau Church is Eminently Blessed by Eminent Domain

Every Sunday you can hear the sound of people working on the new Adventist Church in Wausau.

Our old church had to be torn down to make room for a new road. They call that eminent domain. The law says that when the government takes your property by eminent domain, it has to pay you fair market value.

After much negotiation and discussion, Marathon county offered to pay for a new church and for resettlement costs for the church and the school.

The church bought ten acres just two miles from the city with a beautiful view of Rib Mountain. Then the church decided that if the members did a lot of the work themselves, they could have a lot bigger church:

new church, the school has its own class room and the fellowship hall is big enough for a gym.

- In the old church, the Beginner/Kindergarten room was also the mother's room—The new church has a dedicated mother's room.
- The bathrooms were small and cold in the old church—In the new church, they are roomy and warm.

heat and 10 degree cold putting up siding. Bill Bossert and Ken Klug did the lion's share of the mudding and sanding. They probably have white lung disease. Dean Thomas has spent more time on his knees in the church than anyone—putting in ceramic tile. We are still working on the gym and kitchen. Although it has been hard working every Sunday, the fellowship has been good. Finances have become tight. If you would like to donate time, money or material contact

Bill Bossert at 241-7722.

The school wing was finished first. School started on August 30. We celebrated the first Sabbath in our new church with a ribbon cutting ceremony on December 4. All of the members of the church and many visitors were present. The grand opening will be on May 14, 2005. We will have a baptism

and a special service. Along with a new location, a new building, and a new attitude, we have a new name, The Shepherd's House—An Adventist Community of Love.

Adele Marsh



Church School children bring songs of praise in first service in the new Wausau Church on December 4, 2004

- The old sanctuary seated 132 people while the new sanctuary will seat 200.
- The old church had only three children's Sabbath school divisions—the new church has five Sabbath school divisions: Beginner, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior, and Earliteen/Youth.
- In the old church, two adult classes met in the sanctuary and neither could hear very well—In the new church, there are two adult SS rooms.
- In the old church, the school was the fellowship hall—In the

All in all the new church is a little more than twice the size of our old church.

We broke ground in September 2003. We hired Krull Construction to build the shell, do the plumbing, electrical, and HVAC and we did the rest. The shell was done in bitter cold in December and January. We started work in February. The first thing we did was chip ice out of the building. We've come a long way since then. Interior framing, drywall, mudding and taping, texturing and painting, we've done it all. Bob Sachse, Mark Krueger, Ron Krueger, and Tom Wirtz worked in 90 degree

# Wisconsin Camp Meeting—June 17-25, 2005

## Theme: “Transformed in Christ”



*Bill Ochs is the Pastor of Madison East and Oakland Churches. He will start the week in the 6:30 a.m. service.*



*Delmar Austin is Pastor of the Green Bay Church. He will finish the week in the early morning service.*



*Walter Wright is the President of the Lake Union Conference. He will be our evening and Sabbath morning speaker on the opening weekend.*



*Mike Tucker is the new speaker for Faith for Today while pastoring his 1600 member church in Texas. He will be our evening speaker in the mid-week.*



*Shawn Boonstra is Speaker for It is Written. Shawn is a native Canadian and a vibrant speaker. He will be evening and Sabbath morning speaker for our closing weekend.*

## Wonderful Daily Seminars



*Don Morgan is a Professor in the Department of Health and Human Performance at Middle Tennessee State University. He will lead out in our health seminar.*



*Stanley Hickerson is the Site Superintendent of Historic Adventist Village. He will be giving presentations on our Adventist Heritage.*



*Randy Maxwell is an author, international prayer and revival conference speaker, and founder of If My People Pray Ministries. His focus will be on prayer.*



*Ranko Stefanovic is Professor of Religion and Biblical Language at Andrews University. He loves making the Bible come alive especially for young adults.*



*Abraham Swamidass is an ordained minister and coordinator/director of Family Ministries. His focus will be on Family Life.*

### Camp Meeting—Locating Department Note

Almost all campsites have been reserved for Camp Meeting 2005. If you have made a reservation and find that you can not attend, please contact Aileen King [akking@wi.adventist.org](mailto:akking@wi.adventist.org) at the Wisconsin Conference office (608 241-5235) as soon as possible—others would be glad to reserve your vacant site.

The Campsite Cancellation Policy is:

- ✓ Full refund of deposit for cancellations made before May 5
- ✓ Loss of 50% of deposit for cancellations made on or after May 6
- ✓ Loss of 100% of deposit for cancellations made after May 26

See you at Camp Meeting!



## Unfinished Business in Belize

What began over a year ago, as a dream for Armando and Maribel Ramirez could become an exciting reality this year! The senior class of 2005 at Wisconsin Academy plans to do all it can to keep the Ramirez's dream alive—that of providing a new Adventist elementary school for the children in Punta Gorda, Belize, Central America.

Armando Ramirez and his wife Maribel, a young Adventist couple in southern Belize, conceived of building a model school, complete with kitchen, computer lab, library, and sufficient classroom space to provide an excellent Adventist elementary education for the children in Punta Gorda.

Last year's senior class began the project by laying the foundation and block walls for the first wing of the school. Today, it stands a lovely, incomplete structure of blocks and cement begging to be completed so the children of Punta Gorda can have a place suitable for learning about the world around them, and most importantly, about

the incredible love of Jesus! The class of 2005 plans to continue and hopefully complete the first phase of the building project so that classes can begin this fall.

The class and its sponsors have raised the funds for trip expenses, and some of the construction materials needed, but will not be able to complete the building without further assistance.

If God has blessed you, and you



*The hopes and dreams for a model school for Punta Gorda lie in this foundation*

want to be a part of helping the children of Punta Gorda, please send a donation to Wisconsin Academy before March 7, 2005. Checks should be made out to Wisconsin Academy. Please indicate that you want your contribution to go towards the Belize

Mission Trip. A tax deductible receipt will be sent to you.

Here is a list of needed materials that you can help to provide:

- Children's clothing to be handed out in surrounding villages (Punta Gorda is a very poor area)
- VBS craft materials
- Roof trusses: \$2500.00
- Cement for floors \$5400.00
- Zinc roof sheets \$3000.00
- Bathroom fixtures \$600.00
- Doors/Windows \$2500.00
- Total \$14,000.00

Please pray for WA's seniors and their sponsors as they plan and prepare for a mission trip to Punta Gorda, Belize on March 7-17, 2005. Thank you for your prayers and support!

WA's Class of 2005

Steve Brown, Head sponsor

Michelle Shufelt, sponsor

Abdy Vence, sponsor

### Wisconsin Academy Church Hosts Marriage Seminar

"Adam, formed in the very image of God, had needs that could only be met by a wife," said presenter Jerry Connell during the opening session of the Marital Intimacy Seminar. "The greatest desire of God Himself is one He also created in us: Intimacy. A deep sense of closeness—oneness, to deeply know and be known by another human being." It is a need uniquely provided for in the covenant relationship of marriage.

Beginning Friday evening, and concluding just before 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, Connell held six seminar-style sessions for couples. He promised that if they "trusted the process" it could take even the best of marriages to levels they did not know existed.

Connell, a pastor, author, and Marriage and Family Therapist from Lincoln, Nebraska boasts an impressive list of degrees and credentials. His seminar relies heavily on scriptural principles as well as personal and clinical experience.

Out of town attendees stayed in guest rooms in the girls dorm, and meals were provided by members of the Wisconsin Academy Church. For the 33 couples in attendance, some from as far away as Minnesota, this was only "part one." Connell will return to present part two of his seminar the weekend of April 8-10.

*Daun Brock, Wisconsin Academy Church Communication Director*

The LampLetter is the Newsletter of the Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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Your comments and submissions are welcomed:

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jfox@wi.adventist.org

# WA's First Alumni Golf Classic

Sponsored by McNeilus Steel out of Dodge Center, MN.

Wisconsin Academy's first Golf Tournament will be held Sunday, April 17, 2005, at Kestral Ridge Country Club in Columbus. The cost will be \$75 a player, which includes 18 holes with a golf cart, two meals, a golf shirt and goody bag. The money raised will benefit the Worthy Student Fund.

The tournament is not just for Alumni of Wisconsin Academy. Anyone who believes in Christian education and loves to play golf should participate. If you would like to be a player, please contact the Development office for a registration form.

This fundraising opportunity takes place during the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisconsin Academy Alumni Weekend and will be a regular feature of future alumni weekends. The Worthy Student Fund provides funding for current students to attend the academy. It helps to pay for their tuition, room and board, and other incidentals. Over 50 percent of our current students receive financial assistance.

If you have questions or are interested in being a sponsor please contact the Development Office 920-623-3300 ext. 18 or [development@wisacad.org](mailto:development@wisacad.org). Across the page are the various levels of sponsorships.

Double Eagle Club \$10,000

Title Sponsorship Level

- (3) Complimentary foursomes
- Company Logo on chest of shirt along with golf logo
- Premier recognition as title sponsor in program
- Display company banner at tournament
- Signage on prominent holes
- Option to include promotional items in goody bags

Eagle Club \$5,000

- (2) Complimentary foursomes
- Premier recognition at the event and in the tournament program
- Display company banner at tournament
- Option to include promotional items in goody bags

Birdie Club \$2,500

- (1) Complimentary foursomes
- Recognition at the event and in tournament
- Option to include promotional items in goody bags

Putter Club \$1,000

- Recognition at the event and in tournament program
- Display company banner at tournament

Tee Club \$300

- Name on tee sign at one of the eighteen holes (excluding hole-in-one holes)
- Recognition in tournament program

Cart Club \$100

- Signage on a designated cart
- Recognition in tournament program

Goody Bag Club In-Kind

- Recognition in tournament program

Prize Club In-Kind

- Recognition in tournament program

Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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