

Lamp Letter

News for our Wisconsin church family

November/December 1996

Seasons Greetings From The Conference Office Staff



Standing left to right: Rick Claus, Jackie Saunders, Steve Gallimore, Richard Habenicht, Phyllis Corkum, Don Corkum, Brian Hamilton, Dale Ziegele, Herb Wrate. Seated left to right: Alice Priser, Aileen Patton, Dianne Ondrejka, Kitty Crary, Diane Hamilton, Sharon Plummer



Diane Hamilton is the new secretary for Herb Wrate in Education and Richard Habenicht for Stewardship.



Brian Hamilton was elected treasurer of the Wisconsin Conference at a special meeting of the Nominating Committee and Conference Executive Committee on November 20. Brian will replace Ken Wright who with his wife Ruth, accepted a call to Pakistan earlier this year.



Aileen Patton is the new secretary for Dale Ziegele in Youth and Church Ministries and Richard Habenicht for Trust Services.



Rick Claus formerly of the Gulf States Conference is the new ABC manager replacing Roy Hunt. Roy accepted an invitation from Pacific Press to manage the Texas and Arkansas/Louisiana ABC's.

Renewing The Covenant

It is a meeting I shall not forget! On November 25, pastors gathered at the Conference Office and shared stories from Net '96. These stories told of how God reached out and touched the lives of hundreds of people through this evangelistic outreach. We praise God for the scores of new people who now fellowship with us; at the time of the pastor's meeting, 65 people had been baptized in our conference through Net '96 with many more in baptismal classes. As these new members come into our fellowship may they be inspired with our faithfulness to God.

Since December is stewardship emphasis month in our churches what a wonderful time this is to renew our covenant with God to be faithful stewards. As friends of Jesus, we show our love and loyalty to Him when we are faithful in our time, talents and possessions. One important area of our stewardship is in tithes and offerings. We live in a world which inspires selfishness by tempting us to fill our homes and lives with an abundance of things. Jesus' plan to have us be stewards of His goods teaches us unselfishness. It also bonds us to Him as we work in partnership with Him.

The greatest gift we can give our Lord this season is to honor and glorify Him. We honor Jesus by being generous with him in our time, talents and possessions. Let us renew our covenant this December by being faithful stewards of God's goods.

--Don Corkum, President



Don Corkum



Pastor David Hoover is pictured at a recent baptismal celebration with his candidates from three of the four churches in his district. Back row left to right: Charles Ryder, Beloit; Mark & Kevin Westfall, Milton; Middle row left to right: Mark Bickle, Janesville; Devin Elmer, Milton; Joyce Fritz, Milton and Ruth Meyers, Beloit; Front row left to right: Michelle Danaher, Milton; Callista Kersten, Janesville; Barbara Danaher, Milton; Erica Frie and Jamie Danaher, Milton; Kim Baker, Beloit.

NET '96 STORIES

A man who attended the **DISCOVERIES IN PROPHECY** meetings at the **Green Bay Church** was at work when a police officer came up to him. The officer asked him if he knew a man named Mike. He said Mike was wanted by the police. The man said, "Yes, I know him. He works here." The officer said thank you and left.

The man himself just happened to be Mike! He felt that God had given him a wake up call. Mike has since made all things right with the authorities and was baptized on November 9.

Another man was driving home from work one evening when he saw his wife turn into the church driveway. He said to himself, "I wonder where Ann is going?" He followed her, and upon asking, learned that she was going to see what **BEYOND 2000** was all about. He decided to join her, so they both went into the meeting together. They liked the program and are now attending a **REVELATION SPEAKS** follow up seminar at the church.



Dorothy, Kathleen and Roger Amick were baptized in Lake Menominee on a cold, snowy, windy Sabbath morning, November 9. Their hearts were warm with joy as they followed the example of their Lord. They were introduced to the Adventist message by Pastor Clint Meharry and were baptized by Pastor Art Miller.



Candy Moore was baptized on November 9. She was contacted during a community survey and studied the Bible for six months with Philip Miller, Bible worker for the Monominee Church. She was eager to learn new truths. However, for a time she was discouraged by friends in continuing. She left off studying. She became troubled about discontinuing the studies and then contacted Philip Miller and resumed her studies. She attended the **DISCOVERIES IN PROPHECY** seminar and made her decision to be baptized. Candy is now active with Bible studies and community surveys for future Bible studies.

We are thankful for all the people who donated their time and skills for the Net '96 meetings. We pray that the people who have attended and still haven't made decisions for Christ, will make positive decisions for Him soon.



Pastor Marvin Clark, Green Bay is ready to present baptismal certificates and gifts from the church to four of the twelve people who were baptized so far from Net '96 meetings. Left to right: Michele Barron, Rick Cierczak, Pastor Clark, Daryl and Lori Lanaville.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Five Town Hall meetings have been planned for 1997. These are for reports and getting input about the conference program and academy.

Milwaukee	February 1
Madison	February 2
Eau Claire	February 22
Hispanic	March 1
Green Bay	April 5

Except for the Madison meeting, all Town Hall Meetings are scheduled for the evening. Seminars are planned for the afternoon as follows:

Start time:	3:00 pm
First Session Seminar	3:30-4:25 pm
Second Session Seminar	4:30-5:30 pm
Supper	5:30-6:15 pm
Town Hall Meeting	6:15-8:00 pm
Madison Town Hall Meeting	10:00 am

These are the Seminar topics that have been planned:

Training for School Board Members - Herb Wrate

Getting Decisions - Richard Habenicht

Building Relationships - Dale Ziegele

Carefronting "A Christian Approach to Resolving Conflict" - Don Corkum

Sermon Preparation - Brian Hamilton

Current Events in Fulfillment of Bible Prophecy - Steve Gallimore

MEN'S RETREAT

Second annual Men's Retreat, **BRINGING MEANING TO LIFE**, January 17-19, 1997 at Wakonda. Our guest speaker will be Dick Duerksen, Vice President for Creative Ministries and Communication for the Columbia Union, pastor, author and editor. Dick has rich background in Youth and Family Ministry. He is the author of a new devotional magazine for men, *Divine Appointments*. For further information and application, contact the Conference office.

TITHE GAINS

Treasury is happy to report a solid tithe gain of 3.14% through the end of October. We thought you might be interested in a brief report of the total tithes and offerings received to date.

	1996	1995	+/-
Tithe	\$3,341,708	\$3,239,879	+3.14%
Local Church	1,572,180	1,503,745	+4.55%
World Missions	191,403	200,213	-4.41%
Misc. General Conference Offerings	45,016	63,950	-29.61%
Wisconsin Conference Offerings	<u>223,524</u>	<u>187,418</u>	<u>+19.26%</u>
	\$5,373,831	\$5,195,205	+3.45%

If the tithe equates to 10% of income, the total giving by Wisconsin church members equals 16.06% of income.

Congratulations



George Crumley, General Conference Associate Treasurer is awarding Level A Accreditation to Richard Habenicht and Brian Hamilton. Vern Alger, Lake Union Conference Trust Director is also pictured.

TO THE UKRAINE WITH LOVE



Berton Crary

God lays the burden of the needs of the work on various people's hearts. Berton Crary has a keen interest in helping the people in the Ukraine. The background of his interest in the work in eastern Europe began with participation in an evangelistic campaign in Moscow. He let the General Conference know that he would be willing to organize a crusade in a place of their choosing. They chose the Kmelneski area in eastern Ukraine and the result was a successful crusade of about 150 baptisms.

Berton has kept close to the people of that area and has provided help for them in clothing and medical supplies. On December 10 another container full of clothing and medical supplies will arrive. The container will deliver about 1200 boxes of clothing with about 30,000 articles of clothing. A substantial amount of medical supplies will also be delivered.

Don Corkum, Wisconsin Conference President, has an interest in this area as well. In May, 1995, he conducted pastoral training programs there. He became acquainted with the pastor of Kmelneski and many of the new members. He understands the tremendous need that exists.

Many people from Wisconsin have contributed to this project. They have sent clothing and some have donated hours of labor to get the clothing ready. Berton and his wife, Joyce, have put in many hundreds of hours to get this container ready. Young people from the Petersen Elementary School in Columbus came and helped load the container.

The Crary's are planning to send future container loads to this and perhaps other areas of need. They will be relocating their base of operation to available space at Wisconsin Academy. Your clothing and volunteer labor will be greatly appreciated to make these projects a continuing success. For further information contact Berton at: 3274 Brandt Road, Hwy AB, McFarland, WI 53558 or phone (608) 838-7565.

WISCONSIN'S STANDING IN THE NAD

There are 58 local conferences in the NAD. The Wisconsin Conference is No. 47 in size of membership. Are you surprised there are 17 conferences that are smaller than us? Our total tithes as of August 1996 was \$2,658,409.68 which ranked 38th in the NAD (obviously nine rankings higher than our membership), with a per capita of \$442.11 which was 15th in NAD. That is 32 rankings higher than our membership. Wisconsin Adventists contributed to the World Mission funds \$151,649.38 which was 42nd in the NAD with the per capita of \$25.22 which was third in the NAD. Our conference is a leader. The Wisconsin Conference is a strong financial supporter of the worldwide mission of the Adventist Church. Let us praise God together for these accomplishments.



Shawna Bricker right and Raymond Habenicht top; Petersen Elementary School, Columbus are loading the container bound for the Ukraine.

Calendar

DECEMBER

- 13 WA Christmas Concert
- 15 ABC Open
- 24 Office Closed at Noon
- 25 Office Closed
- 31 Office Closed at Noon

JANUARY

- 1 Office Closed
- 12-15 Pastor/Teacher Meetings, Madison Church
- 17-19 Men's Retreat, Wakonda
- 20 Martin Luther King Day, Office Closed

The LAMP LETTER is produced bimonthly as a report to the members of the Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Please address all correspondence to the Communication Department.

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