

# Lamp Letter

News for our Wisconsin church family

October/November 1996

## Jesus, Summer, Fun & Kids!

What thrilling stories are being told about the activities of summer '96 here in Wisconsin! Thousands converged to the Camp Go Seek campground for the annual campmeeting. A big thank you to all those making the children and youth programs a success. God's presence could also be felt in the main tent with inspiring music, biblical preaching and meaningful sharing.

Five summer camps followed campmeeting—**Blind camp, Adventure, Junior, Tween, Teen** and in September the **Outdoor School**. About 440 campers experienced a well planned and dynamic program by the youth leadership team. This is a tremendous evangelistic program when it is recognized that one-half of these campers are not Adventists. Many of these young people made a decision for Christ that will positively influence their future.

Throughout our conference this summer 29 **Vacation Bible Schools** were conducted. The VBS programs inspired children through this year's theme, *Jesus, Kids in the Kitchen*. Follow up to these programs can result in tremendous soul winning contacts especially for Net '96.

Those who attended the **Literature Evangelist's Retreat** at Camp Go Seek know the power of the literature program. This summer eight academy students were involved in the sale of magabooks. This experience is life changing for our youth and sowing seeds of truth through literature will bear much fruit for the great Harvest.



Soaked and smiling—a refreshing break for primaries and staff during campmeeting.

During Labor Day weekend the **Alive Retreat** for young adults had ten participants for a time of spiritual renewal. Although there were not large numbers present, it was a very meaningful and worthwhile event.

Does your church have a young adult ministry?

This can be a powerful group in your congregation. What about a ministry for Adventist

students at a university in your area? If you are a university town and want more information on how to start this ministry, please contact the youth department.

As I think of all the tremendous ministries that have taken place this past summer I say, "Praise God." This issue of the Lampletter is designed to highlight many events that I have referred to in this article.

Maranatha!

— Don Corkum, President

## Wisconsin ABC to be Owned and Managed by Pacific Press

On October 2 the Wisconsin Conference considered and approved a proposal by Pacific Press to own and manage the Wisconsin ABC beginning January 1, 1997. Pacific Press has been managing ABCs in other areas for many years and has a proven track record. The service to the field will remain the same with the ABC at the conference headquarters and the bookmobile making its usual trips throughout the field. It is felt that with the resources of Pacific Press in management, leadership, marketing and finance, quality service to our field is better assured. With the Hunts leaving for Texas, a new manager will be selected soon.



The Alive Retreat where Young Adults participated in a meaningful time of fellowship and spiritual growth as well as fun in and on the water of Miracle Lake.

## Wakonda

**W**akonda, where fun is Jesus you and me. Jumper, jumping!! The "blob" came to visit camp this year and stayed. This new experience in swimming was a splashing success. Horseback riding, waterskiing and Sabbath camp council under tall shading oaks were just a few of the activities enjoyed by campers. The defining moment for many of the campers was the Passion Week re-enactment by staff.

## Vacation Bible School

**F**orty-seven children attended the **Fox Valley** church first ever Vacation Bible School. Ask the children what they enjoyed the most at the "**Jesus, Kids in the Kitchen**" program and they would probably tell you it was "Lickety Split," the puppet lion.



*Jerry Miller and R.J. Miller enjoy kitchen crafts at the Baraboo Church. (R.J. is not an Adventist.)*

The **Baraboo** church has not had a Vacation Bible School for many years. This year 25 "little chefs" enjoyed the program. One non-Adventist mother commented that "her daughter had attended one other Vacation Bible School with over 100 children. But she liked the Adventist VBS best because of the smaller class size and one-on-one attention given her daughter."

## Outdoor School

**M**ore than seventy students and staff from three schools attended the first ever **Outdoor Education** Program at **Wakonda** the week of September 23-27. The classes were especially designed to take advantage of the natural setting of the camp. Activities also included a time for music and worship. This was no holiday time for the teachers as they taught classes, acted as supervisors, dorm deans and cooks.

## WA Starts Its 47th year

**F**orty-seven years ago (1949) **Wisconsin Academy** opened its doors for the first time with a great dream of the future. The dream was that WA would inspire and train youth to a devotion to Christ and His service. WA has been doing this for 46 years. As a new school year begins that dream is very much alive with the leadership, staff and students.

Highlights already this year include a Prayer Group Leader's Workshop at Dakota Adventist Academy in Bismarck, ND for 11 WA staff and students during September home leave. The group was led by Chaplain Oliver Archer.

How are the young people going to use these skills at WA and at their home church? "The Dakota Workshop taught me how to be God's witness and I believe God will continue to work in my life," says Delcy Gillen. The group will receive first hand experience in leading other students in prayer and Bible study during Fall Week of Spiritual Emphasis, October 7-12 and will also present the Week of Prayer at Milwaukee Jr. Academy.



*Students enjoying class during Outdoor School at Wakonda.*

## Farewell

**R**oy and Earlenne Hunt will leave Wisconsin October 10 for new responsibilities in Texas. Roy will be the regional manager for the Texas/Louisiana/Arkansas Adventist Book Centers under new ownership of Pacific Press. Earlenne will be an accountant for the book centers.

Ken and Ruth Wright leave Wisconsin October 13 to attend a mission institute at Andrews University. They will leave for Pakistan in early December, where Ken will be union treasurer.

## Church Buildings Refurbished for Net '96

“What a wonderful difference the new siding makes,” according to Dan Adels, pastor of the **Hayward Church**. The church is a beautiful but older structure. Years and weather had taken their toll. The time had come for the entire church to have a new face.

A firm commitment was made to Net '96 and now something had to be done with the building.

The 26 members confronted a double financial challenge of purchasing Net '96 equipment and supplies along with remodeling the church's exterior. By working together and by God's grace they are ready to join the worldwide church's greatest outreach. They are one of the 5,000 Net '96 churches and their building has a new look!



*The Hayward Church with its new look!*

## Milwaukee Central Spanish

Recent remodeling to the interior of the **Milwaukee Central Spanish** church has made a beautiful sanctuary for Sabbath morning worship. The outside needed changing too, with asphalt shingles that were old and deteriorating. The congregation did not want to go into Net '96 with the outside looking worn so they met the challenge of residing the church. When Net '96 arrives the visible part of the church will be completed and the rest will follow soon thereafter.

## Leading up to Net '96

Pastors and lay people have joined to bring the love of Jesus to their communities through Net '96. Hard work and sacrificial giving have been the hallmarks of this preparation.

Four training sessions were conducted in different regions of the conference by the Wisconsin Conference office staff. From 600-800 Net '96 leaders were trained in various functions by these sessions. Besides these sessions, training and organizational meetings were conducted in churches by pastors and laypeople.

Close to 300,000 **Discover Bible School** cards were sent out. Seventeen hundred cards have been returned requesting Bible studies. Churches have contacted people on their interest lists. Handbills have been sent to over 800,000 homes which represent about one half of Wisconsin households.

All this preparation combined has challenged our joint abilities and resources. However, the hardest part of Net '96 is still ahead. The real object of our effort is to bring people to Jesus and disciple them into our fellowship. This requires three things:

1. That we are kind, loving and understanding of the spiritual struggles these people will have.
2. That we follow these interests through the meetings in an organized way so they can become part of God's remnant church.
3. That we work hard to keep them in the church after the meetings by looking at our church programming, by assuring that they have friends in the church, and by praying for them on a regular basis.

**Would you agree that it is thrilling  
to work for Jesus?**

*~\*~\* Welcome ~\*~\**



*Mike Russell is the new ministerial intern for Durand. Mike & his wife, Becky, are from Collegedale, TN.*



*Mike & Kimberly Hansen are from Keene, TX. Mike will serve as the new ministerial intern for Milwaukee.*

## Financial Report Jan-August

	1996	1995	Increase
Tithe	\$2,658,410	\$2,526,545	5.22%
Missions	\$ 151,649	\$ 154,493	-1.84%
WI Budget	\$ 131,001	\$ 127,582	2.68%

## Wisconsin Spanish Campmeeting

August 23-25 was a dynamic weekend at Camp Go Seek with about 250 Spanish-speaking members gathered for their annual campmeeting. The guest speaker was Armando Miranda, president of the North Mexico Union. His messages in sermon and song were powerful and appreciated by the attendees.

Wisconsin now has six Spanish churches and companies with a rapidly growing membership. Many of these groups will be participating in Net '96.



Pastor Orlando Vazquez (far left) and Pastor Hector de Armas (far right) with a group of baptismal candidates at the Spanish campmeeting.

## Wautoma Spanish Company

A new Spanish-speaking company was recently formed in Wautoma (pictured below with Elder Don Corkum, Pastors Orlando Vazquez, Donovan Davis and Hector de Armas).



## Calendar

### OCTOBER

5 - Nov 9 Net '96

11-13 PathfinderLeadership, Camp Go Seek

18-20 Women's Retreat, Chula Vista

### NOVEMBER

6-9 Community Services Federation Mtgs.

8-9 WA Senior Recognition

15-18 LUC Hispanic Festival of Faith/Youth

20 Exec. Committee

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