

## Hot Pink Slippers

It was a sunny, biting-cold, February afternoon in Wisconsin. I parked my car, got out, and shivered, as I briskly walked towards the Aldi's grocery store, where I planned to pick up a few items of fresh produce for the upcoming weekend. Before entering the store, I first headed for the shopping carts, which were nested together in a special alcove, that is attached to the exterior of the store. Familiar with the self-serve process, I inserted a quarter into the proper slot which released a cart from the long line of chain-linked carts, then I turned around and headed for the store entrance.

And that's when I first noticed her – a sweet-faced, elderly lady, who was wearing an old, black wool coat and a pair of hot-pink slippers. She was walking slowly, and was obviously headed toward the cart-alcove, now behind me. Pushing my cart, I made a split-second decision, and called to her, "Would you like this one?" and proceeded to roll it towards her, without waiting for her answer. "Oh, THANK YOU," she said with appreciation, and then added, her voice dropping, "I just came from a cancer treatment," as if to explain her labored gait.

I couldn't help but think, "Wow, she has had a tougher day than me!" By comparison, I had just spent a pleasant morning in my favorite armchair, and was quite pleased with my latest accomplishment, that of figuring out how to text a message PLUS an attached picture, on the new smartphone that my daughter-in-law had just given me two days earlier. (Mock it if you will, but at age 72 and



**Author Gloria Wilde graduated from Wisconsin Academy in 1965 and married her high-school sweetheart, Gary. She loves holding Bible studies, and has served the Adventist church in many capacities, including Sabbath School teacher, Personal Ministries leader, and head elder.**

being a "technology-challenged-senior," it had seemed like a really BIG DEAL to me!) But now, in an instant, the pride of my newly-acquired "big deal" skill, shrank to total insignificant proportions, when meeting a fellow senior who was courageously battling CANCER, a much-bigger "BIG-DEAL!"

I turned back, found another quarter in my coin-purse, obtained another cart, and headed for the door again. And there she was, slowly browsing in the produce department, just inside the store. Our eyes met, and her hand stretched toward me, holding a quarter to repay me. "Oh no," I refused, "it was for YOU!" Her smile was spontaneous and full-faced-beautiful, and she responded with a sort of childlike honesty and delight: "You have made me so HAPPY," as if my

very-tiny, 25 cent kindness was the highlight of her day! But my own heart felt strangely warmed and happy too!

And then somehow, as if an unseen magnet was drawing us together, our carts were suddenly side-by-side and we were momentarily lost in sharing our common life experiences with one another. We both were widows; she had tragically lost her man only two weeks before; I had experienced the same loss two years previous. Both of our men had had multiple strokes that had taken them on a slow-but-steady decline toward their death. We discovered that both of us former-wives possessed caregiver-hearts, and had previously wrapped our grocery-shopping lists around the wants and tastes of our

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## From the President's Desk

# Never Let A Crisis Go To Waste

**W**e are in the midst of a crisis like few of us have ever seen. A world-wide virus pandemic, travel restrictions, economic shut-downs and “safe at home” orders. Few have escaped the effects of this crisis. From fear and loss of income, to severe sickness and even death, this crisis has struck our world, our country, neighborhoods and families.

Some see this crisis as the fault of carelessness or even worse, a sinister plot. Others see this as a sign of the end, or a judgement of God. Today I’m not going to try to sort out source or cause, but I would like to ask, “are we letting this crisis go to waste?”

Should we be looking at this as a wake-up call? Should we taking advantage of the opportunities that we have to deepen our relationship with God? Should we be finding new and creative ways to bring the good news of Jesus to frightened people looking for something solid to hang on to?

The book of Acts describes another crisis. Not one on a world-wide scale, but a crisis of two men, falsely accused, stripped, beaten and thrown into prison. They were

considered so dangerous that their feet were fastened in stocks in the inner prison. In a similar circumstance I’m confident that many would have given up, but not Paul and Silas,

They used their confinement as an opportunity for praying and singing. They sang and prayed so loud that the other prisoners not only heard them, but listened to them. They took advantage of their crisis and witnessed for their Lord. They were less concerned for their safety than their fellow prisoners’ salvation.

I would invite you to take advantage of this crisis. Find ways to praise God and witness of His goodness and love. If you spend special time with Jesus and His word; if you are able to touch even one person for Jesus this crisis will not be wasted, but can be used for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Michael H. Edge*

Wisconsin Conference President

## The President's Sabbath Schedule

### May

30 Green Bay

### August

- 1 ASI
- 8 Hispanic Camp meeting
- 15 Janesville District
- 22 Hmong Camp Meeting

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

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 **LIVESTREAM**  
Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

**A** selection of 15 Wisconsin church services, Sabbath schools, and prayer meetings are available to join by phone conference, youtube, Facebook, and/or Zoom. Here's how: Go to the Wisconsin Conference website at [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org),

type in the search bar: Worship Online, and the Livestream listing will be the first story selection. You will also find several sermons available by various Wisconsin Conference leaders there.

## Four Wisconsin Elementary Schools Received Funding Award for STEM Education



**O**n March 6, 2020, Versacare Foundation awarded \$1,420,000 in grant funding to 189 Adventist primary and secondary schools across Canada and United States in support of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). Four Wisconsin schools were recipients of the grant monies awarded. They are:

**1. Bethel Junior Academy:** Principal Jim Mühlenbeck, is looking forward to using the \$5,000 to buy and install a smart board in his classroom.

**2. Green Bay Adventist Junior Academy:** Principal Rick Blumenschein was awarded a \$5,000 grant to better equip the science curriculum for grades 7-10. Hands on technology will include Simple Machines, K'nex building sets, 3D printer, Ozobot coding robots, Hydrogen fuel cells, and littleBits Electronic Circuits.

**3. Petersen Elementary School:** Tiffany Meulemans, grades 5-8 teacher, requested funding to support upgrading technology devices in the lower-grade classroom. The school was awarded \$5,000 which will help purchase a class set of iPads for grades K-4, and Osmo learning materials which combine physical manipulatives with game play on the iPad.

**4. Three Angels Christian School:** Technology teacher George Levy applied for the Versacare grant and was awarded \$5,000. Levy won the grant with his

robotics technology plan for grades 1-8. The grant monies will be used to purchase Cubelets Mini Makers Pack (where students learn tactile coding) and Cubelets Blockly (how to code the robots) for grades 1-4. Discover Robotics & Programming I Club Pack will be utilized for grades 5-8 so the older students will exercise greater control over the final build and behavior of their robots.

Students will be able to easily move past the basic understanding of robotics and explore more challenging concepts. A 3D printer and Smart Document Camera will be used to enable students to make 3D models of objects and print their creations.

The Versacare Foundation is an independent, self-funded, private foundation comprised of both lay Adventists as well as present and former Adventist church employees. This foundation started supporting varied ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist Church with grant funding in 1990 and has awarded more than \$28,250,000 in grants.

Five years ago, the Versacare Foundation started funding STEM grants for schools. Three years ago they began funding *every* school who applied for the STEM grant. STEM funds can be used to purchase, smart boards, tablets or Chromebooks for student use, robotic programs, computer labs, instillation of 3D printers and related software, equipping chemistry, physics and biology labs, and more. The STEM grant program has provided funding in three categories: three or less classrooms, four or more classrooms, and senior academies.

Congratulations to the four schools! We look forward to hearing how you will integrate this new technology.



Sue Nelson  
Superintendent of Education

## Volunteers Needed for Two ACS Projects



**F**irst, there is a need for people to help package food in Madison, Milwaukee, Eau Claire, and Appleton. They are very busy packing food and volunteers are needed. I am hoping that church members will be able to help with this endeavor. To get involved, check with the facility contact person below:

**Second Harvest Foodbank, Madison & Feed My People, Eau Claire:**  
*Stephanie Jung Dorfman*, (608) 906-4517 or [sdorfman@feedingwi.org](mailto:sdorfman@feedingwi.org)

**Feeding America, Appleton & Milwaukee:**  
*Patti Habeck*, 920 -427-5925 or [phabeck@feedingamericawi.org](mailto:phabeck@feedingamericawi.org)

Second, people are needed to make masks. We've recently filled requests for 100 masks for a nursing home in Madison, a similar amount for another 300-bed facility, and the requests keep coming in.

If you need a pattern, I can provide you with one. Or, you can join our Wisconsin Mask Makers Sew Facebook page and find a pattern there.

I would love to hear what is going on in your church to help out during this pandemic.

For questions or information contact or call: [agarrett@wi.adventist.org](mailto:agarrett@wi.adventist.org), 608-345-3883.

Thank you for donating your God-given time and talents during this pandemic.

Alice Garrett  
Adventist Community Services Coordinator





**M**ay 14, 2016, was a very special day for me. On that day I had the privilege of baptizing one of the most important people in my life, my son Joshua. Joshua was raised in our Seventh-day Adventist home where my wife, Laurella, and I sought to raise him to know, love, and follow Jesus. Even though parents hope that their children will choose to follow Jesus, we recognize that God has given each person, each of His children, freedom of choice. It is because of this free will that joy was brought to my heart when my son chose to be baptized. This was a beautiful sign to

me that my son was choosing, of his own free will, to follow Jesus. More than that, he was choosing to give his life to God. As a child, I realize that he has a life of decisions ahead of him, but I was thrilled to see him make this important decision early in his life.

This year we are praying that God will use us to reach 300 people for Him. 300 “Joshuas” for Jesus. 300 sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, grandmas and grandpas, husbands and wives, men and women, children of God!

I invite you to join me in praying for our churches, that God will use us to reach 300, or more, for Jesus in 2020. We want to allow God to use us to reach the “Joshuas” in our lives. What does God want to do through you this year? Who is God calling your church to reach this year?



Adam Case  
Ministerial Director

## Hallelujah Hustle In Place

**R**eady to try something new? The Hustle this year is going virtual! The sad news of camp meeting being cancelled opened this new and exciting opportunity - Hallelujah Hustle in Place. Just because we can't physically get together doesn't mean we can't enjoy some virtual physical activity.

What is a Virtual 5K? It's the same concept as a regular 5K, but allows participants to create their own race route at home. Register online at [hallelujahhustle.com](http://hallelujahhustle.com) from April 17-May 17 to get a T-Shirt and racing bib mailed to you to wear when you walk/run 5 kilometers. If you miss the window to register, that's ok, you can still register up until the morning of - you just won't have the t-shirt to wear on the day.

Then, you choose where you walk/run - treadmill, neighborhood, a park, wherever you choose. We'll share a Facebook LIVE video of a starting announcement at 7:30 am on June 14 and we'll all get moving.

Take a picture of your run/walk, who you are with, sporting your Hustle gear, and share it with us on our Facebook using the hashtag [#hallelujahhustleinplace2020](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/hallelujahhustleinplace2020) or email it to us at [hallelujahhustle@gmail.com](mailto:hallelujahhustle@gmail.com). We'll then share these photos and videos on our website and Facebook for all to see and enjoy!

Upload your times within a week and we'll share who was fastest in our age categories.

Proceeds will be saved for our regular Hallelujah Hustle next year at camp meeting where we will be raising funds for:

1. Two summer camp scholarships
2. Scholarships for WI church schools
3. Primates, Incorporated in Westfield, WI

Visit our website for more details!  
[hallelujahhustle.com](http://hallelujahhustle.com)

Johanna Serna  
Hallelujah Hustle Director

## Ivandale Remocal New Durand Pastor/Chaplain



**I** was born and grew up in the tropical area of Aurora, Philippines. Though I was raised in an Adventist home, I did not have an intimate relationship with God. But God is really good that He never gave up on me. I was 17 years old when I had a misunderstanding with my Dad, he sent me away and I left home with a plan to support myself and live on my own. Since I didn't know where to go, ironically I asked God to show me the way, and I found myself with my cousin, who is a pastor.

One evening, I threw a huge rock at the roof of the church, disturbing the night's worship. Instead of being reprimanded, my cousin-pastor asked me to join their worship service. He gave me a Bible and asked me to read Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." This text left a deep impression on my heart. I decided to serve God and studied theology at a Adventist University of the Philippines. Later I graduated with a Master in Ministry and the same year was ordained to the gospel ministry. Currently I am at Andrews University and plan to complete my MDiv in December of this year with God's help.

My wife, Donna, is an RN and we are blessed to be expecting our first baby in October. It is my honor and privilege to be serving the Lord, together with the members of Durand SDA Church and be involved with Christ's healing ministry as chaplain of AdventHealth Durand beginning this September.

## Hot Pink Slippers Continued...

beloved husbands. I related my memory to her of my very first shopping experience after losing my husband (of 51 yrs.), when I couldn't even think of what grocery items to buy without having him in my life to please and pamper. She totally understood, pointing to the cantaloupe that she had in her cart. "This is what I like," she said. "I never would have bought it before, as he wouldn't have eaten such a thing." But I could tell that she was sad in the process of only buying things for herself, and I could totally relate to that also.

So there we stood, two strangers in the aisle of the humble grocery store that caters to the age-group of Social Security recipients and low-income citizens, sharing our memories and heart-concerns with someone who seemed glad to listen and empathize. She told me of how her previous breast cancer had now metastasized to her bones, and was running rampant throughout her body, producing much pain! Her shadowed eyes told me that she understood her bleak future, and I realized that this was not only our first meeting, but also very-likely our last! It was then that the pink slippers made perfect sense to me, for no doubt they were the most comfortable choice of footwear in her entire closet, for her painful feet! (My own foot-pain from a fallen arch seemed very trivial and unmentionable at that poignant moment!)

I believe that in God's masterplan, He is interested in how we treat the people that He arranges for us to cross paths with. And I think that He was pleased that day, as two of His daughters reached out and blessed one another in loving concern. I cannot speak for the cancer-stricken, recently-widowed lady with the beautiful smile and the hot-pink slippers, but I hope that she left the store with a lighter heart! I only know for sure that I was warmed clear-through, especially when we hugged as we parted, not even thinking to exchange names. And when I exited the store with my small purchase of fresh veggies, the single-digit temperature outside didn't seem nearly as frigid as before!

Gloria Wilde  
Green Bay Seventh-day Adventist Church

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

It was just three months ago on January 20 that I submitted the last Financial Snapshot article for you for the previous Lamp Letter. I never would have dreamed how events could have changed in so short a time.

On March 12, 2020 I met with the finance committee for review and recommendation of the 2020 budget to the next Executive Committee. That turned out to be the last face to face meeting I attended. Less than a week later, the office was closed for business and we began working from home. Every event mentioned in that January Lampletter article has been either cancelled or postponed. Rather than working diligently on final preparations for camp meeting we are in the process of contacting nearly 600 individuals on what they wish to do with their camp meeting reservations. June summer camps have been cancelled while the rest of the year's camp activities are still up in the air.

You may ask what the future looks like financially for the conference? A lot of that depends on how long we must abide by the stay at home order. From the latest pronouncement from the governor's office it appears that our school year will be completed remotely. It is unknown just how long it will be before most members will feel comfortable coming back to church once restrictions have been lifted.

We have just closed the remittances for March. Our tithe for the month of March after adjusting for unequal weeks of comparison with March of 2019 shows a loss of -7.29%. That gives us a loss of -2.79% for the year after adjusting our tithe figures for a large one-time gift received earlier in the year.

We have implemented lower or no travel budgets for the future and are limiting expenditures so that we can continue to meet payroll expenses. If income takes a deeper and sustained loss, we will certainly have to look at further adjustments. I can assure you that these adjustments are being looked at by every level and institution of the church. It has been and always will be our goal to keep our eyes on the mission of the church and make sure that whatever changes are needed will be in harmony with that goal in mind.

We realize that all of your churches and families are facing similar challenges. My prayer is that all of us keep the mission that God has given our churches, and to us individually, in mind as we navigate these challenging times.

I believe Paul's council to the Corinthians is relevant for our situation today. In 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 he states; "Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love."



Brian Stephan  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	2020	2019	% Change
March Tithe Income:	\$522,440 (4 wks)	\$688,549 (5 wks)	-24.12%*
YTD Tithe Income:	\$1,794,237 (9 wks)	\$1,569,521 (9 wks)	+14.32%**
March Wisconsin Budget:	\$22,036 (4 wks)	\$24,760 (5 wks)	-11.00%^
YTD Wisconsin Budget:	\$114,004 (9 wks)	\$59,437 (9 wks)	+91.80%^^

* Equalizing weeks	-7.29%	March tithe loss
** Less special gift	-2.79%	YTD tithe loss
^ Equalizing weeks	11.51%	March WB gain
^^ Less special gift	1.85%	YTD WB gain



**from the principal's desk:**

## What is the Purpose of Wisconsin Academy?

**W**e find ourselves at an unprecedented point in earth's history. In the past I've thought of the day in the future when something like our current situation might happen, and suddenly here we are in the middle of it. It sure changes the scenery here at WA! The spring bulbs are ready to bloom, but - our halls are silent, our dorms are empty, and teachers are hard at work valiantly rising to the challenges of creating distance education. We are implementing new technology, being very flexible, and constantly looking for creative ways to motivate even our most academically fragile students.

Making sure there is verbal contact with each student as often as possible is a priority we are working towards. Our hearts break at some of the situations we find our students in. On top of a full credit load, some of them are now working long hours to try to help their families. This has been a sharp reminder that WA is a safe and secure place of refuge for our students. Not only is it a place of refuge, it is a

place where students grow in their relationship with Jesus.

One of our students from abroad had to return home to finish online as borders were closing and flights were becoming difficult to attain. In a conversation with one of our staff, they mentioned how being away from phones and secular media had helped them spend more time reading their Bible.

Another student was just sharing how a number of them have started a prayer group, setting their alarms for 4 a.m., 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. to pray.

In the news during the last few days, I've read that food security is becoming an issue. As we've tried to purchase seeds for our garden projects, we have discovered that it is becoming increasingly difficult. We are excited that the green house and garden project are coming together. Our hope is to be able to grow sufficient food so we can share with those in need in our area and make connections so they

will be open to hearing more about God's love.

### **So, what is the purpose of Wisconsin Academy?**

In these days when the phrase "Christian education" has become a buzzword, are we to be like other schools providing an education which will make our students worldly wise? I pray that our purpose is to help each one find a personal relationship with Jesus and to train them through true education to be God's missionaries to share the Three Angels' Messages to as many as possible.

"In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention." (3TT 288.1)

*Take the world but give me Jesus,  
all its joys are but a name  
But His love abideth ever  
through eternal years the same.  
Oh the height and depth of mercy,  
oh the length and breadth of love,  
Oh the fullness of redemption  
pledge of endless life above.  
(SDAH #329)*

Right before our eyes the world is changing so rapidly it about takes our breath away. It makes us realize how quickly things can change, encourages us to ponder the last days, and reminds us of Ellen White's statement that the last moments will be rapid ones. (TC9 11)

As we continue into the uncertain days ahead may we continue looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Thank you for keeping us in prayer.

Rosalie Rasmussen, Principal  
Wisconsin Academy





## Preparedness Education Day



**E**arlier this spring, as the coronavirus threat was just beginning, we chose to address the issue with a day of education and preparedness training.

On Wednesday, March 4, the entire student body spent six hours in general sessions and hands-on break-outs learning about prevention, preparedness, hydrotherapy, nutrition & temperance, water & exercise, sunlight & fresh air, trust in God, rest, and what a pandemic really is. Pre- and post-testing demonstrated that students retained much of what they learned.

We pray that as students apply the principles they learned here, they will develop healthy habits that will stick with them through life.

## Mission Project Still Successful



**A**lthough the coronavirus prevented students and staff from traveling to the Philippines for our mission project this March, it hasn't stopped the gospel being preached or the Holy Spirit working in lives!

The medical and dental clinics we planned to run were successfully taken up by local church members and the local government agencies. The nightly evangelistic series was well attended and ended with the baptism of 26 precious souls. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, we celebrate God's goodness for these precious souls. God has prepared for each one a "Crown of Life" (CORONA DE VIDA). Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

## Alumni Weekend Moved to Fall



**B**ecause of the coronavirus quarantines, Alumni Homecoming has been moved to the October 16-18.

We are very sad that we could not meet in person this spring. We had a virtual vespers during which several alumni shared Bible verses and encouraging thoughts. Thank-you to everyone who participated. Many alumni also connected by Facebook.

Watch for updates on the alumni page of the WA website: [www.wisacad.org](http://www.wisacad.org)

**Apply for WA at any time at:**  
[www.wisacad.org](http://www.wisacad.org)

# Investing in Eternity

**W**e 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 3 and April 16 of each year. Contact our coordinator at (920) 623-3300.

### 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 us at (920) 623-3300.

### Youth Education Scholarship (YES!)

YES! is a 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).

[www.wisacad.org/admissions/financial-options](http://www.wisacad.org/admissions/financial-options)

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

Return Service Requested

## Calendar of Events

### May

- 12 Board of Education
- 17 Executive Committee &  
Statistical Review
- 28 Teacher In-Service

### June

- 14 Virtual Hallelujah Hustle

### July

- 5-12 Tween Camp
- 12-19 Teen Camp
- 19-26 Family Camp I
- 16-8/1 Family Camp II
- 25-26 Hispanic Children's Day

### August

- 4-6 Teacher In-Service
- 5-9 Hispanic Camp Meeting
- 11 Board of Education
- 12 Executive Committee
- 20-23 Hmong Camp Meeting
- 28-30 Adventurer Camporee



**Joseph Perricellia** is transitioning out of his current pastoral district. We will miss them, and our prayers go with Joseph, his wife, Elena, and family as they follow God's leading for the future.



**D**on't miss this opportunity to worship together with our fellow Adventists around the world! Each day's devotional and prayer focus are very meaningful. Go to <https://www.revivalandreformation.org/100days>. You'll be glad you did!

## Help Build Cabins at Camp Wakonda

**O**ur goal is to build 2-4 new cabins that house/sleep up to 12 people. If we are able to build these, we have the potential to share Jesus with 24-48 more young people each week of summer camp, effecting 72-144 more each summer! God has been so good to give us such a beautiful camp and we want to do our absolute best to continue to serve Him with all that we have! If you are interested in helping with this project in some way, please do not hesitate to contact us for more details!  
Call or text: (806) 341-2005.

