

## All I Ever Needed

As she read one of the poems from her book, Patricia Pierce, member of the Rhinelander Church in Wisconsin, paused to reflect on God's goodness and mercy during her almost 80 years of life. Raised in a very dysfunctional situation by two aunts who considered her a burden, Pierce says the only love she received was from her great-grandmother. "We would often talk together about the Bible," she recalls. "We'd read and discuss what we read, pray, and sing songs together, songs I still sing today."

As Pierce began her own family, she vowed to show her seven children the love she was given by her great-grandmother. When her oldest daughter, Susie, was 14 years old, Pierce somehow ended up with a pamphlet discussing apocalyptic imagery in Revelation. "We prayed and asked the Lord to explain this puzzling interpretation of Revelation." The next day they saw a billboard for a Revelation Seminar in Racine. Attending together, they double-checked in the Bible what they had heard when they got home.

"We were blown away by the truth," Pierce says. Both baptized after the Seminar, she and Susie began to follow the Bible's guidance, including keeping the Sabbath, which was much easier said than done. Today, Pierce and several of her daughters are church members, and they pray daily for the rest of the family to accept Christ.

In 1999, Pierce, CNA/CHHA, broke her hip and had to retire. She missed work terribly and, after several years, began looking for something to fill that gap in



Patricia Pierce with six of her seven children. Front row left to right: Tina Willcome and Patricia Pierce. Back row left to right: Cori Johnson, Debbie Nelson, Teresa Sackett, Susie Hensel, and Bobbi Mueller.

her life. Having always been interested in medical science, she enrolled in the Contemporary and Alternative Medicine program at Ashford University online, with the goal of becoming a health coach or nutritionist.

Two years in, however, she began to notice changes to her health. "I was drooling, losing my balance, having regular headaches, and not sleeping well," Pierce remembers. Although as a nurse she recognized all the symptoms, that didn't make hearing the doctor's diagnosis any easier. It was Parkinson's disease.

Despite this setback, Pierce was determined to finish what she started and, in 2018, she graduated with a bachelor's degree at the age of 75. Later that same year, she reached another milestone: she

published a book. After a conversation with God about the title, she published, *At the Door*, under the pen name, Evangeline. This collection of poems and dream vignettes—short stories God gave Pierce in her dreams—started out as prayer journals she intended to leave for her family to read after her death.

"I want my kids to realize God is in charge and be grateful to have Him in their lives," Pierce explains.

"I was talking to Him the other day and He told me, 'Patricia, when you get to Heaven, you'll be surprised by how many people you have brought to the Lord,'" Pierce shares, her voice wavering as her eyes fill with tears. "I told Him I don't care about the number of stars in my crown; I just want to meet Him. He is

Continued on page 4



## From the President's Desk

# Do You Love Me?

**J**ohn 21 presents the beautiful story about the breakfast by the sea. In a very familiar place for His disciples, Jesus decided to fulfill an essential task before He headed back to heaven. At that time, a few of His disciples joined Peter in fishing all night, but just as they experienced at the beginning of their ministry, they had no success. Once again, Jesus commanded all the fish to hide until given further instructions.

When the disciples decided to give up, they were exhausted, hungry, and possibly disappointed. They had tried everything possible, but it did not turn out how they expected. Once more, they were tempted to question God's providence for them. But when Jesus asked them to cast the net on the right side of the boat, they were amazed by the multitude of fish they caught.

But what happened next was beyond their hope and anticipation. Jesus prepared a fresh breakfast and invited them to sit around the fire and partake of His fish and bread. It all seemed impossible. A miracle!

This story shares a valuable lesson of God's providence, and gives assurance of His presence for years to come. Jesus wanted to remind them about their initial experience when they accepted the call to ministry. Ellen White offers more details about this story's significance:

"It showed them that the death of their Master had not lessened their obligation to do the work He had assigned them. Though they were to be deprived of His personal companionship, and of the means of support by their former employment, the risen Savior would still have a care for them. While they were doing His work, He would provide for their needs. And Jesus had a purpose in bidding them cast their net on the right side of the ship. On that side He stood

upon the shore. That was the side of faith. If they labored in connection with Him, --His divine power combining with their human effort, --they could not fail of success" DA 810.5.

Now, the most crucial mission has to be accomplished after the morning meal. Jesus has a unique challenge for one of His disciples. He looked at Peter and asked: "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me more than these?" Three times Peter had to hear the same persistent question, one for each of his public betrayals of His Master. The shame and dishonor he brought to Jesus had to be eliminated by a genuine love for Him and care for His precious "lambs and sheep." Ellen White once again offers clarity related to Jesus's intentions:

"Before being called to take up again his apostolic work, he must before them all give evidence of his repentance. Without this, his sin, though repented of, might have destroyed his influence as a minister of Christ. The Savior gave him opportunity to regain the confidence of his brethren, and, so far as possible, to remove the reproach he had brought upon the gospel." DA 811.1

Jesus calls all Seventh-day Adventists in Wisconsin to have "breakfast" with Him. During our upcoming camp meeting week, everyone is invited to bring all their disappointments in life, all their failures in ministry, and experience spiritual, emotional, and physical rejuvenation. Ultimately, all of us are invited to renew our love commitments to God and answer His call to, "feed the lambs and sheep."

*Titus Naftanaila*

Wisconsin Conference President

## Sabbath Schedule

### May

- 7 Hispanic Brotherhood
- 14 Menomonie
- 21 WA Graduation
- 28 Racine Hispanic

### June

- 11 Camp Meeting
- 18 Camp Meeting
- 25 Hmong Company

### July

- 23 Oxford

### August July

- 6 Hispanic Camp Meeting
- 13 Sturgeon Bay
- 20 Shawano

To request speaking appointments  
contact Titus Naftanaila at:  
[titusn@wi.adventist.org](mailto:titusn@wi.adventist.org)



**Dr. S. Joseph Kidder**  
*Professor of Pastoral  
Theology at Andrews  
Theological Seminary*  
1st Friday 7:30 pm  
and Sabbath



**Titus Naftanaila**  
*President  
Wisconsin Conference*  
  
Sunday 7:30 pm



**Mark Sandoval**  
*Founder & President of  
New Paradigm Ministries*  
  
Mon. - Fri. 2:30 pm



**Town Hall Meeting**  
*President, Treasurer, Trust,  
Ministerial, Education,  
Youth, Communication*  
  
Sunday 2:30 pm



**Dr. Ben Maxon**  
*Professor of Spiritual  
Growth and Discipleship at  
AU Theological Seminary*  
2nd Friday 7:30 pm  
and Sabbath



**Shawn Drummund**  
*Family Life Pastor Granite  
Bay Hilltop, California*  
  
Mon. - Fri. 9:30 am



**Jack Phillips**  
*Evangelism Coordinator for  
It Is Written*  
  
Mon. - Fri. 4:00 pm



**Lisa Isensee**  
*Mission Advancement  
Officer at ASAP Ministries*  
  
Sunday 4:00 pm



**Peter Neri**  
*Senior Pastor, Paradise  
SDA Church*  
  
Mon. - Thur. 7:30 pm



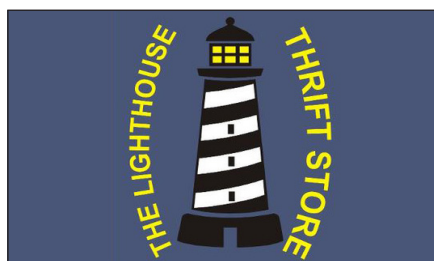
**Drs. Pamela and Claudio  
Consuagras**  
*Family Ministries  
Directors, North American  
Division*  
Mon. - Fri. 11:00 am



**Martin Young**  
*Musician from Ooltewah,  
TN*  
  
First Weekend Sabbath  
Afternoon Concert



**Timothy Garley**  
*Lay Pastor/Head Elder of  
Hylandale SDA Church*  
  
Sabbath - Sabbath  
7:00 am Early Glow



**The LightHouse Book Store Hours:**

First Friday: 12:00pm - 5:30pm  
Sun. - Second Friday: 9:00am - 5:30pm  
Sun. - Thurs & Sab. Open for one hour  
following evening meetings

**More Information**

Register and learn more about camp meeting speakers, divisions, policies, classes, activities, and more on the conference website at [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org).

**Can't Make It To  
Camp Meeting?**

**T**he Wisconsin Conference camp meeting is live streamed on Facebook each year! Also, sermons and presentations are posted/archived on our website for viewing after camp meeting ([wi.adventist.org/camp-meeting](http://wi.adventist.org/camp-meeting).) For those on the grounds of Camp Wakonda, but unable to come to the pavillion, the meetings are also broadcast on your radio at 87.9 FM.



## All I Ever Needed Continued

first in my life, and I know I'm loved. That's all I've ever needed."

"Not Today"

*One morning, I was praying on my knees.  
My heavenly Father came to me,  
Saying, "Today your sick neighbor  
down the street*

*Needs a few meals made for her family."*

*"Oh no, Lord, not today. I'm too busy the  
whole day through.  
I have much washing and cleaning to do."*

*Again, as I was down on my knees in prayer,  
I could feel the sweet presence of my Lord  
with me there.*

*He whispered in my ear,*

*"Today, there is something I would like  
you to do.*

*There are children in the hospital,  
Who need a few smiles, or a story or two."*

*"Oh, Lord, not today!" I moaned, holding  
my head.*

*"I have such a bad headache;  
I must stay in bed."*

*Then, one night, brightness and  
glorious singing filled the sky.*

*"My Lord is coming!" my happy heart cried.*

*I watched as Jesus, in garments of white,  
Gave all my neighbors the gift of flight.*

*"Oh, Lord! Here I am, don't forget me,"  
I cried.*

*Jesus looked at me, with tear-filled eyes.*

*"No, My child," He sadly did say,*

*"You cannot come with me—  
Not today."*

by Patricia Pierce

Becky St. Claire, freelance writer

Editor's note: As of this writing, Patricia is in hospice. We wanted to share this poem, selected by her, in the hope it will encourage us in serving our Lord Jesus Christ at all times.

Originally published in the Lake Union Herald, March 2022.

## Wisconsin Receives \$1.5m Donation



Recently, the unexpected happened right after our February Conference Executive Committee meeting. During lunch, a man approached me and introduced himself as Mike Maguire. Mike informed me that he was the executor of the Robert Peterson Trust, and he was there to personally deliver the Peterson's gift to the Wisconsin Conference. In fact, there were three gifts: one for the Wisconsin Conference, one for Camp Wakonda, and the third gift to Wisconsin Academy. The three gifts totaling over \$1.5 million!

Mike explained that he knew Mr. Peterson, a successful farmer, having helped him with the business side of his farm for several years. Mike said: "I did the job Mr. Peterson asked me to do, and it took 2.5 years to complete. I didn't want to just mail a check. I wanted the beneficiaries of the Peterson Trust to know who Mr. Peterson was and to personally hear about the potential impact of the gifts that he gave."

Mr. Peterson and his wife Esther were long-time members of the Almond Church and often attended the Wisconsin Rapids church. Mr. Peterson and Esther had no children of their own, but they enjoyed helping kids attend church school and often hired young people to work on the farm. It was also important to them to make it easier for parents to send their children to Wisconsin Academy and Camp Wakonda. Mr. Petersen died in 2019 at the age of 100. What he left behind will make a difference.



Bill Ochs, Planned Giving and Trust Director

## Jeff Ahrens Baptised February 19



We rejoice with Jeff Ahrens as he was baptized on Sabbath, February 19, 2022, by Pastor Rowell Puedivan during the morning worship service at the Madison Community Seventh-day Adventist Church. Jeff has been actively involved with our church family for two years and we enjoy his contributions in church visioning meetings. He is excited to share the love of Jesus and is active in sharing Adventist books with others. Welcome, Jeff!

Sue Martin  
Madison Community Church

## Bill Dudgeon New Milwaukee Pastor



We are delighted to introduce Bill Dudgeon as the new pastor for the Milwaukee Central District. Pastor Dudgeon, and his wife, Cali, ministered in College Station, Texas for the last four years. He and Cali, have been married for seven years and have a one-year-old daughter, Evalyn. Cali is a Physician's Assistant. They also have a ten-year-old dog named Samson. "Discipleship is my passion," said Pastor Dudgeon. "This is what we are here for. The Lord is coming soon. Let's be ready and get others ready to meet Him!"

## Camp Meeting Notices

### Super Sunday Sale

Take advantage of some great buys on Sunday, June 12, at 9:00am in Pioneer Pavilion. Prices good only during this limited time sale.

### Hallelujah Hustle

Run/walk event begins Sunday, June 12, 7:40am. Open to all ages. Free kid's run ages 11 & under, 7:30am.

**NEW:** We now have two Family/Caregiver restrooms located at Bathhouses 2 & 3 with special parking near Bathhouse 3. These restrooms are reserved only for those requiring an attendant or caregiver. All others use main restroom, please.

**New:** To make room for our new Family/Caregiver restrooms, a donation based, laundry room was added in the basement of the Nature Center. Coin-op machines are still available at bathhouses 1 & 4. Quarter exchange at the information desk in the Administration Building.

**Hispanic Camp Meeting:** will be held on the grounds of Camp Wakonda August 3-7. Contact Evelio Miranda, at 414-446-5964.

### Meal Tickets

Tickets are available during camp meeting at the information office, or may be purchased and mailed prior to May 26. Tickets not available during Sabbath hours. To order before, call LaQuita Anderson at 920-484-6555.

Meal	Adult	Child	Senior
Prices	11-64	4-10	65+
Breakfast	\$8.50	\$7.50	\$7.50
Lunch	\$8.50	\$7.50	\$7.50
Supper	\$8.50	\$7.50	\$7.50

**Children** ages 0-3 eat for free  
Complete menu at [wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org)

### LightHouse Thrift Store Donations

A trailer to collect donations will be parked behind The LightHouse Book Store. No TVs. For questions email [lighthousethriftstore@gmail.com](mailto:lighthousethriftstore@gmail.com), or call Jim Parish at 920-623-0031.

**ACS Leaders:** Bring a display board of pictures to inspire others!

### ACS Free Daily Drawing at Cabin

**Full Cafeteria and Snack Shack** services are available this year.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our annual audit performed by GCAS (General Conference Auditing Services) has just been completed for our 2021 financial year. I am happy to report that we received a clean opinion from GCAS, meaning our accounts fairly and correctly represent the financial condition of our Conference. The audit covers the finances of the Conference and our compliance with NAD (North American Division) policies.

We have just closed the books for March. Tithe thru March is down -3.95% when compared to the same period 2021. The Wisconsin budget shows a similar decrease of -3.31% for the same period. With inflation and the current instability in the economy we are experiencing, we have budgeted conservatively for 2022. We will continue to monitor our finances closely to continue to maintain and even build our reserves to keep our conference stable through uncertain economic times.

At camp meeting we plan to provide full cafeteria service and snack shack food again. We look forward to seeing many of you there and pray for a memorable time together as a conference church family.

We continue preparations for the constituency meeting on October 16, 2022. A special four-year audited financial statement will be prepared for our constituency meeting. These statements will be provided to the delegates for review, and a time to ask any questions concerning them at the constituency meeting.

If your church has not yet turned in the names for delegates and suggested names to be considered for various committees, please do so immediately. We will continue to send information to the delegates ahead of the meeting so they may be prepared for the agenda to be discussed that day. God bless!



Brian Stephan  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

	2022	2021	% Change
March Tithe Income:	\$604,141	\$695,380	-13.12%
YTD Tithe Income:	\$1,819,310 (13 wks)	\$1,894,140 (13 wks)	-3.95%
March Wisconsin Budget:	\$22,176	\$24,747	-10.38%
YTD Wisconsin Budget:	\$72,046 (13 wks)	\$74,517 (13 wks)	-3.31%





# WISCONSIN ACADEMY



from the principal's desk

## “Train Up a Child ...”

It's hard to believe that another graduation is almost upon us. It seems like yesterday eight little freshmen joined us and now we have sixteen young men and women ready to take on the world.

In the time that they have been with us, our goal has been to, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6 Providing opportunities for our students to grow in their love for Jesus and creating in them a love for service to their fellowmen has been our goal. CERT training, nursing home and church visits, mission trips, passing out literature, helping with refugee support programs, snow removal at the hospital, and helping with camp and camp meeting preparations in different places are some of the projects that we have had the opportunity for our students to take part in.

In addition to mission-oriented activities we have weeks of prayer, weekends of spiritual emphasis, daily student led chapels, Bible studies, Master Guide training and other worship services that help our students' spiritual growth. “But also for this very

reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.” 2 Peter 1:5-7

“God's purpose for the children growing up beside our hearths is wider, deeper, higher, than our restricted vision has comprehended. From the humblest lot those whom He has seen faithful have in time past been called to witness for Him in the world's highest places. And many a lad of today, growing up as did Daniel in his Judean home, studying God's word and His works, and learning the lessons of faithful service, will yet stand in legislative assemblies, in halls of justice, or in royal courts as a witness for the King of Kings.”  
--Adventist Home p. 484 Our prayer is that our students will be prepared for this as they launch into adulthood.

Please join us in praying for our sixteen wonderful graduates as well as each of our students at Wisconsin Academy.

## Recent Snapshots



Dr. Conrad Vine, president of Adventist Frontier Missions (AFM), spoke for our fourth Week of Prayer. He shared stories of victory over demonic powers and how to make that victory practical in our lives. He illustrated his talks with many interesting stories.



One Wednesday evening, we were blessed with special a concert by Adventist singer-songwriters Matt and Josie Minikus. They inspired us with original songs they describe as “Christian folk music with a fresh creative style.”



Pastor Lisa Isense, mission advancement officer with Advocates for Southeast Asians and the Persecuted (ASAP), spoke for one of our Weekends of Spiritual Emphasis. She shared stories God's work with the persecuted and helped us better understand the refugee experience.

find out more at  
[www.wisacad.org](http://www.wisacad.org)



## Way Teams Visit Three Churches



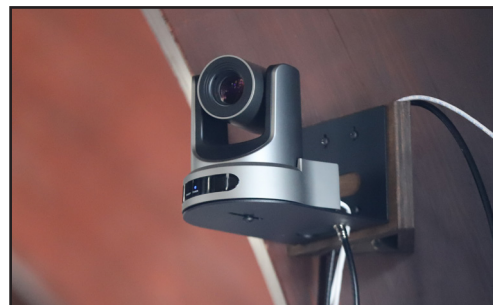
**S**tudents who are part of the WAY (Wisconsin Academy Youth) Team traveled over two weekends to Madison East, Hylandale, and Portage churches to share and enjoy fellowship. Each experience was different. Students preached, led music, shared the children's story, and many other parts of the service. At Hylandale, the drama club shared a short skit about prayer at the beginning of the sermon time. The church members were very warm and welcoming and we had a beautiful worship time together.

## New Contemporary World Issues Class



**O**n a typical day in Contemporary World Issues class, seniors discuss topics such as COVID vaccinations, immigration, abortion, and the war in Ukraine. This elective course, developed by history teacher Artie Hamann, began in January and replaces Economics as a second-semester option for seniors. The class is primarily dialogue driven, but also includes written essays. Mr. Hamann also makes connections between world issues and end-time events as revealed in the Bible and the writings of Ellen White.

## New Cameras Improve Streaming



**T**hanks to generous donations, new lighting and a new camera system have greatly improved our ability to livestream programs and services in the chapel. Three cameras are mounted on the sides and at the rear of the room. The movements of these cameras can be directed by a single console at the rear of the chapel. The camera system was donated in honor of Harriet (Hearn) Shimmin, class of 1952. Additional lighting, a gift of the class of 2020, helps illuminate the front of the chapel.

## Seniors Visit Houses of Worship



**A** few weeks ago, students in Bible IV visited three houses of worship as part of their unit on worldviews and religions. During the all-day field trip, they visited the Hindu Temple of Wisconsin, Congregation Shalom, and Holy Hill. Clergy members explained worship practices and answered questions. As we explore the challenging ideas of other religions, we see the precious truths of the Bible shine even brighter.

## Skiing, Snowboarding, Sledding, & Ice Skating



**O**n a Monday in February, the whole school spent the day in the snow. Some went skiing and snowboarding at Tyrole Basin while others enjoyed sledding and ice skating in Beaver Dam. Many tried skiing or snowboarding for the first time or just hung out around a blazing campfire. The weather was great the entire day and we had a lot of fun enjoying God's great outdoors.

## Skating Trip for Dean's List Students



**S**tudents on the dean's list enjoyed an evening roller skating at City Skate Center in Portage on a Thursday evening. This skating trip, organized by the dormitory deans, rewarded students who have kept up good grades, attendance, and behavior through the year. Good job!



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

Return Service Requested

## Calendar of Events

### May

1 Academy Day  
3 Pastors Meetings  
6-8 Lay Pastors Meeting  
10 Board of Education  
13-15 Pathfinder Fair  
15 Lake Union Constituency  
15-19 Camp Wakonda Work Bee  
20-22 WA Graduation  
25 Executive Committee  
26 Teacher In-Service  
30 Office Closed

### June

5-9 Camp Pitch  
6-11 General Conference Session  
10-18 Camp Meeting  
19-22 Called Convention  
20 Office Closed  
28-7/3 Specialty Camp

### July

3-10 Cub Camp  
4-5 Office Closed  
10-17 Tween Camp  
17-24 Teen Camp  
24-31 Family Camp  
25 Hispanic Children's Sports Day  
25 Board of Education  
30 Hispanic Children's Day  
31-8/2 Hispanic Camp Pitch

### August

2-4 Teacher Inservice  
3-7 Hispanic Camp Meeting  
21 Nominating Committee  
24 Executive Committee  
26-28 Hispanic Women's Retreat  
30 Board of Education

## Camp Wakonda Work Bee May 15-19



**W**isconsin winters are tough on our camp grounds, but every year we get camp ready with the help of volunteers like you! We need students and teachers, pastors and parishioners, skilled workers and first-time helpers and most of all, YOU! Learn more and RSVP at (920) 737-0679. Please RSVP so our team can prepare a place for you.

**Free T-Shirt for all Volunteers**



**Dan and Janine Show** are moving to serve at the Pacific Press in Napa, Idaho. They have been teachers at Wisconsin Academy.

**Kelly Titano**, Registrar and Assistant Principal at Wisconsin Academy is moving to Indiana the end of this school year.

**Pastor Ivendale Remocal** is transitioning from the Durand church and Advent Health Durand, to be a military chaplain.

### Wisconsin Teachers Needed

We are looking for three teachers to join our Wisconsin team. If you are interested, or know someone who is, contact Sue Nelson at (608) 669-2827 or [snelson@wi.adventist.org](mailto:snelson@wi.adventist.org).

### EDITOR

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