

## Door-to-Door in Waukesha

**B**eing led by the Holy Spirit, I was moved to go door to door and give out books to the community. With the help of my mentor and my fellow church family, we gave away an estimated 10 Bibles, 60 Steps to Christ, 40 Desire of Ages, and 40 Great Hope books after just three ventures. We knew God was with us already on the first outing! It was a gloomy day filled with downpours. Before even leaving the parking lot, the group was already feeling doubtful that we would find success. Thankfully after words of encouragement and prayer we decided to give it a go.

Before leaving, we prayed and asked; “Oh Lord, please give us just one hour of dryness.” By God’s blessing, the pouring rain turned into sunshine. It was wonderful offering spiritual and emotional support to the community. Our group was truly intergenerational: from age six to as old as 85. This in itself was a blessing. It was a beautiful sight to see how God used all of our ages to witness to our community, from the children offering their own witnessing through prayer, or the elders of our group sharing their wisdom, to the many stories from our very own Granny Mo. The intergenerational involvement in our ministry has proven to be essential to portraying an inviting, loving, and family atmosphere.

After this first giveaway of almost two full bags of books and taking multiple prayer requests, we headed back to our cars. Within moments, the sky had changed from blue to black. We very quickly found ourselves sprinting through a downpour. When we made it



to the dryness of our vehicles the clock had revealed to us that from the time we prayed for dryness to the time the downpour began, exactly one hour had passed....to the very minute.

During our second venture we learned very quickly that Satan was very displeased with our newly formed ministry. Upon reaching the halfway point, we reached an apartment building. Seeing that a woman was leaving the building and moving to her car, I quickly tried to get her attention.

“I’m not interested, and nobody in that building is going to open their doors,” she very sternly voiced and drove off. Troubled by her comments, I prayed silently to myself and felt an urging from the Holy Spirit. Running to the group, I urged them that we should go into that building. “What’s more important in

the eyes of the Lord?” I asked them, “Knocking on the door and not getting an answer? Or choosing not to knock on the door at all because we assume there won’t be an answer?” With that we prayed together and went into the building.

Not only did we discover that 10 of the 12 doors were opened, we left that building with only one Bible and three books remaining that day. While inside, we found three people, both young and old, asking us questions about Scripture. Seven of the ten residents who opened their doors allowed us to pray with them. At the last door we knocked on, we were blessed with the opportunity to spiritually uplift a very discouraged person struggling with very difficult personal issues. What began as tears finished in hugs, and a man being thankful for us

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## From the President's Desk

# What Will Happen in 2022?

**D**oing some online research concerning people's expectations about 2020 and after, I found some predictions that ended up being unrealistic or even comical. According to [www.bestlifeonline.com/2020-predictions/](http://www.bestlifeonline.com/2020-predictions/) by this time, "we could have ape chauffeurs," "we could live in flying houses," "we could have personal helicopters," "we could have both telepathy and teleportation," "mail could be sent via rocket," and "we could wear antenna hats and disposable socks." Others predicted we would not need to work because of robots and machines; eat, because of "nanobots" capable of entering the bloodstream to feed cells and extract waste"; or even survive because of an imminent nuclear holocaust or extreme global climate changes.

There are still predictions and general expectations when a new year starts. Optimists foresee a very productive year ahead, while pessimists proclaim the beginning of a disastrous future. Covid-19 crisis, global economy, healthcare, political and social turbulences represent some of the main global areas that require immediate and undivided attention and practical solutions.

From a religious perspective, every new year is a time that brings us closer to the Second Coming of Jesus. The end-time events are being fulfilled more rapidly than we ever imagined. I firmly believe that we are part of a prophetic movement with a unique message for our generation. We are called to demonstrate our commitment to God and the people around us.

From the religious liberty standpoint, many are concerned about what will happen in 2022. More and more prophetic indicators and historic evidence match with a concentration of signs of the end time that are about to be fulfilled. This is both exciting and frightening.

I am "neither a prophet nor the son of one" to predict the future, but I am inspired to remind to remind you all of one thing. The best way

to prepare for the final events is to follow Jesus in the devotional disciplines and be actively involved in His ministry.

Matthew 24:45-47 clearly states: "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master when he comes, will find so doing." Luke 19:12-13 reiterates: "A man of noble birth went to a far country to have himself appointed king and then to return. He called ten servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work until I come back,'" He said."

An essential part of the preparation for the second coming of Jesus is to watch and be ready, but the main focus is on "doing" (providing food in due season) (Matt 24:47) and "put this money to work... 'until I come back'" (Luke 19:13). It is an active service to fulfill the physical and spiritual needs of people around us until Jesus comes.

Instead of trying to predict what will happen this year & wishing for the best opportunities for us, let's concentrate on allowing God to renew us as individuals and as the church. We do not need better circumstances in life, but we need a renewing of ourselves. According to Apostle Paul, a transformational change has to happen in us. "Renewing of your mind" (Rom 12:2) differs from any comprehensive to-do lists or ambitious new year resolutions. The Holy Spirit's direct involvement transforms us from inside out, cleansing the spring or our thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors.

Thus, 2022 will be a great year if we are transformed in a new way to be like Jesus, whom we love, and wait for Him to come back to take us into God's presence for eternity.

*Titus Naftanaila*  
Wisconsin Conference President

### Sabbath Schedule

**February**

- 5 North Milwaukee Hispanic
- 12 Milwaukee Central
- 26 Kenosha

**March**

- 12 Milwaukee South Hispanic
- 19 Vacation
- 26 Vacation

**April**

- 2 Marriage Retreat
- 9 Green Bay
- 16 WA Alumni
- 23 Milwaukee School 50th Anniversary

**May**

- 14 Hispanic Brotherhood Day
- 21 WA Graduation Weekend

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

# Chippewa Valley Church Doing Evangelism Differently



**T**he dates were selected, the speaker from a national ministry was chosen, the funds were in place, and it was time for the church board to take a final vote, sign the contract, arrange for the public mailing, and proceed with a six week evangelistic outreach series at the Chippewa Valley Seventh Day Adventist Church in Altoona, Wisconsin.

But the board just happened to be blessed with an enthusiastic, energetic, well-prepared pastor with a penchant for thinking “outside the box.” With 20+ years of experience in recovery ministry, and with a street-smart view of how people with different backgrounds and outlooks can better connect with each other, Pastor Kevin

Kuehmicel presented the board with a plan for “evangelism, done different.”

Pastor would be the speaker. We would meet once a week for (yes) 32 weeks. We would start the series in September and go into the month of May 2022. The meetings would be in the gym. Child care would be provided. We would sit at round tables, listen to an hour (or so) teaching on the Book of Revelation, follow-up with a bit of social time (home made snacks provided), and include discussion and prayer at each table before leaving.

So “Hope in the Apocalypse: Removing Fear from the Book of Revelation” began on September 9th, 2021. What are people saying about the class? Two attendees mentioned they were coming because their friends who they love and respect invited them, while a newly-baptized member wanted to remove some of the fearful uncertainty about the book that she had learned of in the past. Another long-time church member said she had just never had the time to attend a Revelation Seminar before, while other church members commented they were attending to deepen their previous understanding of the book.

How is the series proceeding? After over 3 months of weekly meetings, attendance is holding strong in the middle 50’s. About one third of the attendees are guests/non-members. Pastor Kuehmicel began the series with general teaching about language and the chiastic structure used by Bible authors. He took the class through the importance and centrality of seeing Jesus in the sanctuary, and introduced us to general outlooks of how different scholars have approached studying the Book of Revelation. The handouts accompanying the lessons (many of which were prepared by the pastor just for this series) have given general outlines, comparisons, and supplemental details.

Currently the class completed lessons on the seven churches, and is totally ready and looking forward to move into an understanding of the seven seals. When the series concludes in May, 2022, the class will have been taught about all of our church’s basic Biblical beliefs – just by studying through the Book of Revelation. Praise God!

Marcia Harycki  
Chippewa Valley Church Assistant Communication Director

# Janesville District Celebrates Three Baptisms



**O**n Sabbath, November 6, 2021, Linda Sue Johnson join the Woodland Community Church in baptism. We praise God for this precious decision in following Jesus all the way!



**A**lso on Sabbath, November 6, 2021, Debra Rice was baptized into the Woodland Community Church. Our whole conference family welcomes you, Debra. May God richly bless your new life in Him.



**C**hristine Elmer was baptized Sabbath, November 6, 2021, joining the Beloit Church. All heaven rejoices and is standing by to encourage and support you in your choice to live for Jesus and serve Him.

## Cover Story Contiued

simply just listening. Although he didn't want us to pray with him, he was very very grateful that we promised to keep him in our prayers.

Our third and final venture of the year was the best one yet! We said "Satan, get thee behind us," and after once again having multiple opportunities of praying with families and giving emotional support to some more people from the community, for the first time we ran out of books.

Overall, this experience has shown us the power that an intergenerational group holds when surrendering themselves to the glory of God. Because we are intergenerational, we match perfectly with the community. We are a family just like they are a family. And now, as the cold of winter draws near we have put our ministry on pause. However, as we eagerly wait for spring to come our everyday prayer continues to be, "Oh Lord in heaven, please bless us this winter as we prepare to resume sharing Your love and character with our community in the spring."

Brad Bartlett  
Waukesha Community Seventh-day Adventist Church

**Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.**

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

## New Record for Monroe Food Drive



**O**n Thanksgiving Sabbath, November 27, 2021, the Monroe SDA church had their annual food drive for the Green County Food Pantry. This year the Pathfinder and Adventurer event, with the help of the entire church body, passed out 2,500 bags to the community. Notes were stapled on each bag explaining that one week later the bags would be picked up and the food would be taken to the Green County Food Pantry. The note also explained that the Pathfinders and Adventurers were a Seventh-day Adventist youth club.

One week later on December 4 the entire church again worked together with the kids and spent the afternoon driving around and collecting bags of food. The Monroe community gave generously! A new record of 3,386 lbs. of food was collected. Several homes had 2-3 bags of food and some had extra boxes of food. The Pathfinders/Adventurers Annual Food Drive is a successful outreach for the Monroe Community because the community responds abundantly to this need.

Caryn Erb  
Monroe Seventh-day Adventist Church

## Elgin Ziesmer New Camp Ranger



**W**hile Elgin and Becky Ziesmer are not new to Wisconsin we are happy to introduce them as the new Camp Ranger and Administrative Assistant for our conference campground, Camp Wakonda.

Elgin and Becky are currently members at the Green Bay Adventist Church where they have attended for many years. They have a blended family and their children are all grown. Two of their daughters work with them at their Adult Family Home where they have provided care to developmentally disabled ladies for 16+ years.

Elgin has lived his entire life in Wisconsin area, growing up in Lena. Becky has roots in Michigan where she was born, but has called Wisconsin home since her teen years. Both are lifelong Seventh-day Adventists.

Elgin has worked as a machinist, a licensed home inspector, a general contractor and welder among other trades. He seems to be able to do most anything and has enjoyed building and creating most anything needed at camp where he has volunteered for many years. Recently he built a small log cabin in their back yard and set up a sawmill given him by his dad.

Becky has worked as Program Manager for a foster care agency for several years and recently served as Secretary/Treasurer at the Green Bay church. She has been involved with the Pathfinder Ministry for more than 20 years. She was instrumental in creating the Pathfinder Cabin at Camp Wakonda, and helps to maintain it.

Elgin and Becky are excited to continue the tradition of making camp a place to come to spend time with Jesus.



### Save the Date

Speaker for  
Wisconsin Women's Ministry  
Spring Retreat 2022  
Dr. Elizabeth Talbot  
March 25-27, 2022

## Kim Haas to Serve in Singles Ministries



**T**he Wisconsin Conference Family Ministries Advisory Board has elected Kim Haas to serve as the new Singles Ministries Coordinator. Although new to this role, Kim is not new to the Wisconsin Conference as she recently began serving as an administrative assistant at the conference office.

Kim is excited about the addition of this new role and is already working on plans to bring together single individuals from around the conference. Her goals are to provide a place of connection and purpose through social, spiritual and service activities. She invites those who are interested to complete a brief contact form to get connected to this ministry.

You can find the Singles Ministries page on the Wisconsin Conference website by clicking the “Ministries” tab on our homepage.

We welcome Kim and pray for God’s blessings as she begins serving in this ministry.

## Kordas New Milwaukee Teacher



**W**e are happy to welcome Suzanne Kordas as the new 5th and 6th grade teacher for the Milwaukee Seventh-day Adventist School, South Campus, beginning in January, 2022. Suzanne is no stranger to the Milwaukee School as she was an aide and in-house substitute teacher between the years 2009 – 2013. During that time she began work on her masters degree in counseling and has been working in that field since graduating with her degree.

Suzanne loves reading and estimates that she has about 3,000 books in her home. She also loves cats and currently has five, but she says they just seem to find her.

Suzanne strongly believes in Adventist education and is happy to be joining the teaching team in Wisconsin. She hopes that her education and training in counseling will help her as she ministers to the children in her classroom. She had been substituting for the 5th and 6th grade class at the Milwaukee School and when the call came to stay on full time, she accepted.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

**A**s we look back on the year 2021, it certainly was a year filled with many challenges and heartaches. Despite the negative news all around us, I am happy to report that God has never left us, nor will He forsake us.

We can see His leading even in this past year on several fronts. Over 200 souls were baptized in 2021, a level we had not seen since 2016. We praise the Lord He is still working on hearts. Plans are in place for significant evangelism outreach beginning at the end of March 2022 and running through April. We all need to pray for the Holy Spirit to give each of us a divine appointment to invite a neighbor or friend searching to know the Lord better.

We have more positive news concerning the finances of the Conference. Total tithe for 2021 thru today is up 9.22 % compared to 2020. Wisconsin budget came in at a decrease of -6.25 % compared with 2020. This is due to a special one time donation last year. Your continued financial support is humbling and very much valued and appreciated. We will continue to do our utmost to spend these sacred funds in efficient and meaningful ways as the Lord leads.

With hope and faith, we look forward to a busy 2022. Ellen White reminds us in Thoughts From The Mount of Blessings, p.97, that “If we draw near to God, He will put a word in our mouth to speak for Him, even praise unto His name.... In every act of life, the light and love of an indwelling Savior will be revealed. Outward troubles can not reach a life that is lived by faith in the Son of God.”

I pray that we may experience a life that is lived by faith in the Son of God in 2022.



Brian Stephan  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

	2021 (52 wks)	2020 (52 wks)	% Change
December Tithe Income:	\$1,285,063	\$1,085,305	+18.41%
YTD Tithe Income:	\$8,451,991	\$7,738,293	+9.22%
December Wisconsin Budget:	\$59,204	\$48,119	+23.04%
YTD Wisconsin Budget:	\$340,771	\$363,507	-6.25%



from the principal's desk

## The Privilege of Prayer

“Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend.” Steps to Christ p. 94

**A**s a result of Student Week of Prayer coinciding with the General Conference Ten Days of Prayer, our Student Association Religious Vice Presidents decided to use this theme and the materials provided for the basis of our Week of Prayer.

This week a personal experience of mine from long ago became very relevant in my mind. Some years ago I received a phone call from my sister with an urgent call for prayer as our nephew had gone backpacking in the Canadian Rockies. He left a message with a friend that if he had not returned by a certain day she was to call emergency rescue and his parents. His parents and the rescue people had been called and my sister was asking us to please pray that Matthew would be found and be safe and well. I couldn't sleep that night as I continued to pray urgently that our nephew would be found safe. The helicopter and emergency rescue did find him and he was safe.

This week, and I should say all year, we as WA staff have felt an urgency for our students. We can see the great Controversy playing out right in front of our eyes. In my forty years of teaching I have seen this happening, but it seems more so now than ever. We see students struggling between the world and Jesus. We ask that you will

join us in praying, with the same sense of urgency I had when my nephew needed to be found, for the Holy Spirit to reach each student's heart for Him. “Unceasing prayer is the unbroken union of the soul with God ...” Steps to Christ p.94.

During this week I was very excited to see a group of our young people leading out in United Prayer. They were earnestly seeking God in their lives and on campus. We also began a new tradition, “Drop Everything And Pray.” When an announcement comes across our mass notification system, all classes and activities stop and each group of students pray. The week culminated in a special church service where a number of students shared their testimonies of specific answers to prayer. One of the stories shared was by a student who canvassed last summer. She shared how she had asked God for a divine appointment. Having made her quota for the day, she spoke to a gentleman who said he couldn't buy her books. Because she had received more than enough from the previous donation, she gave him the book. He broke down crying as he knew he needed it.

God is anxious to pour out His Holy Spirit on us at Wisconsin Academy in answer to our earnest petitions. Thank you for joining in praying for our students.

## Recent Snapshots



The young men in Mr. Doug Show's Industrial Arts class construct a shelter by the maintenance building that will protect the coach bus from rain and snow while it is parked. Industrial Arts class gives students a wide variety of practical experiences.



Students dress to represent a favorite season during SA Spirit Week. Theme days included, among others, Dress Like a Staff Member Day, Group Day, and State/Country Day.



Freshmen cheer their classmate on as she tries to move an Oreo cookie from forehead to mouth without using her hands. Students enjoyed short Minute-to-Win-It games during a Saturday night activity planned by the Student Association.

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



## Baptism Concludes Week of Prayer



Students, family, and church members rejoiced with all of heaven as senior Sasha publicly declared his commitment to Jesus in baptism. Sasha was baptized by Pastor Jonathan Fetrick, who has been studying with him. This baptism came at the close of our week of prayer with Dr. Jennifer Jill Schwirzer. For all those who have been praying for the students and staff of Wisconsin Academy, your prayers are being heard and answered. Thank you, and keep praying that the Spirit of God will continue to move in a mighty way as we follow Him.

## Grinding Wheat in Home Ec Class



Miss Heidi Rasmussen's Home Ec class has been doing some interesting things recently. The day I visited, students were learning how to grind wheat by hand with a Country Living grain mill. While it is a lot of work turning the wheel, it is gratifying putting in grains of wheat and seeing flour sprinkle out the other side. While some were grinding, others practiced constructing a rocket stove with bricks. A rocket stove can be used in a variety of emergency situations. Mrs. Harriet Snyder and Mr. Bruce Rasmussen assisted.

## "Relationships God's Way" Workshop



The ladies of the women's dorm were recently blessed with a "Relationships God's Way" workshop presented by Mrs. Rebecca Lawrence. Friday evening and throughout the day on Sabbath, they learned about how a relationship with Jesus transforms our lives and how He should be involved in all of our relationships. The presentations involved a variety of fun learning activities. The weekend concluded with each young lady receiving her own crystal vase, a reminder of her beauty and great value.

## IT'S TIME TO ENROLL

Open enrollment for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program is going on now! **TAKE ACTION** today to ensure your child begins the 2022-2023 school year in the best school possible.

The Wisconsin Parental Choice Program gives parents the ability to send their child to the participating private or religious school of their choice **tuition free**.

**MORE INFO AT**

[WWW.CHOOSYOURSCHOOLWI.ORG](http://WWW.CHOOSYOURSCHOOLWI.ORG)

Janine Show: 661-800-8759 or [www.wisacad.org](http://www.wisacad.org)

### 3 Steps

- 1** Apply to Wisconsin Academy  
Apply at any time  
[www.wisacad.org](http://www.wisacad.org)
- 2** Apply to Wisconsin Parental Choice  
Apply Feb 1-Apr 16  
<https://apps4.dpi.wi.gov/ChoiceParent/>
- 3** Call WA Coordinator Janine Show  
Call at any time for documentation processing  
Cell: 661-800-8759

NOTE: General (non-choice) enrollment is ALWAYS open.

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

Return Service Requested

## Calendar of Events

### February

11-13 Pathfinder Winter Retreat  
15 Madison East Town Hall  
16 Milwaukee Ctrl. Hisp. Town Hall  
16-20 WA Home Leave  
18-20 Lake Union Youth Congress  
21 Office Closed President's Day  
22 Board of Education  
23 Executive Committee  
25-27 Hispanic Children's and  
Women's Ministry Certification  
25-27 PCM Retreat at Wakonda

### March

1 Green Bay Town Hall  
2 Wausau Town Hall  
5 Conf. PBE @ Madison East  
6 WA Junior Benefit  
12-27 WA Spring Break  
19 Hispanic Global Youth Day  
19 Union PBE @ Berrien Springs  
25-27 Women's Retreat @ Wakonda  
29 Board of Education  
31-4/2 WA Music Festival

### April

2 Metropolitan Youth Rally  
5 Milwaukee Ctrl. Eng. Town Hall  
6 Executive Committee  
9-10 Path. Area Coordinator Retreat  
15-16 WA Alumni Weekend  
20 Rice Lake Town Hall  
20-24 WA Home Leave

22-23 Division PBE in Eugene, Oregon  
22-23 Milwaukee School 50th Anniv.  
26 Elementary Science Experience  
29-30 Youth Rally @ Madison East  
29-5/1 Wisconsin Academy Days  
29-5/1 Hispanic Men's Retreat

### May

1 Wisconsin Academy Days  
1 Hispanic Men's Retreat  
2-3 Pastor's Meetings  
6-8 Lay Pastor Cohort  
10 Board of Education  
13-15 Pathfinder Fair @ Wakonda  
14 WA Spring Concert  
14 Hispanic Brotherhood Day  
15 Lake Union Constituency  
15-19 Camp Wakonda Work Bee  
20-22 WA Graduation  
25 Executive Committee  
26 Teacher In-Service  
30 Office Closed Memorial Day

## Monthly eNewsletter

Receive conference news  
monthly! Simply share your  
email address with the  
communication department on  
the conference website,  
[wi.adventist.org](http://wi.adventist.org), or call us at  
920-484-6555, ext. 315.

## Four Baptisms in Madison Community



**F**our precious individuals were baptized by Pastor Rowell Puedivan on November 6, 2021, during Sabbath morning worship: Doug Martin, Andrew Cotiangco, L.A. Cotiangco, and Natalie Jamandre. Doug has been part of the church family for many years, leading the PA team and participating in outreach events. Andrew and his high school age daughter, L.A., have joined our Praise Team. Natalie was baptized to rededicate her life to Jesus, and is very active in outreach events. What a joy to witness these public expressions of faith.

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