



Lampletter

Sharon Terrell, Editor

December, 1991

Constituency Meeting

by the Editor

At a specially called constituency meeting on November 24, 1991, Wisconsin Conference delegates came together on the campus of Wisconsin Academy to consider two major issues:

- ^ Revisions to the Wisconsin Conference Constitution and Bylaws as proposed by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- ^ 1991 Wisconsin Budget offering progress report and the proposed 1992 Wisconsin Stewardship Plan

Prior to the November 24 meeting, members of the Constitution and Bylaws committee, including Art Nelson, Chairman (Conference Secretary-Treasurer); Dr. Don Knepel (Milton); Dr. Earl Peters (Green Bay); Attorney Dean Werner (Milwaukee) and Lake Union Conference representative, Herb Larsen (LUC Secretary), met several times to discuss proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

When the committee completed its task, copies of the revised documents were distributed to members of the Lay Advisory Committee, Conference Executive Committee, regular delegates (representing all Wisconsin churches) and delegates at large (Conference employees).

Major revisions recommended by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee were:

To revamp the procedure for electing Conference officers, departmental directors and committee members during constituency meetings

To introduce fiscal controls and guidelines

To increase lay participation in Conference governance

To require balanced regional representation on key Conference committees

To involve the local churches in selecting qualified candidates to serve on key Conference committees

Several hours were spent by the delegates in reviewing separately each section of the Constitution and Bylaws. Time was given for all views to be presented.

One revision causing some reaction from the delegates was the revision to the section on Quorum as relates to future constituency meetings. The percentage of regular delegates (not including Conference employees) who must be present to constitute a quorum was increased from 40 to 51%. (Bylaws, Article IV, Section 5.)

Proposed revisions were voted by the delegates with one exception. Bylaws Article XI, Section 1, regarding Budget was approved with the stipulation that it would not be effective until January 1, 1993.

Since these actions incorporate major revisions of the current Constitution and Bylaws, the recommended changes will need to be reviewed and approved by the Lake Union Conference Executive Committee which meets early in 1992.

(From left, delegates Scott Davis & Dr. Orris Keiser of Green Bay and Charles Pitts & Doris Stotz of Frederic register for the constituency meeting.)



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Constituency Meeting (continued from pg 1)

In reviewing the status of the 1991 Wisconsin Budget offering, **Richard Terrell**, Stewardship Director, reported that through October, 1991, \$428,678 has been received toward the 1991 Wisconsin Budget offering goal (including a 72,000 reduction in Academy operating expenses) which means that 74.4% of the \$575,856 goal has been attained. Through October, 20 churches have exceeded their fair share goal and every church has contributed toward the needs of the Academy and evangelistic outreach of the Conference.

After the delegates had an opportunity to thoroughly discuss the proposed 1992 Wisconsin Stewardship plan with a Wisconsin Budget offering goal of \$379,883, they voted **unanimously** to accept the plan as presented. A year-to-date Wisconsin Conference budget offering report and a copy of the 1992 Stewardship Plan will be mailed to each church family the first week of December.

In other actions of the day, the delegates voted changes in the Sisterhood of Churches as follows:

- ^ To accept the Lakeland Company (Minocqua) into church status
- ^ To merge the Oshkosh and Appleton churches into the Fox Valley Church at Neenah
- ^ To disband the Waupaca and Manitowoc churches

As provided for in the revised Constitution and Bylaws, the organizing committee for the 29th Regular Session met early on Sunday to review the names of suggested members for the nominating committee. Those persons approved (by vote of the delegates) to served on this committee are:

Region I	Nelson Boon, Phillip Holm
Region II	Dale Bossenberry, Dale Sinnett, Carol Mertins, Ken Knutsen
Region III	Jim Salzieder, Jerry Mann
Region IV	John Tess, Wendell Springer, Eugene Brewer
Region V	Robert Merikel

Subject to approval of the revisions to the Wisconsin Constitution and Bylaws by the Lake Union Executive Committee, the members of the nominating committee will meet at least 45 days prior to the 29th Regular Triennial Session and will bring their report at the beginning of the meeting which will be held on April 12, 1992.

At this Session, delegates will elect Conference officers and departmental directors, committee members and hear reports and conduct business of the Conference as outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws.

Around the Conference

Fall Federation Meetings were held around the State in early October at the **Bethel, Rice Lake, Richland Center, Almond** and **Watertown** churches. **Dale Ziegele**, Church Ministries Director, and **Deirdre Johnson**, State Federation President, led out in these district meetings.

Two Miles of Fabric were donated to the Conference by the NAEIR organization recently to be used by participating Dorcas societies for making quilts for the needy. **Elder Ziegele** and **Amber Stauffer** (part time student employee) recently spent a whole day measuring the material into 50 yard pieces for distribution to those churches from which a request had been received. Dorcas leaders were made aware of the gift at the district Federation meetings.

Ingathering is in full swing! The 1991 Ingathering Campaign was officially launched at the beginning of November and just one week later, several churches were already celebrating the reaching of their goal: **Evansville, Prentice, Clearwater Lake** and **N. Milwaukee Spanish**. Several other churches are also nearing their goal!

It was encouraging to note that Wisconsin members are also faithfully supporting the **Witness Through Roses** campaign. Last report received indicated that \$417 has been received to date. Please continue to help right up to the end of the campaign.



Did you know that 2 Conference office secretaries, **Jackie Wilson** and **Alice Priser**, will be traveling to CA during Christmas vacation to assist in decorating the float? If you haven't donated your *bouquet of roses for Jesus*, please take this opportunity to make a special Christmas gift to Him. Send your contribution marked "Roses" through your local church or directly to: **Roses**, P. O. Box 10550, Silver Spring, MD 20914.

The **Winter Youth Retreat** will be held at Whispering Pines Camp in northern WI, February 14-16, 1992. **Elder Herb Larsen**, Lake Union Conference Secretary, will be the featured speaker. Plan now to attend this special time of fellowship -- only \$35 for the week-end. Come and bring a friend. For more information, write to Mrs. **Ruth Nelson**, Box 67, Lewis, WI 54851 or phone (715) 653-2286.

A Time of Refreshing, Wisconsin Women's Retreat, was attended by more than 230 women in spite of less than favorable weather. This special week-end has become a regular event for many women from WI and other states as well, including MN, IL, MI, MA and CA. When the featured speaker, **Dr. Ruth Murdoch**, was detained in Minneapolis by

URGENT - YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED

Re: Wisconsin State Assembly Bill 497. This Bill would impose service fees on tax exempt real property and would, in effect, tax religious and charitable associations in the form of service fees.

The Bill states that "By January 31, a municipality shall impose a service fee on the owner of any real property if the real property is located within the municipality and is exempted from taxation under S.70.11." The service fees will be levied to cover solid waste management, police and fire protection, but not emergency medical services, street construction repair and maintenance, including traffic control and snow and ice removal.

If this Bill passes, it could have a devastating effect on the finances of our churches and related organizations.

Your pastor and head elder have received copies of this Bill.

You may also obtain a copy from your State senator or representative. We are enclosing a list of State senators and representatives and a suggested method for making contact with them. **Please share your concerns regarding Assembly Bill 497 with your senator and representative immediately.**

J. Richard Terrell, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty

Around the Conference (continued from pg 2)

a record breaking snow storm (25 inches in less than 24 hours), she boarded a bus to Eau Claire where she made connections for a ride to Stevens Point, arriving in time for her Friday evening appointment. **Incidentally, Dr. Murdoch is 85 years young.** Her enthusiastic spirit was evident in experiences she shared with the women throughout the week-end and many expressed how blessed they were by Dr. Murdoch's messages on the *Spirit-filled Women*. (See December, 1991 *Lake Union Herald* feature for additional details of this retreat.)



Achievement Test Results

Results of the achievement tests taken by K-10 students during the 4th week of school are in and the report is excellent for Seventh-day Adventist education.

Students in Wisconsin SDA Schools, grades 3-8, take the ITBS test each fall. Tests scores reveal that these students average 5.7 months ahead of the national average.

The students in the 8th grade scored in the equivalent of the second month of 9th grade when they were tested in the first month of the eighth grade.

Another way of expressing this would be that students in Wisconsin's Seventh-day Adventist church schools gain a month in their basic educational skills for each year they attend our schools, resulting in the students being more than 1 year ahead of national norms by the time they finish 8th grade.

A copy of the ITBS test results is available from the Conference Office of Education.

Valuegenesis

The "Valuegenesis" study of Seventh-day Adventist youth revealed many excellent processes that are happening in Seventh-day Adventist homes, churches and schools. This study also revealed some gaps in each of these institutions.

The inservice for Wisconsin pastors and teachers, held on November 25 at the Conference office, concentrated on 6 problem areas where the homes, churches and schools appear to be weak:

- ^ Parent-child dialogue about faith
- ^ Family worship (frequency)
- ^ Involvement in "helping" projects
- ^ Quality of religious education programs (congregation and academy)
- ^ Experience of warmth and support (congregation and school)
- ^ Experience of "thinking climate" in congregations

Most of the inservice schedule was reserved for planning by teachers and pastors from specific churches and schools as to what practical things they would do in their local churches, homes and school to strengthen home life, church life and school life for our Wisconsin young people.

Herb Wrate, Superintendent of Education

The *Lampletter* is produced bimonthly as a report to the members of the Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Please address all correspondence to the Communication Department, **Sharon Terrell, Editor.**



Our Bookmobile Schedule for 1991 is completed.

We wish to thank each of you for your faithful support of the Bookmobile when it is in your area. It is this continued support that makes this service a viable option for the ABC.

As you are planning your 1991 holiday giving, remember your loved ones with a book or Bible from the ABC.

Use the toll free ABC order number 1-800-765-6955 and we will ship your order right away.

The Book Center in Madison will be open Sundays December 1, 8, and 15 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm for your holiday shopping convenience.

We welcome Kitty Crary who has started working part time in the Book Center, replacing Fran Gladden who moved with her husband to the New Jersey Conference where she is serving as receptionist. Kitty is new to ABC work but will be remembered by some as one of the secretaries in the Conference Office a few years back. We are fortunate to have Kitty on the ABC team.

If you have not ordered your 1992 Devotional Books, see your church personal ministries secretary for reduced prices. The 1992 books include:

- ^ *Our Father Cares* (Sr)
- ^ *Go For the Gold* (Jr)
- ^ *Little Talks With Jesus* (Pre-school)
- ^ *Early Years*, suggested for family worship and personal devotions.

Regular price for each book is \$9.50 but this may be reduced to as low as \$6.25 by ordering through your local church personal ministries secretary.

Esther Nelson, ABC Manager

Academy Students Minister

Wisconsin Academy is a training ground for future church leaders. Neil Richmond, Outreach Coordinator, estimates that at least 50% of the student body are assisting in outreach activities and 75% are involved with religious activities on campus.

Outreach activities this year include:

- ^ Bread Basket Ministry
- ^ Nursing Home Ministry
- ^ Sabbath Worship Services

In the bread basket ministry, students bake bread on Friday. The freshly baked bread is wrapped together with a jar of jam or jelly, a *Steps to Christ* booklet and an invitation to study the Bible and is delivered to members of the Columbus community on Sabbath afternoon.

Staff and students have assisted WI pastors by providing Sabbath worship services in several Wisconsin churches. Mr. Richmond is conducting a Bible Marking class on Friday evenings to prepare students to give Bible studies. Some students have already started to give Bible studies in the community, and as requests come in, other students will be involved.

Academy Christmas Concert

The annual Christmas Concert is scheduled for 8 p.m. on Friday, December 13. Participants this year will include the Wisconsin Academy Chorale, Choralaires, Bell Choir, the newly formed Columbus Community Choir and a full brass ensemble, directed by Bruce Rasmussen. Featured music will be John Rutter's "Gloria" and Handel's "Hallalujah Chorus" plus many old and new Christmas carols.

Merry Christmas!

from your Conference and ABC Staff

*Joy Esther Karen Lily
Richard Anne Amber Ott
Alice Rose Amber
Jackie Laurie Sharon
Millie Herb*

Conference Calendar

Dec	01	ABC Open
	03	Conf Exec Comm
	08	ABC Open
	15	ABC Open
	24	Office Closes Noon
	25	Office Closed
	31	Office Closes Noon
Jan	01	Office Closed
	05	WA Home Lv Ends
	17-18	WA Jr Presentation
	20	Office Closed



Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
P. O. Box 7310
Madison, WI 53707

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