

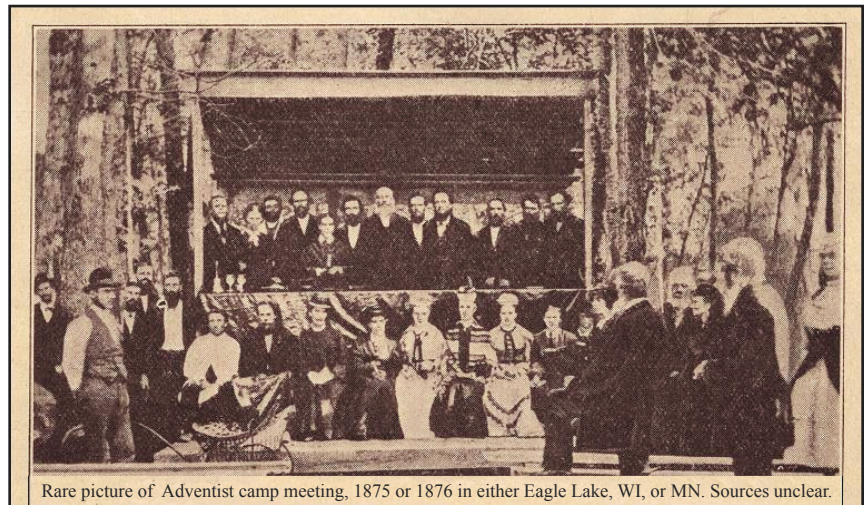
Disrupted Camp Meetings

The cancellation of camp meeting in 2020 due to COVID-19 appears to be one of only two such cancellations of Wisconsin camp meetings in 154 years.

The only other record of an official cancellation was due to government travel restrictions at the end of World War II in 1945. Camp meeting at that time was held annually at the Portage campground along Silver Lake. An announcement from Wisconsin in the Lake Union Herald on March 27, 1945, said “We shall all miss this yearly meeting which brings to those who attend such spiritual blessings. But these are unusual times in which we live. Many of the regular routines of life are broken into and adjustments must be made.”

There is also no record of camp meeting being held in 1868, although it was not a cancellation. The combined Wisconsin/Illinois Conference did hold a camp meeting in Clyde, Illinois, in September of that year. Many Wisconsin members and leaders were surely in attendance there. Our leaders and members were also recorded as “well represented” at the general camp meeting held in Michigan that year. Other than the cancellations in 1945 and 2000, 1868 was the first, and only other year on record of a missed camp meeting in Wisconsin since beginning in 1867. A record of where the various locations camp meeting has convened since its beginning in 1867 can be found on the Wisconsin camp meeting webpage.

There have also been a couple disruptions through the years. In 1869, camp meeting was held during September in Clinton Junction. A rain storm on the very day camp was to begin, kept many away. Then the



Rare picture of Adventist camp meeting, 1875 or 1876 in either Eagle Lake, WI, or MN. Sources unclear.

weather turned very cold. Since no warming trend was in sight, camp meeting was closed early and everyone headed home on Monday with a unanimous decision to meet in mid-summer the following year.

At the 1899 camp meeting in Marshfield, rain fell continuously while tents were being pitched. 10,000 feet of boards were purchased and laid for walkways above the sticky clay. As the weather worsened, the tents were dancing in the strong wind. A roaring in the skies overhead became so loud that the speaker gave up preaching and began to sing. Soon it was impossible to hear which hymn was announced, so groups gathered and sang separately. The storm which sent the campers to their tents that Monday afternoon, went down in history as Wisconsin’s most destructive tornado. But no storm could dampen the courage of Wisconsin campers. All stayed through to the end, then left saying, “This was the best camp meeting we ever attended.”

No other disruptions are on record in

the flow of our yearly Wisconsin camp meetings. In fact, for 50 years it was our custom to hold two or more camp meetings per year in various parts of the state.

How did camp meetings get started in the first place? In 1867 two Wisconsin ministers conceived the idea of a yearly camp meeting for our Adventist people. They knew there was something fascinating about meetings in a tent. Yet, would families be willing to camp in tents for a week? They wanted to give it a try, so in late summer, 1867, the Wisconsin president offered the use of his cow pasture just east of Janesville. Several notices appeared in the Review saying: “See to it that the enemy does not cheat you out of attending this gathering of the saints... if you think you cannot spare the time, you are the very one that needs to come.” Sounds like a good invitation for 2021!



Juanita Edge
Communication Director



From the President's Desk

Church is Built on Solid Rock

Churches based on the powerful personality of leaders, marketing strategies, emotional and spiritual exploitations can flourish for a while but are vulnerable to both external and internal threats. They can promote a variety of programs and services with a strong emotional and social impact, but they will always miss the most important goals: to honor God and disciple others into His kingdom.

The situation is not the same with the church built "on the rock." In our interpretation, the rock means Jesus, the truth, and personal convictions. Jesus presented Peter with a remarkable statement about the origin and the condition of the church: "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

Also, the Apostle Paul reminded the believers from Ephesus: "Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In Him, you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit." Ephesians 2: 20-22

The main idea from these two passages is that the church is instituted by Jesus to be, "the holy temple of God" and all of its

members are, "built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit." The church is not a human organization, a social club, or just a non-profit, charitable organization. It is not based on the personality of the leader and his strategy to attract people. The church is instituted by Jesus and it is built on Him (the rock), and He is "the cornerstone" that keeps the whole structure together.

As long as the church is built and managed by Jesus there is no reason for fear and uncertainty for the future. Jesus is the builder and provider of the church. With Him as the supreme leader, there is no cataclysm that is able to annihilate it. "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

Finally, the Book of Revelation presents a glorious future for our church that comes out of the great tribulation that eliminates any reason for concern: "After this, I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: 'Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.'" Revelation 7: 9-10

Titus Naftanaila

Wisconsin Conference President

Sabbath Schedule

May

- 1 Milwaukee Central Hisp.
- 8 Wisconsin Rapids
- 15 Available
- 22 Wisconsin Acad. Grad.

June

- 5 Chippewa Valley
- 12 Available
- 17 Camp Meeting
- 23 Camp Meeting

July

- 3 Vacation
- 10 Oxford
- 17 Madison East
- 24 Available
- 31 Available

August

- 7 Wautoma
- 14 Hispanic Camp Meeting
- 21 Available
- 28 Ashland

To request speaking appointments contact Titus Naftanaila at: titusn@wi.adventist.org

Fear not, for I am with you; be not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you.

Isaiah 41:10

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IT'S TIME

WISCONSIN CAMP MEETING
JUNE 18-26, 2021



John Bradshaw
*Speaker/Director for
It Is Written*

1st Friday 7:30 pm
and Sabbath



Titus Naftanaila
*President
Wisconsin Conference*

Sunday 7:30 pm



Mike Tucker
*Former Speaker/Director of
Faith for Today Television
Ministries*

Mon. - Fri. 2:30 pm



Ask Your Leaders
*President, Treasurer, Trust,
Ministerial, Education,
Youth, Communication*

Sunday 2:30 pm



Roger Hernandez
*Ministerial & Evangelism
Director, Southern Union*

2nd Friday 7:30 pm
and Sabbath



Peter Neri
*Senior Pastor, Paradise
SDA Church*

Mon. - Fri. 9:30 am



Michael Campbell
*Professor of Religion at
Southwestern Adventist
University*

Mon. - Fri. 4:00 pm



Rodney Palmer
*Assistant Professor
of Religion, Andrews
University*

Sunday 4:00 pm



Glenn Russell
*Department Chair/Assoc.
Prof. of Religion & Biblical
Languages and Andrews*

Mon. - Thur. 7:30 pm



John Kelly
*Lifestyle/Preventative
Medicine*

Mon. - Fri. 11:00 am



Thom Foll
*Lay Pastor for Watertown
Church*

7:00 am Morning Prayer
Sabbath - Sabbath



Sandro Sandoval
*Kansas/Nebraska
Conference Pastor*

Youth Department Speaker



The LightHouse is providing our book
and food store for camp meeting. Hours:

Both Fridays: 10:00am - 5:30pm
Sun. - Friday 10:00am - 5:30pm
All evenings but Fridays: 9:00pm - 10:00pm

More Information

Register and learn
more about camp
meeting speakers,
divisions, policies,
classes, activities,
and more on the
conference website at
wi.adventist.org.



The King's Heralds Quartet
*This male singing group, founded in 1927,
is the oldest continuous gospel quartet in
America.*

First Sabbath Feature 4:00 pm

Zack Payne Our New Youth Director



We are happy to welcome Zack Payne as our new Youth Director for the Wisconsin Conference. Zack has served as a pastor in the Wisconsin Conference since 2012, and most recently has been serving as senior pastor of Wisconsin's Southeastern Network of Seventh-day Adventist Churches (WISEN) in Racine and Kenosha counties.

When Zack was ten years old he got involved in Pathfinders and became a junior deacon. This is where his faith journey began. He took Bible studies with his local pastor and soon took his stand to be baptized. After a summer of working at camp during high school, Zack heard God calling him to be a minister of the gospel, eventually earning a BA in Theology from Southern Adventist University.

After a short tenure as part time youth pastor and day camp director at the Apison Adventist Church in TN, Zack accepted a call to serve in Green Bay, WI, as full-time youth pastor alongside Pastor Bill Ochs. "It was during my time in Green Bay that I met my beautiful wife, Allison, the love of my life and my wonderful partner in ministry," said Zack. After a couple of years in Green Bay, he and Allison moved to Michigan so he could attend Andrews University Theological Seminary where he earned a Master's of Divinity degree. Pastor Payne and his wife have three children, Arthur, Eleanor, and Walter.

"Allison and I are so excited about the opportunity to serve the Wisconsin Conference in this new capacity. Youth ministry has been such an integral part of our journey and it's humbling to be called to lead a new generation of young people for Christ."

Gary Gibbs New Pastor in Superior



Pastor Gary Jon Gibson, his wife, Elizabeth, and their four children - Jonathan, Jared, Josiah and Jocelyn - have accepted God's call to pastor the Ashland, Superior and Hayward churches. They are moving from Pendleton, Oregon.

Pastor Gibson encourages church leaders and members to mingle with fellow members and community alike, showing sympathy, ministering to their needs and winning their confidence before inviting them to follow Jesus. At the forefront of Pastor Gibson's message to lead people to follow Jesus, are love and prayer. He especially focuses on the formation of prayer groups and includes prayer training in his ministry. The family enjoys road trips, and are "Do-It-Yourselfers" who can often be found fixing up and decorating their home.

JeanMark A'Kessler Ordination June 26



Guzmán New Pastor Sheboygan Hispanic



Pastor Cristofe Guzmán and his wife Lilibeth have accepted the call to pastor the Sheboygan Hispanic District. Pastor Guzmán was born in Santiago, Dominican Republic and as a third generation Adventist he says, "I had the opportunity to meet Jesus as I listened to the teaching of the Bible by my grandmother." At the age of 10, Cristofe was baptized and says that his passion for evangelism began while participating in his local Pathfinder club.

Guzmán says, "Both Lilibeth and I are passionate about mission, visiting the brothers of the church, serving our community, working with youth and children, among other ministries. We are happy to have received the invitation to serve in the Wisconsin Conference and very grateful to God for the family that we have found in this beautiful place."

Kevin Moreno Ordination June 26



Scott Manly New Pastor in Rice Lake



We are pleased to welcome Scott Manly as the new pastor for the Rice Lake District. Over his 21 years in pastoral ministry, Pastor Manly has served in both the Michigan Conference and the Manitoba-Saskatchewan Conference in Canada. His first year in Canada was spent in missionary work in Nunavut, in the Arctic, working among the Inuit.

Pastor Manly says that his passions in ministry include “Christ’s method, and the intersection of science and faith.” He has written a Bible study and evangelistic series entitled Science and Faith: Real Answers.

Pastor Manly’s wife, Amy, is a certified reading therapist and assists students of all ages with dyslexia and reading lag. They have three children, Nathan, Jacob, and Lydia.

In his free time, Pastor Manly loves nature communing with God wildlife photography camping, backpacking and rock-climbing.

Kim Haas New Office Personnel



We welcome Kim Haas to our conference office staff to serve as Administrative Assistant for the President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Ministerial Department. Kim holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Business Management, an Associates degree in Accounting, and GRI, ABR, and CRS certifications in real estate.

Kim was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and spent much of her early life in Madison. Kim recently returned to Wisconsin after serving seven years as Group Project Manager for Maranatha Volunteers Int. in Roseville, CA, where she organized group mission trips. Prior to Maranatha, Kim worked for Coldwell Banker as New Construction Warranty Service Manager and real estate sales professional for 12 years.

Kim has one grown son, Nick. She enjoys horseback riding, hiking, camping, and walks in nature with Sherman, her boxer mix. Most importantly she loves sharing about the transforming love of Jesus.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

It’s an extra busy time in treasury as we are in the middle of our annual financial audit conducted by the General Conference Auditing Services. We are also very much into the planning stages for our upcoming camp meeting to be held June 18-26 at Camp Wakonda. Extra care and thought are necessary as we look forward to resuming both camp meeting and youth camp events in a safe and appropriate manner.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could give a day or even a weeks’ time to come to the camp work bee May 16-20. Much needs to be done to get camp ready for the upcoming summer. Please contact Scott or Tammi Baker at the camp to see the tasks that need to be completed. Lodging and meals will be arranged for those who are able to volunteer.

Both tithe and Wisconsin Budget figures for March are within an expected range at this early point of the fiscal year. Because of the shutting down of churches due to COVID, and not having camp meeting last year, we really won’t have meaningful tithe and offering comparisons with last year until July figures are available. The year 2020 was a very difficult year in many ways. God has a way of bringing blessings even in very trying times. One of those blessings was that God blessed our conference with a positive financial year that allowed us to actually add to our depleted reserves and set us on the path to a firmer foundation financially. That happened in large part because of you our faithful members. A big thanks and praise to God for His goodness to our church family.

I am convinced that God has a mighty and important work for us to do here in this part of His vineyard. I pray that we all answer the call to fulfill our part of the mission that Lord gives each of us, in spreading the good news of a loving Savior coming soon to take us home.



Brian Stephan
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

| FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2021 | 2020 | % Change |
| March Tithe Income: | \$695,380 | \$522,440 | 33.10% |
| YTD Tithe Income: | \$1,894,140 <small>(13 wks)</small> | \$1,794,237 <small>(13 wks)</small> | 5.57%** |
| March Wisconsin Budget: | \$24,747 | \$22,036 | 12.30% |
| YTD Wisconsin Budget: | \$74,517 <small>(13 wks)</small> | \$114,004 <small>(13 wks)</small> | -34.64%**^^ |

** Less tithe special gift in 2020, +24.24% gain YTD ^^ Less WI budget gift in 2020, +23.08% YTD



National Honor Society Inducts Nine



The Wisconsin Academy chapter of the National Honor Society is pleased to announce that nine new members were inducted into its membership during a ceremony attended by the entire student body with family and friends. Featured presenter Dr. Austin Bacchus spoke about the “Weight of a Talent,” exploring Jesus’ parable of the talents and encouraged us to see the gifts God has given us in the proper perspective. The charge was followed by a candle lighting ceremony, the signing of the NHS register, and the presentation of certificates. Seniors in the society were also honored with a medallion. The National Honor Society officers and sponsors thank all who attended and those who in other ways continue to support these students in their growth.

in a baptism and commitments to spend more time with Jesus. You can view his livestreamed and archived messages by finding them on our WA Facebook page.

Following the week of prayer, the students have been invited to participate as missionaries in the summer Youth Rush program. Many have shown an interest. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work on each of our hearts as we continue to share the Three Angels’ Messages.

find out more at
www.wisacad.org

from the principal's desk

Beyond Ourselves

Students Reach Out Despite COVID Challenges

Before the school year began, the Wisconsin Academy Student Association met together to plan for the year. One of their goals was to find a theme and a Bible text. They chose Joshua 1:9 with the “COVID appropriate” thought of “Do not be afraid”. They divided the verse into four parts, one for each quarter, and picked another Bible text expanding on each section of the verse. We memorize each quarters’ verse together in morning chapel.

This quarter our verse is:

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

- Matthew 28:19-20.

As you can see from the included pictures and stories, our students are fulfilling the challenges of this verse in a COVID environment. They have become excited

about GLOWing (passing out GLOW tracts) and literature distribution. The opportunity to put into practice some of our CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training in Cedar Rapids, Iowa was an amazing experience for students, staff, and the community.

Although we thought it would be impossible to get Pastor Ron Kelly, considering his busy schedule, to speak for our week of prayer, we prayed and God answered our prayers! His theme was how to have a happy and abundantly successful life with Jesus being the center of it. He gave us counsel on dating and family relationships, honesty, respect, how to be God fearing women, and how to be responsible men with Godly standards.

He challenged us to go beyond ourselves and think about and work for others. He had a special call to work with our Wisconsin Academy church family in uniting in foreign mission trips. It was exciting to observe small groups gathering in spontaneous prayer. The week of prayer culminated



Week of Prayer Results in Baptism



On Sabbath, April 10, WA students, staff, family, and church members rejoiced with all of heaven as junior Seth Baines was baptized at the close of our spring week of prayer. Seth was baptized by Pastor Ron Kelly, who spoke for morning and evening meetings, sharing the essentials of having a relationship with Jesus and inspiring the students to take up the challenge of reaching the world for Christ. After making the choice for baptism, Seth made a call to his fellow students, encouraging them to stand up and commit fully to Jesus Christ. 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.

Service Trip: Derecho Recovery in Iowa



On March 10, eighteen WA students and staff took a service trip to Cedar Rapids, Iowa to help in the recovery effort from last year's derecho storm. Cedar Rapids was particularly hard hit, with many homes and businesses severely damaged. Our team worked with community organizations to help those affected. Students fixed and replaced damaged mobile home skirting, cleaned up debris, spread compost in community gardens, went door-to-door passing out information about a community needs assessment survey, cleaned up fallen branches and trees in a cemetery, unloaded and sorted food for two different food pantries, and distributed GLOW tracts on Sabbath. This trip was a continuing part of our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) effort that we trained for last fall.

ACADEMY DAY!

Join us for a Free Preview



Wisconsin Academy is happy to invite 7-11th grade students to come visit classes, talk with teachers, eat "cafe" food, tour the campus, make some new friends and just "get a feel" for academy life on Sunday, May 2. Students will also have the opportunity to earn scholarships in an area of their interest. There are also special meetings for parents and sponsors designed for them to ask questions and find the answers they need. Doors will open at 9:00 am and the program will begin at 9:30 am. The day will finish at 6:00 pm. Lunch and supper are included free of charge. We look forward to seeing you at Academy Day 2021! Find out more and let us know you are coming by visiting us on the web and filling out the free registration form.

www.wisacad.org

Recent Snapshots



Stuart Cuateco, Daniel Lee, and Thomas McCormick plan the best way to reach all the houses in the neighborhood. Students hung small bags on doors in Rio and Randolph containing *The Great Hope*, an excerpt from Ellen G. White's *The Great Controversy*.



Senior Marco Ruppel perfects his golf swing on a bright spring day. This quarter, students had the opportunity to join a variety of clubs on campus, including golf, baking, edible wild plants, drama, disc golf, art, and song leading.



Sophomore Stevie Hamann speaks during a meeting of the WA student council, which consists of male and female representatives from each class. They discuss ideas and make proposals at staff meetings. Stevie said, "I'm really glad it got started again, and I hope it continues."



After a big snowstorm, students clear snow and ice from vehicles at Prairie Ridge Health, the local hospital in Columbus. Over 20 students and staff surprised hospital employees and visitors with this unexpected act of kindness, which was much appreciated by the vehicle owners we met.

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

Return Service Requested

Calendar of Events

May

4/30-5/2 Lay Pastors Cohort
3 Pastor's Meetings
8 Hispanic Brotherhood
11 Board of Education
12 Executive Committee
16 Pathfinder Fair - Wakonda
16-20 Work Bee - Camp Wakonda
21-22 Wisconsin Academy Graduation
27 Teacher In-Service
31 Office Closed

June

11-13 LU Hispanic Women's Retreat
13-18 Camp Pitch
18-26 Camp Meeting
27-7/4 Junior Camp
28 Office Closed

July

4-11 Tween Camp
11-18 Teen Camp
18 JAHWI Sports Day
18-25 Family Camp I
25-6/1 Family Camp II
25 Hispanic Childrens Sports Day

August

2-5 Teacher/Pastor Meetings
8-10 Hispanic Camp Pitch
11-14 Hispanic Camp Meeting
18 Executive Committee
27-29 Adventurer Camporee

Camp Wakonda Work Bee May 16-20

Work bee begins at 9:00 am Monday morning May 16. Come help for one, two, or all five days! Meals and cabin housing provided for those working on camp projects. Some projects include:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Painting | Landscaping |
| Carpentry | General Repairs |
| Vehicle Mechanics | Power Washing |
| Meal Preparation | Flowerbed TLC |
| Stick Removal | Ground Projects |
| Deep Cleaning | Clean Cabin Roofs |
| Install asphalt shingles | Install Metal Roofs |
| Pine Needle Removal | And More! |

Come enjoy fun, fellowship and fresh air! Evening activities are planned. Learn more by calling Camp Wakonda at 608-296-2126.



Zack Trecartin is no longer Assistant Treasurer for the Wisconsin Conference. He and his wife, Amanda are relocating.

Teresa Schatzka has transferred from office Administrative Assistant to be the new Assistant Treasurer for Wisconsin Conf.

Bob Stauffer retired from interum pastoring in Superior District with his wife, Alma.

Danilo Colindres and his wife Nancy have retired from pastoring in Sheboygan Hispanic district.

Cid Leopoldino and family leave pastoring Milwaukee Central Hispanic district May 1 for Andrews University seminary training.

Scammers Targeting the Faithful

Because of church member's generosity and willingness to help others in need, scammers frequently target Christians in affinity fraud. Before responding to any appeal, contact the person you know by another method, and ask them if the communication is legitimate. Do not reply to the email or text directly. Protect yourself and the church organization by simply not

responding. Conference employees do not solicit information in this way. Do not give out any information, and never send money to an email request. Scammers can sound very authentic and official, trying to make you feel emotional, fearful, or charitable about something. Do not believe them. Stop and verify before responding if anything seems slightly unusual or you do not recognize it.