



Official Newsletter for the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists:

Michigan Memo

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Synergy in Detroit

—Justin Kim
Communications Director

In a time when news from the Detroit area is filled with crime, corruption, and financial insolvency, the Lord led His Church to pool its resources and energies together. 2013 became an exciting year to introduce Jesus and His Word to the urban public. A REACH '13 Rally in the first half of the year brought various congregations together to see what the synergistic potential could be.

Inspired and challenged to reach 13 individuals for Christ in 2013, each member was encouraged to be trained and to witness through their own personal ministry to friends, family, co-workers, visitors, and guests. These efforts were coordinated by the area pastors to culminate with the autumn series, "Unlocking Revelation." Conference department heads, pastoral staff, and the lay leadership led out in these seminars which were advertised with more than half a million handbills and a major advertising campaign through billboards, radio, and the internet.

First-time guests numbered to just less than 1,000 on opening night, swelling to almost 1,500 throughout

the evangelistic campaign. Today these churches are in the middle of holding baptismal and follow-up Daniel classes. Over 100 seminar guests are now attending our churches and, Lord willing, will be ready to follow the Lord through baptism. Multitudes of other seminar guests who attended only a few nights will be followed up with visits and invitations to Bible study in the months ahead.

Reports have come in on how district churches are collaborating and finding a newly-discovered synergy with each other. "The camaraderie has been simply amazing. The relationships and bonds that were formed between sister churches was simply awesome. We had more members involved than I have ever seen in my 17 years of pastoring - regularly 60 or so members there every night. We had tables going after the first night and there were regular Bible studies going on after the presentations by many of the table leaders. That was exciting for a pastor to see!" said Pastor Curt DeWitt of the Warren Church and Sterling Heights Discovery Bible Fellowship.

Not only is the series opening and teaching the book of Revelation,



(Continued on page 3)



Guest's Perspective

New Year, New You!

—Vicki Griffin,
Health & Temperance Director

Someone once wrote, “*Nothing is as fatiguing as the eternal hanging on of an uncompleted task.*” Do you have one (or more) of those creatures clinging to you like lice? It may be a resolution to lose weight, exercise more, spend more time with God or the family, spend less money, give more, etc. You may be convicted that this thing God is talking to you about has a larger bearing on your walk with God—not His love for you, but your love for Him.

Have you ever been so stuck in a rut that you have questioned your own sincerity? That is exactly what the enemy wants. What can God do with a discouraged man? Not much. Let’s take this thing apart. I am tired of God’s people living in drudgery, depression, and defeat—I think you are too!

1. Move from Fleshly Desire to Godly Determination

No one gets up in the morning and says, “I think I’ll make a to-do list and then not finish a single thing; then I can revel in the misery.” The flesh has an honest desire to do the right thing—it just cannot. “The good I will to do, I do not do.” (Romans 7:19) The flesh is like a sparkler on the fourth of July; it starts big and burns out fast. “From now on, six frozen grapes for dessert!” Really? God wants you to move forward in the Spirit, not the flesh.

Moving in the Spirit is more like a slow-burning ember that uses kindling and oxygen to keep the heat going. The Spirit that God plants in you says, “I don’t care how hard it is. I don’t care how long it takes. I am going to press in, press through, and press on until I receive all that God has for me in this area.” This is no silver slipper journey. It is work.

You may need to rearrange your furniture to face away from the refrigerator. You may need to throw away some magazines and DVDs. You may need to hang onto a chair leg and refuse to get out from God’s presence until you know you are in agreement with Him. You may need to declare the same promise 50 times out loud in a day. But I promise you, it works! “It will, at times, take every particle of willpower that you possess, but it is God that is working for you, and you will come forth from the molding process a vessel unto honor.” (*Messages to Young People*, p. 153)

2. Stop Gambling—Start Investing

The flesh is a gambler. It wants immediate results with very little investment. If success does not come quickly, the flesh concludes that the task at hand is either not important or not possible. It gets stuck no matter that it took 20 years to rack up that credit card debt and a lifetime of bad eating habits to gain that weight. The Spirit, however, is an investor. When the Spirit moves in you to reach a goal, you will have the power to persevere with no immediate reward in sight. You will get stronger with the struggle, knowing that “payday is coming.” God has promises and power for you, but He also has a *plan*. Plans work over time; good plans get even better as they develop. God’s plan for you today prepares you for His plan tomorrow. You will move forward at the right pace and gain strength as you go. There are some things that are easier for me now that seemed just impossible several years ago.

I have the most dreadful sense of direction of anyone I know. I can get lost walking in a straight line and I am not exaggerating. I am not stupid; I just do not pay attention. When my husband Dane died, I would get a migraine every time I had to drive to a new place. He had always been just a call away to help me figure out where I was. Driving to new places made me painfully aware of my loss. One day I figured out that what I needed was not a new GPS (I have three, including one that hangs around my neck). What I needed was a new attitude.

I began to thank God (against my feelings) for the opportunity to go to new places and meet His children. I actually resented having to do this alone and had to fight with my attitude (and still do at times) in order to have peace. I cannot say I love driving to new places, but I can say the joy of meeting God’s people outweighs the negatives. I am learning to appreciate the scenery during the drive; I also enjoy listening to inspiring messages on the way. This was a huge attitude adjustment for me, and not easy to accomplish. But victory is sweet! Maybe you cannot understand a problem with driving, but you can certainly identify with the battle. It was really with God, not the route.

*"God has promises
and power for you, but
He also has a plan."*

3. Move from Determination to Deliverance

It is one thing to be determined. It is another thing to experience deliverance. Intentions, like mail, are no good until they are delivered. Someone said, *“Consider the postage stamp. Its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing until it gets there.”* If you want to move to that level, you are going to have to use your mouth.

Spending time with God is vital to progress forward. You will be surprised the things He will talk to you about. Satan is a lecturer; God is a leader. Satan wants to devalue you; God wants to build you. Satan will constantly tell you that your goal is impossible; God wants to build in you an attitude that says, *“I don’t know what is going to happen today, but whatever it is, God has made provision.”*

He is the *I AM* who is with you right now. If you are going to have the victory, you are going to have to activate your mouth. There is no way around it! The Bible says, “Let the weak say I am

strong.” (Joel 3:10) If you repeat what you know from the Word of God to be true, you override untrustworthy feelings. You are confessing Christ, the truth, and the victory. Yes, your brain will hear you, and yes, it changes as a result. But more importantly, you are learning how to “fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called, and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” (1 Timothy 6:12)

If you really want that good confession, get ready to battle. “We shall have severe conflicts with our hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil. . . Satan will resist the efforts of those who choose to stand on the Lord’s side. . . [Christ] works mightily with every one who is in earnest. . . When you are ready to cooperate with Him who can keep you from falling, your resolutions will be of some value.” (*In Heavenly Places*, p. 19)

Now that’s a New Year to be happy about!

(Continued from page 1)

but the Holy Spirit has been convicting and conquering the addictions to tobacco, smoking, and alcohol. Testimonies by those individuals who have been liberated have inspired other attendees to quit, causing chain reactions throughout the area.

former Pentecostal pastor began studying the Amazing Facts study guides and finally gave up his job as assistant pastor. When asked why he left, he responded that he and his wife were not being spiritually fulfilled!



Members have also reported where atheists, Charismatics, Baptists, and Christians of many other denominations are changing their minds, and having their hearts refreshed with the truth of and in Jesus Christ. One non-Adventist lady brought her spiritually uninterested husband to the series. After attending, he was so excited that he made sure that they went every night and didn’t miss one since. Both are seeking to be a part of the Lord’s Remnant Church.

One young man asked after a presentation, “I need to know where the local Sabbath keeping churches are.” The presenter fully expected him to discuss the Sabbath versus Sunday issue and started to explain the different denominations, when he interrupted, “Just give me the addresses to the Sabbath keeping churches!” Multiple presenters have been encouraged about the openness and directness of the attendees’ keeping of the Sabbath.

Pastors record how the Detroit churches have seriously been praying for over a year. In homes and with various partners, finding these extra moments to pray for the Holy Spirit have been richly rewarded in these meetings. However, by no means have these blessings ended. In the next months ahead, look forward to developing church stories, news and updates about the new church plant, and amazing individual’s testimonies on how the Lord is working in the Detroit area!

Non-Adventist pastors also attended, where one in particular, after attending seven presentations, wanted to start preaching the same material to his own congregation. Another





Adventurer Family Camp 2013

—By Craig Harris
Pathfinder and Adventurer Director

Around 145 Adventurers and Adventurer moms and dads ventured into the North Woods of Camp Au Sable for the annual Adventurer Family Camp. The weekend was full of family centered activities:

Campfires, worships in the pavilion, singing, hikes around the trails, hikes on the board walk, scavenger hunts, good campfire food, finding “Addy,” worship around the campfire, crafts, nature quiz, the Nature Center, Bible quiz, laughs, wagon rides, Camp Au Sable’s kettle corn, obstacle course, soccer croquet, hula hoop toss, bean bag toss, and the famous boys vs. girls tug-o-war!



One of the Adventurer dads commented, “We come every year for a family get-away! If people knew about this, they would come year after year!” When

asking the kids what their favorite part was, they exclaimed, “campfire story,” “finding Addy,” “kettle corn,” and “the Nature Center!”

Adventure Family camp is designed as a relaxing weekend for Adventurers and their parents. The cost is \$3 per person, but you will not pay any more than \$15 for the entire family for the entire weekend!

Next year’s Adventure Family Camp is September 5-7, 2014. Mark your calendars now!

Strengthening Families in the Next Five Years

Adventurers is a family ministry within the Seventh-day Adventist church that is designed for young people grades 1-4 and their families. In addition to Adventurers, there is the Eager Beaver program for Kindergarten-aged youngsters and Little Lambs for our pre-school disciples.



One thing we must know is that Adventurers is not a mini-Pathfinder club. *It is a program with a great curriculum and a focus on strengthening families.* Currently, only 18% of our Michigan churches take advantage of this program (34 of 189 churches). The Youth Department has set a goal to encourage 50% of our churches to have Adventurer clubs in the next five years. That would be 93 Adventurer clubs.

Four new clubs formed in 2013. Two more may be forming this month in January. We are well on our way to the 93 Clubs by 2018!

If you have questions on how to start an Adventurer Club, call the Youth Department at 517-316-1570. Anyone in the Department can help you with your questions. You may also email adventurers@misda.org.



When Angels Acquire Radios

—By *George Corliss*
Member of the Cadillac Church

I can't give a bunch of details now," said Pastor Cory Herthel of the Midland and Mount Pleasant churches, "but we have a gentleman coming to the Midland Church because his car radio 'malfunctioned.' His radio tuned itself to 90.7FM WBHL and he couldn't change it back!"

This man was driving his vehicle to a job that required him to be on the road a couple hours each day. The radio set itself to a particular station and would not play anything else. When the driver attempted to change it by pressing other buttons, it didn't change.

"He's been listening close to a month now, and has been in regular attendance for the past three weeks for our worship service. He is already engaged in active Bible study with our interest coordinator. Isn't God amazing?"

God is indeed amazing! On December 23, we will begin the fifth year of broadcasting the Three Angels' Messages on the Strong Tower Radio Network in Cadillac! It is amazing what God continues to do through much prayer and a willingness to bring honor and glory to Him.

Beginning to broadcast with a 2,000 watt station WGCP 91.9FM in Cadillac in December 2009, God has since added sister stations 50,000 watt WIHC 97.9FM in Newberry and 10,000 watt WBHL 90.7FM in Harrison in 2012. Along came the 100,000 watt WUPJ 90.9FM in Escanaba and TV-23 in Cadillac in 2013. So many things have happened so quickly that it seems hard to catch our breath!

2013 has also featured a record number of baptisms, Bible studies, distributed materials, listeners attending church, and story after story of miracles happening in people's lives. Heavenly agencies are breaking radios and making sure these

radio waves are carrying the Adventist message throughout Michigan to the right people!

One church member was standing in line at the convenience store near the Estey Church when he casually overheard a conversation about Strong Tower Radio and 3ABN. He started a conversation with him, asking if he would be interested in studying the Bible. With an incredulous look, the man responded, "I'm not studying the Bible with anybody except Seventh-day Adventists!" Pastor Darryl Bentley of the Edenville, Estey, and Gladwin churches says, "It's because as he's listened to Strong Tower, listened to what's broadcast through 3ABN, he has discovered that we as Seventh-day Adventists, are not trying to hold up our own version of truth; we are trying to uplift the

Word of God. The Word of God has to be made paramount. Again, that old Protestant mantra, *Sola Scriptura*, we as Seventh-day Adventists embrace that."

However, God is not done yet! Adventist radio stations are appearing throughout Michigan. One special example is where the Strong Tower Radio Network has been presented with an opportunity to purchase the 50,000 watt WAVC 93.9FM in Mio. God is so amazing! With \$57,000 already raised and \$93,000 to go, this station would effectively help reach much of the central and northeastern part of the Lower Peninsula. Once

on the air, this means more than 2.5 million people throughout Michigan and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario will be able to hear the Three Angels' Messages. God is so amazing!

Be part of the movement to continue acquiring and erecting radio stations for Jesus Christ. Get your own church radio ministry and/or take advantage of this opportunity to partner with Strong Tower Radio. For more information about the prospect in Mio, contact 877-278-5512, visit www.strongtowerradio.org, or email george@strongtowerradio.org.



Jilane Fenner and George Corliss invite you to join them every Monday at 10:00 AM for Strong Tower Radio Today.

Annual Bible and Conflict of the Ages Series Reading Plan Part 1

Use Part 1 of this annual reading plan in your own way, by either reading through a particular version of the Bible, the entire *Conflict of the Ages* series (*Patriarchs and Prophets, Prophets and Kings, Desire of Ages, Acts of the Apostles, and Great Controversy*), or both! The plan is not organized in any particular way except as to space out the readings equally throughout the year. Look forward to Part 2 in the next issue.

JANUARY			
1	Gen 1-3	PP Intro	
2	Gen 4-7	PP 1	
3	Gen 8 - 11:9	PP 2	
4	Gen 11:10 - 14:13	PP 3	
5	Gen 14:14 - 18:8	PP 4	
6	Gen 18:9 - 21:21	PP 5	
7	Gen 21:22 - 24:27	PP 6	
8	Gen 24:28 - 26:35	PP 7	
9	Gen 27-29	PP 8	
10	Gen 30 - 31:42	PP 9	
11	Gen 31:43 - 34:31	PP 10	
12	Gen 35 - 37:24	PP 11	
13	Gen 37:25 - 40:8	PP 12	
14	Gen 40:9 - 42:28	PP 13	
15	Gen 42:29 - 45:15	PP 14a	
16	Gen 45:16 - 48:7	PP 14b	
17	Gen 48:8 - Ex 1	PP 15	
18	Ex 2 - 5:9	PP 16	
19	Ex 5:10 - 8:15	PP 17	
20	Ex 8:16 - 11:10	PP 18	
21	Ex 12 - 14:20	PP 19	
22	Ex 14:21 - 17:16	PP 20	
23	Ex 18 - 21:21	PP 21	
24	Ex 21:22 - 25:9	PP 22a	
25	Ex 25:10 - 27:21	PP 22b	
26	Ex 28-29	PP 23a	
27	Ex 30-32	PP 23b	
28	Ex 33 - 35:29	PP 24	
29	Ex 35:30 - 37:29	PP 25	
30	Ex 38 - 40:16	PP 26	
31	Ex 40:17 - Lev 4	PP 27a	

FEBRUARY			
1	Lev 5-7	PP 27b	
2	Lev 8 - 11:8	PP 28	
3	Lev 11:9 - 13:39	PP 29	
4	Lev 13:40 - 14:57	PP 30	
5	Lev 15 - 18:18	PP 31	
6	Lev 18:19 - 21:24	PP 32	
7	Lev 22-23	PP 33	
8	Lev 24 - 26:13	PP 34	
9	Lev 26:14 - Num 1:41	PP 35	
10	Num 1:42 - 3:32	PP 36	
11	Num 3:33 - 5:22	PP 37	
12	Num 5:23 - 7:59	PP 38	
13	Num 7:60 - 10:10	PP 39	
14	Num 10:11 - 13:16	PP 40a	
15	Num 13:17 - 15:21	PP 40b	
16	Num 15:22 - 16:50	PP 41	
17	Num 17-20	PP 42	
18	Num 21-23	PP 43	
19	Num 24 - 26:34	PP 44	
20	Num 26:35 - 28:31	PP 45	
21	Num 29 - 31:47	PP 46	
22	Num 31:48 - 33:56	PP 47	
23	Num 34 - Dt 1:15	PP 48	
24	Dt 1:16 - 3:29	PP 49	
25	Dt 4 - 6:15	PP 50	
26	Dt 6:16 - 9:21	PP 51	
27	Dt 9:22 - 12:32	PP 52	
28	Dt 13 - 16:8	PP 53	

MARCH			
1	Dt 16:9 - 19:21	PP 54	
2	Dt 20 - 23:14	PP 55	
3	Dt 23:14 - 27:10	PP 56	
4	Dt 27:11 - 28:68	PP 57	
5	Dt 29 - 32:14	PP 58	
6	Dt 32:15 - Josh 1:9	PP 59	
7	Josh 1:10 - 4:24	PP 60	
8	Josh 5 - 8:23	PP 61	
9	Josh 8:24 - 11:9	PP 62	
10	Josh 11:10 - 14:15	PP 63	
11	Josh 15-17	PP 64	
12	Josh 18 - 21:12	PP 65	
13	Josh 21:13 - 23:16	PP 66	
14	Josh 24 - Judg 2	PP 67	
15	Judg 3-5	PP 68	
16	Judg 6-7	PP 69	
17	Judg 8-9	PP 70	
18	Judg 10-13	PP 71	
19	Judg 14-16	PP 72a	
20	Judg 17 - 20:11	PP 72b	
21	Judg 20:12 - Ruth 2:13	PP 73	
22	Ruth 2:14 - 1 Sam 1	PK Intro	
23	1 Sam 2-4	PK 1	
24	1 Sam 5 - 9:10	PK 2	
25	1 Sam 9:11 - 12:18	PK 3	
26	1 Sam 12:19 - 14:42	PK 4	
27	1 Sam 14:43 - 17:25	PK 5	
28	1 Sam 17:26 - 19:24	PK 6	
29	1 Sam 20-22	PK 7	
30	1 Sam 23 - 25:31	PK 8	
31	1 Sam 25:32 - 30:10	PK 9	

APRIL			
1	1 Sam 30:11 - 2 Sam 2	PK 10	
2	2 Sam 3 - 6:11	PK 11	
3	2 Sam 6:11 - 10:19	PK 12	
4	2 Sam 11-13	PK 13	
5	2 Sam 14-16	PK 14	
6	2 Sam 17-19	PK 15	
7	2 Sam 20 - 22:34	PK 16	
8	2 Sam 22:35 - 24:17	PK 17	
9	2 Sam 24:18 - 1 Kg 2:18	PK 18	
10	1 Kg 2:19 - 4:19	PK 19	
11	1 Kg 4:20 - 7:39	PK 20	
12	1 Kg 7:40 - 9:9	PK 21	
13	1 Kg 9:10 - 11:25	PK 22	
14	1 Kg 11:26 - 13:34	PK 23	
15	1 Kg 14-17	PK 24	
16	1 Kg 18 - 20:25	PK 25	
17	1 Kg 20:26 - 22:36	PK 26	
18	1 Kg 22:37 - 2 Kg 4:28	PK 27	
19	2 Kg 4:29 - 8:15	PK 28	
20	2 Kg 8:16 - 10:24	PK 29	
21	2 Kg 10:25 - 14:10	PK 30a	
22	2 Kg 14:11 - 17:18	PK 30b	
23	2 Kg 17:19 - 19:24	PK 31	
24	2 Kg 19:25 - 23:9	PK 32	
25	2 Kg 23:10 - 1 Chr 1:16	PK 33	
26	1 Chr 1:17 - 3:9	PK 34a	
27	1 Chr 3:10 - 6:30	PK 34b	
28	1 Chr 6:31 - 8:28	PK 35a	
29	1 Chr 8:29 - 11:21	PK 36a	
30	1 Chr 11:22 - 15:29	PK 36	

MAY			
1	1 Chr 16:1 - 19:9	PK 37	
2	1 Chr 19:10 - 23:11	PK 38a	
3	1 Chr 23:12 - 26:19	PK 38b	
4	1 Chr 26:20 - 29:19	PK 39	
5	1 Chr 29:20 - 2 Chr 4:10	PK 40	
6	2 Chr 4:11 - 7:22	PK 41	
7	2 Chr 8 - 11:12	PK 42	
8	2 Chr 11:13 - 15:19	PK 43a	
9	2 Chr 16 - 20:13	PK 43b	
10	2 Chr 20:14 - 24:14	PK 44a	
11	2 Chr 24:15 - 28:27	PK 44b	
12	2 Ch 29-31	PK 45	
13	2 Chr 32 - 35:19	PK 46a	
14	2 Chr 35:20 - Ezz 3	PK 46b	
15	Ezz 4-7	PK 47	
16	Ezz 8 - Neh 1	PK 48	
17	Neh 2-5	PK 49	
18	Neh 6 - 8:8	PK 50	
19	Jen 8:9 - 11:21	PK 51	
20	Neh 11:22 - 13:22	PK 52	
21	Neh 13:23 - Est 4	PK 53	
22	Est 5-10	PK 54	
23	Job 1 - 5:16	PK 55	
24	Job 5:17 - 8:22	PK 56	
25	Job 9 - 12:12	PK 57	
26	Job 12:13 - 16:10	PK 58a	
27	Job 16:11 - 20:11	PK 58b	
28	Job 20:12 - 24:12	PK 59	
29	Job 24:13 - 29:13	PK 60	
30	Job 29:14 - 32:10	DA Intro	
31	Job 32:11 - 35:16	DA 1	

JUNE			
1	Job 36 - 39:12	DA 2	
2	Job 39:13 - 42:9	DA 3	
3	Job 42:10 - Ps 5:7	DA 4	
4	Ps 5:8 - 8:9	DA 5	
5	Ps 9-10	DA 6	
6	Ps 11 - 17:5	DA 7	
7	Ps 17:6 - 18:36	DA 8	
8	Ps 18:37 - 21:13	DA 9	
9	Ps 22 - 24:6	DA 10	
10	Ps 24:7 - 27:6	DA 11	
11	Ps 27:7 - 31:5	DA 12	
12	Ps 31:6 - 33:5	DA 13	
13	Ps 33:6 - 35:21	DA 14	
14	Ps 35:22 - 37:26	DA 15	
15	Ps 37:27 - 39:13	DA 16	
16	Ps 40-42	DA 17	
17	Ps 32 - 45:12	DA 18	
18	Ps 45:13 - 48:14	DA 19a	
19	Ps 49 - 51:9	DA 19b	
20	Ps 51:10 - 54:7	DA 20	
21	Ps 55 - 57:3	DA 21	
22	Ps 57:4 - 60:12	DA 22a	
23	Ps 61-64	DA 22b	
24	Ps 65 - 68:4	DA 23	
25	Ps 68:5 - 69:4	DA 24	
26	Ps 69:5 - 71:16	DA 25	
27	Ps 71:17 - 73:20	DA 26	
28	Ps 73:21 - 76:7	DA 27	
29	Ps 76:8 - 78:24	DA 28	
30	Ps 78:25-72	DA 29	

Transitions in Mission



Terrance Baltazar is the new assistant food service director for Camp Au Sable. He graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. Until 2006 he worked in restaurants and hotels, then he started working in church schools. He is married to Dawn and they have eight children.

Dawn Baltazar will be serving in an all-purpose role to assist various departments as needed at Camp Au Sable. Her wealth of talents comes from having worked in the hospitality industry as well as her experience in Adventist education. She and her husband Terenance will be an additional blessing to the camp ministry.



Nathaniel Gibbs will now be pastoring the Belleville Church along with the Adrian Church.

Tips for Safety

—By Lindsay Huddleston

Member of the East Lansing University Church

Below is an informative overview of some necessary and proactive precautions to take in order to ensure the safety of individuals and their loved ones during this winter season.

1. Body Language

In an interesting experiment called the Grayson and Stein study, researchers asked criminals, who were imprisoned for robbery, rape, and murder, to view videos of pedestrians on a busy New York street. When questioned who they would have signaled out as their target, the offenders *agreed* on who would be their most likely target. Like any predator, the criminals assessed their victims in terms of who was easiest to overpower.

What distinguished these likely victims? It was their posture, body language, pace, length of their stride, and overall awareness of their environment. The study goes on to point out that criminals judge a person's level of self-confidence by the style of their walk, such as a walk that lacks interactional synchrony (or flow), wholeness, and organized movements. This signified to the perpetrators that the pedestrian lacked self-confidence. On the other hand, those that walked fast and fluidly were less likely to be victimized.

2. G.O.P.

I also encourage "G.O.P." which means "Get Of the Phone!!"

When out and about in public, the phone should be used for strategic purposes, not for recreational use. The reason being that, when on the phone, the user is obviously more distracted than when not on the phone. It also signals to a criminal that you are not paying as much attention to your environment as you need to be.

3. Parking Lot Awareness

A few other tips, especially this winter season include parking in well-lit areas, using valet parking if available, and, if alone, having someone escort you to your car. Remember, "without opportunity, there is no crime!"

Lindsay Huddleston is the newly appointed Safety and Security Director at University Seventh-day Adventist Church. He most recently served as a corporate lobbyist as well as Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs for former Governor Jennifer Granholm. These tips came from a safety presentation entitled, "Be Vigilant and not a Victim."



Every Monday morning, the Michigan Conference staff meet together for worship and prayer. Here is the list for the month of January. Please join with us as we pray for these ministries.

Jan 6-10 Bauer/Wyoming
Pastor Dan Rachor
Literature Evangelist - Dennis Earl
Bible Worker & Literature Evangelist - Jay Thomas

Jan 13-17 Bristol/Manton/Marion/Mesick
Pastor Jonathan Chitwood

Jan 20-24 Dowagiac/Eau Claire
Pastor Ted Toms
Eau Claire Elementary - Ashley Johnson, Principal/Teacher

Jan 27-31 Edenville/Estey/Gladwin
Pastor Darryl Bentley
Edenville Elementary
Rachel Jameson, Principal/Teacher

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

PO Box 24187

Lansing, MI 48909

PHONE 517.316.1500 FAX 517.316.1501

jclark@misda.org

www.misda.org



January

- 1 New Years Day
- 1-2 Office Closed
- 1-5 GYC - Orlando, FL
- 6-9 Ministerial Retreat -
Camp Au Sable
- 8-18 Ten Days of Prayer
(tendaysofprayer.org)
- 10-12 Teen Snow Outing -
Camp Au Sable
- 11 Praise/Report Dist 9 -
Village
- 12-15 NAD Adventist Ministries
Convention - California
- 17-19 Pathfinder Area Coordinators
Retreat - Camp Au Sable
- 18 Praise/Report
Dist 5 - Cedar Lake
Dist 4 - Grand Rapids Central
- 20 Martin Luther King Day -
Office Closed
- 21-25 LUC Presidents Retreat
- 23 K-12 Board of Education
- 24-26 Father/Son Retreat -
Camp Au Sable
- 24-Feb 2 NAD Health Summit
- 25 Praise/Report Dist 10 -
Kalamazoo
- 28 MI Conference Executive
Committee
- 29-Feb 2 GLAA Home Leave

February

- 1 Praise/Report Dist 7
Charlotte
- 7-9 GLAA Bible Camp
- 8 Praise/Report -
Dist 11 - Urandale
Dist 12 - Oakwood

As Bound With Them

On March 15, 2012, Pastor Antonio Monteiro and fellow Adventist Bruno Amah were unfairly imprisoned in Lomé, Togo.

When the local region had a number of young women disappear, the police arrested a former prisoner to demonstrate their competence. This psychologically unstable prisoner confessed and randomly named these two Adventists, who earlier tried to help him. Through media frenzy, corrupt politics, and organized press conferences, Pastor Monteiro and Brother Amah were characterized as the primary organizers of human trafficking and blood rituals. They have been imprisoned in terrible conditions still to this day with no further investigations.

On December 28, 2011, Sajjad Masih was also arrested in Pakistan for blasphemy against the prophet Muhammad, was sentenced to life imprisonment. Despite his accuser retracting that he had received any blasphemous text message and witnesses stating that he was working at the time of the messages, authorities have continued to put unwarranted pressure and intolerance toward minority faith groups.

While an online Christmas card campaign occurred in December, please continue

to remember these three brethren in prayer as well as many other Seventh-day Adventists who are unjustly imprisoned. Specifically, pray that a fair and impartial decision be made on the tentative Togo trial date of January 10, 2014. To write them letters, cards, or notes of encouragement in English or French, mail to:

Antonio Monteiro / Bruno Amah
Union du Sahal
B.P. 2157
Lomé, Togo

Or to write Sajjad Masih in English, mail to:

Sajjad Masih
Pakistan Union
Post Box 32
Lahore, Pakistan

“Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.” Hebrews 13:3



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