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January 18, 2024 :: Vol. 7, Issue 2





AROUND THE UNION





University Updates a Key Lake Union Group During Weekly Meeting

Late last summer, Andrews University created a new channel for communicating regularly with pastors across the Lake Union. This weekly virtual gathering with different small groups of pastors each week takes place via Zoom and is called "Friday Morning Fellowship with Andrews."

During the "Friday Morning Fellowship with Andrews" meetings, three university leaders and about 10 pastors pray together, with one of the pastors sharing a devotional with the group. In turn, Andrews representatives provide important spiritual, academic and campus life updates with the pastors, and engage in dialogue, answering questions.

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Hard-to-reach Groups Drawn to Church Food Pantry

Marshall food pantry, at its roots, was a small operation, just serving a few families once a month.

After two and a half years of operation, however, the pantry has expanded into a multi-faceted ministry serving several hundred families each month and reaching diverse people groups, as well as becoming a distinguished community charity.

It was a dream, in the beginning. The Marshall church was small. Lee Swegles, who leads the Adventist Community Services (ACS) center for Marshall, reports that on an average week 18 to 19 members attend. "The Lord kept speaking to us," Swegles says, "saying that we needed to do a food pantry."

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Partnership With Police Department Spreads Cheer

The Fond du Lac Seventh-day Adventist Church was busy again this past year collecting for those in need. They delivered items to the Fond du Lac Homeless Shelter in early December, 2023. Items included socks, shoes, clothing, shampoo, laundry soap, body soap, hand crochet hat and mitten sets, school supplies and much more. The church collects items throughout the year for this project.

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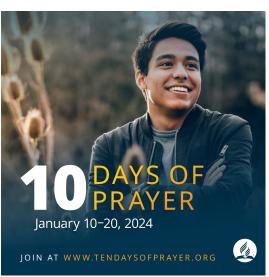


All Invited to Indiana Prayer Summit This Weekend

The Indiana Conference would like to invite you to participate in the 4th annual virtual Indiana Prayer Summit, being held on Sabbath, January 20 from 3:00-5:00 pm. Come join your brothers and sisters from across the state as we unite in a season of prayer. We will be praying for our children, the mission work in Indiana, our government and church leaders, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. There will also be testimonies shared by members about what God is doing in their lives. As we seek the Lord in prayer, He promises to do incredible things through you and me - His church - in these last days.

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EVENTS AND OTHER LISTINGS





10 Days of Prayer :: January 10-20, 2024

"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"
MICAH 6:8, ESV

Join at Tendaysofprayer.org

REGISTRATION ENDS JANUARY 25!

Lake Union Conference Youth Evangelism Congress

February 16-18, 2024 Chicago congress@lucyouth.org www.lucyouth.org



February 22-24, 2023 Worship together, be equipped, and

"Worship in Transition" -

connect with others through practical workshops, scholarly presentations, and dynamic worship experiences. Featuring pioneering leader and homiletics expert, Frank Thomas; worship leader and scholar, Constance Cherry, author of the best-selling book, The Worship Architect; recording artist, Deah Love; and songwriter, Nicholas Zork. The concert, Blackventist Praise, culminates the event. Learn more at andrews.edu/icwm/conference.



Early Pioneers and Civic Engagement

This 2-day Union-wide PARL event will look at how our church's founders viewed the work of civic engagement- how did they see this work as tied to our mission and ministry? And, more importantly it will look at how we can continue to be engaged in the issues of our day.

When: April 5-6, 2024

Where: Adventist Historic Village,

Battle Creek

Register: <u>lakeunionparl.org</u>



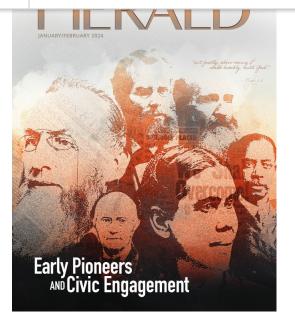
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SEEKING A LIVE-IN CAREGIVER (Holland, Michigan area) to help take care of an elderly family member. This is a private engagement which includes, but is not limited to light housekeeping, meal preparation, light shopping to more integral personal assistance such as incontinence care, transferring, dressing and bathing. If you possess a positive, loving and professional attitude and have a proven track record for dependability, please send your resume and two references to: elvis rodriguez@yahoo.com. Additional requirements include: 1) Must be able to pass a background and drug test. 2) One year of experience with senior caregiving is



Jan/Feb 2024

This month's issue features our early pioneers and civic engagement.

Read All Our Stories Online

Picture of the Week







Mission. This word...so often used. A crucial word with a depth of meaning. Over this past week, I've been given the opportunity to see the vast scope and nature of this word.

Whether it be the Highlands of Peru or the teeming masses of over 11 million people in Lima, or the work in the jungles of Peru, seeing the church here in all her facets attempt by God's grace to bring the mighty name of Jesus is inspiring and humbling. Visiting our K-University campuses hosting over 11,000 students (the vast majority who are not Adventists), seeing our hospitals or the food production plant, and of course local congregations, all striving to see the Jesus of Revelation lifted up brings hope and courage.

Mission moves...regardless. Of course, resources are required. And God continues to bring those in unexpected ways. One of the most powerful blessings of our church is that it is worldwide. And sometimes, it is easy to forget this.

University president and Dean of the Seminary all traveled from place to place, one word continued to resonate with me: humility. Under unfavorable circumstances in many places, and yet, undeterred by those environments, the living person of Jesus continues to be shared and brought forth.

With every bread that is baked and sold in some store, a person can click on the bar code to receive a Bible verse and sign up for a study of the scriptures. Such ingenuity and such a diversity of means reminds me that God is not finished. His grace still moves. His Spirit is strong.

- From John Grys editorial in the Illinois newsletter, "Things to Know." <u>Sign up for more here.</u>



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