









February 16, 2023 :: Vol. 6, Issue 7



### AROUND THE UNION



## CAMPUS Missionaries and UCHURCH React to Deadly Shooting at Michigan State University

In response to the shootings on the Michigan State University campus, CAMPUS (Center for Adventist Ministry to Public University Students) and the UCHURCH have pivoted to serving the needs of the students, while also grieving the loss of life on their home turf.

"We've been trying our very best to quickly respond," said Jermaine Gayle, senior pastor of the UCHURCH. "Since the shooting started on campus, our students were very on point in creating a group chat to make sure that everyone checked in and everyone was safe. The church staff was a part of that. Throughout the night we were pretty much all awake trying to assess the situation to make sure that all our young people were safe."

Gayle also serves as the chaplain for the East Lansing Police Department. He assisted first responders on the ground as the situation unfolded. He described his experiences as "surreal and unusual."

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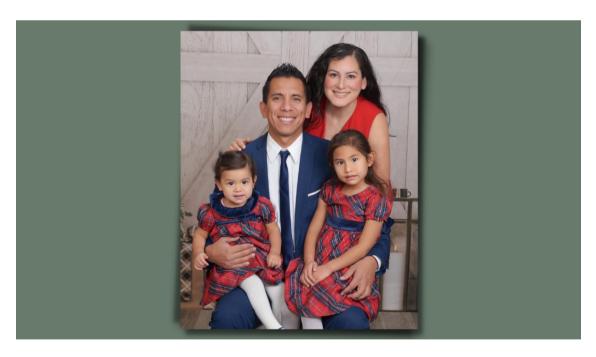


# The Adventist Church Responds to MSU Shooting

Michigan State University is the largest public university in the state with some 50,000 undergraduate and graduate coeds. It is also the location of the Center for Adventist Ministry to Public University Students (CAMPUS), a center of influence owned by the Michigan Conference that serves the Lake Union and the world church at large.

The day after the shooting, the public campus ministry team used conference resources to support those in need on campus. Missionaries created care packages and delivered them to students in need. Housing accommodations were arranged for displaced students on campus who needed to get away. UCHURCH hosted the only vigil on campus for the Spartan community, offering prayer, scripture readings, and special musical selections.

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# **Illinois Announces New Youth Director**

On Wednesday, February 15, 2023, the executive committee and nominating committee in a joint session selected Josant Barrientos, Jr. to serve as the new Youth Director for the Illinois Conference. Josant has been serving as the Youth Director for the Potomac Conference. Josant, along with his wife, Claudya, and two daughters, Emma and Abby, will join the Illinois Conference ministry team in the spring.

Source: Illinois Conference <u>Facebook</u>



# Former Lake Region Treasurer Gregory Baker Dies

Gregory C. Baker died in Miami on Feb. 5, 2023 of natural causes, at the age of 63. Baker was the former treasurer of Lake Region Conference from Sept. 1997 to Aug. 2003. Prior to this, he was the associate treasurer for the Lake Union Conference from Nov. 1995 to Oct. 1997 and had served as treasurer for the Southwest Region Conference.

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### IN THE NEWS

#### <u>UCHURCH holds vigil, provides counseling services to students</u>

The University Seventh-day Adventist Church held a vigil for prayer and healing Tuesday following the mass-shooting on MSU's campus the night of Monday, Feb. 13. [The State News]

#### Church reaches out to MSU community in vigil

Pastor Jermaine Gayle of the University Seventh-day Adventist Church, who also is the chaplain for the East Lansing Police Department, called for the community to come together and tend to each other after the tragedy. [The Detroit News]

#### **Churches hold vigils for mourning East Lansing community**

East Lansing-area Churches held vigils and memorials Tuesday to remember the lives lost during an on-campus shooting at Michigan State University. [Fox]

# <u>Lansing, Mich., reaches settlement of lawsuit claiming religious discrimination</u>

Lansing, Mich., will pay a former detention officer \$50,000 in back pay to settle a religious discrimination lawsuit, the U.S. Justice Department said Wednesday. [UPI]

#### Lansing church celebrates Black history and the civil rights movement

An event at the Bethel Community Seventh-day Adventist Church on Saturday put history-making trailblazers from the Michigan civil rights movement in the spotlight. [WLNS 6 News]



International Center for Worship & Music Andrews University

20th Annual Music & Worship Conference February 16–18, 2023

"Blessed are the Peacemakers"









Justice Council to celebrate
Black History Month.

Live on <u>YouTube</u> and Facebook.

Join the International Center for Worship & Music for their **20th Annual Music & Worship Conference on Feb. 16-18**. This is a forum for scholarly and professional dialogue, the advancement of knowledge, and the promotion of best practices in Christian worship and music. Featured presenters include R. Clifford Jones, Lester Ruth, Gennifer Brooks, and David Trim. Register today.

What if people flocked to your church for healing from physical, emotional, or mental problems? Are you resourced to help them? Join us for the NAD Health Summit, April 2-8, 2023, in Lexington, KY to learn best practices for having a meaningful impact on your community. Our theme, "Power to Heal", considers our need of the Holy Spirit to guide us, particularly with our renewed emphasis on health evangelism.

#### Register here

Conectate :: June 2-4, 2023

Join main speaker Pr. Arnaldo Cruz on June 2-4, 2023 for Lake Union Conference's 7th Bilingual Youth Congress, Conectate. The congress will be held at the Howard Performing Arts Center on the campus of Andrews University.

Catch the early bird registration rate through Feb. 28 at conectateluc.com.

#### SAVE THE DATE

What: ASI Lake Union
When: April 28-29, 2023
Where: Tinley Park Convention
Center in Tinley Park, IL
Guest Speaker: Neil Nedley,
M.D., President, Weimar
Institute

For more information, visit www.asilakeunion.org.

#### March 25, 2023 is Safety

**Sabbath.** Churches across North America (and beyond) will hold fire drills on Safety Sabbath to help their congregation be equipped in case of a fire or other emergency. When you register for Safety Sabbath, Adventist Risk Management, Inc. (ARM) provides drills and actionable resources as well as flyers, videos, and graphics to reach out to others.

Register Here



EXPLORE OUR GROWING COLLECTION OF ADVENTIST RESOURCES

The Adventist Digital Library exists to help spread the gospel of Jesus Christs to help spread the

the Association of Seventh-day
Adventist Librarians

**When:** June 27-29, 2023 **Where:** Adventist University of Africa campus in Nairobi, Kenya.

For more information, contact:

Michelle Carbonilla at MOCarbonilla@aup.edu.ph.

Explore a growing collection of Adventist Resources. The Adventist Digital Library exists to help spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world through free online access to Adventist historical and contemporary resources. Visit us to discover magazines, books, photographs, and more.



Project Safe Church exists to train leaders to take action in response to the systemic crisis of abuse in the Seventh-day Adventist church. The Project involves training pastors and church leaders to create a visible reporting mechanism, as well as the ability to connect victims with trained practitioners.

Visit the <u>Project Safe Church</u> website for more information.

### What's inside the Herald



Jan/Feb 2023

Adventists and the Sojourner Truth Legacy

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