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April 30, 2020



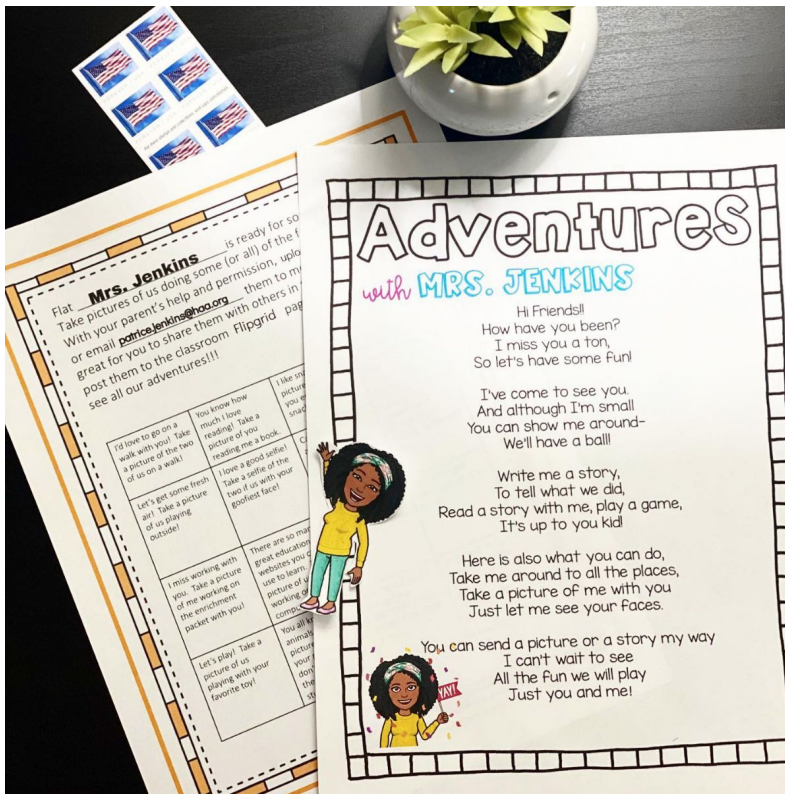
Lake Union HERALD

THIS WEEK

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hope Awakens reaches thousands in Indiana and Michigan; Lake Union livestream programming continues; Hispanic evangelism meetings switch to virtual setting; Andrews University releases details of virtual graduation; AMITA Health discharges 1,000th Covid-19 patient; and more

NEWS AROUND THE UNION



Our educators are connecting with students in some creative ways. For example, Patricia Jenkins from Hinsdale Adventist Academy mailed 24 mini photos of

'Peoria Adventists' produce videos aimed at post-Christian audience

When Matthew Lucio, pastor of the Peoria (Illinois) Church, was growing up, evangelism meant that preachers expected everyone to bring a Bible and know how to use it. He said that the assumption was that everyone in America was basically Christian, but just the wrong kind of Christian.

"We don't live in that world anymore," said Lucio, who oversees Peoria Adventists, a digital church planted by the Peoria Seventh-day Adventist Church. "We haven't lived in that world for a long time."

So, to reach a post-Christian, skeptical digital audience, Lucio is launching Project Atlas, a new way of talking about Jesus in a new world. Project Atlas is a series of videos by a diverse group of speakers, with the intention of feeding people's curiosity to know more about this spiritual world we share.

"Sure, we want to persuade people that the good news of Jesus is for them, that it will challenge and transform," he said in explaining the concept. "But there are no catches. There is no appeal music as the speaker invites you down the aisle. We don't want your money. We don't have books to sell or DVDs to sell or a special offer for you if you call 1-800-555-5555. You won't find a link to any ministry we're trying to promote. What you will find is each speaker asking viewers to donate to a charity of their choice. There's no catch and no pressure to do anything."

The plan is to wrestle with some genuinely interesting questions, like the environment and the apocalypse and what's good and bad about secularism. They'll even touch on the historical transmission and integrity of the biblical text: how do you know that the New Testament you see online is really what was written in the first century?

This first season of Project Atlas will have nine videos from nine speakers and will be released on May 10.

Hope Awakens continues to draw large numbers

From Indiana's President, Vic Van Schaik: The IIW team reports that there are over 67,000 people who are now registered for the series; almost 2,000 of them are from the state of Indiana. In addition, we have 335 virtual Bible workers in our conference who are contacting Indiana viewers, offering to pray with them and sending *Hope Awakens* resources. A special thank you to all those who have been diligently praying for the series.

From Michigan President, Jim Micheff: We have over 80 of our churches participating throughout Michigan. Instead of passively waiting until the stay home mandate was lifted, pastors and members alike, have done all they could to prepare in just a few short weeks what would normally take months to do. And the Lord has blessed all of our efforts. We have had over 9000 interests in Michigan log on to watch Pastor John Bradshaw speak each night on Bible Prophecy.

Lake Union livestream programming continues Sabbath afternoons

The Lake Union hosted on Facebook and YouTube its fourth installment of "The Church and the Coronavirus." Moderated by Lake Union Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director, Nicholas Miller, panelists tackled the subject of Natural Disaster, Human Folly, or Divine Judgment. Under discussion was the interplay of natural, human, and supernatural forces, and what message the Coronavirus might have for the world. Panelists Martin Hanna, Seminary professor; David Hamstra, pastor; and J. Jill Schwirzer, therapist, agreed that it was not some assertive divine punishment for misdeeds, as that would suggest that God was especially angry with poor people and minorities. Rather, they proposed it was something that God allowed, that Satan had some role to help instigate nature with human folly and corruption, and that it was a revealing/testing event that showed the inequities in society, the secrecy and corruption of government, and the need for a change of values by all, to care more about people and relationships, rather than consumption and things. The full video, along with others in the series, are archived on the Herald's [website](#) or [Vimeo channel](#).

Tune in to the *Herald's* [Facebook](#) livestream this Sabbath, May 2, for a tribute to the Class of 2020. We'll hear from our academy student leaders, as well as an inspiring message from Andrews University Chaplain, Jose Bourget, on Dealing With Change.

Hispanic evangelism campaign switches to digital delivery

Hispanic evangelistic meetings originally scheduled for Indianapolis this spring are now going to be live-streamed on social media platforms (YouTube and Facebook). "Esperanza en Jesús" which in English translates "Hope in Jesus" is sponsored by the Spanish *It Is Written* program known as *Escrito Esta*. The evangelist is Pastor Robert Costa, who is the speaker-director for the program and is also associate Ministerial Secretary and evangelist for the General Conference. The meetings start Saturday evening, May 9 and continue every day until Saturday evening, May 16.

Hispanic coordinators for Indiana, Lake Region, Michigan and Wisconsin have committed to inviting the Hispanic members of their conferences to participate in these meetings. Carmelo Mercado, Lake Union's Vice President for Multicultural Ministries said, "We are praying that God will bless this event with a rich harvest of souls."

Additional information about the series, including links to watch the presentations, may be found at the following link:

<https://escritoesta.org/2020/04/20/el-poder-de-la-esperanza/>.

Sharing messages of hope during Covid-19

Bill was at a gas station pumping gas when suddenly he felt a strong impression to give a GLOW tract to a well-dressed woman on the other side of the pump standing near her vehicle. He tried to brush aside the impression, but it remained, and with ever increasing intensity as the seconds wore on. After some hesitancy, he finally relented and went over and handed her a few GLOW tracts. She inquired as to which church puts these pamphlets out. When she learned, a huge smile spread across her face. She had attended the Adventist church when she was a little girl! That next Sabbath she once again attended the local Adventist church after quite a stretch of time away and is now a baptized and active member of that local Adventist church.

We read that the work of printing and sharing literature has been ordained by God and that this ministry will change individual's lives for eternity (Christian Service, 148). And yet, how can we share the message of hope during these uncertain times? What can we do when we are all staying at home and personal contacts with others aren't as available or encouraged?

members, friends, and coworkers sharing books like *the Desire of Ages* and *Story of Hope*, along with personal note. One of the book recipients of the *Desire of Ages* posted a picture of the book and the attached personal note on social media with the following comment: "The sweetest gift, sent from a loving neighbor.... truly blessed." It is not that complicated to make a difference, even while stuck at home!

So how can we share literature right now?

1. **Read the literature.** Rediscover the power and encouragement found in the pages of our Adventist books, tracts, or magazines for yourself.
2. **Pray.** Ask God to guide you to the people that need to be encouraged and blessed by our literature at this time.
3. **Share literature by mail.** Write a personal note and include it with the book or magazine that you will mail to them.
4. **Share literature digitally.** Share the COVID-19 and other GLOW tracts via social media, text, or email.

God bless you as you share the written word with others. May we all hear these words one day, "Thank you for sending me that book/for sharing that tract or magazine with me. I found Jesus because of you!"

Other resources:

Digital GLOW: www.glowonline.org/digital

Mailing books: www.glowonline.org/gift

Signs COVID-19 magazine: www.adventistbookcenter.com

Kamil Metz, Director of Literature Ministries, Michigan Conference.

Andrews University announces details of virtual graduation celebration

In response to COVID-19 related restrictions on large group gatherings, Andrews University has postponed their traditional spring graduation services. In the meantime, Virtual Commencement and Celebration of Graduates services will take place May 1–3, 2020.

A schedule for the weekend is being continually updated as events are confirmed. Please visit andrews.edu/graduation/schedule for the most up-to-date information. All events will take place in Eastern Daylight Time.

The weekend's central events begin Friday at 7 p.m. with the Cultural Graduation Stoles Celebration—this program will be livestreamed at andrews.edu/livestream.

On Friday evening at 9 p.m., New Life Fellowship will host a Special Service for Graduates. Jannel Monroe, administrative pastor of New Life Fellowship, will be the featured speaker. This service will be live on the New Life Facebook page: facebook.com/NewLifeAU.

Celebrations will continue on Saturday morning at 11:45 a.m. with the baccalaureate service at Pioneer Memorial Church, broadcast from andrews.edu/livestream, the PMC Facebook page (facebook.com/pioneermemorialchurch), and pmchurch.org. Dwight Nelson, lead pastor of PMC, will deliver the address.

One Place Fellowship will include a special recognition for graduates. One Place's virtual service, with speaker Matt Durante, administrative pastor for One Place Fellowship, will be livestreamed from their Facebook page at 11:45 a.m.: facebook.com/oneplacefellowship.

On Saturday afternoon, various colleges, schools and departments have arranged their own celebratory services. Consult the online schedule for a complete listing at andrews.edu/graduation/schedule. The weekend's events will conclude with Virtual Commencement services on Sunday, May 3. Each service will include a greeting and invocation from the dean of the college/Seminary, and President Luxton will share her remarks.

The first Virtual Commencement Service will occur at 10 a.m. for graduates of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. The other services will follow at 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. respectively for graduates of the College of Education & International Services, College of Health & Human Services, College of Professions and College of Arts & Sciences. Each of these virtual services will be streamed at andrews.edu/livestream.

The graduation website will continue to be updated with service information as it becomes available. Please check andrews.edu/graduation/schedule periodically for updates.

In the News

Dr. **Lowell Hamel**, the Spectrum Health Lakeland chief operating officer home after defeating the coronavirus. An [article](#) in The Herald-Palladium features an interview with Loren, who credits his recovery to having a strong nuclear family, the community's prayers and support, and the diligence of hospital staff to not be afraid to try different things to save the lives of patients with this new, terrible disease.

From Autoweek [blogpost](#): "Put yourself into the mindset of **Uriah Smith** (1832-1903), a west Michigan Seventh-day Adventist preacher, teacher, writer and inventor. Smith was apparently something of a jack-of-all-trades; when he wasn't writing about Revelation, he was cooking up inventions. These included [an articulated prosthetic leg](#) (Smith lost one of his own to infection) and, over three decades later, one monumental contribution to the world of motor vehicles."

[WZZM News](#) reports: "The Grand Rapids Promise Zone Authority is seeing an increase in student enrollment. Over half of the eligible students from the city's class of 2020 have already been accepted at Grand Rapids Community College.

In February, the Promise Zone Authority sent more than 1,000 conditional award letters to eligible class of 2020 students. According to the Grand Rapids Promise Zone director Evan Macklin, Just over 500 students are ready to enroll at GRCC, which is about 200 more students than originally projected." Eligible students from several area schools, including **Grand Rapids Adventist Academy** all eligible for scholarships covering tuition, fees, books and other course material.

ADDITIONAL NEWS & INFORMATION

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Adventist leaders move toward greater compliance with core governance policies

What could go wrong if Seventh-day Adventist Church entities and organizations do not adhere to working policies currently in force? Many things, said General Conference Auditing Services (GCAS) director Paul Douglas on April 14, 2020. For one, noncompliance often pushes church leaders to make uninformed decisions, which can ultimately put the noncompliant church organization in jeopardy, he explained. [READ MORE](#)

Adventist-operated Bella Vista Adventist Hospital in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, released its first patient who recovered from COVID-19 on Apr. 15, 2020. Elyse Octave, age 40, was wheeled through the halls of the hospital after spending three weeks under the care of medical staff at the Adventist hospital. Octave, a physician doing a residency in family medicine since 2019, returned to Puerto Rico from a trip home to New York City. [READ MORE](#)

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION NEWS

Treating the Sick and Frightened: Perspective of an Emergency Medicine Doctor

Emergency departments across the United States are seeing an influx of patients with symptoms associated with the virus, creating compounded high-stress situations for health care providers. Meanwhile, there are still patients with other conditions, illnesses, and injuries who also need medical attention. [READ MORE](#)

Pastoral Self-Care in Isolating Times

Congregational care during this coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is essential, however, traditional congregational care is, at best, now very strained. Ministry is quite different than it was a few weeks ago. We cannot meet or gather as congregations. Caregiving for bereaving families unable to attend funeral services, members who may not be digitally connected, and those losing employment while working from home are just some examples of how ministry has shifted. The congregational need for dedicated pastoral care is self-evident. [READ MORE](#)

During Its Spring Meeting, Oakwood University Votes New Scholarship, New Board Chair

On Monday, April 20, 2020, the Oakwood University Board of Trustees spring meeting was held virtually due to coronavirus restrictions. The spring meeting covered a number of topics relevant to the virtual and remote operation of the university during this time of disruption. Two key outcomes emerged from the meeting. The first was the unanimous vote on the Oakwood C.A.R.E (Career Advancement and Readiness Education) proposal. The second was the vote to transition the chair of the Oakwood University Board of Trustees from Daniel R. Jackson, president of the North American Division (NAD) to G. Alexander Bryant, executive secretary of the NAD. [READ MORE](#)

EVENTS AND RESOURCES

We want to hear from you! Take the *Lake Union Herald* Reader Survey.

By answering [these questions](#), you're helping us gain a clearer understanding of what you expect to



Submit your answers by June 30 for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card. Watch for survey results in the a future issue of the *Herald*.

A time to Share Hope
 Share a book with family, friends, neighbors

- 1 SELECT a Gift Book
- 2 WRITE a personal note
- 3 BUY the Gift Book
- 4 We'll SHIP the book & note for you!

www.glowonline.org/GIFT

How can you share hope and a spiritual encouragement with a loved one, coworker, or a friend during this pandemic?

Mail them a sharing book with a personal note! And if you can't do it, GLOW can do it for you!

www.glowonline.org/GIFT

MAKING SENSE OF THE MOMENT

Hope
 AWAKENS

BE PART OF THIS GLOBAL EVENT, STARTING APRIL 17.

It Is Written will conduct a virtual, online evangelistic event from April 17 to May 2 that will reach all of North America. Livestreamed from Collegedale, Tennessee, in English, Spanish, and American Sign Language, this event will share hope especially needed in a time like this. More information at hopeawakens.com

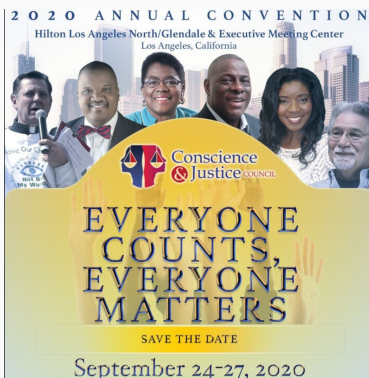
With many church buildings closed because of COVID-19, children aren't able to pick up copies of their favorite Sabbath magazines. **Pacific Press Publishing Association has decided to make its weekly children's publications — *Our Little Friend*, *Primary Treasure*, and *Guide* — available in PDF format on each magazine's own website for free.** The weekly magazines will continue to appear for as long as the coronavirus threat keeps church buildings closed.



100 DAYS OF PRAYER

From **March 27 – July 4, 2020** join Seventh-day Adventists all around the world in calling on Jesus in our urgent need!

- To submit a prayer request regarding the needs of your local church or conference, [click here](#).
- Material for translators now available [here](#).
- Sign up for Daily Prayer Focus [here](#).



ONE YEAR IN MISSION PLUS IS

an initiative in the Lake Union and an expansion of the [C.A.M.P.U.S.](#) Missionary Training Program.

If you know of committed Seventh-day Adventist young people with a desire to take the 2020-2021 year off from school to make a difference in the lives others, please contact: www.campushope.com/oyim

Conscience & Justice Council Conference

Los Angeles | September 24- 27

Featured speakers include:

Michael Pfleger, The Faith Community of Saint Sabina

Carlton Byrd, Breath of Life

Barbara Williams-Skinner, Skinner Leadership Institute

Larry Johnson, Brotherhood Against Drugs

Andrea Trusty-King, 16th Street Church

Robert Ericksen, author, *Theologians Under Hitler*

More info at cjcouncil.org

Adventist Medical Professionals

Clinician Well-being Conference and Family Retreat

"Restoring Faith in Medicine"

October 2 and 3

The Hyatt Lodge - Oak Brook, Illinois

Registration coming soon!

www.amp.lakeunion.org

For additional information, email:

heather.hoffman2@amitahealth.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The 31st annual convention of the Society of Adventist Communicators

takes place October 15-17, 2020, at the Hilton Chicago Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center in Oak Brook, Illinois.

www.adventistcommunicators.org

What's inside this month's *Herald*

Lake Union HERALD

MAY 2020



HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE



Featured Video



This week, AMITA Health reached an important milestone. They have now successfully discharged more than 1,000 Covid-19 positive patients from their care. Using overhead announcements such as "Code Joy," "Code Recovery," and "Code Celebration," healthcare workers celebrate these important discharges. [WATCH VIDEO](#)

Thanks for reading the *Lake Union Herald* newsletter.
Tell your friends to follow along by signing up [here](#).

Don't forget to check out our [Vimeo](#) channel and visit the *Herald* [website](#) for the latest news and information.

We're open to your feedback. If you really like something we're doing on here — or really don't — or have ideas that can help shape our newsletter, let us know. We're all ears. . . Email us your thoughts at herald@lakeunion.org.

Did you know each of our conferences has its own newsletter?
Subscribe today and receive the latest news and information!

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Michigan Conference

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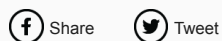
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