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2008 Easter Passion Play Postponed at Andrews University

Richard E. Parke
Andrews University

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[LAKE UNION NEWS]

New Director of Education Appointed

Garry Sudds, former associate director of education for the Lake Union Conference, has accepted the appointment of director, replacing Gary Randolph



who retired in April 2007. Sudds served with Randolph for the past 12 years, creating a team approach to meeting the needs of education in the Lake Union.

Sudds is noted for his spiritual commitment and for the added dimension of pastoral care he has provided for teachers and administrators in secondary education. A man of prayer, Sudds has led out in making prayer an important part of education by encouraging educators in the practice of prayer for students, parents and each other, and by providing union prayer conferences where students can be inspired to make prayer a part of student life on campus.

Sudds is known for being guided by principle, which is a direct result of his commitment to studying the "blueprint" for Adventist education. "Preparing a student for a life on this earth to earn a 'good living' seems to carry higher value in many minds than preparing students for a life of honesty, integrity and service to humanity," says Sudds. "However, in the Lake Union Seventh-day Adventist K-12 system, our educational curriculum is designed to build a better child, fully prepared for service to both God and humanity."

To round out the services the Lake Union provides to local conferences and schools, Sudds is working with administration to search for a good complement to serve as his associate. He is also working with administration in developing a task force on education to address the new challenges of providing Adventist

education in an ever-changing culture.

Sudds is in the process of completing a doctoral degree in educational leadership from Andrews University.

During his career in Adventist education, Sudds has been an assistant boys' dean, principal, chaplain/Bible teacher, associate superintendent, and superintendent of schools in the New Jersey and Rocky Mountain conferences.

He has been married to his wife Joanna for 37 years, and Sudds feels that he has been blessed abundantly because "My wife loves me, my children respect me, and my 12-year-old Schnauzer still goes crazy every time I walk in the door."

The only legacy Sudds hopes to be remembered for is: "This man was a very close friend of Jesus."

Gary Burns, communication director,
Lake Union Conference

2008 Easter Passion Play Postponed at Andrews University

The 2008 Easter Passion Play at Andrews University has been postponed to April 2009. The decision to postpone the Passion Play came after months of prayer and searching for support staff.

The Passion Play is made up of all kinds of people; ages range from small children to adults. The most significant source of volunteers is undoubtedly the student, faculty and staff population at Andrews University. As "our gift to the community," the Passion Play provides us the opportunity to share the love of Jesus Christ in a real, tangible way.

In 2008, Easter falls during the Andrews University Spring Break,



which posed a challenge to fill these academic-filled positions elsewhere. We accepted this challenge when the fall semester session began; however, since the Passion Play was scheduled for March 22, that left less than three months to find key leadership positions, hold drama auditions and place more than 500 volunteers. Normally this is accomplished during December.

As of December 24, core leadership positions had not been filled, and we felt we would not be able to give the event the careful planning it requires in the short three months remaining.

In looking to the future, it will be many years before this calendar conflict happens again. Andrews University looks forward to hosting the Passion Play on an annual basis. We have begun planning for 2009, and hope you will join us then on the campus of Andrews University. If you have interest in a leadership position, please e-mail passionplay@andrews.edu.

Richard Parke, 2009 Easter Passion
Play director, Andrews University

Pastoral Couples Receive Expression of Appreciation

In the October issue of the *Lake Union Herald*, we gave an invitation to our readers to nominate a pastoral couple to receive a special expression of appreciation. Thank you to those of you who submitted nominations and told of the many reasons you thank God for their ministry. Each of the pastoral couples who were nominated have received a gift certificate to enjoy a romantic dinner together, compliments of the *Lake Union Herald*.

Although the time for submitting nominations to the *Lake Union Herald* is past, it's not too late for you to present your pastoral couple with your own complimentary certificate. It would be welcomed anytime, we're sure.

Gary Burns, communication director,
Lake Union Conference