



# SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

## Illinois Conference Update

Kenneth A. Denslow, President

Friday, June 13, 2008

### ***Camp Meetings***

The theme for this year, *Touched By His Words!*, carries on the emphasis of our five year initiative to *Touch Every 1 For Jesus*.

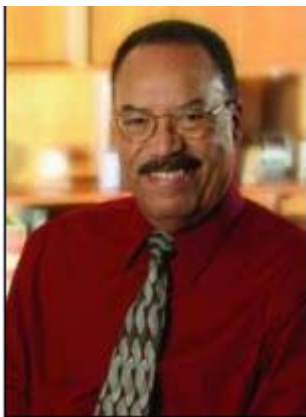
Akita Camp Meeting is June 15 – 21. The featured speakers will be Elder Dan Matthews (former speaker/director of Faith For Today), Dr. Walter Wright (our own Lake Union Conference president) and Dr. Lael Caesar (professor of religion at Andrews University).

There is still plenty of room for RV's and tent campers. I plan to spend the week tent camping myself. Come on to Camp Akita and enjoy a week of fellowship, worship and fun.

Hispanic Camp Meeting will again be held on the grounds of Camp Wakonda in Westfield, Wisconsin over Labor Day Weekend, August 29 – September 1.

### ***Elder Walter Wright Announces Retirement***

On Monday of this week we received the following news release from the Communications Department of the Lake Union:



*At a general staff meeting this morning, Walter L. Wright, president of the Lake Union Conference, announced his retirement, effective June 30, 2008. Walter has served the Lake Union since 1997 as executive secretary, becoming its president in July of 2003.*

*Coming from a strong Wright family legacy of church ministry, and inspired by working with C. D. Brooks in public evangelism, he began his ministry as a lay pastor in his home church in Germantown, Ohio, and as host of a weekly television program his brother, Harold, had begun on WHIO-TV in Dayton. Known by his colleagues as "the preacher," Walter resigned his civil position as contract negotiator at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in 1973 to enter pastoral ministry full-time.*

*Prior to coming to the Lake Union, Walter served as pastor/evangelist and departmental director in the Allegheny West Conference, Columbus, Ohio, and church ministries director and vice president of the Southwestern Union, Burleson, Texas.*

*He and his wife Jackie (Cook) have been married for 54 years and together have developed their "Marriage Maintenance Seminar." With a doctorate in psychology, a member of the Association of Adventist Family Life Professionals, and certified as a Family Life Educator by the National Council on Family Relations and Andrews University, Walter has conducted family seminars and evangelistic meetings in 16 countries on four continents. In the past months, he has conducted two evangelistic series, one in Grand Rapids, Michigan and the other in Gary, Indiana.*

*After his recent bout with cancer, Walter praises God for what his doctors recognize as a miraculous recovery and now looks forward to giving special attention to his family from his home in Germantown, Ohio. Walter will celebrate his 74<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 12.*

We wish Elder and Mrs. Wright the very best as they transition into retirement. We have been blessed by their ministry in the Lake Union and the Illinois Conference.

As stated in the camp meeting message above, Elder Wright will be the speaker on Sabbath, June 21, at our Akita Camp Meeting. This will be just about the last public event at which he will preach before his retirement. Even if you can't come for the entire week of camp meeting, I encourage you to come and spend the day on Sabbath and enjoy fellowship with the Wrights.



*“Sharing God’s grace with our world through preaching, teaching, and healing.”*