

# iC + Me



ILLINOIS CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER

**February 18**

**Volume 2, Issue 3, 2025**

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- Pentecost 2025 Training
- Pathfinder Honors Academy

## THE LEADER

# Illinois Conference Reaches 14,000 Members in 2024

Milestone reflects the faithfulness of local churches



# 14,000 MEMBERS



Matthew Lucio, Assistant to the President for Communication.

The Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists reached 14,000 members for the first time, ending 2024 with a net increase of 144 new members. This comes after an energetic month of baptisms in November, when more than a hundred were baptized during [Hispanic Evangelism Week](#) and an additional [twenty-one were baptized at North Shore](#) on November 23.

Michael Campos (ILC Executive Secretary) is quick to point out that these number represent something greater:

*It's meaningful because it represents 14,000 individual stories and life journeys, each one a testament to God's Grace. It also speaks to the commitment of a community of believers that wants to see more lives transformed by knowing Jesus.*

Read The Rest at [ILCSDA.org](https://ILCSDA.org)



## OTHER ARTICLES TO CHECK OUT



### Former Hinsdale Pastor Passes to His Rest

[Read More](#)



### Andrews Professor Named Finalist in Christianity Today Book Awards

[Read More](#)

## THE FEED

Upcoming Conference Events



[Buy Tickets](#)

## Kid's 360° Children's Ministries Training (March 21-23)

Join us on the weekend of March 21-23 as we dive into the world of Children's Ministries! Presented by the NAD Children's Ministries Department, we will get the scoop on "Alive in Jesus", the NEW Sabbath School Curriculum, and "Mountain of Miracles", the NEW 2025 VBS program!

## Women's Retreat (October 17-19)

**The Unseen, Seen** is the first Illinois Conference women's retreat in a decade. A stellar cast of speakers and breakout sessions will be waiting for you. Register **today** for early bird pricing.



[Buy Tickets](#)

## THE SNACK

Quick bites from around the Conference

# CHAMPAIGN BAPTISM



Pastor Eugene Prevall (Champaign) baptized Zach Trueblood on February 15. Zach was introduced to Pastor Eugene by his wife and, after studying for two years, decided to follow Jesus and join the Champaign congregation. Welcome to the family, Zach!

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## SOCIAL MEDIA MINISTRY

In case you aren't on social media, we have a Throwback Tuesday series where we share some history of the Illinois Conference. Here are the four stories we posted in January. If you want to follow us on social media, click the "link tree" button at the top of this email.

## 🕒 THROWBACK TUESDAY

### MEET THE MITCHELLS

Stories of the Earliest Adventists in Illinois

James White called the Mitchell family of Genesee Grove, Illinois, "believers of the Lord's make."

The family came to faith when Sister Mitchell's father, as Post Master, received a copy of "Midnight Cry" and shared it with his daughter and son-in-law. Two years later, the Mitchell family embraced the Sabbath and hosted James and Ellen White on their famous two hundred mile sleigh ride in December, 1857.

Source(s):

Adventist Review, January 1, 1857



## 🕒 THROWBACK TUESDAY

### JANE COAL

Stories of the Earliest Adventists in Illinois

Jane Coal was heartbroken to learn of the death of her husband at the Battle of Berryville in September, 1864. "I then turned to reading to divert my thoughts from the 'absent one.'" Jane discovered J.H. Waggoner's writing on the Sabbath, igniting a deep desire to study the Bible. Her husband's relatives invited her and her three children to Tremont, Illinois. Despite only having attended an Adventist church twice, she was baptized and testified that her brief experiences with church "were seasons never to be forgotten."

Source(s):

Adventist Review, October 17, 1865



## 🕒 THROWBACK TUESDAY

### IVORY COLCORD

Stories of the Earliest Adventists in Illinois

Around 1844, Ivory Colcord had a question: "I was led to wonder why we were keeping the *first* day of the week as a Sabbath."

Ivory sat with this question for years until around 1856, when someone gave him a short study on the Sabbath. Unable to object, Colcord went to hear James White preach. Then he heard John Loughborough. Colcord accepted the Adventist faith, which "makes me love the Lord with all my heart and my neighbor as myself."

Source(s):

Adventist Review, December 23, 1858

Adventist Review, January 20, 1859



## 🕒 THROWBACK TUESDAY

### SUFFERING SISTERS

Stories of the Earliest Adventists in Illinois

Samantha B. Ray of Middleport, IL, and her husband had "tried to serve the Lord together" until he suddenly passed away. Distressed and raising four children on her own, Samantha pleaded with the readers of the *Review* for their prayers: "Can those sisters who have had the same affliction drop a tear with me?" Samantha received strong support from sister S. Allen of Galva, who shared her own sorrow: "I believe that we in trial should not forget the sufferings of the dear Lamb of God."

Source(s):

Adventist Review, November 17, 1859

Adventist Review, December 1, 1859



# **PENTECOST 2025**

## **TRAINING (April 4-5)**

Pastor Mark Finley is a featured speaker at the upcoming Pentecost 2025 meeting in April. If your church signed up for Pentecost 2025, look forward to attending this training. When we get more information, this item will be bumped up to "The Feed."

The event will take place in Berrien Springs, Michigan, but there is no new information at this point.



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## **PATHFINDER HONORS ACADEMY**



A lot of Pathfinders showed up at Hinsdale Adventist Academy on Sunday, Feb. 16, to earn some honors. [See more photos on our Flickr.](#)

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**If you have any Snack Stories you want to share with us, please email them to [communication@ilcsda.org](mailto:communication@ilcsda.org)**

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