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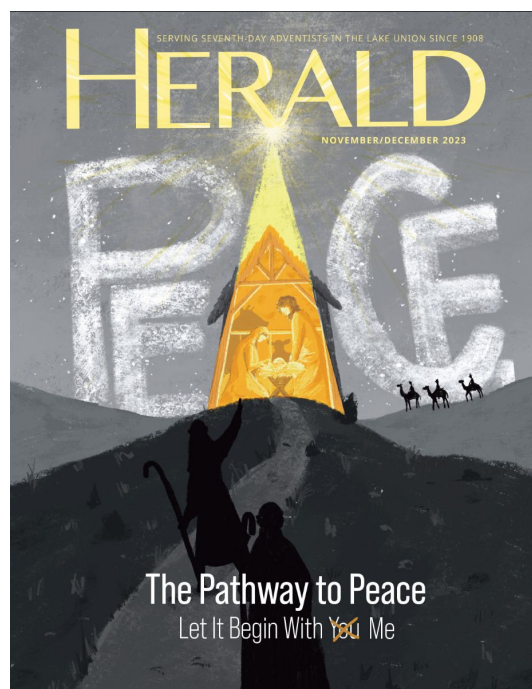


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Lake Union HERALD

Nov/Dec 2023



See inside the Nov/Dec 2023 issue

This month's issue features inspiring stories about seeking peace in a chaotic world.

This fall marks 115 years of the Lake Union Herald.

From time to time, I find myself perusing the first issue, a simple eight-page text-only document published on Nov. 4, 1908, thinking about how much has changed and how much has remained the same.

The original intent of the publication still rings true, as stated on the first page, which was for the purpose of “fulfilling a long-felt need of a medium of communication between the conferences and laborers of the Lake Union Conference; to aid in unifying the work in all lines of Christian endeavor; and to keep the members of the churches throughout the Union informed as to advance methods of conducting missionary work.”

What has changed? Perhaps the most obvious is that we’re no longer just in print. New technologies mean stories are now available on our website and social media platforms, through

This latest issue of the Herald ties well to the first issue and its unifying theme. In the 1908 edition, Ellen G. White wrote an article titled “A Revival Needed,” addressed to workers but one we can all take direction from as we labor in God’s vineyard. She described that one of Satan’s boldest schemes is to harden our hearts and she goes on to admonish us to do a thorough work of self-examination.

“Satan and his army are zealous for the sowing of the seeds of evil,” she wrote, “and if God’s servants would defeat his purposes, their hearts must be converted and sanctified, and their lives must be devoted to the upbuilding of the cause of truth in the dark places of the earth.” [[Read the full article](#)]

I’d like to think that after reading seminary professor Ante Jeronic’s essay on p. 12, we can all gain deeper insights into defeating Satan through “mending, serving, encouraging, reconciling, mediating, witnessing, forgiving,” and as such becoming agents of Christ’s peace.

Debbie Michel

Lake Union Communication Director

Lake Union Herald Editor

[Read the Nov/Dec 2023 Issue](#)

FEATURED STORIES



Let There Be Peace

Early in His ministry, Jesus one day found himself on a hillside surrounded by a large crowd. There He preached his longest recorded teaching, The Sermon on the Mount. The sermon begins with the Beatitudes, the blessings. Those eight blessings define values that Jesus holds up as core to His body of teaching. Number seven in the list is: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God” (Matthew 5:9).

What does that mean for Christians in a world gone crazy with stress, conflict and self-centered demands?

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Blessed are the Wholemakers

In 1604, Caravaggio completed his “John the Baptist,” which has captivated viewers for centuries. On permanent display at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri, the painting is a striking example of chiaroscuro.

Melding the Italian words for “light” (chiaro) and “dark” (scuro), chiaroscuro is a technique that leverages these contrasts to bring life and depth to art. Over the years, artists such as Rembrandt, Rubens, Vermeer, and, of course, Caravaggio, have harnessed it to infuse their works with uncanny intensity or a sense of serenity. In “John the Baptist,” specifically, the palpable interplay of light and shadow accentuates John’s coiled energy, his inner turmoil, and the perils of looming conflicts. It is as if Caravaggio invites us to “read” the painting narratively, to view it as an unfolding story of dueling spiritual forces—forces of light and darkness—that will mark his prophetic ministry.

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My Peace, Not as the World Gives

Of all the titles for Jesus, which is your favorite? Is it Lord of Lords or King of Kings? Perhaps it is Son of Man or Son of God or Son of David?

There obviously is no bad answer to the question, but for me I would have to say it is Prince of Peace. While the old song “What the world needs now is love sweet love” is certainly appropriate, I doubt you or anyone else would deny our great need for peace in these troublesome times in which we live.

Even a limited awareness of the headlines is enough to convince anyone that the world’s population is deeply divided and in serious conflict. Jesus warned us as recorded in Matthew 24:6 and 7 that in the last days we would “hear of wars and rumors of wars” and that “nations will go to war against nations and kingdoms against kingdoms.” Perhaps that has been true in previous eras, but it sure sounds like our day and age, Amen?

FEATURED VIDEO



What does it take to create the Lake Union Herald? Writers, editors, graphic designers, photographers, printers and more come together to bring you your monthly Herald.

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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.

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