# Renee Stepp

stepp.renee@gmail.com

#### Education

Master of Divinity. Andrews University Theological Seminary, Berrien Springs, Michigan, 2005 to 2008.

Bachelor in Family Studies. Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan,

1994 to 1999. Minor in Religion.

Certificate: Inner Healing Small Groups Facilitator.

January 2006.

Certificate: Wellness Recovery and Action Planning Trainer.

February 2004.

Registered Social Worker. State of Michigan, Department of Community Health, 2003 to 2009. I continue to maintain this license.

## **Ministry Strengths and Competencies**

- Preaching
- Vision Development
- Strategic Planning
- Facilitation/Group Skills
- Evangelism
- Community Education
- Merging Creativity and the Arts with Worship

- Music Leadership
- Pastoral Counseling
- Mobilizing Members through their Spiritual Gifts
- Workshops/Teaching, Discipleship
- Developing Community Networks for Change
- Spiritual Formation Practices

### Experience

#### Co-Teacher, Discipleship Sabbath School Class. Eau Claire SDA Church. 2009

Topics include: Discipleship, God's Dream for You, Intimacy with God, Identity in Christ, Community.

#### Speaker, Churches and Special Events, 2007-Present

Preaching at various local churches by invitation, multiple times each year, ongoing.

Women's Retreat, Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church, Chicago area, IL. "Engaged". February 2009. Week of Prayer, Lodi Academy, Lodi, CA, August 2008. "The Resistance". 130 students.

Week of Prayer, Nile Union Academy, Cairo, Egypt. March 2008. 115 students. 8 decisions for baptism. Cruise with a Mission. General Session about Growth. December 2007

#### Writer, Psalm 90-91: Searching for Peace, October 2008.

Wrote the text for an 80-page evangelistic book about Psalm 90-91, the Psalm of Moses. Published and highlighted at the AMEN conference by a private donor in October 2008.

#### Worship committee, Andrews theological seminary, 2006-2008.

Coordinated, planned and led the Seminary congregation in meaningful worship experiences. Incorporated creative and experiential elements into the worship services with a focus on diversity.

#### On-ship Programming Coordinator, Cruise with a mission, 2006-2007

Recruited and managed teams to produce meaningful programming for the mission trip participants. This included General Worship Sessions, Workshops, Small Groups, Social Gatherings and a Prayer Room. I facilitated the brainstorming and development of materials regarding our theme and vision for the inaugural year.

#### Assistant director, Camp Mohaven, Ohio Conference - summer 2007

Facilitated staff training and development, programming, classes and administration. I worked with other executive staff to balance the needs of campers, staff and guests at the camp so that the program remained safe, adventurous, and ultimately, an experience to draw staff and campers into a deeper relationship with Christ.

#### Active church leadership, Eau Claire SDA Church - 2002-2007

Ordained as an Elder in 2007. I ministered to the needs of the youth and young adults as a co-leader for several years to a vibrant group. I proposed, planned and executed a young adult evangelistic series in the church with several other young adults and seminary students. For this event, I mobilized church members to fill the needs they were best suited to meet. I have also served as a worship leader and was integrated into the preaching schedule.

#### Social Worker - Registered in the State of Michigan - 2001-2005

Worked on the Children's Services team for 3 years as a Home-based Specialist, specialized in Teens and Infant Mental Health. Worked with Crisis management and teaching skills for problem-solving, parenting. Promoted to the Administration Team as a strategic planning facilitator and community educator. Built networks throughout the community to serve the needs of people.

#### Residence Hall ministry - Indiana & Forest Lake Academy, Andrews University

Head Dean at Forest Lake Academy, Orlando, FL from 1999-2001. Accomplishments included renovations to the dormitory, developing a handbook and creating RA teams. I began worship options for students to choose styles and times that suited their preferences and schedules. Assistant RA to Dean's Assistant over the course of 2 years from 1997-1999.

Assistant Dean (Taskforce Position), Indiana Academy, 1996-1997.

#### Personal Profile

I am a passionate, creative, Christian. I enjoy singing, writing, reading, painting and crafts of every kind. I am a lover of world travel, photography, the beach and people from every age group and culture. I am a daughter, sister, friend, and auntie Nee Nee. I am also a student, hard-worker, dreamer and woman after God's heart.

My desire is to draw people into meaningful relationships with Christ and church community through a pastoral ministry of deep connections, transformational personal spirituality, friendship evangelism, creative ministries and worship. I have given my life to combining my love of Jesus with my abilities in speaking, singing, writing and art.

My unique perspective as a pastor, educator, social worker and artist allow me great versatility in leading others and ministering to the needs of those around me.

## References Available on Request