

RECORD

Spring, 2006

September 9, 2006

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Teaching staff with the first graduates from the Family Ministries Certificate program at Pacific Adventist University.



Adventists meet Pacific leaders

PAU family ministry graduates 27 students

PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Pacific Adventist University (PAU) celebrated the first graduation from the Family Ministries Certificate program on August 3, the first program of its kind in the Adventist Church.

Twenty-seven participants, predominantly leaders of family ministries at local missions, successfully completed the course, which they have attended during PAU semester breaks for the past four years.

Lecturers included a number of international presenters from the General Conference (GC) and the South Pacific Division (SPD), as well as PAU staff.

"The course is designed to provide specific training and education in issues relating to families for leaders in the missions," says Dr Bryan Craig, director of family ministries for the SPD. "Many get a degree in general theology, which is limited in the area of family ministry. The course will help them to focus specifically on families, parenting, sexuality and issues relating to families.

"It is a very practical course, as we try to get them to integrate their learning with development skills," he explains.

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We have much to learn when it comes to being administered and led by the Spirit.

Administered by the Spirit

ONE CANNOT READ THE BOOK OF Acts or study the growth of the early church without recognising the central role of the Holy Spirit. There are 56 references to the Holy Spirit in 17 of its 28 chapters.

Acts opens with the instruction of Jesus to the disciples that they were to remain in Jerusalem after His ascension until they received the promise of the Holy Spirit. This gift was to provide them with the power to witness and equip them to take the gospel to “the ends of the earth” (see Acts 1:4-5, 8).

You do not have to read far into the book before the potent combination of the Holy Spirit coupled with Christ-centred preaching becomes evident. In Acts 2:41, reference is made to the conversion of 3000 people in one day and again, in chapter 4:4, to 5000 who embraced the gospel. There are a number of other occasions described in the book that refer to mass conversions.

While the dominance of the Holy Spirit shines through the book of Acts, He is portrayed as fulfilling a unique role. It is clear from Acts that the Holy Spirit did more than draw people to Christ by conviction, make truth plain and empower people for service and witness. He served as the chief administrator of the fledgling church, giving organisational direction and oversight.

The following references give evidence of this:

- **Acts 10:19:** The Spirit instructs Peter regarding the visit of the three men sent by Cornelius with the assurance He had sent them to him.
- **Acts 13:2, 4:** Rather than being approved by a committee for ordination, Paul and Barnabas were given this sacred rite under the direction of the Spirit. Later they were “sent on their way by the Holy Spirit” down to Cyprus.
- **Acts 15:28:** The Spirit played an active part in resolving the issues addressed at the Jerusalem Council when differences of opinion threatened the unity of the church.
- **Acts 16:6, 7:** The Holy Spirit gave instruction that Paul and his companions were not to preach the word in Asia or Mysia, as obviously the time was not yet ripe.

No wonder the early church exploded and the apostles were accused of turning the world upside down (see Acts 17:6). No wonder Paul was able to testify that the gospel had been “proclaimed to every creature under heaven” (Colossians 1:23, NIV).

What a difference it makes when the church is administered and comes under the direction of the Holy Spirit. When He is allowed to be in full control. When He calls the tune and sets the agenda.

We have much to learn when it comes to being administered and led by the Spirit. While it is our responsibility to facilitate the preaching of the gospel in unentered areas,

we need to recognise that the Lord has His timetable and not all “dark places” on earth are necessarily receptive to receiving His word at a particular point in time. As in the apostolic times, if we could know the mind of the Spirit, He may direct us away “from preaching the word” in certain places until He deems the time is right.

Jesus gave some wise counsel in this regard and taught that it is important to invest our means and resources in those areas of earth where the Spirit is obviously working; where it is clear the harvest is ripe.

“But when the crop permits, he immediately puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come” (Mark 4:29, NASB). *Immediately* in this context means that as soon as it is obvious the crop is ready to be harvested, the reaping should begin without delay.

While we need to pray for the end-time outpouring of the Holy Spirit, maybe we should also be praying for discernment to understand where and when the harvest is ready and for the grace to submit to His administration.

Then perhaps we will witness similar results as accompanied His presence in the early church, and we also will be able to claim sometime soon that the “gospel . . . has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven.”

Laurie Evans
President, South Pacific Division

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and share
our hope in Jesus Christ!

Church leaders meet Pacific leaders, talk religious freedom

APIA, WESTERN SAMOA

Visits to several countries of the Pacific have highlighted concerns for religious freedom, according to Seventh-day Adventist Church representatives (see “Concerns for religious freedom in Pacific,” News, August 26).

Pastor Ray Coombe, public affairs and religious liberty (PARL) liaison for the South Pacific Division, and Pastor Jonathan Gallagher, of the General Conference PARL Department, had the opportunity of meeting with high-level state representatives in Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, the Cook Islands and Vanuatu that included the Vice-president of Fiji (pictured on cover) and the Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa, along with a supreme court justice, a commissioner of human rights, a supervisor of elections, and CEOs of government ministries, together with church presidents, council of churches leaders, and the head



Church leaders met with the Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa: (left to right) Jonathan Gallagher, Deputy Prime Minister the Honourable Misa Telefoni, Ray Coombe and Paul Wallwork, director of education, Somoas-Tokelau Mission.

of the Fiji Muslim League.

In these meetings, Pastors Coombe and Gallagher urged greater attention to fundamental freedoms, in particular the freedom of belief and practice of religion, and the creation of organisations and mechanisms to help protect liberty of conscience.

In Fiji, a newly established committee will examine the possibility of starting a national religious-freedom association with broad representation from the various religious communities.—*PARL, SPD/ANN*

Offering to fund “opportunities”

WAHROONGA, NEW SOUTH WALES

The World Mission Budget Offering, listed for Adventist churches on September 9 at the conclusion of the Week of Prayer, will provide a special reserve of funds at the General Conference for meeting what undertreasurer Steve Rose describes as “unusual opportunities.”

Normally, the World Mission budget to which all Sabbath school and mission offerings go is used to fund the diverse mission programs of the worldwide church, including appropriations back to divisions, international missionaries, medical and educational institutions, and other mission projects.

However, these regular budget items do not leave any spare funds for urgent mission needs and unusual opportunities that suddenly present themselves from time to time. “As new opportunities arise within the 10/40 window, the General Conference needs to have funds readily available to seize the moment and follow where the Spirit leads,” says Mr Rose.

“We want to be ready to respond to these opportunities when they arise,” he says. “Your generous offering on September 9 will provide a special reserve of funds to make this possible.”—*Ray Coombe*



◆ **Remsen Pagali** (pictured at Kindeng church, PNG) does not go to school but recites Bible texts and sings songs very well in English and Pidgin. He is **10 years old and blind**. He made a contribution of K10.00 toward the **purchase of the Cessna 402-P2 SDA for Adventist Aviation in PNG**. He hopes this aircraft will help finish spreading the gospel in PNG so Jesus can come and he will be able to see for eternity. The children of Kindeng church contributed more than K500.00 to

buy the plane—the total contribution made by Kindeng church was K3122. The Hagen Central District of the Western Highlands Mission of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission **contributed more than K20,000** to purchase the aircraft. Though Remsen will never see the aircraft, he will hear it flying.—*Wako Napasu*

◆ The **Pacific Adventist University Welfare Ladies**, PNG, visited Port Moresby General Hospital recently. They served breakfast, **shared stories, prayers** and handed out toiletries.—*Harina*

◆ As part of a health promotion, **second-year nursing students at Pacific Adventist University**, PNG, conducted a **health survey** of each student on campus. A friendly competition was also held to find the neatest and **most creative home** and gardens.—*Harina*

◆ The **Solomon Islands Red Cross** has a new \$SBD880,000 building and site in New Chinatown. The renovation work of the new site was conducted by **Batuna Adventist Vocational School** students.—*Moffat Mamu*



◆ Youth groups from the **Northern Australian Conference** recently went on STORM Co trips to **Torres Strait**—one group to Thursday and Horn Islands, the other visiting between St Pauls and Kubin villages on Moa Island. One trip ended with a **puppet show at the hospital** and a home for the aged on Thursday Island.—*Kate Hollingsworth*

PAU family ministry graduates 27 students

(Continued from page 1)

Dr Craig expressed his appreciation to the university, saying this was a dream come true and he thanked PAU Vice-Chancellor Dr Nemani Tausere for initiating the process and for offering and accrediting the program.

A visiting lecturer and director of family ministries for the General Conference, Dr Ron Flowers, with his associate director and wife, Karen, gave the keynote address at the graduation.

"History has been made here at PAU, and this program will serve as a model for other mission institutions," said Dr Flowers.

He congratulated the graduating class, saying it was a significant milestone for equipping them to serve God, the church and families in a special way.

"Over the four years since 2003 when you entered the program, you have acquired a body of information in your heads and in your hearts. You have learned about marriage and family life. You have grown personally and professionally.

"Tonight represents the fulfilment of a dream that Karen and I have had to see pastors and lay leaders better equipped to

offer instruction and guidance for people as they traverse the challenging journey of marriage and family life," he added.

Dr Flowers commended Dr Craig and PAU for sharing that vision and making it a reality in the South Pacific.

"Family plays a vital role in the life of our church. It is far more central to us as a people than our written theology would sometimes suggest," he commented.

Dr Nemani Tausere said PAU was proud to host and participate in this kind of training and it was an honour to be the first Adventist university to offer this program.

In another example of the ongoing training provided to the church, PAU is also offering the leadership certificate program, which will see its first graduates next year (see "Training sharpens Pacific leaders," News, August 19).

During the past three years the SPD's department of leadership and professional development, now led by Dr Barry Gane—in conjunction with PAU—has taken a group of church leaders through a certificate in leadership.

Fifteen participants are expected to graduate from the leadership training course next year.—*Edna Worri*

Global Mission projects receive funding

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND, USA

More than 200 Global Mission projects got the go-ahead on August 17, keeping 2006 on track to become one of the largest years ever for projects and funding. The General Conference's Adventist Mission Committee approved 266 proposed projects, most located in the East-Central Africa and Northern Asia-Pacific Divisions.

Funding approved for the projects totalled more than \$US1.7 million, pushing the total 2006 project funding to more than \$US9.7 million.

Most of the projects approved at the August 17 meeting are located in areas with little or no Adventist presence. "Times are difficult, remaining areas are often dangerous and expensive to work in," says Homer Trecartin, planning director for the Office of Adventist Mission. "But dedicated pioneers are willing to take the risk in order to share the gospel with every man, woman and child on earth. We all need to be reaching out to those around us."

During the past nine years, Global Mission projects have averaged more than 1200 annually.—*Steve Hamstra/ANN*



◆ **Elijah Project training** was held in Fiji recently. It was organised by the department of youth ministries of the Fiji Mission together with the assistance of the Trans-Pacific Union Mission. The main speaker and trainer was **Pastor Gilbert Cangy**, South Pacific Division Adventist youth ministries director. About 50 youth leaders (pictured)

came from around Viti Levu Island and nearby islands to attend this training. The Elijah Project evangelism meetings have also borne fruit in the **baptism of 15 people** at two branch churches of **Pacific Adventist University church**. Minister of Koiari Park church **Pastor Wilfred Liligeto** says the response of the community at both areas

was pleasing, particularly to see influential elderly men and women in the community make a stand for Christ in these trying times.—*Sione Ausage/Edna Worri*

◆ A **three-day literacy seminar** to assist lower primary teachers was held for 46 teachers from **Guadalcanal and Honiara**, Solomon Islands, two from **Western Province** and one from **Vanuatu**. Among other lessons, teachers revisited **phonemic awareness**. "Many of our teachers are not very confident in teaching phonics," says seminar facilitator **Joan Cornelius**



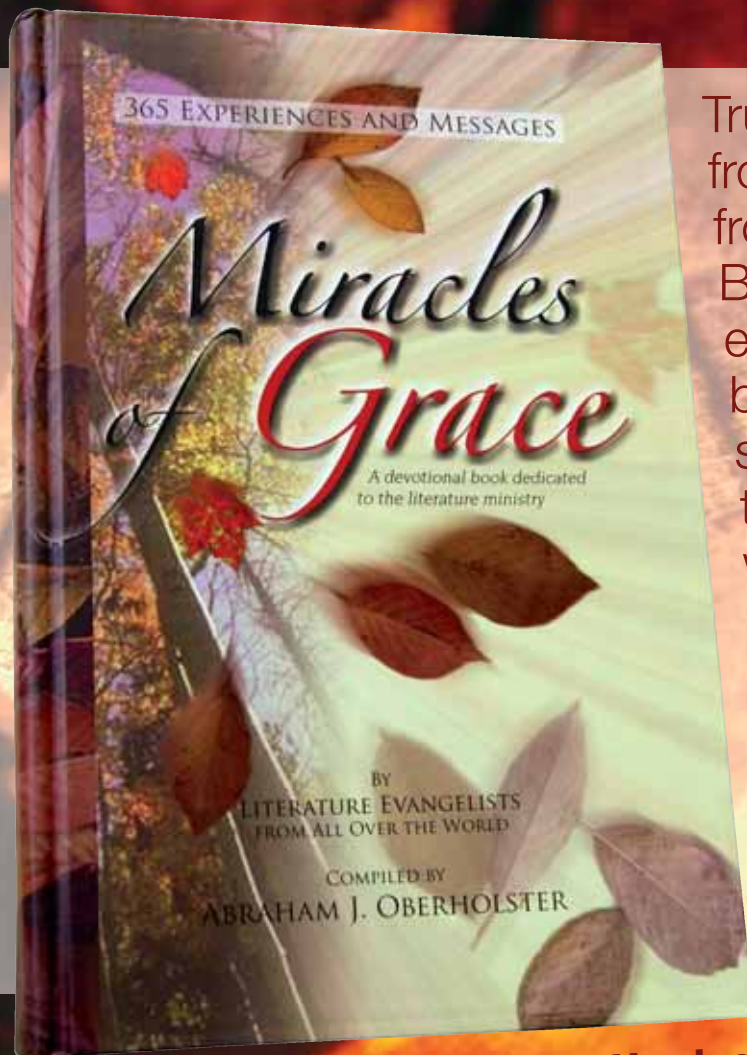
Sifoni. "Rehearsing and revisiting the sounds of the alphabet is very important."—*Abbi Nason*

◆ PNG Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Civil Aviation **Don Polye** spoke to staff at the Pacific Adventist University (PAU) during its in-service program. He encouraged PAU to **create a niche**, and become a frontier of knowledge.—*Edna Worri*

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Weddings

Donnarumma—Williams. Nathan Donnarumma (Wangi Wangi, NSW) and Sara-Jane Williams (Wangi Wangi), both members of Boolaroo Adventist church, were married on 23.7.06 in the Hamilton (NSW) Adventist church.
Jan Jankiewicz

Foo—Velasco. Sekope Foo, son of Bryan (Melbourne, Vic) and Mereani Foo (Fiji), and Katterina Velasco, daughter of Luciano and Teodora Nunuevo (Peru), were married on 2.4.06 in the Dandenong Polish Adventist church, Vic.
Richard Araya-Bishop

Jackson—Sullivan. Justin Jackson, son of Pastor Deane and Ruth Jackson (Townsville, Qld), and Kirsty Sullivan, daughter of Peter and Edith Sullivan (Mildura, Vic), were married on 6.8.06 in the Chateau Wyuna Chapel, Lilydale.
Deane Jackson

Miranda—Samayoa. Francisco Miranda, son of Armando and Deyci Miranda (Melbourne, Vic), and Gabriela Samayoa, daughter of Pedro and Maria Samayoa (Melbourne), were married on 19.3.06 at Bramleigh, Croydon.
Richard Araya-Bishop

Roennfeldt—Hankinson. Troy Roennfeldt, son of Pastor Peter and Judy Roennfeldt (Melbourne, Vic), and Cindi Hankinson, daughter of Pastor Denis and Beverly Hankinson (Melbourne), were married on 6.8.06 at "Milton Park," Bowral, NSW.
Roy Roennfeldt

Starwood—Lazari. Dane-Michael, son of Jack Smith (Sydney, NSW) and Anna Maraga (Papua New Guinea), and Kathy, daughter of Andreas and Maria Lazari (Melbourne, Vic), were married on 9.6.06 in the Hughesdale Adventist church.
Richard Araya-Bishop

Styk—Thari. Karl Styk, son of Juraj and Matilka Styk (Czechoslovakia), and Lal Din Thari, daughter of Lal and Daw Thari (Myanmar), were married on 30.4.06 in the Oakleigh Polish Adventist church, Vic.
Richard Araya-Bishop

Obituaries

Delamothe, Norma Mary, born 13.7.1913 at Sandgate, Qld; died 5.5.06 at Gosford, NSW. On 11.12.34 she married Bill. She is survived by her husband; her children, Frances, Margaret and Malcolm. Norma was renowned as a lover of people. Wherever she went she made friends, especially of those who were lonely and even when they moved far away, she relentlessly continued the friendship by letter, phone and prayer. For many years she served as a pink lady at the Gosford Hospital and was known for her faithfulness. She was greatly loved and will be sadly missed by her devoted husband, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and the multitude whose lives she meaningfully touched. She now rests in the tender care of her loving Saviour, who will most assuredly raise her with the faithful at His coming.
Len Barnard, Raymond Dabson

Hopper, Sahara Rose, born 17.6.06 at Royal North Shore Hospital, St Leonards, NSW; died peacefully 26.6.06 in the loving arms of her parents, Graeme and Lisa (Central Coast). Even though her life was very brief, she was an amazing blessing and much loved by her grandparents, Neville (Sydney) and Beverley Hopper (Newcastle), and George and Yvonne Kang (Lake Macquarie); aunts, uncles and family friends. We eagerly await the Resurrection morning when we will meet Sahara again.
Pablo Lillo

Ledachowicz, Janina, born 25.1.1929 in Poland; died peacefully in her sleep 25.7.06 at her home in Boronia, Vic. She was predeceased by her husband, Ken; also her son, Richard. She is survived by her children, Halina, John and Edward. At the age of 10 she and her mother were held in a Siberian internment camp for two years. She was released in 1941 and eventually resettled in England where she married Ken. They migrated to Australia in 1970 and became Adventists in 1983 after studying with Pastor Dean Giles. She is now peacefully awaiting Jesus' return.
Bert Gibbs

Advertisements

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Positions vacant

▲ **Trust Services Director—Greater Sydney and North New South Wales Conferences** are seeking expressions of interest for the position of Director of Trust Services. Preference will be given to applicants who hold ministerial credentials. Applications should be sent to General Secretary, 4 Cambridge Street, Epping NSW 2121; or email <mworker@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **October 13, 2006.**

▲ **Office Assistant—South New South Wales Conference (Canberra)** is seeking an Office Assistant whose duties will include reception, accounts clerk and youth secretary work. Knowledge of Microsoft Office suite essential. Must be a team person with good interpersonal skills and have an active commitment to Christ and the church. **Expressions of interest and applications** in writing, should be forwarded to the Secretary, South New South Wales Conference, PO Box 800, Canberra ACT 2601; phone (02) 6249 6822; or email <nhardy@adventist.org.au>.

▲ **International Development Internships—Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)—Australia** is seeking expressions of interest from young professionals considering a career in international development. ADRA—Australia supports a range of community development and relief programs in the South Pacific, Asia and Africa, and has a number of internships available for professionals from Australia or New Zealand. Successful applicants will be degree-qualified, have previous experience in a cross-cultural environment and can demonstrate their commitment to ADRA's mission, beliefs and values. **For more information** visit the POSITIONS VACANT section of the SPD website. **Applications close October 6, 2006.**

For church-related employment opportunities visit the Employment section on the SPD website <www.adventist.org.au>.

Bray Park SDA church invites past members and friends to celebrate their 25th anniversary, November 18, 2006. Thanksgiving service commences at 10.00 am, followed by a celebration lunch. Afternoon program 3.00 pm. Phone Olive (02) 6672 1110; or email <jilpete@optusnet.com.au>. RSVP October 17 for lunch.

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— Miroslav Volf

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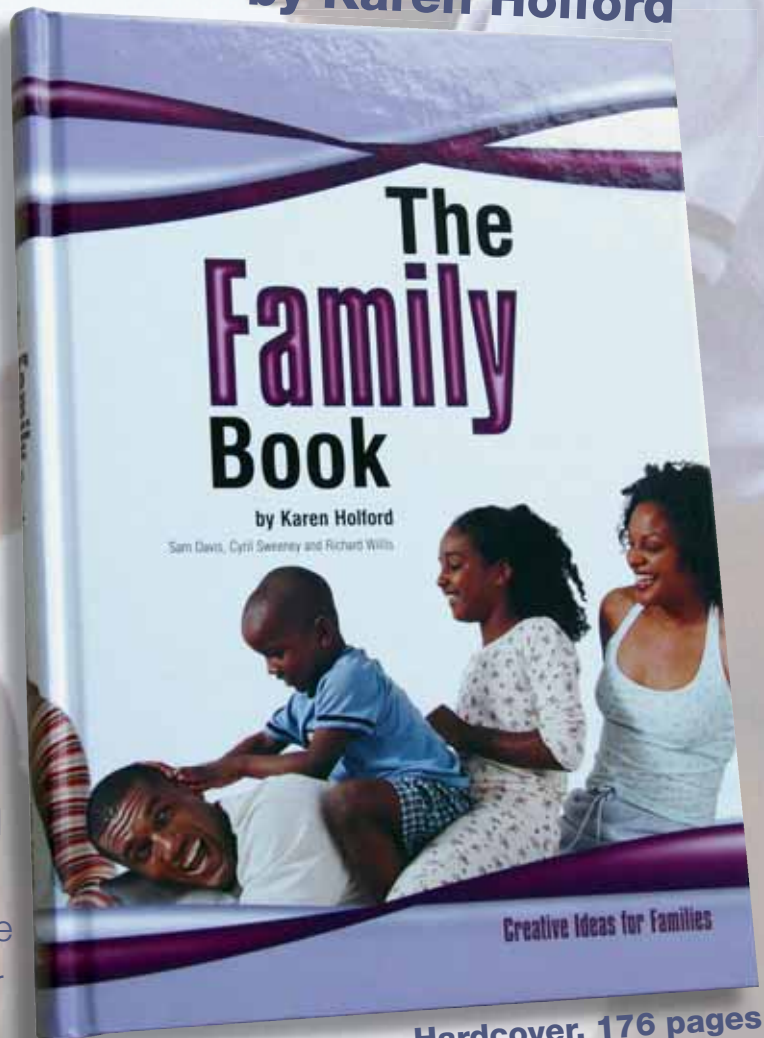
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