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## HealthCare Outreach turns 25

*Wahroonga, New South Wales*

The Sydney Adventist Hospital's innovative HealthCare Outreach program has celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2011.

HealthCare Outreach provides free life-transforming cardiac surgery to underprivileged men, women and children throughout the South Pacific, Papua New Guinea, Asia and Africa, with the assistance of individual humanitarian volunteer medical, nursing and other health professionals.

In 1986, a group of staff from the Sydney Adventist Hospital embarked on a visit to Tonga. An intensive care nurse recognised the local lack of rheumatic heart disease treatment and investigated the possibility of repatriating affected patients to readily available surgical and medical treatment in Australia.

The investigation showed that it would be more financially feasible to organise a volunteer team to go to Tonga and work within the local infrastructure to provide cardiac services. As a result, volunteer medical and nursing staff undertook a surgical visit and provided life-changing surgery to a number of Tongans.

The hospital has now coordinated over 100 similar trips, and in excess of 3000 patients have received surgery. Cardiac surgery is still one of the program's major focuses, however it has also diversified into women's health, ophthalmology, burn scar contracture and reconstructive surgery, and general medical clinic support.

The hospital invests a significant amount into management and operational expenses, including the employment

of a full-time staff member. This ensures that supporters' contributions can be directed specifically into the individual programs.

The costs of some trips can be upward of \$A200,000 depending on the number of patients that will be treated and the number of volunteers that are required to provide post-operative care. This is funded through generous individual donors, AusAID, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, community groups such as Rotary and Lions clubs, and numerous corporate supporters.

"Sydney Adventist Hospital's mission statement is 'Christianity in Action', and I personally believe this is one of the greatest ways that we can actually show that, in this response and the donation of our time to do things for people who simply can't access this type of surgery," said HealthCare Outreach manager, Michael Were.

—Michael Were

For more information, visit <http://25years.gofundraise.com.au/>.



Members of the team with a recovering patient.

## Thousands hear Dr Wilson's message

*Brisbane, Queensland*

General Conference president, Dr Ted Wilson, preached to large crowds in Brisbane and Melbourne during his recent trip to Australia.

In Brisbane, he spoke to thousands of church members in two different venues, the Gateway Baptist Church and Northpine Christian College, after the South Queensland Conference (SQC) couldn't find a venue big enough to cater for 5000 people.

According to Dr Wilson, it is important for Adventists to be involved in their local church: to serve, give and help wherever possible. "I've always been active and willing to serve in my home church, I encourage you to do the same," he said.

Three young people, Lusía Masoe, Chesrae Hackett and Cindy Salvo, had the chance to ask Dr Wilson what the biggest challenges for youth are today. "There are too many distractions that take up your time," Dr Wilson replied. "You have to watch the amount of time you spend on school, sports and social media and watch that they don't take complete control over your lives." Dr Wilson challenged pastors, elders and church board members to be intentional in involving youth in church life.

In Melbourne, the Dallas Brooks Centre was filled to capacity. Attendees were blessed by an extraordinarily talented orchestra and a team of vocalists who produced a delightful and moving array of worship music for the occasion. "It's been a high point for the Institute of Worship students and it's the biggest group we've ever put together," said conductor, Dr Lyell Heise.

Dr Wilson's message focused on recommitment to God's remnant message as part of the fulfilment of the prophecy recorded in Revelation 17, and the imminent return of Jesus. He urged everyone to join other Adventists around the world to pray at 7am and 7pm, seven days a week for the Holy Spirit. It is called the 7-7-7 project. —Pablo Lillo/Dannielle Synot



Dr Wilson spoke about recommitment.



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"Baby operated on by Operation Open Heart team in Tonga this year."

*Our vision is to be a church that...*  
**knows experiences and shares**  
*our hope in Jesus Christ!*

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## Peace on Earth

Kent Kingston

"Glory to God in the highest. Peace on earth and goodwill to men." That's what the angels sang. But as Christmas rolls around again I look around our crying planet and feel a pang of disappointment. Because we don't have peace on earth. Natural disasters increasing in frequency and impact; political unrest in Syria, Egypt and elsewhere; economic meltdown in Europe and America; growing persecution of Christians in Pakistan, Indonesia, North Africa and Central Asia . . . The list goes on.

Maybe the shepherds on Bethlehem's hills felt the same way when they heard the angels sing. How can you sing about peace on earth when we're ruled by a corrupt religious hierarchy and occupied by a pagan army? When there are beggars in the streets and lepers scrounging outside the towns?

Their answer was found in a cowshed. A dazed and exhausted young mum, a fumbling, bewildered new dad and a squalling Newborn with traces of blood and mucus still on His scrawny body—the epitome of helplessness.

This is the paradox of the Gospel. The infinite, all-powerful God chose to conquer the power of sin and hate with love and sacrifice.

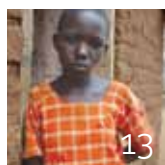
I wouldn't have done it that way. My intervention into humanity's sin problem would have been a decisive and early response with all guns blazing. My solution for the world's brokenness would have focused on faithful, upstanding believers and excluded doubting, dubious deadweights . . . like me.

"Glory to God in the highest." I can sing along gratefully now; knowing the gift of grace that has been extended to me. I might even be tempted to extend some of this grace to others—is that what "goodwill to men" means?

And as for peace on earth? If I look carefully, maybe I'll catch glimpses of it within my family, church and community. Maybe if I close my eyes, I'll catch a glimpse of its Source—the Prince of Peace; healing the beggar, touching the leper, forgiving the oppressor and building a kingdom that will never end.

*Kent Kingston is assistant editor of the RECORD.*

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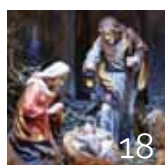
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### Food for the soul

Operation Food For Life (OFFL) hosts a special breakfast for prisoners in Papua New Guinea each year. "The food in the prison is very basic," said OFFL Port Moresby area manager, Reuben Alu. "The breakfast we serve is fit for a king: Weet-Bix, milk, fresh fruit and juice. We always have a devotional period leading up to breakfast: an opportunity to share both physical and spiritual food together." —Dennis Perry



### Historic Bible on show

The staff at Adventist Media Network (Wahroonga, Greater Sydney) were privileged to view a Bible published in 1814. Mick Milivojevic (centre) has the Bible on display at his business. He says people are curious and will often have a flip through. The Bible is not in a glass case—Mr Milivojevic wants people to read it. "If it was in a box, it would lose its purpose," he said. —Kent Kingston



### Aboriginal and proud of it

Students showed their pride for Kempsey's Aboriginal heritage when the Aboriginal flag was raised at Kempsey Adventist School (NSW) for the first time. There was an all-day program celebrating Aboriginal culture and heritage, hoping to engender a sense of pride and understanding, particularly in the way culture and heritage contribute to day-to-day school life. —Margo Clark/Kym Piez/Good news



### The perfect Bible

Tasi McDonald, of the Torres Strait, was excited to see a copy of the *Easy Reading Family Bible*, designed especially for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries. "I have been waiting for something like this," she said. "I have other Bibles but this one has everything. (It's) easy to read, (has) pictures, a dictionary and concordance." —Sharon Grey/Good news



### Prisoner prays for patient

Prisoner Michael Kanawi prays for a patient in the AIDS ward at Port Moresby Hospital (PNG). Operation Food For Life volunteers feed and pray with every patient dying in the wards of the hospital. Mr Kanawi is currently serving 13 years in Bomana Prison in Port Moresby. His life has been transformed after accepting Jesus as his Saviour while in prison. —Dennis Perry



### Shining in his community

Eight Mile Plains church (Qld) member, BJ McGavin, has received a "Community Young Star" award for helping to build a better community. The 18-year-old was honoured for his achievements: gold Duke of Edinburgh award; involvement in many STORMCo expeditions; and voluntary service at Brisbane Adventist College and his church. —Marea Sheddan



### Medisonship sets sail

Hayden, Emma, Hannah and Joel Jaques, from Penrith church (Greater Sydney), are spending a year in the Solomon Islands as volunteer project managers for the *It Is Written Medisonship*. Based in Meresu Cove on Kolombagara Island in the Western Province, the *Medisonship* serves outlying island communities with much-needed medical support and also shares the good news of Jesus and His soon return. —Candice Jaques



### Pearl of the Pacific

Attendees of the Tongan mission Youth Congress gather at the unveiling of a new plaque on the grave of Pearl Tolhurst. She was the wife of early missionary, Hubert L Tolhurst, who spent many years in the Tonga Islands. Pearl died in 1919 and was the first graduate of Avondale College to give her life in mission service in the South Pacific Islands. Pastor Len Tolhurst unveiled the plaque—provided for the occasion by Tongan church members. —Len Tolhurst



### An excellent finish

Longburn Adventist College (NZ) Year 11, 12 and 13 students scooped four of six prizes at the recent Manawatu/Wanganui Secondary Schools woodworking competition. This is a great achievement for the college's woodworking teacher, Nigel Wright, who spends many extra hours teaching students on the finer points of the craft. The judges commented on the excellent finish to the projects submitted by LAC students. —Bruce Sharp





**Taking towns by storm**  
 Young people from the Bowral, Canberra, Bega and Griffith churches (NSW) have travelled to Cowra and Condobolin for a StormCo project, running kids' clubs and youth games and cleaning up yards for older members of the Aboriginal people. Community leaders say they'd like to see the team return in 2012. *—Imprint*



**Digital frontier**  
 The South Australian Youth Department is launching a "young, hip and fresh" Christian TV program in partnership with Living Ministry Media. SAYMtv looks at the issues young people are dealing with today. The program will be shown on Adelaide's digital community TV station, Channel 44. *—Grapevine*



**Friends of Jesus**  
 I was an atheist when I came from China to study. At Victoria University I met a special group of students—ACF, a Christian club. They loved me unconditionally and I learnt about Jesus for the first time. Now I'm working at Karalundi Aboriginal Education Community in Western Australia. *—Allie Shen, Good News*



**Young hearts**  
 When Vanuatu-based literature evangelist Evie Japheth returned to a previous customer's home, the father said his children love "My First Handy Bible". Evie could hear the daughter singing loudly and telling stories from the book, pretending to conduct worship. The family asked for the "Tiny Tots Library Set" as well. *—InTouch*



**Drinks and smile**  
 Members of the Fleurieu Central church (South Australia) helped volunteers from other denominations in running the hospitality tent at the Willunga Almond Blossom Festival, serving hot and cold drinks. They used the opportunity to advertise vegetarian cooking classes, offering free tastings of finger food. *—Grapevine*



**Meeting needs**  
 Heather, Linda and Ruth are involved in a healthy eating ministry at Mowanjum, Western Australia, called Irniya Manggari: The Good Food Project. One of their programs focuses on men, encouraging them to eat healthy, lose weight and work towards achieving good health. *—Good News*

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"...give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:37-38

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## Avondale confers first PhD

Cooranbong, New South Wales

René Gehring is to become the first student to graduate with a PhD from Avondale College of Higher Education.

The 30-year-old Adventist minister from Korbach, Germany, is one of an expected 267 graduands eligible to march over graduation weekend this year.

Pastor Gehring's thesis—"The biblical 'one flesh' theology of marriage as constituted in Genesis 2:24: an exegetical study of this human-divine covenant pattern, its New Testament echoes and its reception history throughout Scripture"—describes a harmonious teaching of marriage throughout Scripture, based on the principles of Genesis 2:24 being at least subliminally present in most marriage texts.

It also notes the spiritual and practical characteristics of the "leave", "be joined" and "become one flesh" (NKJV) pattern of the covenant and the privileges and responsibilities of this "Edenic ideal".

Avondale's "close connection" with 19th century Adventist history played a part in Pastor Gehring's decision to study there. "I would not be an Adventist had I not, by chance, found some of Ellen White's books on a shelf, as a 17-year-old," he said. "They changed my life and gave me a strong, firm belief. I've been interested in her life ever since." He notes Mrs White's formative role in Avondale's history. "Now I have my own little part in its history."

Vice-president (administration and research), Dr Vivienne Watts, describes Pastor Gehring's place in history as an achievement for Avondale. "Few private higher education providers offer PhDs," she said. "Those that do offer them in mostly one discipline. We offer them in four."

Dr Watts implemented the PhD program at Avondale, so reading Pastor Gehring's name during the presentation will be "satisfying". Also satisfying is the five-year reaccreditation of the program this past year, she said.

Dr Watts also notes that the external examination of higher degree by research theses enhances Avondale's credibility. "Each of these students we graduate adds to the evidence of the quality of our education," she said.

Avondale will recognise other academic achievers by announcing the third recipient of its most prestigious prize, the Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing Prize for Excellence, during a consecration service on the Sydney campus. Lisa Mason will join Jared Benard and Kristen Hankins as winners of the \$A1500 prize.

Their classmates will recognise the importance of service in the giving of the graduation class gift—a donation of at least one computer to the Riverside Seventh-day Adventist Primary School in Cape Town, South Africa, to help it digitise its records. Graduand Rhianon Bougaardt identified the need while teaching at the school earlier in the year.

Dr Ella Simmons, a general vice-president of the General Conference, will use the class's Micah 6:8-based motto, "Be", as the focus of the graduation service address.

—Brenton Stacey



Rebekah Bamford fits Katrina Rowe's regalia. The graduands are co-leaders of One Mission.

Photo: Colin Chuang



René Gehring.

## Run through the night helps ADRA

Brookton, Western Australia

A long-distance run with a difference was held to raise funds for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Australia's East Africa Drought Appeal.

Norm Hammond and a team of 27 committed runners organised "Run Through the Night", a 111km run from Carmel to Brookton. But the event was unlike any other long-distance run the group had ever experienced.

"The runners only ran for 15 seconds every three minutes," Mr Hammond said. "They pushed a streamlined and dynamic wheelbarrow. Over the six hours the team averaged 18.5km per hour."

The run began at 7pm Saturday evening and finished at 2am the next day. Four vehicles, including a specially kitted out mini-bus, supported the group.

The following Sabbath, Mr David Shaw, director of ADRA

Services for the Western Australia Conference, was invited to Carmel church to receive a cheque for \$A7250. The Australian Government's dollar-for-dollar program makes it \$14,500.

"The sum . . . will provide food and water to 725 people for a month," Mr Hammond said. "We have saved lives in the short term, resulting in longer and better quality life in the long term. Very humbling stuff."—Braden Blyde



Mr Hammond presents the cheque to Mr Shaw.





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## Church looks for talented students

Wahroonga, New South Wales

The Adventist Employment department of the South Pacific Division (SPD) has released a list of eight paid internships for 2012.

The internships are for Adventist tertiary students who are interested in working for the Church in the future. Running over 1-2 days a week for approximately 35 weeks of the year, the areas of employment include: digital media, communication, accounting, film/TV, IT and marketing. "This is

the largest number of paid internships facilitated for Adventist Employment," said SPD employment promotions officer, Mark Baines. "We're looking for talented and enthusiastic students who are committed to the mission of the Church."

The interns will get opportunities to transfer what they've learned in class to a real work environment and gain exposure to the positive and professional work environments of various church employers. So far, the majority of graduating student interns in 2011 have secured full-time work.

Jordan Bryant, an accounting intern at Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing Australia, didn't initially want to work for the Church. "It's totally different to what I thought it was going to be," he said. "I've loved it. It's been one of the better things I've done in my life."

Mr Bryant will be working full-time in 2012, as part of the commercial team (operations division) at Sanitarium's head office in Berkeley Vale, NSW.

SPD Human Resources operations manager Korey Dowling said graduating with experience was a huge advantage in a tight employment market. "Employers are expecting more and more from graduating students, so individuals who show initiative and gain relevant industry experience will increase the likelihood of securing future employment," he said.

Adventist Employment is a centralised linking point that connects the Adventist community with church employers. "It's encouraging to see the increasing number of young people wanting a career that helps people learn about Jesus and makes a difference in the world," Mr Baines said.

For further information on the internships go to: [www.adventistemployment.org.au/studentconnect](http://www.adventistemployment.org.au/studentconnect). -RECORD staff



Jordan Bryant completed an internship in 2011.





# LETTERS

## SEEN AND HEARD

Allison Millward, VIC

In reponse to "Large cities—focus of evangelism" (record.net.au), I strongly believe our churches should be seen and heard.

We need to run evangelistic meetings over and over and over again. Where there is no health message or ADRA activities or anything else Adventist, we need a presence. My city has quite an invisible Adventist presence. We need to make noise, proclaiming Jesus loudly.

## TRADITIONAL ADVENTIST BOX

Name withheld, via email

Thank you so much for "A church plant success" and "Kingdom growth lazy?" (Features, November 19).

I love my Lord and believe in the remnant church, but my love for people makes it difficult for me to squeeze into the traditional Adventist box that my local church has adopted.

As discouraging as this can be, I pray that RECORD articles will continue to touch the hearts of fellow members so they can look at the bigger picture. I want them to follow Christ's example of love, forgiveness and acceptance of everyone in our community. Your articles are timely, thought-provoking and, at times, challenging.

## ILL-INFORMED?

Peter Marks, QLD

In "The Contrarians" (Editorial, November 19), the editor has very skilfully contrasted those who deconstruct the beliefs and ways of the Church, with those who cooperate with the Spirit to engage with our

neighbourhoods in creative and generative ways. Point taken. So far so good!

However, one feature of the list of things people love to deconstruct is ill-informed. According to the editorial, people who are anti-clergy are contrarian. Yet I imagined that all Adventists were anti-clergy since we believe in the priesthood of all believers, and therefore have no clergy in their midst!

Didn't the apostate church of the middle ages create the division between clergy and laity? Doesn't the "priesthood of all believers" teach us that all members of the Church, be they leaders or others, belong to the *laos*, the people of God, and thus we are all laity together. Any talk of Adventist clergy is heretical. Our church leaders are called of God. They are under divine contract to serve the people of God. Yet, they should never imagine that they have some form of eternal divine tenure, granted through the act of ordination, and thus have somehow become clergy! Such is my beef with the editor! And yes, I blog about these things in other forums!

Lest I be labelled a contrarian, I have recently felt the Spirit creatively leading me and my church to embrace a new and creative outreach strategy that will lead us to engage with people in our city in significant ways.

## TIRELESS TRIO

Pauline Pekala, VIC

I'm often reminded of the tireless work of our pastors at Northpoint church, in the north-western suburbs of Melbourne.

A high percentage of the population in the area are low

income. We try to connect with the poor and needy by running different ministries. Our three pastors are Loren Pratt, Zoran Gajic and Penese Saletasi.

I'm constantly amazed at the amount of work these men accomplish every day. They're continually dreaming, planning and working at drawing people from the community to our church and God.

I volunteer in the office and I tell you, I've never known anybody to work so hard. We need to uphold our pastors and remind them how much we appreciate their work.

## CLOSE TO THE MARK

Danny Bell, WA

Kent Kingston's article, "Members only" (Opinion, November 19), is closer to the mark than anything I've read lately addressing our situation.

Much of how we do church is slowly becoming an exercise in self-serving. Passion for the lost is replaced by "getaway" mission trips. The trips are easier and more rewarding than dealing with "difficult" non-believers.

We need to listen to what the statistics are saying and change our methods of evangelism. If we continually adopt the position of waiting at our doors instead of sending the church to the community it lives in, we'll continue to see devastating losses. The attitude towards these losses of "well, we have told them and so it's their choice to leave or stay", is shocking to say the least.

When we pray for "revival", pray that churches and their leaders will look to introducing new ways and new methods of reaching the community around them.

*Note: Views in letters do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Letters should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All letters are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all letters received are published. See Page 4 for contact details.*



# Questions for the GC president

by Pablo Lillo

RECORD editor, Pastor Pablo Lillo, interviews Dr Ted Wilson, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, on some of the issues facing Adventists today.

**1. Since you came to the presidency last year, you've been emphasising "revival and reformation". What does this mean to you?**

Well, it's a simple understanding that we each need to be revived in the Lord on a daily basis. Then, once you're justified, automatically you're truly looking to the Lord and being justified, you will begin the sanctification process. It's all through His grace, it's all through His power, and He helps you to become more and more like Him.

We're told that revival will not come except in answer to prayer. So that's why we're encouraging our church members everywhere to pray at seven o'clock in the morning or seven at night—or anytime during the day. Pray for the latter rain; pray for God's Spirit to fall; pray for a revival in your own life and the Church and then we will be prepared for God to use this Church as his remnant Church; as His Church at the very end of time, in order to accomplish the great proclamation of the three angels' messages of Revelation 14. He wants to use us—He will use us—but we need to be revived and reformed in Him.

**2. If Jesus were to walk into an Adventist church today what do you think would cause Him the most grief?**

I think probably complacency—a lack of understanding and urgency of the times in which we live. We need to lean much more completely on the Lord. We tend to appreciate our own talents and abilities and we tend to organise our lives in a way that makes us feel comfortable.

But as Revelation 3 tells us, we are Laodicea—in need of God's saving power and of His righteousness and His truth as gold tried in the fire and the eye salve that will truly help us spiritually discern things that are important for our time.

I think, because we're Laodicea, the Lord would feel—He must feel—great anxiety for His people. He wants to wake them up and to realise: "You're living in the last days! Get ready and look to Me and allow Me to take charge of your life and I'll do it; and I'll let you be a wonderful tool and spokesperson for truth." I think that's probably the greatest challenge the Lord faces with His Church.

**3. How should Adventist colleges resolve the tension between academic freedom and the requirement to support core Adventist beliefs and mission?**

First of all, the academicians and scholars who are called to teach our young people in tertiary level institu-





tions, and certainly at secondary level, need to be people who are very grounded in the Word of God and the Seventh-day Adventist message.

When it comes to helping students understand the complexities of life and the various theories people have regarding everything from origin of life to lifestyle to whatever it is, scholars and teachers can certainly explain what the world's philosophies are. But they must help our young people to return to what they themselves—what the teachers themselves—should believe and what we all believe according to the Word of God.

The Word of God has to be central. If it's not, then it is probably not the place for a teacher, who is not accepting the Word of God as foundational, to really be teaching in that institution. And that's why it's so critical to have God-fearing, humble teachers who are extremely bright and very knowledgeable in academic activity but who are absolutely committed to the Lord and to the precious truth that we have.

#### **4. How important is it that Adventists believe in a literal, recent six-day creation?**

The beautiful concept that is outlined in Genesis 1 and 2, and underscored further in the Ten Commandments, helps us to understand that God created the earth in six literal consecutive days and that, on the seventh day, God capped that with a memorial. It's a very challenging situation if someone doesn't believe that it was done in a literal way—why would you then keep the Sabbath? So it's absolutely vital that Seventh-day Adventists accept and promote—certainly believe in—a literal creation.

Also, very much tied into this, is the fact that at the very end of time, the Sabbath, which is so attacked by the devil, will become the one visible sign of God's people's allegiance to the truth—to the true God, as opposed to what everyone else will be believing. And so the Sabbath will take on new significance as the sign of God's people at the end of time. And it's vital that we understand that that particular doctrine is under incredible attack by the devil and those who would diminish any real power that God has.

#### **5. Is there room for theistic evolution?**

In my understanding of Scripture, and reading of the Spirit of Prophecy, there is no real wriggle room for theistic evolution. It's not in God's character to create and to form something that then has to take a long period of time to evolve and then evolve into something better than He created. So, no, I don't believe there is room for theistic evolution. You either believe that God created, or that everything came about some other way. And to be honest, any evolutionary process takes more faith to believe in than creation by God's word.

#### **6. How should Adventists view the growing disparity**

#### **between the rich and the poor, and what should we do about it?**

God's plan was that everyone should be equal in His sight and that we should receive the blessings that were available to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, which was ample supply of our every need. And unfortunately when sin entered, people began to pay more attention to themselves than others.

It is an important aspect that Seventh-day Adventists and Christians help bring a more equal approach to those who are in real need—that is following Christ's ministry. Christ Himself said, "You will always have the poor with you." So until the Lord returns and re-creates this earth and re-creates a perfect society again—which He will—we need to minister to the poor.

When the Lord comes, as we're told in Scripture, He's not going to ask necessarily for a list of all the people we've converted. He's going to say, "Where were you when I was sick? Where were you when I was in prison, where were you when that widow came? When that poor little orphan came into your setting? What did you do to help me in that situation?" So that's why it's important that Seventh-day Adventists help those who are in need.

Now we have to be careful that we don't fall into just a social gospel aspect, because just helping people physically is not enough to point them to the One who has given us this love for them. And it's imperative to try to help them in Jesus' name to follow in His ministry. It is definitely part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's responsibility as a corporate body, and as individuals, to help those in real need.

#### **7. Is homosexual behaviour always morally wrong even when it's between two people in a committed relationship?**

Well, this is a sensitive subject, but the Bible is clear that homosexuality, or the practice of homosexuality, is a sin and it is not what God condones. I think there are situations where people, for whatever reason—perhaps beyond their control—have inclinations. But God can help those people to resist those temptations and stay in a setting of purity. Otherwise what power does God have?

God is able to help us in any situation that is tempting us, so the Seventh-day Adventist Church has a position on this—it's a stated position. We have set up a committee on this called the "Committee on the biblical response to homosexuality". We recognise that there are people who are struggling and we need to love the sinner but not the sin.

We need to assist in any way we can to draw people to the foot of the cross and work with the people who are struggling with these situations. But the Bible is clear on this subject and the Seventh-day Adventist Church wants to be redemptive and helpful, but it is also clear that we need to love the sinner, not the sin.



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**8. Adventists, particularly in the US, increasingly serve in the military. Has the Church changed its position on non-combatancy in practice, if not, in theory?**

There are, in some situations, people who feel convicted about joining the military. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is quite clear that it advocates and encourages church members to be non-combatant. We do not encourage anyone to join the military.

There are individuals who sometimes join as chaplains, and that, of course, is a little different situation than joining the combatants because chaplains are non-combatant.

I believe personally that Seventh-day Adventists need to be non-combatant because of our biblical stance on not taking life, but we do not legislate that in a person's life. So if they feel impressed to join the military, we will do everything we can to assist them while they are in the military.

But the Seventh-day Adventist Church has not changed its position: we advocate non-combatancy and we are for saving life, not taking it.


**9. You're emphasising reaching the cities with the Gospel. How can we do that?**

The work for the cities is the essential work for this time. When the cities are worked as God would have them, the result will be the operation of a mighty movement, such as we have not yet witnessed.

So one has to ask the question, "What is God's plan?" And why haven't we seen this mighty movement? The Lord is asking for us to look at the lives of the people, not at ourselves. He is asking us to weep with Jesus as Jesus looked out over Jerusalem—He was weeping for the people of the city.

Now in that context, when we look at the Spirit of Prophecy, we understand that there is a very unique "in and out" approach that God instructed Ellen White to record; and that is, that in the city we have places of contact with people, "centres of influence" they're called. They could be churches; they could be vegetarian restaurants; they could be literature evangelists going door-to-door; it could be interactive and integrated media evangelism, which, by the way, is one of the greatest things that God has given to us to use in these last days. Outside the city, there are to be what are termed, "outpost centres". These centres are to be: firstly, a training school for workers to go into the city—young people primarily, and others; secondly, a healthy lifestyle centre where people can be brought out from the city and be rejuvenated physically and spiritually; thirdly, it's to be where workers can live, who work in the city, or at least come out and visit, in order to connect again with God's second book of nature.

I think as we look to the future, we want to have a sustained approach to working in the cities, not just something where we just swoop in, hold a few meetings and slip out and then forget them for years. We need to be working with the local churches as much as possible to help make this work truly according to God's plan so that we can see this mighty movement.

But none of this will come to fruition unless the Holy Spirit's power is in it, so we want to earnestly ask the Lord to control our actions and our plans and lay them at His feet. We are planning with all the 13 divisions of the world to see approximately 650 of the world's largest cities reached with a very sustained evangelistic approach. We need every member involved in every possible activity, reaching every person on this earth. And God will do it. God has the answers; we just need to submit them to Him. 





# Moved to make a difference

by Ashleigh Plimmer

**C**HALLENGED, OVERWHELMED AND HEARTBROKEN. My trip to Kenya tore away every preconception I'd held. I need to share with you what I saw and heard.

I met Rohda, a 29-year-old mother of five, outside her mud brick hut. In addition to her own family, she also cares for five orphans, two of whom are physically disabled toddlers. Her husband was away looking for work, so she had been left all alone to feed and care for 10 children.

"I wake up every morning in the dark at 4am to collect water. I leave my children asleep. I hope that I can find water for them," she said.

After an exhausting 10km walk, Rohda arrives at her closest bore hole, a big hole in the ground—it is dirty and muddy.

Finally, it's her turn. "I have waited almost two hours," she said. A tiny puddle of water trickles into the bottom of the muddy hole. It takes Rohda almost 45 minutes to collect one jerry can of water. It's another long journey up a hill back to her home. She collects water three times a day—60km of walking for water, just so her family can survive.

I asked Rohda if she ever feels hungry. "Yes, but I just get on with it."

I asked her what she does if there is no work; how she provides for her family? Her eyes look down, her shoulders slump. "If there is no food, no work . . . I must beg on the streets," she said.

But sometimes even that is not enough. Lately her family has been lucky to eat one meal every second day.

I asked Rohda how they wash themselves. At first she said, "no, we don't wash". But then she stopped and spat on her hands and rubbed them on her face.

I had to stop. Tears were stinging my eyes. This

woman was telling me she washed herself with her own saliva.

For a moment, I couldn't find any words. I looked at Rohda and her children, their heads scarred from ringworm, and tried to comprehend how utterly helpless they were.

Immediately, I heard the echoes of Jesus' words in my mind, "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me'."

This verse is so commonly used, sometimes I forget the significance and call to action behind it. But at that moment, it hit me—right between the eyes. Rohda was standing in front of me—here was my opportunity to serve her and honour Jesus.

As we said goodbye, Rohda whispered something I'll never forget. In her broken English she held my hand and said: "I thank God you have come. I thought you were an angel, sent from heaven. My life will never be the same again."

I'm back at my desk now in Sydney. I can vividly remember Rohda's face—her humble thanks radiating from her smile. I had done so little, yet she was so grateful.

I realise now even the smallest commitment—a move from words to action—can make all the difference.

With the drought crisis in the Horn of Africa raging on, the question is no longer, "How can I make a difference?"

The question is "When will I make a difference?"

This Christmas you have the opportunity to take action and make a difference in the lives of people like Rohda. ADRA's Give Life Christmas gifts will bring life and hope around the world. To purchase a gift visit <[www.adra.org.au](http://www.adra.org.au)> or call 1800 24 ADRA.



*Ashleigh Plimmer is emergency management coordinator for the Adventist and Development Relief Agency, Australia.*





# Walking in integrity

By Judith Nembhard



**T**HINGS FALL APART; THE CENTRE CANNOT HOLD," wrote William Butler Yeats in his poem "The Second Coming", and like a prophetic pronouncement, his words, written in 1919, aptly describe the fragmentation of our present age. Core values have been abandoned, and around us we see abundant evidence that people are now bereft of a centre of goodness. Yet, despite the apparent cultural decadence and the world's preoccupation with the provocative and the unseemly, we Christians are called to live with intentional integrity.

What is integrity? The American Heritage Dictionary calls it "rigid adherence to a code or standard of value". But such a definition casts the term in a negative light, suggesting mindless compulsion or coercion. Other dictionary sources that associate the word with moral uprightness are closer to its true meaning. For us Christians, integrity means having character that holds firmly together under all circumstances; it is wholeness and soundness within. When the temptation is strong to do the questionable, to walk in unrighteous paths, our centre holds, and the values we hold close prevent our lives from falling apart. Integrity at the centre of our decision-making faculty helps us choose right above wrong, good over evil. It keeps us honest with ourselves and with our fellow human beings.

In our contemporary world one person's values are said to be as good as another's, and people hesitate to commit to a belief that absolutes still exist. In an essay titled "The Opening of the American Mind", Arthur Schlesinger, Jr, says, "Relativism is the American way". The pervasive mindset today is that everyone's values, no matter how bizarre, are relevant and acceptable. It is felt that each person is different, and differences must be respected. Over the obviously black-and-white areas of behaviour society has cast a mantle of tolerance that allows everyone to remain comfortable and satisfied.

At every turn popular culture stacks the deck against integrity. You may not buy dirty magazines, but the raunchiness is right there before your eyes at the checkout counter at your local supermarket. You may prefer songs with uplifting lyrics, classical motifs even, but the songs boomed from the stereo of a car idling at the stoplight can make you feel that your ears need to be rinsed after the onslaught of vulgar lyrics. In both language and dress it's the crude that catches the fancy and gets featured in the popular print media. Whatever doesn't tease and titillate doesn't pass muster for commercial advertising. All of this

is considered enlightened and mature living, but the Christian knows differently and avoids being trapped by it.

### Clean Living

Those who walk in integrity walk in freedom from the shackles of the contemporary lifestyle. Integrity holds to the truth that there are standards and that we are all accountable for our actions. Men and women in Christ walk not as the "Gentiles walk", as the apostle Paul counsels (Eph 4:17). Their lives go beyond outward conformity to a religious creed and centre on inner commitment. When faced with a moral dilemma, people of integrity choose to adhere to what they know to be right rather than what is accepted. Their "unbending integrity will shine forth like pure gold", Ellen White asserts.<sup>1</sup> The grace of Christ applied to the life gives the Christian clean living from the inside out.

The disintegration of moral values is evident in every place. Take, for example, the recent action of the principal and vice principal of an elementary school in the southern region of the United States where the test scores were low. Investigation revealed that after the students took the standard-

ised tests, the two administrators sat in the school library and erased the wrong answers of a number of students and replaced them with the correct ones in order for the school to receive a passing grade. These two supposed role models flunked the integrity test.

Integrity is counterculture. It affirms that there are things true, honest, just and pure (Phil 4:8), worth pursuing and preserving, no matter what is preached to the contrary as the norm. So for the man and woman whose lives are centred in Christ, instead of things falling apart they come together in wholeness of living.

### Walking the Walk

We could learn a lot about integrity from the young man Daniel. He and his companions were taken captive into Babylon but had the good fortune to find favour with the king. They were given special privileges and training that would fit them to occupy leadership positions later in the kingdom. Others looking on may have envied them, perhaps even seeing them as celebrities, living the lifestyle of the rich and famous.

Daniel and his friends could have let their privileged position go to their heads to the point where, when confronted with eating and drinking contrary to their upbringing and beliefs, they would have said, "Look, this is the culture. We'll have to go along with what they do here."

**Walking in integrity now is an imperative for us as we get ready to walk in that city where nothing that offends or defiles will enter.**

(Continued from page 15)

But this didn't happen. "Daniel purposed in his heart" (Dan 1:8, KJV) that he would do what was right. Integrity holds firm in the face of pressure to conform. It comes to the forefront and bolsters courageous action when we are tempted to compromise.

Another example of an individual with non-negotiable standards was Joseph. Some may have become weary of hearing about his little episode in Potiphar's house, but it's reassuring that even after millennia of the story being

told, nothing has come to light to discredit his character.

Joseph's words in the face of great temptation to commit an immoral act can be taken as the template for living with integrity. He asked, "How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" (Gen 39:9). He had what Ellen White calls "steadfast integrity"<sup>2</sup> that shields us from the tendency to

**When you make a promise, keep it. When you make a pledge, honour it. If you borrow money, pay it back. Many Christians mistakenly think that money lent to them is a gift from a benevolent heavenly Father. If you borrow church property for use at home, return it—unbroken.**

compartmentalise our lives, and that prevents us from living with two faces.

A rash of recent news reports has dramatised the spectacle of people caught living behind a facade of public correctness as a cover for inner decay. Jesus likened such lives to "whitewashed tombs" (Matt 23:27). Are we Christians capable of such deceptive living? Yes, indeed. The Sabbath suit or dress can cover the "dead men's bones" in the heart.

#### **Faithful in the Little Things**

We expect integrity from people when they are faced with major issues, but it also involves "faithful, conscientious attention to the little things".<sup>3</sup> When you make a promise, keep it. When you make a pledge, honour it. If you borrow money, pay it back. Many Christians mistakenly think that money lent to them is a gift from a benevolent heavenly Father. If you borrow church property for use at home, return it—unbroken. Too many things are "lost" from the church. Why do utensils disappear from the kitchen or hymnals from the racks? When we are faithful in "that

which is least" (Luke 16:10), we create a basis for integrity to take hold and thrive.

When I worked as a supervisor of instruction in a public school system, I mentioned to one of my colleagues that I needed a correction tape for my personal typewriter (obviously this was a long time ago). She went to the office supply room and brought back a correction tape and insisted that I take it. I told her I couldn't. We went back and forth about the tape, she pushing it towards me and I pushing it back, until I finally told her I would place the tape in my desk drawer, where I could find it when I needed to use it at the office. She wasn't quite satisfied with my decision, but she left off insisting.

#### **In Practice**

Sometimes we look at students and think that they have not internalised the values that would make them demonstrate integrity, but integrity can show up early and in unlooked-for ways. A student in an English class in a public college displayed the integrity that the moment demanded. He was part of a panel discussing a research article on the effects of cohabitation on families. To hear two of the young women on the panel speak, one would think that cohabitation before marriage was just another lifestyle option. They unabashedly admitted that they were in cohabitating relationships and that everything was working out just fine between them and their significant others. One even noted that her mother lived in that relationship as well.

The lone fellow on the panel changed the tone of the discussion when he said, "I don't believe in cohabitation. I think a couple should be married before living together. If a guy and a girl love and respect each other, they should get married first before sleeping together." And he credited his Christian faith for his belief.

His was the last word. The others had no comeback for that. The young man could have reasoned that it was the young women's choice to do as they pleased, and he would have appeared modern and non-judgmental, but he chose to go against the prevailing view when that view was incompatible with his Christian beliefs. He demonstrated integrity.

Today, when everyone seems to be doing what is right in their own eyes (Judges 17:6), Christians are called to walk in integrity, to choose wholeness, to have our inner lives centred on right-doing. Walking in integrity now is an imperative for us as we get ready to walk in that city where nothing that offends or defiles will enter. We must walk in integrity here to walk in purest light there. ✞

<sup>1</sup> Mind, Character, and Personality, vol. 2, p. 438.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 547.

<sup>3</sup> Ellen G. White, Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 574.

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*Judith Nembhard is a former college and university professor and administrator living in Chattanooga, Tennessee.*





**Bethlehem was busy...** King Herod ordered a census and everyone was travelling to their place of birth. During this busy time, Mary and Joseph were trying desperately to find a place to stay, as baby Jesus was to be born on this special night. The shepherds who were in the field looking after their sheep were talking about a prophecy that said a Saviour will be born. Suddenly they were surprised to see beautiful angels singing. The angel Gabriel told them Jesus had been born in the little town of Bethlehem and He would be their Saviour. The shepherds were so excited that they raced off to Bethlehem and found baby Jesus lying in a manger, with His loving parents nearby.

**Jesus is our Christmas gift to us all!**

**GRACELINK MESSAGE:**  
Jesus gives me joy and hope.



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- 3 - blue
- 4 - pink
- 5 - brown
- 6 - green
- 7 - dark grey
- 8 - light grey
- 9 - white
- # - black
- \* - skin

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Glory to \_\_\_ in the highest, and on earth \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ on whom His \_\_\_ rests." Luke 2:14

• Merry Christmas in Chile

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# Celebrating Jesus

by Sonja Larsen

**B**IRTHDAYS ARE GREAT. (MOSTLY). THEY ARE fun—a time for celebration. Birthdays allow us to look back with thanks, and look to the future with hope. We reflect. Birthdays allow us to celebrate the lives and achievements of a special person. We honour them, celebrating their life and positive characteristics, how they've grown, changed, matured. Birthdays are hopefully a celebration of the whole person; a special time to affirm their value, and express our appreciation and thankfulness for who they are.

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ into this world—God's ultimate Gift to humanity. As Christmas comes around each year, it is easy to labour at the nativity scene and overlook other important aspects of Jesus' life. Oswald Chambers, in *My Utmost for His Highest*, makes some important claims about who Jesus was. "Jesus Christ was born into this world, not from it. Jesus Christ is not the best human being, He is a Being Who cannot be accounted for by the human race at all. He was not man becoming God, but God Incarnate, God coming into human flesh, coming into it from outside." Jesus was God, and His birth—part of the 'big plan'—was the start of something great.

In the article *Jesus wore a mask*, author Don C Schneider says that Jesus came to earth wearing an entire disguise, hiding His divinity in the garments of a Person. "He came to reveal what God is really like." But even then many failed to understand Jesus because, ultimately, they didn't understand God. Jesus didn't fit the mould God had been neatly packaged into. It didn't help that Jesus was a Friend of sinners, a party-goer, a Sabbath-healer. He showed a radically different picture of the

Father: a transforming and countercultural picture. When we celebrate Jesus at Christmas, Schneider writes that "we're also celebrating the way He transforms our lives when we ask His Spirit to live in us. And in this way, cannot God use us to reflect His character, just as Jesus did when He was on earth?"

Jesus is God incarnate. He is Emmanuel—God with us. Are we Jesus incarnate? "What would happen," asks Schneider, "if Jesus wore a mask today so that no-one could tell it was Him? What if that mask looked like me?"

By truly taking on the name 'Christian' and celebrating Jesus, we become "... partakers of the Divine nature . . ." (2 Peter 1:4). We become different. Righteous. As I become a dwelling place for Jesus, the usual selfishness gives way to selflessness, and a more generous life begins to develop. Generosity of my time and money, compassion, grace, love and mercy seem to grow. Nathan Brown, in *I Hope*, writes: "generosity is an attitude to life, faith, others and God that is large, bold and embracing".

God is the epitome of generosity. I love that about Him.

Over the Christmas season, generosity is a predominant value in many societies. But while the giving of gifts and time is important, perhaps we can be more intentional about other forms of generosity. Again, Chambers writes: "Learn to lavish the grace of God on others. Be stamped with God's nature, and His blessing will come through you all the time."

We are good at being generous at Christmas, but instead of saving all our 'blessings' for Christmas, the world would benefit if we would give a little more love every day. The lyrics of the Celine Dion song, "Don't save



it all for Christmas Day", provide a beautiful reminder of how we can live a generous/godly life all year round:

"How many people are crying; People are dying . . .; How many people are asking for love; Don't save it all for Christmas Day; Find a way; To give a little love every day." As Christians, we have the opportunity to be leading examples of generosity. I can see the difficulty non-Christians may have in accepting the Gospel/Christmas message when Christians who celebrate Jesus fail to be generous and loving. The biblical account of Jesus healing the 10 men who had leprosy illustrates another kind of generosity: ". . . praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan" (Luke 7:15, 16 NIV). While the other lepers may have been appreciative of Jesus, only one was generous with his thanks.

Celebrating the life of Jesus at Christmas is one way to show how thankful we really are for the Gift. Like the healing from leprosy, the Jesus of Christmas is also a free Gift—but not everyone responds the same way to the Gift.

However, when receiving the Gift, our responses are always unique. Because, as Chambers, writes: "Sanctification is an impartation, not an imitation."

God likes it that way, for He desires His children to be free, distinct individuals. Chris Blake, author of *Swimming against the current*, writes that we should rethink the popular "What Would Jesus Do?" phenomenon. "God doesn't want Jesus clones. If we were to do what Jesus did we would never pursue a formal education, never travel overseas, never get married . . . We would wear sandals and robes. Moreover, if we adhere strictly to biblical accounts, we wouldn't blink, cough, laugh . . . or comb our hair." But we can live by the liberating principles Jesus lived by.

Blake writes that God desires that our service and love be marked by our individuality—because Christ has set us free. "Freedom is sacred to God. He would rather have us free than saved, otherwise He would force us to be saved."

Christmas is a fitting time for us to shine God to the world. As A W Tozer, a great American pastor and devotional writer, wrote: "What comes into our mind when we think about God is the most important thing about us." The statement is bold, and James Smith, author of *The Good and Beautiful God*, writes "what we think about God—what we think God is like—will determine the relationship we have with God". So as we celebrate the birthday of Jesus, may we consider the picture of God we are showing to others.

Imagine if—at Christmas in particular—people would say of us, "God has come to help his people" (Luke 7:16, NIV). Jesus was in the business of healing, restoring hope, transforming lives and preaching the good news to the poor.

I find myself asking, if Jesus were physically on this earth to celebrate His birthday this year, "What would Jesus do?" But more importantly we should ask ourselves the question Blake prefers to ask, "What would Jesus have me do?"

His birth, His life, His death and His resurrection. At Christmas there is much to be thankful for. ➤

*Sonja Larsen is a 2011 Bachelor of Arts graduate from Avondale College of Higher Education.*




## Making a difference

Every church member in the Division should be very proud of our Pacific Adventist University just outside of Port Moresby.

I have recently participated in the university's 2011 graduation services. PNG Prime Minister Peter O'Neil was the graduation speaker. In glowing terms he spoke of PAU as the best university in Papua New Guinea. He praised the Christian principles and strong value system taught by the university and practised by its graduates.

To build a university such as this is a careful, protracted process. I commend all those who have served as faculty and staff at PAU over the years since its opening in 1984. I commend past students who are now in positions of leadership right around the Pacific. I cannot imagine where our Church in the Pacific would be if we had not taken the bold (expensive!) step to establish this university.

The graduates continue to impress me. I was talking to one graduate who came to PAU from Thailand. Her name is Reichelle Sobejana. She was a Buddhist when she arrived at PAU four years ago. A few weeks ago she was baptised and is now a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. Her mother was at the graduation services this weekend. A Buddhist all her life, she is so impressed with the changes that have come about in her daughter and the quality of education she has received that she also would very much like to prepare for baptism.



The graduation theme was "We can make a difference with God". That is exactly what PAU is doing incredibly well—making a huge difference!

*Dr Barry Oliver is president of the South Pacific Division.*

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# R MY MINISTRY IDEA

Sabbath morning: Arrive at Mangere Market at 6:45am to set up the gazebo and stall. 8am: It's all set up, with signs, books displayed and advertising in place for free books and DVDs. Already a few passers by have shown interest and taken DVDs.

By 9am 23 DVDs have been taken. One Samoan lady said it was as if she heard a voice say, "Go back". She went back, noticed the stall and took some DVDs and a book on the mark of the beast. She said most of her family in Samoa are Seventh-day Adventists.

By 10am 30 DVDs have been given out . . . a bit slow in the last hour. A good discussion was had with Rob. He is a previous visitor to the stall; an ex-Baptist who believes death is a sleep. He is a student of the Word and says he has come of Babylon . . . but he hasn't joined another church (yet). He took a copy of the *Great Controversy* and wants a DVD on the judgment.

11am: A further 26 DVDs have been given out in the past hour. 12 noon: Another 16 DVDs, and by 1pm another 16. While packing up, more customers arrive and the day at the market ends with 95 DVDs distributed to about 33 non-Adventists as well as 11 books, two Bibles and 17 papers.

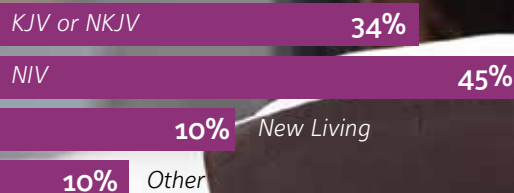
Two visitors to the stall were pastors from other churches. One began by asking what we believed and, being satisfied with the answer, took a series of four DVDs on prophecy. The other was a minister from a Tongan church plant. He took DVDs on prophecy, final events, cosmic conflict and the book *Christ's Object Lessons*.

God is using this strategy to reach people who would probably not set foot in our churches. Our market ministry operates one day per weekend (weather permitting) and covers Mangere, Manurewa and Avondale markets. There is a need in Auckland for at least four market evangelism stalls to operate in the various markets each weekend. —Murray Hamilton



## POLL RESULTS:

Which Bible version do you prefer to read?



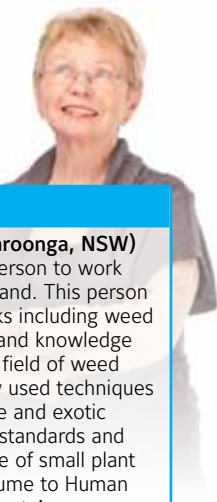
## OPINION POLL

What are the greatest challenges to a Christian's integrity today?

- Gossip
- Downloading illicit music and movies
- Viewing inappropriate content
- Inappropriate relationships

Visit [record.net.au](http://record.net.au) to answer this poll.  
Options don't fit? Write a letter to [editor@record.net.au](mailto:editor@record.net.au).





## WEDDINGS

**Chambers—Covalciuc.** Alan Chambers, son of Michael and Anna Chambers (Orange), and Eugenia Covalciuc, daughter of Mihail and Tatiana Covalciuc (Moldova), were married 4.9.11 in Parramatta church, Sydney.

*Johnny Murison*



**Dammasch—Zujic.** Benjamin Dammasch, son of Ernst and

Elvira Dammasch (Laidley, Qld), and Cherith Zujic, daughter of Marijan and Angela Zujic (Moree, NSW), were married 16.10.11 in Hillview church, Morisset.



**Kurzawa—Kuivisto.** Daniel Abel Kurzawa, son of Janusz

Kurzawa and Anna Kopka (both of Sydney, NSW), and Lara Kristiina Kuivisto, daughter of Corinne and Ilkka Kuivisto (Mandalong), were married 9.1.11 in Lakeside church, Bonnells Bay. Their attendants were: Katie Kuivisto, Karine Kruger and Kate Hamilton (bridesmaids); Genevieve Ball (flower girl); and Sasha Malinic (best man).

*Clive Nash, Dr Bryan Ball*

## OBITUARIES

**Bakker,** Martha Maria, born 15.7.1940 in Silver Bay, Indonesia; died 12.10.11 in Wangaratta, Vic. In 1964, she married John Bakker, who predeceased her. She is survived by Maria Martha Thompson (Merimbulah, NSW),

Ronald Bakker (Wangaratta, Vic) and John Baker (Bendigo). Martha will be sadly missed. She loved her family and her Lord. She had a wonderful smile and laugh.

*Malcolm Reid*

**Mackenzie,** Jennifer Kay, born 27.11.1953 in Brisbane, Qld; died 26.9.11 in Toowoomba. On 18.12.1968, she married Phillip Mackenzie. She is survived by her mother, Kathleen (Ena) Heise (Coffs Harbour, NSW); her brothers, David Heise (Cooranbong), Bruce Heise and Lance Heise; and her children, Kathleen and Paul Wilson (all of Sydney). Jenny's family wish to express their deep appreciation for the love, comfort and support shown by so many for their dearly-loved mother, wife, daughter and sister. Aged only 57 years and 10 months, she passed peacefully to her rest at home and is awaiting the resurrection morning.

*Jim Tonkin*

**Powell,** Cecil Joseph, born 31.10.19 in Milleton, WA; died 7.10.11 in Wyongah, NSW. On 10.5.1943, he married Marjorie McFarlane in Morningside church, Qld. He was predeceased by his daughter Anne (USA). He is survived by his wife; son, Peter (Sydney); and daughter, Gaye (USA) and their families. Cec was employed by the Adventist church for 49 years, during which time he set up and managed the Home Health Education Service for the literature evangelists, then later, the Risk Management Service. Cec was a Christian

## POSITIONS VACANT

■ **Bush regeneration—Adventist Aged Care (Wahroonga, NSW)** is currently seeking a full-time bush regeneration person to work with a team to restore the Wahroonga Estate bushland. This person will enjoy the challenge of a variety of different tasks including weed control, revegetation and bush regeneration. Skills and knowledge include a good level of hands-on experience in the field of weed control and a thorough understanding of commonly used techniques and principles; good plant identification skills (native and exotic species); functional understanding of industry OHS standards and practice; and ability to operate and maintain a range of small plant and equipment. To apply, send cover letter and resume to Human Resource Officer; Adventist Aged Care, 79 Mt Pleasant Avenue, Wahroonga 2076. For more information, call (02) 9487 0658 or email <asmitrarumahorbo@adventist.org.au>. Applications close **December 21, 2011.**

■ **Sales assistant—Adventist Book Centre (Wahroonga, NSW).** This part-time position (12 hours per week) requires the successful candidate to have experience in retail sales and exceeding monthly targets; have excellent customer service and communication skills; and be self-motivated with a drive to succeed. For more information, a full job description, or to send written applications including your CV (including the contact details of your church pastor), please contact Graeme Moffitt on (02) 9868 6522 or email <graememoffitt@adventist.org.au>. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion. Applications close **January 3, 2012.**

■ **Assistant manager—Watson Park Convention Centre (Brisbane, Qld).** The successful applicant should be a practising member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and have extensive maintenance/ground keeping experience. Current relevant qualifications/licences in the use and operation of machinery and heavy vehicles would be a distinct advantage. As Watson Park is a key ministry venue of the Church in South Queensland, it is essential that the applicant be able to demonstrate good communication and relational skills in dealing with other staff and members of the Church and general community and be able to demonstrate a clear commitment to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Detailed job description available on request. Send written applications, including detailed resume and references, to Chief Financial Officer, Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited, 19 Eagle Terrace, Brisbane, Qld 4000. *The administration of Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Ltd reserves the right to make an appointment to this position.* Applications close **January 31, 2012.**

■ **Senior accountant—South Qld Conference (Brisbane, Qld).** This senior position will be responsible to the chief financial officer for all day-to-day financial transaction processing and reporting within the South Queensland Conference. The successful applicant should be a practising member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and hold business/management/accounting academic qualifications (degree level) and be a member, or be eligible to be a member, of a recognised professional accounting organisation (CA/CPA). They should also be able to demonstrate current experience in financial management and preferably have current or recent denominational accounting experience. A more detailed written job description is available on request. Send written applications, including detailed resume and references, to Chief Financial Officer, Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited, 19 Eagle Terrace, Brisbane, Qld 4000. *The administration of Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Ltd reserves the right to make an appointment to this position.* Applications close **January 7, 2012.**



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<[adventistemployment.org.au](http://adventistemployment.org.au)>



gentleman, a devoted husband and father who will be sadly missed. He is remembered as one who had a strong faith in his Saviour, and looked forward to seeing Him soon on resurrection morning.

*David Hay, John Chermiside*



**Tooley, Hugh William**, born in Timaru, NZ; died 9.8.11 in Bethesda Rest Home, Auckland. On 22.2.1949, he married Nellie Hannam at Palmerston North church. He is survived by his wife (Auckland); his sons, Bruce (Masterton) and Cranville (Burringbar, NSW); six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Hugh loved his family very much, he was a farmer all his life and active member of the church in Wanganui. He greatly enjoyed collecting for the appeal for missions and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

*Cranville Tooley*

**Tonkin, Margaret (Peggie)** (nee Crombie), born 23.8.1920 in Aberdeen, Scotland; died 3.8.11 in Gosford, NSW. She is survived by her siblings, Frances, Alester (Coffs Harbour), Don (Brisbane, Qld), Peter, Robert, Andrew (Sandy) (all of Sydney, NSW); her children, Albert (Don) (Sydney), Frances (Gosford), Edward (Borroloola, NT), Jennet (Melbourne, Vic), John (Sydney, NSW); 14 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. She held her faith in God to the end.

*Jim Tonkin*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**For sale: brand new three-bedroom + study + double garage home** finished + extras in a lakeside estate in the rapidly expanding south-east growth corridor of Melbourne. Close to both Heritage College Adventist primary and secondary schools, Monash University, many other private and public schools, and

Casey Hospital. From \$430,000. For more information, call Kelvin Gough at Safe Super Homes on (03) 9702 2595.

**Help please.** Books required for Giant (annual) Book Sale and ADRA Opshop (Mitcham). Non-religious and religious. Any subject, any age, any condition. I will sort. Books you are not likely to read again. Deceased estates. Country OK. For collection, ring Erick (03) 9763 7653 evenings.

**Cedarvale health convention, February 9-12, 2012.** Themes: Maximising spiritual and physical health; and health evangelism. Speakers include Pastor Jim Brackett, Weimar/Amazing Facts. M.Div., MPH. USA., Dr Paul Wood, Cedarvale director of Health. Call (02) 4465 1362 or email <info@cedarvaleretreat.com.au>.

**Receive Hope Channel.** Complete satellite kit \$265 + freight; prime signal areas in Australia only. Instructions for DIY installation. Installers available. Phone (02) 6361 3636; or <greenfieldsenterprises@bigpond.com>.

**For Sale:** 55 acres pasture woodlands, creek, 3 dams, 2 bed log home, large sheds, double carport. 7 bay stables. Mandalong, 10min to Avondale school and College. Contact Bruce on 0418255299.

**Law firm in Sydney: JYP Legal** is a law firm run by Adventist church member Jane Park. Areas of law include property, wills and estates, and family law. Please call (02) 9267 7171 or email <jane@successfulways.com.au>.

**Medical practitioners needed** for the Logan Adventist Health Association Health Centre. Full-time and part-time practitioners needed. Contact: 0428 486 455.

**Data projectors, screens, DVDs, PA systems etc.** Lower prices

**Note:** Neither the editor, Adventist Media Network, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Advertisements approved by the editor will be inserted at the following rates: first 30 words or less, \$A60 +GST; each additional word, \$A1.98 +GST. For your advertisement to appear, payment must be enclosed. Classified advertisements in RECORD are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. See masthead (page 4) for contact details.

for Adventist churches, schools etc. Australia only. Contact Trish, (02) 6361 3636; or <greenfield-senterprises@bigpond.com>.

**Victoria Point (Bayside Brisbane) SDA Church** invites interested Adventists to visit us for fellowship and to assist us in our innovative outreach projects. We are seeking help for community and member visitation, small groups ministry and instrumental/vocal music. Contact our clerk, Barbara, at (07) 3207 8156 or <oharabarb@gmail.com>.

**Church pews available:** 30 at 3.6m in length, moulded ply pews from Port Macquarie church. Free to churches. Interested persons contact (02) 6582 6561, 0407020280 or email <josephmaticic@adventist.org.au>.

## Finally

Don't ask for a light load, but rather ask for a strong back.

**Next RECORD**  
January 21, 2012

## SUPPORTING MINISTRY

**Health ministry traineeships—Cedarvale (Fitzroy Falls, NSW)** is offering an exciting traineeship for those interested in health ministry. Become part of our team, learn as you go! Only two positions. For more information call (02) 4465 1362 or visit <www.cedarvaleeducation.com.au>. Applications close **January 15, 2011**.

*Cedarvale, a ministry, is independent of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organisation but is supportive of the Church.*

**Male and female house parents (immediate start).** Develop, implement and supervise activity programs for students aged 10–17 out of school hours including weekends on a roster basis. Supervise students at meal times and associated care in the dormitories.

**Accountant (immediate start).** Qualified accountant to provide full accounting services to fulfil various funding agency requirements. Provide payroll, account payments and banking functions. Karalundi also operates a few business enterprises that require financial management.

**Teachers (2012) primary trained.** Plan, develop and implement teaching programs across all subject areas for high school aged students in a composite year 8-12 class.

Karalundi Aboriginal Education Community Inc is an independent, Seventh-day Adventist-affiliated boarding school and community catering for Indigenous students from Kindergarten to year 12. It is situated 55km north of Meekatharra in central WA. Karalundi is an oasis in the desert and includes a swimming pool, staff gymnasium and other recreational activities. Salary package includes subsidised on-site housing and utilities with salary sacrifice available. Salaries/wages based on the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia Awards. Contact the CEO or principal for further information on (08) 9981 2000, email: <ceo@karalundi.wa.edu.au> or <principal@karalundi.wa.edu.au> or post your CV with three work-related references to The CEO, PMB 6, Meekatharra, WA 6642.

*Karalundi Aboriginal Education Community Inc is independent of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organisation but is supportive of the Church.*



### Vintage Season



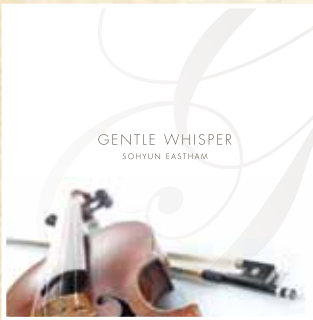
Truly an inspired debut album from **Vintage Season**, their self-titled album is a beautiful and sophisticated masterpiece from duo Emily Rex and Jarel Kilgour.

Emily and Jarel met in 2008 and started writing music together. Since then they have performed at many church and secular events, making a huge impression wherever they play. Emily has a beautiful, soulful voice, accompanied by Jarel's unique jazz voicings on the guitar.

While performing in a popular theatre restaurant, they caught the attention of some of Australia's most in-demand session players who offered to play on their album, including the musical director for *XFactor*, *Australia's Got Talent* and *Hey Hey It's Saturday*.

**Vintage Season** is easily one of the best albums produced by Psalter.

### Sohyun Eastham



Virtuoso violinist Dr Sohyun Eastham delivers a timeless album of your favourite hymns.

Sohyun started playing the violin when she was four years old, and won many national violin competitions and government scholarships in her native Korea. She continued her education at Newcastle University gaining a doctorate in music.

Dr Eastham has performed at various major events as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestra leader in Auckland, Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne, as well as many other places.

Psalter and Sohyun's desire is that you hear God's **Gentle Whisper**. Her album is highly recommended for relaxing Sabbath listening.

### Castles In Air



We are excited to be releasing our first international artists! Psalter's reputation continues to grow internationally, as this original band from the United States asked us to help produce their album.

Castles In Air are a four-piece band from southern California that started playing together in 2010. With music that speaks of hope, forgiveness and finding deeper meaning in life, their debut album takes its title from Psalm 130, which talks about each day being a new beginning. The acoustic versions of "Watchmen" and "There is More" have added huge value to the upcoming "Beyond" series giving a spiritual and emotional element to the evangelistic DVDs.

**Watchmen** is a 10-song album recorded by the band in California, and mixed and mastered by Psalter in Sydney, Australia.



# *Season's Greetings*

FROM EVERYONE AT AVONDALE

Find your inspiration in the spirit of the festive season.  
May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you throughout the new year.