

MARCH 17 2012

# Record

A man in a black shirt is carrying five children on his shoulders. The children are smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a tropical setting with palm trees and a dirt path. A woman in a green shirt and white shorts is visible in the background on the right.

## SUMMER OF SERVICE

page 9

**FIRST MEN'S CONGRESS  
FOR VANUATU** page 3

**CHURCH AIMS TO DISTRIBUTE  
500,000 BOOKS** page 7

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## Team builds one-day school

*Kopiu, Solomon Islands*

The first ever One-Day School classroom in the Solomon Islands was built at Kopiu High School on Guadalcanal by a South Queensland volunteer team in January.

The first four of 13 One-Day School classrooms were constructed, with the help of local people from Kopiu, Sukiki and surrounding villages, who also prepared the sites.

A One-Day School is a pre-fabricated building made from steel, which has been manufactured in America, shipped by container to the building site and designed to be constructed on a prepared foundation in just one day.

The concept was developed by Garwin McNeilus, who saw the damage and devastation in Haiti after it was hit by an earthquake. He presented his vision to Maranatha International—a supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church specialising in building hospitals, schools and churches world-wide—and the One-Day School was born.

Pastor Ervin Ferris, Dr Silent Tovosia, John Martin and Peter Aldridge were invited to travel to Dodge Centre in America in August last year, where they learned how to construct a One-Day School at the factory site.

Mr Martin, a professional builder, was able to demonstrate the necessary skills to local builders and volunteers during the fly-n-build. Now Kopiu School workers and local volunteers can finish the expansion project with the nine One-Day School buildings remaining at Kopiu.—*Ervin Ferris*



Volunteers in front of the new classroom.



The men were challenged to serve others.

## First men's congress for Vanuatu

*Port Vila, Vanuatu*

Adventist men's clubs and federations in Vanuatu regained their strength with the first-ever national congress of more than 370 men who came together to fellowship and to be equipped for service.

Workshops, devotions and activities for the week-long program centred on the congress theme, "Go open hands".

Pastor Nos Terry from the Trans-Pacific Union Mission was the guest speaker. He challenged each individual at the congress, saying, "You may be an ordinary man but we are a movement of people to be witnesses for Christ".

He encouraged everyone to participate effectively in the ministry of telling people about God's kingdom and to go out like Jesus with an open hand to serve others.—*Jean-Pierre Niptik*

## Adventist health survey distributed

*Wahroonga, New South Wales*

Nine thousand health questionnaires have been distributed to Adventists across Australia and New Zealand and are now flowing back in for analysis.

"We would like to thank you for completing your questionnaire and returning it to Adventist Health," said Kevin Price, Adventist Health director for the South Pacific Division. "This is a very important survey and it will guide Adventist Health initiatives in the short and medium term."

To complete the survey online, log in with the four-digit code and scan in the completed form, which will be read by scanners that extract the results into tables of data ready for analysis.

The responses from Adventist high schools are particularly important because the questionnaire has been prepared in a way that will enable comparison with a recent survey in Australian Government operated schools.

"If you have received a survey pack but have not been able to complete it yet, we would like to encourage you to take about 20 to 30 minutes to be part of this important research project,"

Pastor Price said. "Think of it as being asked your opinion while still retaining your anonymity and your responses are confidential because they are non-identifiable. No-one can link your form number to your name or address." The results of preliminary analysis will be reported in RECORD towards the end of the year.—*Jarrod Stackelroth/Kevin Price*



Pastor Price and Dr Chester Kuma.



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Cover credit: Joel Slade

"One Mission team member Mark Singh with children from Boa Esperanca in Brazil."

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

Acting Editor:  
James Standish  
Email: editor@record.net.au

Assistant Editor:  
Jarrod Stackelroth

Assistant Editor:  
Kent Kingston

Sales & Marketing:  
Dora Amuimuia

Copyeditor:  
Tracey Bridcutt

Graphic Designers:  
Loopeck Lim

Letters: editor@record.net.au  
News & Photos: news@record.net.au  
Noticeboard: ads@record.net.au

record.net.au

Mail: Adventist Media Network  
Locked bag 1115  
Wahroonga, NSW 2076, Australia

Phone: (02) 9847 2222  
Fax: (02) 9847 2200

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Executive Publishers  
Senior Consulting Editor:  
Dr Barry Oliver

Director of Communication:  
James Standish



## Go for it

James Standish

Americans are possibly the nicest people on earth. I know, you are groaning at this point and getting ready to flip the page. But visit the US and I will guarantee that everywhere you go people will ask where you're from, and then tell you how much they LOVE your accent, followed closely by the refrain, "I have always dreamed of travelling to Oss-tray-lya!"\*

Yes, Aussies and Kiwis are lovely too, but when was the last time you met an American and then launched into how much you LOVE all things American? I have an American accent and I'm going to tell you, it's not going to happen!

But what is curious about Americans is that so many genuinely want to visit Australia, but so few actually do. Over the years I've responded to hundreds of Americans when they've shared their heart's desire to visit Australia with a simple question, "Then why don't you?" Nearly always the question is met with a blank stare, and a long pause. It's as if I've asked why they don't visit the Moon. Sure, they want to go there, but it's simply outside the realms of possibility they've created for themselves.

It's easy to snicker, but have we created artificial boundaries for ourselves too? It's tempting to tell ourselves, and our youth, that in order to remain pure we have to inhibit our talents and curtail our ambitions. We may even feel a perverse piety in failure as if there is something rather sanctified about being second best. While we revel in the stories of David, Esther, Daniel and Deborah, do we think it is a sin to achieve similar greatness ourselves?

As she so often did, Ellen White dismissed the nay-sayers brilliantly in an address that provides some rather unexpected, and very timely, advice:

*"Dear youth: what is the aim and purpose of your life? Are you ambitious for education that you may have a name and a position in the world? Have you thoughts that you dare not express that you may one day stand upon the summit of intellectual greatness; that you may sit in deliberative and legislative councils, and help to enact laws for the nation? There is nothing wrong in these aspirations. You may every one of you make the mark. You should be content with no mean attainments. Aim high, and spare no pain to reach the standard. The fear of the Lord lies at the foundation of all true greatness"* (Fundamentals of Christian Education, p 82).

Her advice shouldn't be a surprise. After all, Christ, through the parable of the talents, illustrated that God expects a full return from the time and resources He entrusts to us. Our world is in need of heroic action. Let's give God our everything and go for it!

\*Even if you're actually a Kiwi. . .

James Standish is communication director for the South Pacific Division

## CONTENTS



### NEWS

- 3 Team builds one-day school
- 7 Men called to lead family, church
- 8 New "serious" play for sharing
- 9 Summer of service



### FEATURES

- 11 Gateway to faith
- 14 Inside youth ministry
- 17 Cure for cynicism

Photo: Colin Chuang



### Leap year challenge

President Dr Ray Roennfeldt urged students during Avondale's Opening Convocation to use the extra day of this leap year to consider what they wanted to accomplish in 2012. He asked about commitment to faith and contribution to service. The message: those who wait for things to happen do not make progress. The challenge: "Leap into this year with enthusiasm". —*Brenton Stacey*

### In fair health

Youth and older members from the Hillview church (Morisset, NSW) worked together to connect with their community at the local agricultural show. Over two days, organisers helped dozens of people test their "health age", and complete weight and lifestyle surveys. A clown and puppets kept the kids entertained and show-goers browsed the free Adventist DVDs on offer. —*RECORD staff*

### Literature ministry training

All church members with internet access can now do a Literature Ministry Training Course for free. The exciting Like a Mighty Army website is currently live at < [www.lecourse.net](http://www.lecourse.net)>. The course is filled with practical training to help with issues like handling objections, being a good administrator and time management tips. —*Jarrold Stackelroth*



### Little preachers

The Echuca (Vic) Kindergarten/Primary Sabbath School class, which consists of Josh and Dylan Roberts aged six and five, made a Nativity scene and presented a story of the true meaning of Christmas (with the help of their mother). There were seven children visiting to listen to the program. —*Raelene Wagner*

### University town

The Landsborough church, Qld, recognising the rapid growth of the Sunshine Coast University, has engaged James Topp, a volunteer youth pastor to care for many of the young people who are studying at the university. James recently announced his engagement to Imogen Menzies. Imogen is a chaplain at Northpine Christian College this year, so they both have a passion for working with young people. —*Glen Woosley*

### Official recognition

Hungary's parliament has amended the country's controversial "Law on Churches" to restore the Adventist Church's official church status. Some 300 churches were deregistered under this law, and invited to reapply for church status. Bertil Wiklander, president of Trans-European division, welcomed the news, saying the vote allows the church in Hungary to look to the future with renewed purpose and energy. —*Bettina Krause/TED staff/ANN*



### Community angels

The Warragul church (Vic) children's Sabbath School classes undertook some outreach in the main town. The children gave out 100 angels to people in the town, which they had made during Sabbath School. The angels featured the message "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace". People were welcoming and thankful. The church has committed to undertake future outreach during the times of Christmas and Easter. —*John Brereton*

### Molecule of life

World-first research conducted by Sydney Adventist Hospital discovered 50 is a tipping point for health. Studies focused on a molecule called NAD, needed by the body for energy production, cell repair and to stimulate the longevity gene. These NAD levels decline significantly with age, but the good news is there are ways to stimulate NAD production—increase intake of polyphenol, found in blueberries and other dark-coloured fruits and vegetables. —*Hornsby Advocate*

### Turning 100

Doris Searle, previously Hennig, nee Watson, turned 100 on February 18. Mrs Searle, who attends the Para Vista church, SA, is the daughter of Pastor Sidney Watson and niece of Pastor Charles Watson, former General Conference president. Doris chose to be a "Jesus girl" as a child and has been faithful ever since. —*Czes Mucha*

Send your pictures and details to [news@record.net.au](mailto:news@record.net.au)



### Taking sides

A campaign to officially declare the West African nation of Liberia a Christian country has attracted hundreds of supporters. But prominent Christian leaders are warning that such a move could split the country along religious lines and lead to instability. More than 12 per cent of Liberians are Muslim. —*Ecumenical News International*



### Peacemakers

Catholic and Protestant church leaders from the troubled Indonesian province of Papua have met with the nation's president, urging him to bring all parties to the negotiating table. The clergy said the government should include the Papuan independence movement, the military and mining companies in the talks. —*InTouch*



### We will remember

New Zealanders have paused on the first anniversary of the 6.3-magnitude earthquake that devastated Christchurch. Twenty thousand people attended an interdenominational ceremony where the names of the 185 people who died were read out. During the service, 140 church and community groups were presented with service awards for their role in the recovery. —*Ecumenical News International*



### Meeting of minds

In an Australian first, a Catholic school of theology has partnered with a secular university to provide theological education to all comers. Starting this semester, lecturers from Broken Bay Institute, in Sydney's north, will provide face-to-face instruction for theology students at Newcastle University, as well as supervising online courses. —*Broken Bay Institute*



### Murderers—Christ loves you

The Mexican city of Juarez, just over the Texan border, is notorious for its corruption and high numbers of drug-related killings. But a local evangelical youth group is standing up for truth and justice—in costume! The teen angels position themselves at crime scenes around the city, their signs calling for repentance. —*National Public Radio*



### Facts buried

An independent alcohol-awareness group, the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education, has obtained research reports commissioned but never released by the Australian government that show mandatory health warning labels on alcohol containers are likely to be effective. Instead the government has allowed the alcohol industry to manage its own labelling. —*FARE*

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## Men called to lead family, church

Adelaide, South Australia

The newly-formed South Australian Conference Men's Ministries Department held its first men's rally in Adelaide on February 28.

Although it was held mid-week, more than 250 men of all ages attended, and many more watched the program as it was live-streamed over the internet.

"The Men's Ministry Department in South Australia was born out of the realisation that men have often been the weakest link, in our families and our churches," said Pastor Roland Talamaivao-Amituanai, Youth and Family Ministries Department director.

The theme of the rally was "Called" and the main focus was that God has called all men to be the spiritual leaders of their families, and in their churches.

"As a Church we have spent so many resources on ministries for our women, youth and children, and this has been great," Pastor Talamaivao-Amituanai said. "But the sad reality is that when our women and children return to a home with a man who is spiritually weak, or even dead, then a lot of this good work is undone. But when the men rise up spiritually, the rest of the family will usually follow. This is why we felt an urgent need to focus on ministering to our men."

Guest speakers were Dr Paul Siope, pastor of Calvary Community Church and director of church planting in the North New Zealand Conference, and Leiataua David Letele, a former chapter president of the Mongrel Mob gang, who is now serving as a pastoral leader at Calvary. Mr Letele shared a powerful testimony of a life lived apart from God, and then redeemed by God, and now empowered by God.

Dr Siope called the men to attack, aggravate and an-

nihilate our enemy, the devil. He lamented the fact that many of the men in our churches only made the devil yawn, but real men, those who are filled with the Holy Spirit, will send Satan into panic mode when they walk into a place. He challenged the men to realise that their homes are their churches—of which they are the pastors.

Many of the men ordered free DVD copies of the rally so they could share it with their friends, and many made decisions to commit to God's calling on their lives, reaffirm their stand as men of God, and join men's groups that would help them to grow spiritually.

"The rally was a great time of spiritual revival for all who were there, but we want to build on this by encouraging all of the men to start men's groups in their local churches," Pastor Talamaivao-Amituanai said. "The Spirit is stirring up a movement that will raise up our men to fulfil their God-given calling to be the pastors, protectors, shepherds and spiritual leaders of their families." —Jarrod Stackelroth/Roland Talamaivao-Amituanai

The men's rally can be viewed online at <[www.livingministrymedia.com.au](http://www.livingministrymedia.com.au)>.



Pastor Paul Siope.

## Church aims to distribute 500,000 books

Wahroonga, New South Wales

In an unprecedented global initiative, the Seventh-day Adventist Church around the world is hoping to distribute millions of copies of Ellen White's books.

"Project Hope", as the initiative is known in the South Pacific Division, is an integral part of the Church's "Tell the World" and "Revival and Reformation" programs. The SPD's goal is to distribute over 500,000 copies of the books in this Division alone during 2012-2015.

The SPD will focus on distributing four books: *The Desire of Ages*, *The Great Controversy*, a modern English version of 11 specially selected chapters of *The Great Controversy* and *Steps to Christ* in modern English.

Local churches and individual members will be able to order the books they would like to share with friends,

neighbours, associates and community members. An order form will be included in the RECORD within the next two months.

"This is a great opportunity for all of us—me included—to get our message out there," SPD president, Dr Barry Oliver, said. "There is nothing better than sharing our faith with friends, and Project Hope gives all of us the chance to work together in the process. The aim is for every church member to share their book of choice in the context of a personal friendship or close contact."

Danijela Schubert, who is directing Project Hope in the SPD, agrees: "Sharing our faith is essential to our spiritual health." She encourages Adventists to read the book they plan to share in advance. "It's vital that we're more than casually familiar with the books we share," she said. "Each one of these books provides enormous spiritual insight and inspiration. Let's not only pass on a blessing, but experience the blessing ourselves." —James Standish



## New “serious” play for sharing

Warburton, Victoria

A new and unusual Adventist book was launched at the annual Adventist Book Centre (ABC) sales seminar on February 20 in Houston, Texas.

Signs book editor Nathan Brown presented *Shadow Men* by Clifford Goldstein to ABC managers from across North America, describing the book as “a sharing book for those who might never read a sharing book”.

*Shadow Men* is a conversation between two characters presented in the literary form of a play. “For some reason the idea of two guys on death row just popped into my head and I thought a play would be the best way to represent the ideas I wanted to get across,” said author Clifford Goldstein, who has written more than 20 books and is the editor of the Adult Bible Study Guide at the General Conference, based in Silver Spring, Maryland.

But while explaining the beginnings

of his story whimsically, Mr Goldstein’s intention for it is much more focused.

“I wanted to witness to people with this book without them even knowing that they were being witnessed to,” he explained. “My hope is that it would help bring to secular minds these deep questions about the meaning of life. I wanted folks to see that unless there was something afterward, what’s now is ultimately futile.”

Set on death row with a clock counting down the hours, the conversations of *Shadow Men* have a dark sense of urgency, as well as offering glimpses of hope and meaning. “I thought that letting characters express it—characters who in the end are swept up in that meaninglessness—could be a credible way of showing these ideas and not turning off those we want to reach,” Mr Goldstein said. “I really wrote this story so church members



could give it to non-believers without offending them.”

The opportunity for Signs Publishing Company to work with Mr Goldstein arose in the context of the development of the *Beyond* DVD series, for which he has done a significant amount of research and writing. “Cliff is a well-known and respected Adventist author,” Mr Brown said, “and it is a good opportunity to be able to publish a book by such a writer. And *Shadow Men* is a creative and intriguing story that wrestles with some of the biggest questions of life in a way that makes you think and that’s worth sharing.”  
—RECORD staff

## MY MINISTRY IDEA

“. . . Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow . . .” (Matthew 6:28). Have you really considered the lilies of the field—the many blessings you receive and enjoy each day? When last did you really take time to study God’s creation of flowers, maybe just a simple petal or a leaf? The exquisite design in each of these is awesome; never mind the vastness of all Creation!

Sadly, many people can no longer experience this beauty. Around 444,400 Australians aged 55 or over are blind or vision impaired (Source: ABS: Ausstats 2004). This represents 9.4 per cent of the 4.7 million Australians in that age group.

The Ministry of Christian Services for the Blind has been actively engaged in serving the vision impaired in Australia from 1973. This community service of the South Pacific Division (SPD) also operates in New Zealand. It provides a ministry to those who are vision impaired, giving them access to Jesus by providing inspirational and devotional stories, historical narratives, biographies, prophecy and prayer series etc.

One recipient was comforted during the recent flooding in Australia: “The [tapes] you sent before Christmas helped pass the time when I was flood bound. I didn’t speak to anyone for several days but God gave me a promise and that encouraged me tremendously” (Isaiah 43:12).

Another recipient shared, “Thank you so

much for all your care in sending the cassettes to us. We have appreciated this. Please send us cassettes to last us TILL we DIE.”

In 2010, the ministry was transferred from the South Pacific Division to Adventist Media Network. The process of conversion to digital then began, in conjunction with Vision Australia. This major undertaking is still in progress and has required special equipment, the Daisy Player, provided by Vision Australia on a free loan basis. This provision, however, may change in the future.

You can take part by contributing to the offering on March 24. There is also a need for more narrators. Thank you for your offerings and donations in the past and may God bless you as you once again ‘dig deep’ to support this ministry.—Irene Relihan

*Note: We still have new cassettes to give away so let us know if you can make use of them.*





# Summer of service

by Josh Dye

"It's early in the morning; the humidity is stifling; the rain pours down." Anastasia Benton and 15 other students from Avondale College of Higher Education are huddling together under a small tin roof on the boat they will call home for the next two days. They're travelling up the Amazon River to some of the most remote villages in northern Brazil. Surrounded by lush green rainforest and exotic wildlife—alligators, anacondas, jaguars, macaws and piranhas—they zip up their life jackets as they embark on the journey.

The student team worked with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to build toilets, which will improve hygiene and help the villagers "overcome sanitary problems affecting their community", says Megan Townend.

Team members looked to Megan, one of the leaders of the trip, as their problem solver, particularly when their supply of food dwindled. "We'd sent for food, but the boat was two days late in returning and we were struggling to feed everyone. We had enough food for only one or two more meals. So, we were pretty excited when we finally heard the boat approaching."

The Brazil project is only one of the mission trips run by Avondale student club One Mission. Megan joined 43 of her classmates as volunteers in Brazil, the Philippines and the Solomon Islands over the summer.

For the third consecutive year, a team visited the village of Maitom on the island of Negros Oriental in the Philippines. One Mission Philippines members have raised \$70,000 over the three years, which they have used previously to build a classroom and now the first stage of an auditorium for the local Seventh-day Adventist school. Co-leader Tyson Dunne says the auditorium will be a valuable addition. "Besides enabling the school to host its own events, the auditorium will provide a source of income as the school hires it out to the local community." The team has also used the money to run kids' clubs and evangelistic programs, through which 60 people have been baptised.

The Solomon Islands team, also in its third consecutive year, ran kids' clubs, conducted soccer clinics, taught English classes, led Bible studies and presented a series of worship meetings in the villages it visited. Team member Jamie Stanley says the generosity of the villagers moved him. "Their warmth and openness caught me off guard," he said. "Despite having less than us, they seemed to serve us more than we served them, and this made me reflect on my own priorities."

Jamie's experience is common and creates a sense of community on campus, says One Mission co-leader Joel Slade. "It unites people with similar passions to do amazing things for God." It is also central to the Avondale experience. "Mission trips and service projects give young adults a greater vision of world needs—they discover they can make a difference," says Lake Macquarie campus chaplain and One Mission staff adviser, Dr Wayne French. "They return home with a heightened sense of their personal abilities and are inspired to make a difference in their local communities. It often changes the direction of their lives forever."

The service culture on campus will grow this year. Joel's goal is for more local community-based One Mission trips. "While serving overseas is important, we can't forget our own backyard. I want everyone to experience the joy of service, and I want that joy to spread across campus." Jessica Ennor is the face of a new partnership between ADRA Australia and Avondale. Employed by ADRA with support from Avondale, Mrs Ennor will assist One Mission by coordinating possible overseas service projects for students and providing training for mission trip leaders. "One Mission has the leaders and the students, ADRA has the projects. My role is to provide links between the two" she says.

The potential is exciting, notes Dr French. "Avondale's administrators, staff members and student leaders recognise the importance of service and value the positive impact it makes on our student body," he says.

*Josh Dye is public relations intern at Avondale College of Higher Education.*



## Let food be thy medicine

The US Federal Drug Administration has announced that evidence now supports the need for popular statin drugs to carry warning labels, informing patients that these medications can possibly increase blood sugar levels and lead to a greater risk of type 2 diabetes.\* With the prevalence of type 2 diabetes rising at an alarming rate, this is definitely a concerning development.

Statin drugs are some of the most widely prescribed drugs in the world; they work to lower blood cholesterol levels and reduce a patient's risk of heart disease. But as with most medications, they come with their fair share of possible negative side effects which need to be weighed up against their potential benefits.

But what if there was a medicine available that treated high cholesterol and actually decreased your risk of type 2 diabetes? One that had an exhaustive list of potential benefits, rather than possible side effects?

Well you might be surprised to learn that such a medicine exists, it's available without prescription and most of us are already taking it every day, maybe just in the wrong dose.

The medicine is a whole food, plant-based diet—it's safe, it's effective and it's never too late to start taking it.

There are decades of epidemiological studies, such as the Adventist Health Study, which show us that a diet based on unprocessed plant foods can help maintain healthy cholesterol levels and reduce our risk of heart

disease and are associated with a lower incidence of diabetes.

Pioneering clinicians in the area of lifestyle medicine, such as Caldwell Esselstyn and Neal Barnard, have even taken this a step further, showing low fat, plant-based diets can work to reverse the progression of existing heart disease and diabetes, in some cases outperforming popular drug therapy.

Let's be honest, changing our lifestyles is more difficult than taking a pill every morning, but what about when we go from taking one pill a morning, to multiple pills across the day? What about when the side effects start outweighing the benefits?

We all have individual medical needs and, in the right situation, medications such as statin drugs can be lifesaving. But when a popular medication has yet another negative possible side effect added to the list, it can be a timely reminder that we may have other options that deserve our attention, options that have an exhaustive list of positive, rather than negative side effects.

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## RECIPE

### Lentil shepherd's pie

- 1 tbsp oil
- 1 stick celery, finely chopped
- 1tsp curry powder
- 2 x 415g can brown lentils
- 1kg potatoes, peeled and evenly chopped
- ½ cup soy milk
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 large carrot, finely chopped
- 500g jar tomato pasta sauce
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 1 tbsp margarine

1. Heat oil in a medium pot and sauté onion, celery and carrot until soft.
2. Add curry powder and sauté for 1 minute.
3. Add pasta sauce, lentils and peas and bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 5 minutes.
4. Place potatoes in a large saucepan and cover with hot water. Bring to boil, then reduce heat and simmer until tender.
5. Drain potatoes and add margarine and soy milk. Mash until smooth.
6. Spoon lentil mixture into one large ovenproof dish or 6 x 1 cup small ovenproof dishes. Top with mashed potato.
7. Bake in a moderate oven, 180°C, for 40 minutes.

**Preparation time:** 15 minutes **Cooking time:** 60 minutes

PER SERVE: 1440 kJ (335 Cal); Protein 16g; Total Fat 8g; Saturated Fat 1g; Carbohydrate 46g; Total Sugars 11g; Sodium 825mg; Potassium 1425mg; Calcium 90mg; Iron 4.7mg; Fibre 11g.

# Gateway to faith

by Kent Kingston

**T**HE BASKETBALL BACKBOARDS HAVE BEEN SWUNG up closer to the foil-lined roof. In the centre of the auditorium, the sprung wooden floor is covered in carpet squares and stackable plastic chairs. The band is doing last minute sound-checks on the stage—guitars, drums and an electric keyboard—the music intermingles with friendly chatter from the 300 or so people drifting in before the main service begins. Young families and groups of teens dominate.

Welcome to Gateway Adventist Community Church, which meets on the campus of Avondale School in Cooranbong, NSW. Established about 15 years ago, Gateway is the product of a vision to connect spiritually with the 65 per cent of students—and their families—who do not have a church home.

Pastor Mel Lemke, Avondale School's primary chaplain, is an enthusiastic advocate of the close cooperation between the school and church that's at the heart of the Gateway model. In 2007, the congregation moved from a community hall to the school grounds after the opening of Avondale's multi-purpose centre. "It's made a huge difference to be based on campus," Lemke says.

An official memorandum of understanding sets out the roles of church, school and local conference office. Under the agreement, the school provides office space on campus for the Gateway pastor and a volunteer; when appointing a new pastor to Gateway, the conference office consults with the school; the school chaplains are considered associate pastors of Gateway and Gateway's pastor is considered an associate chaplain of the school.

Pastor Neil Thompson is Gateway's new pastor and, despite being appointed only a few months ago, he's quickly catching the vision. As a new family coming to Gateway this year, the Thompsons have experienced some of the church's friendliness. "Last night we came home to find a bag of tomatoes on our doorstep," he says. "The other



night it was a bar-fridge. This goes to the warmth of the church itself." A new pastor also means a fresh perspective. Thompson says there's a danger that people can feel less connected as a church grows larger. "There's a need to establish home groups to keep a sense of community. We

**We were quite comfortable—nice house, nice car; but something was missing. We'd lost our way a little bit in regards to religion.**

need to make sure that everyone feels special." Thompson also wants to provide support to the children's Sabbath School divisions so they can increase their effectiveness.

But the overall impression of Thompson is a pastor who has fallen on his feet. "Part of the magic of Gateway is its incredible laid-back feel," he says. "People tend to dress casually. That has translated into a broad acceptance of people 'just as you are'. That's part of the glue that draws kids in—they know they'll be loved."

It's a trust relationship that is built at school and then translates to the Sabbath program. Mel Lemke says his six years at Avondale School have "opened my world to ministry". He's sat in interviews with parents of prospective students and heard the principal be very explicit—"We will invite your child to a life of faith". Not all parents choose to enrol their child but when they do, the chances are high (80 to 90 per cent in the primary school) that the child will self-identify as a Christian within a few years.

Pauline Whitling has seen her family transformed in the three years since she enrolled her son, Jack, in Year 7 at Avondale School. "We were quite comfortable," she says. "Nice house, nice car; but something was missing." She and her husband, Bill, have some church background but, as she says, "We'd lost our way a little bit in regards to religion".

After Jack said he wanted to go to Gateway with friends



during Year 7, the rest of the Whiting family began to attend; first sporadically, but now nearly every week. Pauline has nothing but praise for the church.

"Gateway is awesome," she says, "We found it welcoming and non-judgemental. It didn't matter if we didn't have an Adventist background. We felt we weren't treated differently to anyone else."

And through the influence of Jack's Year 7 religion teacher, chaplains, Gateway's previous pastor, StormCo mission trips and older students who took Jack under their wing, Pauline has seen her son blossom.

"He was very quiet," she says. "If he was asked to sing, he would just mouth the words. But he's been going to Gatecrash [Gateway's youth Sabbath School] and participating in the program. This weekend he's singing up the front of the main church for the first time."

In January, Jack, now in Year 10, was baptised. Pauline says her younger daughter, Samantha, is likely to follow suit this year. And, referring to herself and her husband, Pauline predicts, "I would say, probably, we'll get done too".

Every year both the primary and high school campuses hold a Week of Mega Praise (WOMP), which culminates in a Sabbath service at Gateway. According to Lemke's statistics, last year's primary WOMP saw 56 students making commitments to Jesus for the first time. Out of the 400 or so students present, 126 requested Bible studies and 79 said they wanted to be baptised.

Last year a Year 5 student asked to be baptised at school on his birthday. Because, as he pointed out, "baptism's like being born again". The student's family had no Christian background but were supportive of their son's choice.

The baptism occurred in a portable font in the middle of the primary school quadrangle. "A third of the kids had never seen a baptism before," says Lemke. Since then, a number of other students have requested a similar baptism at school.

Lemke is definite: "The best evangelistic opportunity that we have—by a long shot—is our schools." ➤

*Kent Kingston is assistant editor of RECORD.*

## John Fulton (1869–1945)

Born in Nova Scotia, the young John Fulton moved with his family to the United States at the age of six. He later attended the forerunner of the present day Pacific Union College, Healdsburg College in California, before marrying Susie Newlon in 1891.

Initially serving as a minister in the American West for three years, John Fulton then spent a year in evangelism in New Zealand. From 1896 to 1906 he was an evangelist in Fiji with a one-year break when he served as a Bible teacher at Australasian Missionary College (now Avondale College of Higher Education).

During his years in Fiji, John Fulton came to love the Fijian people deeply, mastered their language and endured many hardships as one of the first Adventist missionaries there. Not least among them was that it took three years after their arrival in Fiji before the Church was able to get Fulton's wages up to date—and until then he was running up significant debts at trading posts around Suva.

A low point for John and Susie was the death of their young son while they were living in Suva, among the first of very likely more than 60 expatriate missionaries or their dependents who have been laid to rest while sharing their faith during their gospel service in the South Pacific. Thus when the Fultons left Fiji, not only did they leave their hearts behind but their young son as well.

After his decade in Fiji, Fulton spent the rest of his career in denominational leadership positions, first as president of the NSW Conference in Australia, then the Australian Union, the Asiatic Division, the Pacific Union, the North American Division and the Australasian Division (1922–1926). On his final return to the United States, he was president of the Pacific Union Conference (1926–1932), followed by holding presidential office in both the Northern and Southern California Conferences.

Late in life, after nearly three decades away, John Fulton returned to his beloved Fiji and the first thing he did when he arrived in Suva was to walk down behind the Mission office at Savavou to visit that beautiful spot overlooking the harbour where his young son still rests in the hope of the resurrection. A day or two later Fulton preached the Sabbath service in Suva—in faultless Fijian.

Highly esteemed, the memory of this deeply committed Christian is preserved today in the name of the Fulton Library at La Sierra University in Southern California—as it is also at Fulton College in Fiji, established more than 70 years ago and named in memory of the man who did so much to bring the Adventist message to Fiji.



*Dr Lester Devine is director emeritus of the Ellen G White/Adventist Research Centre at the Avondale College of Higher Education.*

LETTERS

UNIVERSITY MISSION FIELDS

Sven Ostring, WA

I want to commend the articles by James Standish and Tim Shelton in RECORD, February 18, that feature university ministry and provide contact details for Adventist university chaplains in Australia and New Zealand. Mr Standish's feature article was incredibly well written and captures the university experience very well. His advice to new university students—that they do not need to be intimidated by university professors and that they need to keep their conversations with their peers in perspective—is very timely.

I would like to encourage students not only to protect their Adventist faith while at university, but to actively share your faith with your peers, flatmates and lecturers. You have the opportunity to become a missionary and a spiritual leader on your university campus for Jesus.

By openly sharing your faith you will not only give your classmates and professors the opportunity to accept Jesus, but you'll find that sharing your faith is one of the best ways to not only maintain it, but to help your faith grow and flourish. Our universities present an incredible spiritual opportunity and mission field to reach people for Jesus, and there's no-one more effective in reaching this field than you—the Adventist uni student.

ORDINATION STUDY

Stephen Ferguson, WA

I applaud the General Conference announcement of a timetable for studying the theology of ordination. However, I wonder if both 'sides' of the issue have it all backwards.

Even assuming the Bible prescribes gender-restricted roles, don't the oft-cited proof texts concerning older men who are "the husband of one wife, having faithful children" (Titus 1:5-9; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-5) apply to the selection of elders—not clergy? By contrast, aren't the vocations of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher all spiritual gifts (Ephesians 4:11) bestowed by the Holy Spirit? Whilst celibate Paul and young Timothy were clearly ministers, were they elders—and if so how, given Paul's own stated selection criteria? Wasn't Matthias chosen by lots (the Greek origin of the word clergy) precisely to emphasise that God, not men, ultimately decides?

Doesn't Ellen White's own life reflect this distinction, given she was never in a position of formal administrative leadership (unlike her husband

James) but she was nonetheless clearly a licensed minister bestowed by the Holy Spirit with all five spiritual gifts?

Thus, wouldn't empowering each local church to decide for itself whether to restrict eldership on the basis of gender, whilst recognising women chosen by the Holy Spirit can be ordained clergy, offer an appropriate compromise that reflects Scripture and maintains Church unity?

Alternatively, perhaps we should dispense with the term 'ordain' altogether (a term of Catholic origin) and just 'commission' (a more biblical term) all future pastors worldwide.

KINGDOM VISION

Rasara Leo, QLD

Thank you for the most inspiring/uplifting/challenging editorial written by Jarrod Stackleroth (RECORD, February 18). We claim we have the truth but yet we fail to use it to be able to seek the lost.

I am encouraged to use my faith and wisdom to be able to build God's kingdom. Thank you for being honest in your writings. Not only do you write with a passion but with a vision to build God's kingdom.

*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.*





# inside youth ministry

RECORD interviewed South Pacific Division Youth director, Pastor Nick Kross, to find out more about youth ministry.

## **There seems to be a new authenticity to the Christian faith of Adventist youth today, do you agree? If so, what do you ascribe it to?**

Yes I do. The climate has changed from the '80s and '90s when times were more prosperous and the outlook was bright. There are serious cracks in the system and our young people are looking for clarity on many issues. The Bible speaks to these issues and our youth want to know their faith is grounded in the Word.

But more than this, youth want to see these truths lived out in the lives of Christians. They can spot a superficial Christian lifestyle in contrast to someone who is engaging in real ministries of service.

The world is telling us loud and clear there are problems, from economic failure, natural chaos and social concerns like slavery and poverty. These problems are much more evident than they were even a decade ago and young people want to make a difference.

## **How are Adventist youth leading out today?**

Young adults are choosing to spend their holiday time in meaningful ways serving those in less fortunate circumstances. Youth are also speaking up about their faith online through social networking sites like Facebook. There is a sense in which topics like faith in God, that were not discussed a few years ago, are being talked about freely. The number of young adults signing up for people helping courses like developmental studies has increased dramatically.

Traditionally young people took up roles in their local churches as a way of leading out. While there are some churches that foster the development of their youth, through mentoring relationships and ministry opportunities, there are growing numbers of youth who are turning elsewhere to engage in ministry, for example informal groups planning their own ministry events, like the ADRA

Connections, One Mission or ICC (International Children's Care) trips.

There is also a growing number of young people who are engaged in faith sharing and bringing friends to church ministry events. For example, a lot of youth bring their friends to summer camps and Pathfinders. These friendship networks are proving to be very powerful evangelistic fields where people find Christ in an Adventist setting.

## **How does Adventist youth culture differ across the SPD, and how is it similar?**

Global trends in music, visual media and fashion are shaping young people across the Pacific in ways that very few are able to keep up with. Even in remote parts of the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea, mobile phone coverage is nearly complete. This allows young people full access to the internet at very little cost. So there is very little young people cannot access with ease.

Traditional languages and culture are being passed over for name brands and popular songs all across the Pacific. There are, of course, major inequities of wealth between Australia, New Zealand and the other Island nations, however when it comes to tastes in music and visual media, they are all drinking from the same fountain.

## **How can Christianity compete with multi-media for the attention of youth?**

Make no mistake, the impact of the media on the lives of youth is constant and powerful. If we wish to provide a viable alternative to the impact of the media, our faith must be just as constant and powerful. If our young people perceive the Christian faith to lack in power and authenticity, other influences will dominate. We need to provide experiences where Christ's presence is felt and experienced with power. This is where service, faith sharing and other forms of ministry that build authentic community come

into play. What the media cannot do is love you and care for you, but Christ can through His church family.

### **How important is Adventist education to building a strong Christian youth culture in our Church?**

I'm convinced good Adventist education is another valuable influencer and shaper of young people. The value of Christian education is that the Bible story is presented as the true foundation for life. Combined with loving teachers and good friends, a Christian education fortifies the mind against other fallacious worldviews. Growing up in an Adventist school also provides lifelong friendships with like-minded people who can offer support later during adulthood.

### **In your ministry to youth, what do you see as the greatest challenges?**

Raising children has traditionally been seen as a sacred responsibility. However, today, more and more young people are running a race looking for someone to cheer them on, but the grandstand is almost empty. It used to be that adults made adjustments to accommodate their children; now the pendulum has swung the opposite way, with children having to adjust to accommodate the dreams and lifestyle choices of their parents.

There is no greater influencer than the parents of a young person. Helping parents to see their role in shaping the character of their children is one of the greatest challenges today.

### **Arguably, the late teens to early 20s are the years when we are most likely to leave the Church. What's the solution?**

There is no substitute for the love and care of church family members who take an interest in each individual youth, and make regular contact with them to make sure they are included.

What youth need most is a support network of people around them who are prepared to journey with them through this tough time. Simple support mechanisms like offering to take them to church if they need transport, or including them in social events at university, are so important. The Adventist Conference offering an accommodation service for students arriving from country areas has worked in Queensland in times past and remains a real need.

When a young person makes the decision to try a local church in a new town, they are often not noticed or spoken to, which can be very disheartening. If it happens more than once they simply won't go again. We need to be vigilant regarding anyone who walks through the doors of the church on Sabbath mornings. Our care and friendliness can make all the difference.

### **When you consider all the Adventist youth you've interacted with over the past couple of years, are you**

### **optimistic about our movement's future?**

Definitely. I see and speak with young men and women who are passionate about their faith and optimistic about the future. The Spirit of God is raising up an army of courageous individuals who are not willing to just sit and watch as the world falls down around them. They're out in the marketplace making a difference.

### **What should local churches do to harbour the energy and talents of youth?**

This is a scary one because it involves powerbrokers moving aside and letting the youth engage in the life of the church. We need to allow young people to live out their faith in ways that are real for them. If more churches fostered an atmosphere of inclusiveness as opposed to being critical of a young person who may not look or act the "right way", I think they'd find more of their youth would stay and make a great contribution.

### **Every generation finds something their parents missed—what does this generation know that their parents and grandparents can benefit from?**

Today, youth value community and friendship more than things (mobile phones excepted). The boomer generation went after possessions and careers; this generation is after meaning and a sense of value—these come from genuine friendships. Friendships don't all have to be with people of the same age either. Parents and grandparents are still some of the most powerful influencers in the life of an adolescent.

### **What is your vision for the future of youth ministry in the South Pacific Division?**

My dream is to see young people growing in wisdom and strength, and in favour with God and man. This dream will take a lot of work by parents, extended family and church family. As part of God's Church, each member needs to step up to the challenge of investing in the lives of the young. We have excellent resources as a Church, some of the best in the world. Our real lack is committed adults who will journey with young people and love them into a faith relationship with Jesus.

I recently took part in the 65-year celebration of Pathfinder ministry in South New Zealand. A special dinner in honour of the pioneers of youth ministry was hosted on the Saturday evening and one comment concerning the leaders struck me. One of the people present said that they didn't rebel as a youth because they knew the leaders loved them and were totally committed to looking after them. We need leaders like this today who make ministry to the young their TOP priority, who see youth ministry as their calling and purpose. God entrusts us with these precious lives—our job is to raise them up to be Spirit-filled adults who heed Jesus' call to "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men".

➤



## OPENING HIS WORD

Gary Webster

### Evolution and a six-day creation: Does it really matter? Part 4

This last study on the impact of theistic evolution concerns the end-time mission of God's Church.

#### God's end-time mission

As the coming of Jesus draws near, heaven announces God's end-time judgement has already begun. Such a time calls for the urgent proclamation of the Gospel: the good news that the Creator and Judge of all the earth, personally took our judgement at Calvary. In view of God's amazing grace, the whole world is called to fear (stand in awe, love, respect and obey); glorify (live to draw attention to) and worship (give allegiance or loyalty) this God who created all that exists.

Read Revelation 14:6,7; John 5:22; 12:30-33

This call in Revelation to worship God as Creator is taken directly from the fourth commandment. In essence, God calls to each person, "I am the One who created this world in six days. As your Creator, I loved you so much that these same hands of Mine that fashioned you, were nailed to the cross for you. Give Me your loyalty and allegiance as your Creator and Redeemer." All forms of macroevolution, in directing man away from his Creator, will inevitably undermine God's final message of salvation.

Read Revelation 14:6,7; Exodus 20:8-11

Theistic evolution views the evidence presented by scientists for macroevolution as compelling. It then seeks to re-interpret Scripture to suit, thereby compromising the very foundations of Christianity in order to accommodate the prevailing naturalistic paradigm of science. Sadly, many people who take this position eventually follow macroevolution to its logical conclusion: there is no need for God, neither for creation nor redemption. Herein lies the primary reason Satan has crafted these theories: to take people to eternal destruction. If you have come to believe such theories, I urge you to get back to your Bible. It is the test of all beliefs: "If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20). At such a time as this we cannot afford to stray from God's Word.

*Pastor Gary Webster is director of the Institute of Public Evangelism for the South Pacific Division.*



## HEALTH WISE

Dr James Wright

**Q:** I would like to be a vegetarian, but am told I must eat red meat for iron and protein.

**A:** I am a vegetarian and so was my mum who lived healthily for 100 years. Meat is protein rich but so are legumes, such as beans (150 different kinds), lentils, chickpeas and gluten, the protein part of wheat. Iron is found in a vast range of vegies and fruit, nuts and berries. Or take a simple iron tablet each day. There is an increased cancer risk with red meat, alcohol and smoking.



*Unwell? Go to <a href="http://docwright.com.au">docwright.com.au</a>. Enter symptom and click for immediate help. If symptoms continue, see your doctor.*



## OPINION

Kristofor Lawson

### Time for action!

What does it mean to be a follower of Christ? Yes, I know you've probably heard this question over and over again in church. I don't want to reinvent the wheel, but what does it really mean?

The reason I ask is that we talk about following God all the time—and I mean ALL the time. Every week we go to church, it doesn't matter which one, and the pastor is often preaching about being more welcoming to each other, what our church community should be like and, ultimately, what following God is all about.

We often call this in-reach: building and uplifting the membership. In-reach is important, but why does it feel like it's all talk and no action? Following Christ and being a disciple is one thing, but we have to do more than talk about it in church. We have to do something about it!

When someone who isn't a believer walks into any Adventist church and sits down, we don't want them to hear what we are doing wrong, or what we should be doing but aren't. We want them to hear how God is empowering us to be disciples and ultimately changing people's lives.

Every week we have an enormous opportunity to reach into people's hearts and tell them about the practical side of Christianity. We should be telling everyone who will listen about God's tangible love, inspiring them to be a light for Christ. This is a message for everyone—whether they are already church members or not.

In Matthew 5:16 we are asked to let our lights shine before others, "that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven". Notice how the focus is not on how we should talk about building a great church community, but rather on being a great church and letting other people notice.

Being a follower of God is more than just talk. We are saved by God's grace and that should mean action. Jesus was a Man of action, and being a practical Christian is what shining God's light is all about.

\*Views represented in Opinion are not necessarily those of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



# Cure for cynicism

by Terry Johnson

**C**YNICISM COMES MORE EASILY THE OLDER WE get. As a 42-year-old, middle-aged man, who has worked for the Adventist Church as a loyal, faithful, doctrine-believing paid minister for 20 years, I've found that cynicism has sometimes crept into my soul—particularly when sitting in committee meetings day after day. This unfortunate state of mind affects all aspects of life. New ideas or perspectives can be met with scorn or derision because "We've tried that before and it did not work!" statements tend to end discussion and stifle ingenuity. When those jaded, cynical moments come I've personally found that the solution is to hang around young people!

Young people inspire me! Everything is new and wonderful to them. The simple act of holding hands, as young people in love do, is deliciously exciting to them (in my middle age, all I can think about is sweaty palms). Their energy is boundless, their ideas are fresh out of the box, thought-provoking, challenging and inspiring. Nothing seems impossible to them as their faith is enormous. They don't see obstacles, only challenges that they can overcome. Being around young people changes my perspective; invigorates my own creativity; inspires me to be a better person, husband, father and pastor; challenges me to trust in God as Provider and Guide in all things. They confront me with their concepts that seem at odds with my beliefs and yet often are in harmony with biblical principles. They don't think within the boundaries of church—instead they consider life as a whole. They frustrate me spiritually, theologically, emotionally and physically to no end and I LOVE EVERY MINUTE OF IT because it staves off cynicism and its effects!

Yes, it can be easy in our Christian journey to become jaded and cynical the older we get. We know the Bible stories and have heard sermons or talks on those stories countless times. We might get a little bored when we hear a preacher or a Sabbath School teacher sharing an idea that seems new to them but we've possibly heard it many times before. Understanding this, King Solomon, cynical and jaded in his old age, said, "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth before the days of trouble come, (and they will come) and the years approach when you will say, 'I find no pleasure in them!'" Can there be a more cynical statement of fact than that? I'm astounded by that statement but unfortunately, as I age, I understand it better.

Thankfully Solomon realised that the solution to age-old cynicism was to hang around young people who remember the Creator and are enthused by their beliefs, their dreams and visions for the future.

The Apostle Paul understood that youth were the key and encouraged youthful enthusiasm by saying to young adult pastor Timothy, "Don't let anyone look down on you because of your youth. Instead you set the example for the believers . . ." He's saying, "You inspire them Timothy, you challenge them mate!"

What about you, loyal, faithful, doctrine-believing, volunteer member of your local church and church board; are you possibly feeling cynical or jaded about your personal or corporate journey of faith? Do you from time-to-time look down upon the youth? The solution is to hang around young people and they will inspire you and snap you out of the doldrums. Yes, they will frustrate you to no end. Praise the Lord for that, as maybe you need that experience! The corollary is; they will inspire until they meet with cynical, jaded, middle-aged or older people like us who say, "We've tried that in the past and it did not work!" That kills their inspiration in a single blow. The result is youth who become cynical and jaded like us and who ultimately leave the institution of church because they don't see its relevance. That is a travesty and an outrage beyond comprehension.

Pastor Van Hurst, youth director for the Mid America Union, put it this way: "As adults we need to do a reality check. The question is not if adults truly are judgemental and critical. The question is: Do the youth feel that is our attitude? Regardless of our defensive posture of denial, perception is their reality. If we want the youth to be a part of our Church, they must perceive that we have a positive, loving, wholehearted attitude toward them and ALL other church members. Unkind talk about them and about OTHER people is driving our youth from church and it must stop!"

When Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me for theirs is the kingdom of heaven", He showed us that He was inspired by youth as well—inspired by their innocence, their joy of life, their lack of cynicism, their openness to the beauty of the kingdom of heaven. If Christ our Saviour was inspired by youth, how much more should we be?

✠

*Terry Johnson is youth director for the Western Australian Conference.*



**Women in leadership**

Kylie Ward was born in Perth, Western Australia. From the time she was a small girl she felt a calling in her heart to make a difference in the world through ministry. After completing a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, she volunteered as a youth pastor at Ringwood church in Melbourne before going to Avondale to complete a post graduate degree in Theology. In 2000, she returned to Melbourne as an intern and after working as an associate pastor and a sole charge pastor was commissioned in 2006. In October 2007, Kylie accepted a call to the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference as the Women's and Children's Ministries director and, in 2011, accepted the role as the Relationship Ministries team leader (youth, family, women and children's ministries).

I asked Kylie about the challenges of her position. "You know the thing I love about challenges," she said, "is that they are just an amazing opportunity for God to shine!" A special challenge that she has is to serve the needs of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference (NZPUC), helping train, support and resource leaders. She has this responsibility in ministries for youth, family, women and children. She has 15 departmental leaders around the NZPUC for whom she provides support!

Kylie Ward is a very special woman. When questioned on the things she is passionate about, she focused on mission. "I value heart-to-heart conversations and walking the journey with people. I just love training: seeing transformed lives and growth. I am just passionate about ministry. I even love board meetings—all the leaders are in one room!"

Thank you Kylie. God bless you in your ministry.

*Dr Barry Oliver is president of the South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.*



**OPINION**

Rachel Rankin

**A logo for my life**

A couple of weeks ago I made a logo for my life, 'X=ME'. In maths 'X' is the unknown factor, so X=ME is saying that I'm the unknown. Having that as the answer means that I know that and I'm OK with that.

When I was younger I got bullied a lot. The people who bullied me only did it because they wanted to be liked and feel important. I hated it so much that I tried to change who I was. I changed a lot, like my attitude, my clothes and the way I treated other people. I made these changes just to be liked by people who didn't care about me. No matter what I did, it still didn't make them like me.

Eventually I came to the conclusion that I was ruining a masterpiece by changing myself. I started to think about what God had given me, instead of what I didn't have. I realised that God was way more awesome than all that other stuff in life and what I have is a whole lot more important than what I don't have.

Even though I'm still figuring me out, I'm OK with it. You see X=ME and X is the unknown. I realise that all I need to be is God's masterpiece and He's still got a lot of work to do on this masterpiece (well I hope so, I am only 15).

God has taught me that I should be who God wants me to be, that is who I am, instead of trying to be something that I'm not. Nothing else works. Take it from someone who knows.

This Bible verse I really like because it's saying that even though I don't know who I am, God does, and it's going to be OK: "I know what I'm doing, I have it all planned out—plans to take care of you, not to abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for" (Jeremiah 29:11, The Message).

You are God's masterpiece, too. Don't ruin an original.

*\*Views represented in Opinion are not necessarily those of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.*

*Rachel Rankin is 15 and writes from New South Wales.*

**OPINION POLL:**

**What factor best supports youth in developing a deep and lasting relationship with Jesus?**

- Spiritual mentors and chaplains
- Small groups of peers
- Inclusion in all aspects of the local church
- Loving parents who lead by example
- Youth events and outings

Visit <record.net.au> to answer this poll.

# Kids' SPACE

## Jambo\*Kids

This week's story is about a man named Matthew. He worked as a tax collector for the Romans.



Nobody wants to know you! Go away! Even your family doesn't want to know you!

Tax collectors are liars and thieves taking away all our money

I am going to follow Jesus! He loves me and forgives me. Come to my party and meet Jesus.

God invites everyone to join His family (Gracelink Message)

Matthew  
TAX COLLECTOR

LOOK AT THE COINS & SOLVE THE PUZZLE

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 8 11 6 9 8 10 4 12 12 9 3 6  
13 2 1 3 9 6 8 14 15 16 14 9 15 2 7 7 6 13 15

11 4 9 9 3 6 17 9:13

\* Hello in Swahili (Africa)

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## ANNIVERSARIES



**Williams, Phillip** and Anita (nee Ritchie) were married 19.1.1952

in Christ Church, C and E Geelong, Vic, by Reverend W Clinch. In July 1956, after two years study with Pastor A Parker, they were baptised by Pastor Leo Rose and became members of Geelong church. There they served the church in many roles. In 1979, they sold everything and embarked on a program of volunteer service which lasted 18 years, travelling across the globe. They returned to Australia in 1991 and were caretakers at the campgrounds at Stuarts Point and then at Townsville. They now live at Dahlsford Grove Lifestyle Village, Port Macquarie, in constant wonder at the way God has continually blessed them during their 60 years together.

## WEDDINGS



**Ashby–Martin.** Benjamin Luke Ashby, son of Trevor and Lynne

Ashby (Bonnells Bay, NSW), and Rebecca Michelle Martin, daughter of Greg and Sharon Martin (Sydney), were married 18.9.11 on the lawn of Vaucluse House gardens, on a beautiful sunny afternoon surrounded by their family and friends.

*Ben Martin*



**Donaldson–Eze.** Stephen Donaldson, son of Bob and Elaine

Donaldson (Port Macquarie, NSW), and Selinah Eze (nee Bull), daughter of Malcolm Bull (Long Jetty) and Glenysie Bull (Tamworth), were married 4.12.11 in Tamworth church.

*James Venegas, Bob Donaldson*



**Fuentès–**  
**Fuentès.** David Fuentès, son of Pastor Pedro and

Margarita Fuentès, and Muriel Fuentès, daughter of Carlos and Ana Fuentès (all of Sydney, NSW), were married 8.1.12 at Eschol Park House, Eschol Park, Sydney. David and Muriel will set up their home in Oran Park.

*Rein Muhlberg*

**Greenland–Szabo.** Cameron Wayne Greenland, son of Gary and Linley Greenland (Albany Creek, Qld), and Hannah Miriam Szabo, daughter of Leopold and Jeanette Szabo (Rosedale South), were married 27.1.12 in the Crowne Plaza Chapel, Surfers Paradise.

*Mervyn Kennaway*

**Holman–Mitchell.** Justin Anthony Holman, son of Kenneth Ian Holman and Sonya Glasbergen, and Amy Mitchell, daughter of Trevor and Margaret Mitchell (Warrandyte, Vic), were married 25.1.12 in the Sky High Convention Centre, Mount Dandenong.

*Mike Faber*



**Kang–Blackburne.** Stephen Kang, son of George and

Yvonne Kang (Cooranbong, NSW), and Kylie-Anne Blackburne, daughter of Geoffrey and Rosemarie Blackburne (Newcastle), were married 8.1.12 at Scots Kirk, Hamilton, Newcastle. They plan to live in Newcastle, where Stephen works as a teacher and Kylie-Anne as an accountant.

*Wayne French*

**Mason–Reye.** Dean Eldon Mason, son of Noel and Jillian Mason (USA), and Rebecca Michelle Reye, daughter of Dennis and Dianne Reye (NSW), were married 23.1.12 at Montrose Berry Farm, Sutton Forest.

*Trafford Fischer*



**Romero–Dorman.** Matthew Brett Romero, son of

Kevin and Wilma Romero, and Rebecca Amy Dorman, daughter of Eric and Ruth Dorman (all of Bonville, NSW), were married 22.1.12 in the Stuarts Point Convention Centre, Stuarts Point.

*Gordon Smith, Mark Craig*



**Saeed–Millan.** Jason Peter Saeed, son of Cheiban and

Wafaa Said (Blacktown, NSW), and Noemi Belen Millan, daughter of Enrique and Mariluz Millan (Seven Hills), were married 25.1.12 in Parramatta church.

*Roger Vince, Sam Braga*

**Tabé–Rao.** Stephen Mark Tabé,

son of Gregory and Wendy Tabé (Adelaide, SA), and Xiaojuan Karen Rao, daughter of Jinglong and Wanliang Rao (Hubei Province, China), were married 14.11.11 at the home garden of Stephen's parents at Rosslyn Park.

*Wolfgang Stefani, Mark Roberts*

## OBITUARIES

**Alford, Valerie Grace** (nee Sheills), born 24.11.1926 in Geraldton, WA; died 14.1.12 in Nazareth House nursing home. Val was predeceased by her husband, Richard, in 1979, and two grandchildren, Bradley (2006), and Richard (2010). She is survived by her six children, Dennis, Shirley (Jackson), Alan, William (Bill), Howard and Michael; 17 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren. Val joined the Geraldton church in 1965 where she was a staunch and faithful member until she developed dementia and could no longer attend. She did colporteur work for several years and shared her love for Jesus with many people. Val studied her Bible diligently and was well-known for her incredible memory of Bible texts.

*Alan Alford, Shirley Jackson*

**Bambury, Pastor Aubrey Valiant** (Jack), born 25.4.1920 on the edge of the Kalahari Desert; died 17.12.11 in Buderim, Qld. In 1944, he married Flora May Brown (Mary), a fellow graduate of Helderberg College, South Africa, at Malamula Mission. She predeceased him on 29.12.07. He was also predeceased by his grandchild, Rita Murphy. He is survived by his children, Irma Baldwin, Gordon and his wife, Joan; his sister-in-law, Irma Jewell (USA); grandchildren, Lloyd Baldwin, Wayne and Army Bambury, Catherine and Clinton Reynolds; and great-grandchildren, Jaydha Reynolds (all of Brisbane, Qld) and Harley Murphy (Sydney, NSW). Jack and Mary served the Lord in Malawi, Zambia, South Africa, NZ and Australia. He will be remembered for the real life stories he told and used in his sermons. He heeded the call to preach for as long as his health permitted which was over 60 years.

*Eric Hursey, John Rabbas*

**Binning, Peter** Tasman, born 20.2.1941 in Launceston, Tas;

died 13.12.11, unexpectedly at home in Wahroonga, NSW. He is survived by his wife of more than 45 years, Raewyn; mother, Nancy; and sister, Pam Oliver; his daughters, Samantha and Chantal, their husbands, Richard and Michael; and five grandchildren. Peter was known for his loud, full-on approach to life, but also for his caring generosity and kindness. He was creative, artistic and occupied senior management positions in a number of large companies. Since retirement he spent most of his time with his family and his garden. Family and friends will not forget him.

*Bill Townend, Eric White*



**Cernik, Lois** (nee Giblett), born 8.12.1912 in Bunbury, WA; died 16.1.12 in her 100th

year in Sydney, NSW. Lois grew up in the Harvey, WA, district and attended Carmel College and then Avondale College, graduating as a teacher in 1936. In 1940, she married John Cernik (who predeceased her in 1999) and together they served Adventist education in Vanuatu, Tonga, Cook Islands, WA, Victoria, Fiji and PNG. She is survived by her daughters, Ann (Cremorne, NSW), Beverley (Ealing, UK) and Julie (Castlecrag, NSW); sons-in-law Terry and Jim; grandchildren, Mark, Suzannah, James, Nikolas, Matthew, Anna and Kate; and great-granddaughter, Eala. Lois was a wonderful combination of feisty and gentle, fun-loving and serious, idealistic and practical. She loved her family without reservation, she served God with all her heart and taught us all how to get the most out of life.

*Ray Roennfeldt*

**Evans, Pastor Philip Gregory** (Greg), born 10.2.1955 in Warburton, Vic; died 29.12.11 in Wahroonga, NSW, from cancer. He married Suzanne Evans. He is survived by his wife; and his daughters, Cherie Hurley and Tereen Robinson. Greg was a faithful servant of God whose whole life was continually devoted to bringing people to Jesus.

*Gary Webster*

**Greenwood, Peter** James, born 26.4.1935 at Carlton, Melbourne, Vic; died 7.2.12 in Newcastle, NSW. On the 10.1.1965, he mar-

ried Lucy Watts. He is survived by his wife, Lucy (Swansea); children, Janelle and David Wareham (Warrandyte, Vic), Alison (Gold Coast, Qld) and Adrian and Kerryn Greenwood (Terranora, NSW); and grandchildren, Ashlee, Claudia, Tarryn and Deklan. Peter became an Adventist after attending an evangelistic program in Mildura. This led him to Carmel College and then on to the San where he graduated from nursing and met his wife. Peter's adventurous spirit and zest for life will be sadly missed.

*Adrian Raethel*

**Hodgkin, John (Jack)** Hardwicke, born 2.2.1924 in Newtown, NSW; died 1.2.12 of a stroke in Westmead Hospital, just nine hours short of his 88th birthday. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; sons, Pastor Gary and Peter, and their wives, Colleen and Joanne; and his five grandchildren, Kylie, Kimberley, Daniel, Jessica and Rebecca. Jack was greatly loved and held in high regard by the members of the Toongabbie church. He was generous to others and had a healthy sense of humour. He will be sadly missed by all who loved and respected him. He loved the Lord, and looked forward to His coming.

*Alex Penman*

**Jensen, Dorothy** (nee Cummings), born 8.12.1920 in Wahroonga, NSW; died 19.1.12 in Mansfield, Vic. On 25.6.1942, she married Rex Jensen in Camberwell. She is survived by Phillip and Christell Jensen (Goughs Bay), Noel and Rhonda Jensen (Jamieson); her grandchildren, Christopher and Michelle, Gavin and Jackie, Anthony and Michelle, Matthew and Rontania, and Stephen; and her great-grandchildren, Alesia, Kiera and Kayley. Dorothy will be remembered as a loving, devoted wife and mother by all who knew her. She was devoted to her family and loved being hospitable and having friends over. Famous for her cakes, she won many a church-run competition.

*Malcolm Reid*

**Low, Pastor Ken**, born in 1925 in Wellington, NZ; died 25.12.11. In December 1948, he married Violet Evans in Concord church. He is survived by his sons, Charles and Ian; grandchildren, Kristi, Carla, Joshua, Mia and Brittany;

and his great-grandchildren, Damen, Harvey, Fletcher, Lois and Mika. He studied at Longburn and Avondale colleges. Pastor Low left instructions to keep his funeral simple, short and small with no fuss. He conducted many services for weddings, funerals and baptisms.

*Bob Saunders*

**Nelson, Shannon Timothy**, born 6.1.1973 in Melbourne, Vic; died 21.1.12 in Melbourne. He is survived by his mother, Wilma; and brothers, Shaun and Cameron (all of Melbourne). Shannon was born with Down syndrome and was dearly loved by his immediate and extended family. There was a large number of Shannon's friends from the support organisations at the service to say goodbye, many of them with tears. It was a real treat for the 200-plus mourners at the service to listen to the life sketch of this very active young man. There was never a dull moment in his comparatively short life. Shannon was baptised by Pastor Tony Campbell at Nunawading church, and will lie next to his father (who passed recently), awaiting the call of Jesus.

*Merv Sparrowhawk,  
Tony Campbell*

**Pascoe, Shirley-Mae** (nee Lansdowne), born 21.8.1936 in Suva, Fiji; died 26.1.12 in Sydney Adventist Hospital, NSW. She is survived by her sons, Richard, David and Andrew and their families, including eight grandchildren. Her father's teaching career took the family from Fiji back to NZ, to Warburton, Vic, and eventually to Avondale High School. After graduating from secretarial studies at Avondale College, Shirley married Clive Pascoe in December 1960. Shirley was diagnosed in 1992 with cancer. After Clive died on 29.12.05, Shirley settled in Wahroonga, where she received much appreciated support in her battle with cancer from her family and Fox Valley Church community. Shirley lived life to the full, dipping deep into her bucket list before cancer finally claimed her life.

*Garth Bainbridge, Bob Saunders*

**Purnell, Phoebe Felicia** (nee Smith), born 26.4.1924 in Kalgoorlie, WA; died 21.1.12 in Adelaide, SA. She married Leslie Purnell, who predeceased her in

1978. She is survived by her children, Arthur (Perth, WA), Roslyn (Adelaide, SA), Kevin (Sydney, NSW) and Phillip (Birdwood, SA); six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Having first learned about Adventist beliefs from an Adventist school teacher in Point Welshpool, Vic, Phoebe eventually accepted the Adventist message with her husband in Adelaide, SA. Together they became founder members of the Brighton church, which they helped build. Phoebe worked for over 30 years for the *Adelaide Advertiser*, taking classified advertisements, for which she gained a life-service award. A quiet, reserved but tenacious and independent lady, Phoebe was committed to her family and her church.

*Wolfgang Stefani*

**Rosochacki, Alina**, born 2.6.1937 in Poland; died 4.1.12 in Robina hospital, Qld. She is survived by her husband, Alek; daughters, Marzena and Katrina; sons-in-law, Hansi and Fred; grandchildren, Samantha, Martin, Jamie, Brigitte, Adam, Gemma and

Manfred; and great-grandchildren, Phoebe and Annika. In 1980, Alek and Alina migrated to Sydney, Australia, and then eventually moved to the Gold Coast. There they heard the Adventist message through Pastor Lloyd Robinson and gladly embraced the biblical message. Alina was devoted to Jesus and was a faithful member of Surfers Paradise church. Each Sabbath her smiling welcome and warm manner made everyone feel welcomed—how we all miss her! Alina was so special in the lives of all her family and her precious memory lives on in a thousand ways in their daily lives.

*Peter Colquhoun, Yerzy Nursynski*

**Starke, Christine Mary**, born 20.10.1935 in Lobethal, SA; died 26.10.11 in Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point, Qld. She married Carl Shipard when she was 21, and Gordon Starke when she was 44, both of whom predeceased her. She is survived by her six children; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Christine was active

## POSITIONS VACANT

■ **ATSIM Greater Sydney (Redfern, NSW)** seeks the services of a part-time highly motivated professional who will be an innovative literacy, numeracy project teacher for children at The Way, Redfern. This exciting ADRA initiative will add value to current activities at The Way. Applicants must be able to demonstrate a commitment to the ethos and beliefs of ADRA Australia and the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and have the capacity to motivate children to reach their potential, academically and socially. For a detailed position description and/or application, please direct inquiries to Adrian Raethel at <adrianraethel@adventist.org.au> or phone (02) 9868 6522. Applications close **March 19, 2012**.

■ **School counsellor (maternity leave position)—Kempsey Adventist School (KAS)**, a 425 pupil pre-kindy to Year 12 campus located on the Mid-North Coast of NSW, is seeking applications from suitably qualified people for the position of school counsellor (30 hours per week—negotiable) for a period of 12 months, commencing mid-May 2012. The successful applicant will have a demonstrated commitment to the mission and ethos of Adventist education; be degree qualified and capable of providing counselling services to all students, staff and community members at KAS as required; have the capacity to work alongside teachers and chaplains in the delivery of positive and practical resilience type programs in classrooms; and actively participate in the development of appropriate professional relationships with students, staff and the broader school community to assist in growing the ministry focus of the school. Australian applicants only. Please forward resumes and inquiries in regards to this position to Mr Rohan Deanshaw, Principal, Kempsey Adventist School, email <principal@kas.nsw.edu.au>, or send to 108 Crescent Head Road, Kempsey, NSW, 2440. Applications close **April 2, 2012**.

For more vacant positions, go to  
<[adventistemployment.org.au](http://adventistemployment.org.au)>



in the Victoria Point church as an organist and Sabbath School superintendent until ill health caused her to stop. Christine was a loving and lovable Christian, with a strong faith in her Lord.

*Neil Peatey, Judy Fua*

**Steggall**, David John, born in 1963; died 22.1.12, from a Harley Davidson motorcycle accident. On 8.5.11 he married Maria. He is survived by his wife (Adelaide, SA); his sons, Joshua and Mitchell; his stepchildren, Nadine and Lee; his step-grandchildren, Raya and Jai; his mother, Josephine; his siblings, Ian, Katherine and Helen; and his mother-in-law, Audrey. Dave was a larrikin and lived life to the fullest. He was a hard worker in the property maintenance business. He loved to ride his Harley and go fishing. He will be greatly missed by his soulmate, Maria. Dave attended the Grove church and enjoyed listening to a good sermon. He will be missed by his dog, 'Lula'.

*Lee Bowditch-Walsh*

**Sticklen**, George Eric, born 27.3.1922 in Ayr, Qld; died 23.1.12 in Melbourne, Vic. On 8.12.1960, he married Doris Anne Pampling, who predeceased him in 2000. He is survived by Doctor Erick Sticklen and Ruth Wilson (both of Melbourne, Vic). George was a man dedicated to God and family, a man who loved his church, and served his country during the war years.

*Darrell Croft*

**Stirling**, Stanley (Roy), born 27.3.1918 in Mareeba, Qld; died 11.1.12 in Malanda. On 2.11.1943, he married Muriel Joyce Snell. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; children, Barbara, Bronwen, Catherine, Renae, Myra and Jim; grandchildren, great-grandchildren; a great-great grandchild; and his brother, Bill. After being demobilised from army service after World War II, Roy and Joyce moved to Lake Eacham, where they spent the next 30 years and where Roy worked in his beloved National Parks and Joyce operated the kiosk. During retirement, he devoted his time to assisting ADRA in Cambodia, Vietnam and the Pacific Islands. He was also widely known for his woodworking craftsmanship. During his final illness, Roy demonstrated amazing patience, cheerfulness and inner strength.

*Peter Truscott, Mike Brownhill*

**Way**, Ila Bessie (nee White), born 21.7.1919 in Melbourne, Vic; died 22.1.12 in AdventCare, Nunawading. In 1944, she married Edward (Ted) John Way, who predeceased her in 2003. She is survived by her sons, Brian and Carolyn Way (Warburton), and Bruce Way (Hobart, Tas); and grandchildren, Nathan, Danielle Engelbrecht and Annelis Way.

*Tony Campbell, Vicki Wolfe*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**Retired workers' fellowship, Victoria.** From time to time the

Retired Workers' Fellowship, Victoria, organises events for the benefit of all retirees. The fellowship's program for 2012 is as follows: hotel luncheons are planned for July 16 and November 26. All church members and their non-SDA friends are invited to join in our activities. Interstate visitors would be especially welcome. For information, call Ken Killoway (03) 9801 8986 or Ken Knight (03) 5966 5147.

**Celebration of 75 years.** Prospect International church, SA, invites you to celebrate 75 years of blessings on Sabbath, March 31, 11am and 2.30pm. Speaker: Dr William (Bill) Johnson, former editor of the *Adventist Review*. We invite photographs and historical information about the church. Contact <wgrobler@iinet.net.au>.

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**Norfolk Island SDA Church homecoming.** Open to all past and present members, pastors and friends. June 9, 2012. Bounty Day celebration weekend, Program: 10am to 12pm and a

potluck lunch the Norfolk way. Connect—Reconnect—Reunite. For more information, contact: Lance Weslake, Australia: +612 96296585; Ian Summerscales, NZ: +64 90000000; or Ken Nobbs, Norfolk Island +6723 22131. For all travel arrangements please call/visit: Tel: +6723 22781 <www.aaanorfolkisland.nf>; Tel: +6723 22502 <www.travelcentre.nf>; Tel: +6723 22195 <www.burntpinetravel.nf>.

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

# Finally

Courage is fear that has said its prayers.

Special edition March 31

**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.

## VOLUNTEERS

Builders and tradespersons needed for Fly-n-Build project in Vanuatu, May 1–13, 2012. 12 days at "Aore Island Resort" while re-roofing and painting the Sarakata church in Luganville, Santo. Also a one day church will be built—you will have time to relax and do some sightseeing, snorkelling, swimming and other activities. If you have handyman skills, plumbing and painting skills we need you. All welcome to apply, ladies too. For further details contact AVS (02) 9847 3275 —Maryanne Jakovac.



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## The How and Why

The offering on March 24 is for Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired.

It will benefit members of any Christian church or of the community who have a reading or hearing disability.

This will also assist with the conversion from analog to digital audio medium.

The offering also helps with camps for visually impaired children and teenagers. They are able to attend camps organised by conference youth departments. It is often their first introduction to the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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[Ellen G White, Ministry of Healing p127]