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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

THE TEN NAMES YOU
DIDN'T KNOW WERE
IN THE BIBLE 13

NEWS

HEALTH MESSAGE
GETS A BOOSTER
SHOT 10

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SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
26 JUNE 2017
REGULAR REGISTRATION
24 JULY 2017

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MOVE
WITH
THE
POWER
FOUR
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**LEADERSHIP
TRAINING** FOR:

- Youth Leaders
- University students
- Ambassador Leaders
- Pathfinder Leaders
- Adventurer Leaders
- Chaplains

SEPTEMBER 27 THROUGH OCTOBER 1, 2017

STUARTS POINT CONVENTION CENTRE, STUARTS POINT, AUSTRALIA

GUEST PRESENTERS INCLUDE:



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Cangy



Dr Peter
Roennfeldt



Pr Eddie
Hypolite



Dr Branimir
Schubert



Pr Jonatan
Tejel



Dr Jiwan
Moon



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH
YOUTH MINISTRY

mwtp4.com

“GOD COULD ZAP US OUT OF ETERNITY, AND YET . . .”

How great is our God? The phrase has probably passed your lips countless times. You've felt your hairs rise with the melody as the old hymn was played with gusto on an organ or by an orchestra.

But how often have you stopped to consider how great God really is? Is the question a daily experience or a sometime weekly expression for you?

People complain that in some circles and expressions of Adventism, reverence is a forgotten word.

Maybe they're right. But which kind of reverence are they talking about?

There are two kinds of reverence. The first is one that enforces a distance. It is employed when the Queen visits, for example. Or when you go inside old temples and monasteries: shoes must come off, photos are banned and silence is enforced. It is a created reverence; a mimicry of the real thing, a counterfeit.

The other kind of reverence is a sense of awe, a sense of the disproportionate power and difference between something small and something great. It is the feeling you get when you stand in Yosemite Valley and look in awe at the granite giants around you, the smallness you feel when you look at the countless stars wheeling through the night sky. I imagine it is somewhat like the sensation of holding a child you had a part in creating, for the very first time.

That is a humbling, joyful, awe-inspiring kind of reverence. The thought that you are small in the Universe yet it seems to have been made just for you at that moment. God could zap us out of eternity, and yet He calls us co-heirs with Christ.

Unfortunately the first kind of reverence is the one so often enforced in some churches. We do not “suffer” the little children or anyone else to act, dress or play instruments in a way we think isn't reverent enough.

Unfortunately the second kind is often lost in churches that reject the first version of reverence. They lose any sense of awe in God's presence. Church becomes mundane and familiar.

Both types of churches—but especially the second—are in danger of treating worship as entertainment. We

choose churches based on the style in which we would like to be entertained rather than being in awe that the presence of God could be with us as we gather, two or three together (Matthew 18:20). That place is holy ground.

There are corporate moments when contemplation, silence and reflection are most appropriate, while at other times, excitement and praise are.

There are congregations and buildings that lend themselves to quiet contemplative worship and other groups that need to express their joy and praise in a freer form, where children have the run of the room and an interactive experience is necessary. And there are some congregations that will attempt to have both at different times.

Yet the problem is more personal. How often in our prayer life do we dwell on the greatness of God? Prayer is our connection to Omnipotence. Do we approach the throne with humility and confession? Do we give up all control or do we attempt to trap or bargain with God so that we can manufacture the outcome we desire through His power.

I think a lot of our problems would be solved by us remembering how great our God really is and by giving up trying to control Him. As my friend Louis always says, “Know to whom you pray.”

Moses was only permitted to see God's back. Any more of God's glory and he would have died. Being in close proximity to God's glory was enough to make his face shine.

The right attitude in approaching God will give us the humility not to judge how other people worship God, how they conduct themselves in His church building and how they allow their children to behave.

Those who prefer a much more informal and laid-back worship service should also remember how great and mighty the God we serve is, how dangerous and set apart from us He is, and how we are called to fear and obey Him.

KNOW TO WHOM YOU PRAY

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GROWING YOUR CHURCH

The only way you can grow your church is to keep first-time visitors and regular members coming back. This was the summary of Pastor Bill McClendon's workshop at the Ellicott Seventh-day Adventist Church (near Washington DC, USA) recently. I had heard this before but the simplicity hit home this time. Bill and his pastor wife moved to Ellicott two and-a-half years ago. The participating congregation on a Sabbath averaged 65. Today the average is close to 300. The McClendons were certainly speaking from experience. Previously they had started a church and grown it to about 800—then they were challenged to see if they could grow an established church. I think we know the answer now.

Most of us are members of established churches and would like to be a part of a growing local church. Here are the other things I noticed:

- They pray a lot—leaders pray before and after meetings, people are spontaneously prayed for during church meetings.
- They pay a lot of attention to people. There are “golf carts” in the car park to drive you to the church entry, wherever you walk there are people saying hello and shaking your hand, there are gifts for new people. Birthdays, sickness, baptisms, pregnancy announcements are all acknowledged and prayed for.
- They made a decision that everything the church did was “evangelism”—I would say everything they did focused on making more and better disciples.
- Children are involved in everything and worship is vibrant.
- Pastors and elders lead according to their gifts/job description.
- They plan yearly dates for evangelistic reaping programs and know what to do to prepare people to attend them.
- The messages are very biblical and practical.

We, in the SPD, may not do everything that Ellicott church does but I am sure our churches will make more and better disciples if we follow the principles.



GLENN TOWNEND
SPD PRESIDENT
f /SPDpresident

PRESCOTT COLLEGE IN DEMAND

RECORD STAFF



Prescott College Southern (Morphett Vale, SA) will soon open its doors to an extra 250 students, with the local council last month approving the school's application to increase enrolment numbers from 650 to 900.

Principal Christine Clark said a growing demand for admission had prompted the move. “We’ve got waiting lists, particularly in the primary school and in some years in the high school as well,” she said.

Prescott started as a Reception to Year 7 school but has added a grade

every year for the past five years.

Enrolment numbers have jumped from 250 to 650 since then.

Prescott also graduated its first Year 12 class at the end of last year, with great results: a 100 per cent South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) completion and a top Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 99.6.

“It’s incredible growth and we’ve just been overwhelmed with the demand,” Mrs Clark said.

“There’s not a lot of R-12 schools in southern Adelaide.”

‘INCREDIBLE IMPACT’ OF GOSPEL MESSAGE

ANDREW MCCHESENEY

“The Adventist message is making an incredible impact in Papua New Guinea (PNG),” said international evangelist Pastor Doug Batchelor. “The Spirit is truly moving there.”

His comment came following a campaign where 5000 people were baptised and thousands more requested Bible studies in preparation for baptism.

For months, local Adventists had been preparing the soil by holding Bible studies in their communities. From March 29–April 4, Pastor Batchelor ran evangelistic meetings in Mount Hagen, the third-largest city in PNG. According to *Adventist Mission*, at least 150,000 people packed a campground there so that they could hear his final sermon.

“It seemed like we were just flooded by a mass of humanity hungering for the Word,” he said.

Approximately one-quarter of the attendees came from other



DOUG BATCHELOR WITH BAPTISMAL CANDIDATES AND OTHERS IN MOUNT HAGEN, PNG.

faith backgrounds. Many decided to attend the campaign meetings after 10,000 Adventists organised and carried out a massive city clean-up in a nearby town just prior to the meetings. On the final Sabbath of the campaign, 1700 people were baptised in a river near the campground. The remaining 3300 people ready for baptism were baptised in their hometowns as the local facilities could not accommodate them.

Pastor Batchelor told *Adventist Mission* that he left Papua New Guinea humbled by what he had witnessed and re-energised in his desire to share the gospel.

THOUSANDS ATTEND FIRST EVER HEALTH EXPO

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

More than 2500 people attended the first major health expo held in the Papua New Guinea Union Mission (PNGUM).

The expo, held April 3-7 in the Madang Manus Mission, is part of the Adventist Church in the South Pacific Division's new Comprehensive Health Strategy (see pages 10-11).

SPD Health specialist Dr Chester Kuma, who attended the expo, said it attracted thousands from Madang town and nearby villages and communities.

"People had their blood pressure

taken, BMI calculated, blood sugar tested and in the process our team of health professionals, trained volunteers and members of the Church took the opportunity to share with the community vital information, counsel and advice on the basic principles of health and wellness," he said.

"Prayer was offered on behalf of those who requested it. I witnessed church administrators, directors of the various departments in the local Mission, members from the local churches, youth, children, professionals of various

disciplines, including health and trained volunteers, all taking part."

As a result of the expo, more than 1000 people have requested more information about Jesus and/or Bible studies.

"It turned out to be an event that attracted Total Member Involvement (TMI). It gave the Church

the opportunity to connect with the community in friendship and relationship building, the very essence of Christ's method of ministry on earth."

Dr Kuma said local churches are now gearing up for smaller health expos with the aim of turning churches into wellness centres.

"Both PNGUM and the Trans Pacific Union Mission are excited about embracing the concept of health expos as one way of encouraging TMI," he said. "And the goal? Connectedness, friendship and relationship building with the community as a pathway towards disciple making."

Dr Kuma said this was one of a number of exciting developments taking place within the SPD's Comprehensive Health Strategy.

"This renewal of emphasis on health is without doubt God-directed for such a time as this," he said.

"Praise God for administrative will and support for without it, this would not have been possible."



CHURCH MEMBERS CONNECT WITH THEIR COMMUNITY.

NEW CORPORATE IDENTITY GETS GREEN LIGHT

VANIA CHEW

A new corporate identity for the Seventh-day Adventist Church was approved by the General Conference (GC) during a recent global leadership gathering in Silver Spring, Maryland.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church currently operates in more than 200 countries and territories around the world and worships in more than 900 languages.

Church president Ted Wilson expressed the importance of having a unified approach to the Church's visual identity moving forward.

"Our churches, ministries and organisations have spent such a long time trying to stand out that it is sometimes difficult for people to tell that we all stand together—that we all belong to the same body," said Pastor Wilson.

A key feature of this new identity is

the creation grid—a structured template that contains seven columns. The designer is given creative freedom to use the first six columns how they wish. The seventh column must be distinct from the other six, just as the seventh day is distinct from other days for practising Seventh-day Adventists.

During the launch of the new corporate identity, GC communication director Williams Costa paid tribute to the South Pacific Division (SPD) for stimulating the GC and providing an example and framework in expanding the way the Adventist logo could be used.

"The General Conference has recognised the need to provide guidelines but also freedom with the new



A UNIFIED APPROACH TO OUR IDENTITY.

focus on corporate identity," said SPD president Glenn Townend. "The South Pacific Division will have to agree on how the new corporate identity will be used and new signage will be seen around the Division.

"We are also pleased that orange (the colour that SPD proposed for churches) was accepted as one of the many colours to be used."

Guidelines for the new corporate identity can be found at <<https://identity.adventist.org/>>.

NEW COMPLEX FOR PACIFIC ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

RECORD STAFF

Enrolments at the Pacific Adventist University (PAU) School of Business are set to increase and the quality of education improve, with the opening of a new multi-purpose complex at PAU's Koiari Park campus outside Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

The new complex, officially opened on March 23, offers purpose-built teaching and learning facilities, including new classrooms, computer labs, staff and student amenities and three new lecture theatres seating a total of 440 students.

The construction of this new facility was supported by the Incentive Fund—a partnership between the Australian Government and Government of Papua New Guinea—which provides grants to high-performing Papua New Guinean

organisations to improve their capacity to provide services in a range of sectors, including health, education and economic empowerment of men, women and children of PNG.

Australian High Commission Counsellor Susan Ferguson highlighted the important role higher education plays in Papua New Guinea.

"Education is the cornerstone of progress," she said. "The Australian Government has long supported the goals of Papua New Guinea in the education sector and this event marks a significant increase in the calibre of opportunities available to future students at PAU."

Representatives from the Australian and Papua New Guinea governments were present, as was former PAU vice-chancellor Ben Thomas, who conceived and executed the dream for this facility. Current and past staff and students of the university and community mem-



MINISTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FRANCIS MARUS CUTTING THE RIBBON TO OPEN THE NEW COMPLEX.

bers also attended the event.

"This additional purpose-built facility will alleviate the problem of room allocations for learning in various programs at the university," said PAU vice-chancellor Raul Lozano. "With these new facilities, students will have a better day-to-day academic experience. Ultimately, this will improve their overall learning experience and their future career prospects."

This new development supports the Government of Papua New Guinea's Vision 2050's Pillar of Human Capital Development with the aim of increasing the number of university graduates across the country. Students will be able to utilise the new facility this year.



THE NEW SCHOOL COMPLEX.



OPEN HOME

On **June 5-9, 2017**, thousands of Adventists across Australia will **open their homes** and reach out to the community.

Join the Open Home movement by opening your home for a meal, prayer and gift to friends, neighbours or colleagues—simple, easy and effective evangelism anyone can do here and now.

Register online at

www.openhome.org.au

for more **information, training** and **resources**.

ADVENTIST CHURCH *in Australia*

CHURCH PRODUCES MARRIAGE BOOKLET

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia has produced a small booklet in response to the continuing public debate about proposed changes to the Marriage Act in Australia.



Marriage: Perspectives and Conversations—an insert in

today's *Adventist Record* for Church members within Australia—presents a biblical perspective on marriage while also examining some of the potential consequences of redefining marriage, including the implications for freedom of religion, freedom of speech and freedom of conscience.

Proposed changes to the Marriage Act—allowing the marriage of two persons without regard to gender—are under scrutiny after the Australian Government committed to a plebiscite on the issue at the most recent federal election.

Pastor Jorge Munoz, president of

the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia, said Church leaders felt it was important to restate and reaffirm the Church's view on the topic of marriage.

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church remains strongly committed to the long-standing biblical definition of marriage," Pastor Munoz said.

"We also recognise that changing the Marriage Act could seriously impact religious freedom and free speech in Australia. We have seen cases recently where people who support the legal definition of marriage have been targeted in an apparent effort to silence them from sharing their viewpoint."

According to Pastor Munoz, it is a complex issue but one that we need to talk about.

"In the conversations you are having both inside and outside of the Church, we encourage you to approach this topic respectfully, reflecting God's love for people who hold different points of view," he said.

Church members outside Australia can view the booklet online at www.adventist.org.au/marriage, where discussion guides and other information on marriage are also available.

NEW MAGAZINE ON THE TABLE

KENT KINGSTON

A special edition magazine has been published by Adventist Media to highlight *The Table*, a weekly women's panel TV show that began airing on YouTube and Hope Channel in February.

At *the Table* reprises a number of segments in printed form, including tips on dealing with loneliness, plant-based recipes, workouts and a diary of a first-time mum. "We want to touch on the concerns that everyday women have—post-natal depression, struggles with perfectionism and how much screen time their children should have," said magazine editor Vania Chew. "We've already had significant feedback, thanking us for addressing topics many people find hard to talk about."

Attendees at the North New South Wales Conference Big Camp at Stuararts Point welcomed the arrival of *At the Table*, which was accompanied by free balloons for children, handed out during the Super Sunday ministry expo event on April 16.

Copies of the magazine are available to churches running ministries for young families such as playgroups. Email <vaniachew@adventistmedia.org.au>.



NEWS GRABS



NO EASY MARK

The General Conference (GC) is involved in lawsuits against the Florida-based Pathfinder Shirts company over the use of Adventist trademarks. The company says it has produced Pathfinder uniform items since the 1980s in close cooperation with Church leaders. The GC says the company has refused to sign a licensing agreement, necessitating legal action.—*Spectrum*



STAY LOW PROFILE

Members of Spanish-speaking Adventist congregations on the US east coast have been staying away from worship services, fearing they will be deported under tough new immigration laws. Some families have already left the country. Concerned Adventists have organized a number of know-your-rights workshops for people worried about how they will be affected.—*Adventist Review*



FUN FOR EVERYONE!

An Adventist-run theme park on the outskirts of Sao Paulo, Brazil, aims to teach children about the wonders of nature, sustainable development and healthy food. Terra de Zion (Zionland) is inspired by Eden and the New Earth and features gardens, a mini zoo, a performing dog show and a "Fantastic Food Factory".—*Adventist Review*

HOT TOPICS



EASTER CANCELLED

Coptic Christians in Egypt's south did not celebrate Easter this year. After two Islamic State church bombings that killed 45 on Palm Sunday, the diocese said traditional Easter prayers would be recited but there would be no "festive manifestations". Both Islamic State and local Christians say further attacks are likely. — *Times of Israel*



DATA DIVE

Last year more than 90,000 people left the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sweden, nearly twice as many as in 2015. Forty per cent of those who left said it was because they do not believe in God. The exodus may have been sparked by negative media stories about the Swedish Church. — *TheLocal.se*



BONES IN THE BASEMENT

Renovations at a former church in London, UK, have uncovered a crypt containing 20 coffins. St Mary-at-Lambeth, which is now Garden Museum, was the resting place of five archbishops of Canterbury—heads of the Church of England—including Richard Bancroft, who helped produce the Kings James translation of the Bible. — *ABC News*

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE CONTINUES TO GROW

MARITZA BRUNT

The new Operation Food For Life (OFFL) early learning centre in the remote Papua New Guinea (PNG) village of Kivori-Poi is continuing to grow, after its official opening in February.

Located three hours west of Port Moresby and accessible only by helicopter or four-wheel drive, the village is one of many along the coastline with no direct access to education.

"OFFL identified an urgent need for a Christian early learning school to serve the villages," said OFFL president Dennis Perry.

"It is estimated that some 6000 families live in the area, and we were aware that at least 60 children would immediately benefit from the school plant. Education at this school is free for the children, all who live in very poor communities."

On the first day of the temporary "bush school" more than 120 children and two Seventh-day Adventist teachers were ready to commence the school year.



ENROLMENTS HAVE RISEN TO 150 STUDENTS.

Now, only three months later, enrolments have risen to 150 students, with a third Adventist teacher recently commencing work. The children are being taught seven subjects—all recognised by international learning standards.

"You cannot imagine the screams of happiness when a child receives a ruler, an exercise book and a pencil," Mr Perry said. "These children have a school and education due only to God's abundant blessings as we serve the less fortunate."

The independent ministry has plans to extend the facilities to accommodate the growing number of students, and will build two permanent classrooms with an additional first aid room to serve the school and the community.



FLASHPOINT



HARVESTING AUCKLAND

Youth from the Auckland Central Samoan church (NZ) have taken on the challenge of transforming their communities. Last year, they launched a community café, not just to bring young people together but also to help reach out and meet the needs of the community around them. A recent café initiative—Mr Muscle—was named to remind the youth of the saving and cleansing power of Christ. The theme also tied in with an identified need for cleaning products at the Grace Foundation, which provides supported housing. The fruit of this endeavour was evident in the recent baptisms of several youth. —NNZC



NATHANIEL WINS GRANT

Avondale School Year 12 student Nathaniel Ginn won a \$A16,400 grant toward his charity project at the inaugural North NSW Conference Shark Tank event, held in February. Nathaniel's project enables a person to hire or share their unused assets, like a wheelbarrow or a lawnmower, with the majority of the fee going toward a charity. Although his idea started off as a major design project for the HSC with a focus of raising money for charities, it has developed into an outreach project to connect with the wider community. "My hope is that we can be better stewards of what we have and that we would be willing to share more with those who are in our community, while helping the less fortunate," he said. —Colin Chuang



SERVING UP FUN

A tennis tournament was organised at the Victoria Courts in Suva (Fiji) on April 2 to promote healthy living. The event was sponsored by the Trans Pacific Union Mission by using Hope Channel to promote comprehensive health ministry—one of its strategic goals. More than 30 participants from different professional backgrounds gathered to support the initiative, enjoy the fun and watch the different tennis skills displayed on the court. As part of the TPUM initiative, all participants were given free Hope Channel shirts and a hat. Free health check-ups by Dr Alipate Vakamocea and a healthy vegetarian breakfast and lunch were also provided. —TPUM



SPIRITUAL BLUEPRINT

Wahroonga church (NSW) youth recently organised and ran an entire week of spiritual emphasis. With the theme of "Blueprint", the evening speakers progressively articulated the spiritual lessons to be learned from the people of Israel as they left slavery in Egypt and began their wanderings in the desert. The week concluded on Sabbath in a packed church, with people coming from as far as Wollongong and Cooranbong to hear Pastor Ray Moaga. More than 70 people committed their lives to Christ at the culmination of the program, with Zach Andrews also baptised on that Sabbath. —David Sedgman



ORDAINING DALE

Serving as the pastor at Mosaic Community church in Palmerston North (NZ) since 2011, and as current Pathfinder and Adventurer director for the North New Zealand Conference, Dale Hokin was ordained to ministry on Sabbath, February 25 at the Queen Elizabeth College, which serves as the house of worship for Mosaic church. He was surrounded by his wife Anneli, children Kara and Joshua, and his beloved family and friends. Acknowledging the role his family have played in shaping his life and ministry, Pastor Hokin says that Christ and the assurance that He brings is the greatest and most powerful influence he has ever experienced. —NNZC



STUDENT SERVICE

A team of 10 Year 12 students—eight from Prescott College Southern (Adelaide)—and five staff members travelled to Vietnam for a service trip in November/December 2016. Partnering with ADRA Connections for 12 days, the team was involved in the construction of safer roads and the renovation of a school classroom in the flood-affected province of Vinh Long. The students gave up their relaxation time after an intense school year in favour of serving others. —Michelle Meyles.



EASTER JOY

More than 20 children from the Operation Food for Life (OFFL) Born Free Sanctuary in Papua New Guinea enjoyed their first ever Pathfinder camp-out over the Easter weekend. "They were so excited," said OFFL president Dennis Perry. "All these children come from abused and at risk backgrounds." Meanwhile, OFFL representatives recently visited the maternity ward of Port Moresby General Hospital with gifts of clothes and blankets given or made by donors in Australia. —Dennis Perry



IN HIS HANDS

A recent Easter camp held for Adventist young people in the Nadroga-Navosa District attracted more than 500 youth from across central and south-west Fiji. The camp's theme was "In His Hands" and during the week the young people helped with community service, participated in team building activities and engaged in prayer with their youth leaders. Daily presentations and a prayer room were also key highlights of the camp. —My Mission Fiji



HEALTH MESSAGE GETS A BOOSTER SHOT

THE HEALTH MESSAGE OF THE Seventh-day Adventist Church—the “right arm” of the gospel—is getting a much-needed booster shot as part of an innovative new strategy designed to meet the needs of communities throughout the South Pacific Division (SPD). The Comprehensive Health Strategy (CHS) is aimed at inspiring church members to embrace and share the Adventist health message using technology within the digital media space to connect, engage and interact with their communities. “Our aim is to take the Adventist health message given to us 160 years ago and put it into a 21st century con-

text, delivered in a fresh and appealing way,” SPD health strategy consultant Geraldine Przybylko said. “We believe that the message we were given then by God is more relevant now than ever before with non-communicable diseases being the leading cause of death across Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Everyone knows someone who is battling with cancer, diabetes or heart disease,” said SPD Health specialist Chester Kuma. CHS is not only aimed at improving the health of non-Adventists—it is also about preparing a movement for God’s mission, inspiring Church leaders and members to give greater attention to

their own health and wellness so they can be their best for God’s service. “Despite the Church’s proud history in the area of health, indicators are showing that we are declining in this space,” Mrs Przybylko said. “As a Church we used to have an edge when it came to health, now statistics show that we are facing the same health issues as the rest of the community. “CHS has two key aspects. Firstly, it is a grassroots movement inspiring small bands of workers to come together to promote the wholistic health message at a local destination, whether that be a local church, a clinic, a café, a school or an Adventist Development



There are a number of big projects being developed as part of the Comprehensive Health Strategy, including a 10-part innovative and interactive online video series, known as the *Live More Project*. This series, featuring Dr Darren Morton, has been created in response to the growing number of people experiencing stress and anxiety in the community. It literally encourages them to live more.

“In the latest survey conducted by the Australian Psychological Society of National Stress and Wellbeing, anxiety symptoms were the highest they have ever been. One in 10 adults in Australia are now on anti-depressants,” Dr Morton said. “This is an area that we have not dealt with before as a Church but there’s a great need in the community, and the Adventist health message speaks to this issue. For a long time we have known that our health message is good for our



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS & MAKING DISCIPLES



New CHS suite of optional resources including:

Live More Project

Forgive to Live*

CHIP

Supported by

** Forgive to Live is a health initiative developed in partnership with Florida Hospital, and is the focus of this year's Health Week. Look out for the sampler DVD and poster.*

Graphic Credit: Shelley Poole

and Relief Agency (ADRA) office. It's about creating local centres of influence right across the South Pacific and equipping these destinations with evidence-based resources.

"Secondly, it involves our institutions—SPD, Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing, Sydney Adventist Hospital, Avondale College of Higher Education, Australasian Research Institute, Adventist Media and ADRA—collaborating together, leveraging our strengths in a unified health strategy. So in time, when people think about health, they think about our Church," Mrs Przybylko said.

"We are making a concerted effort to be a big player in this space and it's great to see the support from

Church administration, institutional leaders and our members to make this happen. Showing us that God is truly leading our plans."

The strategy draws on the input of experts such as Dr Darren Morton, senior lecturer in health and physical education at Avondale College, and Dr Ross Grant, CEO of the Australasian Research Institute at Sydney Adventist Hospital. While meeting the needs of the community, CHS will also help to position the Church as a leader in lifestyle medicine—a credible source of resources, experts and initiatives in wellness.

John 10:10 underpins the whole strategy: ". . . I have come that they might

have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

"One of our objectives is to champion Christ's method of health evangelism," Mrs Przybylko said. "As we meet the needs of the community, build genuine relationships and help people live more abundantly, we will also have the opportunity to introduce the community to a loving Saviour."

The Sabbath offering on May 20 will go towards projects developed as part of the SPD's Comprehensive Health Strategy.

TRACEY BRIDCUTT, HEAD OF NEWS AND EDITORIAL, ADVENTIST MEDIA.

bodies, but the latest science shows that it is also exceptionally good for our brains."

Results from a number of pilot groups who have completed the *Live More Project* show that the participants had improvements in vitality, mental health and stress levels.

"Because this is a big community need, this initiative will help us to connect and build relationships with people, and in the process we can find out about their other needs, providing a pathway to community activities such

as cooking classes, walking meet-ups, health and wellness courses such as the Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP) and Forgive to Live," Dr Morton said.

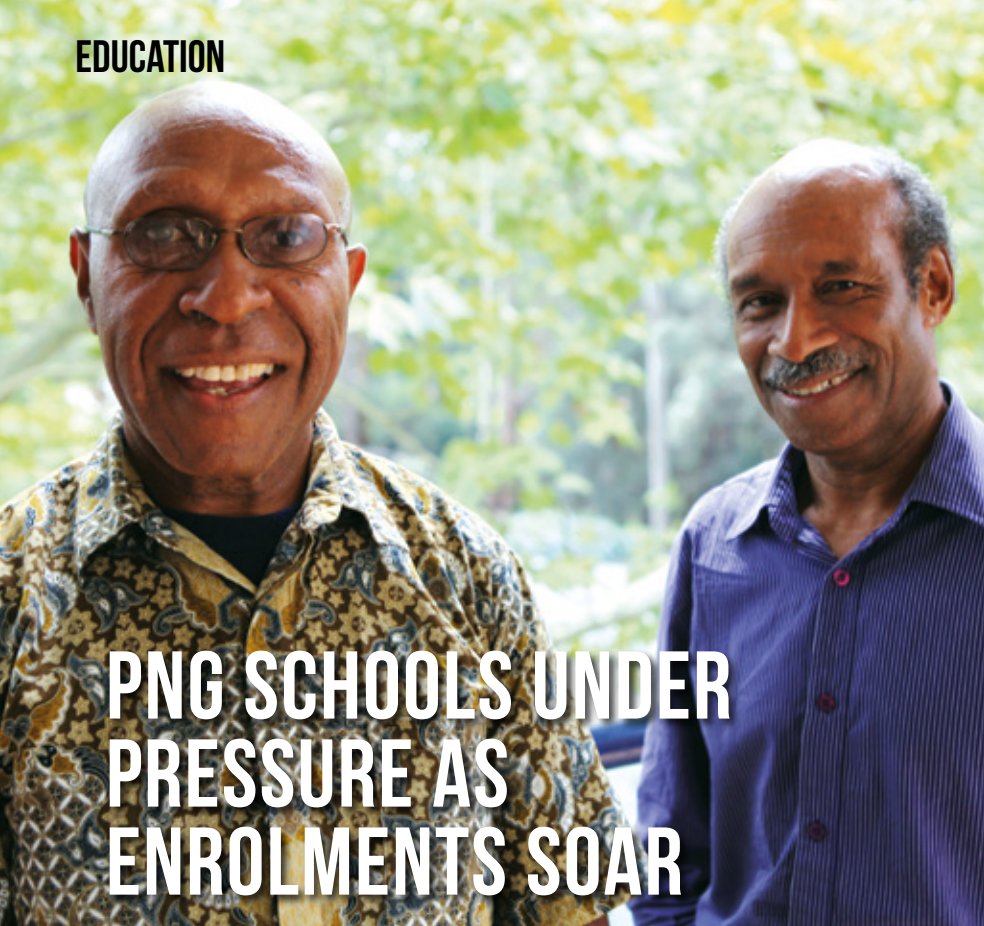
In other initiatives, CHS is creating a Lifestyle Medicine digital platform to provide doctors with a tool to connect and engage with other health professionals and provide a central repository of our health message in a contemporary and relevant way for the community.

Every union in the South Pacific will

also be running health expos as a way of connecting with their communities. Down the track it's hoped that each union will establish wellness and training hubs.

"Let's be part of this God-given vision and make an impact in the community," Dr Morton said.

Prior to the official launch of the Live More Project in 2018, there will be an opportunity to be part of an "advanced screening" later this year. Further details will be announced in an upcoming edition of Adventist Record.



PNG SCHOOLS UNDER PRESSURE AS ENROLMENTS SOAR

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST schools in Papua New Guinea (PNG) are bursting at the seams as increasing numbers of parents want their children to experience the benefits of Adventist education. It's not uncommon for classes to have 60 students, or sometimes as many as 80, creating a challenging environment and increased workloads for teachers. Classrooms, toilets and other facilities are inadequate for the sheer number of students.

Papua New Guinea Union Mission education director Jim Yawane said the number of enrolments at Adventist schools has soared from about 4000 eight years ago to 26,000 in 2017. One school, built for 400 students, has more than tripled its enrolment to 1300 students. With the dormitories full, students without beds have resorted to rolling out mats on the floor to sleep on.

At Sonoma Adventist College, a tertiary institution, final year ministerial students who were late to register were told there was no accommodation left. Disappointed but not prepared to give up, the students built

their own humble living quarters—shacks made from balsa wood and bush materials on the outskirts of the campus—so they could complete their studies.

Government policies and funding shortfalls account for some of the reasons behind the challenges faced by PNG's education system.

Mr Yawane said many schools, both government and non-government, are experiencing cash flow problems and are reliant on government funding for infrastructure. Recently the government introduced a fee free system, which also applies to Adventist schools, aimed at guaranteeing every child an education. The government promised to cover the tuition costs for each child, but there have been shortfalls.

"On paper it looks good but it's not working in reality," Mr Yawane explained. "The government has not been able to give all the money they are supposed to give."

Limiting the number of students is an option. But it's not easy for principals facing parental pressure to enrol their children. "When they come and they

look in your eyes, it's hard to turn them away," Mr Yawane said. The principals are also reluctant to preclude any child from experiencing the positive influence of Adventist education.

"We look at our institutions as our mission field," Sonoma principal Dr Isako Esekia said. "That is the way we look to bring our young people to come to know Christ. We see it as an opportunity. It's a good problem." The schools are committed to the discipleship approach, recently introducing The Bible Summary Project. It encourages students to read a chapter from the Bible every day, summarise it and share it with another student. Interestingly, it's having a positive flow-on effect to other areas of school life, with improvements observed in student behaviour, grades and reading since the program began.

Mr Yawane said the increasing student enrolment is also an opportunity for evangelism. About 60 per cent of students are from non-Adventist homes. "We are working with the evangelism department to send in evangelists to schools twice a year to run evangelistic crusades," he said.

Adventist schools are also working hard to improve quality and educational outcomes. A vocational skills training program has been revived at a number of schools, with students able to earn a certificate for on-campus work such as farming, cooking and cleaning.

While there is much work to be done they remain optimistic, confident in the knowledge that God is in control. "There are always challenges but it creates opportunities for God's work to move," Mr Yawane said.

The Adventist Church operates 96 primary and 11 high schools in Papua New Guinea, along with Pacific Adventist University, Sonoma Adventist College and the Omaura Adventist School of Ministry.

TRACEY BRIDCUTT, HEAD OF NEWS AND EDITORIAL, ADVENTIST MEDIA.

THE TEN

... names you probably
didn't know were in the Bible

Chloe

— NOT JUST A HIP '90S BABY NAME, CHLOE LIKELY HOSTED A NEW TESTAMENT HOUSE CHURCH (1 CORINTHIANS 1:11).

Jemima

— JOB'S DAUGHTER. SHE GOT THE NICE NAME. HER POOR SISTER WAS SADDLED WITH KEREN-HAPPUCH (JOB 42:14).

Jared

— THE FIRST OWNER OF THIS EVERYDAY BOY'S NAME WAS THE FATHER OF THE DEATH-DEFYING ENOCH (GENESIS 5:18-24).

Dodo

— YES, REALLY. THIS UNFORTUNATE CHAP WAS THE GRANDFATHER OF TOLA, A JUDGE WHO "ROSE TO SAVE ISRAEL" (JUDGES 10:1).

Timon

— NO KIDS, NOT THE MEERKAT FROM THE LION KING. TIMON WAS ONE OF THE FIRST SEVEN DEACONS (ACTS 6:5).

Julia

— AUSTRALIA'S FORMER ATHEIST PRIME MINISTER WAS NAMED AFTER A FRIEND OF THE APOSTLE PAUL (ROMANS 16:15).

Claudia

— THE GERMAN SUPERMODEL WAS NAMED AFTER A ROMAN FRIEND OF THE APOSTLE PAUL (2 TIMOTHY 4:21).

Ada

— ALSO SPELT ADAH, SHE MAY HAVE BEEN NOAH'S MOTHER (GENESIS 4:23, 5:30).

Ram

— A GREAT NAME FOR A RUGBY PLAYER. THE ORIGINAL RAM WAS THE GREAT-GREAT GRANDFATHER OF BOAZ (1 CHRONICLES 2:10).

Rufus

— ONE OF THE SONS OF SIMON OF CYRENE. IT'S UNKNOWN WHETHER HE ENDED UP IN THE ROOFING BUSINESS (MARK 15:21).





CHRISTIANISING SAMOA'S CONSTITUTION

& RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN THE PACIFIC

SAMOA IS IN THE PROCESS OF amending its Constitution to declare itself a Christian country.¹ For Christians in Samoa, this amendment, which securely passed the second reading in Parliament in February and will soon be ushered into the Constitution,² could have both positive and negative consequences. According to the Explanatory Memorandum, the object of the amendment is “to insert in the Constitution that Samoa is a Christian nation to declare the dominance of Christianity in Samoa”.³

This is an important development in an era of increasing religious intolerance and state-sponsored vilification against faith-based communities. While the constitutional amendment may be favourable to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Samoa as a Christian denomination, there is a greater need to understand the impetus for such a development and its potential ramifications for other religions to which we are called to minister. Samoa refers to Christianity in the preamble of its Constitution, by calling for Samoa’s Government to conduct

itself “within the limits prescribed by God’s commandments” and for its societal values to be “based on Christian principles . . .” Almost all Pacific Island countries, except Fiji, have adopted some acknowledgment of “God” and “Christianity” in the preamble of their constitution.

This practice of “Christianising the constitution” has been a common feature in many post-colonial constitutions throughout “Christendom”. Some have viewed it as a buffer against the intrusion of modernity and secularism. But this act of Christianising is typically symbolic and restricted only to the preamble, which, on its own, is generally not an enforceable part of a constitution.

But Samoa intends to go further. Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi has argued that because the preamble is not part of the Constitution, the reference to Samoa as a Christian country “does not stand in court” so it has to be “included in the body of the Constitution”.⁴

This implies that the declaration of Christianity should not only be symbolic but also have direct constitutional

impetus, which in turn, may allow the parliament to impose restrictions on certain religions or religious practices that are not Christian.

According to Samoa’s Attorney General Lemalu Hermann Retzlaff, the amendment “will enshrine Christianity from within the body of the Constitution which effectively provides a legal definition of the State’s religion”.⁵ This may be problematic on two counts. First, having an official “state religion” could mean the exclusion or alienation of other religions. Second, it could amount to a form of theocracy. Ever since Britain’s Glorious Revolution in the 17th century, the separation of church and state has taken a firm foothold in almost all democracies. Samoa’s attempt may blur this distinction and affect the right to freedom of religion and equal treatment.

The right to religious freedom and non-discrimination is a cornerstone of modern democracy. In Australia, it is expressly protected in the Constitution despite the country not having a Bill of Rights.⁶ In the United States, President Donald Trump has faced significant setbacks from the Federal



courts, which have consistently ruled that his executive orders restricting the travel of people from certain Muslim countries were unconstitutional. As recently as March, an American federal court judge held that the orders were “issued with a purpose to disfavour a particular religion, in spite of its stated, religiously neutral purpose”.⁷

Samoa’s Muslim community has raised similar concerns regarding the proposed amendment. They argue that it is an attempt to isolate the Islamic religion. A similar push for anti-Muslim policies is quietly present in Papua New Guinea (PNG) amidst the growing number of Muslim converts in that country. But the fear of an Islamic revolt appears to be influenced more by what is going on around the world than by any actual Islamic extremism in Samoa or PNG. Both the public and the political leaders are predominantly influenced by media outlets that often fail to provide a balanced perspective on the issue.

In its defence, Samoa’s current Constitution guarantees the right to religious freedom, including the right “to manifest and propagate” a “religion or belief in worship, teaching, practice

and observance”.⁸ The Government has argued that this guarantee will not be affected by the amendment to declare Samoa’s state religion as Christianity. But the guarantee is not absolute. There are instances where the Government can impose restrictions on the exercise of this right and that includes on reasons of “national security, morals, or for protecting the rights and freedom of others”. These are very broad conditions. In the words of the Constitution, “nothing shall prevent the State from making any law” to impose “reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right . . .”⁹

It is feared that having a constitutionally-based declaration of Christianity as the State’s religion will legitimise Christian morals and practices and that could provide the legal premises to restrict other religions whose values and beliefs may appear contrary.

This concern was evident in Tonga last year when the country banned bakeries from doing business on Sunday in honour of the Christian practice.¹⁰

Some segments of the local Adventist Church advocated for the ban because Sunday is viewed in Tonga as the Sabbath due to changes in the international dateline. However, such a move was contrary to what the Adventist Church has advocated globally for more than 100 years: that is to indiscriminately defend religious liberty and faith-based persecutions—not only when it suits us.

The current impasse in the United States with President Trump’s executive orders against certain Islamic countries adds to the growing list of countries around the world taking drastic measures to counter Muslim extremism. The increasing support in Australia for One Nation, an ultra-nationalist party with a firm anti-Muslim policy, is a closer example.

The fear in the Pacific may be well-founded on growing incidents of terrorism and extremism in other parts of the world. However, it is doubtful whether elements of extremism actually exist or are actively cultivated

in the Pacific Islands. While it is not for me to judge the merits of government policy in the Pacific Islands and how they react to global trends, I hope that as Seventh-day Adventists we can be adequately informed of the underlying inconsistencies that underpin such contemporary debates. Our ill-informed actions may significantly undermine our gospel commission. In Matthew 28:19 we are called “to go and make disciples of all nations” irrespective of their faith, religious background, tribe or kindred. Christ reminded us that He “came to seek and save those who are lost” (Luke 19:10) and that mission was indiscriminate. Once a self-righteous Pharisee and religious enforcer, the apostle Paul, in Romans 12:9–21, urged us to a ministry based on love, tolerance and acceptance. We are called to declare our Christian faith and Adventism through the cross, not the constitution.

We as Seventh-day Adventists must stand guard against fear-driven campaigns that only legitimise and perpetuate religious vilification, islamophobia and ultimately disunity. Instead, let us embrace the faith of Jesus and love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

1. Constitution Amendment Bill No. 2 (2016) (Samoa).
2. Concern over Samoan Bill, Saturday, February 04, 2017 (*The Fiji Times*) <http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=387964>.
3. Explanatory Memorandum, Constitution Amendment Bill No. 2 (2016) (Samoa).
4. “Samoa’s proposed Constitutional amendment threatens religious freedom,” (*CathNews New Zealand*) February 10, 2017.
5. Lanuola Tupufia, “Govt. amends Constitution to reflect Christian State” (*Samoa Observer*) December 21, 2016.
6. Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (1901), s 116.
7. *State of Hawaii v Donald J. Trump C.V.No. 17-00050 DKW* (March 15, 2017).
8. Constitution of the Independent State of Samoa 1960, section 11.
9. Section 11 (2).
10. “Ban on Tonga Sunday bakeries opening now in place,” (*Radio New Zealand*, 01 July 2016) <http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/307742/ban-on-tonga-sunday-bakeries-opening-now-in-place>.

BAL KAMA IS A PHD LAW CANDIDATE AT THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA, WITH AN INTEREST IN PACIFIC AFFAIRS.



MISSION: Mountaintop or mustard seed?

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, and now as much as ever, travel has been idealised, even romanticised. Add to that an altruistic goal and you have yourself a recipe for complete fulfilment. More commonly known as mission trips, these kinds of journeys promise a revival experience, and last year, I went on two of them. It should then go without saying that I'm abuzz with a powerful new outlook on life, and have a miracle or two to add to my testimony. Well, yes, I do. But these miracles might not sound quite as you would expect. From my recent experiences, I've realised that the promised "mountaintop experiences" are often wrapped in simplicity, and that the small moments in mission are just as valid as the large ones. Embedded in Adventist culture are a plethora of ministries that encourage acts of service for others, and for good reason. After all, we are to feed the hungry, befriend the stranger, clothe the naked, help the sick and visit the prisoner (Matthew 25:35). Here, Jesus is describing the gospel in action. For many of us, participating in STORMCos, big camps, church outreach events, ADRA appeals and

mission trips of all types is intertwined with who we are as a denomination, of which I am proud to be a member. However, sometimes it's easy to use these tools to divide and package the gospel into boxes, then value it based on numbers such as "contacts" or baptisms. But limiting ourselves to this perspective is not necessarily a healthy mentality. Often we fall into the mindset that mission equals overseas, that mission equals remote or foreign. It doesn't.

Sometimes, and myself included, we get so caught up in ticking lists of performed service and appealing to the religious status quo that it's easy to fall into the mindset that today I am on a mission trip; and tomorrow when the plane lands back home, I am not. For me, my introduction to God was simultaneous with my birth and integral to my upbringing. As soon as I could read I relished books containing prayer stories, angel stories and of course, mission stories. I knew about Desmond Doss way before Mel Gibson made him cool and Uncle Arthur really did feel like family. From all of this, I grew up with the sense that mission has to appear miraculous.

And I don't deny it!

I am so grateful to have been exposed to many God-fuelled stories to found my younger years. They gave me something to look forward to in my own mission work for "when I grew up".

And since then I have grown up, kind of.

But despite "doing mission" I haven't quite fed the 5000 with my lunch. However, just as Jesus multiplied the young boy's food, it's important to realise that monumental experiences such as this can be the result of small moments of change, of step-by-step submission to Christ.

In preparation for my first mission trip in 2016, I was expecting an absolutely "life-changing" experience, so when I'm asked for a highlight from my most recent adventure, to Cambodia, I hesitate. *It's so simple*, I think, *will it be considered powerful enough?* But, one of the most meaningful moments for me was most likely unnoticed by everyone else.

It was day two of project work and as co-leader for the first time I was using a lot of mental energy trying to ensure the smooth running of things.



That particular morning presented more translation difficulties than usual and some other bits and pieces had to be sorted out. All I wanted was for everything to work smoothly. Finally, it came to a point in the day where it all seemed to be under control. The heavy lifting of the lavatory, water tank and wooden swing were complete, and we had begun some finishing touches such as brightly painting a shelter.

Busy in this job, I suddenly realised music was playing. It was a song from an old Heritage Singers CD: "I love the thrill that I feel when I get together with God's wonderful people . . .", a tune Dad often played on Friday nights at home. A wave of nostalgia hit me as the melody flowed from a portable speaker. I looked around.

There was our team working alongside the locals; talking, getting to know each other and making inside jokes, and the village children were colouring contentedly on a tarp nearby. I paused to realise that things were in fact running smoothly. My eyes began to water as I realised it was all worth it. We were where God wanted us to be. Despite all the effort I put in, it was He who had it under control and for

a first-time leader a little out of my comfort zone, it was the assurance I needed. As simple as it was, it was my moment, my mustard seed moment. I didn't baptise a multitude of people or have a Lazarus encounter but as the music played I took a second to appreciate God's step-by-step miracles. We had planted a seed.

This experience made me realise that when we serve, Christ is developing our own characters and asking us to lean on Him. I had found myself adopting a Martha attitude in all my preparation and organisation, but that particular instance reminded me to bring myself back to the feet of Jesus. It is then that we can be a blessing to others with our unique God-given talents. Outwardly, our talents and experiences might not look like much, so it may be humbling to appreciate Christ's more inconspicuous victories as the mustard seeds in His plan to move mountains. I believe this is because society constantly floods us with the big, the bold and the obvious and so for any experience to be validated it needs to be recognised by everyone. But should we expect the same when it comes to Christianity? After all, a meaningful connection with

Christ is multi-dimensional, so isn't it fair to value each individual layer we personally contribute to mission? It's not only the "standout miracles" that reveal successful mission and once we realise that, it's easier to appreciate the opportunities and experiences God has already given us.

And so I went overseas, expecting to be spiritually blown away by my "mountaintop" experience. Outwardly, I didn't summit Everest but I had a calm assurance that I was where God needed me to be. I saw Him as I helped a child wash her hands, I heard Him addressed through prayer in the Khmer language, and I felt Him in the moments where I stood back and looked at the scene before me. A scene that showed two groups of people of different backgrounds, educations, religions, personalities; mingling as one group of new-found friends. That particular experience may have been mustard seed in size, but who knows what mountains God will move with it, for me or for them.

SHARNA KOSMEIER IS UNDERTAKING HER FINAL YEAR OF A BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE AT AVONDALE COLLEGE.



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IN DEFENCE OF FRUIT

Fruit is the original grab and go snack. It's convenient and good for the environment, there's no wasteful packaging and in many cases you just need to give your fruit a quick wash and it's ready to eat. The seasons also give us great variety, so we can look forward to the best of different fruits as the year rolls along, with some trusty staples available all year round.

So next time you're feeling peckish between meals, remember our top reasons to reach for fruit:

1. IT'S A GREAT SOURCE OF FIBRE.

Grabbing a piece of fruit for afternoon tea can be a great way to top up your daily fibre intake. With most of us not reaching our daily goal of 25g a day for women and 30g a day for men, aiming to get a shot of fibre every time we eat makes sense. Aim for fruits where you can eat the skin for an extra fibre boost.

2. IT'S A SWEET TREAT WITHOUT THE GUILT.

We often hear that fruit is high in sugar. While fruit does contain sugar, it's the package it comes in that makes it special. Whole fruit is high in water and comes with a whole bundle of nutrients and fibre to help slow the release of sugar from the food, making it easier for our body to process. Because of this it's much more filling and difficult to overeat than treats made with refined sugar.

3. IT'S A WHOLE OF HEALTH WHOLE FOOD.

Studies have shown higher fruit and vegetable intakes to be linked with reduced rates of everything from cardiovascular disease to depression. So use that snack as a way to boost your daily plant food intake.

Next time you're in the supermarket, take the time to check out all the fruit available. There's a whole world of tastes, textures and unique nutrition just waiting to be discovered and enjoyed!

HOW MUCH?



GO FOR 2 A DAY

The average person should be aiming for about two serves of fruit per day. Those who are really active can aim for more, but two serves is the sweet spot for most people.



WHAT'S A SERVE?

A serve of fruit is one medium-sized piece of fruit like an apple or orange, two pieces of small fruit like apricots or kiwi fruit or 1 cup of diced fruit.



WHAT ABOUT DRIED FRUIT AND JUICE?

30g of dried fruit and ½ cup of no-added sugar fruit juice can count as a serve of fruit, but should only be consumed occasionally.

Fruit juice is missing the fibre of whole fruit, while dried fruit is missing the water, making it easier to overeat.

Sanitarium
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PIONEER TEACHER LUCY MAY BEAVIS, 1883-1951

Lucy May Beavis initially spent several years in office work for the Church followed by 41 years as a Church school teacher, devoting decades typically in small one-teacher schools located in the back of Adventist churches as was common practice at that time.

She quietly and prayerfully won the hearts of her pupils and watched many of them go on to play significant roles in the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She retired to her home town of Leamington in the Waikato region of North New Zealand and after her death, at the age of 68, was buried there.

While there are school records carrying Miss Beavis's signature and the occasional class picture in which she was included, there is very little documentation of the life of this committed Church school teacher and it has not been possible to locate even a good quality individual picture of her.

But the contribution of Miss Beavis was typical of so many women who have given many years of faithful teaching service without complaint and who were evangelists in the truest sense of the word.

Miss Beavis never held elected or senior office in the Church, nor was she ever perceived a leader.

But like so many others she quietly lived out the gospel commission, and for this, and all the others like



her, we need to both honour and remember that consistent and faithful life-long commitment.

Regardless of who their employer is, few primary or secondary teachers, anywhere, spend a full 40-year career in the education profession, and the very small minority who do, typically spend significant time outside the classroom and often retire from an educational leadership position or some support service such as curriculum development or student counselling. To spend a full 41-year career entirely in primary classroom teaching, as did Miss Beavis, is an exceptional achievement, something which is quite rare. Not only did she achieve much in her ministry to her students, she also did it for far more years than most in the teaching ministry ever do; another good reason to honour her memory.

The marginal reading of the King James translation has, in Daniel 12:3, a very special blessing for Lucy May Beavis and all the other faithful servants of God just like her: "And as they that be teachers shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

DR LESTER DEVINE, DIRECTOR EMERITUS
OF THE ELLEN G WHITE/ADVENTIST RESEARCH
CENTRE.

DIGGING IN HIS WORD

WITH GARY WEBSTER

OMENS THAT REACH SECULAR MINDS (PART I)

"Daniel 2—Blah! We've heard it all before." But not so fast. This God-given prophecy still speaks powerfully and relevantly to us today.

Firstly, it reveals that God so hungers for His lost children that:

a) He speaks to them in ways with which they are familiar—dreams were omens of the future for the Babylonians; b) He even places the lives of His people at risk in order to bring His love to His lost children.

Read Daniel 2:1-3, 12, 13.

Secondly, praying with fellow believers moves God to give spiritual gifts (prophecy in this case), to help reach His lost children.

Read Daniel 2:17-19.

Thirdly, this prophetic drama began to break the power the occult world had on Nebuchadnezzar as it revealed the impotence of the ancient psychics to tell the king his dream.

Read Daniel 2:10, 11, 27, 28.

Finally the gift of prophecy, in answer to prayer, coupled with the prophecy itself, moved a pagan king to begin to have faith in the God of heaven. It still inspires faith in God today.

Read Daniel 2:46, 47.



THIS DREAM OMEN TABLET IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM REVEALS THAT NOT ONLY WERE DREAMS OMENS OF THE FUTURE FOR THE BABYLONIANS, BUT THAT THE BIBLE IS HISTORICALLY ACCURATE.

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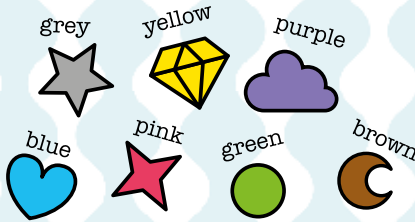
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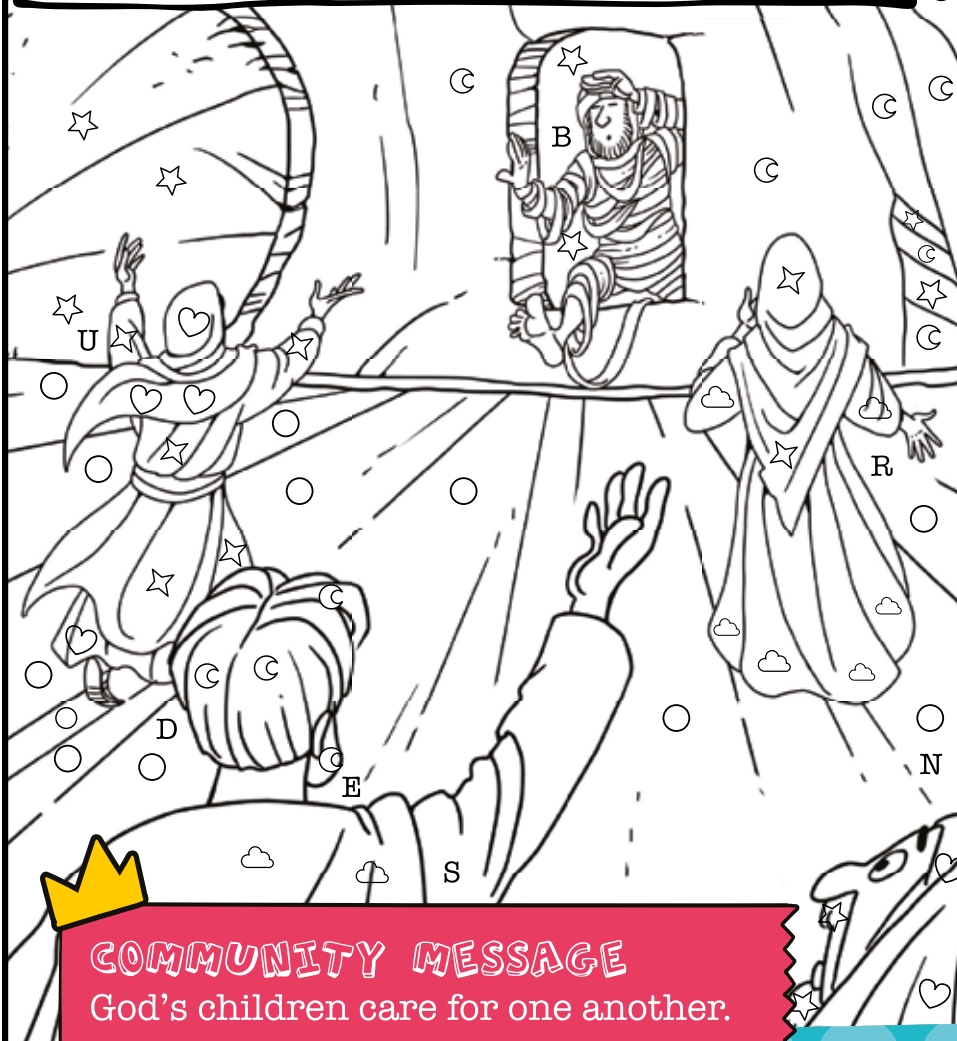
MEMORY VERSE:
FIND THE LETTERS IN THE PICTURE TO FINISH THE VERSE

“Carry each other’s _____.”

Galatians 6:2, NIV

THE DAY JESUS CRIED:

Lazarus is ill. His sisters, Mary and Martha, send for Jesus. Before Jesus arrives at their home, Lazarus dies and is buried. He has been in the tomb for four days when Jesus arrives. Jesus weeps with the family and they walk to the tomb. Jesus calls, “Lazarus, come forth.” Lazarus comes to life and re-joins his family. What a miracle!



COMMUNITY MESSAGE

God’s children care for one another.

* hello in Pitjantjatjara (Central Australia)



ENCOURAGEMENT FOR SINGLES

Thank you Angie for your brave piece on singleness (“Single-Minded for the Kingdom”, March 18). I was single until my late 30s and am familiar with many of the feelings and emotions you described. I appreciate that you wrote something that is practical and helpful for people in need of encouragement on this subject. God has a plan for each one of us and loves us so much. I am sure this article of yours will be an encouragement to many. God bless you.

Michelle, NSW

EYEWITNESS RESPONSE

As a participant at the 1980 Sanctuary Review assembly at Glacier View, I feel I should make a few clarifications in response to some of the comments in “Have your say” (April 1).

First, the gathering of scholars and administrators at Glacier View did not function as a trial, so terms such as “courts of judgement”, “guilt”, “innocence” and “evidence” are inappropriate.

Second, the result of this intense review of the sanctuary teaching was the unanimously-voted statement titled “Consensus Document: Christ in the Heavenly Sanctuary”. This is a very Christ-centred fresh expression of our belief on this matter. No-one is condemned in it, and it is no mere repetition of fundamental belief 23 (now 24).

Third, it’s best to avoid Johann Eck’s technique by which he tried to damn Luther at the Leipzig Debate (1519) by associating him with the condemned Jan Hus. A F Ballenger must be assessed on his own merits or faults, but the views of all others should

be heard independently of him, especially when they differ considerably from his teachings.

Fourth, the doctrines of righteousness by faith and sanctification were never part of the discussion at Glacier View. In fact we were instructed that they were not at issue. The New Testament is very emphatic that the free gifts of grace and forgiveness bring the believer into the new ethical life of the resurrected Jesus. Paul is unmistakably clear on this (Roman 5-6; Ephesians 4:1-6, 17-5:2). Even so, some thought that he approved of evil (Roman 3:8) and made Jesus an assistant of sin (Galatians 2:18). We should be cautious then that we do not make the same error and condemn someone of denying sanctification when they do no such thing.

Fifth, although the doctrine of Creation was not an issue at Glacier View, I’ll give a personal pastoral opinion. Provided all other conduct is faithful to the Christian ethos, I leave it to the individual how she/he integrates their learning with their faith. If someone

reads a section of Scripture as poetry, as a pastor, I do not feel I should threaten him/her with expulsion unless they read it as scientific prose.

More importantly than an apology are the words of Jesus about forgiveness (Mark 11:25) and reconciliation (Matthew 5:23,24), and in neither case does Jesus mention a prior repentance.

Norm Young, NSW,

OUT OF THIS WORLD

Would it be wise, considering the amount of publicity being given to the starry heavens in recent times, to devote a whole edition or a large part of it to some presentations on astronomy?

I gasp in astonishment when I read of the vastness of our universe. For example, “umpteen” light years at 180,000 miles per minute. See Proverbs 8:22-30, especially verse 27: “When He prepared the heavens, I was there . . .”

You would know who among our creationists is well-versed in astronomy. May good success attend all your effort.

W F Taylor, NSW



CATCH UP ON



New episode up every Wednesday on YouTube!

@thetabletvshow #thetabletvshow

NOTE: Views in “Have your say” do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Comments should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All comments are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author’s original meaning will not be changed. Not all comments received are published.

Anniversary



BLUCHER. Trevor and Wendy (nee Wilkinson) were married on

19.3.1957 at the Adelaide City church (SA). On Sunday 19.3.17 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with daughters Robyn (Whyatt) and Nerida (Stafford), families and friends at an afternoon tea party in the home of eldest daughter Robyn and husband Gary. Their other daughter Julie (Felberg) lives in Terrigal, NSW. Trevor and Wendy have been blessed with six grandchildren and one great-grandchild and currently live in Barmera, SA, and attend Riverland church.

Wedding



DE WILDE-MARIN. Marinus de Wilde and Suzanna Marin were

married on 15.1.17 in the Maribor church, Slovenia, in the presence of family and friends from Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands and Slovenia. An

Australian wedding confirmation service was held on 26.2.17 in the Ferntree Gully church (Vic), where family and friends from Australia and New Zealand gathered to wish this smiling couple God's blessing. They have established their home in Ferntree Gully.

Zmago Godina (Slovenia), Trevor Rowe (Australia)

Obituaries



CHAMBERS, Brenden Keith, born 7.7.1965; died 22.2.17. He

married Deanna Carter on 10.9.1994. He is survived by his wife; children Aimee and Adam (Canberra, ACT); his mother Margaret Rice (Hervey Bay, Qld), father Keith and stepmother Lorraine (Albury, NSW); sisters Sherryn Iszmail, Deveena and Nigel Obst (Mildura, Vic); brothers Leigh and wife Joanne (Canberra, ACT), and Dean and wife Shelley (Port Macquarie, NSW); nieces and nephews. Brenden was an energetic, friendly and talented man with a keen, enquiring mind.

Laurie Landers

HAGEN, Edward Stamper, born 14.5.1920 in Milford Sound, NZ;

died 14.4.16 in Dunedin. He is survived by his wife Audrey.

JOHNSTON, Pastor Ian Gilchrist, born 8.1.1932 in Westport, NZ; died 20.3.17 in Alstonville, NSW. He married Floris on 13.12.1955. He was predeceased by his wife in 2013. Ian is survived by his children Dorrilyn and Pragen Rajbhandari (Sydney), Andrew and Monique Johnston (Sydney); and grandchildren Chloe, Liam and Phoebe. Ian and Floris ministered in various places in Queensland, New Guinea, Northern NSW and New Zealand.

Eric Greenwall, Beth McMurtry



LAUDER, Leigh Merilyn, born 25.10.1942 in Sydney, NSW; died

15.12.16 in Sydney. She is survived by her husband John (Cherrybrook); children Leanne and husband Rohan (Kempsey), Karen and husband Manoa (Winston Hills), Natalie and partner John (Leichhardt); grandchildren Harrison, Julia and Keely. Leigh was a compassionate and fun-loving person, a woman of great faith, who served her community with joy and passion. Her life was one of service.

Pablo Lillo



MAROSCHEK, May Rosalie, born 18.7.1933 in Lincoln, England, died 4.4.17 in

Caboolture, Qld. She married Bruno on 4.4.1953. She was predeceased by her husband, her daughter Jane in 2003 and her son Karl in 1998. Rosalie is survived by her children Carol, Gary, Randy and Yolanda: grandchildren; great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She was very

much loved in the Inala church.

Humberto Rivera

MENTIPLAY, Margaret (Rita) (nee Hutton), born 15.3.1916 in Berwick-upon-Tweed, on the England/Scotland border; died 14.3.17 in Warburton, Vic. She was predeceased by her husband David and son Alexander. Rita is survived by Greta and Ken Miller, David Miller, Sandra, Rebecca, Sarah, Michael, Bruce, Zac, Sandy, Karen, Aaron, Kellie, Luke, Ashley, Courtney and Lee (all of Warburton). Rita was nearly 101 when she peacefully went to sleep. She was one of nature's true gentle ladies with a Scottish accent and spirit.

Malcolm Reid

PIATSCHEK, Elly, born in Germany; died 9.4.17 on the Sunshine Coast, Qld. She married Hans on 20.6.1953. She is survived by her husband. Elly was loved as a dear wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and friend.

Steve Ward

RYAN, Gary Alan, born 4.5.1969; died 18.8.16 in Moe, Vic. He is survived by his partner Lisa. Gary was the adopted son of Ken and Lorraine Ryan (Bairnsdale, Vic) and brother of Adrian and Owen Ryan. He also had three brothers and a sister from his natural family. A lovely service was conducted from his home church, Bairnsdale, by Faye Stothers, Lorraine's sister.

SPARROWHAWK, Pastor Mervyn Harold, born 16.7.1937 in Northam, WA; died 14.3.17 in Melbourne, Vic. He married Billie on 18.1.1965. He is survived by his wife (Burwood): daughter Simone

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Applications close May 7, 2017.

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Greater Sydney Conference is seeking an enthusiastic and competent individual to provide support primarily for the education department. Based at the Conference office at Epping, NSW, this full-time position requires an individual who is self-motivated, well-organised, has a high level of computer skills and excellent written and oral communication. For further information and a job description, please contact Pastor Adrian Raethel at <adrianraethel@adventist.org.au> or phone 02 9868 6522.
Applications close May 15, 2017.

For more information or to view more positions vacant visit:
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SUPPORTING MINISTRY

Cedarvale Health and Lifestyle Retreat in Kangaroo Valley, NSW, is offering an excellent opportunity for females to train for a one-year period in an on-the-job Health Ministry Training Program. Students gain their Cert IV in Massage, their Cert IV in PCHEP and receive certificates in CHIP and DART. Work in a health retreat setting with a team of professionally dedicated staff who have many years experience in this kind of work. Course intakes are January and July each year. July applications for 2017 close on June 2. For more information go to <www.cedarvale.org>, email <info@cedarvaleeducation.com.au> or call 02 4465 1362.

Cedarvale Health and Lifestyle Retreat is independent of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organisation but is supportive of the Church.

Campbell (Brighton), and sons Damon (Marrickville, NSW) and Kirban (St Kilda, Vic).

Morrie Krieg, Tony Campbell

THOMPSON, Ivy Allan (Bonnie), born 20.4.1921; died 2.3.17. She was predeceased by her husband Roy Alan. She is survived by her granddaughter Jacqui (Malvern East, Vic); and two great-grandchildren. Bonnie enjoyed gardening and baking and was a faithful member of Hughesdale and AdventCare churches.

Lindy Sperring

WILKINSON, Florence Joan (nee Budarick), born 18.5.1925 in Mannum, SA; died 22.12.16 in Hope Valley. She married Vincent on 8.11.1948. She was predeceased by her husband in 1999 and her son Grantley in 1984. She is survived by her children Brenton and Lurline Wilkinson (Adelaide) and Sharon Moule (Adelaide); grandchildren James and Natalie Wilkinson, Andrew and Ashna Moule; and great-granddaughter Maja Wilkinson. Joan was a loved and faithful member of the Adelaide City church for more than 60 years. Her counsel was highly valued by those who knew her. She had a strong faith in Jesus.

Brenton Wilkinson



WOODWARD, Charles William, born 8.6.1921 in Coburg, Vic; died 28.11.16 in Hobart, Tas.

He is survived by his wife Doreen (Glenorchy); children Pam and Bob Fairfoul (Bickley, WA), Paul and Marilyn Woodward (Melbourne, Vic), Angela and Dennis King (Northam, WA), Chris and Lee Woodward, Grant and Stacey Woodward and Keva and

Dale Burns (Hobart, Tas); 16 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. Charles and Doreen celebrated their 74th wedding anniversary on 25.11.16. Charles was a down-to-earth, practical man with a passion for the outdoors. He loved golfing and fly-fishing and was an experienced motor mechanic and bushman. His experience and expertise was valued in his work for the Tasmanian Police and particularly, the Tasmanian Police Search and Rescue Squad.

Brad Cooke, Mark Falconer

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BACK TO GEELONG, celebrating 120 years: Sabbath, November 4, 2017 @ Geelong church, 6-10 Little Myers St, starting at 9:30am. Worship, reminisce, reconnect, lunch provided. RSVP Marion 0409527540, October 1, or via Facebook.

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RINGWOOD CHURCH is celebrating its 40th anniversary at 28 Mullum Mullum Road, Ringwood, Vic, on 20.5.17. All former ministers and past members are invited to a special thanksgiving service commencing at 10.30am. This will be followed by a lunch where memories can be shared. Contact Janettie Woods <janettiw@bigpond.net.au>.

SNOW CAMP June 9-12, 2017. Open to all singles Australia-wide. Come and enjoy a weekend at the Adventist Alpine Village. Activities include table tennis, pool, air hockey, tennis, disc golf, relaxing by the fire and snow! Theme: Forgiveness. Costs: \$235 full accommodation and meals; linen and towel hire \$12 or bring your own; does not include ski/board hire or lift tickets. For full information and registration, visit: <www.snsnw.adventist.org.au/events/#singles>.

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YOU REST IN THE KNOWLEDGE
THAT HE IS IN CONTROL.**

—DR MICHELLE BENGTSON

