



Do you suffer from generational Adventism?

You can't inherit faith ¹⁴

Community perceptions
study highlights areas
of opportunity ¹⁰



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EDITOR'S NOTE:

Identity crisis

Danelle Stothers
Assistant editor

“

We can base who we are on so many things that aren't permanent like career, job title, physical appearance, wealth, status or achieving success at something.

There have been many milestones in my life that have left me questioning who I am. The first one I can recollect is when I graduated from high school. Everything in my life until that point had been about study: I identified as a “student”, the clothes I most often wore were my school uniform, my years were scheduled according to school terms and holiday breaks, and my friends were the people who I spent five days of the week with. When I no longer had this foundation as the base of my identity, it felt like I completely lost who I was.

Since this first earth-shattering moment I have faced other major life milestones (aka identity crises) that shook my understanding of myself. Things like graduating from tertiary education; getting married, resulting in a change to my name and “family unit”; moving overseas and taking on the title of “foreigner/expat”; hitting a new decade of life; and most recently, becoming a mother (which has been a whole other level of identity-shaking crisis).

Maybe you have also faced your own identity shake-ups. We can base who we are on so many things that aren't permanent like career, job title, physical appearance, wealth, status or achieving success at something. When a life event changes everything we have understood ourselves to be, it can leave us on shaky ground. We might feel sad as we miss our old identity and the familiar comfort of knowing who we are and what we have to do. As time passes we begin to build a new identity, establishing a comfortable place of understanding who we are in our current circumstances . . . Until something else comes along and shakes it all up again.

If, like me, you're feeling a little mellow about all of this, let's bring a different perspective into the situation. We know God to be unchanging, “the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8) and dependable, “He is a reliable God” (Deuteronomy 32:4). In 1 Peter 2:10 it says, “Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people.” We can establish that first and foremost our core identity, who we are as a person, is locked and unchanging no matter what life circumstances come our way. We are God's people. Even more so than this, we are God's children, always and forever. “See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!” (1 John 3:1). As things in life change, this identity as a much-loved child of God, will not.

The Bible also says that we are members of God's family (Ephesians 2:19), friends of Jesus (John 15:15), justified and redeemed (Romans 3:24), an heir as God's child (Galatians 4:7), a citizen of heaven (Philippians 3:20), and loved, chosen, holy and without fault (Ephesians 1:4). Which is only just a few of the things the Bible says we are.

If you're more of an auditory learner, there are a few songs that you should give a listen. “No Longer Slaves” by Bethel Music is a powerful declaration of freedom from fear and knowing who you are as a child of God, and “Who You Say I Am” by Hillsong Worship which emphasises our importance to God as His children, while others might enjoy the hymn “A child of the King”.

I must be honest; I write this from a place of needing a reminder for myself of who I am. I still lose myself and need reassurance that who I am is found in God; everything else is fluid.

As you meet the changing seasons of life where you start to question who you are or what your purpose is, remember that your core identity is set in God. Through Jesus we have become God's people, with belonging and purpose in Him. Our shared destiny is with Him in eternity. You are a child of God, and you can face the changes to come focusing on this truth. Build who you are on who God says you are—He is your identity.



INSIGHT:

The power of commitment

Glenn Townend
South Pacific Division president

I often hear from church people that the Church would thrive if there was more commitment. I usually agree. Recently I did a Bible word study on the word “commit”. There are more than eight biblical words (at least six in Hebrew and two in Greek) that are translated “commit” in English. Most uses of the word “commit” relate to committing sin—adultery, murder, fornication, worshipping other gods and the like. I am not sure we want this kind of commitment!

However, there are some other occasions when understanding the Hebrew background of “commit” is helpful. “But you, Lord Almighty, who judge righteously and test the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance on them, for to you I have committed my cause” (Jeremiah 11:20).

Here the Hebrew word means to “uncover” or “leave”. Commitment is leaving the issue that is concerning you with another—in this case Almighty God.

“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this” (Psalm 37:5).

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans” (Proverbs 16:3). Here the word for “commit” comes from a Hebrew word meaning to “roll over, or roll”. In the context of these verses, commitment is giving over to God your plans and behaviour. In each biblical example cited commitment is surrendering your plans and behaviour to God. It is recognising that you are only human. It is a position of humility. Knowing that ultimately God has control and sovereignty. Recognising this as the starting point of commitment was new to me. It was refreshing. In the past I had seen commitment as the striving to do better, being tenacious and persistent. While this is needed—commitment is focusing on this and letting God be God and determining the outcomes.

The Bible is also clear that we reap what we sow and that we should not get weary in doing what is good (Galatians 6:6-9). The remnant of Revelation are persevering (Revelation 14:12). The Spirit gives us the self-discipline to be committed (2 Timothy 1:7). I have found that writing out my goals and praying over them enables the commitments I make become reality. I hope this is your reality.

This is the type of commitment we want more of!

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OCTOBER

~~The Great Disappointment~~

The Great Appointment

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The Great Appointment Event - Livestream

Get your church, your friends or your pathfinder group together, have lunch then join in this special event!

For more information: heritage.adventistchurch.com



Around 100 leaders gathered at the event, held for the first time in 10 years.

Education leaders plan for the next 10 years

📍 Mooroolbark, Vic | Kimberley McMurray

For the first time in 10 years, the Australian Union Conference (AUC) conducted an education consultation which invited leaders from various ministries, including chaplains, education directors, ministry conference officers, board chairs, principals and conference officers, to take part in discussing the future of Seventh-day Adventist education.

Held at the Foothills Conference Centre in Victoria, nearly 100 attendees gathered for three days to reflect on the past decade and plan for the next 10 years.

South Pacific Division (SPD) education director Dr David McClintock said, "Education Consultation 2 has provided direction into the next decade; a strengthened focus on Adventist identity; affirmed the role of chaplaincy; and provided opportunities for closer collaboration and investment between church and school."

Education Consultation 2 focused on two of the four guiding pillars for Adventist Schools Australia—Adventist identity and systemic support—highlighting the need to keep the purpose, vision and mission of the Adventist education system clear and strong during the next decade.

There were four keynote addresses from associate director of education

Jacques Calais, ministerial association secretary Pastor Brendan Pratt, director of education Dr Daryl Murdoch and AUC secretary Pastor Michael Worker. After each presentation, attendees broke into groups to discuss the issues presented.

Seventeen recommendations were put forward, including recognising chaplaincy as a ministerial calling and providing chaplains with a clear pathway to ordination; the establishment of a national office which will oversee Adventist Education across Australia; a focus on teaching students skills that are transferrable; and creating a community where students, parents, teachers and leaders encapsulate the love of Jesus.

According to Dr Murdoch, "there was a wonderful spirit of unity and common purpose" at the event.

"The agreed declaration at the end of the program was heart-warming for Adventist educators and read as follows: 'Consultation 2 affirms the role of Adventist Education as an integral ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Further, we acknowledge that the focus of Adventist Education must remain clearly set on Adventist identity, mission and quality student outcomes.' We look forward to deepening the partnership between our churches and schools."



The new shop has a variety of resources.

Hope Book Centre opens store in Port Vila

📍 Port Vila, Vanuatu | Cecile Trief

Church members in Port Vila, Vanuatu, now have better access to Adventist books and resources, with a Hope Book Centre officially opening its doors in the city centre on September 14, after moving from the Vanuatu Mission (VM) office.

At the opening ceremony, VM president Pastor Charlie Jimmy said the occasion was the fulfilment of VM's Vision Statement—"A vibrant Adventist movement living our hope in Jesus and transforming Vanuatu".

"We need to bring services and provide resources at a most strategic location, to facilitate access for the whole population," he added.

The new shop provides a variety of

resources, a selection of Bible studies and Bibles, with more products to be added to the shelves soon.

Vanuatu Hope Book Centre manager Kevin Iaris expressed his gratitude to God for His leading. "It has been a long journey but a beautiful one as we are here now, and we look forward to always providing quality services to our customers," he said.

A church member who attended the opening ceremony believed "it was a wise decision to have the Hope Book Centre in town. It is more convenient, accessible and inclusive for everyone."

The event brought together VM staff, church members, visitors and many more.



Avondale students who developed the 2016 winning resources.

Healthy competition for primary schools

Wahroonga, NSW | Juliana Muniz

Adventist Primary Schools across Australia can win \$A1000 by submitting a video to a competition run by ACA Health which aims to incentivise the use of health resources in classrooms.

Private health insurance fund ACA Health has been working with Avondale University and final year teaching students for more than a decade to produce resources for instructing primary-aged children about health and wellbeing.

Each year, the top four resources—developed by the final year teaching students as part of their tertiary qualification—are distributed to Adventist schools in Australia for use.

ACA Health fund manager Jody Burgoyne explained that “in Australia, ill health and admission to hospital as a result of lifestyle diseases and mental health are increasing”.

“ACA Health has always believed

that educating children at an early age has the potential to set children up with healthy habits and the tools to help them to have a healthy, happy life,” she said, adding that the initiative is an attempt to reduce the lifestyle and mental health illness figures across the country.

“At ACA Health, we count it a privilege to be part of something that promotes healthy lifestyle principles to children at a time when they are learning things for life,” said Ms Burgoyne.

To join the competition, teachers must submit a video showing how the resources are used in their classrooms, the filled-out health resource experience form and additional photos to <marketing@acahealth.com.au> by November 10. The videos will be posted on social media along with a voting poll from November 14 to 25 to determine the winner.



A scene from the video—one of the Grateful Living promotional resources.

Grateful Living launched

Wahroonga, NSW | Tracey Bridcutt

A new range of local church resources has been developed to lead congregations into more abundant, Christ-centred living.

The Grateful Living resources—an initiative of the Stewardship department of the South Pacific Division (SPD)—have been designed to cater for all ages. The kit includes eight sermon PowerPoints and scripts (which are ready-to-go or can be modified); children’s song videos with lyric sheets, music scores and backing tracks; and promotional materials including a video, posters and social media assets.

SPD stewardship director Julian Archer said Grateful Living has been successfully trialled in the North New South Wales Conference where local church leaders were seeking ready-to-share resources for all ages that inspire faithful stewardship in finances, but also in whole-of-life giving.

“Jesus promises us an abundant, satisfying life and for this we are forever grateful,” Mr Archer said. “Grateful living leads to cheerful giving, and it unlocks

the abundant life that Jesus promised.

“We’ve all heard about the ‘3Ts of Stewardship’—our time, talents and treasures—but Grateful Living expands those Ts to include our testimony, temple, tribe, territory and God’s truth. It’s about the joy of whole-of-life giving.”

Churches are being encouraged to schedule an eight-part Grateful Living sermon series into their 2023 preaching calendar, share the preaching of the sermons with members who have a passion for one of the eight topics, teach the songs in children’s Sabbath schools and use the activity sheets for children to complete during the sermon on the same topic.

A version for Papua New Guinea and Pacific communities is also available, and other parts of the world are already adapting Grateful Living for their territories.

For more information and to download the resources head to: <stewardship.adventistchurch.com/grateful-living/>.



From left to right: Hope Clinic director Dr Akuila Tabuavou, Fiji Mission (FM) secretary Epeli Saukuru, FM president Nasoni Lutunaliwa, Fiji health minister Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete, Dr Alipate Vakamocea and FM chief finance officer Apisalome Seru.

Hope Clinic's contribution to tobacco control recognised by WHO

📍 Suva, Fiji | Joni Vatuvatu

Hope Clinic in Suva, Fiji, was awarded a certificate of recognition by the World Health Organization for its tobacco control efforts and the personalised services provided for people addicted to smoking.

Fiji health and medical services minister Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete awarded the certificate and medal of recognition to Hope Clinic for its services and campaigns in tobacco control.

Fiji Mission (FM) president Pastor Nasoni Lutunaliwa received the award on behalf of Hope Clinic and the Church in Fiji, stating, "we can only praise God for using Hope Clinic to minister to the masses in Fiji on wellness and healthy living.

"The smoking cessation service provided at the clinic is an extension of our health message and every church member should be helping their friends, workmates and family members struggling to quit smoking.

"They are to be directed to the clinic to get professional advice and help to enjoy more of what life has to offer."

Dr Waqainabete congratulated Hope Clinic for its commitment to tobacco control.

"It is a fact that tobacco kills. [More than] eight million people die every year globally from smoking-related illnesses," he said.

According to Dr Waqainabete, there are now five cessation hubs in Fiji, including Hope Clinic, offering intensive tobacco counselling and treatment to tobacco users attempting to quit smoking.

"We hope to increase this number, and we appreciate the partnership we have with the Church in ensuring many are made aware of the risks of smoking to them and their family members," he said.

Hope Clinic director Dr Akuila Tabuavou praised God for the award and thanked WHO for entrusting the program with them.

He acknowledged former director Dr Alipate Vakamocea for securing the program as it corresponds with Adventist health beliefs.

"We will continue to provide the smoking cessation program and counselling at Hope Clinic and anyone with the desire to quit smoking can visit us at any time," said Dr Tabuavou.

making headlines

The gift of a safe place

Pathfinder leaders organised a camp for both Polish Pathfinders and Ukrainian Pathfinders now living in Poland. The summer camp was teamwork at its best with the Ukraine team running the program and the Polish leaders coordinating logistics. The camp ended on a high with the baptism of 18 teenagers who gave their lives to Jesus.—TED



World's tallest papaya tree

A new Guinness World Record has been set for the world's tallest papaya tree by an Adventist man in Brazil. The tree is 14.55m tall and was measured with the help of a drone.—SAD

True story on trafficking

Adventist author Wendy Williams (US) decided to write about a true story of an escape from human trafficking when she learned it happened in her local community. The book, titled *They called me Baby*, features child-friendly language to help inform parents and children about the dangers and language that traffickers use to lure in victims.—*The Gleaner*

Invisible environmentalists

Fiji has become the first country in the Pacific to acknowledge waste pickers, who sort through landfill rubbish to find materials that can be resold or recycled. Registered workers will now have safety equipment, and access to training and bank accounts. "In developing countries like Fiji, we don't have resources or municipal councils, and private companies don't have the resources to go and collect all recyclables from areas and bring them to recycling facilities," said Amitesh Deo, founder of Pacific Recycling Foundation.—ABC News



New disciples

September 17 was an extra special Sabbath for Bairnsdale church, Victoria, with the baptism of four teenagers. Noah, Naomi and Samuel Turnley—all siblings—and Danika van Deventer were baptised by Pastor Rian van Deventer on the Sabbath following Week of Prayer. "It was a stimulating and challenging week, during which some church members shared evening worship times via Zoom. The theme was discipleship, and appropriately enough, those four teenagers became disciples at their baptism that Sabbath," said church member Judy Walker. Including friends and family members of the baptismal candidates, the congregation pledged to support and mentor all four newly-baptised church members. —**IntraVic**



Compiled history

From the establishment of the first Seventh-day Adventist church in 1885 to Northern Australia Conference status in 1955, a new book printed by Signs Publishing highlights the history of the Adventist Church in Northern Australia. Author Selwyn Hawken spent several years compiling church history using sources such as the *Australasian Record*, newspapers and verbal accounts. Released earlier this year, *Seventh-day Adventist Church History—Northern Australian Conference* is filled with history, stories and photos of God's leading in the NAC. "Selwyn has captured in great detail the passion and commitment of early pastors, colporteurs and members in sharing their Adventist faith to the people across the remote north of Australia," said NAC president Pastor Darren Slade. The book is available on bit.ly/SDAhistoryNAC. —**Kymerley McMurray**



Global recognition

Sydney Adventist Hospital has once again been ranked in the *Newsweek World's Best Specialised Hospitals* survey for oncology, while also being ranked for the first time for cardiology. The annual *Newsweek* survey features the top 300 hospitals for cardiology and 250 for oncology, with Sydney Adventist Hospital listed in both categories. Professor Gavin Marx, clinical director, San Integrated Cancer Centre, said the hospital is delighted with the news. —**Maddi Glover**



Celebrating diversity

Hillview Adventist Church in Morisset (NSW) recently celebrated its cultural diversity with an international Sabbath. In a program featuring 26 different nations, the main service was presented in the form of interviews by Pastor Danny Milenkov, who asked members from Brazil, Africa, India and Croatia to speak about the growth of the Church in these countries. "God sees the beautiful mosaic of all the different people, all with the same hope that Jesus will take us home," said the program organiser Sonya Muhl. —**Mary Fedorow**



Healthier South Pacific

People from around the South Pacific gathered at Fulton Adventist University College in Sabeto, Fiji, for the 10,000 Toes Health Summit held from September 2 to 4.

The program featured a line-up of expert presenters from the General Conference, South Pacific Division, Trans Pacific Union Mission, Fiji and New Zealand.

Attendees learned about the alarming epidemic of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) the South Pacific region is currently facing, how lifestyle medicine can change one's life and how someone's spirituality impacts their mental wellbeing.

According to general practitioner Dr Loata Musudole, the "South-Pacific region has been declared the fattest region in the world", and eating a plant-based diet can prevent, arrest and reverse lifestyle diseases.

Booths were set up for attendees to try hydrotherapy, charcoal therapy, massages and healthy juices. The Fiji Cancer Society also had a booth and was advising people on ways they can prevent and treat cancer.

Throughout the summit, presenters encouraged attendees to follow the seven dimensions of health—to be emotionally, physically, socially, vocationally, intellectually, environmentally and spiritually attuned—if they want to live a healthy and long life.

—**Pauliasi Dawn**



Special visitors

Avondale Memorial Church hosted a group representing chaplains within the military service from the General Conference (GC), North American Division (NAD) and South Pacific Division on September 10. Brigadier-General Pastor Andrew Harewood, GC Adventist chaplaincy director Dr Ivan Omana, NAD Adventist chaplaincy ministries associate director Pastor Gilda Roddy and Western Australia army chaplain Pastor Gysbert Seegers conducted the special program. Pastor Roddy presented medals to several attendees who served the military in the past. One of the honoured seniors was 99-year-old Viv Fish, who served in New Britain (PNG) during World War II. "The whole day was most inspiring, uplifting and greatly appreciated by the members and many visitors," said church member Del Boehm.—**Record staff**



Mission kick-start

Volunteers In Action (VIA)—an independent ministry supported by the South Queensland Conference—has sponsored two volunteers from Kiunga Adventist Church (PNG) to reach the large and divided Yogom tribe, which is based along the Indonesia-Papua New Guinea border. Volunteers Johnson Dialope and Siro Waida, who have been sponsored for three years with the specific mission of reaching the tribe, have already started to take the gospel to the people of Dome village. "We heard of that need from a report at their district camp meeting last September," said Western Highlands Mission VIA coordinator Jim Wagi. "We then sent the request to the VIA administration in Australia for sponsorship. Their positive response made it possible to kick-start the mission to this tribe."—**Record staff**

Community perceptions study highlights areas of opportunity

A new study into community perceptions of the Seventh-day Adventist Church shows that the Adventist Church has a significant identity issue and needs to seek opportunities to help people understand its relevance.

Around one-third of survey participants said they didn't know anything about the Adventist Church. Just one-in-seven strongly or somewhat agreed that the Church is relevant in the 21st century.

The Church Perception Study, commissioned by the South Pacific Division (SPD) communication department, is the most significant study into community awareness of the Church that's been conducted in more than a decade. It was designed to understand individuals' sentiment towards the Adventist Church in Australia and New Zealand, with participants drawn from both city and rural locations.

The study clearly shows that the Adventist Church—despite all the good things Adventists are doing in areas such as education, health and service activities—struggles with awareness in the community.

When asked what three words come to mind when thinking about the Seventh-day Adventist Church, most participants were baffled.

"In fact, the most common response was 'none' and was closely followed by 'unfamiliar' and 'different'," according to the study, which was conducted by McCrindle, a Sydney-based research company.

"This highlights a general lack of understanding among Australians and New Zealanders towards the core beliefs and principles of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination."

In Australia, 23 per cent of participants said they knew of a Seventh-day Adventist church in their local suburb or town. Awareness was slightly better in New Zealand, where the response was 31 per cent. For those who are aware of a church in their local community, almost half believe it has neither a positive nor negative influence on their perception of the Adventist denomination.

"While Australians and New Zealanders see a key role of the church is to help people in need, just one in 10 believe this to be a key characteristic of the Seventh-day Adventist Church," according to the study.

"Similarly, while Australians and New Zealanders see a key role of the church as being a place of social connection, individuals are unlikely to believe the Seventh-day Adventist Church is involved in local community life/events.

"It is also noteworthy that the highest proportion of Australians and New Zealanders do not know what the key characteristics of the Seventh-day Adventist Church are,

reinforcing the overarching unfamiliarity of many Australians and New Zealanders with this denomination."

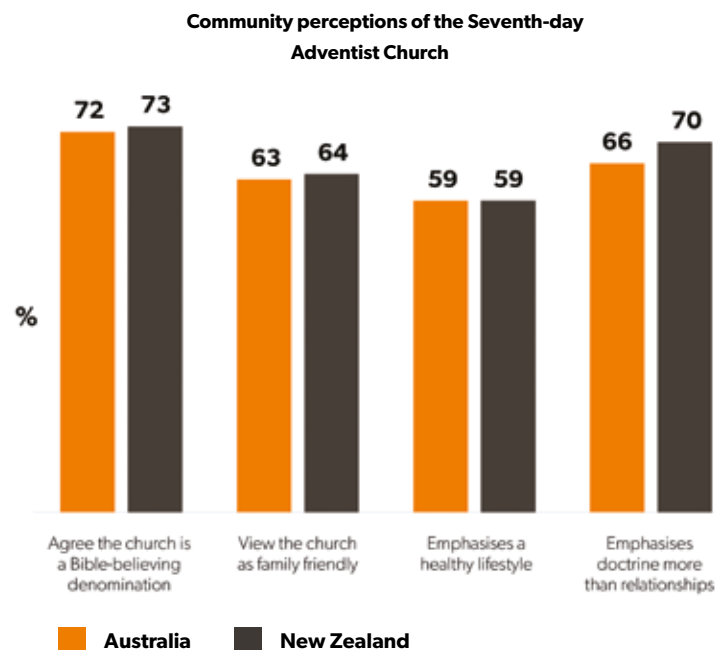
Encouragingly, 73 per cent of Australians and 72 per cent of New Zealanders agree (either strongly, somewhat or slightly) that the Adventist Church is a Bible-believing denomination; 63 per cent of Australians and 64 per cent of New Zealanders view the Church as family friendly; while 59 per cent of people from both countries believe the Church emphasises a healthy lifestyle.

On the flip side, 70 per cent of New Zealanders and 66 per cent of Australians believe that the Adventist Church emphasises doctrine more than relationships, leading to the conclusion that, "In a world that is shifting away from tradition and becoming relationship centric, this perhaps explains why individuals are unlikely to agree that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is relevant today."

Australians and New Zealanders are more likely to attend a community service activity, health and wellness program or family social event rather than a Bible seminar or online church service.

"Overall, younger generations are more likely to believe that an openness to learn about people's beliefs different from their own is important and are more willing to attend Seventh-day Adventist activities when asked by a friend or family member," the report concluded.

The study comes at a time when society is seemingly





23% of **Australians** knew of a Seventh-day Adventist church in their local, **3 out of 10 Kiwis.**

1/10 believe **helping people** is a key characteristic of the Adventist church



becoming increasingly disconnected from religion, as indicated by the 2021 Australian Census where for the first time, fewer than half of Australians identified as Christian. But where there are challenges, there are also opportunities, and Adventist leaders will use the data to help shape the future direction of the Church.

"Seventh-day Adventists do not have to be known to fulfil their mission, but our God and His message does need to connect with people," said SPD president Pastor Glenn Townend.

"I think when we connect people with our God and His message a spin-off will be greater recognition. There are three major things that resonate with Australians and New Zealanders about our Church—we are Bible believing, family friendly and health-focused people. These should be the major focus of our communication to our communities.

"I would challenge Adventist disciples of Jesus to think of creative and meaningful ways to live and communicate the themes of grace in Jesus, Sabbath rest, hope despite evil and death, positive family relationships and health in all its aspects."

The study has four recommendations: to clearly communicate the core beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church; seek opportunities to make the local church a hub of connection; invest in social media presence; and help people understand the relevance of the Church.

Australian Union Conference (AUC) president Pastor Terry Johnson said the AUC is investing in social media through

the employment of key staff. He said the Union was currently focusing on communicating Adventist core beliefs in the education and aged care sectors.

"Media and communication, along with mission and discipleship, are our four strategic focus areas," he said.

"The Church Perception Study is helping us focus our small resources in developing initiatives that will help us connect positively with our communities."

New Zealand Pacific Union Conference president Pastor Eddie Tupa'i sees the report as a source of hope and opportunity. Firstly, he believes it reflects the need for Adventists to be known primarily as loving disciples of Jesus—this will help people to feel positively towards Adventists and the Church.

"Secondly, how we relate to people is the better avenue to introducing what we believe," he said. "Thirdly, living the ethic of the gospel (faith, hope and love) is always going to be relevant, particularly across the diversity of multicultural *Aotearoa* New Zealand. Fourthly, the health focus of the Church being translated across emotional, mental, relational, vocational, social, financial platforms is an advantage the Church still is yet to fully realise."

Is your church making a positive impact in the local community? What creative ways are you using to make connections? Email <news@record.net.au>.

Tracey Bridcutt

Communication director, South Pacific Division.

ADRA volunteer giving back to her community



I remember asking Andrea why she came to ADRA Croydon," says Rebecca Auriant, the Conference ADRA director in Victoria. "She said to me that she tried a few places but as soon as she came through the doors she felt this overwhelming sense of love and acceptance and community."

The ADRA Community Care Centre in Croydon offers a three-course meal, food parcels and a sense of community every Thursday night to people experiencing hardship. But for Andrea, volunteering for the ADRA program was what helped her get back on her feet after a life-changing diagnosis.

"I was having seizures where I was frothing at the mouth," Andrea says. "I had so many MRIs, EKGs, CT scans, brain operations and all of that. I didn't quite understand what was going on with myself. No one at all could give answers."

Eventually, Andrea got her diagnosis: alpha-methylacetyl-CoA racemase deficiency, a rare disorder that causes a variety of neurological problems, including the vision impairment she was born with, making her legally blind.

"I was in hospital and rehab for eight months having to learn how to do everything again—walk, talk, speak, make a cup of tea," she says.

Finally, Andrea was cleared to leave. But due to her specific ongoing care requirements, Andrea had to move into an aged care facility where she stayed for the next two years. And though she bonded with the residents, Andrea wanted to forge her own path in life, and she certainly felt too young for aged care.

"I eventually managed to get out of the aged care and I've been living independently on my own."

But independent living was lonely. No longer able to work, Andrea was at risk of social isolation. And so, tapping into her love for hospitality, Andrea's support worker introduced her to ADRA.

"The first time I walked in the door I knew I was going to be comfortable and happy."

Andrea started with ADRA by helping to prepare and serve community meals at the program in Croydon. And when an ADRA Op Shop started in Boronia, Andrea was asked to help out there too.

Volunteering with ADRA pushed Andrea out of her comfort zone, but in doing so, she began to feel like herself again for the first time in a long time.

"The more I was there, the more I was helping myself," she says. "I've loved every moment. Everybody's so friendly and makes everybody feel welcome. So that's what I love about ADRA."

Volunteering with ADRA was the first step for Andrea to begin to put herself out there again.

"She received the support she needed and even with her limited eyesight she was able to volunteer because she wanted to give back to the community that had given so much to her," says Rebecca. "This is what ADRA is all about."

Andrea is so grateful for the role that ADRA has played in kick-starting her life after her diagnosis.

"I'm doing social groups now as well," Andrea says. "I get the nickname 'Hostess with the Mostest'. So yeah, my life is starting to get better now. Everybody needs somebody to help them. I just want to say thank you. I think I'm very lucky."

The ADRA Community Care Centre in Croydon is one of more than 100 Australian ADRA community projects, run in collaboration with local Seventh-day Adventist churches. Your gift by October 30 can provide people with disabilities, just like Andrea, with a support system and opportunities they need to improve their wellbeing. Help build belonging today by donating at adra.org.au/adraappeal.

Ashley Stanton

Media and communications senior officer
ADRA Australia/New Zealand.

Four ways to share hope: A local plan for a worldwide project

Church members across Australia and New Zealand are being asked to prayerfully plan who they will share a copy of *The Great Controversy* with, personally, in the coming year. This is part of the response from Adventist church leaders in Australia and New Zealand to the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist project to share millions of copies of Ellen White's classic exploration of Christian history and Bible prophecy.

"We want our members to pray about who among their friends, family and co-workers might be most receptive to this book," explained Pastor Terry Johnson, president of the Australian Union Conference, who presented the Church's Great Controversy project plan at the South Queensland campmeeting in Brisbane on September 24.

"This year, many of us have shared *Step Beyond* with our friends and neighbours and in our communities as a simple introduction to Jesus and living a life of faith. Now, understanding the divided and anxious nature of our society, this is an opportune time to share the reasons why, as Seventh-day Adventists, we have such hope while human hearts are failing. The overarching biblical story of the 'Conflict of the Ages' as shared in *The Great Controversy* lifts Jesus high and reminds of His promise to return."

But Pastor Johnson also acknowledged that we should be careful in the way we share this book, citing figures from the most recent Australian census. "We are no longer a religious nation, so there is a dearth of religious knowledge and biblical literacy for background to reading such a book," he reflected. "And today fewer people read books of this size, whatever they might be about, so we want to be good stewards of the costs and the resources that could end up in landfill with mass distribution of this book."

This is where other parts of the Church's plan come into play. A small tract and *The Great Hope*—a smaller booklet with selections from *The Great Controversy*—both with offers for readers to request the larger book in various formats, will be produced for broader sharing by churches and church members in their communities. The Church at various levels is



also contributing to the production of a new video series that will explore key Great Controversy themes.

"We are wanting to connect with people with various learning styles, so we have the printed books, audio format and visual presentation in the videos that we are supporting," said Pastor Johnson, "and we will also be generating resources for sharing in digital formats and social media."

The plan has also been adopted by church leaders in New Zealand. "I look forward to seeing the many creative ways people will bring the message of *The Great Controversy* to our communities through the written and spoken word," commented Pastor Eddie Tupa'i, president of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference.

Currently, a customised print run of *The Great Hope* is being prepared for distribution across the island nations of the Trans Pacific Union Mission.

"We appreciate the thought that the Church has put into this plan," said Brenton Lowe, Literature Ministry coordinator for Adventist Media. "I am excited by how the culture and movement to share Adventist literature has grown over the past couple of years. Last financial year, church members gave away at least 193,000 pieces of literature—and we know that more is being shared beyond that."

Work is underway to develop and market test new covers for these books for sharing in Australia and New Zealand. To order quantities of *The Great Controversy*, *The Great Hope* and "A Guy on a Bicycle . . ." tracts for your church or individually at special bulk pricing, visit <literature.adventistchurch.com/great-controversy> by November 30.

Nathan Brown

Book editor, Signs Publishing Company

***The Great Controversy* project—a four-part sharing plan:**

- Prayerfully, every member considers sharing a full version of *The Great Controversy* personally with a family member, friend, work colleague and acquaintance.
- Share more widely *The Great Hope*, a smaller booklet with selections from *The Great Controversy*, which will include an invitation to receive a copy of the complete book in print, digital or audio formats, as well as other offers.
- Share "A Guy on a Bicycle . . ." tracts telling the story of literature evangelist Philip Reekie and the life-changing impact of *The Great Controversy*, with the same offers, that can be distributed widely at little cost.
- Support production of a six-part video series on the themes of the Great Controversy for those who learn visually.

DO YOU SUFFER FROM GENERATIONAL ADVENTISM?

In my second week of starting university, I remember breaking down in tears in front of my law tutor. I hadn't studied legal studies in school and everyone else in my class had, so I panicked and told my tutor that I didn't know enough to be in this class. But she looked at me in disbelief and said, "You've actually got an advantage here. Though you may not know anything yet, you're starting with a clean slate. Everyone else in this class has to unlearn everything and learn it correctly a second time."

Those words have always stuck with me. I believe there is a spiritual truth to them; an uncomfortable truth for many of us.

Often, we presume that children raised in the Church have an advantage in knowing about God from a young age. But how many times have you seen young people leaving the Church, and been confused as to why, since they were given such a good Christian upbringing?

What if individuals raised in the Church face a real spiritual disadvantage because there is "nothing" left for them to learn? When you have grown up listening to prophecy seminars, learning all the historic and scientific proof for Jesus, singing about love and grace, and rattling off stories from the Bible . . . what is left to offer that may transform their heart? These individuals already know of their need for mercy and grace yet their struggle to experience a relationship with Jesus is often overlooked.

Growing up in the Church, I struggled with this for a while. I went to church every week, I was knowledgeable in the Bible, thought I knew all the science and history arguments to back up biblical Creation, the flood and Jesus' death and resurrection. I couldn't deny Jesus was my only source of salvation through grace. But while this would bring others assurance and peace, it was a massive source of anxiety for me.

Why? I didn't love God.

I wanted to! Oh, how I wanted to! I wanted to go to heaven and live forever . . . I really wanted to love God.

But I just . . . didn't.

So, I would pray for God to talk to me, like He had talked to people in the Old Testament—because maybe then I could get to know God, feel His love for me and possibly love Him back. But I never heard God's voice. I never had my prayers

answered. I tried reading the Bible, starting in Genesis and quickly gave up in frustration. God seemed to be so involved in Abraham, Jacob and Joseph's lives . . . why not mine?

I was convinced that hearing God's voice or seeing Him answer some of my prayers would transform my heart and cause me to love Him. I worked so hard to try to love God, reading my Bible and praying earnestly.

But I eventually learned that love doesn't work like that. You can't force love. You can only experience it. And I think this is what is missing from generational Adventism—and what has become a stumbling block to our faith. We presume that teaching Scriptures and facts about God is enough to pass on to the next generation. It isn't. Jesus said in John 5:39, "You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me." We have done well learning all the "facts" about God, interpreting Scripture and uncovering sound doctrines and theology . . . but we have forgotten to pass on the most important element of faith—sharing our experiences.

There is something special about personal experiences that pulls on our heartstrings. Something unique about sharing our struggles that connects us to one another. Some of the greatest sermons preached in scripture were not deeply scriptural or profound in any major way; they were simple and carried a simple message—"God changed my life. He can change yours too." Jesus is not only found in truth, in facts and in the Bible. He is found in people. In their stories, in their service, in their sacrifices, in their shame and in their struggles. There is a reason why God commissioned us, sinful humans, to spread the gospel—because Jesus cannot be taught; He can only be experienced.

Are we neglecting the opportunity to share with one another our own experiences with God's love? Are we so afraid of vulnerability that we are neglecting God's calling to tell of what He has done for our lives? Are we too busy to meet each week and just be real—talk about our struggles and experiences, and pray together? Are we busy reading our Bibles and searching the Scriptures, yet failing to really live life with Jesus?

So, what about if you are a generational Adventist? What if you are the person struggling with no desire to read the Bible, find it hard to pray, and are sceptical of miracles and answered



What if individuals raised in the church face a real spiritual disadvantage because there is "nothing" left for them to learn?



prayers? You're not alone. We know from the Scriptures that the Israelites struggled with generational faith too. Time and time again, the Israelites would simply "go through the motions" of faith, believing they were God's people yet struggling with the feeling of not experiencing God in their lives. In these instances, what was it that caused the Israelites to fall in love with God and be revived in their faith? I see three main elements become clear throughout the Old Testament: reflection, confession and community.

In periods of revival, the Israelites would reflect on their past and confess their sins. The laws of God would be read to the people and remind them of the vileness of their sins and how desperately they needed grace. Conviction and repentance would fill their hearts as their sins and their punishments were read out before everyone. Confrontation was essential for revival. They would also be reminded of their history, of who they are as God's chosen people; a nation set apart for the sole purpose of God showing His love to the world. They would be told of the countless times God showed up for them through miracles, in battle, in mercy and in judgement, and refresh their minds of His unending and unfailing love. Together as a community, they would pray together and worship God. Their faith was never isolated; it was co-dependent and mutually encouraged and held accountable.

Just like the Israelites, the power of hindsight can open

our eyes to our sin and shame and show us how God has been present and loving towards us all our lives. And like the Israelites, none of us were ever meant to walk alone. Instead, we should lean on one another in times of spiritual need. Our churches are full of generational Adventism sufferers, hiding in pews and saying "Happy Sabbath" each week—you might even be one of them. Church wasn't created to share facts and knowledge about God (though that is important!). Church was made to be a community where we can be honest, vulnerable and open about our experiences with God.

I encourage you, whether you are spiritually strong or need help, to share your experiences with your church community. Share your ups and downs, highs and lows, and tell the love story of Jesus in your life.

Adventists have biblical knowledge down pat, but how are we doing relationally?

Olivia Fairfax

production assistant at Adventist Media while finishing Law and Psychology (hon) degrees at Macquarie University. She loves writing, analysing everything, playing piano, laughing with loved ones and cuddling cats.



Emmaus: The road to Laodicea

With confusion, emotional turmoil and burning doubts Cleopas and his travelling companion walk the dusty, well-worn path.

Conversation was intense and confused as they reflected on the emotional rollercoaster of the past week. Euphoric highs were shattered by an excruciating low—hollow, empty, full of doubt with hope dashed on the jagged rocks of circumstance leaving the future looking bleak and meaningless.

So intense was their attention that they failed to discern the presence of an additional westbound Traveller. It wasn't long before the apparent Interloper interrupted their forlorn exchange with a question: "What on earth are you talking about?"

Incredulously Cleopas responds, "Seriously! Your ignorance is astounding. You must be the only person around here who has no idea what's going on . . ."

"What things?" responds the Stranger . . .

What things indeed . . . The story of the Road to Emmaus in Luke 24 offers a unique insight into how heaven responded to the shattered church struggling to come to terms with an event so radical and a calling so high it would result in a message that would change history and destiny for intelligent creation throughout the universe—throughout eternity.

The longest post resurrection narrative in the Gospels, Emmaus reveals one of the most important encounters with Jesus in the New Testament. As we attempt to plumb the depths of that encounter, we are left with two significant questions that may offer insights into our own place in history:

1) Under the circumstances, why did these disciples leave Jerusalem?

2) Under the circumstances, why did Jesus go to so much trouble to get them back?

The context for the Emmaus journey is full of comings and goings to an empty tomb and reports of strange apparitions bearing unexpected messages. The events of the day appear to have had an impact on our travellers as evidenced by the exasperated response to Jesus' probing question on the road:

" . . . some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus" (Luke 24:22-24).

Does it not seem strange that these disciples, on hearing this report, still left Jerusalem? Fear aside, wouldn't basic curiosity raise some level of interest that would delay departure long enough to find out what was happening? Culture aside, were their expectations so grounded in what they had witnessed that they were blinded to the previously revealed reality of the resurrection when it was reported to them by the women? What was so important in Emmaus that under these circumstances they still felt compelled to leave Jerusalem?

While the Bible appears to be intentionally silent on the reason why they had to get to Emmaus, one salient point that is often overlooked is the effort heaven undertook to get them back, which brings us to the second question.

One of the most intriguing details of this encounter is that the disciples did not immediately recognise Jesus.

This temporary blindness provided an opportunity for our risen Saviour to explore the Scriptures with them in a calm,



reasoned and logical way, highlighting and establishing the authority and importance of trusting the written Word.

Of significance is that Jesus started with “Moses and all the prophets” explaining “to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself” (Luke 24:27).

This was clearly a prophetic message that at its centre revealed Jesus and His work on behalf of humanity and the universe in revealing the character and government of our God. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus were given a revelation of a prophetic message they knew but failed to fully grasp.

The result of this divinely ordained encounter was twofold: Their hearts were burning within them, and they went back to Jerusalem. Now that we have the result, let’s consider more fully the context.

Early that fateful morning, Jesus came forth from the tomb a conqueror. While the embryonic Christian church was in confusion and mourning, heaven was celebrating. Into this heavenly scene of unbridled joy, after appearing briefly to Mary, walks Jesus—the rightful centre of true celebration. However, instead of joining the celebration, Jesus, after receiving assurance from the Father, comes back. Apparently, there was something more important that required His attention on earth!

While the Saviour that day appeared briefly to Mary, the other women and even Peter, Jesus—the resurrected Saviour who could take a cosmic jaunt to heaven and back in what may have been a split second—walked for likely several hours with our Emmaus-bound friends. The fact that heaven would invest such time and effort in these two disciples on their way to Emmaus is strange indeed given the circumstances. Wouldn’t Peter and the other disciples have benefited from such a visit? Surely, a lecture presented by the resurrected Jesus on prophecy would have greatly benefitted the church at that time.

While it could be argued that the strange happenings of the day may have compelled our Emmaus-bound friends to leave, there is little doubt that if Jesus wanted them to stay, He could have arranged circumstances so they would have stayed. But He didn’t, and we are left considering the possibility that heaven wanted them to leave.

Given Adventism was raised as a prophetic movement and the message to our Emmaus-bound friends was prophetic, might there be some parallels worth exploring?

As a prophetic movement, Adventism was born from the Historicist understanding of prophecy¹. This understanding places our current church in the historical position of being the Laodicean church (Revelation 3:14-22). While it is true that the Laodicean church—from a historical perspective—will be the church that finally enters the heavenly Canaan, it will not do so in its Laodicean condition. Indeed, the Bible describes the Laodicean condition as sickeningly “lukewarm” and delusionary in believing itself to be “rich, and increased with goods” and having “need of nothing”, when in reality it is “wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked”.

The solution to the Laodicean condition is provided by the same Individual who walked with our friends on the road to

Emmaus, Jesus Himself, the “faithful and true Witness” who later in vision to John walked among the seven candlesticks, or seven churches of prophetic time (Revelation 1:12-20).

The net result of this encounter with the divine Emmaus walker or “faithful and true witness” is repentance—turning back to God. Indeed, the injunction is to “be earnest and repent”. The Greek word for “earnest” basically means to “burn with zeal”. In other words, don’t be lukewarm, be hot!

Which brings us back to our Emmaus-bound friends and that “burning” question—why did heaven go to such lengths to bring those disciples back to Jerusalem?

These disciples were on a journey away from Jerusalem to a place called Emmaus. Would it surprise you to learn that there are suggestions that the word Emmaus may be derived from the Semitic word for “warm spring”²! In other words, they were metaphorically heading to “lukewarm Laodicea”, and it took an experience with the “faithful and true witness” through a prophetic message that caused their hearts to “burn” within them to bring them back, to turn them around, which is basically what it means to repent.

Could it be that hidden in this story from Luke’s Gospel is a message to our Laodicean church for this time? Is it possible that we as a church have failed to fully grasp the prophetic message we know so well? Might it be that the church—which is us—in its Laodicean condition, needs a prophetic encounter with Jesus so that our hearts, as inspired and directed by the Spirit, will burn within us, and turn us back? But back where? What was so important about Jerusalem that heaven expended such efforts in what could only be described as a divinely orchestrated performance to centralise the church during that time? As we consider Jerusalem both historically and especially prophetically one thing stands out: Jesus is in Jerusalem. Indeed, what would the New Jerusalem be without Jesus? As we present our heaven directed and timely prophetic message to the world, we have been instructed to magnify Jesus. “Let Daniel speak, let the Revelation speak, and tell what is truth. But whatever phase of the subject is presented, uplift Jesus as the center (sic) of all hope.”³

Jesus, the centre of all hope.

The same Emmaus Walker, who walked among our prophetic church, stands at the door of our hearts and gently knocks (Revelation 3:20), calling us individually and corporately to join Him in the written Word where with Spirit-inspired burning hearts, we will be empowered to do the impossible—reveal Jesus.

As Jesus walks the well-worn path to the door of our hearts and knocks, all we need to do is open the door . . . or open it wider.

1. Historicism is a method of biblical interpretation that associates prophetic symbols with historical events, nations or persons.

2. <biblewalks.com/emmasvalleysprings>, (July, 2017).

3. White, EG. *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol 6, p62.

Randall Ibbott

freelance IT consultant living in the Central Coast of NSW
who attends Forresters Beach church.



One pot beans and rice

👤 Serves 6 🕒 Prep 5 🕒 Cook 45

This nutritious and flavoursome rice dish uses pantry staples and canned items. It's budget-friendly and can be enjoyed with a side salad or as a filling for burritos or burrito bowls.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 brown onion, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 tbsp smoked paprika
- 1 cup brown rice
- 10g salt reduced vegetable stock cube, crushed
- 2 cups water
- 420g can 3 bean mix, rinsed and drained
- 400g can diced tomatoes

Tips

Use a 4 bean mix if a 3 bean mix is not available. Alternately, use canned black or red kidney beans.

Method

1. Heat oil in a heavy-based saucepan. Add onion and sauté until soft and translucent.
2. Add garlic and paprika and sauté a further 1 minute.
3. Add rice and cook for 2 minutes, stirring frequently until well coated.
4. Add stock cube, 2 cups of water, beans and tomatoes. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer, covered, for 40 minutes or until liquid has absorbed and rice is tender, stirring occasionally.
5. Remove from heat and serve.

Nutritional Information (per serving)

| ENERGY | CALORIES | PROTEIN | FAT | SATURATES | CARBOHYDRATE |
|--------|----------|---------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| 980kJ | 235 | 9g | 6g | 1g | 30g |
| SUGARS | FIBRE | CALCIUM | SODIUM | IRON | POTASSIUM |
| 5g | 7.6g | 63mg | 390mg | 2.2mg | 475mg |



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You are not alone!



It was on the evening of March 15, 2022, when elder John Boar arrived at the compound of Banban Seventh-day Adventist company church to continue with the third night of the Vanuatu Mission Youth Week of Prayer program.

In the absence of the church deacon, Mr Boar decided to ring the church bell. After the final toll, still, no one arrived at the church compound. Sitting alone in the church compound, thoughts troubled his mind. Should he continue with the worship program or postpone the worship service. "As I sat alone looking at the empty pews, I can sense a stronger conviction deep within me that I must continue with the worship program, even though no one is present here with me. I strongly believe that it was the voice of the Holy Spirit," Mr Boar admitted.

Being faithful to the church's call of duty is an act of faith. After saying a silent prayer, Mr Boar approached the pulpit and commenced the worship service he had thoughtfully prepared. He gave a special welcome to the unseen guest then he proceeded with hymn 359 "Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling" from the *Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal*.

After the opening prayer, Mr Boar preached the assigned reading for Day 4 entitled, "Beauty and the Beast: The True Story" based on Revelation 12:17. He preached with power and enthusiasm as if he was preaching to his church members. As the sermon ended, Mr Boar announced the closing hymn 456, entitled "I have a friend so precious". After the closing prayer, the preacher exited the church compound with a deep sense of satisfaction knowing that he had done his part and the Lord would do the rest.

After exiting the compound, there is a junction where Mr Boar had to turn left and head for the main road. As he was turning, he heard a call from the distance behind him. As he looked back, he could see a stranger with a dim torch chasing after him. The stranger tried to catch his breath, before starting a conversation with the preacher.

"Hey friend, I really loved the singing tonight. The song was very clear with beautiful harmony. I was so blessed to hear this special song," said the stranger. "Please convey my words of thanks to the church members who sang tonight."

"This must be a joke," replied elder John Boar.

How can he hear from a far distance a harmonious hymn sung by some church members when I spent that whole evening worshipping alone, Mr Boar asked himself.

Mr Boar decided to test the words of the stranger.

"So, what song did you hear the church members singing?" the preacher asked the stranger.

"I do not really know the song but the words I can recall by memory say something like . . . hmmm . . . 'I have a friend so precious and so very dear to me'."

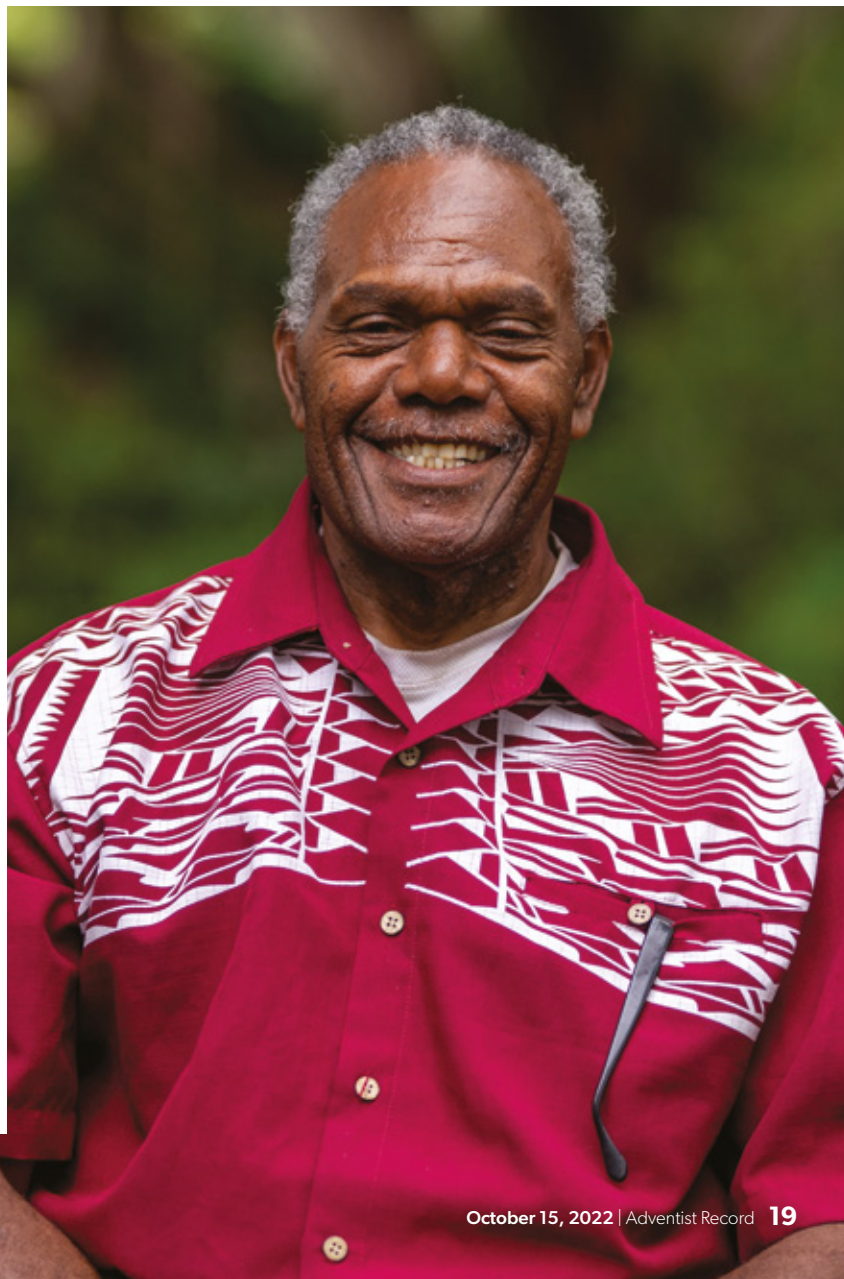
Mr Boar was shocked when he heard the stranger recalling the exact words of the song he had sung at the end of the sermon he had just preached.

"I found it very difficult to explain myself to the stranger," explains Mr Boar.

"All I could say is when we are faithful and committed in our worship services, we are accompanied by heavenly angels who are always present with us," he smiles, with a great sense of affirmation.

Chris Keleb

Intern minister serving in Vanuatu Mission.



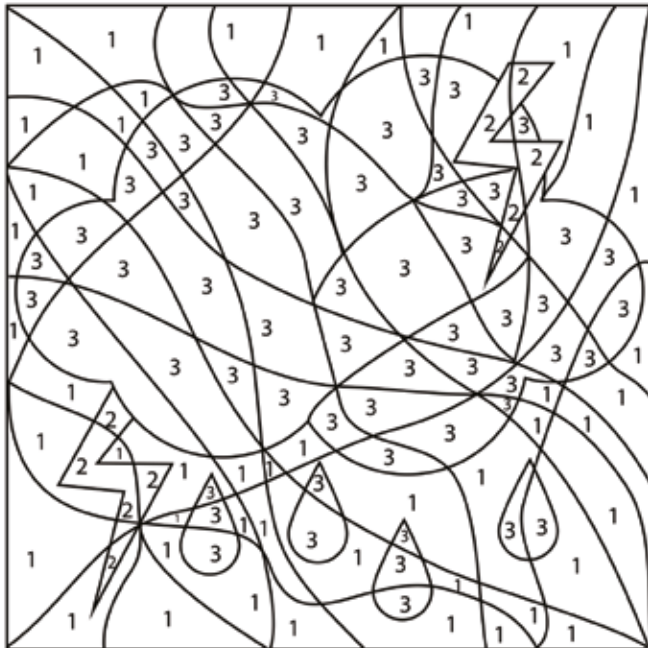
HELLO KIDS!



A PROMISE KEPT

God had answered Elijah's prayer for fire from heaven immediately and the people realised that Baal was a false god. However, God did not answer Elijah's prayer for rain immediately. Elijah continued to pray. He did not become impatient. He did not lose his faith in God. Elijah knew that God would keep His word. Six times Elijah sent his servant to look out over the sea for a sign of rain. Six times Elijah got the message: "There is nothing there." Then Elijah prayed the seventh time and God sent rain!

COLOUR ME IN

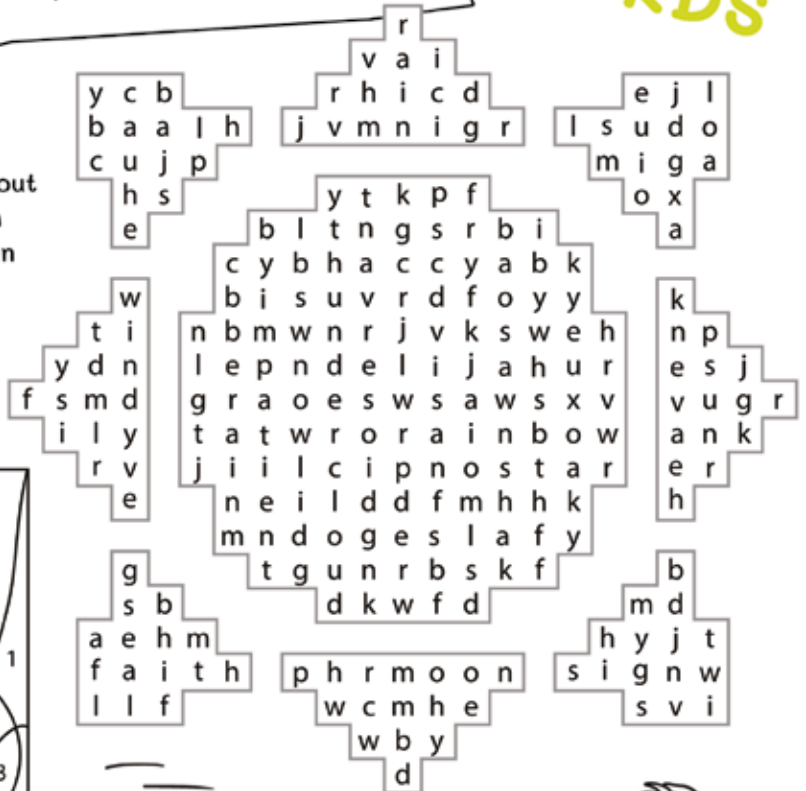


1. Blue 2. Yellow 3. Grey

MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

FIND THE WORDS



Words:

- wind
- rain
- six
- Baal
- prayer
- servant
- impatient
- thunder
- cloud
- Elijah
- rainbow
- false God
- moon
- faith
- sea
- sign
- sun
- heaven
- fire



Obituaries



CHUGG, Kevin Thomas, born 7.4.1933 in Launceston, Tas; died 17.9.22 in Maroochydore, Qld. On 8.5.1958 he married Merlene Ruth Hyde, who predeceased him in 1979. On 7.4.1981 he married Robyn Ruby Leet. He is survived by his wife (Maroochydore); children, Marita (Sydney, NSW), Michael (Valdora, Qld), Eric (Sydney, NSW) and Rosemary (Sydney); grandchildren, Tamasin and Angus, and sisters Bonnie, Shirley, Judy and Chris. A skilled builder and carpenter, Kevin built the original Central Coast Adventist School at Erina, Ourimbah church, an addition to the hospital at Atoifi, Solomon Islands and more recently, renovated Maleny church, Qld. He served as a deacon and elder for many decades. Kevin loved his family, poetry, solving puzzles, gardening, music and a good laugh. Above all he loved Jesus and rests confidently in His promise of the resurrection.

Hennie du Preez

PLANE, Ronald Edward, born 22.12.1937 in Brighton-Le-Sands, NSW; died 28.7.21 in Cardwell, North Qld. He was married to Patricia, who predeceased him in 1988. He was also predeceased by his daughter, Rhonda in 1975. Ron is survived by his daughter, Ellen Reichel (Newcastle, NSW); son, Clifford (South Belford); and siblings, Barry (Cooranbong), Rosalie Dyson (Burpengary, Qld) and Graeme (Muswellbrook, NSW). Ron was an optimistic, enthusiastic person who was always ready to help those in need. His love for God was expressed in practical deeds.

William Murray Chapman



STANTON, Roy Raymond, born 17.6.1933; died 28.8.22 in Hobart Private Hospital, Tas. Ray is survived by his wife, Hazel (Sandy Bay); daughters, Jedelle and husband David Thompson (Banyo, Qld), Janita Goods (Blackburn, Vic) and Julie and husband John Roberts (Chirnside Park); grandchildren, Jodie, Jacqueline, Steen, Marquelle, Alex, Hayley and Troy; 10 great-grandchildren; and brothers, Laurence, Ross and

Harley. Ray was a leading layman in the Adventist community in Tasmania for more than 50 years. His contribution to the Church included as elder for Margate and as an executive member of the Conference and Union committees for many decades. Ray was a smiling man of great faith and generous towards the Church and people. Ray was fervent in his hope and now rests awaiting the resurrection.

Harley Stanton, Eugene Estil



TEMPEST, Verna Denise, born 14.1.1930 in Mona Mona Mission, Cairns, Qld; died 4.9.22. She was married to Frank, who predeceased her in 1999. She is survived by her children, Kim and Vikki; stepsons, Colvin, Terry and Rodney; and grandchildren, Sharlien, Kylie, Ross, Tamara, Lisa, Frances, Sophie and Abigail. Verna was the Hughesdale church pianist and organist for many years. She was a respected, dedicated believer with a genuine faith. We look forward to meeting again on resurrection day.

David Pearce



TROUNSON, Valerie (Val), born 10.7.1940 in Leek, England; died 10.8.22 in Perth, WA. On 11.9.1972 she married Eric. Val is survived by her husband; children, Cheryl and Witon Rutherford (Coolool Beach, Qld), David and Heather (Perth, WA); five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Val and Eric lived in Merredin all their married lives, blessing so many across the generations. Val had the gift of hospitality and more than one stranger found a place to stay in her home. Most Sabbaths Val invited people for a beautiful lunch. She was a joyful lady, eager to participate in church life, especially a chance to play the organ. Her spirit of adventure never waned. Val died with contentment in anticipation of the coming of her Saviour, Jesus. Thank you Val for living your faith with enthusiasm.

Norm Hardy



TULEVU, Pastor Ilimo, born 24.11.1934 in Nasinu, Cakaudrove, Fiji; died 2.9.22 in Orange, NSW. He was married to Adi Vani Raica, who predeceased him in 2015. He was

predeceased by children, Peni, Stanley, Lomani Tabua and Siteri Dauveiqaravi. He is survived by his children, Ravai, Ollie, Gretel Jona, Adi, Vani Treii, Ilah (all of Orange), Ilimo, Sikeli and Seini (all of Doonside), Ane Koroicure, Adi Laita Koroicure and Lomani Koroicure (all of WA). Pastor Ilimo was youth leader in Fiji for more than 10 years before migrating to Australia in the mid-'80s. He was a church pastor for the Aboriginal community in Kempsey, NSW, then moved to Wiluna, WA, until he retired in early 2000. He spent his retirement between Fiji and Australia before permanently relocating to Orange, NSW.

Raymon Paletua

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Next issue
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Positions vacant

FINANCE MANAGER—SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST AGED CARE (SOUTH QUEENSLAND) LIMITED BRISBANE, QLD

Reporting to the CFO, this senior position will be responsible for day-to-day financial management, reporting and administration areas of aged care within SQld Conference. The position will involve the supervision of an enthusiastic team of finance professionals, with the successful applicant being responsible for the creation, implementation and monitoring of all financial and administration policies and procedures for the company in its current and future aged care ministries. The successful applicant will be a practising Seventh-day Adventist member, hold business/management/accounting academic qualifications (degree level) and be a member or eligible to be a member of a recognised professional accounting organisation (CA/CPA); with current experience in financial management and admin preferably in the health or aged care sectors. More detailed job description available on request. Written applications, including detailed resume and references, forwarded to: Susan Hensley, HR Manager, Seventh-day Adventist Aged Care (South Queensland) Limited, PO Box 577, Spring Hill Qld 4004, <sq_hr@adventist.org.au>. **Applications close October 21, 2022.**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (EM) PROGRAMS MANAGER—ADRA AUSTRALIA WAHROONGA, NSW

ADRA Australia is seeking a pragmatic, adaptive person with expertise and drive to join our EM team and support our partners internationally and within Australia in the delivery and management of humanitarian and disaster risk reduction programming as well as to provide programming support at the time of major disasters. The primary responsibilities of this role include partnership management and support, consortium engagement, donor and supporter liaison, expanding humanitarian programs, deployment and advisory services and ADRA humanitarian representative. Further details including the candidate information pack are available on our website <adra.org.au/work-with-us/>. ADRA Australia is a child-safe, PSEAH committed and inclusive EEO employer. **Applications close October 31, 2022.**

BUSINESS ANALYST FOR ADVENTIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA (ALSO OPEN TO SENIOR BUSINESS ANALYST APPLICANTS) LOCATION WITHIN AUSTRALIA TO BE NEGOTIATED

The Seventh-day Adventist Church (AUC) Limited has a great opportunity for you to join our collaborative technology services team for Adventist Schools Australia. We are looking to welcome a full-time business analyst to assist in providing technology services for nine school entities across nearly 50 schools. This position will assist in improving business work flows associated with learning management systems, student information systems and accounting and finance systems, with a special focus on

gathering, validating and documenting the schools and school entities' business requirements. You will also be working with the broader team to facilitate the introduction of processes to achieve the desired business outcomes, all while identifying issues and any risks involving business impacts along the way. For further details please contact Melissa Hill at <AUCHR@adventist.org.au> and visit the Adventist Employment website. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. Only those who already have the legal right to work in Australia may apply. **Applications close November 9, 2022.**

SENIOR CHAPLAIN—MACQUARIE COLLEGE NEWCASTLE, NSW

Expressions of interest are invited from committed and experienced educational ministry leaders who have a passion for Adventist education and a demonstrated capacity to lead a team of chaplains in the most rewarding of contexts—sharing Christ through the modelling of His character in a school setting to staff, students and their families. With the longer term goal of chaplaincy at Macquarie College to be a global exemplar of Adventist mission and ministry in an educational context, this unique opportunity will require the successful candidate to lead the growth of Macquarie College's faith community through a high quality, inclusive, vibrant and creative, relational and distinctly Adventist chaplaincy program. For a complete role description and the expression of interest process, please contact <simone.hollway@mc.nsw.edu.au>. **Applications close October 31, 2022.**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (EM) PROGRAMS COORDINATOR—ADRA AUSTRALIA WAHROONGA, NSW

Seeking an organised and enthusiastic emergency management programs coordinator who will be responsible for the maintenance/upgrading of the EM information management system as well as supporting ADRA Australia emergency management officers (international and national programs) in programmatic and finance management of all projects ensuring that resources are used accountably and reports are accurate, timely and relevant. The role involves liaising and inspiring churches, members and volunteers to be agents of change, increasing the awareness of involvement in supporting programs that will demonstrate significant and lasting impacts on the lives and relationships of the people involved. Further details, including candidate information pack, available at <adra.org.au/work-for-us/> or by contacting the HR Coordinator at <HR@adra.org.au>. ADRA Australia is a child-safe, PSEAH committed and inclusive EEO employer. **Applications close October 23, 2022.**

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Life Health Foods leans into summer with new products designed to uplift any occasion.

The team here at Life Health Foods' number one goal is to help us all to live healthier and more sustainable lives with delicious and nutritious food. With warmer weather and longer days, the newest additions to our Lisa's and Bean Supreme range, will breathe new life into your summer fare – whether it's meal, BBQ or snack time!

Create new moments with our new products today and let us know what you think – we'd love your feedback!

@lisashummusnz

@beansupremefood

infonz@lhf.net



Bean Supreme Smokey Cheese Griller Sausages

Embrace BBQ season the new Smokey Cheese Griller Sausage. Bursting with rich, succulent flavour from the combination of mozzarella, cheddar and Bean Supreme's delicious tofu, these palm oil free, GMO free sausages are a sure contender for a new summer family favourite!

Lisa's NEW 2-in-1!

This summer, impress those around you with these fun, tasty dips from iconic Kiwi brand, Lisa's. Indulge in a slice of Kiwiana with our delicious Beetroot Hummus & Kiwi Onion Dip sitting alongside our Mexican Nacho Hummus & Jalapeno Popper Dip, adding the touch of spice to make tastebuds dance!

Pesto Dips From Lisa's

Whether it's a homecooked meal or to entertain guests, these herbaceous, chunky and vibrant dips, made only from wholefoods, won't disappoint. Our brand new range of Pesto Dips come in 3 tantalising flavours: Basil, Cashew & Parmesan Coriander & Sweet Chili Tomato, Capsicum & Almond

COMING SOON TO A NZ STORE NEAR YOU

Celebrating our Local Heroes

Earlier this year we worked with our long standing partner, Fair Food to create a new delicious Naked Local Heroes Pumpkin & Kumara Soup, lightly spiced with cinnamon and turmeric. Fair Food recovers and distributes surplus food to nourish our communities and reduce food waste and we proudly stand behind their mission!

We have also continued work with Satisfy Food Rescue for a second year with our delicious Lentil, Potato & Caramelised Onion Soup. With each pack purchased, we donate 20c to a named charity, to a maximum of \$20,000 each.

That's Naked Locals supporting our local heroes to the tune of up to \$40,000!

Get to know us!



@nakedcuisine @lisashummusnz @beansupreme
LinkedIn: Life Health Foods



GRATEFUL LIVING

EVERY CHURCH.

EVERY AGE.

READY TO MODIFY,

OR JUST STAND & DELIVER.

Jesus came so that we can have a truly abundant life, but sometimes we look at parts of our lives and we desire more 'abundance'. Grateful Living is a local-church-tested, eight-Sabbath sermon series that can lead your entire church family, including the children, to a whole new level of Christ-centred, abundant living.



✓ Sermons



✓ PowerPoints



✓ Children's Activity Sheets



✓ Videos



✓ Songs & Lyrics



✓ Music Scores



✓ Promotional Kit



✓ AU/NZ and Pacific versions available

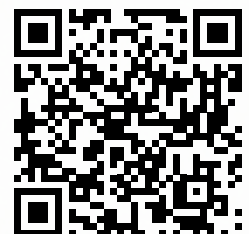


Download

your church's kit here



or Visit



stewardship.adventistchurch.com/grateful-living/

Special thanks to North NSW Conference for creating and testing the first versions of this Grateful Living series. We are grateful for you!