

# R

# CENSORED

## The porn issue

Raising awareness  
of this insidious  
problem [3,14,16](#)

Catalyst: Launching pad for  
transforming lives [9](#)

Adventist Record | March 18, 2023  
ISSN 0819-5633



Change is coming **March 31**, to

# Christian Television



## Watch Now



**ON WEB**  
HopeChannel.com



**ON DEMAND**  
HopeChannel.com



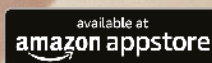
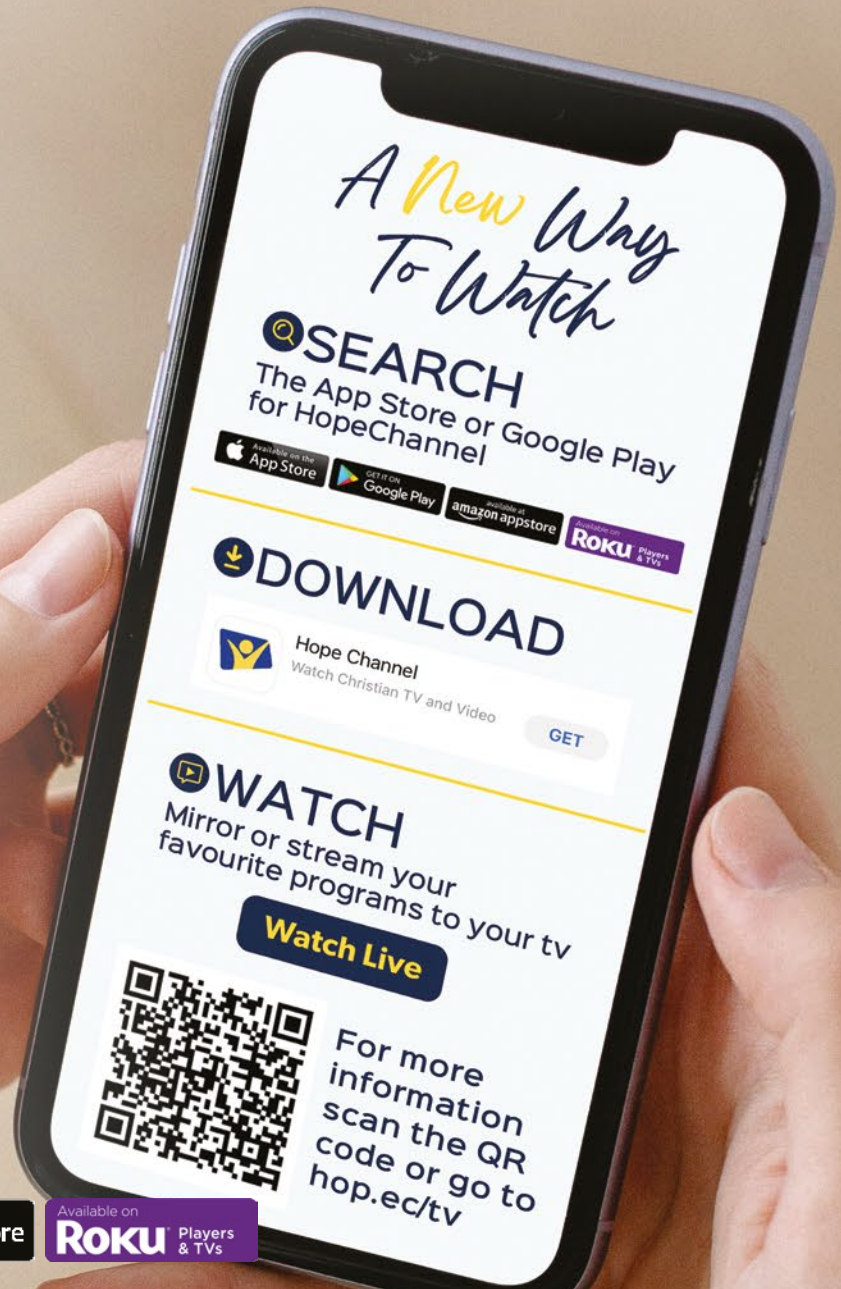
**ON VAST**  
Channel 110 and 610



**STREAMING**  
Amazon / Chromecast /  
Faithstream / TV



**ON PHONE**  
HopeChannel App



For further information visit [www.hopechannel.com/watch](http://www.hopechannel.com/watch)



EDITOR'S NOTE:

## Time to stand against porn

Jarrod Stackelroth  
Editor

“

Like putting a bandage on a cancer, some of these solutions don't address the root cause of the problem.

The Church is soft on porn. Okay, now I've got your attention, it's unlikely any self-proclaiming Christian would publicly support pornography. But for a Church that began campaigning against slavery, advocated for temperance and prohibition, and then pioneered anti-smoking programs, we are doing very little to address the modern addiction of pornography.

Ellen White was a champion of temperance and porn could easily fit under the temperance banner in this comment she made:

"The advocates of temperance fail to do their whole duty unless they exert their influence by precept and example—by voice and pen and vote—in favour of prohibition and total abstinence. We need not expect that God will work a miracle to bring about this reform, and thus remove the necessity for our exertion. We ourselves must grapple with this giant foe, our motto, No compromise and no cessation of our efforts till the victory is gained" (*Gospel workers*, 387).

For an issue that affects so many people, how is it that the Church is not doing more about porn? We should write, speak, campaign against it.

Statistics show the widespread nature of porn use and how early children are being exposed to it. And we know Christians, even pastors and youth leaders, are not immune and experience high rates of use. Unfortunately, while in society someone might be open with their use or desire to escape porn, in the Church it is a secret shame that we avoid talking about.

That makes the problem of porn even more damaging for the Church. And the problems porn creates are myriad. Broken marriages, objectification of women, violence, unhealthy expectations and standards, traumatised minds, exploitation . . . the list goes on. Researchers who analysed content from more than 300 popular pornography videos found that 88.2 per cent of the most popular scenes contained aggressive acts.

For a group that says God's standards for marriage and sex are the very highest ideals, we are doing a very poor job of sharing a healthy, biblically-inspired alternative that is wholistic and balanced. Sex should be a joy, something that brings life, connection and intimacy. In contrast, statistics indicate that porn use makes sex less enjoyable.

The Church does try. There are programs to raise awareness, encouraging program participants to stop the habit by using an accountability partner, software or just giving it up cold turkey, using prayer, Scripture etc. These things are fine but often these attempts lead to relapse and getting trapped in a binge/purge cycle. Like putting a bandage on a cancer, some of these solutions don't address the root cause of the problem.

Author and Christian counsellor Jay Stringer describes this situation in his book *Unwanted: How sexual brokenness reveals our way to healing*. In a study of more than 3800 people struggling with unwanted sexual behaviours, it was found that most were attracted to situations and behaviours that addressed some wound or hole they had in their life. He has found that by helping to heal that brokenness first, people have more success, not needing to seek out porn and thereby escaping the binge/purge cycle.

His research also reveals 59 per cent of people struggling with unwanted sexual behaviour did not feel as though they had someone to talk to and only 20 per cent of respondents diligently pursued someone they could talk to when they were struggling with sexual behaviour. Shame and isolation fuel the problem. This is another area where the Church can help by inviting people into safe relationships where they can heal and transform.

As a Church we must advocate to make porn less accessible and the industry more regulated. We must preach and teach, not just a message of abstinence but a message of healing from brokenness. We must understand the problem and the solutions so we can offer appropriate help, including pointing people to professionals. And we must be more open about the problem.

In this *Record*, you'll find two important articles that highlight the problem. And if you're looking for help or resources to help others, the General Conference-developed online course [gatewaytowholeness.com/](http://gatewaytowholeness.com/) is a good place to start.



INSIGHT:

## A hospital for sinners

Terry Johnson  
Australian Union Conference president

You've heard it said "churches are hospitals for sinners"—since we are all broken, all can find healing there. The question then arises, does the medicine restore what is diseased and broken or is it be about handing out quasi-spiritual pain killers to mask the pain, leaving the sick person unchanged?

Ellen White wrote, "To repent means to be sorry for sin and to turn away from it. We will not give up sin unless we see how sinful it is. There will be no real change in our lives until we stop loving sin and decide to turn from it" (*Steps to Christ*, p13).

Our faith is focused on reconciling fallen humanity to God and supporting one another—repentant sinners—to live godly lives through the living, transformative Word of God, encouraging each other until His return (Hebrews 10:25). Our faith should transform us (Romans 12:2). We are justified by Jesus daily who sanctifies (the work of a lifetime) until we are glorified and made new at His return (Romans 3:22–28).

However there seems to be a desire to change the biblical purpose of the transforming church into the affirming church. While we absolutely believe every person is made in the image of God, we cannot affirm what is in opposition to God in our fallen nature. We don't require people to be well before they show up for treatment, but what hospital heals people by convincing them they are not sick? Hospitals are blunt in their assessment. They perform a series of tests to discover what is wrong and what needs to be done to transform the diseased body into a healed one. Churches should be spiritually transformative, healing environments. How do we convince society they are broken and need salvation? Without arrogance or poor behaviour (too often the charge against church) and with humility, empathy, compassion, in the manner of a medical professional.

Jesus consistently welcomed in a countercultural manner. He ate and drank with sinners. He was hospitable, gracious and welcoming to all. But His public comportment was consistently shared with a call to conversion and transformation. Jesus' first recorded words in Mark were "repent for the kingdom of God is near". He was loving, welcoming to all who needed rest—but called them to repent and be transformed by His grace.

We need to build our churches into havens of rest where everyone is welcome; the Holy Spirit's power transforms, bringing true healing and rest by renewing each mind; a transformative environment where good news is shared and encouragement given as we prepare for His second coming.

*We are One!*  
Adventist Identity resources available such as templates for church bulletins and flyers!

Logo Maker

Seventh-day Adventist Church

Health Expo

Welcome to Church

27th July 2019



[identity.adventistchurch.com](http://identity.adventistchurch.com)



Seventh-day  
Adventist Church

South Pacific



The five-day event is run every five years and brings all conference ministerial teams together.

## Pastors “empowered” at AUC ministerial convention

📍 Cooranbong, NSW | Lyndelle Peterson/Record Staff

More than 600 pastors, chaplains and their spouses gathered for the Australian Union Conference (AUC) Ministerial Association Convention entitled “Empower” at Avondale University from February 7 to 11.

Themed on Ephesians 3, Empower affirmed, challenged and equipped pastors from across Australia, featuring devotions, ministry-focused updates, professional development plenaries, workshops and evening worship.

Guest speakers included General Conference (GC) director of Government Affairs Dr Bill Knott, social commentator Melinda Tankard Reist, GC health ministries associate director Dr Torben Bergland, New Zealand Pacific Union Conference president Dr Eddie Tupa’i, GC family ministries directors Dr Willie and Elaine Oliver, GC Adventist mission director Dr Gary Krause, GC associate ministerial secretary Dr Anthony Kent, AUC president Pastor Terry Johnson and professor of New Testament studies at La Sierra Dr Kendra Haloviak Valentine.

Presentations were focused on topics such as the challenges of sexualised culture, pastoral relationships, Adventist mission, religious liberty, pastoral health, domestic violence and more.

More than 50 workshops, grouped into various pastoral competency streams, were run in the afternoons.

Adventist Technology facilitated the tech hub focusing on helping ministers with IT support and innovations, while ELIA Wellness coordinated the health hub running comprehensive health checks.

On Sabbath, the pastors joined the Avondale University Church congregation for worship with special music by the Institute of Worship Orchestra. The afternoon featured activities such as a Bible display, the Tutankhamun roadshow, a visit to *Sunnyside*—Ellen White’s home in Australia—and a display of art depicting scenes from Australian Adventist history.

The pastors were excited to be the first group to eat at the new 7@Avondale cafeteria. Volunteers from Avondale University Church, Avondale staff and retired pastors served 8194 meals over the course of the event.

Ballarat Seventh-day Adventist Church (Vic) pastor Eric Johnson said he left the event feeling energised and recalibrated for ministry this year. “I really appreciate the hundreds of hours it would have taken to put together an event like this,” he added.

For Carmel College Adventist Church (WA) pastor Miranda Leijser, it was the attention to detail that made the program special. “I appreciate the little thoughtful elements that all point to the bigger purpose of Empower,” she said.



Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare and Minister of Education and Human Resources Development Lanelle Tanangada with Fulton staff. (Credit: Solomon Islands Government)

## PM guest preacher at Fulton church service

📍 Sabeto, Fiji | Record staff

Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare was the guest preacher at the Fulton Adventist University College church service on February 25.

Mr Sogavare spent time reminding staff and students of Fulton and members of the surrounding communities attending the service of the importance of reading and taking instructions directly from the Word of God, the Bible.

The tertiary institution also hosted the PM and his delegation to a lunch following the church program.

To the Solomon Islands community who attended the special lunch, some coming all the way from Suva, the

Prime Minister encouraged them with the importance of being faithful in their service, be it study or work in Fiji.

Speaking passionately, he said faithfulness in the little things we do matters most: “I was a toilet cleaner when I started formal employment, always making sure I was the best toilet cleaner in my office. In 17 years, I localised the post of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. Going through tough life must be accepted. To me, it was part of my development.”

He encouraged Solomon Islanders living or working in Fiji to look out for each other as family.



Maintenance supervisor Adrian Wright inspecting the solar panels on the roof of the SPD office.

## South Pacific Division office cuts electricity consumption by two-thirds

📍 Wahroonga, NSW | Tracey Bridcutt

Green initiatives at the South Pacific Division (SPD) headquarters at Wahroonga have cut electricity consumption by two-thirds.

Major renovations to the north wing in 2020-21 have maximised energy efficiency through the installation of LED lighting, large windows to let in natural light and new air-conditioning to replace an old system with cooling towers.

In August 2022 the Division Property Trust Board approved the installation of a 100KW solar power system. Since its installation it has generated 62.4 MWh, saving 37,629kg of CO2 emissions—the equivalent of planting 730 trees.

Property Trust manager Lorin Bradford said electricity consumption has plummeted by 66 per cent compared with 2020. Not only is this a significant win for the environment, it has also created savings for the budget—the electricity bill is about half that of 2020.

“Adventists believe that the Earth belongs to God and that we were given the responsibility for its care—therefore we need to use the resources wisely,” Mr Bradford said.

“The SPD is committed to environmental stewardship, including introducing more sustainable practices in our workplace.”

Other environmental initiatives in 2022 included a large-scale tree planting project in bushland areas of the Wahroonga Estate as part of the SPD’s bush regeneration commitment. This was made possible by a grant through the Australian Government’s Planting Trees for The Queen’s Jubilee Program, with 700 new trees planted. The Wahroonga Estate is home to Sydney Adventist Hospital, Adventist Aged Care Wahroonga, two Adventist churches, Wahroonga Adventist School and the SPD headquarters.



Presenters Justin Khoe, Dr Heather Thompson Day and Terry Benedict.

## Learn from some of the best digital evangelists

📍 Parramatta, NSW | Tracey Bridcutt

American film producer Terry Benedict is among an exceptional line-up of digital evangelists from across the globe who will be presenting at the 2023 Digital Discipleship Conference, which runs from May 5-7 at the Novotel Sydney Parramatta.

Mr Benedict, co-producer of the Academy Award winning film *Hacksaw Ridge*, will be the guest speaker at the Saturday evening awards dinner. Other presenters include Justin Khoe, Dr Heather Thompson Day, Colby Maier, Dr Tim Gillespie and Dave Adamson.

Organiser Tim McTernan said it’s exciting to see the return of the conference and especially with such a high calibre of presenters.

“This is an opportunity to learn from some of the best digital discipleship practitioners in the world who are passionate about sharing Jesus,” said Mr McTernan, Adventist Media marketing manager. “Dave Adamson, for example, has grown and led online communities

of more than 80,000 people each week. And Justin Khoe conducts hundreds of Bible studies each month from the online content he creates.

“We know that people are increasingly turning to social media for all types of life questions, including spiritual guidance, so we need to be in this space. Our goal is to encourage and inspire people to use their spiritual gifts to create content, share content and engage with people online.”

Topics to be covered at the conference include: “How to use social media to find people who want a Bible study”, “How to write great content that hooks and holds attention” and “How to use social media to create church growth”.

One of the special highlights will be the awards dinner which will acknowledge those—individuals, teams, ministries, churches—who have excelled in digital discipleship.

To register and for more information visit <digitaldiscipleship.au>.



From left, Greater Sydney Conference pastor Edison Akrawi, Dr Petras Bahadur and Dr Wayne Krause at the South Pacific Division headquarters, where a meeting on Adventist-Muslim relations was recently held.

## Engaging with Muslim communities

📍 Wahroonga, NSW | Tracey Bridcutt

Growth in the number of Muslims in the South Pacific Division (SPD) is presenting increasing opportunities for Seventh-day Adventists to connect with this religious community.

But in bridging any divide it's essential to communicate in ways that our Muslim brothers and sisters can understand, according to Dr Petras Bahadur, director of the Global Centre for Adventist Muslim Relations at the General Conference (GC), who recently visited the SPD office at Wahroonga.

Australian Census data reveals that the number of Muslims has grown from 2.5 per cent of the population in 2011 to 3.2 per cent in 2021. They are mostly living in the big cities of Sydney and Melbourne.

Some GC resources are available to assist Adventists in engaging with Muslim communities and more are being developed.

"We are very excited about the possibilities in engaging with our Muslim brothers and sisters," said SPD Adventist Mission director Dr Wayne Krause.

"We hope that this recent visit by Petras will be the catalyst for great things moving forward. Resources are being put together so Muslims using the Koran can learn about the people of the Book."

Hope Channel South Pacific director Pastor Wayne Boehm affirmed the need for resources. "Creating relevant resources that can be accessed by all members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is critical in fostering meaningful dialogue with Muslim communities," Pastor Boehm said.

"Dr Petras highlighted that if we are to be effective in sharing the great commission, we must begin with the story and promises that were given to Abraham."

Dr Bahadur visited the SPD at the invitation of the Greater Sydney Conference. While in the South Pacific, he also presented at the Australian Union Conference's Empower ministers' meetings at Avondale University, conducted a workshop at Parramatta church in Sydney, and spent a few days in New Zealand where he met with Islamic leaders.

## making headlines

### Mantou ministry

A small church in China decided to start a small business to sell *mantou* (steamed buns). What initially started as a way to raise funds for their pastoral salaries has turned into a thriving ministry and provided invaluable connection to their community, with more than 200 baptisms in 2022 (previously averaging 20 per year). In order to be more efficient they have introduced a manufacturing line that can produce up to 3000 buns per day.—ANN



### Adventist Eurovision

The Trans-European Division's (TED) Youth Ministries held their third annual "Vision Song Contest" in January. Twelve entries made it to the grand final from countries such as Norway, Greece, Iceland and Cyprus, with viewers tuning in from around the world to vote for their favourite songs. All the votes were calculated in classic Eurovision style, with Norway taking out first place.—TED

### "stan" country baptisms

Adventist World Radio (AWR) evangelists recently held evangelistic meetings in Pakistan, a Muslim "stan" country where it is difficult to hold Christian meetings. They didn't expect much would come of it, but were surprised when 200 Pakistanis accepted Jesus and were baptised!—AWR

### New pre-eclampsia trial

A simple finger prick being trialled could soon save the lives of pregnant mothers and their babies who are at risk of pre-eclampsia. Current diagnosis methods are complex, taking up to 24 hours in rural areas—time that is critical when dealing with the health of an unborn baby. The new technology returns results in 30 minutes.—UniSA



## Sabbath school take-off

Hundreds of church and community members attended a special Sabbath school launch organised by Wairoonga Adventist Church, in partnership with Fox Valley church on Sabbath, February 4. Held on the Wairoonga Adventist School grounds, the event featured a pancake breakfast, crafts, balloon animals, face painting, a parachute and skipping rope, and even a petting zoo. Although targeted at primary-aged kids, there were also dozens of teens, youth and parents who joined in the fun and generously volunteered their time to make the event possible. The churches hope to run another event in the coming months, with a greater focus on the wider community. —**Maryellen Hacko**



## Grace's Place

Executive and student leaders from Mountain View Adventist College (MVAC) helped celebrate the opening of a new centre for children affected by homicide on February 2. Based in Blacktown (NSW), Grace's Place, a world-first trauma recovery centre named in honour of Grace Lynch—the mother of Anita Cobby, who was murdered in 1986—will serve as a retreat and place of healing and restoration for children and young people who have lost loved ones to homicide. MVAC student leaders worked together with students from Knox Grammar School, performing items and assisting dignitaries and guests. MVAC principal Irwin Steyn said, "We have already started conversations with Grace's Place to see how we can work together to the benefit of the children who need to visit this world-first facility." —**Daniel Lavaiaamat**



## Support to rebuild

Kauma Adventist High School in Kiribati has received much-needed support to rebuild following last November's devastating fire.

The fire destroyed a number of offices and classrooms, including computer and science laboratories. Printers, computers, tables, chairs, textbooks and other equipment was lost, however the school library was saved.

UNICEF has provided temporary (tent) classrooms for the affected students. The tents are designed to resemble a typical classroom, complete with desks and chairs, and are sturdy enough to withstand strong winds and adjustable to suit different weather conditions.

The school has also welcomed two donations from the LDS (Latter-day Saints) Church, including 12 desktops and other equipment.

Kiribati Mission president Pastor Taabua Rokeatau expressed his gratitude for the donations from UNICEF and the LDS church. "The school has already started this year with more than 400 students enrolled and these timely donations will help ensure that our students can continue their studies without any further interruptions," he said.

The donations are vital to the Adventist education system in Kiribati, which has faced many challenges in recent years.

—**Record staff**

have news to share?

Send info and photos to <news@record.net.au>





## Launching pad for transforming lives

**A**n exciting opportunity is available to Adventist young people and others searching for their purpose that will change the trajectory of their life.

They will have a chance to step back from everything, tune out to all the distractions and noise of life, and simply focus on Jesus and His plans for them.

And they won't be doing it alone—walking alongside them will be a team of international and local educators and presenters who will make it an unforgettable and enriching experience.

Heading up the program is Dr Gilbert Cangy, who has spent the past four decades leading youth and ministry for the Adventist Church in Australia and abroad, including at the General Conference.

"We are really excited about this program, which we've called Catalyst—we believe it will be the launching pad for changing many young people's lives and engaging them in the life and mission of the church," he said.

"It is an immersive experience, beginning with a week in the wilderness—a week of adventure, team building and self-discovery focused on exploring the foundations of discipleship as Jesus modelled it and experiencing genuine and purposeful community."

The participants will then head to Avondale University with a continued emphasis on immersive and exploratory learning opportunities designed to foster a genuine relationship with Jesus, a deep understanding of the Scriptures, the development of Christian history and the uniqueness of the Adventist message.

Catalyst is an initiative of the new South Pacific Division Centre for Discipleship. The first group of participants starts in August, with the program running for three months. A modular

version that will be taken to local conferences is also being developed.

"We believe Catalyst will see the emergence of a new culture of engagement for our young people in the Church so they are equipped and empowered to take their place at the centre of the life and mission of the Church," Dr Cangy said.

"With their new skills and mission focus, the young people will have a deeper sense of who they are, their identity in Jesus and what discipleship is. They will be equipped to serve in leadership roles and contribute to the ministry goals of their local church.

"They will be a huge asset to growing our local churches and church plants—this is a tangible way to future-proof our Church."

Local churches and individuals will have an opportunity to share in the Catalyst journey by participating in the "Adopt a Disciple" campaign—sponsoring young people to attend the program.

"This type of mentoring and equipping of young people is in the DNA of the Adventist Church," Dr Cangy said. "In the past, they would attend Avondale for a year and return to their local churches, going on to serve as elders and in other senior leadership roles. They made an incredible contribution to their churches."

For more information on Catalyst, including registering for the program and the Adopt a Disciple campaign, go to <https://catalyst.c4d.au/> or email [catalyst@c4d.au](mailto:catalyst@c4d.au).

**Tracey Bridcutt,**  
Communications director, South Pacific Division.

# 1915 to 1920: War and Pestilence

In this issue, we've explored the *Australasian Record* from 1915 to 1920. It was an interesting period, with World War I starting in 1914 (until 1918). Surprisingly there wasn't too much focus on the war, but you could see its effects within the pages of *Record*. For example, in 1917 the decision was made to change the distribution of *Record* from weekly to fortnightly due to a lack of paper, stating "that if the war continues much longer paper will be practically unobtainable". The text was also changed to a smaller font "in order to get as much matter as possible into each issue".

Other notable events include the passing of Ellen White (August 1915); the New Zealand Conference was separated into two new conferences, North and South (1915); a fire at the Sydney Sanitarium that was miraculously saved from complete destruction (January 1919); the establishment of Strathfield Adventist College in Sydney (February 1919); and the influenza epidemic causing the closure of churches in Australian cities (February 1919).

Ellen White's declining health was detailed in the *Australasian Record* through letters from her son, William White, to the editor. In May 1915 she was quoted as saying to her son: "I am very weak. I am sure that this is my last sickness. I am not worried at the thought of dying. I feel comforted all the time that the Lord is near me. I am not anxious. The preciousness of the Saviour has been so plain to me. He has been a friend. He has kept me in sickness and in health. I do not worry about the work I have done. I have done the best I could. I do not think that I shall be lingering long. I do not expect much suffering."

One month later William reported that she was "slowly failing in strength, and peacefully nearing the end of her life". With her health in rapid decline, she lost her appetite—eating only three raw eggs each day and no longer tolerating being in a wheelchair. After a restless night, she prayed with her son: "Lord, I thank Thee that it is as well with us as it is. I will serve Thee to the best of my ability. Amen." William writes, "This prayer was in harmony with her attitude during all her days of sickness, expressing gratitude to God, and a desire to be of service."

The final report appeared in *Record* on August 30, 1915: "Mrs Ellen Gould White fell asleep in Jesus as quietly and peacefully as a weary child going to its rest. The end came on Friday, July 16, 1915, at 3.40 pm." The special report was a page-and-a-half and summarised the funeral service—extensively quoting all those who spoke and made presentations.

In the first issue of 1919, the first new year after the conclusion of WWI, the *Record* began with this introductory piece:

"Nineteen hundred and eighteen has gone into history as a gloomy year. War and pestilence have united to make it a year of death. Its ruin and chaos are worldwide, and to the horrors of a world war it has added the afflictions of a plague more deadly than shot and shell. Yet it is the mirror in which are wonderfully reflected to us the goodness, mercy, and protection of God. It is, too, the vehicle in which we have come to this new year—a year of expectant hope, of fairer prospect, of wider opportunity to serve, and of happier conditions in all the world.

During the year just gone, our people in many lands have been tested severely. The forces of evil, marshalled for their destruction, have, at times, seemed to triumph; but the ranks are still unbroken, they still press forward, victors in a cause that must be victorious. God is with them, and He always leads to victory."

## Even Opposition Helps

WE have noticed that whenever an article has been written against vegetarianism, in newspapers and magazines, it generally arouses curiosity, and many folks who read these statements, and who think for themselves, decide to prove if the writer knows what he is talking about. It usually results in an increased attendance at our cafés; so we are never afraid of opposition; in fact, we rather appreciate it, as it has often proved to be a cheap and effective advertising medium. We also have visits from humourists occasionally, who see the funny, as well as the beneficial side of simple life. A correspondent to one of the Australian weekly journals has evidently paid us a visit lately, as the following paragraph would indicate. Thinking it too good to keep to ourselves, we pass it on to the readers of the RECORD:

Fruceera was attacked first, and went down after a feeble resistance. Then Marmite, Bromose, and Granola were successfully taken. Gluten and Nuttolene were not so easy, and perseverance finally won the day. Granose and Protose proved fairly formidable, but were "mopped up" at the finish. Then Zwieback was taken at a gulp, so to speak, and we were ready for Melsitos. This is not an extract from a soldier's letter about Gallipoli. I am only giving details of my first vegetarian dinner.

G. S. FISHER.

We had a good chuckle at this excerpt from August 1918. Thinking it too good to keep to ourselves, we pass it on to the readers of the *Record*:



## Balancing different views

Representatives from the Seventh-day Adventist Church are among 33 faith leaders who have written to Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus to share their concerns about proposed reforms outlined by the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) in its consultation paper on religious schools and anti-discrimination laws. Pastor Kojo Akomeah explains why the proposed reforms are a threat to Adventist education.

Being on playground duty can sometimes be challenging for teachers. I remember being on duty when a group of children approached, asking me to adjudicate on a matter to determine who was in the right. It's one thing to decide who is in the right when dealing with playground matters, but it's quite another when dealing with human rights.

Which human right should be upheld if the right to a person's sexual identity, gender or relationship status conflicts with another's right to the freedom of religion?

Further, how do we balance the need for a religious institution to protect its culture of faith-based education without discriminating against a member of staff on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or relationship status or pregnancy?

In an effort to resolve this apparent tension, the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) was given the task by Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus to submit a report on how to prevent discrimination against teachers and students on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or relationship status or pregnancy, while preserving the rights of religious schools "to build a community of faith giving preference, in good faith, to persons of the same religion as the educational institution in the selection of staff".

The ALRC released its proposal in a consultation paper in January. The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia and

Adventist Schools Australia are deeply concerned about the content in the consultation paper. The consultation paper suggests religious educational institutions must employ staff who may not share the faith and beliefs of the institution nor support the religious institution.

This will be a significant limitation on the right to religious freedom and, in essence, elevates other rights above the right of religious institutions to employ staff who share the faith and beliefs of the institution. It's important that the government can fairly balance these rights in order for religious freedom to continue to flourish in our society.

If the proposals in the consultation paper become law in Australia, the distinct character of our religious schools will be severely challenged and religious institutions across the country will no longer have the freedom of religion to authentically practice their faith. In light of this threat, leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church have joined other faith leaders in signing a response letter to the consultation paper.

To read the letter visit: [https://sydneyanglicans.net/files/2302013\\_Letter\\_Faith\\_Leaders\\_AG\\_ALRC\\_Consultation\\_Paper.pdf](https://sydneyanglicans.net/files/2302013_Letter_Faith_Leaders_AG_ALRC_Consultation_Paper.pdf).

**Kojo Akomeah**  
associate director for Public Affairs and Religious Liberty  
Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia.



# The 10

## Bible verses for fighting temptation

### **Romans 12:1,2 (NLT)**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

### **Romans 13:14**

Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

### **1 John 2:16**

For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.

### **Psalms 119:37**

Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word.

### **Proverbs 23:26**

My son, give me your heart and let your eyes delight in my ways.

### **1 Corinthians 10:13**

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

### **Ephesians 3:16**

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.

### **Philippians 4:8**

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

### **1 Corinthians 6:18**

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

### **Psalms 119:9,10**

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.



# Conversations

## Doctor's advice

Having read the inspirational story of Eileen Fehlberg's successful treatment of cancer ("Extension of life leads to new ministry", February 18) and subsequent rewarding life of ministry, I am drawn to offer hope to others. I lost my mother to Stage 4 cancer. At the time, medical therapy had no hope of success.

Years later a young Seventh-day Adventist relative of mine died a horrible, painful and unnecessary death from a curable cancer, because he was persuaded to try "natural" cures that had no chance of success. A colleague of mine, with the same cancer, received modern therapy and is alive and well 15 years later.

As a young surgeon in the 1970s, I witnessed many young people succumb to the dreaded malignant melanoma. Even radical surgery could not save many. But in 2023 we have come a long way in treatments, as Eileen discovered. Many patients even with metastatic melanomas in the brain, can successfully be treated by targeted immunotherapy, as can other cancers.

The Adventist lifestyle has much to offer in the avoidance of many cancers. But once the cancer fuse is lit, lifestyle has little chance of putting it out. So, if you're in that situation, please take your doctor's advice. Not all will be cured, but there has never been a better chance of survival and

quality of life, if carefully-managed therapy is undertaken.

**David Pennington, NSW**

## Nuts about nuts

On reading "Believe it or nut" (Making headlines, February 18), with attribution to UniSA, my instinct was [to respond] "nut". UniSA is adjacent to one of Australia's almond growing regions. A little further investigation justified my instinct.

The article was a cut and paste from a UniSA media release which, at best, leaves out some important findings of the study; at worst, is deliberately misleading. The conclusion of the published study is that "More favourable appetite regulating hormone responses to almonds did not translate into better self-reported appetite or reduced short-term energy consumption." Although there was a decrease in the number of kilojoules, it was so small that it was not statistically significant.

So what could prompt UniSA to frame the media release around the weight loss benefits of almonds? If you scroll past the 56 references you'll discover the study was funded by the Almond Board of California. It is well documented that industry funded studies are more likely to have favourable results for the industry. And even when they don't, there are ways to make the results sound more favourable.

The bias of *Record* also needs acknowledging. We have a long, proud history promoting health that predis-

poses us to readily accept reinforcing research. Before drawing attention to research, *Record* would be best served by reviewing the original study.

**Roger Meany, via email**

## Worldly pleasures

It saddens me when I read that our young people—some in leading positions and influence—are attending cinemas and other places of worldly pleasure. "The true Christian will not desire to enter any place of amusement or engage in any diversion upon which he cannot ask the blessing of God. He will not be found at the theatre, the billiard hall or the bowling saloon. . . . No Christian would wish to meet death in such a place. No one would wish to be found there when Christ shall come" (*MYP* 308).

It seems to me, most of the young generation have never read the wonderful instruction contained in *Messages to Young People*, which has been such a great guide to me and many of my generation. It's disappointing to read in the editorial (February 18) of the writer attending such a place and publishing the fact.

Has she considered the far-reaching influence of such actions? What has happened to the high standards God has set for us? I pray God will open the eyes of our leaders and call our people to repentance and a higher standard of holiness.

**Rodney Lewis, via email**



# First drink: THE INTOXICATING VICE OF PORN



I am not your ordinary type of porn addict. It's not as though I need a frequent or even a daily fix. In fact, I can go months without the slightest desire or inclination to surf the internet in the quest for that one illusive and supremely titillating image. The time between binges can be so lengthy that I have often—and clearly mistakenly—claimed the victory over what I know to be a soul-destroying evil.

And then I find myself alone at home or in a hotel room.

My name would be recognised by many Adventists in this part of the world—and indeed beyond. The profession in which I work has bestowed on me influence, and places me in high esteem in the eyes of those in my local church and community. Although I have written many articles for *Adventist Record*, this is the first for which I am compelled to use a pseudonym.

And then there is my father. Also instant name recognition throughout this Division, having worked for decades as a much-beloved pastor and departmental leader. Following his death, I discovered something about him that was almost as tragic as his early and unexpected demise.

I stepped into the bedroom where he'd spent some uncomfortable moments in his last few months—and indeed the last few minutes—of his life. I gazed around the room in an almost reverential way. Memories and emotions swirled uncontrollably through my entire being.

Noticing an iPad bedside his bed, I wondered if I should now assume ownership of it. After a few failed attempts at guessing the password, I was in.

The moment that followed stands still in time, etched on the neuronal pathways of my brain as long as this life will last. Tab after tab of the website browser was filled with hardcore pornographic sites. I didn't look at the images. It

would be repugnant to enjoy what he found arousing. So I quickly closed each tab and “cleaned” its electronic neurons.

The emotions I experienced in that instant ranged from shock to anger, disgust to absolute bewilderment. And those mixed emotions were not only stimulated as a result of this discovery of my father's secret vice, but also of my own long-standing failure that was identical to his. Whoever came up with the saying that “the apple does not fall far from the tree” was annoyingly accurate in this instance.

How dare we share this addiction! We both had succeeded, so it seemed, in hiding this very socially and spiritually taboo habit. Unfortunately I was now saddled with his furtive addiction. I still think highly of him, and I have no plans to deflate others' esteemed views of this elder statesman of the Church. I pray he found deliverance, cleansing and forgiveness before he took his final breath. And I trust the same for myself. Following this encounter, I was determined to make a fresh start and learn from his failures.

I left the iPad where I found it.

I often wonder if a discussion of issues such as these at the Seventh-day Adventist high school I attended, might have provided me with the tools to make better choices?

I may never know. What I do know is that after school one day, a friend suggested we head down to the local newsagency. He had something amazing to show me. He took me to the back of the store and began flicking through some car magazines. I was waiting with a curious anticipation. What car did he have in mind? Then we edged a little further along the rack to the truck magazines. Nothing out of the ordinary so far.

Then he motioned to me. The shop manager at the front of the store was no longer looking in our direction as

he was now serving a customer. My friend made his move. He deftly pulled a magazine from the rack and surreptitiously inserted it into a truck magazine then stepped aside to the automotive section again.

When he opened the pages of that “girly” magazine, he also opened my eyes, feelings and imagination in ways that I did not know existed. My 14-year-old naivety was smashed. Neither he nor I could have predicted the lasting impact of that brief affair. Decades later, I am yet to close what are now the electronic pages of that same magazine and place it back in the rack.

That is where it all began for me. That “first drink” is all it took. The seeds of experiencing the sensual and the prohibited were sown in my fertile and increasingly hormone-saturated mind. Unlike the more openly practiced and accepted addictions of smoking, alcohol, overeating or overwork, I knew that I would have to keep this out of sight. And for the most part, I have been successful in covering and camouflaging it.

It took some effort to keep it from my parents, then from my employers and also from my wife. Talking about my wife—would my relationship be jeopardised if I was to reveal all? I know she would feel betrayed beyond measure. I suspect we would survive it, though she would never see me in the same way again. Would our relationship be stronger as a result of sharing this dirty part of my soul? Possibly and probably. Could she help me and hold me accountable if I did? I believe so.

Then why don't I open up to my wife? I don't have a good answer for that. I guess I'm hoping that God will give me the victory and spare me from the humility of such a confession. Is God able to deliver me? Of course. Does He work through others to achieve that deliverance? Of course. Then why don't I? I think it may have something to do with unbelief and pride.

I have read a number of books by various Christian authors on this subject. All helpful and informative in their own way. What I learned is that there are very few Christian men out there who have not been tainted with this evil and insidious habit.

One story in particular impacted me. A pastor who was struggling with this very issue sought help from a more senior pastor whose role was that of being a pastor for pastors. In our denomination, I think we would refer to this person as a ministerial secretary. After the pastor shared his innermost secrets, he implored the senior pastor for help. Upon hearing his confession, the senior pastor broke down and wept uncontrollably. Assuming his revelation had caused hurt and disappointment, the junior pastor apologised for sharing what he did.

“No, no, don't apologise. I am not upset because of what you have done. I am weeping because I too am caught up in the same habit and I therefore have nothing to offer you. I too need help.”

Most recently I read through Blaine Bartel's personal experience: *Death by a Thousand Lies: My cover-up, my crash and my resurrection from sexual addiction*. He rose from obscurity to pastoring a large church in the USA. Blaine

was also involved in a far-reaching media ministry on TV, radio and print. He was an in-demand youth pastor. He had a devoted and loving family. But he was living a double life. When pornography failed to meet his needs, he took it to the next level.

Consistent with the nature of sin, he craved for more. So he transitioned from 2D to 3D sexual experiences. But after a while, he wanted something more meaningful than these casual encounters with prostitutes. He concocted further lies and convinced a lady at one of his travel destinations that he was single. And thus he established a more lasting and meaningful sexual relationship with his new lady friend. Until she saw him on TV. The house of cards that he had so carefully constructed for many years quickly fell, destroying his family, friends, confidants and ministry.

I cannot come up with one good thing to write about pornography. Not one. Yet on the other hand, studying the litany of objectionable features and damaging sequelae of sexual sins is unlikely to provide the impetus (and certainly not the power) to overcome.

I have chosen to seek recovery with help from an old friend. It is called *Steps to Christ*, that wonderful classic by Ellen White.

In that life-impacting book, I learned that “even one wrong trait of character, one sinful desire, persistently cherished, will eventually neutralise all the power of the gospel” (p34).

But I am also learning about the antidote to that one sinful desire that is persistently cherished. And of course it relates to every single sin including pornography. This statement so powerfully encapsulates my predicament, and the pathway to genuine and lasting victory.

“Many are inquiring, ‘How am I to make the surrender of myself to God?’ You desire to give yourself to Him, but you are weak in moral power, in slavery to doubt, and controlled by the habits of your life of sin. Your promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand. You cannot control your thoughts, your impulses, your affections. The knowledge of your broken promises and forfeited pledges weakens your confidence in your own sincerity, and causes you to feel that God cannot accept you; but you need not despair. What you need to understand is the true force of the will. This is the governing power in the nature of man, the power of decision, or of choice. Everything depends on the right action of the will. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise. You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but you can choose to serve Him. You can give Him your will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. Thus your whole nature will be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ; your affections will be centred upon Him, your thoughts will be in harmony with Him” (p47).

So here I am again. Home alone. Who will I choose? Who will you choose?

**Vic Toree**  
pseudonym.



I've been struggling with an addiction to pornography since I was 11." These words, spoken to me by Nathaniel\*, the guy I was "talking to" at the time, were my first real encounter with pornography. Up until that moment, porn was only spoken about in hushed tones in the hallways of my high school. It was always in the context of the weird, slightly creepy guys, the ones who most of the girls in the school knew to avoid. But Nathaniel wasn't like that. He was always up front at church, singing with the praise team. He was involved in children's ministry and gave chapel talks. From the outside, he seemed like the perfect Christian guy. When he told me, Nathaniel

was so vulnerable, so upset over this "struggle". I wanted to be accepting. I respected him for his honesty and felt that I could trust him because he had told me, rather than concealing the truth. He was a good guy, he just had a problem he was "struggling with". At the time, I had no idea how serious this revelation was, and navigating the relationship thereafter was a whole different ball game, one with rules that were difficult and painful to learn.

I'm just going to pause here to give a disclaimer. I have never struggled with a porn addiction. Furthermore, porn is far from being just a "guy issue". However, what I have to share I have learned from navigating relationships with



guys as a young woman, so that's the perspective I will be drawing on and speaking to. My purpose is not to convince you that porn is a bad thing. That's the work of others who have gone before me. I'm here to talk about what comes next, where the rubber of knowledge meets the road of real-life relationships. I can't tell you exactly what to do, but I can tell you what I've learned, and share the clear, concrete advice that I wish had been given to me.

First, you cannot assume porn is not an issue for Christians and that you won't have to deal with it. In general, sex isn't talked about in church circles, so addressing a subject like porn can be challenging. If it is addressed, it's often briefly brushed over as something that exists but should be avoided. However, just because it's not talked about doesn't mean it doesn't exist and won't affect your relationships. Statistics show that the use of pornography among Christians is nearly on par with that of the rest of the world. The average age of first exposure to pornography is 11. By 14, 94 per cent of children will have seen porn while 76 per cent of young Christian adults aged 18-24 actively search for porn. This makes it a massive, massive issue in the church for both men and women.<sup>1</sup> Given these mind-blowing statistics, it is far more likely than not that you are going to encounter porn in your dating life. It is vitally important that you be prepared to deal with it.

Second, no matter how good his intentions, if porn is an active part of his life, you are likely to get hurt. Youth pastors have porn addictions. The guys on the praise team have porn addictions. Some of the most godly-seeming guys you could meet have porn addictions. One of the things I struggled with most was where to draw the line for past or current porn use in a potential partner. Should he have never touched it? Should he be one year clean? Is it okay to date him if he's still addicted but struggling and wanting to change? The answer will be slightly different for every person, but as a rule of thumb, if you're going to date him, porn should be very clearly not a part of his life anymore. The Christian world likes to use the word "struggle" a lot in this area. This implies a battle, on its way to being won, but often, the term "struggling" cloaks the fact that sometimes the person in the actual battle isn't making any progress in overcoming their addiction. As Westminster Theological Seminary professor David Briones puts it, "Many who 'struggle' really just want to be assured of God's love for them as they enjoy a love-hate relationship with pornography . . . [this] struggle is no struggle at all."<sup>2</sup>

A porn addiction is as much a psychological issue as it is a spiritual issue, and in many cases, the "trying not to do it" version of "struggle" simply doesn't cut it. Concrete action needs to follow the intentions. Professional intervention is often required to beat an addiction. If he's truly fighting, he will eventually overcome it, but if he's still struggling, don't begin a relationship with him. This may seem harsh, but trust me, you don't want the anxiety, inadequacy and even potential abuse that can come with a

porn addiction present in your relationship. Trying to help him overcome his addiction while dating him will just set you up as the bad guy policing him, and might lead to you feeling his failures as your own. Let him sort himself out, then come find you. No matter how godly he seems, or how repentant and torn up over it he is, if you're going to have a healthy relationship, porn shouldn't be a part of his life. And that means worked through and in the past. Not an "I struggle with it sometimes", or an "I don't like that I do it", or even an "I promise I'll never do it again". It means completely, clearly, in the past.

So, how do you know if a porn addiction is in the past? Lengths of time between use are useless if the internal work and recovery is not done. Many guys can white-knuckle their way through a cold-turkey month or two before something triggers a relapse. If he's serious about overcoming his addiction, it'll show up in his life. He will change the things he watches. He'll skip scenes in movies and TV shows. He'll install blocker software and avoid certain websites. He'll talk to trusted mentors or seek professional help. He'll become more open about the topic, and will talk to others without anger or shame. He'll lean into his relationship with God. He'll learn about porn and how it affects the brain. You might notice that he becomes more sensitive to explicit content and that he stops making raunchy jokes. Most of all, you won't have to poke and prod him to take these steps. He will take an active role in his own recovery. It will be obvious that he has changed. Your standard of whether or not to date him should be whether or not you can see the changes.

Finding a partner who doesn't watch porn can seem hopeless. Many will tell you that it is impossible. Take courage; this is not true. Do not settle; this standard is worth keeping high. Many overcome their addictions completely and go on to have healthy, happy relationships. Brains previously addicted to porn can heal and rewire. A very wise person once told me that a man who has worked through and overcome a porn addiction will have developed strong character traits such as self-control and patience, and can actually be a better partner than someone who has never battled porn. That doesn't mean there won't be challenges, but our God can transform people's lives in amazing ways, taking evil and working it for good. If you have met a wonderful person who has porn in their past but has completely overcome it, fear not. You may have met a keeper.

*A shorter version of this article originally appeared in the Lake Union Herald.*

\* Not his real name.

1. <[missionfrontiers.org/issue/article/15-mind-blowing-statistics-about-pornography-and-the-church](https://missionfrontiers.org/issue/article/15-mind-blowing-statistics-about-pornography-and-the-church)>.
2. <[desiringgod.org/articles/how-not-to-fight-pornography](https://desiringgod.org/articles/how-not-to-fight-pornography)>.

**Caitlin Jankiewicz**  
Maths teacher, Hills Adventist College, NSW.



# Banana blueberry breakfast slice

Serves 6

Prep 10

Cook 40

An on-the-go breakfast or healthy snack option. This slice is great for cooking with the kids and combines tangy berries with the goodness of wholegrains.

## Ingredients

- 4 Weet-Bix™, roughly crushed
- 1 cup rolled oats
- ¼ cup chopped nuts
- ¼ cup pepitas, or sunflower seeds
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries, divided
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup mashed banana (approx. 2 medium bananas)
- ½ cup unsweetened So Good™ milk
- 2 tbsp olive oil

## Tips:

- For a snack-sized slice, cut into 12 pieces instead of 6.
- A 22 or 23 cm pan will yield a slightly larger and thinner slice, and will need a bit less cooking time, than a 20 cm pan, however the recipe is quite forgiving so both pans can be used.

## Method

1. Preheat oven to 180°C (160° fan forced). Lightly coat a square baking dish with cooking oil spray.
2. In a large bowl, combine Weet-Bix, oats, nuts, seeds, baking powder, cinnamon and salt. Mix well. Add half the blueberries and stir to incorporate.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk eggs, mashed banana, So Good milk and oil, until smooth.
4. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry, and stir to fully incorporate. Transfer to prepared dish and smooth surface. Sprinkle over remaining blueberries.
5. Bake for 40–45 minutes, until the centre is firm and the edges golden. Cool on a rack for 15 minutes before serving—or cool completely and serve at room temperature. Store extra in a sealed container in the refrigerator.

## Nutritional Information (per serving)

ENERGY	CALORIES	PROTEIN	FAT	SATURATES	CARBOHYDRATE
1070kJ	257	7g	12g	2g	27g
SUGARS	FIBRE	CALCIUM	SODIUM	IRON	POTASSIUM
8g	5.4g	53mg	253mg	2.2mg	433mg



## Recipe of the Week



Subscribe to receive delicious plant-based recipes straight to your inbox.



Dietitian approved!

Find out more →



# HELLO KIDS!

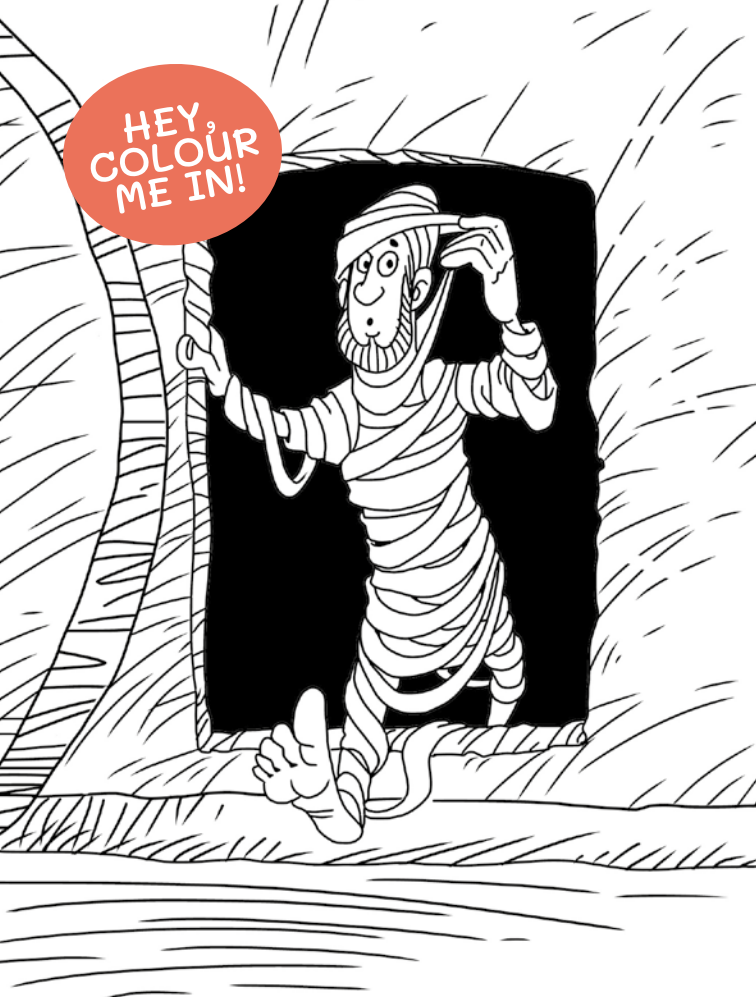


## TWO SAD SISTERS

God's love holds us tight in times of grief.

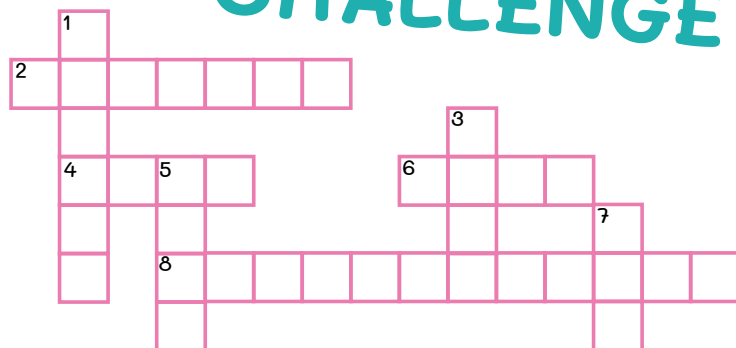


HEY, COLOUR ME IN!



Jesus had three special friends: Mary, Martha and their brother Lazarus. One day, Jesus received a message saying that Lazarus was very sick—"Please, come and help him!" But, by the time Jesus arrived at His friends' house, Lazarus had died and was already laid in a small cave called a "tomb". Mary and Martha were very sad and angry that Jesus, their Friend and Healer, hadn't come sooner. Jesus cried when He saw how sad they were, but He asked that Lazarus' tomb be opened. "Come out!" Jesus said, and Lazarus came out, alive!

## CROSSWORD CHALLENGE



### ACROSS

- 2. The brother that Jesus raised from the dead
- 4. A biblical place where someone is buried
- 6. To be physically ill; not well or healthy
- 8. Raised from the dead. Jesus said, "I am the... and the life"

### DOWN

- 1. Lazarus' sister
- 3. To have life, or be alive
- 5. Name of the woman who poured perfume on Jesus' feet
- 7. To stop living

### MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?' (John 11:25, 26).

## Weddings



**GIBSON—DAVEY.** Casey David Gibson, son of David and Julie Gibson (Mount Warren Park, Qld), and Stephanie Vanessa Davey, daughter of Mark and Julie Davey (Eagleby), were married on 29.11.22 at Summergrove Estate in Carool, NSW. Casey and Stephanie became close friends at Brisbane Adventist College, Qld, and got married after studying and working for some years. Now living in Tallegalla, Casey is working as a software engineer and Stephanie as a public servant. We pray that God guides their marriage as they seek to support each other to be ready for Jesus' return.

Milijan Popovic



**KING—MACKENZIE.** Edan Beau King, son of Terrence (deceased) and Rosalie King (Wauchope, NSW), and Abby Laura Mackenzie, daughter of Andrew and Kim Mackenzie (Bellbrook), were married on 27.11.22 at the Eagles Rest Estate, Valla. Family and friends came from near and far to celebrate their holy union and lifelong commitment to one another in a beautiful place on a gorgeous day. They are enjoying married life in Wauchope.

Danny Milenkov, David Price

## Obituaries

**BROADHEAD,** Margaret Elsie (nee Hampstead), born 24.7.1934 in Adelong, NSW; died 11.6.22 in Gympie, Qld. On 26.12.1968 she married Kenneth, who predeceased her in 2011. She is survived by her daughters, Leanne Heywood (Fitzroy Falls, NSW) and Carolyn De Blois (Gympie, Qld); and grandchildren, Matthew, Rachel, Hannah, Stephen, Oscar and Joshua. Margaret was a true Christian, serving actively in her local church

until the last few years of her life.

Scott Wareham, David Kelsey

**DIXON,** Christopher David, born 30.3.1963 in Sydney NSW, died 24.4.22 in Nepean Hospital, Penrith. Chris is survived by his wife, Deanne Marchand (Penrith); children, Chanelle (Warragamba) and Stacey (Warragamba); siblings, Heather James (Kempsey), Malcolm (Kempsey), John (Cooranbong) and Wendy Foster (Newcastle). He served the Lord until the very end. His faith was reflected in his noble and gentle character and his consistent respect for others. He was loyal to his family and friends and was admired by all who knew him. Chris passed with the assurance of seeing his Saviour again.

Deanne Marchand



**FISHER,** John Daniel, born 15.6.1937 in Lake Cargelligo, NSW; died 8.5.22 in Temora Hospital. He was

predeceased by his grandson, Jack. John is survived by his wife, Robin; sons, John and David; daughter-in-law, Jacqui; and granddaughters, Brooke and Hailey. John was a kind a gentle man who would help anyone and he was head elder of Temora church for many years and welcomed everyone with a handshake and an invite to "lunch at ours". He did the maintenance at the church and solved problems. He loved his church, which he had attended since he was five years old. John's saying was, "When we all get to heaven, we will meet again."

Tharren Hutchinson



**PHILLIPS,** Philip Anderson, born 15.5.1936 in Townsville, Qld; died 5.11.22 in Shalom

Nursing Home, Rockhampton. In 1955 he married Jean Wordsworth. Phil is survived by his wife (Rockhampton); children, Carolyn and Neil Hinton (Rockhampton); Rod and Rexine (Sydney, NSW); and Kaylene and Ben Kosmeier (Canberra, ACT); four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Phil served in the Rockhampton church for many years as a deacon and joint Pathfinder leader. He rests awaiting the return of Jesus.

Dragan Kanazir, Ben Kosmeier

## Advertising

**BIBLE LANDS TOURS 2023**  
Wonderful programs led by experienced tour leaders. Peter

Roennfeldt. Tour 1: Jordan and Israel. Tour 2: Turkey/Patmos/Greece—September/October. Gary Kent to Israel/Jordan and Egypt—October/November. Contact Anita at Allround Travel Centre. Email <alltrav@bigpond.net.au> or mobile 0405 260 155.

**LAKESIDE RETREAT HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION** overlooking beautiful Bonnells Bay at Lake Macquarie, NSW. Peaceful and quiet one bedroom self-contained flat, sleeps two. Very spacious and comfy. \$A135 per night. Email <relax@lakesideretreat.com.au>.

### LILYDALE CHURCH 40th ANNIVERSARY

Lilydale Church will be celebrating our 40th (+3 due to COVID-19) anniversary on the weekend of March 24 and 25, 2023. All people with a heart for Lilydale are invited to attend and celebrate with us. There will be registration at 6pm on Friday night, followed by a light tea and vespers. Sabbath service times will be 9am and 11:30am. Sabbath school at 10:15am. A lunch will follow the services. At 4pm the opening of the new building will take place followed by a BBQ tea at 6pm. Saturday night will be a concert

at 7:30pm. We look forward to you joining us for a wonderful reunion of past and present members.

### HARD-OF-HEARING ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICE [ALD] FOR CHURCH/ VENUE

ALDs can enable individuals to wirelessly connect to public address systems through their hearing aid or an earbud with a big improvement in audio clarity and most of the background noise reduced significantly. Contact Christian Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired [CSFBHI] for more details or a free trial. Ph: +61 (0)2 9847 2296. Email <csfbhi@adventistmedia.org.au>. Website <csfbhi.adventistchurch/resources>.

### AVONDALE FAMILY FUNERALS

offer a comprehensive funeral service, personalised with utmost care, compassion and respect to communities from Sydney to Newcastle. As committed Adventists, our family is here to guide you every step of the way. Contact Mark Windus on 0411 797 854 or <director@avondalefamilyfunerals.com.au>.

## Positions Vacant

### MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR—ROSSMOYNE WATERS ROSSMOYNE, WA

Adventist Care is currently recruiting to fill the role of maintenance supervisor at Rossmoyne Waters. This full-time position will become available in June 2023. The role will best suit an experienced tradesperson who has a good understanding of preventative maintenance and can administer and coordinate all aspects of maintenance within the co-located retirement village and residential aged care facility. A hands-on, handyman function will consume much of this employee's time. The role also includes the oversight of the property's grounds care. The successful applicant will have excellent client relationship skills, be able to work with a degree of flexibility in skills and time, and work with an enthusiastic team that is committed to achieving the goals of this Christian organisation. Before you submit your application, please contact Adventist Care's human resources manager on (08) 9354 4133 or email for information on this opportunity at <acjobs@adventist.org.au>.

### TALENT ACQUISITION ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST—SANITARIUM BERKELEY VALE

A new opportunity exists for a talent acquisition engagement specialist to act as an ambassador externally to promote our brand and job opportunities with external communities including but not limited to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and subsidiary organisations as well as universities, colleges, TAFEs, schools, registered training organisations and local communities to attract talent into the Sanitarium network. If you have experience in developing relationships with external community groups as well as proactively communicating with candidates to ensure a positive recruitment experience, please send your application to <talent.acquisition@sanitarium.com.au> attention Brianna Catlin. **Applications close March 19, 2023.**

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS COORDINATOR—ADRA AUSTRALIA WAHROONGA, NSW**

ADRA Australia is seeking an organised and enthusiastic emergency management programs coordinator. As the EM programs coordinator you 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 the candidate information pack are available on our website <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.

**SUPPORTER CARE ASSISTANT—ADRA AUSTRALIA WAHROONGA, NSW**

We are seeking a part-time supporter care assistant to join our supporter engagement team and to provide an excellent experience for supporters contacting ADRA Australia. You will be part of a motivated, experienced and fun team that is focused on relationships with our supporters and looking for ways to grow supporter engagement, retention and revenue. You will be the first point of contact for ADRA Australia and will be responsible for living out our values of connected, courageous and compassionate in all interactions with supporters. You are a people person and thrive in communicating with others, while being able to work efficiently, providing the best-in-class supporter experience. Further details including the candidate information pack are available on our website <adra.org.au/work-for-us/> or by contacting the HR Coordinator at <HR@adra.org.au>. ADRA Australia is an inclusive child-safe, PSEAH committed and EEO employer.

**BUSINESS ANALYST FOR ADVENTIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA (ASA)—AUC MELBOURNE, VIC**

Are you passionate about improving technology and innovation? We've got the role for you! The AUC is seeking a creative and self-motivated analyst to join our ICT Team with Adventist Schools Australia (ASA). You will provide technology services for nine school entities across nearly 50 schools and transform the way ASA supports learning by ensuring a scalable, accessible and appropriate systems environment. If this is for you, please contact <AUCHR@adventist.org.au>. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and to close applications early. Only those who have a legal right to work in Australia may apply. **Applications close March 23, 2023.**

**PRINCIPAL—LONGBURN ADVENTIST COLLEGE, YEARS 7-13 FULL HIGH SCHOOL LONGBURN, NZ**

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a proven leader to lead our school. LAC is a boarding secondary school providing a high-quality Adventist Christian education in a caring and supportive learning community. The successful applicant will enhance student achievement further and ensure that staff are well-equipped to prepare our students for the 21st century empowered in Christ. As a "tagged" position, the appointee shall accept and recognise the responsibility to maintain and preserve the school's special character as a condition of appointment. The position commences on July 17, 2023. Send your CV and covering letter stating your leadership strengths and interests that you would bring to our school, with three referees' details, to Dan Carrasco at <dancarrasco@adventist.org.nz>. **Applications close 3pm, March 31, 2023.**



**GRATEFUL LIVING**

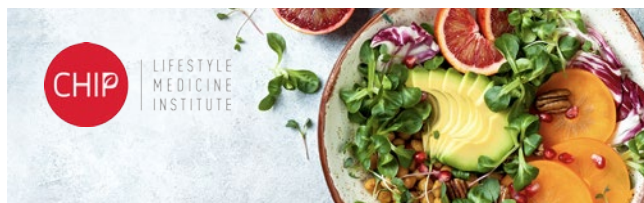
EVERY CHURCH.  
EVERY AGE.  
READY TO MODIFY,  
OR JUST STAND & DELIVER.



Download  
your church's kit here →

or Visit  
stewardship.adventistchurch.com/  
grateful-living/

Seventh-day Adventist Church *South Pacific*



**Do you suffer with heart disease, diabetes, or hypertension? Are you overweight, have restless sleep, or experience regular anxiety and more?**

**Come join us on a health journey to change your life**

**CHIP PROGRAM DATES (Online)**

**Learn to live your best life**

30th March, 17th April and 31st May 2023.

**CHIP PROGRAMS (Face-to-face)**

Available in Ilam and Nelson (SNZ), Newcastle (NSW) and Norfolk Island. Contact us for dates.

**FACILITATOR TRAINING (Online)**

**Teach others how to live their best life**

Volunteer and Professional (session limits apply)

1st June and 28th September 2023.

To register or to find out more about CHIP go to  
[www.chiphealth.com.au](http://www.chiphealth.com.au)  
Email: [ask@chiphealth.com.au](mailto:ask@chiphealth.com.au) or call Sharon on 0477 161 590

## **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM MANAGER—ADRA NEW ZEALAND AUCKLAND, NZ**

Are you qualified in international development and ready for a new challenge? Are you passionate about building effective partnerships, creating opportunities for families and communities to thrive? Your contribution to the team will include shared management of our multi-country program within the Pacific/Asia, supporting humanitarian preparedness and responses, and engaging in capacity enrichment for implementation in ADRA offices, plus so much more! Applicants who have the legal right to live and work in New Zealand will be prioritised. Application information and details available at <adra.org.au/work-for-us>. ADRA New Zealand is on a committed journey to work and lead from our Christian faith-based ethos, to grow in our understanding of the privilege to work in bicultural Aotearoa and at all times be a child-safe, PSEAH dedicated, inclusive and EEO employer. **Applications close March 31, 2023.**

## **ACCOUNTANT—SOUTH QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE BRISBANE, QLD**

A full-time position for an accountant has become available at the South Queensland Conference. While desirable, it is not essential that the applicant be a practising member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, however they will need to agree to the general professional expectations in support of the church as outlined in the Position Profile (available on request). The successful applicant will hold relevant qualifications (degree level) and be a member, or be eligible to be a member, of a recognised professional accounting organisation (CA/CPA), demonstrate current experience in financial management and administration as well as demonstrate an ability and understanding of commercial computer software and spreadsheet packages. Furthermore, possess high levels of communication and relational skills essential for this position. Written applications should be forwarded to Susan Hensley, human resources manager <sq\_hr@adventist.org.au>. **Applications close March 24, 2023.**

## **ACCOUNTANT—ADRA AUSTRALIA WAHROONGA, NSW**

We are seeking a qualified, enthusiastic and experienced accountant to join our finance team based in Wahroonga, NSW. Reporting to our senior accountant, your role is responsible for the day-to-day financial transactions as part of our financial close process. This includes preparation of journals, technical accounting, bank and balance sheet reconciliations, preparation and review monthly reports as well as lodgement of BAS and acquittal reports. You will need to be a CA/CPA qualified accountant or working towards this qualification with at least five years' experience in financial accounting. The successful applicant must have the legal right to live and work in Australia at the time of application. Further details are available on our website <adra.org.au/work-for-us> or by contacting us on <HR@adra.org.au>. ADRA Australia is an inclusive, child-safe, PSEAH committed and EEO employer.

## **ACCOUNTS CLERK—ADRA AUSTRALIA WAHROONGA, NSW**

We are seeking a qualified, enthusiastic and experienced accounts clerk to join our finance team, based in Wahroonga, NSW. Reporting to our senior accountant, your role will primarily focus on the accounts payable and receivable functions and will also assist the finance team in other areas as required. This includes accounts payable, invoice entry and statement reconciliations, accounts receivable processing and collections, process payments, assist with queries from internal and external stakeholders, and general administrative and other ad hoc duties as required. You will need a relevant finance qualification or at least five years' relevant work experience. The successful applicant must have the legal right to live and work in Australia at the time of application. Further details are available on our website <adra.org.au/work-for-us/> or by contacting us on <HR@adra.org.au>. ADRA Australia is an inclusive, child-safe, PSEAH committed and EEO employer.

## **ASSISTANT MANAGER/TRAINING COORDINATOR—ADRA AUSTRALIA LOGAN CENTRAL, QLD**

We are seeking a full-time assistant manager/training coordinator to join our team at ADRA Logan Community Centre. You will be part of an experienced and fun team that is focused on serving the community through a variety of services such as food parcels, weekly soup kitchen, emergency relief and assistance, opshop etc. As the assistant manager, you will work with the centre manager to ensure that community services are consistent with ADRA's mission and strategic plan, meeting current and emerging needs of the community. As the training coordinator, you will ensure the compliant comprehensive delivery of training in harmony with the mission and values of ADRA. Further details including the candidate information pack are available on our website: <adra.org.au/work-for-us/> or by contacting the HR Coordinator at <HR@adra.org.au>. ADRA Australia is an inclusive, child-safe, PSEAH committed and EEO employer.



abn 59 093 117 689  
vol 128 no 5

**Consulting editor**  
Glenn Townend

**Editor**  
Jarrod Stackelroth

**Assistant editors**  
Juliana Muniz  
Danelle Stothers

**Copyeditor**  
Tracey Bridcutt

**Graphic designer**  
Nerise McQuillan

**Noticeboard**  
Julie Laws

**Letters**  
editor@record.net.au

**News & photos**  
news@record.net.au

**Noticeboard**  
ads@record.net.au

**Subscriptions**  
subscriptions@record.net.au  
+ 61 (03) 5965 6300  
Mailed within Australia and  
New Zealand  
\$A60.00; \$NZ90.00  
Other prices on application

**Website**  
record.adventistchurch.com

**Mailing address**  
Adventist Media  
Locked Bag 1115  
Wahroonga NSW 2076  
Australia  
+ 61 (02) 9847 2222

**Cover credit**  
Getty Images—MrsWilkins

**Next issue**  
Adventist Record, April 1

**NOTE:** Neither the editor, Adventist Media, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service. Classified advertisements in *Adventist Record* are available to Seventh-day Adventist members, churches and institutions only. All advertisements, appreciation, anniversary, wedding and obituary notices may be submitted via <ads@record.net.au> or online at <record.adventistchurch.com>. Notices will not be reprinted unless there is an error of fact caused by *Record* staff.



# Catalyst.

Praying for  
your young adult?  
Join us in building a better future for them.

## Adopt A Young Disciple.

The SPD centre4discipleship is launching a 13-week program on Avondale University campus called Catalyst designed for young adults and others searching for their purpose.

- ✓ Catalyst will change the trajectory of their life, as they step back and learn to focus on Jesus, His purpose and plan for their life and their church.
- ✓ Catalyst is ideal for young adults to take a short break from their workplace, their apprenticeship, their family farm, their family business, or university.
- ✓ Catalyst will cost \$6,600 per young adult, all inclusive (food, accommodation, tuition).

Rally behind your young adults and partner with us by Adopting a Disciple.

Consider a full or partial sponsorship or make a donation that will ensure the longevity of Catalyst.

Go to <https://catalyst.c4d.au/> to find out more about the plan and how to Adopt/Donate or, simply send us an email at <catalyst@c4d.au>



Seventh-day  
Adventist Church™

South Pacific



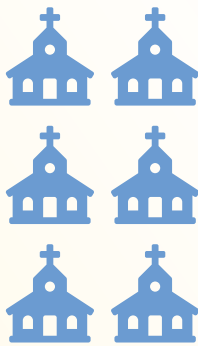
centre4discipleship  
catalyst.c4d.au



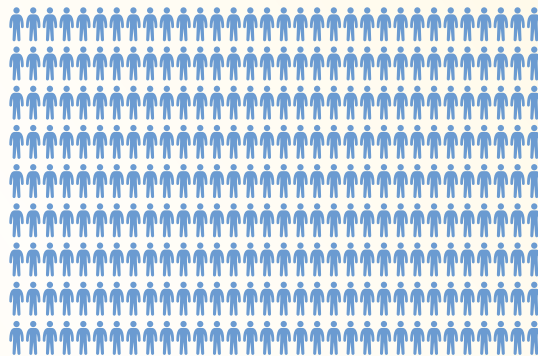
NEW CALEDONIA  
**For Christ**  
 Nouvelle-Calédonie pour Christ  
 CAMP MISSION OFFERING 2023

# Reaching the Hardest Tribes with the Gospel Message

New Caledonia for Christ is a mission initiative facilitated by our fellow brothers and sisters in New Caledonia where they work diligently to reach all the corners of New Caledonia with the three angels message in preparation for the second coming of Jesus. Currently we have 1,100 members in 6 churches to reach a population of almost 300,000.



**6**  
 CHURCHES



**300,000**  
 PEOPLE

You are invited to be a part of this mission outreach to reach the people of New Caledonia.

Your generous giving will help to train and resource front-line workers in some of New Caledonia's most isolated, tribal regions.

