

Connecting the Pacific Union Adventist Family

Recorder

April 2011



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Locks of Love



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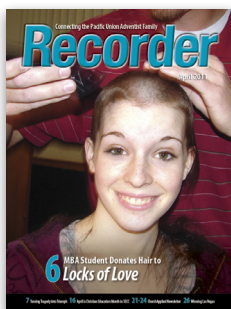
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ABOUT THE COVER

Monterey Bay Academy student Emily Burriss shaves her head in front of the whole school after exceeding her \$1,000 goal for St. Jude's Children's Hospital cancer research. She donated her tresses to Locks of Love, an organization that provides wigs to cancer patients who have lost their hair.

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Loving Jesus More

Ricardo Graham



In his view of the end times, the Apostle John saw and wrote of the sources of victory over the enemy, Satan. “And they loved not their lives unto the death” (Rev. 12:11). John refers to the martyrs for Christ who, in unselfishness, would rather die than deny Jesus Christ.

The selfishness of Satan is well chronicled (Isaiah 14:12). It’s fitting that he can be defeated in the context of self-denial, as that is where the Great Controversy began.

The rejection of the authority of God and the enshrinement of self is the source of all sin. Every manifestation of evil, sin and unrighteousness can be traced to human selfishness. And that began with Satan.

“All sin is selfishness. Satan’s first sin was selfishness. . . . And the temptation which led Adam to sin, was the false statement of Satan that it was possible for him to attain to something more than he already enjoyed — possible for him to be as God Himself. Thus seeds of selfishness were sown in the human heart” (E. G. White, 3MR 331; Letter 165, 1901).

“Under the general heading of selfishness came every other sin” (E. G. White, 4T 384).

That’s why Jesus stated the importance of self-denial as a pillar of His kingdom. “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me” (Luke 9:23).

To deny self and to cling to Christ is the ultimate source of victory that Christ gives us. It is only in the total abandonment of self that we make room for the working of God to re-shape our characters, which have been so distorted by sin.

To write these words or to read them is easy. To talk about being unselfish takes little effort. But to grow in unselfishness is painful, for it cuts against the grain of self. It hurts our ego and humbles our pride to admit we

are not all that God wants us to be, due to selfishness. But ego and pride cannot save us.

The truth of self-denial is so powerful that it is symbolized by the death on the cross. Designed to be a cruel, lingering punishment to the vilest criminals, Jesus Christ underwent this torturous death preceded by an unjust trial and inhumane beating at the hands of Roman soldiers. Dying on the cross was a particularly barbaric execution. But Jesus endured this as the epitome of unselfish obedience. “And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Philippians 2:8).

Jesus taught the abandonment of selfish desire and demonstrated it throughout His ministry, but it reached the zenith on the cross, when the innocent died for the guilty, the pure died for the impure, the just died for the unjust. He fulfilled the prophecy in Isaiah 53:5: “But he

was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”

We receive this unselfishness by recognizing the power of the will, choosing a position of surrender and humbly bowing before God in admission of our selfishness. Adelaide A. Pollard wrote, “Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.”

Humbly kneeling in the presence of God and confessing our selfishness, our hearts are transformed in love, making us like Jesus. He gives us the victory over self and Satan He secured for us on the Cross. As our love for Christ grows deeper, we allow Him to change us from what we are to what He wants us to be. Loving Jesus more than our own lives is the result.

“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 15:57).

It is only in the total abandonment of self that we make room for the working of God to re-shape our characters, which have been so distorted by sin.

MBA Student Donates Hair to Locks of Love

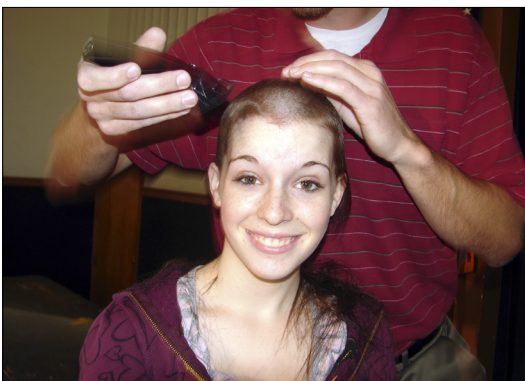
Charlotte Henderson

Imagine this announcement in morning worship at Monterey Bay Academy in January by a beautiful sophomore girl: “I will be cutting off my hair and shaving my head.”

At an age when your outward appearance — particularly your hair — is of great importance to most teen girls, sophomore Emily Burriss had everyone’s attention.

It turned out that there was much more to this announcement than at first one might think. Emily’s 19-year-old cousin had just been diagnosed with a brain tumor and given a 50/50 chance of survival. “My first thought was, ‘What can I do to help?’” Emily shares. Her cousin’s family didn’t need financial assistance. However, she knew of neighbors and friends of her family who were also struggling with cancer, not to mention the unknown thousands of people battling the disease every day. “I just felt strongly that I should be doing something to help this cause,” she says.

Emily Burriss shaves her head in front of the whole school after exceeding her \$1,000 goal for St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital cancer research.



Her decision was two-fold: Cut her long hair and donate it to the Locks of Love organization to benefit a cancer patient in need of a wig, and raise money to benefit the St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

Emily exceeded her goal of raising \$1,000 by Feb. 14, Valentines Day, plus a few other students and at least one female staff member cut their hair and donated it to Locks of Love.

This Emily Burriss, from Sonora, Calif., is not the same Emily that arrived at MBA last fall. Her mother had become acquainted with Pastor Nathan Renner of the Sonora church. Her mother began attending church and also enrolled in the Coronary Health Improvement Project sponsored by the church. Charmaine Daniels, CHIP leader, began talking to Mrs. Burriss about the possibility of Emily attending MBA.

When the academy was mentioned to Emily, her immediate response was to go — but not for the reasons one might hope. Emily saw this as a way to escape from home and her parents.

Eight months later, Emily describes herself as a completely different person. “MBA’s influence has completely changed my attitude towards life, my choice of friends, and my appreciation of people.

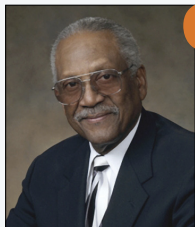


MBA sophomore Emily Burriss shows off her locks before donating them to Locks of Love.

I didn’t know God at all. Pastor PJ and Chaplain Sammi have had a great spiritual influence on me. I love having Bible studies with Sammi, and I carry my Bible everywhere I go. I can’t imagine myself going back to the public schools I have always known.”

Emily’s home life has greatly improved since last fall. “My sister and my mom have completely changed due to their Bible studies and involvement at the Sonora Adventist Church,” she says. “It’s so great when we sit around at home talking about God. My dad has been influenced by our conversations and started attending again at the church he belongs to. But he’s also asking us lots of questions about the Adventist church.”

God's Heart Revealed



Main Auditorium

Opening Weekend — July 14-17

Calvin Rock firmly believes in the efficacy of the Word of God with special emphasis on the righteousness of Christ. He has served his Lord through full-time church employment for more than 50 years. You might recognize his name from his "Faith Alive" column in the *Adventist Review* from 1988-2001. Dr. Rock loves to write and is also the author of five books. He has served as president of his alma mater Oakwood College for 14 years and as a vice president of the General Conference for 17 years. Still, his greatest passion is for evangelism through pastoring. With his wife Clara, he has served in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Michigan, and New York. In 2002, he returned to local church work and is now the pastor of the Abundant Life Adventist Church in Las Vegas, NV. He also is chairman of Operation Reachback, Inc., the Association of Black Seventh-day Adventist Professionals, a division-wide organization dedicated to the recognition of the social aspects of the gospel.



Main Auditorium

Closing Weekend — July 21-23

For **John Bradshaw**, nothing matches the joy of introducing others to Christ. His own life was changed when he gave his heart to Jesus. John had a successful broadcasting career that began in his home country of New Zealand, where he worked as a disc jockey for top radio stations. After his baptism, John met Melissa at church. After they were married, John worked as an evangelist for *Amazing Facts* for 12 years. Next, putting down roots for the family, which now included a son and daughter, was the priority. John pastored for 15 years, first in Lexington, Kentucky and then the Village Church near Walla Walla University. He has held more than 80 evangelistic series. On January 1, 2011 he became the fourth speaker/director of the international It Is Written ministry. He follows, George Vandeman, Mark Finley and Shawn Boonstra, who resigned for health reasons.



The King's Heralds

July 16

Concert at 3:00 pm



Michael Harris

July 23

Concert at 3:00 pm



Spanish Tent Main Speaker – July 14-23

Pastor **Roger Alvarez** is a much sought after speaker for weeks of prayer and camp meetings, spent his first 40 years of life in Cuba. There he served as director of several departments in the Cuban conference. He also served as a director for youth and family life ministries for the Cuban Union. Arriving in the United States in May 1998, this second generation Adventist immediately immersed himself in ministry. He spent the next 24 years as a pastor and evangelist. Presently, he serves as Hispanic Coordinator for the Southeastern Conference and is also completing a master's degree in pastoral ministry at Andrews University. He and his wife Leonor have two adult children.



Daily at the Spanish Tent – July 17-22

Sandra Suarez is passionate about your health, especially what you eat. Since graduating from the Universidad Adventist de Montemorelos Medical School in 1984, she has been dedicated to helping her patients and others to get well and stay well. In 2005 Sandra and her physician husband, Ezequiel, established a health center in downtown Los Angeles. The California Occupational Clinic is where patients receive help for their ailments and guidance for living a healthier and more wholesome life.

Plus...

For Adults Seminar and weekday speakers include Ceasar and Carolann de Leon, David DeRose, Daniel McManus, Cindy Tutsch, Miroslav Kis, Joseph Chendra, Bonnie Navarro, Gary Gibbs and more...

For Young Adults, Youth and Children:

Programs and recreation times are from 9:30 am and 9:00 pm



Live Satellite Broadcasts on the Hope Church Channel

Evenings 7:00-9:00 pm

Sabbath Worship 10:45-12:30 pm

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go to ccc.adventist.org

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Bakersfield Southside Hosts the Wendale Davis Foundation Leadership Conference

Caron Oswald

More than 200 teens, in free event T-shirts, packed the sanctuary of the Bakersfield Southside church Feb. 25 for the third annual leadership conference sponsored by the Wendale Davis Foundation.

Counselors at 22 high schools received invitations to the event. Limited to 20 students each, the schools included continuation school for kids expelled from high school or for credit recovery, court schools and group homes.



Bakersfield resident and NFL linebacker Joey Porter (center in white shirt) is surrounded by some of his childhood friends. All shared in three workshops. Each friend shared his life story, including consequences of dangerous choices. All of the friends have been in prison. Porter took a different path, which led to a Super Bowl win with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2006. He currently plays for the Arizona Cardinals.

The ambitious schedule included four rotating workshops — HIV/AIDS Awareness, Gang Intervention, Life Skills, and guest speakers. Information booths lined the walls of the fellowship hall. The California Employment Development Department for youth ages 15-24, School of the Arts, the Fire Department, and area colleges were among

the organizations present. The event closed with keynote speaker Robin Robinson, an area youth pastor. Lunch was also provided.

“Now I know for sure what to do,” says 15-year-old James Cherry about his future.

For 13-year-old Kenneyetta Smith, the most meaningful workshop was Life Skills. “The women talking about their past, I wouldn’t want to go through what they did. And I wouldn’t want my kids to go through what I have.”

Linda Cobb, school staff member, says, “I got so much information, vital information, in each session. I am 50 years old, and I learned a few things. I am grateful.”

“There is a seed in everybody to change. Individuals need to step in,” says Wesley Davis, WDF founder. With multiple week night programs, plus annual events, Davis depends on volunteers to staff, mentor and teach at-risk kids who take part in the various opportunities.

Lynnetta Jefferson, a high school English teacher who works with Davis, volunteered to help coordinate the event. She also participated in the Foundation’s mentor program. “We do a comprehensive job of reaching young people where they are. All of the people involved are selfless,” she says.

“Just seeing the state of the youth in our community, they are like sheep without a shepherd, they are putty in demons’ hands. When I

look at what we’ve done today, it brings tears to my eyes,” says Kevin Rhamie, Bakersfield Southside church pastor, WDF board member and volunteer. “Children will be saved because of what they’ve learned today — saved from destruction. I’m doing something that Jesus would have done.”

Wendale Davis Foundation

A non-profit organization with the mission to educate, motivate and rehabilitate at-risk youth and their families through counseling, family support, social interaction, and mentoring. Programs include:

- Homework club/tutoring
- Group mentoring/Friday night life
- Individual mentoring
- Athletic training
- Free tattoo removal
- Substance abuse treatment opportunities
- Family support and assistance
- Prison visits for the reality of incarceration
- Annual basketball tournament
- Annual peace march for lives lost by violence
- Free summer day camp
- Annual talent show (fundraiser)



Turning Tragedy into Triumph

Caron Oswald

The Sabbath morning service included communion, and Wesley Davis had washed the feet of his son, Wendale. A high school junior, a good student and star basketball player, Wendale was known for his compassionate heart. Two inches over six feet with broad shoulders, he looked older than his 16 years.

With his new driver's license, Wendale jumped at an invitation to visit a girl he had recently met. Driving through unfamiliar neighborhoods, he found her house. They were sitting in the car in front of her house when the unthinkable happened.

Slowly driving by, another car's two passengers mistook Wendale for a rival gang member and opened fire. On April 23, 2006, Wendale was murdered. He had never been in a gang.

Word quickly spread that gang members had killed Wesley's son. Even though he had been "retired" for 15 years, Wesley's reputation still demanded respect and, in some cases, fear.

Wesley Davis's Story

When he was 19, Wesley started his own business. By 25, he was the top cocaine dealer in the greater Bakersfield area. In seven years, he had achieved financial success with all the trappings. He was also the father of 23 children by eight women — 14 children lived with him.

On a trip to Texas in 1992, Wesley shared his dream with a friend. "We've done well, we have a lot of money. I want to do something different. Let's make this our last trip and change our lives."

His change of heart had been gradual. "The Holy Spirit began to bring things back to my mind. Mother had raised me in church for nine years. It was dormant but still there, something for the Holy Spirit to connect to."

Wesley did change his life.

And his income also changed — to zero. He married the mother of six of his children and began visiting his own mother. One evening she invited Wesley to her Monday night Bible study. Hungry for something spiritual, he accepted.

At the Bakersfield Southside church, he found a family and, in time, a purpose. He was hired as the church's janitor. "It was \$275 a month and my first normal job," Wesley says, "I was proud of that."

He began having Bible studies at his house. On Friday nights, between 25 and 35 at-risk kids came. After Wendale's murder, attendance grew to more than 60. When Wesley relocated his family to a safer neighborhood, he was concerned about the kids. Thankfully, the Bakersfield Central church provided a room every week.

Today, Wesley is a campus supervisor at a local high school. Some of the students know his name. His reputation still follows him. Three of his children have graduated from college and another is in her last year. His youngest child is 17.

The Wendale Davis Foundation was born out of Wesley's grief. "It took me about two years to actually function normally. I just had to do something. I didn't want it to eat at me negatively." The mission, to educate, motivate and rehabilitate at-risk youth and their families, is a powerful legacy for Wendale, for Wesley and for the entire Davis family.



Keven Rhamie (l.), pastor of the Bakersfield Southside church, and Wesley Davis (r.) work together for at-risk youth.



Asian/Pacific Adventists Show Unity in Diversity

Eleazar Famorcan

A sea of jubilant people, representing 12 ethnic and 24 local church groups in the Northern California Conference, gathered together under one roof last October for an afternoon of inspiration and fellowship at the NCC Asian/Pacific convocation. Although many of the language groups regularly hold their own camp meetings, this was the first convocation where every NCC Asian/Pacific group gathered for one big family celebration.

As flags of their home countries waved on stage, about 700 Asian/Pacific Adventists — Cambodian, Chinese, Fijian, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Samoan, Tongan and Vietnamese — packed into the Sacramento Korean church. Many wore their ethnic costumes.

“This day, we celebrate our diversity and unity in hastening God’s work in Northern California,” said NCC Asian/Pacific Ministries Coordinator VicLouis Arreola, III, who also serves as director of the Pacific Institute of Christian Ministry (PICM).

The afternoon’s featured speaker was George Atiga, Pacific Union Conference Asian/Pacific ministries director. He called the gathering a fulfillment of Revelation 7:9. Challenges confront their mission, and yet “the Asian/Pacific work is progressing,” he said. Atiga challenged his listeners not only to tell people about Jesus’ imminent return but

also to live their faith. “Christ’s character rightly reproduced in people — this is how to hasten His coming,” he added.

His challenge was an inspiration to church members who have already been actively involved with a variety of outreach and new ministry projects, including the Contra Costa Filipino and Fairfield Samoan church plants. “All our churches participated in evangelism in 2009 and 2010, contributing more than 200 baptisms in the last two years,” said Arreola.

During the afternoon, 10 PICM graduates received their lay pastoral assistant certificates. The Institute equips Adventists from the NCC and all over the world to spread the Gospel. PICM enrollment has grown to 318 students from the United States, Africa, Cambodia, China, Thailand, South America and the Philippines. Students take classes offered in the NCC or online. Webinars will be added soon.

Throughout the program, some participants prayed in their native tongue or used a sprinkling

Pacific Union Conference Asian/Pacific Ministries Director George Atiga invites his listeners to get the message of Jesus’ soon return out to people.



Eleazar Famorcan



Eleazar Famorcan

Son Moeng, 83, plays the traditional, violin-like tror with the Stockton Cambodian group.

of their own dialects in addressing the gathered throng, but most of the proceedings were conducted in English. “I wish I could greet you in your languages,” said NCC President Jim Pedersen during his address.

The program featured a variety of ethnic music from Cambodians, Fijians, Koreans and Samoans. A member of the All Nations church of Elk Grove played a violin solo. The Tongans brought their brass band along with their choir. The host church presented a surprising musical number: “We are going to sing in Italian,” their conductor announced.

All in all, it was a day of variety and inspiration. Rogelia Gayoba, who’s joining the American Canyon Fil-Am congregation, summed up the feelings of many at the convocation: “I am blessed,” she said.



Training Conference Inspires and Equips Women's Ministries Leaders

Julie Lorenz

About 200 women attended the Northern California Conference Women's Ministries Leaders Training Day, held in the Chico church gymnasium in February. A major focus of the event — titled "A Ministry for Every Woman" — was outreach.

"I believe women's ministry is one of the biggest evangelistic tools that we have in our local churches," said NCC Women's Ministries Coordinator Mary Jo Lauderdale. "Women love getting together, and when they get together they can invite the women of the community."

The day's guest speaker was Carla Baker, who has served as North American Division women's ministries director since 2005. "Every one of us is put where we are ... because we can reach people that other people can't," said Baker. "We need to reach out to the people who are nearest to us."

The day's programs presented many creative ideas and practical tools that the women could use in their local women's ministries. They learned about programs that have been successfully implemented, including outreach to women in shelters, women's question and answer forums, special women's Sabbaths, providing shoes to women in poverty and more. Lauderdale encouraged the women to check out the NCC women's ministries website (ncc.adventist.org/womensministries) for help and inspiration.

She also invited the women to network with each other during informal lunchtime area meetings with their regional leaders. (NCC Women's Ministries Advisory Board members each have been assigned to represent and help a region of the conference.) In the afternoon, women described ministry ideas they have tried in their own churches.

This training day of sharing and support is very important to local ministry leaders who often feel isolated. "It binds together a community of women leaders," said Oroville church member Valerie Wuchenich-Nelson, who said she appreciated "the gathering of ideas."

"We get inspired to inspire our group of leaders," said Susan Westphal from the Mount Shasta church.

An important part of this year's conference was the introduction of a new outreach project: the NCC

Mary Jo Lauderdale presents a gift to Carla Baker at the end of the day.



Julie Lorenz



Nancy Walker

Paradise church Associate Pastor Mary Maxson prays with women from the Oroville church. At the end of the program, NCC Women's Ministries Advisory Board members walked throughout the room and prayed for a blessing on each woman.

Women's Ministries Congo Widows Mission Project. Presented by Lauderdale and advisory board member Kate Barry Edwards, the goal is to raise \$100,000 for 13 churches, two schools and 1,500 goats. The animals will be given in pairs to Congolese Adventist widows, who will be able to provide for themselves by selling milk, cheese and baby goats. In turn, these women will help non-Adventist widows by giving them goat kids so that they also can provide for themselves. The women at the conference responded enthusiastically to the appeal, donating \$5,400 in cash and pledges.

"We want women to see that ministry is not just to women in our own church," said Lauderdale. "Our ministry is to the community in which we live and also around the world."



Leoni Meadows Plans for a Great Summer Camp

Kim Godfrey

Oh How He Loves Us,” the theme for Leoni Meadows summer camp 2011, is based on the text found in John 3:16: “For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (ESV).

“This is exactly what Leoni Meadows Camp is all about,” said Leoni Meadows Executive Director Craig Heinrich. “Our theme for this year is a reflection of what we are reminded of each summer — how much Jesus loves His kids.”

Every year, Leoni Meadows provides a variety of programs, giving kids the opportunity to experience all that summer camp has to offer.

Base Camp gives campers a chance to try everything — especially the camp’s high- and low-ropes challenge course. In addition, activity and class times are filled with swimming, canoeing, ceramics, horses, go-karts, biking, archery and more.

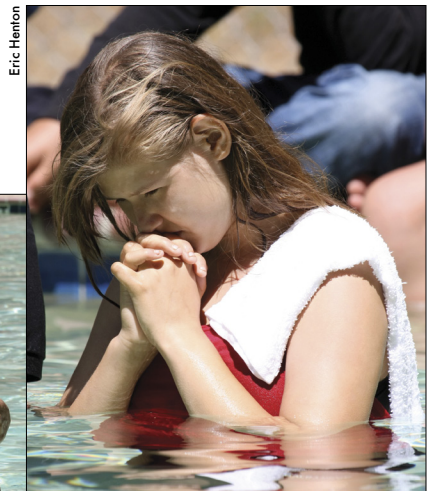
Campers get to focus on their favorite things: riding horses all week at Cowboy Camp, living in a teepee at Indian Camp, backpacking and

camping under the stars at Wilderness Camp, wakeboarding and skiing at Aquatics Camp.

Sports camps teach campers new skills or help them get better at



Eric Henton



Eric Henton

Every summer, many campers give their hearts to Jesus after spending time at Leoni Meadows.

what they already know. Basketball and Volleyball camps all happen in Base Camp, but campers fill their days getting better at their favorite sports.

Teen Extreme, another one of the youth camps, is a mix of evangelism, amazing activities and a chance to spend time with friends. These campers enjoy a program designed specifically for them. They may spend an afternoon playing mud football and then enjoy a walk to worship, singing praises to their heavenly Creator. Last summer, Teen Extreme was especially memorable because 18 kids were baptized at the end of the week.

“The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was so evident as the kids at camp turned their lives over to Christ,” said Heinrich. “We were overcome with His awesome influence.”

This summer promises to be just as great as the last one. “With the baptisms from last summer still fresh in our minds, we can’t wait to see what amazing wonders God has in store for Leoni Meadows,” said Heinrich. “We look forward to welcoming the campers and staff that will be here to enjoy the great outdoors God has provided for us.”

For a description of camps offered and to register, visit www.leonimeadows.org, or call 530-626-3610 for more information.



Eric Henton



Redding Adventist Academy Students Put Their Faith into Action

Diane Butler

After challenging her freshman and sophomore students to come up with special service projects, Redding Adventist Academy Bible teacher Devann White had a pleasant surprise. “The kids went far beyond what I had imagined,” she said.

Freshman Shelby Ford and sophomore Kassi Turk staged a dog-a-thon on the Sacramento River Trail that raised \$800 for the Shasta County Animal Shelter. Despite a rainy start, over 70 people showed up to walk their dogs or shelter dogs, who were happy for the chance to enjoy the outdoors. The sophomores made scarves for the dogs with “dog-a-thon” embroidered on each one.

“The shelter would like to build a clinic for the animals, and we wanted to help,” said Kassi, whose family has adopted two dogs from the shelter. The students also hoped to bring more attention to the shelter, which has a low profile in the community.



Freshman Shelby Ford and sophomore Kassi Turk organized the dog-a-thon.



RAA freshman Margo Moore and her mother Melodie participated in the dog-a-thon. Margo also organized a diaper drive for her service project.

Freshman Margo Moore collected over 3,000 diapers in a drive that benefitted the CareNet Pregnancy Center, which encourages women with unwanted pregnancies to deliver their babies. “Food stamps do not cover diapers, and they are a big expense for a young mother,” said Margo.

Sophomore Taylor Smith launched a cottage industry making cell phone and iPod cases as well as coffee cup jackets out of felt and different colored threads. He sells them online at safecase.bigcartel.com for \$5 to \$6 and donates the proceeds to Nothing but Nets, which provides sleeping nets for children in Africa. By keeping mosquitoes off the children, the nets prevent the spread of malaria.

Sophomores Hannah Groen and Haley Ghelfi baked breads

and made candy, giving \$175 in proceeds to the Redding chapter of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Sophomores Kaitlin Jackson, Morgan King, Cody Shaw and Brian Jones made a blue and yellow “quillow” (quilt and pillow combined) for a local high school student suffering from Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

Freshman Paige Matsuda held special prayer sessions for elementary students on campus. “When I announced this to the seventh and eighth graders, they just stared at me,” said Paige. “But after the first student participated, the others lined up to pray with me. And they all had requests and praises.”

Sophomore Rachel Dunbar, who sings in the Academy Ladies Chorus, asked her song-mates to join her for a special Christmas program at a local nursing home where her grandmother had been a resident before passing away. “It was special to me because of my grandmother and also because I knew some of the residents,” said Rachel.

The students’ dedication to outreach was an inspiration for other RAA students and a witness to the community. A Redding newspaper, *The Record Searchlight*, featured a front-page story on the students titled “Shining their light.” “It was exciting to see how much heart the kids put into these projects,” said RAA Principal Lance Taggart. “It turned into more than just a classroom assignment.”



Lafo Ordained to the Ministry

Betty Cooney

Eliu Lafo, pastor of the Compton Samoan church, was ordained to the gospel ministry on Sabbath, Feb. 12. Born in Tutuila, American Samoa, he has four brothers and three sisters who make their homes in California, Samoa and New Zealand.



(Back row, l. to r.) Sebastian, Leaisa and Nathaniel with (front row) Eliu and Alilevao Lafo.

Lafo has lived in California since the early 1970s, first living in Oceanside, where he was raised by his grandparents through his mid-teens. He accepted the Adventist message through the ministry of Pastor Sioli Puni at the Vista Samoan Adventist Church, and was baptized in 1976 at the Tabernacle Adventist Church in San Francisco.

Eliu and his wife, Aloilevao Taue- lia, have three children: Sebastian (22), Nathaniel (19), both attending La Sierra University; and a daughter, Leaisa (14), a high school freshman. Despite health challenges, his wife Alo worked at the Center for Youth Evangelism

at Andrews University while her husband studied at the seminary. Her greatest passion in ministry is to provide spiritual and emotional support to girls and young women while also working alongside her husband in ministry.

In 2004 Lafo earned a Master of Divinity degree from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. Prior to his ministerial education he earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from California State University San Jose.

Lafo's work experience in the non-profit field and extensive work with high-risk youth and families have proven invaluable to his ministry in the urban setting. He continues to be involved in Polynesian community

organizations that target middle- and high school-aged young people. "I am excited when working with young people in ministry," he said, "and I am intentional in ensuring that their voice is heard within the community and the church."

While a member of the San Jose Samoan church, Lafo received the call to professional ministry in 2006 from the Southeastern California Conference to serve as sole pastor of the Santa Ana Samoan church. After serving there for 19 months, the Southern California Conference invited him to pastor the Compton Samoan church in 2008.

Lafo and the Compton Samoan congregation share a passion for evangelism. Over the past two and a half years, several evangelistic campaigns have led to more than 35 baptisms. "To God be the glory!" Lafo said.

Notice of Southern California Conference Regular Constituency Session

Please take notice that the 63rd regular Constituency Session of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene as follows:

- Place: White Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church, 401 North State Street, Los Angeles, California
- Date: Sunday, May 15, 2011
- Time: 7:55 a.m. – 1 p.m., or until business is completed.

The purpose of this session is to receive reports, to elect conference officers, the Superintendent of Schools, the Executive Committee, and the Bylaws Committee; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Delegates are invited to join with the SCC Prayer Team for prayer from 7–7:50 a.m.
Larry L. Caviness, President
Velino A. Salazar, Executive Secretary



Pasadena Members Reach Out — Near and Far

Dave Recalde and Norman Sacro

Pasadena church members multitask as they reach their communities while also nurturing members. A recent calendar included renewal of marriage vows, saturating the immediate church neighborhood with 5,000 pieces of literature and conducting a health survey to identify community needs. The Community Services team maintains feeding and clothing programs. Pasadena Pathfinders are focused on Bible study, hoping to continue taking a lead in the annual Bible Bowl. Small group Bible study and prayer sessions are ongoing.

While the church is active locally, members have also found room in their hearts for mission outreach. For three years, they have been involved in a project that began when Melchor Valdez, a nephew of a Pasadena member, attended a parent-teachers' meeting in Palawan, Philippines, where he lives. The principal asked if anyone knew who could continue the weekly feeding program for the students, since the church group that had been doing it could not continue.

Valdez learned that the church also had been teaching students about the Bible for their Values class requirements. The principal explained that many of the children had little food at home, so many were not coming to school. Scholastic performance was very poor, and kids' behavior was challenging.

Valdez shared this appeal with his church in Palawan. Prayerfully, the church decided to adopt the program, if they could find steady funding. Valdez contacted his aunt, Aida Sacro, wife of Pasadena church first elder Norman Sacro.

"We need \$200 monthly to do the work," he said.

The Sacros encouraged, "Go ahead and respond to the appeal. We will raise funds." In August 2009, Valdez and other local members began feeding 200 public elementary students, sharing Bible stories and verses, teaching Adventist songs. Soon, teachers noticed students' attendance, academic performance and behavior improving.

A neighboring principal came to learn what had produced such improved results, and begged Valdez to do the same programs for her 450 students, approximately half of whom are Muslims.

At first the church declined, due to the added support involved. The principal countered, asking if they could feed and teach twice monthly instead of weekly. Valdez contacted the Sacros, who presented the matter to fellow board members. The board agreed. A still larger



On a visit to the Philippines, Norman Sacro dishes out food for some of the hundreds of children being fed through the Pasadena church mission project.

opportunity arose: a 600-student public elementary school requested that they, too, have the program.

Meanwhile, the high school principal asked an Adventist teacher to teach Values classes to upper class students. The teacher agreed, if the Bible could be the textbook; the principal consented. Soon, the principal noted scholastic and behavioral improvements and asked that the teacher also teach Values classes for freshmen and sophomores. The teacher then solicited the help of lay members of the New Panay church, who extended the feeding program to the 400-student high school.

Discovering that students did not own Bibles, they asked Valdez to again contact his Pasadena relatives about the urgent need, and funding was found. Pasadena members are praying for both their Philippine mission and Pasadena outreaches, responding as God provides.



Glendale City Church Reconnects with Former Members

Betty Cooney

As the new year dawns, I propose a simple thought: Are we capable of Reconnecting, Reclaiming and Reflaming our missing members?" That question, posed in 2010 by Don Greathouse, Glendale City church first elder, sparked plans for a Reunion Sabbath on Feb. 12, 2011, coinciding with the church's 105th anniversary.

His plan included soliciting the church membership for names and addresses of known missing members to whom Pastor Smuts van Rooyen and the church board would send letters of invitation. Greathouse became the first volunteer.

"We sent the invitation letter to non-attending members, telling them that if they had problems regarding the church to please speak to us," said van Rooyen. "We made it clear that we were not blaming them for not attending, just inviting them; it was a 'Let's talk' invitation.

"We received about nine responses. A number of them said they no longer identified themselves with the Adventist Church, but thanked us for our kind letter. One couple came to the reunion and said, 'We plan to come back to church regularly.'"

According to van Rooyen, the church is implementing suggestions by veteran church-growth strategist Monte Sahlin and also planning visitation. "Our prayer is that those who attended the reunion had the feeling of reconnecting with the church family and that it will inspire them to keep coming."

A full day of celebratory events drew a large attendance. The church sanctuary was filled during the 11 o'clock service featuring a grace-oriented sermon by van Rooyen.

After the worship service, 60 members and friends signed up for blood pressure screening conducted by a team led by health educator Kathy McFarland, DrHSc, giving participants a chance to add their names and contact information for a drawing for two orchid plants.

At lunch, tables filled with returnees and other guests, most of whom had come with, or at the invitation of, relatives or friends. Others had seen announcements or



Members and friends old and new enjoyed reconnecting at lunch and throughout Reunion Sabbath.



The church and children's choirs were featured during the 11 o'clock service. The children's choir sang in the afternoon service as well, directed by Lissie Quishenberry.

received invitations. Virtually all expressed happiness to be back.

The afternoon featured a puppet play by teens on the theme of God's unconditional love for us, directed by Associate Pastor Cherise Gardner. Rededication of the newly-refurbished Chapel of the Good Shepherd and dedication of the recently installed Rodgers organ followed. A concert by the Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers, a reception and vespers closed the Sabbath.

"One lady came who had not been to the church in 20 years," said Gardner. "Last week she came again, so we hope she will keep coming. What really stood out about the day for me was the fact that so many people came, and a significant portion of the audience stayed throughout the day. When we had the children's afternoon service, we weren't expecting many, but the chapel was filled to capacity."



SCC Pathfinder Convocation Encourages Action and Commitment

Brenda Richardson

The program for the 2011 Pathfinder Convocation was as packed as the church where it was held, filled with activities extending into the afternoon. More than 2,000 Pathfinders, leaders and parents from 58 clubs filled the sanctuary of the White Memorial church for an all-day event. During Sabbath school, Lt. Col. Natalia Giscombe, Edwards AFB, spoke about her deployments to Haiti, Honduras and elsewhere to help people in disaster or other needy situations. “We set up medical clinics in villages, and hundreds and hundreds came for treatment. Pathfinders can be missionaries or help someone in need here at home, too,” she added.

Speaker James L. Black, Sr., youth/young adult director for the North American Division, related the familiar biblical story of the boy who shared his five loaves and two fish with Jesus and how Jesus blessed his lunch and fed the multitude. “That boy in the story was a Pathfinder — he was always prepared!” Black pointed out, utilizing Pathfinder advisory committee members to illustrate that whether sharing food or faith, the good keeps on spreading to others.

Twelve advisors shared bowls of fish crackers and pretzels and also threw packaged crackers into the audience, illustrating the story of all who shared the boy’s lunch. Twelve Pathfinders held the 12 baskets of leftovers collected after the crowd



Pastor James Black baptizes Troy Martin Javelona, who made his decision for baptism at the 2009 Oshkosh Camporee. A total of three Pathfinders and two adults from Trinity church Pathfinder club, including a parent, were baptized at the meeting.

was full and satisfied. Pathfinders were to give the leftover food that they held (bread and a can of sardines) to their community service centers the following week or share them with a needy person.

Responding to an altar call inviting Pathfinders to give their lives to Jesus, 73 Pathfinders came forward and signed decision cards with their church or Pathfinder club.

During a two-hour afternoon session unique to this year’s convocation, Steve and Lynnette Clement, SCC teen leadership training coordinators, taught the Sanctuary honor, acquainting Pathfinders with the Old Testament sanctuary and how Christ was represented in the sanctuary services. More than 220 Pathfinders completed the honor during the intensive training.

“At the 2010 enrollment night for the White Memorial Pathfinders, we were surprised when church member Anita Brawley brought two non-Adventist neighbors, Mercedes and Fidel Ortiz,” said Pastor Kevin Morris, WMC associate pastor and club director. “At registration, Mercedes was ready to join, but her brother Fidel took a ‘wait and see’ attitude. After attending the Pathfinder orientation where the club calendar and policies were presented to the Pathfinders, Fidel decided that he wanted to join as well.” Since enrolling, both Mercedes and Fidel have been faithful in attending all club functions. Even though their step-father speaks almost no English, he makes sure that they are at each club event on time and properly uniformed. Both Mercedes and Fidel were presented with Bibles at their Induction Service by club director Robert Torres and participate in the Pathfinder Friend Class, which involves both memory verses and Bible reading.

Seventy-three Pathfinders came forward to sign decision cards for baptism at the convocation.





April to Be Adventist Christian Education Month in SECC

Jocelyn Fay

This month, members of constituent churches of Southeastern California Conference’s schools can expect to see and hear more of the students they are helping to educate.

SECC has designated April as Adventist Christian Education Month. Conference officers and education superintendents have asked pastors and educators to work together during the five-Sabbath month to focus on what students in SECC’s 21 elementary and K-12 schools are learning and accomplishing.

Sermons, stories, reports and music by individual students and student groups are all part of the plan to increase schools’ visibility and draw churches and schools closer together as both entities work

with parents to “help prepare children for the kingdom of heaven,” according to L. Roo McKenzie, SECC’s education evangelist.

“April was our choice for this special emphasis on education because churches in the conference collect the annual K-12 Educational Scholarship Fund offering during April,” says Don Dudley, superintendent of education. “This year’s educational offering is scheduled for April 23; however, that is Easter weekend, so churches have been given the option of collecting the offering on April 30 instead.”

The K-12 Scholarship Fund is administered by the conference’s office of education and supplements the Worthy Student Fund.

“We’re helping 810 students this year, almost 20 percent of our K-12 enrollment,” Dudley reports, “but we’re anticipating a greater need because of the increased emphasis we’re putting on getting more of our church’s children into Adventist schools.”

The office of education is preparing

a flier to be distributed by the churches in April. It contains information about the Adventist Church’s CognitiveGenesis study of academic performance in Adventist schools, a directory of SECC’s schools, and a school-age student “census form,” through which the conference’s education team members hope to gather information to help them make plans for the future.

Adventist Christian Education Month is part of a larger plan initiated by McKenzie. At their Jan. 27 meeting, members of the conference Executive Committee voted to approve a number of McKenzie’s proposed action steps for a “Renaissance in Adventist Christian Education” in Southeastern.

These go beyond April’s education emphasis to include identifying students who need financial assistance in order to attend Adventist schools; increasing schools’ communication of their plans and programs with members of their constituent churches; electing an educational secretary and developing a “booster club” in each church; sharing CognitiveGenesis research findings with members; and engaging pastors in ongoing interaction with students.

Education Management Team members (education superintendents and school administrators) discussed the initiative at their February meeting, focusing on

Dan Smith, pastor of the Garden Grove church, baptizes Toshiki Oi, an Orangewood Academy student, in a portable baptistry at the school.





plans for collaborating with their churches this month.

Several principals at that meeting shared stories about church-school-family cooperative projects already in place. Among them:

More than 300 grandparents attended Grandparents Day at **Redlands Adventist Academy** in February. After having tea in the school gym, the grandparents attended a program during which the students sang songs and told stories, and visited classrooms to see the projects their grandchildren had been working on.

“We do this every year,” said Linda Woolley, principal. “We realize what a huge part grandparents play in kids’ lives, and many times they help with their grandchildren’s tuition costs. We want to honor them for that.”

San Diego Academy sets aside time twice a month for students in service groups to plan service projects, sometimes carrying them out during that time but often working on weekends at such things as yard work or singing in nursing homes or at the Paradise Village Retirement Community. Faculty members and pastors of local churches, including Darren Carrington, Hugo Guillen, and Will Penick, assist the students with these projects.

“The whole thrust of these service groups is to have the kids choose their ministry and have the adults support them in it,” said Julie Savino, academy vice principal.

Peggy James, director of the Paradise Valley church’s community services outreach, praises the work of SDA student volunteers who help with food distribution every week. “They work hard packing groceries as fast as they can for 300 people,” she says. James also says eighth-graders at SDA have “adopted” Paradise Valley church. About every six weeks they provide part of the



Gary and Renee Bailey visit their granddaughter, Laralyn, at Redlands Adventist Academy on Grandparents Day.

church program — praise songs, scripture, prayer and special music.

Faculty and staff at **Murrieta Springs Adventist Christian School** have sought and received pastoral involvement with their students, according to Darena Shetler, teaching principal. Murrieta Springs church pastor Lyndon Parsons visits the school regularly, and Vadim Demytyev, pastor of the Valley church, has helped students learn to prepare and present sermons.

Students in grades 7 to 12 at **Calexico Mission School** attended a Week of Worship last fall, using the *Adventist Review’s* Week of Prayer readings as the basis for discussions that took place in groups afterward. Those same groups continue to meet, said Susan Smith, principal, and the students are now going through a series of Bible lessons for teenagers. El Centro pastors Gilberto Del Vecchio (also a Bible teacher at Calexico) and Julio Juarez Sr. conduct a church service for youth at the Calexico school gym once a quarter.

At **Orangewood Academy**, more than 100 students and parents recently witnessed the baptism of

Toshiki Oi, a student who was born in Japan to Buddhist parents but became exposed to Christianity while studying in Australia. After moving to Garden Grove and enjoying the people and activities at Orangewood Academy, Oi began studying the Bible. He decided to be baptized a few weeks ago at the close of a Week of Prayer. Dan Smith, pastor of the Garden Grove church, baptized him in a portable baptistery outside the school’s auditorium. Oi is now a member of the Garden Grove church, where he attends regularly.

“This magnificent event was a testament to the students and faculty of Orangewood Academy who embraced a foreign young man and shared with him Christianity in its most basic form, by genuinely showing the love that characterizes Christ’s followers,” said Oscar Olivarria, Orangewood religion teacher.

“These vignettes from our schools are examples of church-school-family cooperative projects, and also illustrate the support given our schools by pastors,” says Dudley.



GC President Speaks in Redlands

Don A. Roth

More than 500 seniors from Southern California jammed into the newly-renovated Redlands sanctuary on Feb. 21 to see and hear Ted N.C. Wilson, who was elected president of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination last summer.

The Southeastern California Conference's coordinator for retirees, Lorie Purdey, led out in the two-hour program, which consisted mainly of questions fielded by the church's chief executive. The program was arranged by the West Coast General Conference office in Loma Linda. This was the first Loma Linda-area appearance of the new General Conference president, who spoke in Redlands prior to a meeting he was scheduled to attend of the executive board of Loma

Linda University Health Sciences Center.

Wilson had just returned from a lengthy overseas trip to the South Pacific region, so he took the opportunity to give a brief report of his visits to Papua New Guinea and Fiji, where he drew record-breaking audiences.

Questions asked by retirees and others covered a wide range of topics, all the way from creation/evolution to local church worship styles. In response to some of the more sensitive issues, Wilson invited a number of the inquirers to put their requests in writing and send them directly to his Silver Spring, Md., office for attention and a response. One woman became so overcome as she asked her question that it prompted the world church leader

to step down from the platform to put his arm around her, with the assurance of the church's concern for her and many others in the audience who had special areas of inquiry.

This meeting was one of a series of similar meetings arranged by local senior leaders for the benefit of both denominational and nondenominational retirees. Others invited in the past have included Jan Paulsen, former General Conference president; Don Schneider, then president of the North American Division; and Ricardo Graham, president of the Pacific Union Conference.

Hosting the event was Zachary Thorp, senior pastor of the Redlands church.

Wilson, center, facing camera, knew many of the seniors who attended the Redlands meeting. He spoke one-to-one with quite a few of them before leaving for his next appointment.



Jared Wright



LLU Donates to Academy's Biology Complex

Mary Morgan

Loma Linda Academy has received the first portion of a \$500,000 gift from Loma Linda University and LLU Medical Center. At Loma Linda Academy's Jan. 4 board meeting, Loma Linda University's president/CEO Richard Hart and executive vice president/CFO Kevin Lang presented checks for \$200,000 to LLA's chief administrative officer Ed Boyatt and board chair Verlon Strauss. This gift represents the first two years of a five-year commitment.

A dialogue began three years ago under the leadership of former LLA head principal L. Roo McKenzie and the university and medical center leaders about a gift for the biology complex. A plaque acknowledging the gift and the university and medical center's passion and commitment to education and science will be placed on the biology complex, which was completed in August 2007.

"We appreciate the long-term support and generosity that the university and medical center have shown to LLA," said Mary Morgan, LLA alumni/advancement director. "We work together to prepare those students who pursue advanced degrees in medicine, dentistry, and other health science fields."

Hart expressed gratitude for the quality education LLA provides for children whose parents work at the university or the medical center, a key factor in recruiting employees.



Shawna Campbell

From left, Kevin Lang and Richard Hart of Loma Linda University present checks to Ed Boyatt and Verlon Strauss of Loma Linda Academy for the academy's biology complex.



Erno Miller

Presenters at a panel discussion on faith and freedom of conscience on Feb. 5 were David M. Brahms, left; John Graz, second from left; and Roy Branson, right. Between Graz and Branson is Larry Christoffel, moderator.

Religious Liberty Leader Visits SECC, Speaks With Church, NARLA, and Academic Groups

John Graz, director of the General Conference Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, spent nearly a week in the Loma Linda-Riverside area in early February.

At the invitation of Audray Johnson, SECC religious liberty director, and leaders of the North American Religious Liberty Association West, Graz participated in a variety of activities.

On Sabbath, Feb. 5, Graz preached at the Campus Hill church in Loma Linda in the morning and participated in a panel discussion on the Loma Linda University campus in the afternoon. About 300 people attended the afternoon presentation, "Faith and Freedom of Conscience in an Age of Terrorism." Other panelists were David M. Brahms from Carlsbad, Calif., a retired Brigadier General from the U.S. Marine Corps; and Roy Branson, associate dean of the Loma Linda University School of Religion. Moderator was Larry Christoffel, associate pastor of the Campus Hill church.

Graz also met with members and friends of the NARLA West Inland Empire team; was a guest at three La Sierra University religion classes, where he spoke about the state of religious freedom around the world; and met with School of Religion faculty at LSU. He also spoke about the International Religious Liberty Association, of which he is secretary-general, in a two-hour interview at the Loma Linda Broadcasting Network.



Adventist Lifestyle “Poster Girl” Marge Jetton Dies at 106

Don A. Roth

A longtime Loma Linda resident, Marge Jetton, died on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at a board-and-care home in Loma Linda. She was 106 years of age.

The story of her life at age 101 circulated around the world in “The Secrets of Living Longer,” by Dan Buettner, in the November 2005

edition of *National Geographic*.



Marge Jetton

Buettner wrote, “It is Friday morning and Marge Jetton is barrel- ing down the San

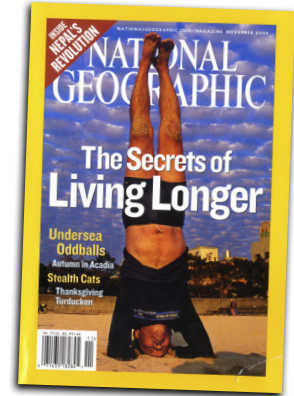
Bernardino freeway in her mauve Cadillac Seville. She peers out of the windshield from behind dark sun shades, her head barely clearing the steering wheel. Marge, who turned 101 in September, is late for several volunteer commitments she has today, and she is driving fast, although this morning she has walked a mile, lifted weights, and eaten her oatmeal. ‘I don’t know why God gave me the privilege of living so long,’ she said, pointing to herself, ‘but look what He did!’”

When Buettner, a best-selling author and explorer, heard about Jetton’s death in February, he wrote, “Marge

Jetton was the ‘poster girl’ of the longevity promise of the Adventist lifestyle. She ate a plant-based diet, observed the Sabbath, loved her husband despite the bumps in the road, and volunteered generously. As part of her reward, she lived 106 vital and happy years. She became an inspiration to over 40 million *National Geographic* readers around the world. I will miss her as an icon and as a friend.”

Jetton was born Sept. 29, 1904, in Yuba City, Calif. Her father was a mule skinner and her mother, a ranch cook and housekeeper. She remembered the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, when she was just a toddler. She recalled clearly the aftershocks that reached her family farm and sloshed water out of the animal trough.

She worked as a nurse, put her husband through medical school, and raised two children as a doctor’s



In his 2005 *National Geographic* article, “The Secrets of Living Longer,” Dan Buettner identified Loma Linda, California, as one of three places in the world where people living longer-than-usual lives. He called those areas Blue Zones and since then has written a book by that title.

wife. Her husband, James, whom she married in 1926, died two days before their 77th wedding anniversary.

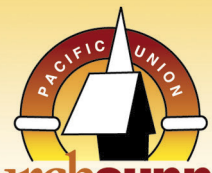
Jetton graduated from a course in nursing at the St. Helena Sanitarium and Hospital in Napa Valley, Calif. She has worked as a nurse in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Loma Linda.

She and James, a 1934 Loma Linda University School of Medicine graduate, operated a clinic during the Depression years in Fallbrook, where they lived for many years while she served as his office nurse. The couple also served as relief medical missionaries in Adventist hospitals in Zambia and Ethiopia.

The Jettons had two children, Jane, living now in Yountville, Calif., and James Jr., living in Palos Verdes, Calif.; seven grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.



Marge Jetton was still getting behind the wheel when she was featured in *National Geographic*.



Church Applied

• Networking Pacific Union Churches with Ministry Resources, Ideas and People •

Why I am a Christian

by Jamie Santa Cruz

I've tried for two years to figure out why I am a Christian, and have only in the last month started to articulate what binds me to this faith.

I am a Christian because of the stories.

Other people have their own reasons: My friend Karl insists he's a Christian because of his confidence in the Bible's "prophetic word." Others would say their Christian belief rests on archaeology, a miraculous answer to prayer, or the testimony of a transformed life.

For me, it's the fact that the stories of Christianity are my own stories. The biblical narratives resonate, they give substance to my human experience, they are true in my own life.

I am a Christian because the stories of the Bible are the stories of me.



One of the strongest cases in point is the story that came back to me over and over as I struggled two summers ago with serious doubts about my own faith.

It's the story of Jacob, that conniving birthright-snatcher-turned-fugitive, who, on the run from a brother with a score to settle, finally comes to his wit's end at the bank of the river Jabbok.

Read full article:
www.answersforme.org/stories

The Storyteller



EVANGELISM THAT SPEAKS TO THE HEART

The Paradise Seventh-day Adventist church recently conducted a series of meetings (in February and March) that featured stories about Jesus. Through video, drama and unique dialogue, Pastor Ben Maxson, David Vixie and others shared the gospel in a compelling way. ChurchApplied traveled to Paradise in February to capture the essence of what took place. This video will be posted here: www.churchsupportservices.org/videos

NOT RIGHT NOW

by Karen Spruill

I was in the middle of making a new recipe for lemon bars when my husband asked me, “So what do you want to have happen when you die? Burial or cremation? And where would you like your ashes to go?” His timing is impeccable.

“Do I really have a choice?” I said in disgust as I popped some crust into the oven. “I mean, we don’t have burial plots. Besides, I’m more concerned about our parents

at this point,” bringing to mind our one octogenarian and two nonagenarians still living. And it is hard enough figuring out what to do with a dead pet, let alone...

“Sure you have a choice,” he said. “Any of us could die at any time. It’s something to think about.”

“Not right now,” I added and turned on the mixer to blend the lemon filling.

Read full article:

www.answersforme.org/death

How to Grow Your Own Ministry

*D*o you feel the tug to embark on a new mission for God? Our fulfillment in life is directly related to our willingness to venture out and respond to the promptings and ideas God sends our way.

For basic tips to help you listen, identify and follow God’s call visit: www.churchsupportservices.org/grow



A Home AWAY FROM HOME

by Rachel Ngochien Nguyen Tom

*T*he first time I met Dao was after a Sabbath service at our church. We had a special program that day and there were many visitors from the neighborhood attending our service. She visited our church with her uncle. A church member who was their friend, introduced them to me. She seemed so little for a high school sophomore. She had just come to the U.S. from Vietnam to attend San Gabriel Academy. Her uncle



said she did not have many friends in the U.S., and our church, having quite a crowd of young people, would be a good place for her to meet new friends.

They returned the following Sabbath. We introduced Dao to the youth in our church. Not long after that, she became part of the group and joined in on all the youth activities – winter camp, summer camp, karaoke nights, and many other events.

After her sophomore year, during our 2006 summer camp meeting, Dao decided to be baptized. She recalled later that that was a big moment in her life. She felt that God had brought her to San Gabriel Academy and to the El Monte Vietnamese church for a purpose, and she was determined to follow His guiding hand.

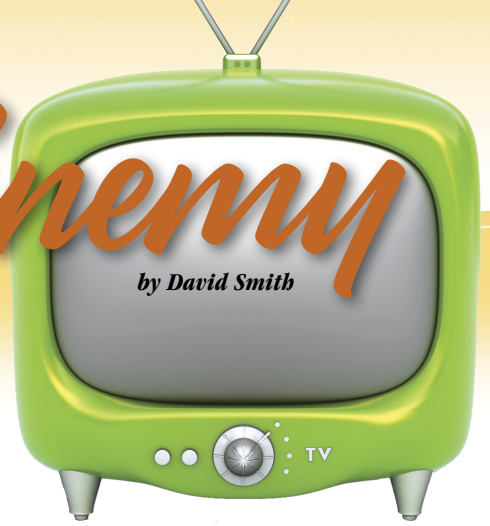
Read full article:

www.churchsupportservices.org/home

THE FLAT-SCREEN

Enemy

by David Smith



An enemy hath done this. And its name might be the Cartoon Network. Or NBC and Fox.

I am a man who loves television! I grew up in primitive mission lands, where we had absolutely nothing to do for fun except books, swimming, snorkeling, and tennis. When my three brothers and I first landed in California, a 1966 landscape swarming with rooftop antennas, and spent a week with Grandma's RCA Victor (color!), we fell off the wagon with a painful thud. We watched TV from early morning until night; we had lunch on TV trays; I practiced violin scales with one eye while also watching reruns of *The Andy Griffith Show*. We were not particularly discriminating viewers; if it moved on the screen, we would watch. We were usually up by 6 a.m. to catch the German Farm Report.

Read full article:
www.answersforme.org/tv

Support for Local Church Leaders

Pacific Union Conference Church Support Services publishes a FREE monthly e-letter that features ministry ideas, resources and articles on a wide range of ministry topics. To get it visit: www.churchsupportservices/news



Story Harvest

Once Upon a Time...



Fiddletown Faith – Fiddletown is a small California foothill community that was supposedly settled by a group of pioneers from Missouri in 1849. Undoubtedly it was gold fever that brought them there. While finding gold was not their motive for coming to Fiddletown, Steve and Cyndee Holm have struck it with their community Bible study group. In fact, Steve has discovered there are no limits with God when we give Him free reign.



Crafting Hearts – Have you considered the many ways that God can use you to share His love with others? Consider Duane Calkins, a shop teacher in the public school system in Roseville, Calif. A member of the Carmichael Seventh-day Adventist Church, Duane works in a setting where he cannot talk about spiritual things. Yet through his authentic, caring witness, his students know they are loved. And they are watching and listening to what he's doing with his life. Watch the video at: www.churchsupportservices.org/videos

Watch more videos at: www.vimeo.com/churchapplied



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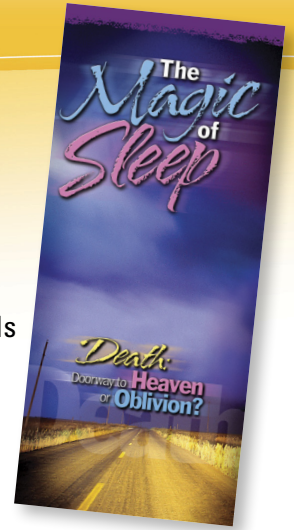
Something to Give Away

There are times when you wish you had something to give to that special friend or neighbor who recently asked a question about what happens at death. Here's a brochure worth considering.

Adventist members within the Pacific Union Conference can obtain free copies of this colorful brochure titled, "The Magic of Sleep." Your heart cries, "this can't be all there is." But what actually happens when

a person dies? Is death a doorway that instantly leads to heaven or oblivion? Or is it more like the sleep of a child that shortens a long journey into seconds?

For a free supply contact: css@puonline.org or call (805) 413-7372.



Web Round-Up

Good News TV
www.mygoodnewstv.com

Blurb
www.blurb.com

StoryHarvest
www.storyharvest.org

Faith in Context
www.montesahlin.com

New Perceptions
www.pmchurch.tv/blog

Paradise SDA Church
www.paradiseadventist.org

PlusLine
www.plusline.org



A NIGHT FOR LOSERS

A Conversational Bible Study – Luke, Chapter 15

by Dick Duerksen

We all know what it's like to lose something or someone we treasure. When it happens to us, we're tempted to think that we're being unfairly singled out or taken advantage of. But in reality, it simply verifies that we are human and living on a broken planet. Author and speaker Dick Duerksen poses some questions related to this topic that can help us grow. Use this in your small group, Sabbath School class, or personal devotions. —Editor

View Bible study at:
www.churchsupportservices.org/losers

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(videos that inspire)

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We need a photo of your church for our Union Flickr page. Please send a photo, along with your church and conference name to: css@puonline.org. Flickr church feed: www.flickr.com/puc_churches

PUC Education Days: Connecting Future Teachers with Jobs

Julie Z. Lee

On Feb. 7, more than 100 principals, superintendents and education directors from the Pacific Union arrived at Pacific Union College for 2011 Education Days, an annual networking event for future educators. Organized by PUC, Education Days offers potential employers from Seventh-day Adventist schools and institutions opportunities to mingle with and interview teacher candidates from the education program at PUC.



Future teacher Ashlee Jones gets a chance to mingle with potential employers at PUC's Education Days.

Guests shared dinner with teacher candidates, and also had an opportunity to meet students through a formal introduction. A longstanding tradition of the Education Days banquet, students offer a brief presentation that includes their reason for teaching and areas for which they are credentialed.

"The opportunity for the students to sit across the table from a prospective employer is a nice touch,"

said Kelly Bock, education director for the Pacific Union. "I also appreciate seeing students perform in front of an audience that is outside their comfort zones. I learn a lot about teachers by watching how they handle situations where they might be put in front of parents or something similar. ... PUC does the nicest job, showcasing the students and providing an inviting venue to meet the latest program graduates."

This year, 11 students shared their stories of why they have chosen teaching as a profession. For a few, it was a family tradition. Heidi Rasmussen, a future music teacher, recounted a story of taking naps under her father's piano while he gave voice lessons. Both of Rasmussen's parents are music professors at Pacific Union College, and both of her siblings are also involved in music education.

Others shared stories of what they have learned during their student teaching experience. Grecia Benitez, who spoke about her elementary school students in Napa, said that partway through, her goals shifted. "Instead of focusing on the great things I wanted to do, I focused on the great things my students could do one day," said Benitez.

The following day, teaching candidates interviewed with various

principals and conference personnel. The combination of the social dinner and an interview afterwards is a format that Anna Molstead, representing the Nevada-Utah Conference, finds very helpful.

"The format is very informal, so you talk with the students, you pray with them, and you show them what we're doing," said Molstead. "It's a great way to do this. It's very useful in hiring."

As for the candidates, they are grateful for the opportunity. Benitez, who interviewed with several principals, hopes the event will lead to a job. As for where, she leaves it up to a higher power. "I want to go wherever God leads. That is my honest and simple answer. I'll go wherever there is a child in need," said Benitez.

Adventist Mission Scholarship

Larry Pena

Education and theology students at PUC are eligible for a \$3,000 grant, renewable annually, to assist them as they prepare to further the mission of the church. To see all requirements or start an application for this grant, visit puc.edu/scholarships or contact an enrollment counselor at 800-862-7080.

“Winning Las Vegas” Becomes Major Project

Denny Krause

It's a multi-year project. It's cutting-edge technology. It's a multi-faceted approach to evangelism. It's bringing together never-before-seen cooperation and collaboration between Adventist organizations.

It's “Winning Las Vegas — Reaching the World,” the project name for one of the most revolutionary, comprehensive, city-wide, high-tech, evangelistic efforts in the history of Adventist public evangelism. It's a partnership between the Nevada-Utah Conference and It Is



John Bradshaw communicates the “Winning Las Vegas — Reaching the World” vision to Las Vegas Mountain View Church.

Written, ASI, and other Adventist ministries.

The project started with a seemingly impossible dream shared by Nevada-Utah Conference administration, pastors, teachers and members to significantly impact the Las Vegas area for Jesus. After all, the motto of the Nevada-Utah is, “Focused on Jesus, we witness to the world.”

But how, with limited resources, could it be done in a big way? Many prayers went up over several years asking for the key to unlock the dream.

Part of the answer came in the fall of 2010, when Sean Boonstra, then speaker/director of It Is Written, was just returning from a major evangelistic effort in Rome. Boonstra was looking for another challenging field in which to plant the seeds of the gospel.

Boonstra happened on the idea of considering Las Vegas, where even sinners in “Sin City” could be invited to follow in Jesus’ footsteps, and a partnership was formed with the Nevada-Utah Conference. Shortly thereafter, Boonstra resigned, and the new It Is Written speaker/director, John Bradshaw, took up the mantle of a major project in Las Vegas.

Now, It Is Written, partnering with ASI and other Adventist ministries, and working together with the Nevada-Utah Conference and Las Vegas area pastors, is bringing forth a whole army of workers

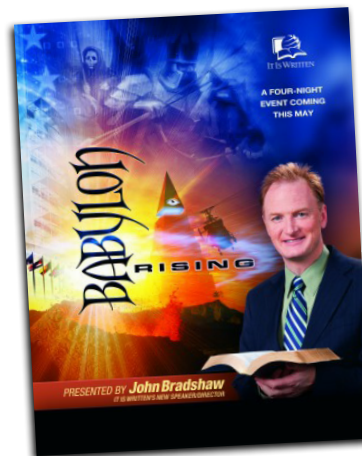
to plan, coordinate and implement a winning strategy for “Winning Las Vegas” and “Reaching the World.”

The first major component will be “Babylon Rising,” a four-night evangelistic thrust, May 25-28, 2011, with Bradshaw at the Las Vegas Cashman Convention Center Theater, which

seats more than 1,900 people. This is a preparatory meeting to establish solid Bible study interests leading up to Bradshaw’s full message, multi-week, public evangelism campaign Jan. 2 through Feb. 18, 2012, at the same venue.

“There’s been a definite paradigm shift in how we’re doing evangelism,” says Yves Monnier, a California pastor who helped organize IIW’s Rome campaign. “We’ve started going to places where no one else wants to go.” Monnier will serve as IIW’s full-time coordinator for the “Winning Las Vegas” effort.

“This campaign is unique,” Monnier says. “For one thing, Las Vegas is known for being a very immoral





and sinful city. For another, we're seeing unprecedented cooperation between the North American Division, the local conference, ASI and its lay ministries. There's a synergy that's never before been experienced."

One of the unique features of "Babylon Rising" and the full message 2012 campaign will be the fact that anyone in the world with a computer will be able to view the "broadcast." Rather than beaming

the programs from Cashman Center via satellite, the "broadcast" will be shown on an internet web site.

Now, thanks to the latest in web technology, individuals and families anywhere in the world will be able to see the "broadcast" in their living rooms on their computer screens, and possibly connected to their televisions. Friends and family can be invited to see and hear both "Babylon Rising" and the 2012 full message event.

In the weeks prior to "Babylon Rising" and the months leading up to the 2012 full message event, an army of workers — local pastors, local members, It Is Written employees and volunteers from other ministries — will be doing pre-work in Las Vegas.



It Is Written Speaker/Director John Bradshaw.

"Winning Las Vegas — Reaching the World"

Preliminary Event: "Babylon Rising," May 25-28, 2011

The Main Event: Full-message Evangelistic Series, Jan. 2 to Feb. 18, 2012

To view the "Babylon Rising" trailer: www.babylonrising.com

To view Pastor Bradshaw's Las Vegas video blog: www.itiswritten.com/lasvegas

To host "Babylon Rising" in your home: www.babylonrising.com/host

To send interest names: info@NUCadventist.com

To volunteer for the project: info@NUCadventist.com

To donate to the project: Send checks (made out) to Nevada-Utah Conference (note Las Vegas Evangelism) P.O. Box 10730, Reno, NV 89510. To donate by credit card, call the conference office at 775-322-6929 during business hours Monday through Thursday.

eMANgelism Challenges TAA Men

Phil Draper

At the beginning of the academic year, Thunderbird Adventist Academy boys' dean Matt Eaton and assistant dean Jono Prakash, began talking about how they could help evangelize the young men of their dorm.

They felt impressed that many of the young men in their charge could benefit from actively participating in their own evangelistic series right there in the dorm. "Many of our guys have never had a chance to make a personal decision for Christ," explains Eaton. "We wanted to give them that chance."

"The world has given its image of what a man should look like by worldly standards," he continues. "But we want to show what a man looks like in the eyes of Christ and encourage our guys to choose Him as a role model. This is so much better than what the world offers!"

Both Eaton and Prakash are graduates of Soul's West and have held their own evangelistic series in places like India, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and within the Arizona Conference in Scottsdale and Mesa.

Writing their own evangelistic sermons for the eMANgelism series, they chose nine topics that would cover many of the basic beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, including the Sabbath, the state of the dead, the Law, and even such

in-depth studies as the 2,300-day prophecy.

Intermixed within their nightly presentations were personal testimonies of some men who had experienced the same pressures as the young men and had become strong Christian role models. These men included Brent Burishkin, TAA athletic director; Tony Anobile, conference president; Ed Keyes, conference executive secretary; Jose Marin, Hispanic coordinator;



TAA boys' deans Jono Prakash and Matt Eaton offer eMANgelism series to their students.

Leon Sandoval, Camelback youth leader; Jeff Stevens, Pathfinder leader; George Melara, architect and church elder; plus Eaton and Prakash.

"We asked our guest speakers to talk about their lives before Christ," explained Prakash. "We wanted them to tell our guys how they came to Christ, and how their lives were today with Him as center."

"Many have come to us," continues Eaton, "telling how they feel God is calling them to make a real commitment. After evening worship, many young men go to the prayer room for their own private time."

One student shared, "I've been waiting for a series like this and a chance to make a decision. I'm so glad God is calling me now. I want to break free from whatever is holding me back and give my life to Him."

Another told the deans, "I've slowly been getting rid of my secular music, and I feel like it's time to make the next step to just cut it all off. Can you fill my MP3 player with Christian music and sermons?"

"Although many of our guys have their names on the church books, they really aren't practicing Christians as they know they should be," Eaton observed. "We want to give them an experience beyond just going to church and pretending to keep the Sabbath.

We want them to have a chance to be real men for Christ."

"There are two things we emphasize to our guys — how that message applies to them as a Christian man, and how Jesus is in the message. It's not just Jesus at the end of the message — it's how Jesus is throughout and how that message uplifts the cross."



Walter Arties Joins Conference Team

Phil Draper

Walter Arties, who has worked for many years in the evangelistic outreach of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, was recently invited by the Arizona Conference to be the new Assistant to the President for African-American Ministries. He is replacing Donovan Edwards who has relinquished his duties as director for health reasons.

Arties and his wife, Beverly, moved to Prescott, Ariz., five years ago after Walter retired from the

Voice of Prophecy as treasurer-director. Beverly retired from Amgen in Thousand Oaks.

In 1973, while director of public affairs at radio/television station KHOF in Glendale, Calif., Arties was inspired to develop the "Breath of Life" telecast. The program is presently viewed throughout the United States, Bermuda, and parts of the West Indies. Thousands of people have been baptized through Breath of Life seminars, resulting in the organization of 13 Breath of

Life churches under the leadership of Charles D. Brooks. The current director/speaker is Carlton Byrd.

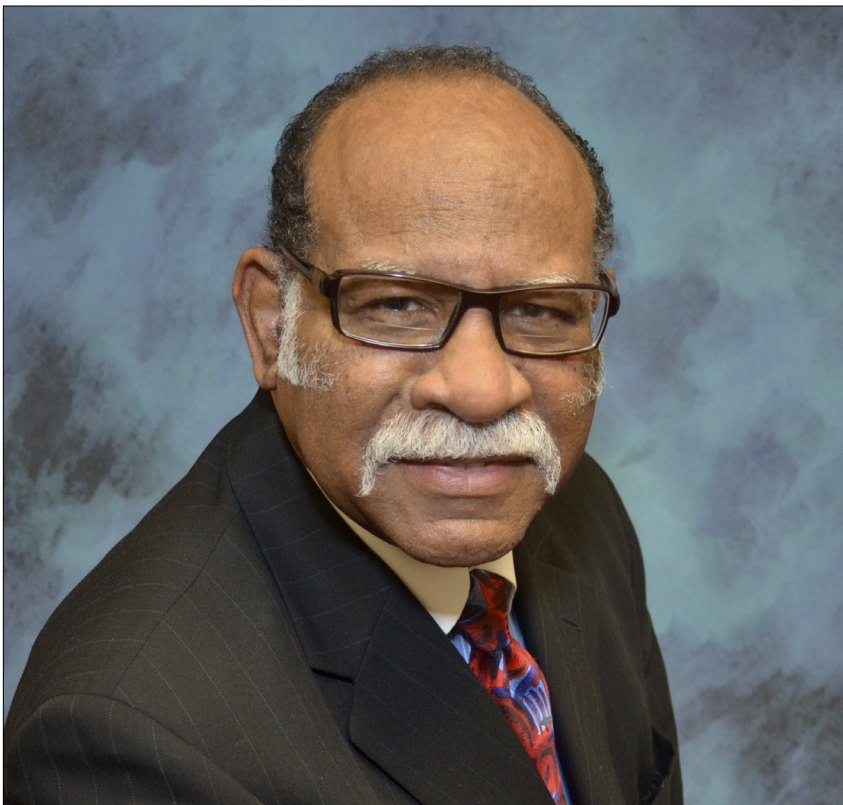
Arties is best known for his music ministry where he expresses, in his own inimitable style, the love of Jesus, the quiet strength of the Holy Spirit, a gentle love for people, and a special warmth communicating the love of God. He combines musical artistry with a spiritual sensitivity seldom encountered.

During his years of active music performance, Arties toured the United States, Europe and the former Soviet Union. For 10 years, he was director/arranger for the "Walter Arties Chorale." He has sung for "Campus Crusades for Christ," "Youth for Christ," "Lutheran Youth Alive," "The Salvation Army," "Expo' 72" in workshops and in the Cotton Bowl. He has also appeared in crusades with Dr. Billy Graham and his associate, Dr. Ralph Bell. At the invitation of the Billy Graham Association, Arties toured Sweden, Finland, India, Wales and the West Indies.

His albums include: "Peace," "I'm Gonna Sing," "Softly and Tenderly," "Almost Over," "Gentle Exhortations," "Sincerely Yours," "Spirituals Collection," and "Hymns Collection." Arties won Religion In Media awards during 1982-83 and 1996-97.

An ordained minister in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Arties is listed in "Who's Who among Black Americans."

Phil Draper



Walter Arties is the newly-appointed Assistant to the President for African-American Ministries in the Arizona Conference.

Church State Council Assists Wronged Workers

Alan J. Reinach, Esq.

American Christians debate what are the worst sins of our nation and culture: abortion, poverty, sexual immorality and environmental degradation deserve consideration. But is it possible we have missed something the Bible emphasizes? As Christians, we want to align ourselves with the heart and mind of the Creator, which we can only do through His word.

James 5 describes God's last day judgment on our economic system, with the enormous wealth amassed by the rich becoming rusted and worthless. The wealthy are condemned for obtaining their wealth through fraud by withholding wages from their workers. The anguished cries of oppressed workers have reached the ears of God.

He hears, and
judg-



ment will come. The context of this passage is emphatically the soon coming of the Lord.

God's concern for the oppression of the working class is not a new idea in James. It is as ancient as the profound passage from the eighth century B.C., Isaiah 58. The sin of ancient Israel was that, "in the day of your fast, you find pleasure and exploit all your laborers" (v. 3). To this, James adds that the modern, efficient oppression of labor is a sign of the last days.

Greed and selfishness are universal moral concerns. They have become newsworthy today because of the economic pain that Wall Street has inflicted on Main Street. While we lament our own suffering, we forget that while our jobs are being outsourced to Latin America and southeast Asia, the cheap goods we enjoy are often being produced in conditions of virtual slavery. Both Main Street and Wall Street profit on the backs of oppressed workers somewhere in the world.

Meanwhile, the Church State Council has been devoting an increasing amount of time to assisting American workers who are losing their jobs because of Sabbath observance.

For many years, our energies were primarily devoted to helping

church members negotiate Sabbath accommodations, and keep their jobs. Now we find ourselves busy helping those who have lost their jobs.

We know God hears the cry of every working person who suffers. Many Adventists have been pressured to work on Sabbath because

God's concern for the oppression of the working class is not a new idea in James. It is as ancient as the profound passage from the eighth century B.C., Isaiah 58.

they are afraid of losing their jobs in the current dismal economy. The Church State Council is available to assist both those who are still working, and those who have lost their jobs.

For many years, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been working to strengthen federal and state laws protecting people of faith in the workplace. Sign up to receive our monthly newsletter, the Liberty Bell, at www.churchstate.org, and also, to receive regular e-mail alerts from the North American Religious Liberty Association, at www.religiousliberty.info. Stay informed, be involved. The oppressed need your help. God cares, do you?



Religious Land Use Bill Turns Ten Years Old

Alan J. Reinach, Esq.

Ten years ago, Congress enacted a bill to protect churches and other religious bodies in their use of land from hostile and discriminatory local governing authorities. A decade later, the bill appears to be working. Local planning officials still bristle at having to jump through constitutional hoops in regulating religious land use, no longer free to engage in blatant religious discrimination.

Yet, some Americans have rebelled against the principles of religious freedom applying to land use, telling pollsters that Muslims should not be permitted to build mosques anywhere in America.

arenas. A year before Congress introduced what would become the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000, the CSC sponsored religious land use legislation in California. Just as RLUIPA was the result of failed efforts to pass a broader bill protecting religious liberty generally, the California land use bill grew out of failed efforts to pass a Religious Freedom Restoration Act in 1998. After its California efforts failed, the CSC joined the coalition that passed RLUIPA in Congress.

In the past decade, the CSC has been involved in several land use battles. The CSC prevailed after a decade long struggle to locate a

groups make to a community, some civic leaders fail to value these contributions and support zoning schemes that greatly restrict where churches and schools can locate.

Lack of understanding of their legal rights often leads churches to accept use restrictions that are blatantly illegal and completely unnecessary. In one case, a church relocating from an urban downtown to a new suburb faced community fears that it would continue feeding the homeless at its new location. Strictly understood, the use restrictions imposed would preclude potlucks. Potlucks became an issue in another community where a misguided city planner notified the church that it could only serve food prepared in a kitchen certified by the health department.

The CSC is available to consult with pastors and church boards dealing with city planners over building plans. While the CSC is not a land use planning expert, it does offer expertise in the application of RLUIPA to local land use planning.

Eternal vigilance remains the price of liberty. RLUIPA offers powerful tools to enable churches to achieve reasonable land use goals. The next decade will be a testing time for these principles.

Local planning officials still bristle at having to jump through constitutional hoops in regulating religious land use, no longer free to engage in blatant religious discrimination. The CSC is available to consult with pastors and church boards dealing with city planners over building plans.

The controversy extends far beyond New York City, with mosque conflicts breaking out all over the nation.

The Church State Council is proud of its history in advocating for religious liberty in land use, both in the legislative and legal

radio station on church property in Vacaville, Calif. The CSC also came to the defense of Pacific Union College in opposing restrictive land use measures that singled out Angwin in a discriminatory manner.

Despite the enormous social and spiritual contributions religious



Art Puts Focus on Spiritual Healing

Brittany Russell

Adventist Health’s focus is on healing the whole person — physically, mentally and spiritually. One way the hospitals offer spiritual renewal is by trying to create a warm, welcoming environment, full of little reminders that God is bigger than any illness.

Simi Valley Hospital

The Healing Garden at Simi Valley Hospital is now home to three bronze sculptures entitled “Come Unto Me,” a gift from the SVH Foundation. The Healing Garden, designed to be a quiet place for those seeking comfort, is located just outside the hospital’s main lobby. The sculptures were unveiled during a dedication ceremony held on Dec. 13, 2010.



Issa’s sculptures at Simi Valley Hospital show Jesus spending time with children.



Art conveys a message in Glendale Adventist Medical Center’s West Tower.

“These sculptures depict His invitation to everyone: ‘Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest,’” said Darwin Remboldt, president and CEO of the Southern California hospital. “It is our mission to be partners with Jesus in providing compassionate care and healing to

all those who come to Simi Valley Hospital.”

The sculptures were designed by Victor Issa, an artist who is known for his ability to make his figurative bronze statues seem lifelike.

The sculptures Issa created for SVH depict a nurse and physician helping others approach Jesus, who sits on a bench with two children. Two additional pieces, also portraying caretakers, have been commissioned for the Healing Garden.

“Together, the artwork embodies the caring that takes place at the hospital,” said Debi Schultze, director and chief development officer of the SVH Foundation. “It goes along with our mission of providing compassionate care and healing to all.”



Glendale Adventist Medical Center

A healing arts campaign, focused on mission and family-centered care, was implemented at Glendale Adventist Medical Center during construction of the West Tower.

Each floor has a mission and community-based theme. Peace, harmony, community, inspiration, faith and renewal, are represented by art work from local artists. The uplifting pieces are displayed in elevator lobbies and hallways. In addition, each patient room features art consistent with the floor theme.

“The art has been very well received by staff and community members,” said Warren Tetz, senior vice president for operations at the hospital. “We are gradually adding art to the other buildings using the same floor themes.”

The new lobby will also feature commissioned artwork by Donald Towns, a church member in the Southern California Conference.

Sonora Regional Medical Center

Patients and caregivers alike don't have to go far to find inspiration at Sonora Regional Medical Center, located in California gold country.

Several years ago, the hospital's Mission Council determined to fill SRMC with art that illustrates their mission. The idea came from Jeff Eller, president and CEO of the hospital, who had previously participated in a similar project while serving on the administration team at Glendale Adventist Medical Center. The hospital then developed a plan for what the art was to accomplish.

In early 2010, an unveiling was held for the first completed art installment. The mission wall and values panel in the cafeteria remind employees of the calling



Sonora Regional Medical Center features paintings by employees.

to share God's love through their work. Outside the cafeteria is more artwork that highlights SRMC's vision in action through patient and caregiver experiences.

The next big project was the Healer's Pathway, which debuted in late 2010. The Healer's Pathway is located in the main stairwell of the acute care hospital and is seen daily by caregivers. Uplifting messages and Bible verses are prominently displayed up and down the stairwell.

Along with the stairway art, several panels in the hallways depicting love, compassion and hope all contain art created by employees.

“The idea was to create mission touch points where employees can be reminded daily of our mission and purpose,” said Bryan Lewis, chaplain at the hospital. “The messages serve to renew employees as they serve our patients and each other.”

Jeff Eller, president and CEO of Sonora Regional Medical Center, and others unveil the new mission wall and values panel.



LLU's Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Experiences Rapid Growth

Loma Linda University

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) degree is a new and rapidly growing option for nurses seeking a doctoral degree, according to Susan Lloyd, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor of nursing and director of the program in the Loma Linda University School of Nursing.

“The program is designed for nurses seeking a terminal degree in nursing practice and offers an alternative to the Ph.D. research-focused doctoral programs,” says Lloyd. “The focus of the D.N.P. is to prepare clinical scholars to translate research into evidence-based practice and utilize it to improve patient care, implement best practices, and provide optimal health care outcomes for patient populations.”

The Loma Linda D.N.P. program is designed for advanced practice registered nurses (such as clinical nurse specialists and nurse practitioners) and also for nurse administrators who have already completed a master's degree in nursing. This post-master's entry into the program offers a three-year path to the D.N.P.

“This is Loma Linda's first year of offering the D.N.P. program,” says Elizabeth Bossert, D.N.S., R.N., associate dean for graduate nursing and academic affairs in the School of Nursing. “This program will allow master's-educated registered nurses to earn a clinical doctorate that will prepare them to assume

roles in systems leadership, quality improvement, and evidence-based outcomes in health care systems.”

The D.N.P. program at Loma Linda is a three-year, 63 quarter unit (equivalent to 42 semester units) program. The program uses a technology-mediated format.

During the first two years, the students and faculty meet one week every quarter face-to-face on campus in an intensive seminar format. This is preceded and followed by online discussion and submission of course requirements. The third year focuses on the D.N.P. project, usually based at the students' place of employment. The Loma Linda program is built on the D.N.P. essentials as articulated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Enrolled in the first cohort of the Loma Linda program are 16 students from a variety of nursing roles, including clinicians, administrators, and educators. The technology-mediated intensive session format works well for their schedules as they live in various areas of California, as well as more distant areas such as San Antonio, Texas, and Guam.

“Loma Linda is the only Seventh-day Adventist university currently offering the D.N.P. program,” Bossert says. Loma Linda University is one of five schools in California offering the new D.N.P. program. Other California schools



Students who are enrolled in the D.N.P. program along with their faculty pose for a photograph in the Centennial Complex.

offering the D.N.P. program include two in Southern and two in Northern California.

There are currently 120 D.N.P. programs in the United States and an additional 161 programs are in the planning stages. D.N.P. programs are available in 36 states, as well as the District of Columbia.

Individuals interested in knowing more about the program may contact the School of Nursing, Loma Linda University, by e-mail at nursing@llu.edu, phone (800) 422-4558 (general admissions) or (909) 558-8061 (graduate nursing), or write to or visit West Hall, 11262 Campus Street, Loma Linda, CA 92350.

Loma Linda also offers a Doctor of Philosophy degree in nursing and a Master of Science degree as a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse administrator, or nurse educator.

LLUMC Opens New Hospital in Murrieta

Kathryn Stiles

Loma Linda University Medical Center–Murrieta held its grand opening celebration for the community Sunday, Feb. 6. Despite being held on Super Bowl Sunday, the event was attended by more than 10,000 members from the community who were eager to see the new hospital before it became operational in March.

During the special dedication ceremony, Bruce Christian, CEO of LLUMC–Murrieta, and Ruthita Fike, CEO of LLUMC, spoke with excitement about the opportunity to partner with a group of talented and dedicated physicians to provide high-quality health care to the community. Dr. John Piconi, chair of the board, and Dr. Jeff Conners, chief of staff, shared their vision for creating a community hospital with world-class medical services in the Murrieta area. Murrieta Mayor Randon Lane polled the crowd asking, “How many of you are Packers fans? [scattered applause]. How many of you are Steelers fans? [scattered applause]. How many of you just don’t care? [huge applause].” Lane then recognized members of the city council for their efforts to expedite the project and expressed his appreciation for the leadership and teams that created this world-class facility in 26 months.

Event goers had the opportunity to take tours of the hospital, seeing parts of the building that will be closed to the public from this point forward. The hybrid operating

room was a natural drawing point as visitors witnessed demonstrations of the \$2 million Artis Zeego by Siemens, technology that allows the surgeon to see in real time and with ultra-clarity the surgical site. Visitors also viewed the Crooked Houses in the maternity waiting room and the larger-than-normal labor/delivery and post-partum rooms. The critical care unit, which has all private, extra-sized rooms and the latest in patient care equipment, is filled with natural light

with its south-facing windows and all-glass sliding doors.

Fire engines, 4-wheel-drive ambulance, and a Mercy Air helicopter were available near the emergency department entrance for adults and children to tour. There were several large screen TVs that were also available for those who wanted to watch Super Bowl XLV.

A private grand opening was held on Friday, Feb. 4, which focused on project stakeholders, investors, Loma Linda leadership, board members, physicians and staff, local, state and federal government officials, and community business leaders. The event drew 800 attendees. U.S. Congressman Darrell Issa gave a warm welcome to the new facility. State Senator Bill Emmerson and State Congressman Kevin Jeffries each presented Bruce Christian with a certificate of recognition on behalf of both the California State Senate and House of Representatives.

LLUMC–Murrieta will bring a variety of needed services to the area including advanced cardiology, radiation oncology, diagnostics, full-service lab, family birthing center, well-baby nursery, pain management, wound and hyperbaric medicine, full-service emergency department, urgent care clinic, and women’s specific diagnostics. It will support a variety of surgical needs including orthopedics, gynecological, urology, podiatry, and more.



More than 10,000 guests turned out for the grand opening event for Loma Linda University Medical Center–Murrieta on Feb. 6.

Executive Committee Boosts Evangelism and Education

Gerry Chudleigh

In spite of tight economic pressures, Pacific Union Conference evangelism and education endowment funds performed very well in 2010, resulting in record scholarships granted for the current school year and increased evangelism funds for 2011.

At their March meeting, the Pacific Union executive committee approved \$487,000 to help local churches and conferences launch new evangelistic endeavors. Several other applications for evangelism funds involved new technology. A committee was established to evaluate those proposals and funding will be voted at future meetings.

New Education Director

The committee voted to invite Berit von Pohle to serve as Pacific Union director of education, replacing Kelly Bock, who has announced his retirement. Von Pohle is currently superintendant of schools for the Northern California Conference. Earlier she served as principal of Columbia Adventist Academy in Battle Ground, Wash., principal of San Pasqual Academy and vice-principal of La Sierra Academy. She has also worked at San Diego Academy.

Ordinations

The committee approved seven ordination/commissionings. From Nevada-Utah, David Hall, Russel Lewars and Tammy Losey; from

Southeastern California, Stacey Smith; from Southern California, Carlos Varona; and from Hawaii, Jesse Seibel and Roland Geyrozaga.

Scholarships

They also approved ministerial scholarships for Christopher Estay (NCC), Jose Torres (NCC), Samuel Chung (SCC) and Tammy Lindsey (N-U).

Four ministers were approved to pursue Doctor of Ministry degrees: Ron Pickell and Milton Marquez from NCC, and Ming Gao and Nozomu Obara from SCC.

Membership

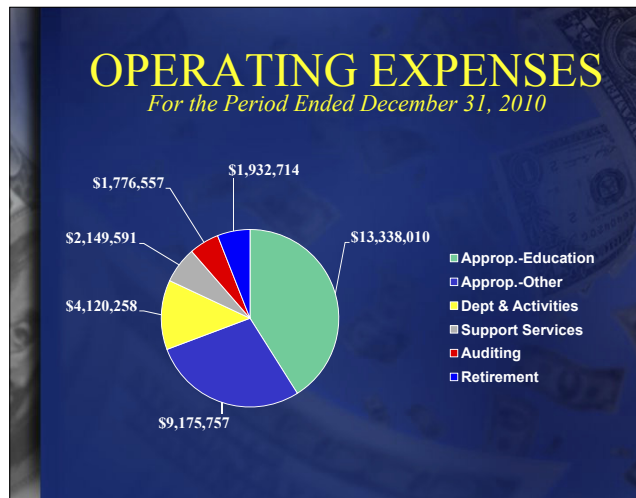
Brad Newton, union executive secretary, noted that during 2009 the population in the Pacific Union territory increased by 570,000, indicating the church has much growth potential. But during 2010, church membership increased by 2,880 to 222,708; a growth rate of 1.3 percent. Though nearly all Adventist churches in the Pacific Union are multicultural, membership is officially 23 percent Hispanic, 12 percent African-American, nine percent

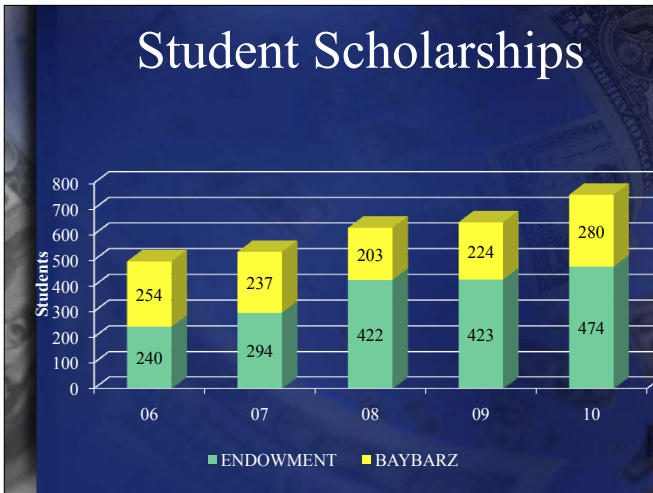
Asian-Pacific and 56 percent non-Hispanic white. Newton noted that within two years, Hispanic members will produce the largest number of baptisms.

Finances

Ted Benson, union treasurer, reported that although tithe in the Pacific Union was down 1.5 percent in 2010, and continued at that level in early 2011, the overall financial picture for 2010 was positive.

Total operating revenue in 2010 was \$32.3 million (about half from tithe), and expenses totaled \$32.7 million. But non-operating income of \$1.1 million (from such things as interest) resulted in a net gain of \$712,000. Most of the net gain from each year, like most of the operating revenue, is forwarded to the conferences and schools of higher education. At the March meeting, the gain from 2009 was distributed:





Wisbey, president of La Sierra University, of the school's "Open Letter Regarding the Teaching of Creation." In answer to a question, Wisbey commented: "Our university recognizes that the survey

\$600,000 to the conferences, plus \$100,000 each to La Sierra University and Pacific Union College.

The operating expenses graph (left) shows that the largest "expenses" were actually appropriations to schools (divided somewhat evenly between LSU, PUC and secondary education), and appropriations to the conferences. How the funds are ultimately spent is determined by the conferences and schools.

La Sierra University

The longest discussion of the day followed the distribution by Randal

results show that some of our students have felt that their belief in creation has not always been respected. I want to be clear that it is our position — it is my position — that this is not acceptable. The university is committed to making certain that every student finds the classroom a supportive and safe place where all opinions can be openly discussed."

Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division, responded, "I want to commend the [LSU] board for their work in preparing this statement. I certainly pray that

the Lord will bless the board and faculty in their efforts to follow up on the directions suggested in the document."

The executive committee will meet next on June 1 at Pacific Union College.

SON SCREEN Film Festival

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New La Sierra Center To Help Adventist K-12 Schools

Larry Becker

Educators and administrators across the North American Division and beyond have a new resource to help propel Seventh-day Adventist schools to greater excellence. The Center for Research on Adventist Education opened in January in the School of Education at La Sierra University. Its special focus is applied research to benefit K-12 education.

“The new Center builds upon the successful CognitiveGenesis study and the thought-provoking National Summit on Adventist Education held last October at La Sierra,” says University Provost Steve Pawluk. “We’re hoping that the Center will be on the speed dial of each educator and church administrator who desires the benefits of cutting-edge research and ideas on Adventist schools.”

Elissa Kido, Ed.D., Center director, says that the first project, now underway, is creating a decision-making tool for Adventist parents. They will be able to enter information about their child and see a projection, based on existing research, of where their child would stand academically after varying numbers of years in Adventist schools.

“We know from the CognitiveGenesis research that students in Adventist schools outperform their peers in every subject, at every grade level, and in every type of school,” says Dr. Kido. “This tool will help parents to see for their own child what difference Adventist schools

could make in educational performance.”

Researchers working with the Center will be able to use data gathered in CognitiveGenesis, the largest study ever done on academic performance in Adventist schools. Over the past four years, researchers have analyzed student performance in every classroom across the North American Division.

“Beyond test scores,” says Kido, “we also studied what factors in home, school, and church improve student learning. We found, for example, that when principals and teachers have the support of pastors and churches, students actually do better in school.”

Already, researchers have been exploring the impact of school financing, school size, and student health on educational outcomes. Findings have also spurred the creation of a task force at the North American Division level to improve the teaching of math computation system-wide. While students in Seventh-day Adventist schools score above the national average in math, says Kido, the sub-area of math computation is one in which educators believe more progress can be made.

The School of Education dean, Clinton Valley, Ed.D., notes that the Center has six main purposes:



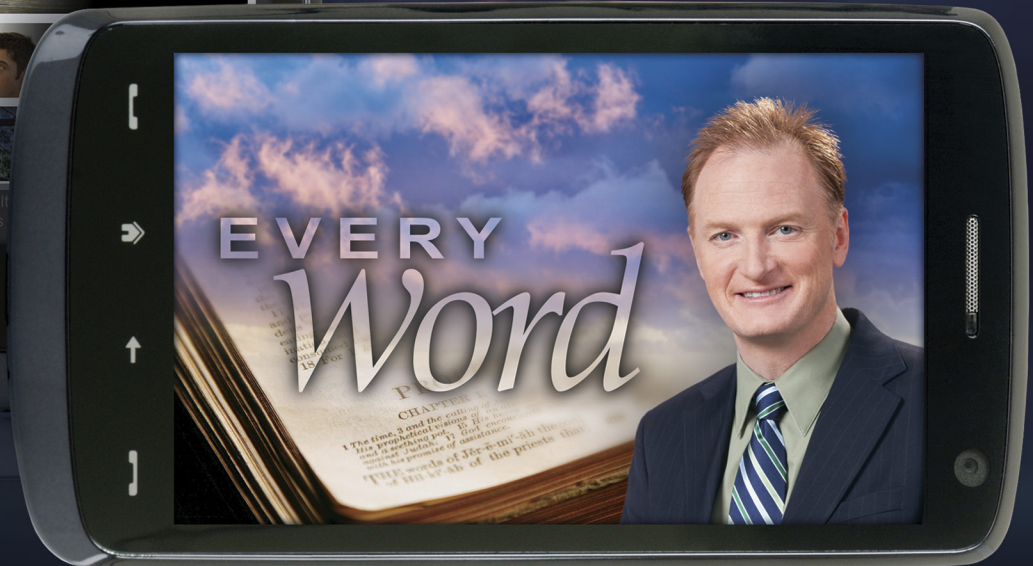
Elissa Kido

- Establish partnerships with schools, conferences, and unions to strengthen educational programs, professional development, and teacher education.
- Support and guide studies initiated and conducted by teachers and staff.
- Mentor doctoral students doing research on what works in Seventh-day Adventist education.
- Collaborate with educators and other experts on school improvement ideas.
- Assist in evaluating the effectiveness of innovative programs and policies.
- Share with the broader Adventist community important information about issues in education that impact their schools and their children.

“University educators stand shoulder-to-shoulder with their K-12 colleagues,” says La Sierra Provost Pawluk, whose professional experience includes years as a teacher at the academy level and service as a conference superintendent of education. “Their research can provide real, tangible assistance to teachers and administrators. We are delighted that La Sierra University will continue to enjoy a vital, supportive, and constructive role in Adventist education for years to come.”



*It is written,
"Man shall not live by
bread alone, but by
every word
that proceeds from
the mouth of God."*



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CALENDARS

Arizona Conference

THUNDERBIRD ADVENTIST ACADEMY Alumni Weekend (April 1-3) TAA Campus, 7410 E. Sutton Dr., Scottsdale. Info: Sherrie Warren, TAAnews@thunderbirdacademy.org or 480-948-3300, ext. 125.

HISPANIC WOMENS' RETREAT (April 8-10) Camp Yavapines. Info: Cinthia Riffel, 480-991-6777, ext. 117.

RAW FOODS POTLUCK SUPPER (April 9) 6:30 p.m. Central church, 777 W. Montecito, Phoenix. Newcomers: Please bring a vegetable or fruit salad without dressing. For recipe ideas, visit www.hacres.com. Info: Stanhowerton@excite.com.

TUCSON-AREA TRUST SPEAKER (April 30) Info: Betty Alvarez, 480-991-6777, ext. 127.

JESUS LOVES JEANS (April 30-May 7) Scottsdale-Thunderbird church, 7410 E. Sutton Dr., Scottsdale, for high school and college students. Info: Corina Dupper, 480-991-6777, ext. 125.

CHANDLER HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE FAIR (May 1) 1188 W. Galveston St., Chandler, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., features MOM (Mobile On-site Mammography). To make an appointment and verify insurance, call 480-967-3767.

Central California

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT (April 1-3) Camp Wawona. Info: Ministries Department, 559-347-3176 or ministries@cccsda.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES Workshop/VBS Training (April 2-3) Fresno Central Valley Fil-Am church. Presenters: Gene Oswald, president and staff, NAD Adventist Children's Ministry Association. Meals provided, \$15 per adult. Info: Rosa, 559-347-3183 or rgillham@cccsda.org.

TEEN GIRLS' RETREAT (April 8-10) Soquel Conference Center. Theme: "The Race." Info: Pat, 559-642-2396 or teengirlsretreat@gmail.com.

TEEN GUYS' RETREAT (April 8-10) Campground near Oakhurst. Theme: "Man Up!" Cost is \$30; meals included. An adult sponsor is required. Info: Jon, 509-301-9438 or cccguysretreat@gmail.com.

PATHFINDER BIKE-A-THON (April 15-17) Castle Air Force Base, 5050 Santa Fe Dr., Atwater, CA 95301. Info:

Norma, 559-347-3176 or nvillarreal@cccsda.org.

SINGLES RALLY (April 16) Mountain View Central church. Guest Speaker: Collin Ross. Info: Ministries Department, 559-347-3176 or ministries@cccsda.org.

FRESNO ADVENTIST ACADEMY/ Fresno Union Academy Alumni Reunion (April 22-23) Honored Classes: '01s. Friday, Alumni Golf Tournament, Sabbath Reunion Service, 10:45 a.m., potluck in the Alumni room. Please bring your favorite dish. Info: Richelle, 559-273-4976 or rrickard@faa.org.

KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING (April 29-May 1) Central California Conference office. Pre-registration is required. Info: Rosa, 559-347-3183 or rgillham@cccsda.org.

FULL PLATE DIET SEMINAR (April 30) 3-5 p.m. Mountain View Central church. Guest speaker from Lifestyle Center. Info: Ministries Department, 559-347-3176 or ministries@cccsda.org.

FULL PLATE DIET SEMINAR (May 1) 10 a.m.-noon, Central California Conference. Guest speaker from Lifestyle Center. Info: Ministries Department, 559-347-3176 or ministries@cccsda.org.

DISASTER RELIEF TRAINING (May 1) Central California Conference office. Info: Ministries Department 559-347-3176 or ministries@cccsda.org.

SOQUEL VOLUNTEER PROJECT (May 1-4) Starting Sunday at lunch, meals provided. Bring your own bedding for cabin stay or bring your RV. Info: Caron, 559-347-3181 or coswald@cccsda.org.

La Sierra University

MUSIC DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS (April 10) 7 p.m. faculty recital featuring Junwon Jin, piano; (April 15) 7:30 p.m., alumni vespers concert; (April 16) 8:15 p.m., 53rd annual concerto concert. All programs take place in Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2011 (April 15-17) Honoring classes of '51, '61, '71, '81, '86, '91, and '01. Annual homecoming banquet with alumni of the year, World Languages reunion and honor class reunions. Info: alumni office, 909-785-4LSU; www.lasierra.edu/alumni.

FESTIVAL OF NATIONS (May 1) 4-7 p.m.

JURIED ART STUDENTS EXHIBITION (May 2-12) Brandstater Gallery.

FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP. Fridays at 8 p.m. at La Sierra University. Info: 951-785-2090.

Northern California

REDWOOD CONCERT REHEARSAL (April 2) 3-5:30 p.m. Santa Rosa church, 840 Sonoma Ave. Redwood music coordinator Pastor Randy Brehms is looking for musicians for a big "homecoming style" concert at camp meeting. He's also looking for musicians for evening concerts. Info: www.ncc.adventist.org/redwood or rbrehms@nccsda.com.

PATHFINDER BIKE-A-THON (April 3) 8 a.m. Sleep Train Amphitheater, Wheatland. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TRAINING (April 3) NCC Headquarters, 401 Taylor Blvd., Pleasant Hill. Theme: "Go Fishing Mission Adventure Camp." Info: Children's and Family Ministries Department, 925-603-5082.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER (April 8-10) Sacramento-area hotel. Registration and Info: Rob and Debbie Purvis, 530-622-4798 or purvis4@comcast.net.

EVENING CONCERT (April 9) Singers Mike and Marlynn Bishop. 7 p.m. Lodi-English Oaks church, 1260 W. Century Blvd. Info: 209-369-1021.

SUNDOWN PRAISES (Sabbath evenings) Lodi-English Oaks church, 1260 W. Century Blvd. (April 16) 6:30 p.m. Dan Wyrick, tide pools; (April 23) 6:30 p.m. Pastor Ward and Youth Peru Trip; (April 30) 6 p.m. Venden DVD; 7 p.m. concert by Shirley Burns, Terry Pfeifer and Vonnice Young. Info: 209-369-1021.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DAY (April 16) Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave. Info: 916-381-5353.

NCC SPELLING BEE FINALS (April 17) Rio Lindo Adventist Academy, 3200 Rio Lindo Avenue, Healdsburg. Info: Education Department, 925-603-5061.

RIO LINDO ACADEMY DAYS (April 17-18) Rio Lindo Adventist Academy, 3200 Rio Lindo Avenue, Healdsburg. Info: 707-431-5100.

ADVENTURER FUN DAY (April 17) Sacramento Zoo. Preregister with local Adventurer club. Info: Children's and Family Ministries Department, 925-603-5082.

WEEK OF PRAYER (April 20-23) Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave. Info: 916-381-5353.

URBAN YOUTH RALLY (April 23) Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

EASTER PROGRAM (April 23) 10:45 a.m. Carmichael Church Choir and Orchestra, under the direction of Arladdell Nelson-Speyer, will present "The Light of the Cross." Carmichael church,



4600 Winding Way, Sacramento. Info: 916-487-8684.

COMMUNITY SERVICES RETREAT (May 8-11) "Amazing Grace" Leoni Meadows. Info: Community Services Department, 925-603-5073.

Pacific Union College

COLLEGE DAYS (April 7-10) Academy students invited to preview college life. Info: 707-965-6303.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND (April 15-17) Speakers: Steve W. Case, Brig. Gen. Loree Sutton. To register: 707-965-7500 or puc.edu/alumni.

GREEN WEEK (April 18-20) Speaker: Annie Leonard, April 21. For speaker info, see storyofstuff.org. Info: 707-965-6303.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE CONSTITUENCY MEETING (June 1) 1:30-5:30 p.m., PUC Fireside Room. Constituent members will review the audited financial statement of the previous period, review the President's Report, elect new trustees, and transact such other business as may properly come before the constituency. Ricardo B. Graham, D.Min., Board Chair; Heather J. Knight, Ph.D., Board Secretary. Contact: 707-965-6211.

Southeastern California

JEFFRY AND KAREN KAATZ, Cello and Piano (April 2) 5 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda.

SECC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SPANISH Basic Certification (April 3) Anaheim Spanish church, 1457 E. Romneya Dr., Anaheim. Info: 951-509-2260, liz.adams@seccsda.org.

PROPHECY SERIES (April 8-23, nightly except Thursdays) 7 p.m. VFW Auditorium, Blythe, for first four nights, then at Blythe Spanish/English church, 415 E. Barnard St., Blythe. Speaker: Harold Zapata.

LOMA LINDA ACADEMY SYMPHONIC BAND (April 9) 5 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda.

VBS WORKSHOP (April 10) Info: 951-509-2260 or liz.adams@seccsda.org.

SECC JUNIOR HIGH BAND FESTIVAL (April 14) 7 p.m. Loma Linda Academy, 10656 Anderson St., Loma Linda. Info: 951-509-2313.

MAKING SENSE OF THE CREATION-EVOLUTION DEBATE (April 14-17) 7 p.m., Beaumont church, 1343 Palm

Ave., Beaumont. Presenter: Ron Clouzet, Tim Standish. Info: 951-785-2366.

PACIFIC UNION HISPANIC MEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT (April 15-17) Pine Springs Ranch. Speakers: Armando Miranda, Carlos Camacho, Claudiner Mockiuti. Theme: "Yo y mi casa serviremos a Jehov." Info: 805-413-7384, 951-530-1868.

"WE HAVE THIS HOPE" (April 16-24) Series presented by the pastor and local elders, Anaheim church, 900 S. Sunkist St., Anaheim. Info: 714-635-0990.

"AND GOD CREATED SNAKES" (April 16) 5 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda. Presented by the Loma Linda University School of Earth and Biological Sciences.

CHRISTIAN EDITION CONCERT (April 16) 11 a.m. Inland Spanish church, 710 W. Citrus St., Colton.

ADVENTURER FUN DAY (April 17) Info: 951-509-2265; judijeffreys@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

"CALVARY" (April 22, 23) 6 p.m. Azure Hills church, 22633 Barton Rd., Grand Terrace. Easter program with a full choir, orchestra, and cast of more than 100. Info: 909-825-8611.

SAMOAN CAMP MEETING (April 22-24) Camp Cedar Falls, Angelus Oaks. Info: 909-798-3908.

FYBY (April 23) Info: 951-509-2260; liz.adams@seccsda.org.

"THE CHOSEN GARMENT" (April 23) 5 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda. One-man drama, the whole Bible in one act.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT: Realmente Libre (April 29-May 1)

Westin Mission Hills, Rancho Mirage. Info: Marvella, 951-509-2333.

LOMA LINDA ACADEMY STRINGS (April 30) 5 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda.

SECC BIBLE QUIZ-A-RAMA (April 30) Conference-wide. Info: 951-509-2260; liz.adams@seccsda.org.

Southern California

PERON C3 COLLEGIATE RETREAT (April 1-3) "connect.cultivate.carry" Featured speaker, Joseph Kidder. Music by Deliverance. Camp Cedar Falls, 39850 State Highway 38, Angelus Oaks 92305. Info: www.C3RETREAT.org.

A DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER (April 2) 3 p.m., SCC Prayer Leadership Team, Vallejo Drive church, 300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale 92106. Info: 310-541-2578.

VICTORY IN JESUS SEMINAR (April 22) 7:30 p.m. Presenter, Bill Liversidge (April 23) 11 a.m.; 2 p.m. seminar; Tues., (April 26), 6:30 p.m. Rolling Hills church, 28340 Highridge Rd., Rolling Hills Estates 90274. Info: 310-541-1819.

LOCAL ARTISTS' EXHIBITION (April 23) Theme: Love's Ultimate Sacrifice. All artistic expressions from many media. Fifth annual juried art exhibition, including children's art. "Live Masterpieces" also presented; show times on the half hour. 5-7 p.m. Alhambra church, 220 S. Chapel Ave. Info: 626-289-6137.

L.A. FORUM MEETING (April 23) 3 p.m. Adventism's Julias. Gil Valentine, Ph.D., LSU School of Education; Kendra Haloviak Valentine, Ph.D., assoc., LSU School of Religion. Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241.

CRESCENTA VALLEY ADVENTIST SCHOOL 50th Anniversary (April 23) We are searching for alumni and needing help in collecting names, e-mails. Info: secretary@cvas.net or 818-249-1504.

GLAR CONVOCATION 2011 (April 27, 29, 30) "Preparing the Soil: 'Sow the Seed'" Speakers: Henry M. Wright, adults; Debleair Snell, youth. (April 27 & 29) Breath of Life church, 425 S. La Brea Ave., Inglewood; (April 30) White Memorial Church, 401 No. State St., Los Angeles. Info: 818-546-8465.

"SI NO HAY SALUD MENTAL no hay Salud Fjsica" (April 29-May 1) Oradores invitados: Frank Gonzalez, La Voz de la Esperanza; Israel Chambi, M.D.; Julian Melgosa. Camp Cedar Falls, 39850 State Highway 38, Angelus Oaks 92305. Información: SCC Hispanic Health Ministries, 951-313-8948, 818-546-8448.

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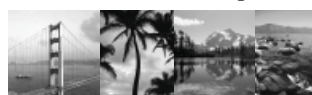
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Alumni Reunions

BARSTOW HOMECOMING (June 18) 250 Broadway, Barstow, Calif. Sabbath morning services, potluck luncheon, afternoon service featuring Musicappell from the Loma Linda Filipino church. RSVP to Richard Parent, pastor: rparent@san.rr.com or 760-718-3398.

DETROIT SOUTHFIELD JUNIOR ACADEMY and Metropolitan Junior Academy centennial (April 30) Metropolitan church, 15585 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Speaker, Nathan Greene; Scott Michael Bennett and Camille Aragones in concert. Info: 734-420-4044 or metroschooloffice@yahoo.com; visit, www.southfield-metro100years.com.

ESCONDIDO ADVENTIST ACADEMY alumni day (May 7) Info: 760-746-1800 or www.easchool.org.

LA SIERRA ACADEMY alumni weekend (April 29-May 1) Honor Classes '01, '96, '91, '86, '81, '71, '61, '51, and '50+. Golf tournament, Sabbath services and potluck lunch. Contact: LSA Alumni Office, 951-351-1445 x 244, lsalumni@lsak12.com, alumni@lsak12.com.

LOMA LINDA ACADEMY alumni day (April 9) 10:30 a.m. Chan Auditorium; alumni and faculty potluck luncheon to follow in the high school gym. Honored classes: '61, '86. Info: 909-796-0161, ext. 3313; mmorgan@lla.org or www.lla.org.

MONTEREY BAY ACADEMY 61st alumni weekend (April 21-24) Friday, golf tournament; Sabbath, worship services; evening, Oceanaires/Westwinds Concert. Sunday, 49ers Brunch for classes '50-'61. Info: alumni.montereybayacademy.org or 831-728-1481 x 1222.

PLEASANT HILL ADVENTIST ACADEMY homecoming (May 7) Come celebrate another exciting homecoming as we honor the graduating classes of '01 & '06. Info: www.phaacougars.com or alumni@phaacougars.com.

PUC PREP SCHOOL alumni weekend (April 29-May 1) Honor classes '06, '01, '96, '91, '86, '81, '76, '71, '66, '61. Friday night, PUC Gospel Choir; keynote speaker, Chip Gifford, '91. Afternoon, "Remembering Elder Eugene Erickson." Info: Rosalie Rose e-mail: rosi_rose@yahoo.com.

REDLANDS ADVENTIST ACADEMY alumni weekend (April 16-17) Info:

909-793-1000 or www.redlandsacademy.org.

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NEW CHURCH PLANT. Do you have any friends or relatives in the Walnut, Calif., area not currently attending church? The Walnut Valley Fellowship has a warm family atmosphere and welcomes guests. See services at www.livestream.com/wvsa or visit 20601 La Puente Rd., Walnut, CA. Info 909-964-8970.

Employment

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this position and to apply, please visit: www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi.

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ANTIOCH MEDICAL PARK seeks SDA Family Practice physician BC/BE to join an established practice in Antioch, Calif. Initial guaranteed salary and office space available. Growing community in the East Bay/Delta Region of California. Recreational and cultural amenities abound in or near this area. New SDA 8-grade school and church campus. A successful candidate will pass a background screen and hospital credentialing. Submit CV with 3 references and

cover letter in PDF or Word format to: Don Amador, e-mail: damador@cwo.com, phone: 925-783-1834.

BETTER LIFE BROADCASTING NETWORK seeks assistant to the general manager. Good organizational skills, computer savvy, some accounting experience with QuickBooks a plus. Good people skills, "can do" attitude, public speaker. SDA member in good standing required. Résumés to Ron Davis, P.O. Box 766, Grants Pass, OR 97526. E-mail: rondavis@betterlifetv.tv.

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks dean for School of Education and Psychology. Successful candidate will hold a doctoral degree in a field of education or psychology. Candidate must also be an active member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Send cover letter, curriculum vita, and statement of leadership and teaching philosophy, including the integration of faith and learning to Dr. Robert Young, Academic Administration: e-mail ryoung@southern.edu, phone at 423-236-2804 or 423-260-0597. The position becomes available on June 1, 2011.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time professor to teach freshman writing and literature or other class each semester. Top candidate will hold a doctorate in English, have a record of successful teaching, and will be a Seventh-day Adventist Church member in good standing. Applicants should provide a CV and a statement of how he/she integrates teaching and Adventist Christian faith to Jan Haluska, Ph.D., English Department Chair, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370, or haluska@southern.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY School of Nursing seeks faculty member to coordinate Summer Study Option for Associate of Science program. Responsibilities include teaching, clinical scheduling, and supervision in the labs. Applicant must have a minimum of a master's degree in nursing, be a Seventh-day Adventist in good and regular standing, and have a commitment to nursing and SDA education. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Barbara James, bjames@southern.edu or to SAU, School of Nursing, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time nurse educator. Master's degree required; doctoral degree preferred. Must have some teaching experience and an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Contact Dr. Ron Mitchell, 817-202-6230 or rmitchell@swau.edu.

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Events

AMAZING FACTS/WEIMAR CENTER Convocation (June 7-11) Be Revived in the Spirit. Be Renewed in Your Health. Come join Amazing Facts and Weimar Center of Health & Education for five days of spiritual and health revival with world-class speakers Mark Finley, Doug Batchelor, John Bradshaw, Neil Nedley, Phil Mills, and many others. Understand clearly the mind, body, and spiritual connection and how you can help reach others through health and evangelism. For more information or to reserve a space, lodging, and meals call toll-free 800-525-9192. Children's programs are available.

"**HASTENING THE DAY**" is the theme for the ASI Pacific Union Convention (April 21-24) at the Pacific Palms Resort, City of Industry, Calif. Speakers: Mark Howard, Peter Neri, Pat Arrabito and Charlene West. Register online at www.plusline.org/eventdetail.php?id=1066804 or call 800-732-7587. Children program for ages 2-12. Reserve lodging at 626-854-2496. Exhibitors welcome. Space is limited.

WILDWOOD TOTAL VEGETARIAN Cooking Seminar (May 22-29) Seven-day seminar focusing on whole foods cooking (hands-on), wild edibles, and organic gardening. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Cost:

\$370 (Includes room, vegan meals). Contact: Darlene 931-724-6706, e-mail: darlenekeith@gmail.com. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org.

WILDWOOD WEIGHT MANAGEMENT Seminar. Intensive 14-day program focusing on health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. (May 1-15) Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Cost: \$740 (Includes room, vegan meals) Contact: Darlene Keith 931-724-6706, e-mail: darlenekeith@gmail.com. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org.

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Lambky, Beverly Larkin, Angie LeGrand, Tracy Leonard, Andrew Lind, Violet Littler, Jonathan Logan, Gina & Cash Long, Arturo Longoria, Elena Magay, Kimberley Mallard, Brian Marshall, Rocklyn Marshall, Jeff & Carolyn Martin, Jim May, Terri McCann, Dawn McCurdy, Shannon McGhee, Delois McKinney, Allen Meaney, Carlie Medina.

LAKEPORT. *Contact: Martha Lukens, Lakeport Church, PO Box 237, Lakeport 95453, 707-279-9409 or lukensm@att.net:* Clay Adams, Kipp Beatty, Dale Dimoree, Victoria Dimoree, Aleta Edwards, Loralee (Lollie) Elkins, Linda (Snyder) Harmon, David House, Greg House, Diane Jacobsen, Edgar Kannel, Joy Keyes (Clarita Cady), Freda March, Terri Martin, William Martin, Rosario Miller, Renee Pifer, Colleen Ramirez, Jennifer Ramirez, Shannon Ramirez, Timothy Rehard, Jessica Snyder, Kathy Weldon, Shelly (Michele) Williams, Anita Wolf.

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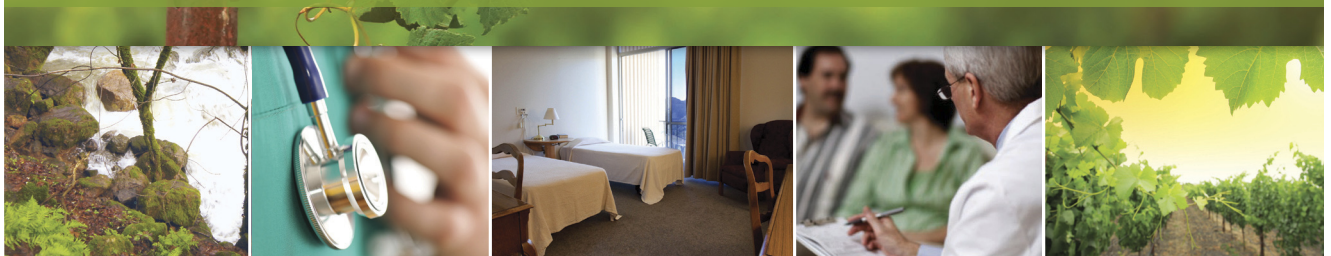
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ANDERS, EMMA AMELIA HALE-AKAIA (KAMA) – b. Oct. 19, 1922, Kaupo, Maui, Hawaii; d. Jan. 13, 2011, Ukiah, Calif. Survivors: son, Robert Marshall; daughter, Dorothy Burns; six grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.

BRIGGS, JOHN DERBY – b. Sept. 8, 1929, Springfield, Mass.; d. Nov. 7, 2010, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Survivors: wife, Judy; son, Jonathan; daughters, Kathleen Rogers, Marilyn Ruth Heath, Jennifer Bertleson; sister, Charlotte Chevier; 10 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Taught in SDA schools in California, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho, Oregon and Washington for 50+ years. Taught English to students in China via Skype in his retirement.

BRYSON, ELMER – b. March 28, 1913, Pioneer, Calif.; d. Feb. 5, 2011, Lemoore, Calif. Survivors: sons, Dale, Jim, Timothy, John; daughter, Elizabeth; 19 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren.

DABLO, CESAR M. – b. Jan. 2, 1925, Cebu, Philippines; d. Feb. 16, 2010, Fontana, Calif. Survivors: wife, Luz; sons, Reginald, Cesar Jr.; daughters, Cheryl, Charlotte Barnard,

Jennifer Mack; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

EMDE, ELIZABETH M. "BETTY" (STARK) – b. April 10, 1917, Brattleboro, Vt.; d. Jan. 23, 2011, Mexico City, Mexico. Survivors: sons, Lionel, Paul, Bruce Reim; stepsons, Andrew, John Emde; stepdaughter, Betty Walther; brother, Sherman Stark; 10 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren. Served as a secretary at New England Conference, Pacific Union College, and Loma Linda University Hospital.

ESTILL, STANLEY – b. Nov. 17, 1916, Ind.; d. Jan. 1, 2011, Palmdale, Calif. Survivor: daughter, Glenda.

FISCHER, THEOPHIL "TED" – b. June 21, 1917, Golden Valley, N.D.; d. Jan. 18, 2011, Placerville, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Sharon Tininenko, Jerolyn Baldwin, Marsha Fischer, Gay Sharp; five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Served as a principal at San Francisco Junior Academy and as a pastor in North Dakota, Yreka, Vallejo and Eureka.

HOATSON, DENVER "BILL" M. – b. May 20, 1927, Kansas City, Mo.; d. July 2, 2010, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: wife, Mary; sons, Larry, Robert; one grandchild.

HURLBERT, A. STANLEY – b. June 25, 1912, Washington, Pa.; d. Feb. 5, 2011,

Vancouver, Wash. Survivors: son, Lanny; daughter, Joanne Evans; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

JETTON, MARGE HODGE – b. Sept. 29, 1904, Yuba City, Calif.; d. Feb. 15, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, James Jr.; daughter, Jane; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Served as a nurse in Southeastern California and a relief medical missionary to hospitals in Zambia and Ethiopia. Featured in a *National Geographic* article about longevity.

JORDAN, MARIE – b. Jan. 17, 1920, Delta, Iowa; d. Jan. 11, 2011, New River, Ariz. Survivors: sons, Bill and J.B.; daughter, Rita Baker; 12 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren.

KUNIHIRA, SATSUKI MAY – b. May 25, 1920, Oakland, Calif.; d. Jan. 31, 2011, Fontana, Calif. Survivors: husband, Shirou; sons, Daniel, Richard, Dale; daughter, Linda Badal; seven grandchildren. Served as missionary in Japan.

LAABS, ELAYNE (ANDRUS) – b. June 26, 1935, Lincoln, Neb.; d. Jan. 4, 2011, San Bernardino, Calif. Survivors: husband, Elery W. Albertson, brother, Warren Andrus. Bible worker and academy teacher in the New Jersey

Conference, academy teacher for Takoma Park Academy.

LIN, DAVID – b. Feb. 17, 1917, Manila, Philippines; d. Feb. 17, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Clara; son, Roger; daughters, Eva Guo, Ruby Jiao, Angelina Johnson, Flora Jiao. Served in ministerial and administrative work in China where he spent 15 years as a political prisoner because of his faith.

MARTIN, MELBA DEAN (RICKS) – b. April 19, 1952, Longview, Texas; d. Feb. 6, 2011, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: sons, Trevor, Courtney; mother, Clara Ricks; sisters, Donna DeGuire, Connie Roldan. Served as a nurse at Loma Linda University Medical Center.

RIDGWAY, FRANCES BILLIE (CAIN) – b. April 25, 1919, Minn.; d. Dec. 14, 2010, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Stacy Ridgway Blake; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

ROBINSON, ELLEN G. – b. May 31, 1921, Providencia, Colombia, South America; d. Jan. 30, 2011, Colton, California. Survivors: brothers, John, Donald, David.

RODRIGUEZ, MELVILLE WALTER – b. Feb. 27, 1916, Madras, India; d. Feb. 7, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: sons, Edwin Maxwell, Stanley Maxwell.

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SAVAGE, DOROTHY – b. July 8, 1920, Wallington, N.J.; d. Jan. 10, 2011, Bend, Ore. Survivors: son, Donald; daughter, Karen; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild. Served as treasurer of San Gabriel Academy.

SCOTT, JOHN – b. Nov. 28, 1917, Lajunta, Colo.; d. Feb. 10, 2011, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: wife, Edith; son, Robert; daughter, Marian Chrieps; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

SKALA, VIOLA (MASTERS) – b. Dec. 26, 1920, Erick, Okla.; d. Jan. 8, 2011, Oxnard, Calif. Survivor: sister, Lita Masters.

UNGLAUB, KURT MICHAEL – b. Aug. 4, 1952, Lacey, Wash.; d. Nov. 22, 2011, Portland, Ore. Survivors: wife, Margaret; daughters, Sarah Thomas, Amy Woiler; son, Eric; three grand-children. Served as health educator in various institutions; as a missionary for Adventist Frontier Missions 1993-1999; pastor in Hawaii Conference 2003-2010.

WALKER, ESTHER EVELYN (STACEY) – b. July 25, 1912, Effingham, Kan.; d. June 22, 2010, Yuba City, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Phyla, Linda Herrera; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren.

WALTERS SR., DONN – b. March 27, 1924, West Rupert, Vt.; d. Dec. 16, 2010, Cloverdale, Calif. Survivors: sons, Donn Jr., Dann, Tim, Jim, Joe; daughter, Mary; three grandchildren.

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“Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.”
— Exodus 20:8

SUNSETS

	4/1	4/8	4/15	4/22	4/29
Alturas	7:28	7:35	7:43	7:51	7:58
Angwin	7:34	7:40	7:47	7:53	8:00
Calexico	7:02	7:07	7:12	7:17	7:22
Chico	7:32	7:39	7:46	7:53	8:00
Eureka	7:42	7:49	7:57	8:04	8:11
Fresno	7:22	7:28	7:34	7:40	7:46
Hilo	6:35	6:37	6:39	6:41	6:44
Honolulu	6:46	6:48	6:51	6:53	6:56
Las Vegas	7:03	7:09	7:15	7:21	7:27
Lodi	7:29	7:35	7:42	7:48	7:55
Loma Linda	7:10	7:15	7:21	7:26	7:32
Los Angeles	7:14	7:20	7:25	7:30	7:36
Moab	7:41	7:47	7:54	8:01	8:08
Oakland	7:32	7:38	7:45	7:51	7:58
Phoenix	6:49	6:54	6:59	7:04	7:10
Reno	7:24	7:31	7:38	7:44	7:51
Riverside	7:11	7:16	7:21	7:26	7:32
Sacramento	7:29	7:36	7:43	7:49	7:56
Salt Lake City	7:52	8:00	8:07	8:15	8:22
San Diego	7:09	7:14	7:19	7:24	7:29
San Francisco	7:33	7:39	7:46	7:52	7:59
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Tucson	7:43	7:48	6:53	7:58	8:03

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