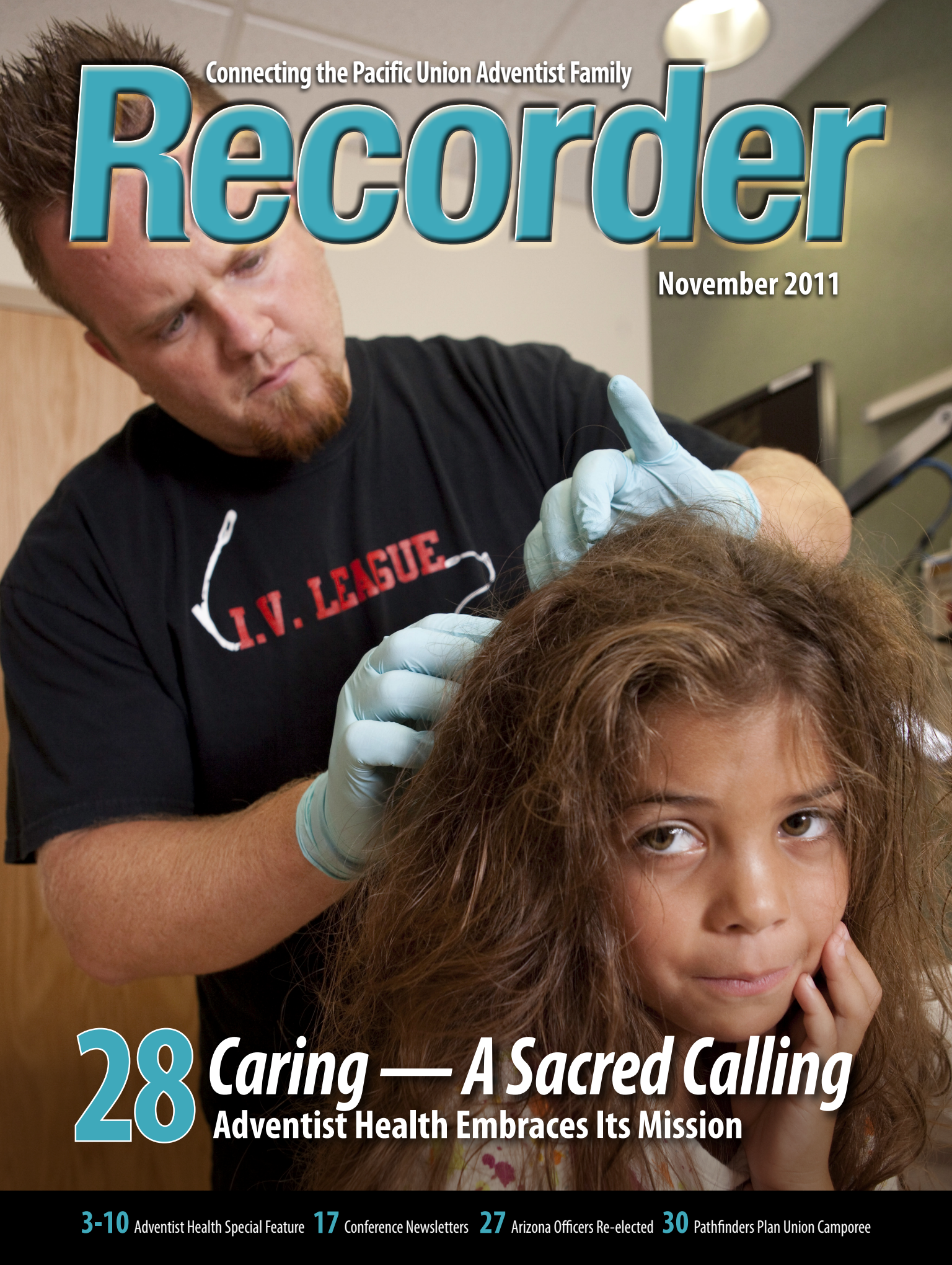


Connecting the Pacific Union Adventist Family

# Recorder

November 2011



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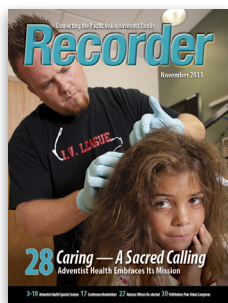
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## About the Cover

Casey Milburn, an ER tech at Adventist Medical Center – Hanford, combs the hair of a child in the Emergency Room.

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	Year Average	Sept. Issue
Total number of copies	76,651	76,508
Total paid or requested outside-county mail subs	74,556	74,380
Total paid or requested inside-county mail subs	0	0
Sales through dealers, carriers, street vendors	0	0
Other classes mailed through USPS	1,771	1,804
Total paid and/or requested circulation	76,327	76,184
Total free distribution	324	324
Total distribution	76,651	76,508
Copies not distributed	150	150
Total	76,801	76,658
Percent paid and/or requested	99.5%	99.4%

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## Living the Adventist Health Mission

*Ricardo Graham, chairman of the Adventist Health board*

**K**indness. Compassion. Caring. Simple words that are living witnesses to Jesus' caring ministry throughout the Adventist Health family of hospitals and clinics.

Every day in countless ways, the professionals of Adventist Health demonstrate the ministry of healing because caring is their sacred calling; it's the guiding principle that shapes their work.

Maybe it is in emergency treatment, regular check-ups with the physicians and nurses or post-operative care. In each case, the sacred calling of caring is present.

I recently received a copy of *Our Stories: Living the Adventist Health Mission*, volume 2. It chronicles actual events that have occurred in some Adventist Health facilities. These true stories are powerful illustrations of Jesus using people today to touch the lives of others with compassionate care.

A young man was brought to an Adventist Health hospital by police, suspected of harming his parents. Wearing blood-splattered clothing, he wouldn't talk to



staff, while apparently talking to himself. Later determined to be a schizophrenic, he received compassionate, caring attention from the staff, not unlike the leper who came to Jesus and received the caring, healing touch. "Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be healed!'" (Mark 1:41, NLT).

Then there was Mary, a cancer patient, who wanted to get out of bed to use the bedside commode. She didn't have the strength to carry her own weight, so the nurse held her up and assisted her in and out of bed, wanting her to have dignity, even while she was dying.

A young woman with a serious heart defect was confined to bed during her pregnancy. She wanted to give her baby every chance at life. While her nurse couldn't fully speak her language, she sat by her bedside, holding the expectant mother's hand, talking and crying, giving her comfort and care.

What a blessing that so many health care professionals live out the words: "Caring is our Sacred Calling."

## Notable Accomplishments

**Feather River Hospital** received the Governor's Award for Excellence, presented by the California Council for Excellence on behalf of the governor of California, Jerry Brown. This award recognizes the hospital in Paradise, Calif., for emphasis on quality and excellence in patient care outcomes. FRH is only the fourth organization — and the first hospital — to ever receive the award.

**Simi Valley Hospital** is one of the only Adventist Health hospitals offering a Child Development Center. The CDC helps children with identified needs get care from the center's therapists and interventionists.

CDC offers physical, occupational and speech/language therapy. Services are tailored to each child — from mild, short-term developmental or language delays — to needs as a result of Down syndrome, cerebral palsy or other chronic conditions.

**Ukiah Valley Medical Center** nurses were awarded the "2011 Best Nursing Team" by *Advance for Nurses* magazine. An independent team of judges reviewed blind applications, and according to *Advance's* regional director, UVMC's application stood out from all the rest. UVMC nurses are on the cover of the May issue of the magazine.



## *Caring — Our Sacred Calling*

*Robert G. Carmen*

**A**t Adventist Health, we are in the business of care and caring. As a system of hospitals, clinics and other health care services, you probably already figured that out. What we do, however, is far more than just business.

Everyday hundreds of people enter our hospitals because they trust us to care for them as we would care for our own families. And I am proud to say that is exactly what we strive to do. Why? Because caring is our sacred calling.

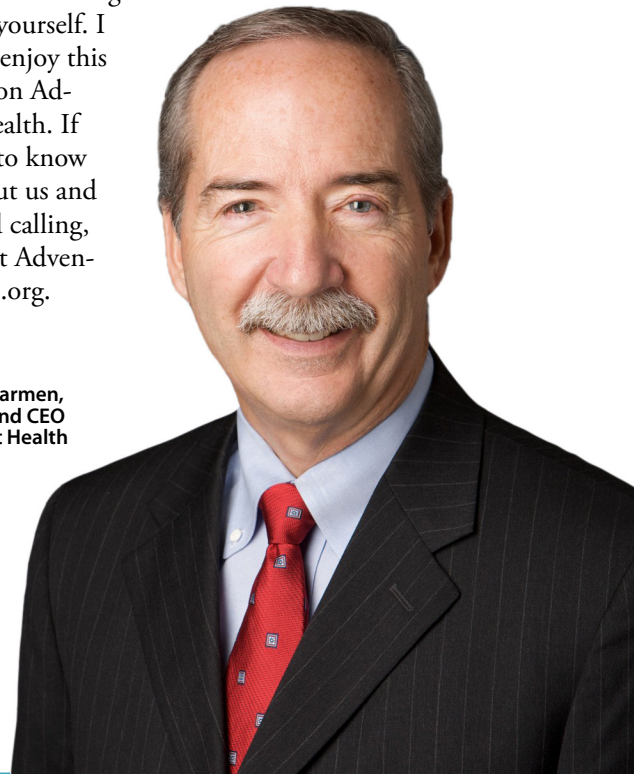
The essence of our Adventist Health mission — Sharing God's love by providing physical, mental and

spiritual healing — is caring for patients and their families. In carrying out this mission, all Adventist Health employees — whether dietitian, accountant, housekeeper, nurse or physician — strive to make a positive difference in the lives of those with whom they come in contact.

Throughout this special issue of the *Recorder*, you will read stories from across our four-state system, demonstrating that our mission is more than a few words on a page. From spiritual care and its effect on physical healing, and what it means for our patients; to excerpts from our newest inspirational book, emphasizing the emotional connections our caregivers make with patients and their families.

As you turn these pages, you will see our employees living the Adventist Health mission — a mission that finds its true expression through care given. I don't want to give anything away, so read the following pages for yourself. I hope you enjoy this spotlight on Adventist Health. If you wish to know more about us and our sacred calling, please visit [AdventistHealth.org](http://AdventistHealth.org).

**Robert G. Carmen,**  
president and CEO  
at Adventist Health



### **Facts about Adventist Health**

- 17 hospitals in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington
- More than 263 service sites, including 130 medical clinics
- 14 home care agencies offering home health, hospice, personal care, medical equipment and infusion therapy services
- Four joint-venture retirement centers
- Headquartered in Roseville, California
- Approximately 19,500 employees
- More than 2,500 beds
- 123,540 admissions in 2010
- 448,155 Emergency department visits in 2010
- 2,336,167 outpatient visits in 2010
- 211,195 home care visits in 2010
- 86,047 hospice days in 2010
- 763,190 rural health visits in 2010
- Provided nearly \$300 million in free and low-cost services to our communities in 2010



## *Adventist Health Fosters Innovation*

*Brittany Russell Dobbs*

**T**he world is innovating. Now more than ever, people and businesses are trying to come up with great ideas that have never been thought of.

Not such an easy task.

It isn't likely that Edison invented the light bulb on his first try or that Google's founders launched their search engine in one afternoon. Both innovations have rocked our world and are still evolving every day!

Adventist Health wants to rock the health care world — or at least its patients' worlds. "Innovation Everywhere" has become a call to action for employees across the four-state system.

How does Adventist Health define innovation? According to JoAline Olson, vice president for Innovations, it is the "introduction of new processes, products, services, systems, organizational structures or business models consistent with our mission."

### **Improving Through Innovation**

Adventist Health's hospitals across the West have taken the call and are becoming innovative in more ways than one. For example, White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles adopted a Culture of Safety, based on a model by Johns Hopkins University. This initiative guides progress towards established goals, monitors the hospital's safety record and clinical performance and holds hospital leadership accountable for improvements.

One of the patient safety initiatives adopted by WMMC was an effort to reduce severe pressure ulcers (bedsores) among its patients. That effort proved so successful that the hospital shifted its focus to eliminating all pressure ulcers consistent with new state standards. The hospital has

focused on identifying at-risk patients, along with replacing all mattresses and pillows in the hospital, providing regular staff trainings on wound care and designating wound care champions on each hospital unit.

Since 2009 when the initiative launched, White Memorial has reduced pressure ulcers by 84.6 percent. Being innovative really does improve quality care for patients!

### **Plant a Seed**

To ignite excitement for innovations at the hospitals and to cultivate new ideas, the Innovations Council, Adventist Health's committee to help spread innovation throughout the system, offered seed money for new ideas to be implemented.

Earlier this spring, the council considered 25 proposals from six different hospitals, clinics and the corporate office. In June, they awarded a total of \$250,000 to six proposals that best represented innovative concepts which assist in accomplishing the system's strategic initiatives and could be duplicated at other locations throughout the system.

Several California hospitals were awarded for their innovative ideas:

The Central Valley Network, which includes Adventist Medical Center—Hanford, Adventist Medical Center—Selma and Central Valley General Hospital, received nearly \$150,000 total to implement four ideas.

Sonora Regional Medical Center won \$45,000 for an idea to improve the hospital's admitting process.

### **A Reason to Innovate**

Adventist Health isn't just trying to innovate to increase revenues or become more well-known. Innovation is an organization-wide culture change, affecting every employee and every patient. Innovation at Adventist Health is about collaboration and diffusing ideas from one care site to another.

"By spreading successful innovations throughout our hospitals, we can develop a deep and enduring capability for innovation in our organization," said Olson. "Our patients will ultimately reap the benefits of this innovative culture shift."





## *The Science Behind Spirituality and Healing*

*Brittany Russell Dobbs and Paul Crampton*

**N**ew research has shown that spirituality and religion have an impact on physical healing. Harold G. Koenig, M.D., is out to scientifically prove this link. Trained at Stanford University and Duke University Medical Center, he is considered by biomedical scientists as one of the world's top experts on religion and health. Koenig's research has been featured on programs including "The Today Show," National Public Radio and *Newsweek*, to name a few. Currently, Koenig is the director of Duke University's Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health.

Adventist Health sat down with Koenig to talk about the research. Here's what he had to say.

**Adventist Health (AH):** Explain the clinical trials at Glendale Adventist Medical Center in Southern California.

**Koenig (HGK):** At GAMC and Duke University Medical Center, we are recruiting religious patients who have depression and cognitive medical illness. We will randomize participants where some will receive state-of-the-art cognitive behavioral therapy and some will receive the same treatment, but with a religious twist. By following participants for three to six months, we will be able to monitor if their depression changes, follow up on their lab results and see if there are any differences.

**AH:** Why are these findings significant?

**HGK:** Most studies just observe. In our study, we are going to intervene. We will ask, "Is religion causing these changes in behavior?" The results of this could show real scientific evidence that other scientists and healthcare practitioners can use.

**AH:** How does religion help people heal physically?

**HGK:** Three factors contribute to this:

- Religious coping, which is the use of religious beliefs and practices that help people deal with difficult life circumstances, counteracts changes that adversely affect health — physiological changes, healing, vulnerability to diseases, etc.
- Giving and receiving support influences the same physiological factors: immune, endocrine and cardiovascular. This effects their treatment and response.
- Health behaviors practiced due to commitment to religious beliefs include not smoking, drinking or engaging in risky sexual behaviors. The belief that the body is God's gift encourages patients to comply with medical treatments.

**AH:** Does science support this?

**HGK:** It is not proven, but there have been more than 3,000 quantitative studies on this topic, two-thirds supporting this theory. That is why I am working with GAMC to scientifically prove that religion promotes healing.

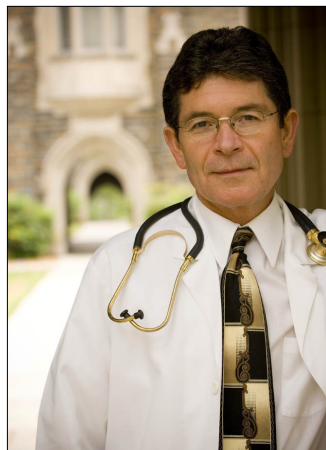
**AH:** Why should health care practitioners use religion to help patients heal?

**HGK:** There are many reasons why health care professionals should address the spiritual needs of patients. This is essential for high quality care of the whole person. Many patients in our hospitals turn to religion for comfort, hope and meaning. Since the mind and emotions are directly connected to the body's natural healing systems, health care practitioners, chaplains and pastors can use religious tools to positively influence patient outcomes.

### **What it Means to Adventist Health**

Paul Crampton, assistant vice president for Mission and Spiritual Care, offers what he believes this means for Adventist Health:

Thanks to dedicated scientists like Koenig, there has been a marked increase in research and published articles on the relevance of spirituality in health over



Harold G. Koenig



the past decade. This trend has compelled nursing and medical schools to include this topic as an integral part of their standard curriculum. Currently, virtually all nursing schools and more than two thirds of all medical schools include this subject.

Many organizations are now experimenting with mechanisms that integrate this new learning into practice. Although this is an emerging extension of contemporary, quality patient care — Adventist health care institutions have understood its relevance since the first sanitarium opened its doors nearly 150 years ago. Our history with whole person care (mind, body and spirit) places us at an advantage as we move toward the future.

Adventist Health has already established education and systems that appeal to a new generation of health care professionals expecting methodology that assesses patients' religious/spiritual needs and incorporates these into the care plan. The modern age of health care expects its leaders to do more than provide for the physical needs of our patients. It requires them to care for the whole person by acknowledging the scientific role spirituality plays, as well as how to integrate it in all aspects of care. This includes the ability to unite the diverse segments of our organizations: physicians, administrators, clinicians and ancillary staff through a common bond of service that is integral, sustainable and measurable; one that transcends the superficial aspects of work and gives meaning and fulfillment in every person's job.



**Paul Crampton, assistant vice president of Mission and Spiritual Care at Adventist Health.**

In our diligence to share God's love by providing the highest quality health care we are constantly looking to improve our systems and expand our knowledge. By forming collaborative relationships with educational institutions that are on the cutting edge of these processes — partnerships with Adventist universities and collaborative efforts with Duke and George Washington universities

— we are opening groundbreaking possibilities for the very near future and ensuring our place as a top provider of quality, whole-person care.

The most exciting aspect of these efforts is the significant opportunities that are emerging to creatively collaborate with our Seventh-day Adventist Church family in not only advancing our health message, but to heal the people of our communities by sharing Jesus' love through our religious practices.





## *Caring is Our Sacred Calling*

*Brittany Russell Dobbs*

**H**ealth care professionals have the unique opportunity of sharing life's most precious and difficult moments with patients. By offering the love, compassion and care that they would offer their own loved ones, Adventist Health staff makes impressions on many patients and their families.

Some of these encounters are relived in the most recent book, *Our Stories: Living the Adventist Health Mission*. This is the second edition of the book that shares stories — written by Adventist Health staff — from all of our hospitals and many different professions. This series illustrates how caring really is Adventist Health's "sacred calling."

### **Combing Out Fears**

A little girl was brought into the Emergency Department at Adventist Medical Center—Hanford with a head wound needing 10 staples. She had long, dark hair, but it was badly tangled and matted. She was crying, obviously scared and in pain.

Casey was the emergency technician on duty that day, and it was hard for him to watch the young girl suffer. The emergency physician asked Casey to comb out the little girl's hair so he could begin to mend her wound. However, the comb available wouldn't do the job. Casey felt horrible for the young girl so he took his lunch break, went to the store and bought a sturdy comb and some de-tangling spray.

When Casey returned to the little girl, he gently combed out her hair, careful not to pull too hard. Her long, dark hair fell straight against her back, so the cut was accessible to the physician. She and her family were very grateful for Casey's willingness to go the extra mile. He was thankful for the opportunity to help the little girl. Casey knew he was right where God wanted him to be.

### **Loving Care Goes Both Ways**

Leadership at Hawaii's Castle Medical Center distributes newspapers to inpatients each morning. One day, Kevin Roberts, president and CEO of the hospital,

entered a patient's room and found the man in bed, eyes closed and talking to himself. Roberts' first impression was the patient had a mental issue and wouldn't want a paper. However, he decided to observe before leaving.

Roberts heard the patient say, "Dr. Koo is such a kind man; bless him and give him wisdom. And the nurses, Father, they take such care of me, and they have such compassion toward me; bless their work so others can feel the love they show."

Roberts realized the patient was not delirious — he was praying! Roberts listened as he prayed for everyone except himself, and he was the one in the bed.

Finally, he noticed that Roberts was standing there, and proceeded: "And Lord, this man is here to give me a paper; bless him, and all that he does. Thank you that he's here to give me a newspaper this morning. Father, I am so forever blessed!"

When he said, "Amen," Roberts began to pray aloud for him, asking God to bless him tenfold for his gracious, thankful and loving spirit. Afterwards, they clasped hands and smiled at each other, knowing they had shared a special spiritual privilege.

Roberts was blessed much more than he was able to give that morning, and learned that "loving care" can go both ways.

### **Love Makes a Way**

An elderly gentleman in the ICU at St. Helena Hospital Clear Lake was near the end of his life. To his nurse, Aura, he mentioned that his wife, who lived in a nursing home, should be notified only after he passed. She couldn't come to see him anyhow, and he was concerned that she would worry about him.

But when the wife called to check on her husband, Aura was impressed that she had to tell the truth. The wife cried as Aura explained the situation. Aura told her that maybe there was a way she could see him. Working with the nursing supervisor and the nursing home, it was arranged for her to come.

After she arrived, Aura stepped out of the room to allow her privacy with her husband. From the nurses'





Casey Milburn, an ER tech at Adventist Medical Center – Hanford, combs the hair of a child in the Emergency Room.

station, Aura watched as she leaned over the bed and stroked his cheek. Aura was moved to ask the wife something she had never asked a patient’s family member before: “Would you like to be in the bed with him?”

She turned her tear-soaked face toward Aura and sobbed, “Could I?”

Aura helped her into the bed and covered the two of them with a blanket. Almost immediately, he leaned into her as if he understood that his wife had come home to him. They lay there for hours, him breathing softly and her speaking lovingly to him. She stayed until he drew his final breath — then for a while longer to say goodbye.

Aura learned later that the patient had struggled with having his wife placed in a nursing home. He tried to maintain their close relationship, even through their illnesses. Aura believes God spoke to her that day to arrange for them to be together.

## The Shoe Fund

She was only 50 years old, but she was so depressed that she wanted to die. She came to Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital because her rheumatoid arthritis was so severe that not even a nursing home could care for

her. She suffered with painful abscesses and had been unable to walk for almost a year.

After living at the hospital for a few months, her spirits began to lift, and she became open to trying physical therapy. The physical therapist suggested getting shoes for her, and found a pair that would help her avoid further skin breakdown. However, Medicare would not cover the cost, and the patient had no money to buy the shoes herself.

Staff believed that if she had these shoes, she might actually be able to walk. Since the holidays were near, staff sent out an e-mail and put a collection envelope at the nurses’ station.

They arrived before Christmas. Staff wrapped the box and handed her the present. She was ecstatic.

From the first day she wore those special shoes, she set goals to walk further and further. First she started to walk around her room, then she ventured a few feet out to the hall. She set her sights on going home — and she achieved that goal.

These stories are excerpts from *Our Stories: Living the Adventist Health Mission*. To read the book in its entirety, download the free PDF at [adventisthealth.org/about-us](http://adventisthealth.org/about-us).



## Adventist Health Expands Care through Physicians Network

*Lauren Brendel*

Earlier this year, Ryan\* was under the care of Corey Warner, M.D., at Adventist Health/St. Helena Internal Medicine in Hidden Valley Lake, Calif. He writes, “No matter how busy things are, you always have time to spend with me and answer all of my questions. Your up-beat attitude is always appreciated when I come into your office for a visit. At 66 years old, I have never liked going to the doctor’s office, and since I have had you as my main physician, I always look forward to coming in and seeing everyone in your office.”

Providing exceptional care that is easily accessible to patients like Ryan, is why the Adventist Health Physicians Network (AHPN) was created in early 2011.

“Having physicians in the network that care about the Adventist Health mission and vision means that our patients and communities benefit. This access to care really allows us to “share God’s love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing,” said Jeff Conklin, president and CEO of AHPN.

### What is AHPN?

AHPN is a network of various physician practices in California. This new business is led by Conklin and Mark Ashlock, senior vice president of Adventist Health.

At present, AHPN has 42 physicians that provide patients with a broad range of services in 11 specialties. This spectrum ensures patients are receiving the care they need, where they need it. AHPN has clinics throughout California’s Napa Valley, Central Valley and in Bakersfield. Committed to growth and working with our hospitals, AHPN is currently looking to expand care in the Los Angeles area.

“Adventist Health Physicians Network expands our care footprint and reflects our dedication to high quality outpatient care, which is a top priority for us,” said Ashlock. “AHPN is able to support the business and clinical aspects of each medical practice, which allows the physicians to focus on what they do best — providing excellent medical care and improving the well-being of the community.”

### Adventist Health Physicians Network Clinics

#### Napa Valley

- Calistoga
- Clearlake
- Hidden Valley Lake
- Middletown
- Napa
- St. Helena

Associated with St. Helena Hospitals (StHelenaHospitals.org)

#### Central Valley

- Hanford
- Lemoore

Associated with Adventist Health/Central Valley Network (AdventistHealthCV.com)

#### Bakersfield

Associated with San Joaquin Community Hospital (HighgroveMedical.com)

*AHPN is a network of physician practices in California, 42 doctors at present, who provide service in 11 specialties.*

# LLU Research: Excess Body Fat in Elderly Decreases Life Expectancy

*Jennifer Frehn*

While some past studies have shown that persons carrying a few extra pounds in their 70s live longer than their thinner counterparts, a new Loma Linda University study that measured subjects' weight at multiple points over a longer period of time reveals the opposite.

Research from Adventist Health Studies recently published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* showed that men over 75 with a body mass index (BMI) greater than 22.3 had a 3.7-year shorter life expectancy, and women over 75 with a BMI greater than 27.4 had a 2.1-year shorter life expectancy. Generally, a BMI between 18.5 and 24.9 is considered normal weight, and a BMI of 25 to 29.9 is considered overweight. A BMI of 30 or more is considered obese.

Previous work in this area by others found a protective association for a high body weight among the elderly. Pramil N. Singh, Dr.P.H., lead author of the paper and an associate professor in the School of Public Health, says the data from many past studies is problematic because only a single baseline measure of weight was taken, which does not account for weight changes or how these weight changes affect life expectancy. Additionally, most past studies had mortality surveillance of fewer than 19 years, which analyses have shown to be an inadequate amount of time to study risks associated with weight.

"We had a unique opportunity to do 29 years of follow-up with a cohort that was also followed for mortality outcomes," Singh explains. "Across this long period of time, we had multiple measures of body weight, which provided a more accurate assessment."

The study looked at 6,030 adults who never smoked and who were free of major chronic diseases at enrollment. It then examined only those adults who maintained a stable weight. This was done in an effort to exclude individuals who, for example, were in the normal weight category because they experienced significant weight loss due to a disease. Therefore their death would not have been related to their normal weight, but rather to the disease that caused them to reach normal weight.

"When you control for confounding by disease-related weight loss, overweight and obesity remain a risk for persons over the age of 75," Singh says. "This suggests that elderly individuals of normal weight should continue to maintain their weight."

Researchers noted a difference between genders in that men had a higher sensitivity to body fat than



women. Men started to experience a greater risk of mortality at a BMI of 22.3, while this risk did not appear for women until a BMI of 27.4. One possible reason for the difference between genders, Singh says, is that body fat is the primary source of estrogen in post-menopausal females, and a minimum level of estrogen in those years can be protective against heart disease and hip fractures.

"This is not to say that extra weight is good for women over 75," Singh notes, "but rather that the negative effects of extra weight in women over 75 appear at a higher weight than in males."

Singh says further studies are needed to understand the positive and negative effects of lifestyle patterns that help individuals maintain low body weight over long periods of time.

# African-Americans Gather for Annual Convocation

*Taneshia Farquharson*

African-Americans from all across the Central California Conference travelled to Fresno, Calif., for the 28th annual African-American convocation at the Fresno Westside church on Sept. 15-16. Worshipers heard a call for revival, reformation, transformation and restoration within their communities.

Reflecting on the various economic and social problems facing “an already depressed social structure of black communities,” Pastor Fred Anderson, director of African-American ministries in CCC, told the audience: “However, if we confess our sins and claim the gift of salvation, we can produce a different strategy for dealing with life’s difficult circumstances. We have the opportunity to become God’s ambassadors to humanity. We can be co-laborers with Christ to make disciples.”



Central California Conference administrators Ron Rasmussen, executive secretary; Ramiro Cano, conference president; and Fred Anderson, director of African-American ministries, listen as Dr. Hyveth Williams addresses the congregation.

The weekend’s services were officiated by Pastor Vigil Childs, director of African-American ministries for the Northern California Conference; Dr. George King, director of African-American ministries for the Southeastern California Conference; Dr. Hyveth Williams, professor of homiletics at Andrews University; and Taneshia Farquharson, assistant director of communications for CCC.

“The entire worship service was the perfect culmination of our Sabbath school lessons. I could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit come in with such a rush of comfort. I started crying and could not stop. The service was truly beautiful,” said Roberta Denyce Joseph from Bakersfield, Calif.

The fellowship lunch was followed by an enriching and inspiring musical program coordinated by Dr. Kimberly Horton and featuring the talents of Shelea Frazier-Kyle, Stevie Mackey Jr., and Le Quintet among others.

The afternoon’s highlight was the annual Bible Quiz-a-rama, where eight teams of young people under the age of 35 went head-to-head to show their



Members of the Fresno Westside team react to taking an early lead in the Bible Quiz-a-rama.

knowledge on the book of Exodus. Participating churches receive the Bible chapter two months before the event. Team members study to get ready.

After the first few answers, all teams were advancing neck and neck. The Quiz-a-rama ended with Fresno Westside in first place, San Jose Ephesus in second place, Seaside placing third.

“I’m proud of all the hard work each person has put in,” says Tammy Thompson, captain of the Fresno Westside team, adding that the most important part is the biblical knowledge they now have to share with others. For this reason, the team has pledged to start a youth Bible study to continue to learn and to share the experience with the other young people in their church.



# CCC Hires Full-Time Ministerial Director

*Caron Oswald*

**A**t a meeting in January, Central California Conference pastors were divided into small groups and asked to prioritize the needs of the conference. “Pretend you are the conference president” was their instruction. When each group reported, a full-time ministerial director was near the top of almost every priority list.

For years, the ministerial position was traditionally partnered with conference evangelism, creating conflicts for attention and priority. “Fulfilling this request from our pastors became one of my top priorities,” says Ramiro Cano, conference president.

The job description is comprehensive and includes developing pastoral resources for personal and professional growth; counseling with and assisting pastors who are having doctrinal issues, personal or family problems; planning the annual ministers retreat; and planning and conducting weekend seminars for churches in areas of expertise.

“The Lord kept bringing César De León to my mind,” Cano says. Not only is De León an ordained minister with a Master of Divinity from Andrews University, he is a licensed marriage and family therapist. He holds a master’s in marriage and family therapy from Loma Linda University and a Ph.D. from Fuller Theological Seminary.

César’s wife, Carolann, shares César’s passion for successful marriages and families. A registered

nurse, she also earned a master’s in marriage and family therapy from Loma Linda University and will soon complete her Ph.D. in the same discipline.

In 1994 they founded “Tu Familia Primero,” a ministry for families. Since then, they have traveled extensively speaking and holding seminars.

“I understood quickly that if [my wife] Carolann was happy, everything was better for me,” César shares. And that “family always comes first and to stay connected to my kids.” They are the parents of two sons, Zachary and Jonathon, a sophomore and freshman, respectively, at Monterey Bay Academy.

The De Leóns served as the pastoral couple for the San Jose Hispanic church for the past 10 years. While in San Jose and with support from the congregation, they launched a family radio program. Follow up programs for listeners and community members were held at the church.

De León accepted the call to be the full-time ministerial director and began on Sept. 15. “I am excited,” says Carolann about her husband’s new position. “I have always had a heart and passion for ministers and their wives.” Carolann volunteers her time whenever needed.

“When pastors come and talk to me, confidentiality is guaranteed 100 percent,” De León explains. His license dictates that. “My job is to encourage and to help others be their best. I am scared. I believe the challenge is huge. I’m trusting that God knows what He’s doing.”



The De León family: Zachary, Carolann, César, and Jonathon.



# NCC Hispanic Convocations Inspire and Encourage Members

*Julie Lorenz*

Inspiration and encouragement marked this summer's Northern California Conference Hispanic area convocations. NCC Spanish-speaking church members usually get together each summer in one location for several days of Hispanic camp meeting. However, this year, weekend area meetings were held at various locations throughout the conference in July and August.

3,500 Hispanic church members in the NCC.

"I'm happy that a high percentage of our members were able to attend," said NCC Hispanic Ministries coordinator Richard Dena, who noted that attendance was higher than any previous NCC Hispanic camp meeting. "My biggest desire is to inspire our members, get them motivated and let them know they are not alone."

Each area meeting — coordinated by local pastors and church members — had its own theme, speakers and musicians. The north area convocation was held for two weekends in the Sequoia Grove during Redwood camp meeting. About 180 people heard lay leader and Concord International church member Luis Melvin Leiva speak about being prepared in order to give one's best for God's service.

Almost 700 people attended the Delta area convocation, held in the Lodi

Spanish church and at Lodi Academy. Eduardo Mayoral, a pastor in the Sonora Mexican Conference, spoke about church planting and other topics, and singer/songwriter Felipe Garibo presented a concert of songs based on Scripture.

The East Bay convocation was held at the Concord International

church and Hilltop Christian School for about 550 people. Roger Hernandez, Oregon Conference Hispanic Ministries director, preached on small group ministry, while Pacific Union College Chaplain Laffit Cortés spoke to the young people, and Lilyette Uriarte gave a vocal concert.

More than 600 attended the Bay Area convocation, held at the Hayward Spanish church and the Oakland Latter-day Saints auditorium. Elden Ramírez, youth director from the Central California Conference, preached on the relevancy of the Adventist message, and Cortés again spoke to the young people. The group Cuarteto Shalom presented the featured music.

"It was a joy to see all the brethren coming from all the different areas and churches to be together, to worship God and to learn from one another ... sharing their faith and plans for what they're doing at the different churches," said Victor Mérida, Lodi Spanish/Stockton Spanish district pastor.

After receiving feedback from those who attended the convocations, Dena — along with pastors and lay leaders — decided that area meetings will be held every other year, alternating with the traditional one-location Hispanic camp meeting. "Every summer, we want the meetings to inspire our members as they meet with one another and listen to the speakers," said Dena. "We hope they receive a blessing."

Martha Santos



Roberto Carlos and Maritza Chicas wear the national costume of El Salvador, and Elyana Martinez and Armando Camacho wear the national costume of Mexico for the Parade of Nations during the Bay Area convocation. During the parade, 17 countries, including the United States, were represented.

"In the past, when the Hispanic camp meeting was held at one location, it was too far away for some people to make the trip," said Concord International church pastor Pedro Trinidad. "We wanted to bring the camp meeting closer to the people." About 2,000 people attended the convocations — out of



# PhoneFaith Fosters Fellowship and Wholistic Growth for the Blind

*Julie Lorenz*

**W**hen Dexter Thomas came to the United States from Trinidad and Tobago a decade ago, he was amazed to discover how many resources were available for blind people like himself, including newspapers in audio form that he could access over the telephone. He wondered why Adventist materials were not available in the same format.

Earlier this year, Thomas started PhoneFaith, a service for blind people to learn and interact over the telephone. Currently, more than

120 people from around the United States are using the free service for spiritual, social and professional interaction. Thomas chose this medium because many blind people cannot afford computers or find them difficult to use. “The phone is simple and straightforward,” he said.

Users can listen to books, attend live conferences, hear podcasts, visit chat rooms, and send messages without divulging personal information. Especially popular are the seven message boards (with themes such as friendship, health and business) where callers leave announcements and messages for everyone to hear. People use PhoneFaith for everything from exchanging recipes to singing gospel karaoke, from meeting in a women’s group to attending a health and wellness hour, and much more.

Thomas calls his phone service Facebook for the blind. “Being blind is very tedious,” he said. “People get bored, depressed and lonely. They’re now able to call and have fun. They’re really excited.” Thomas hopes that in addition to interacting socially and networking professionally, the people who use PhoneFaith will discover something deeper than they’d find at another phone service. “There are lots of chat

lines, but none of them share our message,” he said.

Spreading the good news about Jesus is important to Thomas, who serves as pastoral assistant at the Richmond-Beacon Light church. He holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from the San Francisco Theological Seminary, and has preached throughout North America, Japan and the Caribbean.

Every Sunday night, Thomas conducts a worship service for PhoneFaith. “I’ve planted a church over the telephone,” he said. “I really feel a deep sense of calling to do this.” Thomas sends Bibles and study materials to those who want to learn more. He also contacts pastors to arrange rides to church for interested people. However, he has much bigger goals for his phone congregation. “I want to do more than get them a ride. I want to empower them, and I want to network with pastors and church leaders to get them involved.”

Thomas needs volunteers for many aspects of his phone ministry, including people who are willing to call in and read for three minutes once a week. He also hopes to find volunteers to give presentations once a month on such topics as health, family life and business.

“Our prayer is that millions among the visually challenged population can be touched by our message without cost to them,” said Thomas. “My vision is winning them for Christ.”

Preston Davis



Dexter Thomas started PhoneFaith to reach out to the blind community. For more information about PhoneFaith, call 510-542-8511, write [dex4jesus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dex4jesus@sbcglobal.net), or visit <http://richmond-beaconlight.adventistfaith.org/phonefaith>. To access PhoneFaith, dial 231-732-7070; press 6 at the main menu to leave a message.

# La Sierra Freshmen Serve Community During IGNITE

*Darla Martin Tucker*

Approximately 420 La Sierra University freshmen and 100 upperclassmen spent Thursday morning, Sept. 22, in various service activities throughout Riverside, removing graffiti, planting trees, clearing litter, painting and other volunteer work.

Riverside Police Chief Sergio Diaz visited student groups at three work sites and thanked them for their contributions to the city. “It seemed like a great opportunity to bring the Riverside community closer to the La Sierra community,” and to recognize the university as “an integral part of the community,” he said.

The community outreach endeavor, called iServe, is a new component of La Sierra’s traditional IGNITE freshman program held before the start of school each fall. IGNITE ran Wednesday through Friday, Sept. 21-23, and included a talent show, “Hello Walk” for freshmen to greet administrators and faculty, a “Blessings” service for parents and their college-bound children, workshops and meals.

Through iServe, students worked with approximately 20 community service providers including Habitat for Humanity, Riverside’s Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful project, the Riverwalk Dog Park, and La Sierra University church. Their work for Habitat for Humanity involved providing a \$1,500 paint job on a doublewide trailer in a mobile home park. The painting project helped

prevent the eviction of the tenant who is on a fixed income.

Samantha Morales, a pre-dietetics/nutrition major and transfer from Riverside Community College, worked with 17 other new students cleaning debris from dirt lots at a street corner in Riverside. A driver stopped briefly and asked about the students’ work, then thanked Morales for their efforts.

“It’s pretty cool,” Morales said after the students finished raking litter into green trash bags. “We were actually doing something [of benefit]. It’s something so small, but it does matter.”

The previous evening, freshmen, their parents and families and other La Sierra students attended the Blessings service, a program added last year to the IGNITE activity lineup.

The program, held at La Sierra University church, included prayers and words of welcome from administrators and faculty, a skit by Chris Oberg, the church’s senior pastor and her daughter, La Sierra alum Amanda Oberg, and a presentation to parents by Yami Bazan, vice president for Student Life. While Bazan spoke, students handed out packets of flower seeds to parents to either plant or display in their offices or homes. The seed packets represented the freshmen students, beautiful on the outside and filled on the inside with talents and opportunities.

“Every time you look at the seed packets, pray for us, pray for your



La Sierra University freshmen spread out over Riverside to perform a variety of community service projects as part of iSERVE. One project involved partnering with Habitat for Humanity to paint a modular home for a woman on a fixed income.

children,” Bazan said. “We thank you for entrusting La Sierra with your most prized possessions. Please be assured we know all too well what they mean to you.”

Irasema and Michael Fore, parents of freshman Danielle Fore, attended the Blessings service. “It definitely is a touching experience,” Irasema said of the event. “It’s good to be a part of it. Danielle grew up in this place.” Irasema Fore worked at La Sierra as a receptionist while pregnant with her daughter. Now Danielle, a La Sierra Academy graduate, is a freshman pre-nursing major at La Sierra University.

Sabrina Cerda, a freshman pre-nursing major from Buena Ventura High School, came to La Sierra to play on the Golden Eagles softball team. Her mother, Jeannette Davila, particularly liked the Oberg’s skit during the Blessings program. “That was excellent,” she said. “That’s how me and Sabrina were.” She described the entire orientation process at La Sierra as “the best experience for me. When I sat through orientation and they prayed, it touched my heart.”

“I have a good feeling about this school,” she said. “There are a lot of helpful, loving and caring people here.”



# Conference

# Priorities

November 2011

Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

## Follow the Money, Part 5:

### SECC Tithe Funds Global Mission

This series of articles has focused on the ways tithe is allocated in Southeastern California Conference and on the values reflected by those spending decisions. The use of tithe money not only funds the mission of the conference, but also provides a historical picture of SECC's values. It reveals the priorities and how they will be supported amid ongoing economic uncertainties.

We have noted that budgeted tithe income in 2010 was \$47,910,183 after \$3,122,403 in combined returns from the North American Division and the Pacific Union Conference. The net available tithe for conference use was \$34,290,629, which was apportioned to five areas that demonstrate SECC's top priorities for this territory: pastors and educators, the ministries of Pine Springs Ranch, Conference-wide ministries, local congregations and Adventist education.

#### World Church Mission

While consideration of the money apportioned for the mission of the World Church concludes this series of articles, it is in reality the first allocation set aside from SECC's budget. \$13.6 million in total goes to support the missions of world church institutions. Over half of that amount, some \$7 million is split between the North American Division and the General Conference. Nearly one third, \$4 million, goes to the Pacific Union Conference, whose ministries span 696 local congregations in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah. \$1.8 million helps fund Pacific Union Conference universities (Pacific Union College and La Sierra University) and Oakwood University.

The money retained within Southeastern California Conference funds the robust ministries that take place at the conference level, and more locally still, at the congregational level. Those are the ministries highlighted in the previous editions of this *Follow the Money* series.

The money that flows upward to the Pacific Union Conference, the North American Division and the General Conference, is one of the clearest ways in which the Seventh-day Adventist Church functions as a truly world-wide church. The importance of the global reach of tithe that comes from the local level should not be diminished.

In 2000, the General Conference Executive Committee voted a major revision to the way tithe would be shared. Up until that time, the mission and operation of the General Conference had been funded by the then twelve world divisions, with the North American Division contributing 10.72% of tithe, and the remaining 11 world divisions each contributing 1% of

By Jared Wright

Continued on  
page 2



School children on the campus of Maluti Adventist Hospital in Lesotho.

PHOTO: Gerry Chudleigh

*Continued  
from page 1*

tithe to the World Church and its international programs.

According to Robert Rawson, who at that time served as the treasurer of the General Conference, “Under the new plan, all twelve divisions will each contribute 2% of tithe in support of the General Conference Headquarters operation. The North American Division will contribute an additional 6% of tithe as it continues a long tradition of support for mission outside North America.”

The new approach to tithe sharing was phased in over the next five years from 2000-2005, and adjusted how the Church funded missions. Today, while the world divisions have increased



PHOTO: Gerry Chudleigh

*Language training taking place in San Salvador, El Salvador.*

their share of investment in the mission of the General Conference, the North American Division remains the largest contributor,

and Southeastern California Conference, with its large concentration of Adventists, continues to play an essential role.

What this means in practical terms is that the money given in local congregations throughout Southeastern California Conference helps make possible the advancement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s mission throughout the world. The 68,225 churches and 63,800 companies, that together account for the Church’s 16 million members, provide leaders, training, materials and other benefits

because Adventism, from its earliest days, has been and remains a world-wide church.

From remote village churches in Cambodia to congregations in busy city centers like Mexico City, and from growing congregations in Botswana to the remote Nicaraguan jungles, Adventists carry out their work because of the decision to share resources globally.

At last count, Adventists operate in 206 countries of the world, and conduct work in over 900 languages. This work is possible as a result of members of congregations around the world, and in this conference especially, whose tithe is set apart for use at all levels of the Church.

Perhaps the effects of this wide-reaching distribution invite us to adopt a new word into our vocabulary: “glocal.” The word was coined not long ago to capture the interconnectivity between global and local contexts. More specifically, a “glocal” mindset invites consideration of the ways that what we do locally has profound global effects. This is certainly true in the case of tithe.

In spite of all the hardships that come and may continue to come as a result of the ongoing economic downturn, here within the Southeastern California Conference territory, tithe use remains an important indicator of the things this conference values—the causes we support. The “glocal” church mission is certainly prominent among them. □



PHOTO: Gerry Chudleigh

*Sabbath morning worship at a Seventh-day Adventist church in Bhaktapur, Nepal.*

**At last count, Adventists operate in 206 countries of the world, and conduct work in over 900 languages.**

**For more information or to read Part 1, 2, 3 or 4 of this Follow the Money series of articles, go to the SECC website, [www.seccadventist.org](http://www.seccadventist.org).**

## Life-size Sanctuary Connects Church With Community

Have you ever wished you could have travelled with Moses and camped near the sanctuary and get a glimpse of the nomadic temple?

The Fontana church did just that the week of September 16-25. Many

church members joined together to reach out to the community and schools with a health and sanctuary expo.

The life-size display of the Old Testament sanctuary and all the furniture was constructed by Wayne Lorenz. He also portrayed the high priest, walking around garbed in the attire and describing the sacrificial service. He shared symbolisms from the sanctuary which are reflected in the gospel story. Immediately following Lorenz's lecture, a presentation in Spanish was given by Carlos Espinoza. The live biblical animals nearby added to the ambiance and were a joy to children and adults alike.

The expo included free health checks, led out by David Bennit, head elder of the church and retired physician assistant. He was assisted by several nurses.

"It's amazing how many local residents are concerned about their health, especially the younger ones," said Yolanda Torres, church member, as she provided vegan tacos and recipes.

The visitors gave high marks to the food and many signed up for future cooking classes and Bible studies. Visitors viewed the other exhibits as well, such as the ADRA and Adventist Mission booth headed by Beatriz Bravo, where they received a DVD and information on how these organizations help with world missions. Fred Bischoff, who headed the Adventist history exhibit, shared stories of early Adventist pioneers, and gave a lecture about the role of the sanctuary in Adventist history. While parents visited various lectures, children enjoyed a class



*David Bennit enjoys performing a health check on a little girl that is curious about her wellbeing.*

specifically for them.

Two people visiting the expo were so impressed by what they learned that they asked to meet Ulise Mataa'fa', pastor of the Fontana church. They wanted to

be baptized. Mataa'fa' made arrangements to study with them in preparation for baptism.

Teachers brought their students to the church to see and experience the Old Testament sanctuary. Students learned about the eight laws of health and took notes as Lorenz and Espinoza, garbed in the high priest and priest attire respectively, explained the process of the sacrificial ceremony. The children took pictures with Lorenz and enjoyed refreshments before heading back to school.

On the final Sabbath, Mataa'fa' preached about the sanctuary as a house of grace. The message touched many people and as a result two asked for baptism and one was baptized during the service. Especially compelling was the idea that Jesus represents a house of refuge. This promising message prompted one person to return to the church. □

*By Mamie Lorenz*

**Many church members joined together to reach out to the community and schools with a health and sanctuary expo.**



*Wayne Lorenz describes the Old Testament sanctuary to his audience.*

PHOTOS: Erno Müller

# Hispanic Family Retreat *Recharges Parents*

By Marco Fernandez

Nearly 65 families attended the annual Hispanic Family Ministry Retreat on August 19-21 at Pine Springs Ranch. The theme for this year's family retreat was "Una Familia Triunfante" (A Triumphant Family).

"The goal of the Hispanic Family Ministry is to connect families with God and with one another," according to Sara Fernandez, director of the ministry.

The main speakers for the retreat were Edwin and Mary Mendoza who have been presenting seminars on family issues for the last ten years. Edwin Mendoza completed graduate degrees in counseling and in ministry and is pastoring

the San Diego Broadway Spanish church. Mary Mendoza serves as an administrative assistant at San Diego Academy.

During the seminars, participants learned about the physical and behavioral developmental

changes of children as they move through progressive stages. For example, children ages 6-9 need parental guidance to learn the

significance of the word no, not to throw tantrums, to establish routines, order, form habits, and learn limits and consequences. Furthermore, the Mendozas also focused attention on relationship topics such as the importance of physical touch. On Sunday morning, Edwin Mendoza concluded the retreat with the issues of infidelity within Christian marriages.

While parents and couples attended seminars addressing parenting and relationship building, the children also participated in programs.

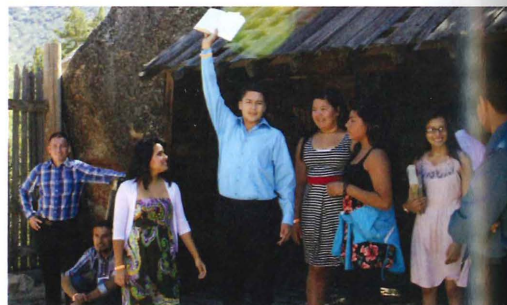
Arnold Gonzalez, a sheriff of San Bernardino County, visited each class and spoke to the children regarding bullying and personal safety, demonstrating ways to protect themselves from dangerous situations. He also spoke to parents about internet precautions and safety.

Fernandez, licensed marriage and family therapist, introduced the seminar with a short discussion about the prevalence of sexual abuse in the States and shared available resources for victims and their families.

The Hispanic Family Ministry is planning a couple's retreat weekend in San Diego this coming February. For more information about this and future events visit the website, [www.ministeriodelafamilia.com](http://www.ministeriodelafamilia.com). □



Sheriff Arnold Gonzales spends time talking to children about bullying and safety.



Youth enjoy spending time with each other as well as learning about God.

## Coming Events

**Community Services Retreat** (Nov. 3-6) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: 951-509-2298.

**Garden Grove Church Celebrates 115 Years** (Nov. 5) Old-fashioned Sabbath school program, worship service, luncheon, afternoon musical program. Church and world events during the 1930s will be highlighted. Worship service speaker, James R. Nix, director, Ellen G. White Estate. Info: 714-534-1987, [www.gardengrovesda.com](http://www.gardengrovesda.com).

**Heralds of Hope** (Nov. 5) 3 p.m., Paradise Village, 2700 E 4th St., National City. A men's chorus in concert under direction of Gerald and Dorothy Wareham. Info: 619-475-0383.

**SHINE Girls Retreat** (Nov. 11-13), Pine Springs Ranch. Girls retreat for ages 13-24. Info: 951-509-2333.

**Indonesian Convocation** (Nov. 11) Chaffey High School, 1245 N. Euclid Ave., Ontario. Info: Praban Agussaputro, 909-246-1909.

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# Kingdom Matters

Northern California Conference Newsletter

## Telling the Story of Jesus

By Jim Pedersen *President*



**When Jesus entered a room, when Jesus walked into a town, when Jesus talked to almost anyone, things changed.**

After the death of Apple Co-founder Steve Jobs, numerous reports, evaluations, editorials and opinions discussed the significant contribution he made to the world of technology. I'll confess, I've been an "Apple guy" since about 1989. It's become a running joke around the office about who is a Mac person and who is a PC person — and which one is the better computer platform.

As I watched the news stories in the day or two following Jobs' passing, I was particularly struck by a quick interview with someone who was leaving a memento at an impromptu memorial. The reporter asked this young man, who appeared to be in his early 20s, if Steve Jobs had impacted his life. The young man shook his head "no" and quickly added, "He changed my life!"

I was struck by how enthusiastically and forcefully this young man spoke. He wasn't talking about a faith system. He wasn't talking about a religion (even though there are those who make the comparison between Apple and religion!). He was talking about a man who had helped create tangible *things* — things that a whole lot of people have chosen to use.

Perhaps we get a little sensitive, or even a bit jaded, when we talk about Jesus changing lives today. And yet, just think about the change that He can and does bring to us. John, Jesus' beloved disciple, puts it this way:

"Very truly I tell you, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life" (John 5:24, *New Living Translation*).

Or, as the Apostle Paul says: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile" (Romans 1:16, *New Living Translation*).

When Jesus entered a room, when Jesus walked into a town, when Jesus talked to almost anyone, things changed. People were healed, demons were cast out, and a spark was ignited that has been spread around the world. It's all about Jesus who is the Lord of change.

As Christians, we're called to tell the story of Jesus to the world. It's the story of what He has done from the very beginning of time. It's the old, old story of Jesus on the cross of Calvary. And, it's the story we should love to tell of what He has done, is doing, and will continue to do in our everyday lives. That's the story of change.

So, let me ask you: has Jesus impacted your life? More importantly: has Jesus changed your life?

Peace.

Be **BOLD**  
for God

## Sacramento Homeless Celebrate Thanksgiving in May

By Ella Tolliver

Last spring, Sacramento-Capitol City church members created “Thanksgiving in May” for more than 450 hungry people in their community. Senior Pastor Reginald Horton envisioned the idea after helping to feed the homeless one holiday season. “They had so many meals, they actually were packing the food away and trying to save it,” he said. Horton suggested that his church reach out to the needy at a time of year when they don’t usually receive much help.

On a Sunday in May, church volunteers prepared and served a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Guests ate the meal at Loaves & Fishes, a private, non-profit charity organization near downtown Sacramento that feeds the hungry and shelters the homeless. Usually the organization’s staff cooks the food while church groups serve it, but the Capitol City group did all the cooking themselves, headed by church member Detrach Williams.

“We did everything from the shopping two weeks prior, all the way through mopping at the very end,” said Williams. Numerous church members assisted with the meal, some arriving as early as 5:30 a.m. in order to make sure everything was ready in time.

More guests than usual came to eat that Sunday because word spread about



Marcellus Combs, Dwight David and Tim Jones work in the kitchen. “The church members’ enthusiasm was transferred to the guests as we served them,” said Senior Pastor Reginald Horton.

the delicious food. The Loaves & Fishes coordinator on duty noted that the guests were happy because of the excellent service provided with a smile, the sincere conversations, and the opportunity for guests to talk personally with the church members if they desired.

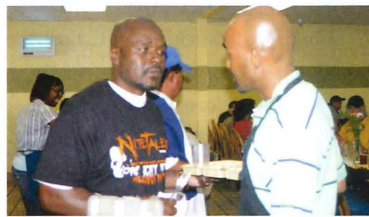
Eight couples from the church mingled with the guests as they ate, answering questions, making sure everyone had napkins, drinks, etc., and—most importantly—sharing and

praying with people. “We would sit down and talk to them, shake hands and hug them,” said Horton.

While it was not the focus of this outreach project to preach to the guests, God opened up many opportunities to make connections. “I think it’s important to reach out to the community and meet the needs of the people where they are. People are hungry and they need to be fed,” said Williams. “When we really start meeting needs, people are more receptive to opening their hearts to Christ.”

Before leaving, one guest made a special point to find the staff and thank them, saying, “What you have done is truly to the glory of God and ... a blessing to me. I appreciate your reaching out to us and your willingness to serve.”

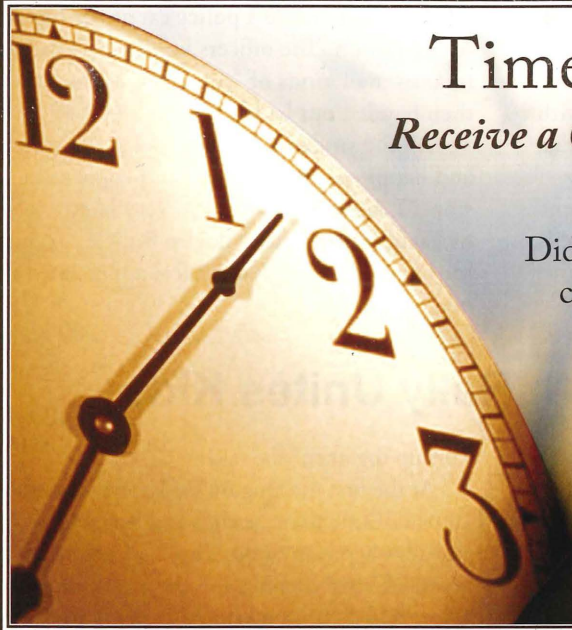
Although it started out as a missionary endeavor for the homeless, many of the church members who participated felt the dinner was a spiritually uplifting blessing for them, and they are anxious to do it again.



Damon Washington (right) talks with a guest at Loaves & Fishes, near downtown Sacramento.



Last spring, members of the Sacramento-Capitol City church served a Thanksgiving dinner to hundreds of hungry people. (Photos by Reginald Horton)



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## Students Honor Community First Responders

Echo Ridge Christian School students, staff and parents spent the morning of September 12, 2011, surprising local Nevada City fire departments, police stations, the highway patrol, an emergency room, and a forestry station with large pumpkin-shaped baskets filled to the brim with more than two dozen homemade cookies. The students had made colorful, jumbo thank you cards that accompanied the baskets, and each basket was secured with an Echo Ridge Christian School note thanking the recipients for being service men and women, protectors and first responders.

The students began each surprise visit with a big, unanimous "thank you!" and then presented the cookies and cards. "Open it and read it!" said sixth grader David Christal to a highway patrol officer. He opened up the card while Christal pointed inside at the homemade drawing, saying, "See, we're having a party for you." The officer smiled and read aloud, "We love you." He told the kids that they were

loved, too. He then talked with them about how fortunate they are to be getting a good education in a Christian school and to be learning solid values, and he encouraged them to continue growing in that direction.

His words touched the heart of Leisa Buller, teaching principal. "We often support our service men and women to the students, but to hear them support what we do in education was very meaningful to me," she said. "It really hit home and encouraged me."

The kids received a lot of positive attention during their visits. Firefighters took the students around their stations, giving them the complete tour of their trucks and letting every student

*By Heather  
VandenHoven*

*Continued on the  
next page*

*Echo Ridge Christian School students, teachers and parents watch as students present cookies to firefighters. Throughout the day, students gave 16 dozen cookies to local first responders. (Photos by Heather Donesky)*



*Continued from the previous page*



*Fourth grader Josh Pryor tries out the driver's seat. "I really enjoyed the day because I could get that close to a fire truck!" he said.*

have a chance to sit up in the driver's seat. The captain of one station rallied his entire crew so students could meet them and get their pictures taken with them. An officer at the Nevada City Police Department handed out pencils, remarking that the cookies wouldn't

last long in his department! Students got an up-close look inside a police car at the highway patrol station. The officers kindly took the time to answer all kinds of "siren" questions, and then handed out badge stickers.

All the students enjoyed seeing the surprise and happiness they brought to people at each stop. "I thought they looked very happy to see us," said fourth grader Baylee Bulick. "It made me happy that they would feel appreciated that much."

## Sacramento Polynesian Youth Rally Unites Kids

*By Julie Lorenz*

For some time, Mele Lautaimi had felt that God was calling her to organize a rally for the Tongan and Samoan youth in the Sacramento area. Although Lautaimi serves as the youth leader of the Sacramento Tongan group, which meets at the All Nations church of Elk Grove, she was reluctant to take on the project because she had never planned a big event before.

Lautaimi called an old friend for advice—Bobby McGhee, pastor of the Worthington church in Ohio. They talked for hours as McGhee gave her a lot of helpful advice and inspired her to take action. He even volunteered to be the speaker at the rally.

Encouraged, Lautaimi called the youth leader of the Sacramento Samoan church and formed a planning committee to organize the Sacramento Polynesian Youth Rally for Friday evening and Sabbath, July 1-2, 2011. The two church youth groups worked hard to promote the event, inviting not just Adventist kids, but also Samoan and Tongan kids from other Christian denominations.

For hundreds of years, there has been "a feeling of uneasiness"

between the Tongan and Samoan communities, and Lautaimi wanted to prevent that feeling from pervading the youth. "I wanted to show that we could work together and

worship together," she said.

At the first meeting on Friday evening, about 100 kids came to eat nachos and hear McGhee give a lively presentation. They had such a positive experience that evening and the next morning that kids texted their friends to invite them to come. The next day about 175 kids came throughout the day. In addition to McGhee's talks, the group had a Singing Festival, played Bible charades, and ate lunch and supper.

The kids had such a good time they didn't want the event to end at sundown. "Music and fellowship, along with the Gospel, brought them together, despite cultural differences," said McGhee. "Everybody got together and they didn't want to go home ... they melded into a cohesive unit."

Lautaimi is already planning another rally for next summer. "I honestly believe that these young people are the generation that is going to see God's returning," she said. "If we are going to give them the tools to make this happen, we need more of these types of activities."



*"Haystacks! What are those?" asked the non-Adventist kids as they heard what was on the menu. "Even though it was the Adventists running the whole program, we had other groups from other denominations coming in and participating," said youth leader Mele Lautaimi.*



*Youth from the Sacramento Tongan group and the Sacramento Samoan church enjoyed the Polynesian Youth Rally last July. (Photos by Mele Lautaimi)*

### Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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**Nov. 5**  
Senior Citizen Seminar  
at Mtn. View Central  
Church

**Nov. 12**  
Prayer Partner Training  
at CCC

**Nov. 18-20**  
Young Adult Retreat  
at Camp Wawona

**Dec. 3**  
Singles Rally at CCC

**Dec. 10**  
Senior Citizen Seminar  
in the Bay Area

**Jan. 7**  
Hispanic Church Officer  
Training in San Jose

**Jan. 27-29**  
Women's Retreat  
at Tenaya Lodge

Spiritual Growth

Loving Fellowship  
and Unity

Mobilization of the  
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# Central Acts

Newsletter for  
Central California  
Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists

## Three Bay Area Churches Partner to Host VBS

By Faith Tio

Eighty children on average poured into the Mtn. View Japanese church for a weeklong Vacation Bible School (VBS). The three to 12-year-olds were greeted by more than 50 volunteers from three churches, welcoming them to “Hometown Nazareth—where Jesus was a kid.”

Two Bay Area churches partnered with the Japanese congregation to make this VBS a success: Mtn. View Central and Sunnyvale. It had been nearly thirty years since Mtn. View Japanese church had hosted a VBS.

Each night began with children of just about every ethnicity and age, piling into the sanctuary in search of their color-coded tribe. The children were divided into twelve multi-age groups, representing the 12 tribes of Israel. Each tribe sang joyful songs of praise, learned the daily theme and Bible verse that compared Jesus’ life with ours.

After the opening ceremony, the tribes migrated to “The Marketplace” in the large youth hall. It was filled with many of the sights and sounds one might have experienced as if walking through ancient Nazareth itself.

Each tribe stayed together like a family, entering into colorful striped tents and participating in numerous activities such as planting seeds, grinding grain, digging for rocks, making and painting tzedekah (charity) boxes, learning Hebrew, making clay pots,



Brooke Ferreira as Mary, Jesus’ mother, tells children about life in Nazareth when Jesus was a boy.

photo frames, and wooden toy sheep. In their daily “hometown huddles,” they enjoyed delicious and healthy snacks including homemade bread, hummus and even homemade falafel. And if that wasn’t enough, the children

got out their wiggles and giggles during fun and games time.

Entering “Mary’s House,” they sat still as houseguests while Mary (played by Brooke Ferreira) taught of the unique emotions she experienced as Jesus’ mom, as well as customs and foods of that time.

One special project called Operation Kid-to-Kid had each child mixing a cloth backpack in dye. It would be sent along with a Bible to a child in need in South America. This project culminated in a special presentation with each backpack being prayed over during the closing ceremony.

For children from local churches and the surrounding community, this was an unforgettable experience that brought many closer to Christ. One seven-year-old girl from the community could still sing the theme song from memory two weeks after VBS ended. Unchurched children are asking their parents about Jesus. Church members realize that the follow-up ministry, perhaps even more important now, has only just begun. **I**

# Vacation Bible School—Child Evangelism at its Best!

By Children's Ministries Director Rosa Gillham

**F**orty-five plus Central California Conference churches worked hand in hand with God as they are reaching out to the children, and even the adults, in their respective communities. Approximately 450 adult and 260 teen staff shared Jesus. Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a tremendous way to build friendships. So far approximately 700 non-Adventist children and families were touched through VBS ministries. Reports are still coming in. Two brief stories from around our conference follow:

First-time VBS leaders Rafael and Daisy Siguenza of

the Fresno Hispanic church prayed for double the amount of children, enough money for the summer program with funds left over for next year and enough volunteers. They also invited their congregation to pray. An average of 160 kids attended, up from 100 and 80 people volunteered. The original budget was \$2,100, more than \$3,800 was donated. And several new people

want to join the church family!

Lindsay Pratt, Children's Ministries director from Sonora says, "VBS is no ordinary gathering of youngsters for one week in the summer. The program starts with a weekend-training for the leaders. These leaders start leading at the tender age of 12. Co-crew leaders are chosen from 10 or 11-year-old children, sometimes younger.

Together they spend the weekend learning how to work together and are given instruction in leading their peers and younger children to Jesus." One outcome of this marvelous ministry is a life being changed because of the introduction to the Adventist school system through personal testimonies of the young leaders. 📖



## A God of All Generations

By Florencia Vaili

**N**ot a sound could be heard throughout the church as the two baptismal candidates made their way to the front of the sanctuary. With sniffles and emotional sighs of happiness, the congregation watched Edith Sagapolutele and Nita Olomua make their way to the baptismal pool. For the past 27 years, members of the South San Francisco Samoan Adventist Church have been blessed to see many give

their lives to Christ, but this baptism was different.

Marie Pelesasa, a member who was baptized in 2009, brought her niece Edith Sagapolutele to church one Sabbath morning. A young, single mother of a beautiful newborn little girl, Edith was immediately taken by how well she and her daughter were received.

Edith had grown up in American Samoa where her father was a

Seventh-day Adventist preacher. Life and all its wiles had taken her on quite a journey where she was far from home and God. After the birth of her baby, she came to live with her aunt Marie.

Imagine Edith's surprise when she discovered Pastor Manuao Mauia, who not only knew Edith as a baby, but was a close family friend as well. As she stood renewed from the baptismal waters Edith shared,

“I am no stranger to the church. And I know now that God has led me back here. Today I want to give my heart back to God and renew my relationship with Him so that He can use me in His work.”

Church Elder Fale Tuialuuluu met Nita Olomua’s son during one of the congregation’s regular prayerwalks and invited him to church. Nita came along with her son and kept coming back almost every Sabbath and for prayer meetings too. She loved the worship and praise and, with each visit, the congregation loved her even more.

Except Nita Olomua was a pillar in one of the largest Samoan Congregational churches in San Francisco. A longtime leader of the woman’s society, the vibrant 86-year-old’s absence was sharply

felt. In the Samoan culture it is almost unheard of for women or men of her age to convert to another religion. Since she first heard Pastor Mauia speak, Nita faithfully attended both the Adventist church on Sabbath and the Congregational church on Sunday.

Then one day, after Pastor Mauia’s poignant words about standing for the truth, Nita approached him about baptism and the rest was history. Standing in front of her Sunday congregation she told them that she was leaving and why.

On the morning of her baptism



*Edith Sagapolutele, Pastor Manuao Mauia and Nita Olomua.*

and with eyes filled with tears Nita shared, “I am 86-years-old, and I wanted to give God all the days I have left. Everything I have left, I want to give it all to God.”

## Camp Meeting Evangelism Offering Exceeds \$1 Million

*By Caron Oswald*

As of September 15, the Camp Meeting Evangelism Offering has reached \$1,011,088 in gifts and pledges. “We are praising God for His leading and for our faithful members!” says Ramiro Cano, conference president.

To manage these sacred funds, the evangelism committee depends on united prayer for wisdom and discernment. They met at Camp Wawona for two days in September to pray together seeking God’s will.

All of the ongoing projects will definitely continue! Those are public meetings, Bible workers, Youth Evangelism Team, conference evangelist, education scholarships for students of new members, church plants, and Project LifePath health outreach.

Since January, there have been 52 evangelistic meetings supported by evangelism funds. Fifteen people



*Sanchez family (l-r): Jovani, Mia, Miriam, and Ramona.*

were baptized after meetings in Watsonville during September with Conference Evangelist Taj Paclab. “We’ve been doing pre-work events since the first of the year,” says Bible Worker Joshua Fontanilla. Community residents were invited to three weekend seminars—stress, relationships and righteousness by faith. Many responded to an invitation mailing to the entire zip code (27,000 homes). Student literature evangelists were in Watsonville two weeks before the meetings started. They passed out

handbills to about 1,200 homes.

Pastor Thom Garner reports there were 100+ in attendance each evening. More than 50% were visitors. Follow up is amazing, there is something offered six nights a week. There are classes on prophecy, men’s and women’s groups, Friday night supper and Bible studies, and five small groups. A second series will begin October 28 with Garner preaching.

Garner requests prayer for the Lord’s continued blessings of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on these new members, and on the hearts of those still studying and making decisions.

Pray for the many in Central that are currently in Bible studies and making decisions for Jesus—that their hearts will be melted by the Holy Spirit because of God’s great love and Jesus’ redeeming sacrifice! 🙏

# A Life Redeemed

By Caron Oswald

That day Billy Pope went to make a dope deal. Not unusual for someone in his line of work. Combined with his women on the street, Billy was a very successful man. A well-known dealer in Seaside, Calif., he also had the best insurance—his girlfriend's brother was a member of a powerful gang.

When his ride arrived, Billy realized he didn't know the driver or the man in the back. But he wasn't nervous. He recognized the neighborhood they were in. As he turned to speak to the man in the back, he heard a loud noise. Billy had been shot in the head with a .44 Magnum.

Somehow he rolled out of the car and onto the pavement. The gunfire continued as six more bullets landed in his arms and leg. Still alive, he began to pull himself down the street towards his buddy's house. Angry that Billy wasn't dead yet, the driver began to run the car over him. It was 7:00 a.m.

He crawled 30 feet to a buddy's house. "I saw a light surrounding me. All I could hear was my mother's voice but I didn't know what she was saying," Billy remembers. His buddies came running and took his money and dope so the police wouldn't find it.

In the ambulance, he asked the attendant one question. "Am I going to die?" "Yes, you are going to die," was the answer.

## Growing Up

"My mother's whole blood line was Adventist," Billy explains. He and his two sisters grew up in Sabbath school, Pathfinders, ingathering, and visiting shut-ins on Sabbath afternoons. Before he was 12, he'd burned out on church. "As long as I was under my mother's

roof, I had to go to church and couldn't do anything from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday," he says.

His dad was career military so they moved a lot. Alaska, Kentucky, Germany, Japan, and California. "I was 16-yrs-old when we came back to the States to California and I started dancing

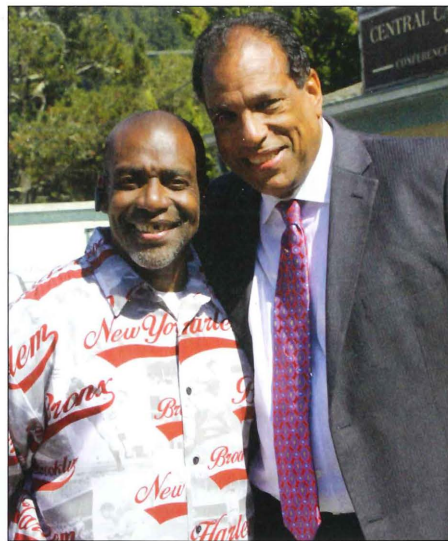
with the devil, smoking, drinking, using marijuana," Billy continues. When his mom confronted him, he dropped out of high school at age 17 and joined the Army. Billy didn't do very well so the Army invited him to leave. He'd gone AWOL, sold dope and was caught in two robberies. Thanks to his dad, Billy received an honorable discharge.

Life was busy. In between his drug and prostitute business, Billy spent time in 16 of the 33 California prisons. But not since 2003 he is quick to point out. "In prison every day I read my Bible and exercised," he says. But he never followed that routine on the outside.

## After Surgery

Surgery lasted 14 hours and Billy flat lined three times. Dad had waited, praying the whole time. Mom was deceased. The only deficit for the head wound was Billy had lost the ability to read. "Now I read better than before," he reports.

"After this, man, I am invincible!" was his motto. And he returned to his life feeling more powerful than ever. Enter Fred Anderson, college



Billy Pope and Pastor Fred Anderson

professor and member of the Seaside Adventist Church. "Fred has been chasing me for 15 years," Billy says. "Fred used to hunt me down and we'd sit and have lunch and talk. He would let me know that my life and body wasn't meant for this."

When Billy's dad

died, Anderson became his link to home.

He was in a motel room one night getting high with a woman, and out of the blue she said, "Jesus is coming back soon" and starting talking like a preacher. "I was done, couldn't get high," Billy says. "Then one morning I thought, I've had it with this and I went home and had me a real good talk with God."

That was five years ago. Billy has spent the last five years almost every day with Fred, now Pastor Fred Anderson. "All that I have done, nobody would take a chance on me but Fred. Being with Fred is my refuge."

Now 52-years-old, Billy has his first real job with Save Mart. He runs the deli counter.

He lives with his two sisters in his family home and is very involved at church with outreach, maintenance and teaching Primaries.

"I put all of my trust and energy in the Lord, just like I put all my energy in the devil. What the Lord says, He will do." **E**

NOVEMBER 2011

# KEEPING *intouch*



Larry L. Caviness  
President

## WHERE ARE WE *Going?*

A new book at the Adventist Book Center has insights and counsel for the church today. Many other excellent new and older books are available as well, and I encourage you to visit the ABC either onsite or online. However, the book that I am referring to here is written by Elder Jan Paulsen, the recent past president of the General Conference. I just completed reading it and was encouraged; if you read it, I think you will be, too.

Through the years, many distractions and disagreements have drawn the church's focus and energies from its primary concentration and commitment to mission. Splits within the church, the mistakes of leaders and laypersons alike, have caused a disruption in our work and our witness for the gospel. This has been so since the fall of man and is faithfully reported in the stories of Scripture. It is not a new condition exhibited only in the church today, but when it occurs, we cannot let it dominate and control us. We must pray and do whatever we can to move forward.

Elder Paulsen asks the important question to each of us as church members, "Where are we going?" The real questions he is addressing are even more basic: Who are we? What are the critical issues that we need to address? What is our role in the world—socially, politically and spiritually? How do we preserve unity when we disagree among ourselves? How do we get on with our God-given task, our mission?

Elder Paulsen also addresses some of the sticky issues from his perspective as a man of much experience as a church leader and having served in many parts of the world. I personally appreciate the balance and openness he portrays in his writing. His call to the church is to be faithful to the teachings of Scripture as understood by the church. He stands firm in his loyalty and commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist

Cont. next page

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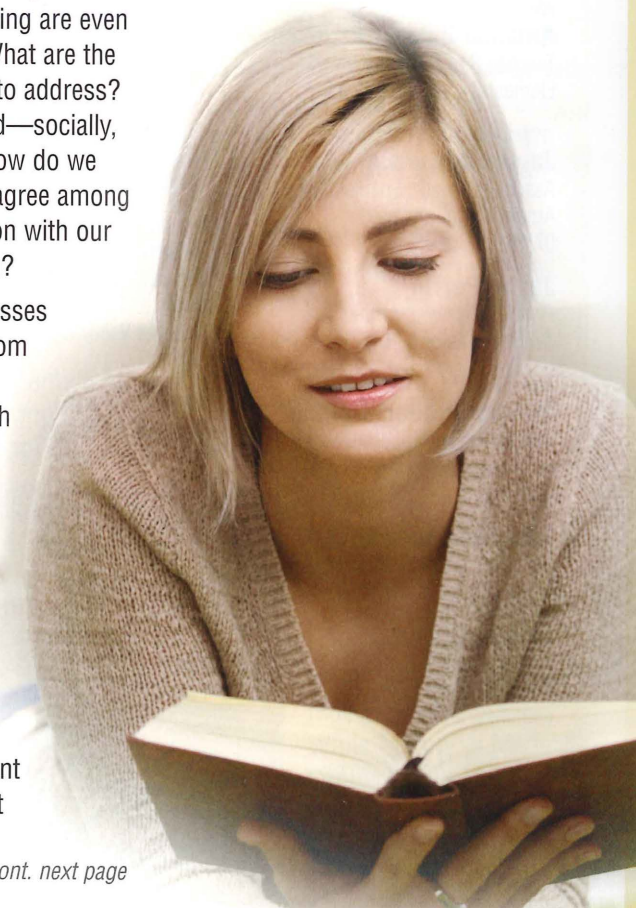
Altadena CHIP graduates 23



Churches Plan re:connect Outreach



San Fernando series included childrens meetings



Church, the Spirit of Prophecy, and our distinctive mission. At the same time he invites us as individuals to be more open and tolerant of those who may not see things exactly as "I" see them.

As I study Scripture and as I spend time reading the writings of Ellen White, I am encouraged. God has blessed this church with many gifts and many blessings. At a time when many are questioning the need or value of church, Elder Paulsen reaches out to embrace them and invite them to participate in making the church meaningful in our world today.

I am encouraged because, "We have nothing to fear for the future,

*We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.*

except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history." (Life Sketches, 196). Ellen White's counsel of more than a century ago rings true today: "...be determined that you will press together; seek God with all the heart, and you will find Him, and the love of Christ, that passeth

understanding will come into your hearts and lives." (Gen. Conf. Daily Bulletin, Apr. 13, 1891)

Because of the faithfulness of God, our future looks bright.

Larry L. Caviness, President

## In Transition

(Voted July 13; Aug. 10 & 24; Sept. 14 & 28, 2011)

### New Employees

(Voted July 13, 2011)

#### Amanda Baker

Teacher, San Fernando Valley Elementary, as of 07/01/11.

(Voted Aug. 10, 2011)

#### Javier Navarrete

Associate Pastor, Spanish American Church, as of 07/16/11.

#### Jacob Perrin

Principal, Newbury Park Academy, as of 07/01/11.

(Voted Aug. 24, 2011)

#### Winston Robert Dennis

Interim Assoc. Superintendent of Education, as of 08/08/11.

#### Rita Henriquez-Green

Associate Superintendent of Education, as of 09/01/11.

#### Luis L. Olivera

Pastor, Glassell Park Span./ West Hollywood Span. churches, as of 09/16/11.

(Voted Sept. 14, 2011)

#### Junseok Lee

Assoc. Pastor, Cerritos Korean Church, as of 08/25/11.

(Voted Sept. 28, 2011)

#### Nancy Perez

Administrative Secretary, SCC Education Dept., as of 09/26/11.

### Changes within the Conference

(Voted Aug. 10, 2011)

#### Cameo Draper

From Teacher, Crescenta Valley School, to Teaching Principal, Crescenta Valley School, as of 07/01/11.

(Voted Aug. 24, 2011)

#### Manuel Arteaga

From Assoc. Pastor, Central Spanish Church, to Pastor, Resurrection Group, as of 09/01/11)

#### Morris Barnes

From Assoc. Pastor, Smyrna Church; to Assoc. Pastor,, Valley Crossroads Church, as of 09/01/11.

#### Enoc Calderon

From Pastor, Glendora Spanish Church; to Pastor, Central Spanish Church, as of 09/01/11.

#### Arturo Escudero

From Pastor, Van Nuys Spanish Church; to Pastor, Glendora Spanish/ San Gabriel Valley Spanish churches as of 09/01/11.

#### Adolphus Garnett

From Greater L. A. Region, to Pastor, Fifty Fourth Street Church, as of 09/01/11.

#### Loren Hodnett

From Pastor, Fifty Fourth Street Church, to Pastor, Smyrna Church, as of 09/01/11.

#### Yonny Jimenez

From Assoc. Pastor, Van Nuys Spanish Church; to Assoc. Pastor, Central Spanish Church, as of 09/01/11.

#### Alfredo Lee, Sr.

From Hispanic Region, to Pastor, Van Nuys Spanish Church, as of 09/01/11.

#### Jesus Torres

From Pastor, Temple City Spanish Church; to Pastor, Temple City Church Span. Church/Bell Gardens Span. Church, as of 09/01/11.

(Voted Sept. 14, 2011)

#### Blanca Barnes

From Admin. Secretary, SCC Education Dept.; to Asst. Treasurer, Glendale Adventist Academy, as of 09/13/11.

### Leaving Conference Employment

(Voted Aug. 10, 2011)

#### Dusty Castro

Teacher, Crescenta Valley School, as of 06/30/11.

#### Tae Kim

Teacher, Glendale Academy, as of 06/30/11.

#### Greg Meager

Teacher, Newbury Park Academy, as of 06/30/11.

#### Daniel Justiano

Pastor, Hispanic Region, as of 07/31/11.

(Voted Sept. 28, 2011)

#### Juanita Carter

Teacher, Los Angeles Adventist Academy; as of 09/16/11.

#### Elizabeth Vodeb

Teacher, East Valley Academy; as of 09/16/11.

# Local Author Pens Inspiring Children's Book

By Felicia Tonga

Michael Bandy, coauthor of, "White Water," with Eric Stein, reflects on Bandy's childhood memories of growing up in the South. This children's book cleverly depicts the laws of segregation through the eyes of a young African-American boy who struggles to separate the difference between the meaning of "whites only" and "blacks only."

A native of Alabama and an alumnus of the University of Cincinnati, Michael Bandy believed that he wanted to

pursue a career in the legal field but soon found a passion for writing. Inspired by his own experiences with racism, Bandy and his partner decided to create a short screenplay that would depict this experience in a different light.

When Bandy's agent suggested that his story would make an excellent children's book, he switched directions and, with the help of award-winning illustrator Shadra Strickland, created



Michael S. Bandy is a writer living in the Los Angeles area. Photo by Betty Cooney

a book that will delight the eyes and minds of young people. "We want kids to see that, no matter what circumstances they

happen to be in," said Bandy, "those challenges and circumstances can be turned around." To see an interview with the author, go to [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) and search for SOCALconference. *White Water* can be ordered from the ABC or Amazon.com.

## Altadena Church Graduates 23 "Chippers"

A group of 23 members of the Altadena Church participated in the five and a half-week CHIP program earlier this year. Following the CHIP walking program, the group logged 3015.25 miles—a distance equivalent of a trip to Andrews University (Mich.) and back, exceeding the program's goal.

"As the leader of Altadena's first CHIP program, it was very gratifying to see, firsthand, the results of what participants accomplished," said Sybil Cross PhD, RN, charge nurse, Behavioral Medicine Department, White Memorial Medical Center. "Members with hypertension reported that their blood pressure levels returned to normal or decreased significantly, high cholesterol levels decreased by 13% or more, high blood sugar decreased and medication doses were reduced or discontinued."

One member with multiple grossly acute

clinical conditions showed significant improvement when she reported to her physician, who told her, "Keep doing what you've been doing!"

"We have seen in a magnificent way," added Cross, "how people can dramatically improve their health by altering their lifestyle instead of resorting to only drugs, high technology and surgery. I can only commend them for their achievements and hope that they will continue to maintain this newly acquired healthy lifestyle."

Together, the CHIP participants lost more than 145.25 pounds during the program, with individuals reporting

losses of up to 18.5 lbs.

"If I had to sum up the benefits of the CHIP program," said Pastor Mabel Duncan, "I would say it took us back to God's perfect plant-based diet, given to human beings in a perfect world. It also gave us back our dominion. If God gave human beings dominion over the lower order of creation, it leads me to conclude, that He first gave them self control (none of us can share what we ourselves do not possess). So CHIP helped us to regain control over our taste buds, and our decision-making ability. In reality,

we are getting back our health, 'not by chance, but by choice,' thanks to CHIP!"

Kaiser Permanente reportedly will be adopting the CHIP into their HMO system and White Memorial Medical Center began conducting their first CHIP program in October, 2011.



Some of the Altadena graduates. Leader Sybil Cross is seated, center.



# Churches Plan re:connect Outreach; SAN FERNANDO EVANGELISM MOVING FORWARD

re:connect was not a one-time training event. re:connect is a continuing ministry of our churches and our conference to welcome former or non-attending members back into fellowship with us. The North American Division has designated Nov. 24 as an official Welcome Home Sabbath for re:connect; however, SCC re:connect ministry recommends that each church select the date that will work best for the congregation. If your church is ready for a Nov. 24 Welcome Home Sabbath, choose that. If not, please plan to select another date.

Because of the late opportunity to be trained for re:connect, your church may prefer a later date for the Welcome Home Sabbath. The important thing is that each church set a date and move forward in planning for it and for your re:connect ministry. Please also let Gerard Kiemeney, SCC Personal Ministry director, or myself know of your plans when they are set.



*James G. Lee, Jr.,  
Vice President  
Evangelism Director*

*James G. Lee, Jr., SCC Evangelism Director*

Some 72 churches were represented at the first re:connect training. We would like to have each of those 72 churches planning a Welcome Home Sabbath, engaging interested lay members with an organizational meeting to plan for your event. For further information about re:connect, please go to [reconnectme.org](http://reconnectme.org) and click on "Leader" at the top right. The password to enter the site is scc1844. The site offers stories from pastors and others about re:connect ministry, as well as resources and a signup opportunity to receive the re:connect newsletter.



*Gerard Kiemeney*

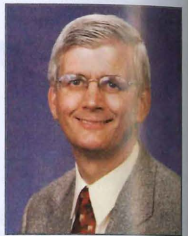
A second re:connect training seminar is scheduled for Mar. 24-25. A special session on the evening of Mar. 23 will be held for those who attended the first seminar, providing an opportunity for them to share their experiences with presenter Paul Richardson, director, NAD Center for Creative Ministry and re:connect ministry director.

*Gerard Kiemeney, L. A. Metro Region director &  
SCC Personal Ministries Director*



*Don Greathouse, First Elder of Glendale City Church, role played re:connecting with (on right) Dana Stelion PhD and Linda Livano, from the Glendora Church. Photo by Betty Cooney*

As this is written, the San Fernando evangelistic series is nearing its conclusion. Pastors and lay persons are calling those who visited the series and finding a good response. Pastor B. J. Boles urged each pastor in the cluster to conduct a Daniel prophecy seminar starting one week after the conclusion of Discover Prophecy. Most of the pastors in the multi-region cluster planned to do this.



*Richard Roethler*

Opening night of the series, 525 persons attended; with children and volunteers, a total of 725 participated in the multi-church, multi-region series. B. J. Boles is an outstanding evangelist. Hearts and lives were touched as each night of the first week, Boles delivered a gospel message.

Pastors, church members and volunteers have rallied together to reach their communities for Christ with this series.

*Richard Roethler, West Region director  
& San Fernando Cluster coordinator*



*Children whose parents attended the meetings enjoyed special programs each evening.*

*Photo by C. Elwyn Platner*



# Nevada-Utah Views



Nevada-Utah Seventh-day Adventist Conference  
10475 Double R Boulevard, Reno NV 89521  
Phone: 775-322-6929 • Fax: 775-322-9371

*Focused on Jesus,  
we witness to the world!*

## The President's Pen

# Give Thanks!

by Larry Unterseher  
President, Nevada-Utah Conference

*"In every thing give thanks,  
for this is the will of God in  
Christ Jesus concerning you"  
(1 Thessalonians 5:18, KJV).*



Larry Unterseher

In 1978, Henry Smith wrote one of my favorite worship songs, *Give Thanks*, while suffering from degenerative eyesight failure. Rather than becoming angry at God, his words captured the true spirit of thanksgiving. Consider the words:

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks unto the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given  
Jesus Christ, His Son.*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich,  
Because of what the Lord has done for us."*

*Give thanks!*

We have so much to be thankful for as we enter this Thanksgiving season. As the song suggests, each of us are truly blessed because God has given us everything important through the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ.

We also give thanks to God, who has richly blessed the Nevada-Utah Conference this year.

**Here are some of His blessings:**

1. Seeing our membership grow beyond 9,000 members, due to your willingness to share the Good News with your friends and family.

2. A resurgence in our financial picture due to the faithfulness of you, our members.

3. Witnessing a new Literature Ministry team having a very successful summer with great sales, but more importantly, enrolling many Bible study interests.

4. A 5% growth in enrollment in our conference church schools.

5. Successful sale and purchase transactions for conference

properties—schools, churches, and the conference office itself.

6. Quality conference employees—educators, pastors, Bible workers, departmental leaders and auxiliary staff—throughout our conference.

7. Pathfinder programs in our local churches, resulting in increased participation and attendance at our Camporee (thanks to leadership and volunteers), and many baptisms that have followed.

8. Experiencing growth in our summer youth camp program and the resulting baptisms.

9. Quality camp meeting and convocation revivals in Las Vegas, Lake



RYAN McVAY/PHOTODISC/THINKSTOCK

**"We have so much to be thankful for as we enter this Thanksgiving season."**

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next page*

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the previous page

**“We have  
been give life  
through our  
Savior, Jesus  
Christ, and the  
sure promise  
of His soon  
return.”**

Tahoe, and Salt Lake City during 2011.

10. Teaming together with It Is Written and the supporting ministries connected with ASI, to support evangelism in Las Vegas through Babylon Rising last May, and the upcoming January 2012 Revelation Today meetings. The success of Babylon Rising gave an indication of how our upcoming campaign can meet the needs of people hungry to hear the Good News of God blessing everyone with His Son.

Multiplied blessings have come as preparations are being made for January's *Revelation Today* series. I recently received a letter from John Bradshaw, Speaker/Director of It Is Written, relating experiences of our members in Las Vegas. Here are some excerpts of that letter:

**Phyllis:** “Let me share with you the story of Phyllis, a brand new Christian who is one of the Bible instructors in Las Vegas. She wanted to do something for the Lord, but was very nervous about visiting people in their homes and sharing Bible truths.

“On her very first visit, when she rang the doorbell, no one came to the door. So she said a quick prayer and rang the bell again. When still no one answered, she felt relieved that she'd get a reprieve from having to face people alone. But just then, the door opened, and before Phyllis had a chance to introduce herself, the lady at the door said something astounding: ‘I'm sorry I didn't answer right away, but I was praying, asking God



to send me someone to study the Bible with me.’

“Can you imagine that? In that moment Phyllis realized a great truth—she was doing something that went far beyond herself.

She was not working alone at all. Someone had already been there—ahead of her—preparing the heart of her hearer.”

**Amos and Grace:** “Amos and his wife, Grace, were recently invited to join an interdenominational Bible study group of about 30 people. They graciously agreed, praying that God would show them a way to reach this group with His last-day message. To their surprise, the group asked Amos to help them figure out what to study next. As you can imagine, Amos went to the Bible study group with 30 copies of It Is Written's Lesson #1 from the *Search for Certainty* Bible studies!”

**Mary and Carol:** “Mary and Carol, both relatively new Bible workers, were feeling a little uncertain about their work. They had labored all day with little success. They went to the last address on their list for the day, and realized, to their dismay, that it was at an apartment complex and they did not have the apartment number of the person they wanted to visit.

“Discouraged, and needing to rest for a few minutes, they walked into the management office. In a moment of inspiration, Mary did something completely out of character. She boldly approached the manager and asked her if she would be interested in receiving Bible studies. The manager replied, ‘Well, no, but I bet the residents would love it. In fact, I just happen to be the activities director for the complex, and I'm now making up our calendar for the next month. I will include this Bible study on my calendar for Thursday evenings.’

“Mary and Carol could hardly believe it! They cautiously asked how many people might normally participate in an activity like this. The manager replied, ‘Approximately 25 initially, but that number could grow.’ Mary and Carol were speechless. Just a moment



STOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

*This year, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, may each of us see God for who he really is, and see ourselves as who we really are—people who have been blessed beyond measure, and people who NEED to give thanks to the giver of all good gifts.*

before, they had been tired and discouraged. Now, they were excited and full of energy—eager and ready to begin the studies that God had provided for them.”

There are many, many other incidents, people and events we could list in our thanks to God! He truly has blessed us and to Him goes all the praise, for we realize that even with an army of 9,000 members strong, we are helpless without Him.

This year, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, may each of us see God for who he really is, and see ourselves as who we really are—people who have been blessed beyond

measure, and people who NEED to give thanks to the giver of all good gifts.

We have been given life through our Savior, Jesus Christ, and the sure promise of His soon return. May each of us be truly thankful to the God who deserves all our thanksgiving!

***“Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever,” (Psalm 107:1, NIV).***

## Did You Know?

# Getting Connected to Nevada-Utah Conference

The website address for Nevada-Utah Conference is [www.NUCadventist.com](http://www.NUCadventist.com). At the Nevada-Utah Conference website you can:

- Access sunset tables for your area
- Link to the websites of all Nevada-Utah Conference churches and schools
- Find email addresses for Nevada-Utah Conference administrators, department directors, office staff, pastors, and teachers
- Discover links to all Adventist unions,

conferences, colleges and universities, ministries of all sorts

Nevada-Utah Conference is a special website for planned giving—[www.NUCtrust.com](http://www.NUCtrust.com).

- Discover how you can benefit yourself, your local church or school, and the Nevada-Utah conference through wills, trusts, and special programs that offer substantial tax benefits

• If you are a Facebook user, you can “like” the Nevada-Utah Conference page, and receive instantaneous conference news and information. Share our Facebook page with your friends, too!

• You can receive email newsletters from Nevada-Utah Conference if your email address is on file in the records of your local church clerk. Ask your church clerk to make sure the email addresses of your family are in his/her records.

**Find lots of resources at [www.NUCtrust.com](http://www.NUCtrust.com).**



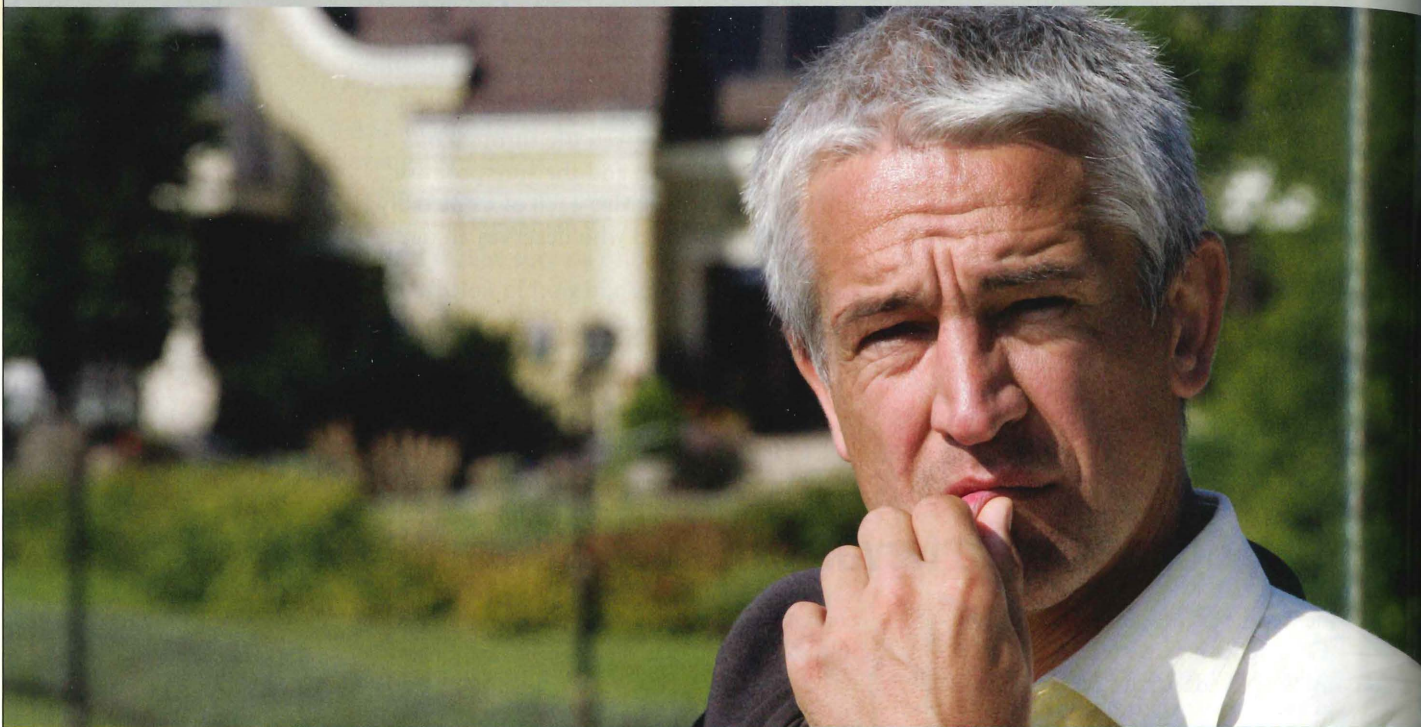
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The NEVADA-UTAH VIEWS is a newsletter stitched into the Recorder and is only available to Nevada-Utah Conference members. Each conference within the Pacific Union provides a newsletter such as this in the Recorder every other month. Denny Krause is the editor.

# Has the economy impacted your charitable giving?



## Life & Legacy Estate Planning Department

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If you feel like you have less to give this year, or are waiting until the economy recovers, we want to let you know about some creative gift options that won't cost you a dime this year.

For example, you could:

- Designate our organization as the beneficiary of all or a percentage of your IRA.
- Make our organization a beneficiary of a percentage of your estate or a specific asset.
- Leave what's left of your estate to our organization after your loved ones are cared for.

Making a bequest commitment is the easiest way to make a gift this year without impacting your savings or investments. To learn more about the benefits of making a charitable bequest, call or click today.

*"Call or  
Click!"*

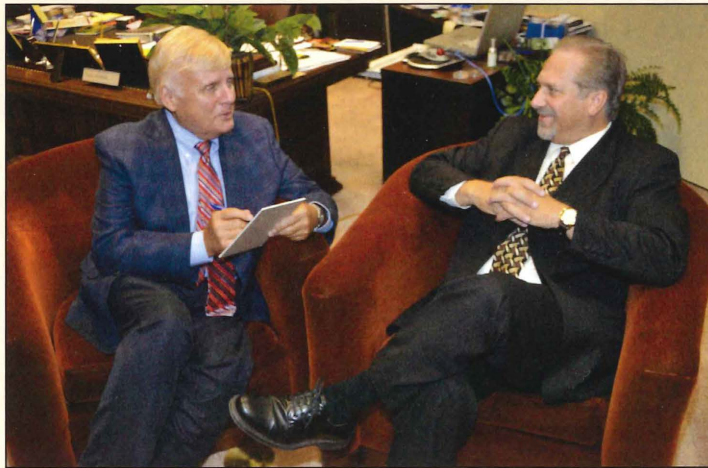
*Focused on Jesus, we witness to the world!*



# Arizona NEWS

## Q & A With the President...

**P**hil Draper, Arizona Conference Communication Director, sat down with Tony Anobile, newly re-elected president of the Arizona Conference for a Q & A session.



**PD:** Tony, the delegates overwhelmingly voted to return the officers and departmental directors for another term. How do you feel after the session?

**TA:** Thanks Phil, I feel blessed! The spirit that prevailed during the session was wonderful and I do feel that the delegates expressed their vote of confidence for the team. It is a privilege and an honor to be able to continue working for Jesus and the Arizona family for the next five years. We used the electronic voting system for the first time and that worked really well. Because of our membership growth, we had to make a shift in location, moving from the Thunderbird Adventist Academy chapel to the Camelback church. Jon Daggett, our session parliamentarian, leaned over to me during the meeting and commented that we had almost too many for the Camelback church. So we are very grateful for God's continued blessings as we have experienced and continue to work towards kingdom growth.

**PD:** That's right, the delegates voted to go from a quadrennial period to a quinquennial period. As you look at the next five years, what do you see as your main goals and objectives?

**TA:** I shared three main goals and objectives with the delegates during the session.

First, we must continue to improve in the area of education. I believe that our schools are centers of evangelism as well as centers for receiving an excellent education. Ruben Escalante, our Superintendent of Education, is committed

to continue working towards "Schools of Excellence" across the Conference. He shared in the recent Town Hall meetings that we have closed more schools in the past eight years than we have open right now. We must change this!

I strongly feel that every child within the Arizona Conference should be receiving a Seventh-day Adventist education. Some parents share with me that distance prohibits their child from attending an SDA school. Once again, Ruben is committed to working with distance learning, co-operating with home school parents to provide OUR children with an SDA education. We know that finances are a concern, and Ruben stated publically that resources would be found to make sure that any child who wants to attend one of our schools could do so.

Finally on this issue, some churches will say that they don't have school age kids in their church. Sure they do! Any child within the Arizona Conference is OUR child! I've said before that it takes a village to save a child. We all have a responsibility to assist as we can, with the resources

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*This newsletter is stitched into the Recorder and is only available to Arizona Conference members. Each conference within the Pacific Union provides a newsletter such as this in the Recorder every-other month.*

Cont. from previous page

available, to help educate our kids for eternity.

Second, we must continue to build up our reserves and strengthen our finances. When the economy went south in 2008, Arizona was certainly not exempt from the consequences. We made immediate adjustments, but as the economy gets a little better, we need to diligently work on improving in this area. I am so grateful for the financial commitment of the Arizona family. And with God's help, and careful and intentional monitoring and spending, we will accomplish this goal.

Third, we must continue to work for kingdom growth. I was thrilled to hear the reports from Jason Carlson and his "Lifestyle Burning Heart" team as they shared how God is working in Arizona as our plan to reach every

door in our Conference is being carried forward. I still feel that in this area we need to work in three areas:

1. Bring people in – Evangelism
2. Keep people in – Nurture
3. Empower people – Stewardship

**PD:** Final thoughts?

**TA:** Our theme for the next quinquennial period is to "Light the World with Jesus' Love!" Every child, young person and adult must be a light that points people to Jesus. Obviously that means that we must first have the light of Jesus in our lives as we spend time everyday with the Savior. Then everywhere we go, our light WILL shine, helping lost souls who are struggling in darkness to find the saving Grace of our Lord.

## Extreme Home Makeover 2011

By Phil Draper

For the second year in a row, Arizona youth leaders teamed with the city of Prescott to search for a family in need of an extreme home makeover project driven by the Arizona camp meeting youth.

Bryan Taylor, who works in the city office, introduced Pastors Benjamin Lundquist, Erik VanDenburgh and Jay Warren to Marie, a grieving mom who had lost her only son in a tragic incident four years prior, and who struggled to regain balance in her life. Kendall was her sunshine, and her home, that had previously been a welcome center for the youth of Prescott, had become overgrown and oddly silent.

The youth team decided immediately to help heal Marie's hurting heart and to restore her home as a safe haven for any young person who needed a place to find compassion and unconditional love.

As the program was presented to Marie, a plan that would involve more than a hundred youth at her



Marie was overcome with emotion by the generous outpouring of love by the Arizona youth team.

house each day, Marie tearfully accepted the generous offer. It was decided that the theme would wrap around the passions of Kendall, a budding musician who loved holding community concerts in his home.

Teens flooded the property on Tuesday morning as they began raking, trimming trees, and removing the overgrowth that had accumulated in years past. Best of all, the young workers began immediately to connect with Marie on a very personal basis.

"It seemed like Marie cried every single day with the kids," recalls Lundquist. "God was providing healing to her life as she was once again surrounded by the love and energy of youth."

Marie told the team, "Kendall lived his life as if every person had worth, value and great importance. He never rushed through a conversation but looked at every meeting as a chance to impact the life of a person."

During the course of the week, beautiful flowerbeds were planted, pools of water once again cascaded over stone walls, and the home took on new life and energy. One young artist, Semaine, used her talents to paint the face of Jesus on the wall of a special "secret room" the team excitedly prepared as a new concert area honoring Kendall, which they called "The Venue."

Jeff Stevens, a church member from Tucson, Arizona, welded a

custom memorial microphone stand that would become the centerpiece for a garden at the front of Marie's home. At the bottom of the mike stand, Jeff welded a sign with Kendall's name, the years of his life, and the phrase: *"One Life at a Time!"*

Phillip Cookenmaster was in charge of "The Venue," originally a music studio where teenagers would come from around the Prescott area to compose and play music for the community. Marie had given the room as a gift to her son. Four years ago after Kendall's death, the room fell into a state of disarray. The youth team was now going to do a makeover and give it back to a Marie as a gift, hoping that one day it could once again be used as a place for music lessons and community outreach.

"Every day when we showed up at the project, it is as if Marie had been waiting on her porch for us to arrive from the moment we left the day before," said Jackie, who was a part of a youth team that traveled from Visalia, California with their youth pastor, Ricky Schwartz, for a second year in a row. "I loved the way Marie greeted us with a hug every day as if to say my home is your home!"

The team was thrilled to see



*100 youth worked three hours per day during camp meeting to do the extreme home makeover for Marie.*

Dale Abbott, recipient of last year's makeover project, paying it forward as he participated throughout the week lending his hand to making a difference in Marie's life — just as the youth had done in his life.

Friday was the official grand opening of the project. After the finishing touches were done, the entire crew of more than 100 teenagers waited in Marie's backyard as Pastors Jay, Erik and Benjamin escorted Marie from her balcony down the stairs to the group of waiting kids. As the crew counted down "Three, Two, One," she opened her eyes to thunderous applause accompanied by hugs and tears.

Marie was overcome with emotion as the youth team gave her a tour of her home and described all of the

miraculous changes that had taken place in only six days. She repeated over and over, "I just can't believe it! I just can't believe it!"

"Projects like this," said Lundquist, "have an amazing way of building relationships between the Adventist church and the community. God creates opportunities for our church to impact our community in life-changing ways. All we

need to do is just open our eyes and ears to the needs of those around us — then decide to act!"

Erik VanDenburgh, Arizona Youth Director said, "We made a decision two years ago to model the Arizona Youth Camp Meeting after a short-term mission project much like one would experience with Maranatha. Arizona is committed to not just talking about, but providing a real opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus."

Arizona Conference President Tony Anobile worked alongside the team daily. He observed, "These young people spent just three hours a day for six days working on this project. It's amazing what a difference a hundred teenagers can make in a total of 18 hours serving their community. I know many lives — besides Marie's — were changed during this generous act of love! This can serve as a lesson to benefit all our churches when they unite together to serve the needs of a community!"

As the Friday concert came to a close and the youth prepared to return to Camp Yavapines, Marie told them with much emotion, "This home will always be your home! I love all of you more than words can express."



*A microphone stand and plaque honor Kendall's memory in the front garden of Marie's home.*

# Reaching the Community Through the Prescott Food Pantry

By Shirley Chipman

The workers at the Food Pantry in the Prescott Seventh-day Adventist Church consider God's commission in Matthew 25 to feed the hungry, invite the stranger, and clothe those in need a personal commitment. Community Services and the Food Pantry provide not only food and clothing, but the love and compassion that make a difference when working with the community.

The Pantry is open to the public one day a week, but director Shirley Latulippe spends some time there almost every day getting things ready. Her assistant, Byron Covert, and other church members make up the hard-working crew.

One project the women of the church especially enjoy is a once-a-month meal provided for the women and children at the Prescott Area Women's Shelter.

"We try to make a meal we would serve our guests at home," says Latulippe, who has been the director for the past five years. "The women and children are so excited when they see the centerpieces made especially



Providing a delicious meal for women and children at the Prescott Area Women's Shelter are (l-r) Shirley Latulippe, Courtney McGauley, Linda Jeffries, Frances Withman and Lorraine Winters.

for them and smell the delicious food. They reward us with many compliments – and our workers come away feeling as blessed in giving as are those who are receiving."

While most of the work is done locally, recently Toni Lewis, a former Prescott church member, was able to pack up 18 boxes of much-needed children's clothing to take with her to Papua, New Guinea. She and husband Gary,

formerly director at Camp Yavapines, are now mission workers (Toni is a nurse and Gary a pilot) in New Guinea and were thrilled with the boxes of clothing to share with the children when they arrive.

The latest addition to the food program is a new much-needed 14'x9' walk-in freezer. The Pantry has begun receiving food through St. Mary's Food Bank. Recently two big trucks arrived filled with potatoes, carrots, celery, nectarines, plums, peaches and other food.

Latulippe is in the process of being licensed as a restaurant manager, which will enable the Pantry to also receive to also receive additional food items. Bread and produce are also provided by the local Safeway, Albertsons's and CVS Pharmacy.

Pantry workers are looking forward to another busy Thanksgiving season. Last year they packed full Thanksgiving meals for 66 needy families in the area, including all the ingredients to make their own holiday meal. Notices in the local newspaper make the community aware of the Thanksgiving event, as well as other services provided by the Pantry.



Unloading the food truck are (l-r) Paul Reichard and friend Tom Chrisman, Byron Covert and Randy, who drives the truck.



Chloe Latulippe, seven-year-old granddaughter of Shirley Latulippe, enjoys creating these tasty garlic knots, as well as helping in many other ways.



# Baptisms Highlight Evangelism in Kona

Valerie P. Oskins

Central California Conference evangelist and Hawaii native Taj Pacleb brought his Revelation of Hope series to Kona in June. So far, 19 have been baptized as a result.

Kona church member Audrey Freitas heard Pacleb speak at another event, and she wanted her son to hear his presentations. She approached the evangelist in 2010, and asked if he would consider coming to Kona to do a full-scale evangelistic campaign.

Church leaders in Kona prayed, then asked the conference to approve bringing in Pacleb and his team. Once approved, Kona's Personal Ministries team, led by Jim and Cyndi Kiyabu, led the church in nine months of preparation and planning.

In June 2011, Taj and Wati Pacleb arrived in Kona with a team of 14, and began the series. The

non-Adventist guest count ranged from 34 to 67 each night, in addition to the members of the church.

For several years, Freitas and her youngest son, Kahana, were the only ones in her family attending church. But during Pacleb's evangelism campaign, her prayers were answered when both of her older sons, Michael and Isaiah, her brother Ipo, and her husband, Ron, began attending.

Michael, 21, had not attended church for at least five years. Partying, drinking, and smoking marijuana were priorities in his life. One night, Michael drove his mother and Isaiah to the meetings. That first meeting was a life-changing experience for Michael. That night, he decided to stop buying marijuana.

When he returned to his apartment after the meeting, Michael heard yelling in the parking lot.

Looking over his balcony, he saw a neighbor, who is a Mixed Martial Arts fighter, standing next to Michael's car, swearing and screaming that Michael was parked in his parking spot. When he saw Michael, the neighbor bolted up the three flights of



Michael Freitas, left, and his brother Isaiah rejoice together following their baptism.

stairs screaming obscenities all the way.

When he got to Michael, the man shoved him and clipped his right jaw with a force that should have thrown him over the third floor railing. "It was as if some unseen strong arms gently laid me down on the stairway landing, and a feeling of complete peace came over me," said Michael.

The neighbor leaned over, and Michael could feel his breath and spit. "I just lay there smiling at him as the tirade continued," he said. To ease the tension, Michael moved his car to a guest spot in another part of the lot.

The next evening, as Michael was getting ready to go to the meeting, the neighbor knocked on his door, threw his arms around him, and apologized.

Following the second Revelation of Hope meeting, Michael joined his friends at a party where he began drinking. He eventually blacked out. When he woke up in his own bed, not knowing how he got home, he decided to quit drinking.

On Sabbath, July 9, five new members were baptized into the Kona church. That afternoon at Keei Beach, 14 more decided to follow Jesus and be baptized.

Kona's new pastor, Luis Camps, and Bible worker BeeJay Crisostomo are following up with Bible studies with other interests generated by Pacleb's campaign.



Fourteen were baptized at Keei Beach. Pastors Luis Camps (left in blue) assists evangelist Taj Pacleb (right in blue).



# Church Leaders Learn the Art of re:connecting

Betty Cooney

I can relate to what is being taught here,” said Brenda Williams at the re:connect seminar held in September, “because I was one of those who went away from the church. I left for three years and have been back for the last 10 years.”

Lay leaders from 72 Southern California Conference churches attended the weekend meetings to learn from Paul Richardson, re:connect ministry director of the North American Division. “Be an advocate for inactives,” Richardson urged. Quoting 2 Cor. 5:18-19, he added, “Our commission is clear: we are ministers of reconciliation, ambassadors. God is making this appeal through us.”

Re:connect ministry has become a key focus of SCC evangelism and personal ministry planning. By executive committee vote, the position of Reconnecting Ministries coordinator is an elective position of the local church. Re:connect leaders will help equip members for reconnecting ministry to former members.

“Re:connect is not an event,” said Gerard Kiemeney, SCC Personal Ministries and L. A. Metro Region director, who, with James G. Lee Jr., vice president, coordinates SCC re:connect ministries. “It is an expression of God’s love in the flesh, through His people. It is a whole way of life, with the church being the expression of God’s love on an ongoing basis, tuning in to



Betty Cooney

Church re:connect leaders role play and discuss re:connecting in small groups at the re:connecting seminar. A second training seminar is scheduled on March 24-25, 2012. (Previously trained leaders will attend March 23.) Details TBA.

the heart of God to learn the value of people who no longer worship with us.”

Camarillo church elder Eugene Amey attended the seminar because of his ongoing interest in reaching former members. “A lot of members are on our church membership list for whom we have no contact information,” he said. “I have been given approval to try to find and get in touch with them. I already have tracked down two or three and will be contacting them.” A retired pastor, Amey is not new to reconnecting. “In many of the churches I pastored,” he said, “I inherited outdated membership lists. The first thing I would do was work on updating the lists. I received many different kinds of responses when contacting missing members. When I showed up at one door, an irate man threatened to sue if his name

was not taken off the church list. He thought it had been removed years earlier. Another member burst into tears, grateful for my visit. When you do reconnecting ministry, you have to be prepared for all sorts of reactions.”

## Erratum

A Sept. 2011 article about the new SCC Superintendent of Education Harold Crook, Ed.D., inaccurately stated his years of service at Newbury Park Adventist Academy. Crook actually served at NPAA for 27 years, initially as vice principal and Religion Department chair, and then as principal for the past 24 years. We regret the error.



# Let's Move Day MOVED in Southern California

*Betty Cooney*

Brenda Richards



**"We are planning on doing it again next year, on a bigger scale!"** said Rodney Andregg, coordinator for the Run/Walk-a-thon at The Place in Newbury Park.

SCC pastors and members — 665 of them — laced up their shoes on a cool gray September Let's Move Day. They walked, jogged, hiked and exercised; played soccer, dodgeball and softball; they gardened.

The Simi at the Garden project swarmed with a total of 102 volunteers starting at 8 a.m., donating 402 hours of their time and energies. The 2.3 acre community garden has 200 plots and is located at the back of property owned by the Simi Adventist church and school. Children helped their parents, and they helped make birdhouses, one of the many items donated by Home Depot and local companies.

The Altadena, Pasadena, Pasadena Spanish and Central Filipino churches planned joint activities, ranging from a 7 a.m. power walk at the Rose Bowl, hiking some Altadena trails, scheduling a Fun Day at the Park that included a

walk and active games for children. Calos Williams Sr., a coordinator, urged that Let's Move Day not be a one-time event. "I would like to see us continue to work together to reach our area," he said. "Reaching across region lines will strengthen our outreach in our diverse area."

SCC young adult pastors, leaders of Pheron, a group for collegiate Adventists and their friends, sponsored a dodgeball tournament that drew 17 young adults, who logged 127.3 miles of activity.

A group of three L.A. Spanish churches (El Sereno, Glassell Park and Lincoln Heights) was on the move

— gardening, hiking, playing soccer or participating in a charity walk/run. "Bonnie, who has been ill for a long time, came on the hike," said Gloria Huerta. "I at first wondered if it was a good idea for her to join us, but I cautioned the group, 'Only do what you feel you can.'"

Bonnie and the others made it to the top, a distance of seven miles. "I have never walked more than two miles in my entire life," said Bonnie. "I am so happy!"

The Place's Run/Walk-a-Thon registered 107 participants, reporting 461.7 miles and raising \$1,272 for a charitable organization.

The 2012 Let's Move Day will be Sept. 23. Let's Move Week will be Sept. 23-29, 2012, during which schools are encouraged to include an emphasis on activity and healthful living.

For additional photos and some videos, visit [www.socalwellness.info](http://www.socalwellness.info).

C. Elyvyn Plainer



**Children at the Simi at the Garden site helped paint a mural on the garden fence and put together pre-fab birdhouses donated by Home Depot.**



# Mission Trip to Haiti Unites Church at Home

*Enno Müller with Tae Woong Im*

**G**rowing Vine Ministries of the San Diego Korean church has been going to Hinche, Haiti, for the past five years for their yearly medical mission trip. They have supported the Haiti Endowment Fund with their work in Hinche, a city in the central plateau about three hours by bus from Port-au-Prince.



Members of the San Diego Korean church pray with local Haitians at a medical clinic.

This year, the team from San Diego Korean church consisted of 24 members, including physicians, dentists, dental hygienists, a nurse, a pastor, and high school and college students. During their one-week stay, the group saw how God took care of them and how He used them to share His love with the people of Haiti.

Days in Haiti consisted of early morning devotions, preparing the daily sandwich lunches and driving through dirt terrains and small rivers in the back of pick-up trucks to village churches. There the group set up and ran medical and dental clinics.

After seeing hundreds of patients each day, they ended the evenings with Vacation Bible School for the children. VBS included demonstrations of good oral hygiene and distribution of donated care packages to families. After dinner, the group had evening worship and restocked supplies and medicines for the next day.

Aside from daily clinics, one highlight of the trip was worshiping at the local Adventist church in Hinche on Sabbath. Members of the group felt blessed by the passion and richness in the worship service of the Haitians. “When they sing, you can hear the angels singing with them,” said Tae-Woong Im, coordinator of the mission trip. “Their harmonies give only a glimpse of their burning hearts, and you can’t help but feel the hearts of worship fill the room.”

“I am always amazed at how God touches the lives of not only the Haitians, but of all the people that go on these trips,” Im said. “I was privileged to witness the miracles



The mission group prays after a long day before heading back to their compound.

in the lives of the people that went and to see just how God used each one of them on this trip.”

Each member came back with his or her own story. The mission trip helped the Haitians, and the Korean church members have grown closer together, as well. “I encourage everyone that has not been involved in mission service to give it a try,” said Im, who has coordinated the trip for several years. “I believe this is one of the best ways to grow one’s church, by doing what Jesus did during His time here and sharing hope, peace and love.”





# Empower Conference Enables Asian-Americans to Lead in

“Get to steppin’,” said Andrea King, associate pastor of Imani Praise Fellowship and Valley Fellowship church, at the first general session of the Empower Ministry conference. She borrowed the phrase from the sitcom “Martin,” a popular TV show in the mid ’90s. When Martin, the main character, blurted out the phrase, he wanted someone to get out of his apartment. “Get to steppin’” has other meanings, including get motivated or get moving. For the attendees of the conference, it meant “get empowered.”

The Empower Ministry conference took place at the Renaissance Hotel in Palm Springs Sept. 3-5 with nearly 400 attendees, mainly young adults. It focused on ways to empower, equip and enable Asian-Americans in ministry and leadership in churches. Asian-Americans are fluent in English, have a western mindset, understand the Asian culture and attend Asian churches.

According to Jonathan Park, organizer of the event and vice president for Asian-Pacific ministry



Young adults focus during one of the many workshops offered during the conference.

in SECC, “There are difficulties in leadership transitions due to language and cultural differences between Asian-Pacific first generation, immigrants to the States, and second generation, those born here. The conference bridged the gap between these

two groups, and through the seminars, empowered attendees with practical ministry skills.”

The event was organized by the Southeastern and Southern California conferences Asian-Pacific ministry offices. It was a place for attendees to find enrichment, community and rejuvenation. Time was set aside for seminars as well as fellowship. That was evident in the many conversations around dinner tables and visible as young adults stood on their feet in praise.

Workshops shared information on how to communicate, improve worship programs, how to reach the modern world and much more.

Other general session speakers included Michael Kelly, senior pastor of the Mt. Rubidoux church, who reminded attendees that they were



Empower Conference attendees get together for a group shot at the end of the meetings.

the Joshua generation. Iki Taime, pastor of Genesis church, shared the top three things every leader must know. Finally, Sam Leonor, chaplain from La Sierra University, concluded the final general session with a reminder that at the core of all is Jesus Christ.

“It was a huge success, because many pastors that attended were able to connect with their young adults,” said Park. “Many young adults saw opportunities to be involved in their church. Even beyond that, many of them were amazed that the church cared so much and was willing to invest in such a high quality conference for them.”

The attendees were empowered by their churches, because each church subsidized the event. At the end of the conference, young adults left feeling empowered for ministry.

# Thunderbird Adventist Academy Joins Renaissance Network

*Kaleigh Bengt*

Fresh paint, new carpet, and flower-lined pathways were just a few of the developments that welcomed 138 students to Thunderbird Adventist Academy this school year. The 20 percent jump in enrollment is an encouragement to all those who are working hard to make school-wide improvements.

This past summer, TAA partnered with the Alumni Awards Foundation to become the first school to enter the Renaissance Network for the 2011-2012 school year. The Renaissance Network is a program developed and funded by AAF, a nonprofit that works to improve Adventist K-12 education.

Schools accepted into the program are connected with a powerful support system that encourages excellence in the spiritual, academic, social, and physical development of students. TAA will receive external management expertise, comprehensive school planning services,

and resources from the Renaissance Network. Initial funding from AAF has been released for marketing and recruitment, facility upgrades and academic enhancements.

“We are thrilled to finally be on the ground working with Thunderbird and the Arizona Conference,” said Melanie Litchfield, AAF director. “Our goal is to create a sustainable model that can be replicated in schools across the North American Division.”

Arizona Conference President Tony Anobile said the conference is excited about the partnership. “I have sensed the Foundation’s sincere desire to work with us and to make sure that there is a solid level of comfort on our part as we move forward,” Anobile said.

Considerable improvements have already begun on campus. A major reorganization of classrooms and school-wide clean up took place over the summer. Renovations of the student center, library, girl’s dormitory, and cafeteria will continue throughout the school year.

“I believe God has big things in store,” said TAA Principal Wayne Longhofer. “AAF is giving us tools we need to make this school truly great.”

As part of the program, TAA is immediately expanding its college-prep curriculum. Honors Physics, Honors

Calculus, Spanish, technology classes, and a reinstated music program are all additions to course offerings this year.

Wendel Tucker, TAA project manager for the Renaissance Network, believes Adventist academies should be the Christian school of choice. “The basic course of study must demonstrate the rigor and relevance necessary to gain entrance to any university in the nation,” said Tucker.

A data analysis system will be implemented to track student learning and inform teachers. AAF will provide funding for professional growth and teachers will be expected to become members of the professional organization within their field of expertise. Teachers will also receive training in the most relevant instructional technology.

“The overall culture being promoted by the Renaissance Network is to deliver the greatest college-bound educational experience possible,” Litchfield said. “We are going to be very objective and realistic... but our long-range plan is to create centers of excellence.”

AAF intends to expand the program to more schools for 2012-2013. “I believe that this model will work for other schools as well,” Anobile said. “We are serious about our commitment to educate for eternity and AAF shares that goal. God will bless.”

Learn more at [alumniawards.com](http://alumniawards.com).



Students at Thunderbird Adventist Academy use the new computers in the renovated library and media center.



# Arizona Officers Re-elected

*Gerry Chudleigh*

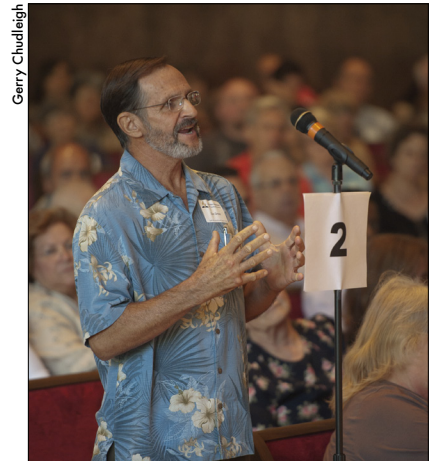
The three officers of the Arizona Conference were re-elected Sunday at the 29th regular session: Tony Anobile, president; Ed Keyes, executive secretary (and ministerial/evangelism director); and Robert Hastings, treasurer.

Others elected included: Judy McGee, Adventist Book Center; Phil Draper, communication/development; Ruben Escalante, education/family ministries; Jason Carlson, literature ministries; Jack Robinson, religious liberty; Jose Marin, Hispanic and Sabbath school ministries; John Schachinger, trust services/stewardship; Benjamin Lundquist, youth adult ministries; Erik VanDenburgh, youth ministries; and Walter Arties, African-American ministries. The delegates authorized the conference executive committee to fill the native ministries leadership position later. Delegates also approved

holding future constituency sessions every five years instead of every four years.

In their reports to the delegates, the officers reported that during the last four years:

- More than 3,300 members joined through baptism or profession of faith.
- Membership grew from 16,000 to nearly 18,500.
- Nearly every local pastor conducted evangelistic meetings. In 2009 alone, 43 of Arizona's 51 full-time pastors conducted their own evangelistic campaigns.
- Since March 2009, "our own television channel," Good News TV, has been broadcasting the gospel 24 hours per day, 365 days a year. In August 2009, a Spanish channel, MAS TV, was added.



Delegate Don Droze speaks at the 2011 constituency session of the Arizona Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Sunday, Oct. 2, in the Camelback church.

- In 2010, the conference finished the year with the first tithe gain since 2006, permitting the conference to begin building up the recommended working capital.
- Summer youth camp attendance jumped from 240 in 2009 to 740 in 2010 after the fee was reduced to \$100 per week. And 79 young people were baptized.

During the session, Anobile challenged the delegates to "Go Out." "It is time to finish the work," said Anobile. "People need to know. Do you have a heart burning to light the world? Well then, go light your world."



Officers pose after the election at the 2011 constituency session. From left: Robert Hastings, treasurer; Tony Anobile, president; Ed Keyes, executive secretary.

# Three Different 2011 Area Convocations a Success

*Denny Krause*

In the three years since the closing of the conference-sponsored Nevada-Utah camp meeting in Springville, Utah, members have successfully transitioned to Sabbath convocations in the major metropolitan areas of the conference.

This year, area convocations offered a new version of the old-fashioned camp meeting get-together where friends renew acquaintances, share experiences, and mingle with fellow believers from area churches.

In addition to adult meetings, each convocation hosted meetings and activities for children.

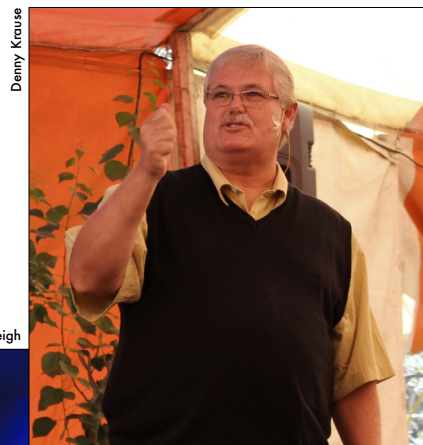
Held at the Cashman Center Convention Complex May 25-28,

the Las Vegas-area Convocation featured the It Is Written “Babylon Rising” event, drawing hundreds for each morning and evening session. John Bradshaw, speaker/director of It Is Written, presented the daily messages.

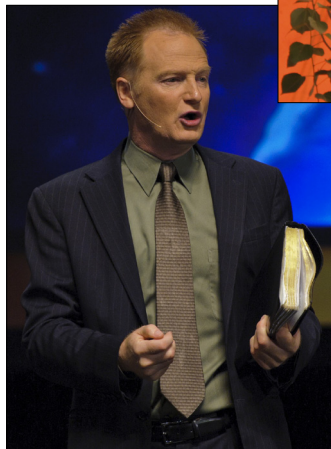
Camp Richardson, the South Lake Tahoe site of the Reno-area convocation,

Aug. 5 and 6, is a camping/RV area complete with large camp meeting tents. The tents and the surrounding camp/RV sites serve a dual purpose — the Tahoe camp meeting runs Monday evening through Friday afternoon and is followed by the Reno-area convocation Friday evening through Saturday evening.

Many camp meeting attendees stay for the convocation, and lots more drive in from the greater Reno and Sacramento areas on Friday and Saturday, adding large numbers to the crowd. Guest speaker for camp meeting and the convocation was Bill Kilgore, Southwestern



Tahoe camp meeting/Reno-area convocation guest speaker, Bill Killgore, preaches.



It Is Written speaker/director John Bradshaw speaks at the Las Vegas-area convocation, which was bundled with the Babylon Rising event.



Dan Jackson, NAD president, speaks during the Salt Lake City-area convocation worship service.



# PUC Guest Speaker Recounts Inspirational Journey

*Larry Peña with Midori Yoshimura*

Pacific Union College welcomed NASA astronaut Jose Hernandez to an Oct. 29 presentation in the PUC church. He encouraged an overflow audience of PUC community members, especially students, to persevere in their lifelong pursuit of ambitious goals. “Don’t ever, ever, ever give up on yourselves, because you can do it,” he advised.

Beginning with a clip from his interview on Oprah, Hernandez recounted his inspirational journey from the strawberry fields of California’s Central Valley to his 5.7 million mile voyage aboard the International Space Station.

The astronaut, who has received a flood of media attention because of his inspiring story, also revealed that at the urging of President Barack Obama, he has joined the race for Congress in California.

As the son of migrant farm workers from Michoacán, Mexico, Hernandez grew up picking produce in California. His parents, despite having only a third-grade education themselves, did their best to keep the children in school. Hernandez said, “After a long day of work, my dad would look each of us in the eye and say, ‘You have the privilege of living your future now. If you don’t want to go to school, you can come back and work with me in the fields seven days a week.’”

At the age of nine, Hernandez discovered his dream of becoming an astronaut when he watched the final

Apollo lunar mission on TV. Upon hearing his goal, Hernandez said that his parents gave him “a license to dream.” He graduated from high school with good grades and enrolled at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif., earning a B.S. in electrical engineering.

After the morning presentation, PUC honored Hernandez with a special luncheon, with guests including local Hispanic business and civic leaders, Latino members of PUC’s faculty and staff, and several of PUC’s engineering, aviation, and Latino-heritage students.

At the luncheon, Hernandez detailed his career path. For 12 years, he continuously reapplied to NASA’s astronaut training program. In a process of “smart perseverance,” to improve his eligibility, Hernandez worked with the U.S. Department of Energy, learned Russian, became a certified pilot, and took SCUBA training.

He was finally selected for Astronaut Candidate Training in 2004, and chosen as flight engineer aboard the space shuttle Discovery in 2009. His mission lasted 14 days, during which the crew witnessed 214 sunrises and sunsets as they orbited the planet once every ninety minutes.

Hernandez’s extraterrestrial perspective gave him new insights. Seeing just how thin the Earth’s atmosphere appeared from space, he thought, “That’s the only thing keeping us alive! It seemed so delicate, I became an instant tree-hugger.”



**Astronaut Jose Hernandez encourages PUC students to follow their dreams through hard work and education.**

Hernandez also said his faith in God grew stronger from seeing the Earth below and the vastness of the universe beyond. He noted, “I’m a scientist — and it’s too perfect to be a coincidence.”

He joked about his upcoming political prospects, saying, “I used to say that we should send all our politicians into space to get that perspective — maybe on a one-way ticket. Since I may be one of them soon, maybe I shouldn’t say that anymore.”

Hernandez wrapped up the day at PUC by recounting his story to a group of several hundred local elementary school children. For this presentation, he wore the bright blue flight suit he had worn during his astronaut training, receiving especially-enthusiastic applause.

Hernandez was the first speaker in this year’s Colloquy Speaker Series at PUC. Upcoming guests documentary filmmaker Martin Doblmeier on Nov. 10.

# Pathfinders Plan Union Camporee

*First Pacific Union Camporee in 20 Years*

*Gerry Chudleigh*

For only the fifth time in more than 60 years, Pathfinders from Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah will gather next spring for a Pacific Union Pathfinder Camporee.

Nearly 5,000 Pathfinders and leaders are expected to camp together March 28 to April 1, 2012, at Glen Helen Regional Park on the outskirts of San Bernardino, Calif. This park boasts the largest outdoor amphitheater in North America — the 65,000 seat San Manuel Amphitheater.

Recreational and educational activities during the four-day event will include a climbing wall, obstacle course, Sumo wrestling arena, joust area, canoeing, archery, centipede, Frisbee toss, Indian carriage, kites honor, gold mining, lighthouse honor, cactus honor, flight simulator, air rockets, finger, rocket arena, knots honor, and much more.

“But our purpose for this camporee is to have a spiritual impact in the lives of everyone who attends,” says Elden Ramirez, camporee on-site coordinator and youth director for the Central California Conference. “Together we will learn some of the biblical principles that have changed the history of the world: ‘Love, Live, Lead.’ That is the theme of this camporee.”

On Sabbath afternoon, the camporee will host the North American Division “Pathfinder Bible Experience,” a new Bible Bowl event for

Pathfinders between the ages of 10 and 17. Pathfinders are already studying the books of Mark and First Samuel for the event. Teams that finish in the top level at this event will go to General Conference headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., for the division-wide conclusion on April 21.

Guest speakers at the camporee will include Jonatan Tejel, world Pathfinder director; James Black, North American Division Pathfinder director; Jose Rojas, NAD volunteer ministries director; and Ron Whitehead, Oshkosh International Camporee director. Dan Jackson, NAD president, will speak Sabbath morning.

Church members who would like to visit the camporee on Sabbath must register for the camporee

at [www.puccamporee.org](http://www.puccamporee.org), then purchase a day pass at the same website.

The first Pathfinder clubs started in the late 1920s, just a few miles from the spring camporee site, in Orange County, in the Southeastern California Conference. The modern, world-wide Pathfinder movement started in the Pacific Union in the late 1940s. In 1960, the Pacific Union conducted the first union Pathfinder camporee in the world, near Lone Pine, Calif., followed by union camporees in 1965 and 1972 at Big Pine, Calif., and the most recent one, in 1992, at Laguna Seca Recreation Area, near Monterey, Calif.

For more information, contact the local church Pathfinder director or go to [www.puccamporee.org](http://www.puccamporee.org).



CALENDARS

Central California

**SENIOR CITIZEN SEMINAR** (Nov. 5) Mtn. View Central church. Guest speakers: Rene Quispe and Silvia Flores. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**PRAYER PARTNER TRAINING** (Nov. 12) CCC office. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Guest speaker: Kenny Fraser. Spanish translation is available. Bring your favorite dish for potluck. Info: Joyce, 559-696-3692 or joycejmuligan@sbcglobal.net.

**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT** (Nov. 18-20) Camp Wawona. Pre-registration/fee is required. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**SINGLES RALLY** (Dec. 3) CCC office. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. A full day of worship and fellowship. Guest speaker: Collin Ross. Pre-registration/fee is required. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

present for the full day of activities. Info: 707-459-1704 or impala@pacific.net.

**PATHFINDER CAVING** (Nov. 11-12) Lava Beds National Monument. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**VOICE AND PIANO Sacred Concert** (Nov. 12) 4 p.m. Sacramento-Central church, 6045 Camellia Avenue. Joy Lin and Rodney Abriol will present a free musical program. Info: 916-457-6511.

**SABBATH SCHOOL COMMUNITY Thanksgiving Dinner** (Nov. 22) 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Avenue. Info: Carol Herbert, 916-381-5353.

**NATIVITY DRIVE-THRU** (Dec. 9, 10, 16, 17) Roseville church, 914 Cirby Way, 7-10 p.m. 13th annual "Live the Experience." Live actors and animals. A local news program called it "one of the most spectacular holiday sights anywhere in the area." Info: 916-786-8350.

Pacific Union College

**CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP** (Nov. 4) Championship event for the California Pacific Conference Division II league in the National Association of Inter-collegiate Athletics. Call the PUC Athletic Department, 707-815-1813.

Northern California

**HOMECOMING** (Nov. 5) Willits church, 399 West Mendocino Avenue. Former members, pastors and friends, please plan to attend. Several previous pastors will be

Southeastern California

**COMMUNITY SERVICES RETREAT** (Nov. 3-6) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: 951-509-2298.

**GARDEN GROVE CHURCH** celebrates 115 Years (Nov. 5) Church and world events during the 1930s will be highlighted. Worship service speaker, James R. Nix, director, Ellen G. White Estate. Info: 714-534-1987, www.gardengrovesda.com.

**HERALDS OF HOPE** (Nov. 5) 3 p.m. Paradise Village, 2700 E 4th St., National City. A men's chorus in concert under direction of Gerald and Dorothy Wareham. Info: 619-475-0383.

**SHINE GIRLS' RETREAT** (Nov. 11-13) Pine Springs Ranch. Girls' retreat for ages 13-24. Info: 951-509-2333.

**INDONESIAN CONVOCATION** (Nov. 11) Chaffey High School, 1245 N. Euclid Ave., Ontario. Info: Praban Agussaputro, 909-246-1909.

Southern California

**LIVING STONES CHURCH** (Nov. 4-5) 5th Anniversary. Celebrating the church's name change for the purpose of letting God change us individually and as a church. Info: 818-249-2492, livingstonesda.com.

**HEALTHY TASTE OF LA 2** (Nov. 5) Dinner with T. Colin Campbell, Ph.D., author of The China Study. Gourmet whole food, plant-based cuisine prepared by celebrity vegan chefs. (Nov. 6) 6:30 p.m. \$75/person. South Bay church, 401 S. Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach 90277. Info: 310-214-3123.

**HEALTHY TASTE OF LA 2** (Nov. 6) Food preparation by seven of the finest vegan restaurant chefs. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. T. Colin Campbell, Ph.D., keynoter. Registration, \$129/person, Nov. 1-5; \$149/person at the door. Online registration, www.HealthyTasteofLA.com. South Bay church, 401 S. Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach 90277. Info: 310-214-3123.

**NETADVENTIST TRAINING WEBINAR** (Nov. 6) Jesse Johnson, instructor. Participate online or onsite at SCC office, 1535 E. Chevy Chase Dr., Glendale. Brunch served at SCC location. RSVP required, to receive link for participation. Registration form online at <http://sccomm.adventistfaith.org/Events>; or e-mail [bcooney818@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bcooney818@sbcglobal.net); 818-546-8462.

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER** (Nov. 24) 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Valley Crossroads church, 11350 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima. Volunteer opportunity; donations for food baskets accepted. 818-437-2737.

**RASMUSSEN ART GALLERY** Opening Reception: Tim Fleming (Nov. 5) Tim Fleming, who specializes in landscapes of the American West, as well as scanner art, will present his exhibition "Clarity of Vision: Scanner Photography." Rasmussen Art Gallery, 7-9 p.m. Exhibit showing Nov. 5-Dec. 3.

**FALL FESTIVAL** (Nov. 6) 3-9 p.m. Pacific Auditorium. PUC annual event featuring ethnic food booths, cultural shows, and family-friendly games.

**COLLEGE DAYS** (Nov. 6-7) Academy students are invited to get a preview of college life at PUC. Info: 707-965-6425.

**LONGO LECTURE** (Nov. 10) Martin Doblmeier, founder and president of Journey Films, whose documentary films include "Bonhoeffer" and "The Adventists," will speak to the PUC community. Colloquy at 10 a.m., PUC Church Sanctuary; Longo Lecture at 7:30 p.m., Scales Chapel. Both presentations free; Info: 707-965-6303.

**ORCHESTRA CONCERT** (Nov. 12) 7 p.m. Paulin Hall. PUC's orchestra presents their fall concert under the direction of Dr. Rachele Berthelsen Davis.

**ACADEMY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT** (Nov. 30- Dec.3) PUC hosts the annual basketball tournament for academy students in the Pacific Auditorium. Call the PUC Athletic Department at 707-815-1813.



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Events

**WILDWOOD WEIGHT REDUCTION & Health Renewal** (Nov. 27-Dec. 11 and Jan. 1-15) 14-day program focusing on lifestyle change, health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Cost: \$740 (Group discounts available.) Contact: Darlene Keith 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). E-mail: [darlenekeith@gmail.com](mailto:darlenekeith@gmail.com).

**WILDWOOD HYDROTHERAPY & Massage Workshop** (Jan. 22-29) Intense 7-day seminar focusing on practical hands-on hydrotherapy treatments and back massage. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Cost: \$349 (Includes room, vegan meals). Contact: Darlene 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). E-mail: [darlenekeith@gmail.com](mailto:darlenekeith@gmail.com).

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Employment

**IT IS WRITTEN TELEVISION**, Simi Valley, Calif., seeks an associate producer for the production of English and Spanish broadcast programs. Requirements:

Broadcast level production experience, extensive video camera experience, ability to shoot and record on location as a single person crew. Frequent travel. Bilingual preferred. For a complete job description and application, e-mail: [production@iiw.org](mailto:production@iiw.org).

**LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY** Library seeks Reference/Instruction Librarian to provide reference and library instruction services. A Library Science master's degree from an ALA-accredited program is required. Visit [www.lasierra.edu/hr](http://www.lasierra.edu/hr) for complete details and submit requirements to: Desiree Noah, Human Resources, La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, CA 92515.

**LIVE-IN CAREGIVER** for elderly woman in rural Northern California with mild dementia and some mobility limitations. Ideal candidate (or pair) will have a strong spiritual commitment to Jesus, experience with NEWSTART lifestyle principles, country living, and geriatric care. Room, board and salary commensurate/negotiable. E-mail résumé, references, contact information to [stapphouse@gmail.com](mailto:stapphouse@gmail.com).

**NEED ASAP.** Physical Therapist to help with private practice in rural Nevada including small hospital, SNF, outpatient, and school district. 120 miles south of Reno, and 140 miles from Yosemite (photography)/Mammoth (skiing). Beautiful pinion

pine country nearby (good camping). Salary negotiable. Contact Teresa Reedy, P.T. or Connie Foster, P.T. Coordinator, 775-773-2294.

**TIME TO GET OUT** of the cities! Ranch job for a single male in Temecula mountains. Needs farming experience to work equipment, plant crops, vegetable garden, and animal care of horses/dogs. Owner will provide housing and small salary. Share crop at harvest. Live simply, healthy, eating home grown food. 760-808-1434.

**UNION COLLEGE** in Lincoln Nebraska is receiving applications for filling the office of President. Qualifications required include an earned doctoral degree in a recognized academic discipline. Significant leadership experience in academic circles is greatly desired, and a demonstrated collaborative leadership style will also be expected. Applicants should submit a detailed résumé to Thomas Lemon, President, Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. P.O. Box 6128, Lincoln, NE 68506.

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for full-time faculty positions in business, English, and history; and contract faculty in many areas. All positions will remain open until filled. For more information and application process, please visit <http://jobs.walla-walla.edu>.

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For more information, please visit: [careers.llu.edu](http://careers.llu.edu) or contact HR Recruiter Dominic Bokich - [dbokich@llu.edu](mailto:dbokich@llu.edu) or call 1-800-722-2770



## LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

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Real Estate

**2-BDRM UNFURNISHED** cottage Mentone, Calif., for rent to Adventist. Location within fenced church property. Limited duties expected for church. Tenant compensated. Rent \$700/mo. Require first/last month and \$300 cleaning deposit. Utilities, except electricity, paid, yard maintenance provided. No pets. Call Sam, 909-754-1105.

**5.3 OAK- AND PINE-STUDED ACRES** in Paradise, Calif., consisting of three separate but adjoining parcels. First has 2,400 sq. ft. home with attached garage, lovely yard, large two-story barn/shop. Second has 1,900 sq. ft. home with attached garage and a cute 1,000 sq. ft. cottage guest house/art studio and full RV hookup. Third is an undeveloped lot with city water and easy power access. Zoned for horses. Beautiful country setting only minutes from city amenities. Paradise boasts a 100-bed Adventist hospital with large community clinic, and four year academy. For pictures and more information call 530-877-8209.

**BEAUTIFUL, PICTURESQUE MINI-FARM!** Pastoral setting w/mt. views and a pretty creek. Many recent upgrades. 1,952 sq. ft., 3-bdrm, 2-full bath, single-level home. Gorgeous kitchen, living and family rooms. 1,700+ sq. ft. shop/barn w/concrete floor, and a variety of storage buildings. Level land w/fenced pasture; established gardens/fruit trees. Paved drive/RV parking. Close to churches and K-12 schools! See details/pictures at [www.kendonleet.com](http://www.kendonleet.com).

**COZY COUNTRY HOME** for sale in Willamina, Ore., on 5.6 acres, paved dead-end road. Single story house built in 1998. Beautiful wood siding, 3-bdrm, 2.5-bath, vaulted ceiling, heat pump. Set up for horses, three-stalls, pasture. Shop, RV parking, oversized double garage. Asking \$425,000. Contact 503-876-7140.

**FOR RENT. COUNTRY HOME.** Large 3-bdrm, 2-bath, tile throughout, rear deck; large garden, orchard area, free irrigation water. Less than 20 minutes to Weimar Institute. Seeking SDA lifestyle compatible tenants, \$1,075. Colfax, Calif. Call Mary Jane, 530-613-8988 or Steve, 530-320-3166.

**GREAT OPPORTUNITY,** Lease/Option, Prescott Valley, Ariz. 2,275 sq. ft. 9-bed adult care home, residents, 5-bdrm, 3-bath, central kitchen, nurses station, sky lights, sunroom, patio, W/D, D/W,

A/C, gas heat. Gated yard, semi-circle driveway, adequate parking. Great location. Doctor offices, hospitals close. 928-759-0442, [gmanitaallen@yahoo.com](mailto:gmanitaallen@yahoo.com).

**REDUCED. AUBURN, CALIF.** home in the sunny Sierra foothills below the snow and above the valley fog. Senior Park (55+). Volunteer opportunities at Weimar Center of Health and Education (15 min.) and Amazing Facts Ministry (25 min.). Close to four Adventist churches. Grapevine, lemon tree, room for small garden, storage shed, patio, and deck. 2-bdrm, 2-bath, W/D, fridge, freezer, partially furnished, many upgrades. Financing available. REDUCED to \$29,900. Make offer. 530-320-1425.

**RETIRE IN SUNNY DESERT HOT SPRINGS, Calif.:** For sale: \$26,950. Beautiful double-wide mobile home, 2-bdrm, 1-bath, fully furnished at Healing Waters Estates, 55+ community. Excellent condition, professionally decorated. Most desirable location: front faces open expanse of lawn and trees, master bedroom in rear faces small gurgling stream from Hot Springs then the open desert through sliding glass doors. The mobile home park has natural hot springs fed large lap pool and three hot soaking pools, multipurpose recreation room and sauna. The park is well run by new management. Monthly space fees are \$370.87. Monthly gas and electricity are under \$10. All money from sale goes to "International Children's Care," an Adventist orphanage program. For pictures and to view, phone 818-957-5615 or e-mail [frances.a.randall@gmail.com](mailto:frances.a.randall@gmail.com).

Vacation Opportunities

**2012 GREAT CONTROVERSY TOUR** (March 30-April 12) with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt of Andrews University. See prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive! Visit Rome, Italy, and Reformation sites in the Waldensian valleys, Switzerland, Germany, and France. A most exciting experience! Call or fax 269-471-5172, e-mail, [gctours@mac.com](mailto:gctours@mac.com).

**SUNRIVER, CENTRAL OREGON.** Four-bedroom executive home on the North Woodlands golf course. Two master king suites, two queens, one bunk set, hot tub, loft, Jacuzzi bath, gas log fireplace, BBQ, W/D, bikes, all "lodge amenities," sleeps 10, no smoking, no pets, includes housekeeping. For rates, photos and reservations: 541-279-9553, 541-475-6463 or [schultz@crestviewcable.com](mailto:schultz@crestviewcable.com).



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**AT REST**

**CARTER, RUBY (CRATTY)** – b. March 19, 1928, Willits, Calif.; d. Jan. 30, 2011, Napa, Calif.

**DE HAVEN, E. JEANE (HAIGHT)** – b. April 13, 1925, Coalinga, Calif.; d. Sept. 4, 2011, Sequim, Wash. Survivors: son, Greg; four grandchildren, one great-grandchild; brother, Edward Haight.

**GERALD, WALTER EVERETT** – b. Feb. 26, 1930, Trenton, N.J.; d. Aug. 21, 2011, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: wife, Onlea; daughters, Sharon Clark, Gloria Arzate, Ruth Mitchell.

**HENRY, JOSEPH R.** – b. March 14, 1930, New Iberia, La.; d. Aug. 6, 2011, Martinez, Calif. Survivors: wife, Geneva (Barnes); sons, Darius "Danny," Keith "Pete"; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**HOOVER, MARLAND LEE** – b. March 18, 1938, Hong Kong; d. Aug. 3, 2011, Coquille, Ore. Survivors: wife, Linda (Paullus Boyd); sons, Marvin, Darryll, Michael; stepson, James Boyd III; daughters, Tammy Carter, Tanya Cornell; stepdaughter, Joelle Chinnock.

**JUSTICE, CARROLL L.** – b. Jan. 19, 1937, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. Sept. 10, 2011, Auburn, Calif. Survivors: wife, Helen; son, B.J.

**MEREDITH, ROBERT LEWIS** – b. Dec. 28, 1917, Toledo, Ohio; d. Sept. 2, 2011, Vallejo, Calif.

**PARKHURST, DAVID LEE** – b. March 16, 1933, Rushville, Ind.; d. Sept. 1, 2011, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: son, Gary; daughter, Cindy; two grandchildren.

**PERKINS, DONALD R.** – b. Feb. 27, 1934, Sacramento, Calif.; d. March 2, 2011, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: wife, Arlene; sons, Thomas, William; daughters, Charlotte, Debbie; 14 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren.

**POMMERENKE, LYLIA** – b. Oct. 14, 1948, Cadillac, Mich.; d. Aug. 31, 2011, Peoria, Ariz. Survivors: husband, Paul; daughter, Tamara Nault; five grandchildren.

**RHYS, ADELA** – b. May 24, 1916, Buenos Aires, Argentina; d. Sept. 3, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, David; son, Carlos; daughters, Nidia Vyhmeister, Myrtha Pizarro; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren.

**RICE, ALYSE K.** – b. Feb. 26, 1919, Seoul, Korea; d. Sept. 7, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Richard; daughter, Marlys Jacobson; five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren; sister, Gladys Schlinkert.

**ROBERTS, JAMES D.** – b. March 30, 1933, Plymouth, Penn.; d. Sept. 10, 2011, Placerville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Dixie; daughters, Linda Oster, Sandy, Patti; two grandchildren. Served in various organizations of the church in education and healthcare.

**ROSS, JAMES ORVILLE** – b. Dec. 9, 1943, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Sept. 21, 2011, Calistoga, Calif. Survivors: wife, Janelle; son, Leroy; daughter, Victoria Gingerly.

**SCHELLER, CARLOS CHRISTIAN** – b. June 2, 1912, Hillman, Mich.; d. Aug. 14, 2011, Desert Hot Springs, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Carla Ruth Reeves; sisters, Marie Mooney, Juanita Kemp.

**SCOTT, EDITH** – b. March 10, 1920, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Sept. 11, 2011, Calimesa, Calif. Survivors: son, Robert; daughter, Marian Chrispens; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**SMITH, KATHRYN AVIS** – b. Aug. 18, 1911, Winfield, Kan.; d. Sept. 5, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, John; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**TSENG, MARK** – b. April 4, 1943, China; d. Jan. 6, 2011, Los Angeles, Calif. Survivor: wife, Sylvia.

**TURNER, WILLIAM RAMON** – b. Dec. 19, 1920, Hardin County, Tenn.; d. Aug. 26, 2011, Oxnard, Calif. Survivors: wife, Shirley; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

**UNDERWOOD, JOHN W.** – b. Sept. 5, 1932, Beach, N.D.; d. Aug. 15, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Ilo; sons, Todd, Corey; daughter, Darolyn; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**VEGLAHN, LAWRENCE F.** – b. Sept. 15, 1921, Britton, S.D.; d. July 23, 2011, Palm Springs, Calif. Survivors: wife, Aileen; son, David; brother, Don.

**WESSLEN, EUGENE J.** – b. Dec. 18, 1922, Tobique, Minn.; d. July 3, 2011, Grand Terrace, Calif. Survivors: son, John; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister, Maygene.

**WIELAND, ROBERT J.** – b. May 1, 1916, Audubon, Iowa; d. Aug. 13, 2011, Walnut Creek, Calif. Survivors: sons, Robert E., John; daughter, Margaret Utt; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Served as a missionary to Uganda and Kenya; pastor in the Southeastern California Conference; authored many books and articles.

**WILLIAMS, DAVID ALAN** – b. Oct. 25, 1949, Benton Harbor, Mich.; d. Aug. 19, 2011, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: wife, Kathy; son, Michael; daughter, Amy Reeves; father, Robert; mother, Ann; brothers, Chuck, John; sister, Marci Henley.

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- Between the Lines**  
[www.btlministries.org](http://www.btlministries.org)
- Breath of Life**  
[www.bolministries.com](http://www.bolministries.com)
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[www.lifestyle.org](http://www.lifestyle.org)
- Freedom's Ring**  
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[www.hopetv.org](http://www.hopetv.org)
- It Is Written**  
[www.iiw.org](http://www.iiw.org)
- La Voz de la Esperanza**  
[www.lavoz.org](http://www.lavoz.org)
- Lifetalk Radio**  
[www.lifetalk.net](http://www.lifetalk.net)
- Loma Linda Broadcasting Network**  
[www.llbn.tv](http://www.llbn.tv)
- The Quiet Hour**  
[www.thequiethour.org](http://www.thequiethour.org)
- Voice of Prophecy**  
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*"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."  
 — Exodus 20:8*

**SUNSETS**

	Nov 4	Nov 11	Nov 18	Nov 25
Alturas	5:52	4:45	4:39	4:35
Angwin	6:05	4:59	4:54	4:50
Calexico	5:48	4:42	4:39	4:36
Chico	6:01	4:54	4:48	4:45
Eureka	6:08	5:01	4:55	4:51
Fresno	5:58	4:52	4:47	4:44
Hilo	5:45	5:42	5:41	5:40
Honolulu	5:53	5:50	5:48	5:48
Las Vegas	5:40	4:34	4:30	4:27
Lodi	6:01	4:55	4:50	4:47
Loma Linda	5:52	4:47	4:43	4:40
Los Angeles	5:57	4:51	4:47	4:44
Moab	6:12	5:06	5:01	4:57
Oakland	6:06	4:59	4:54	4:51
Phoenix	5:32	5:27	5:23	5:20
Reno	5:53	4:46	4:41	4:37
Riverside	5:53	4:48	4:44	4:41
Sacramento	6:01	4:55	4:50	4:46
Salt Lake City	6:19	5:12	5:06	5:02
San Diego	5:54	4:49	4:45	4:43
San Francisco	6:07	5:00	4:55	4:52
San Jose	6:05	4:59	4:54	4:51
Tucson	6:30	5:25	5:21	5:19

# Recharge Your Prayer Life

## Two Events to Experience Time in God's Presence

### Tune My Heart

**NAD Day of Prayer • January 7, 2012**

**Plan now for a special, life-changing day of prayer for your church**

Options:

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- Ⓞ Add the valuable discipline of some form of fasting

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*For more information and resources go to [www.nadprayerministries.org](http://www.nadprayerministries.org).*

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**NAD Prayer Summit • January 12-15, 2012 • Beautiful Innisbrook, Florida**

- Ⓞ Ask God to take away any mediocrity and to take you to a deeper level of faith and blessing.
- Ⓞ You'll be challenged and equipped to go deeper in His will.

Go to [www.plusline.org/events.php](http://www.plusline.org/events.php) to register or call 1-800-SDAPLUS (732-7587). Ask if you qualify for a partial or full scholarship.

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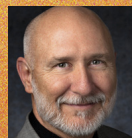
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