

PACIFIC UNION

# recorder

CONNECTING THE PACIFIC UNION ADVENTIST FAMILY >> JANUARY 2012

## 23 Loma Linda Embraces Its Legacy of Mission

15 Conference Newsletters

9 Project Helps Congolese Widows

*(Small text listing names and titles, partially obscured and difficult to read)*

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## PACIFIC UNION recorder

### Recorder Staff

#### Editor / Layout & Design

Alicia Adams — [alicia@puconline.org](mailto:alicia@puconline.org)

#### Publisher

Gerry Chudleigh — [gerry@puconline.org](mailto:gerry@puconline.org)

#### Administrative Assistants

Sali Butler — [commdept@puconline.org](mailto:commdept@puconline.org)  
Sharon Edwards — [sharon@puconline.org](mailto:sharon@puconline.org)

#### Printing

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### Editorial Correspondents

#### Arizona 480-991-6777

Phil Draper — [phildraper@azconference.org](mailto:phildraper@azconference.org)

#### Central California 559-347-3000

Caron Oswald — [coswald@cccsda.org](mailto:coswald@cccsda.org)

#### Hawaii 808-595-7591

Teryl Loeffler — [loefflert@hawaiiconf.com](mailto:loefflert@hawaiiconf.com)

#### Nevada-Utah 775-322-6929

Denny Krause — [dennyk@nucadventist.com](mailto:dennyk@nucadventist.com)

#### Northern California 925-685-4300

Stephanie Leal — [sleal@nccsda.com](mailto:sleal@nccsda.com)

#### Southeastern California 951-509-2200

Enno Müller — [communications@seccsda.org](mailto:communications@seccsda.org)

#### Southern California 818-546-8400

Betty Cooney — [bcooney@scsda.org](mailto:bcooney@scsda.org)

#### Adventist Health

Brittany Russell — [russelb1@ah.org](mailto:russelb1@ah.org)

#### La Sierra University 951-785-2000

Larry Becker — [lbecker@lasierra.edu](mailto:lbecker@lasierra.edu)

#### Loma Linda 909-558-4526

Dustin Jones — [djones@llu.edu](mailto:djones@llu.edu)

#### Pacific Union College 707-965-6303

Julie Z. Lee — [jzlee@puc.edu](mailto:jzlee@puc.edu)

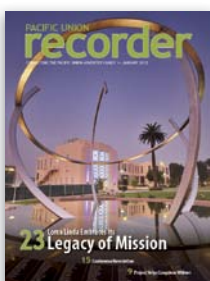
Larry Peña — [hipena@puc.edu](mailto:hipena@puc.edu)

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### about the cover

The Mission Globe stands in the center of LLU's campus, symbolizing a commitment to mission work throughout the world.

PHOTO BY BARRY TAYLOR





Know where you're going,  
stay hydrated, wear the right shoes,  
and decide if it's worth the effort.

## Lessons from a hike

**T**his summer, Audrey and I visited Big Sur, Calif. We decided to take a walk in the state park nearby, and it turned into a hike. Doing so, we were reminded of some serious spiritual truths.

First, know where you are going. Arriving at the park, we were given an area map, listing several trails. We decided on one we were told wouldn't be too crowded. Consulting the map, we had some difficulty locating the beginning of the trail. We talked to a deputy sheriff who pointed us in the right direction, and we headed off on our hike. Lesson: On our faith journey, we need to confirm our destination. God has given us His holy Word, the Bible, and He guides us through the promptings of the Holy Spirit to lead us in the right direction. Not knowing where you are going is a sure way of getting lost. We want to go to God's house, but along the way there is a necessary step of character transformation, facilitated as we submit to the Guide and follow in His footsteps.

Next, lesson: stay hydrated. The trail we selected was winding upward and, at times, very steep. Unfortunately, we didn't take any water with us. Walking through the foliage was very refreshing, but as we expended energy, our bodies' reservoirs of water were dissipated. The summer sun left us parched. By the time we descended the mountain trail, we were quite thirsty. Fortunately, when we reached the bottom of the trail, there was a building nearby where we were able to get some water. Neither Audrey nor I wanted a soft drink or fruit juice. We just wanted water. Only water satisfies our body's thirst. When it comes to our soul thirst, Jesus said: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink" (John 7:37).

Only drinking deeply from the well that Jesus supplies can satisfy our deep-seated, soul hunger and thirst. Nothing in this world can satisfy like Jesus! In addition, it is free!

Next reminder: wear the right shoes. Audrey and I had packed some old, well-worn athletic shoes in the trunk of our car, and slipped them

on at the beginning of our walk. The tread design on our shoes made it easy for us to gain the traction needed to traverse the upward, winding, mountainous path. However, we did see some people wearing flip-flops and even one woman in a pair of high-heels. Paul reminds us in Ephesians 6:15, "And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." While we are donning our armor, let's not forget to focus on the gospel of peace, the peace that we gain from sitting at the feet of Jesus and looking into His face through faith.

Last Lesson: the value question. Moving up the mountainside, we passed people coming down the same path. There was a waterfall at the top of the mountain, and we asked some returning climbers if it was worth it. "What did you see?" "Is it worth it?" Some of the folks encouraged us: "Keep going!" "Don't stop, you're almost there!" They encouraged us to continue. Reaching the top, we agreed. We should remember as we go through the tests, trials and tribulations of this world, pleasing Jesus is worth it! While we travel on our journey of faith, let's encourage those around us. Sometimes we may have to encourage ourselves! See Judges 20:22.

E.G. White writes in *Early Writings*, page 17, about a vision she had of herself and others reaching heaven. Trying but failing to remember their trials on earth, they shouted, "Alleluia, heaven is cheap enough!"

Is it worth it? Yes, it is.



*Ricardo Graham*

SCOTT GUPTILL



High school teachers and students gather for a building dedication and photo before they enter the new student services building (left) for the first time.

## Loma Linda Academy opens new building

After more than 60 years, Loma Linda Academy has a new public face. The master plans, which began in 1997, have now culminated with the opening of the new 40,000 square foot student services building. The Sabbath afternoon ceremony on Oct. 29

included remarks by administrators, students and more. More than 300 people attended.

Faculty, students and officials who were integral to the project cut the ribbon in front of the main entrance to the \$8 million facility. Bill Arnold, elementary principal (1998-2011)

and project manager; Richard Brooks, business administrator; Kerry Heinrich, board chair (2003-2010); Doug Herrmann, chief administrative officer; L. Roo McKenzie, head principal (1996-2009); Verlon Strauss, board chair; and Robert Skoretz, high school principal, and others participated.

Parents and visitors will enter the main offices for the school from Academy Way, replacing the former Franz Hall entrance on Anderson Street. The new, wide glass-doorway entry features black marble tile flooring etched with the school seal.

The main level houses the administrative offices for the chief administrative officer, high school principal and vice principal, registrar, administrative assistants and the receptionist. Additional areas provide space for the alumni and advancement offices and the business office. A special heritage room will furnish space for board meetings, parent meetings and receptions. The room will be decorated with photos and memorabilia celebrating Loma Linda Academy's history of more than 100 years.

Also, the main floor includes a staff lounge; a kitchen and space for staff lunches, morning worship, and a work area. This floor includes

SHAWNA CAMPBELL



The foundation takes shape during the construction phase.

## Southeastern California Conference

the campus ministries center, student association offices, career center, and counseling and testing offices.

Nine classrooms upstairs house English and religion. Each classroom has a teacher office, and teachers share a workroom on that level.

Herrmann is pleased with the student services building. "I especially like the campus ministries center, which I see becoming the heart of the campus. And the plaza between the new building and Flaiz and Franz Halls has turned out to be an inviting place for students to meet and gather."

"Being inside the campus ministries center gives me a sense of what LLA is for: getting us involved in campus ministries," said Ledy Ann Cordero, a high school student.

Arnold is very excited about the new student services building: "It stands as a testament to dreaming big. This building was completed for about half the square-foot price of other buildings, not by cutting corners, but by looking and working for the best product at the best price."

"Funding for capital development is always a challenge in Adventist schools," McKenzie noted. "However, the favor of God was upon us when the school administration learned about the possibility of securing low-interest bond funding for capital development. Rod Neal, the business manager at the outset of the master plan implementation, investigated the bond-funding possibility, and the school was able to secure a \$15 million bond with the help of the

Southeastern California Conference. The school has contributed over \$6 million of its capital reserve fund to complete the master plan so far."

"I want to applaud all of those who had such vision and courage to build these buildings and make a difference," added Herrmann.

"This building is making it possible to serve in a greater and more effective way to students, parents and the community,"

Arnold noted. "It actually is giving a new face to Loma Linda Academy and the entrance into the city of Loma Linda itself. I believe God has blessed and guided the project and has plans for how it can be a part of the process of influencing lives for the kingdom."

"The 1997 master plan for facilities called for new restrooms and a gymnasium for the junior high, new kindergarten rooms for the elementary school, new biology classroom and lab, new entry and restrooms for the high school gymnasium, and a new student services building with high school classrooms and K-12

administrative offices," explained McKenzie. "All of the projects have been completed as planned. In addition to the new facilities, significant building renovations have been made on the junior high campus, North Hall, and the chemistry lab."

The final two pieces of the master plan that have yet to be built are a library and an auditorium for grades 7-12. For more information about Loma Linda Academy, visit [www.lla.org](http://www.lla.org).

*Pam Dietrich*



**Construction workers work on the final touches by planting trees and creating the pathway along Anderson Street.**



**Faculty, students and guests participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony.**

# Church celebrates anniversary of its new name

The Living Stones church in La Crescenta held an unusual celebration on Nov. 5. "This is the fifth anniversary of our metamorphosis; our renewal," explained head elder Randy Arruda. Five years earlier, the church relaunched as Living Stones, wanting to be, "living stones, . . . being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood . . . acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5).

Actually started in 1924, the church arrived at its current site in 1958, when the building of the church (then named La Crescenta church) and Crescenta Valley Adventist School were initiated.

Through the years, a number of caring pastors nurtured the congregation. In 2007, when Cary Fisher was named pastor of the church as part of a two-church district with the Sunland-Tujunga church, seminarian Tim Cress had been helping to pastor. Cress was invited to team with Fisher in the district.

"The La Crescenta church was reshaping, re-launching," Cress reflected: "We were the church of the 're'! At Friday evening haystack suppers, we prayed and shared answers to prayer. A sense of family really began starting."

Referencing the church's mission statement,\* Cress said, "As Living Stones, our most

important task was not to do or accomplish; who we decide and desire to be, decides who we are to be. God sees our potential and is shaping you into Living Stones."

In his message, Fisher welcomed CVAS students who had sung for the service. "We wanted you to be here," he said, "because the school is part of our mission. Speaking of Jacob's name change after wrestling with God, he affirmed, "All of us need a name change, not just the church as a whole, but as individual members and friends."

Both pastors recalled that, as Living Stones began, only a few people were assuming church leadership roles. "Now," said Fisher, "when the nominating committee meets, so many want to be involved!"

Following numerous Bible studies with CVAS eighth-grade students and their subsequent baptisms, a number of parents participate in Living Stones' church life.

The church's transformation is reflected in how members themselves view their church home. "This church doesn't judge you," commented Martha Ramirez, who had been back in the church for one year. "We feel like a family."

BETTY COONEY



Justin Springfield drops a prayer request into the inbox made earlier by teen Curin Wilkerson.

*\*Mission statement: As Living Stones we desire "To be an innovative influence, building mature followers of Jesus, our cornerstone."*

Betty Cooney

BETTY COONEY



Fifth and sixth-grade students of Crescenta Valley School sang for the anniversary event, accompanied by harpist Olivia Silao.



Twenty SGA students chose prayer and literature initiative for their community service credit, working with SCC Youth Literature Evangelism assistant director David Fernandez and director Heidi Bryant (second and third from left).

# Academy students bring GLOW to community

As part of San Gabriel Academy's recent Community Service Day, Bible teacher Andrew Carpenter planned a prayer and literature initiative. The students had the opportunity to work with church improvement projects, community service needs, school improvement projects and GLOW Community Outreach, sponsored by the SCC Student Literature Evangelism Department.

GLOW director Heidi Bryant prayed about the best way to distribute the pocket-sized GLOW tracts to reach out to the San Gabriel community, right down to the morning of the outreach day. All the logistics were in place, but there was a missing element. After prayer, the idea emerged. Students would visit every business on Route 19 (Rosemead Blvd.) from the 210 Freeway to the 10 Freeway, to pray with small business owners and managers. Their main focus was to pray for business needs because of the down economy. The positive response was overwhelming.

The first business Alexis Castillo and Emily Douglass visited was an old auto shop. When

asked how business was, the owner's eyes got watery. "This has been a family business for 71 years. We used to have nine full-time workers. Now, we're down to two who only work a few hours a day. Business is bad." The girls offered to pray with him, and he gladly accepted. After prayer, they left him with a few GLOW tracts to read for encouragement. With tear-filled eyes, he said, "Thank you, girls, for stopping by today; thank you!"

Numerous stories poured in at the end of the day as 18 SGA students shared what God had done in the community. More than 1,500 GLOW tracts were given out to those with whom they had prayed.

Powerful principles of ministry were reaffirmed that day. Connecting personally with people while sharing literature seemed to have a great effect. Words written more than a century ago ring true for this day, too: "By personal labor reach the people where they are" (Ellen White, *Evangelism*, pg. 440).

What became evident is that each person can do what SGA Community Service Day students



(L. to r.) Modlyn Sanchez and Alex Cabrera at the local San Gabriel with a sales person.

did. Every day there are people "where they are" who can be reached with personal labor and truth-filled literature. For more information, call 818-546-8435.

Heidi Bryant

# Pioneer Sabbath: A new hope springs from disappointment

Oct. 22, 1844, is a day seared into the collective consciousness of Seventh-day Adventists. The Great Disappointment played a significant role in the formation of the Adventist Church, and thus it has become a part of the church's heritage. The Lodi-Fairmont church celebrated that distinctive legacy during their annual Pioneer Sabbath.

"We love every Pioneer Sabbath!" said church member Ann Chen. "It's a great way to keep us in touch with the roots of our SDA history."

Each year, people are transported back to the mid-1800s through music, dress, the sermon and even the bulletin, which is a replica of an advertisement for a William Miller presentation. The congregation sings early Advent hymns, and many members come dressed in 1844-era clothing.

"This church service was great; Pioneer Sabbath was actually on Oct. 22," said Senior Pastor Tracy Baerg. "We truly felt the spirit of the pioneers, especially through the actors who wrote their monologues."

The Fairmont Family Players presented this year's sermon — a series of short monologues delivered by various Advent pioneers who gathered on Ascension Rock in 1844. Speakers portrayed Miller, teenaged Ellen Harmon (White), Rachel Oakes, Frederick Wheeler and

others. Each monologue represented a different emotion that was experienced on that fateful day — ranging from excitement to despair to a renewed hope in Christ.

"Hearing the people talk — William Miller and Ellen White — was very inspirational," said church member Joyce Solazzo. "It helped us remember what people gave up because they wanted Christ to come so much."

Stories of the pioneers not only reminded church members how God led in the past; they also provided an example for today's Adventists. "Pioneer Sabbath vividly portrays the powerful message that a few people passionately in love with Jesus can turn the world upside down," said head elder Ray Brown.

*Tyler Kraft*



Lodi-Fairmont church member Joyce Solazzo plays early Advent hymns on an antique pump organ to welcome people to the church on Pioneer Sabbath.



The Fairmont Family Players portray a group of Millerites gathered at Ascension Rock on Oct. 22, 1844, to await Christ's second coming.

## Notice of Constituency Meeting of the Northern California Conference

Notice is hereby given that a regular session of the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene at the Paradise church in Paradise, Calif., on Sunday, May 20, 2012, at 9 a.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive from the officers and department directors of the Conference reports pertaining to the work carried on within its territory since the last conference session and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof.

*James E. Pedersen, President*

*Marc K. Woodson, Executive Secretary*



# Project aims to help Congolese widows make a better life

Two goats worth about \$50 each can help a widow in the Democratic Republic of the Congo make a better life for herself and her children. In 2011, the Northern California Conference Women's Ministries Department set a fundraising goal of \$100,000 to provide goats for Congolese women, as well as churches and schools for their communities. So far, many people have responded generously to The Congo Widows Mission Project.

have made many of them widows, while others are alone after being assaulted by enemies and then rejected by their husbands. Around 450,000 Congolese women have lost husbands due to death or abandonment.

Bazungu's stories touched Lauderdale's heart. A widow herself, she holds a master's degree in biblical counseling, and has conducted grief and loss seminars nationwide. After returning home, Lauderdale began rewriting her seminar "From My Heart to Your Sorrow" for the Congolese widows. She sent the first part to Bazungu, at his request. Translated into Swahili, it was presented at two churches in the city of Goma on a special "Sabbath of Prayer for Widows."



After attending a seminar on grief and loss, widows from the Democratic Republic of the Congo share what they have learned with other widows.

The idea for the project came from an encounter in the cafeteria at the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta. Mary Jo Lauderdale and her friend Judy Williams met Pastor Gasore "Jean" Bazungu, secretary of the North East Congo Attached Territory, part of the East-Central Africa Division. As they talked, Bazungu's eyes filled with tears when he described the great needs of his country's widows, including a number of Adventists.

Women in the DRC continue to suffer from the horrific tribal warfare that has plagued the area since the 1990s. Violence and HIV/AIDS

"I could see some who were crying while talking about your timeline of loss," Bazungu wrote to Lauderdale. "And at the end of the presentation they were fortified by your words of hope." The materials have now been translated into three languages, and Bazungu plans to make them available to all the churches in his area.

Convinced that God had orchestrated her meeting with Bazungu, Lauderdale spoke to the NCC Women's Ministries Advisory Board, which

voted to raise funds to help the widows. Some of the money will be used to buy goats. Since these animals live off the land, they are inexpensive to maintain, and their owners can earn money selling milk



A chance meeting in Atlanta inspired the idea for the NCC Congo Widows Mission Project. Left to right: Gasore Bazungu, Mary Jo Lauderdale and Judy Williams.

To learn more about the Congo Widows Mission Project, visit [www.ncc.adventist.org/congowidowsproject](http://www.ncc.adventist.org/congowidowsproject).

products, offspring and fertilizer. This income will make a huge difference for the widows, enabling them to provide food, medicine and education for their children. The board also plans to use some of the funds to build 13 churches and two school complexes in the country.

The project harmonizes well with Lauderdale's vision for Adventist women in Northern California: "NCC Women's Ministries is about knowing Jesus personally, letting Him heal our hearts and being willing to serve our church, the community in which we live, and around the world."

Julie Lorenz

PHOTOS BY FRANCINE BERGMANN



*Marriage retreat participants gather for a group picture before leaving on "date night."*

## Marriage retreat gives couples tools for happy homes

**O**n Friday, Oct. 21, couples from Nevada, Utah and California traveled to South Lake Tahoe, Calif., for the three-day "Forever We Will Love!" marriage retreat sponsored by the Nevada-Utah Conference.

The retreat featured presenters Claudio and Pamela Consuegra, North American Division family ministries directors.

Pastor David Hall, Nevada-Utah Conference family ministries director, planned and

coordinated the retreat. He and wife Connie, facilitated the weekend.

"It's nice to see something like this happening for the couples in our conference," said Jason Bergmann, Nevada-Utah Conference secretary-treasurer.

The weekend schedule consisted of five general sessions with the Consuegras, plus a Saturday evening "date night." The Halls led Sabbath worship.

To start each session, the Consuegras encouraged couples to hug for 10 seconds. This seemed to be a favorite activity. A session called "Filling Up the Love Bank" was particularly popular, and couples laughed and had fun working on filling each other's love banks.

When the Saturday "date night" rolled around, couples were eager to explore the Lake Tahoe area and put into practice what they had learned during earlier sessions.

Retreat attendees included couples married as recent as one month to those married as long as 42 years.



*One exercise to establish connection between partners was a 10-second embrace.*

The retreat was "just what we needed," said Kenny and Leah Dupree.

"Thank you so much! It was incredible," said Jose and Claritza Karry. "We loved it, and it was the perfect location."

"We are so pleased at how things turned out, and we praise God for what he did at the retreat," said David Hall.



*Presenters Claudio and Pamela Consuegra teach marriage success principles to an attentive audience.*

*Denny Krause*

# African-American convocation held at TAA

Familial fellowship, powerful preaching and moving music are core features of most African-American gatherings, and the 2011 Arizona African-American convocation was no exception. Walter Arties, assistant to the president for African-American ministries, welcomed members and friends to the Nov. 11-12 event at Thunderbird Adventist Academy. Wintley Phipps, international recording artist, was this year's guest speaker.

Arties; Tony Anobile, Arizona Conference president; Bobby Mitchell, regional affairs director for the Pacific Union; and Wayne Longhofer, principal of Thunderbird Adventist Academy, welcomed the overflow crowd to the event, themed "Together For a Finished Work — Healing the Nations." Sabbath morning services began with an early-morning prayer service. Later, Phipps' preached about "Living In The Flow of Destiny." He highlighted the life of Joseph from the pit to the palace, and included his own testimony, explaining how God has led in his life.

The afternoon included several features. Cleophas Mims gave special recognition to Arizona's veterans, and Phipps performed a concert called "The Power of a Dream." Mitchell also testified to God's love and protective care in his life. Albert and Annette O'Bannon, Melvin and Victoria Howard, Samuel and Juanita Bond, and Pastor James and Sarah Washington received awards "For a Lifetime of Meritorious Service Together."

The weekend's other featured musicians included Phil Draper, organist; Melissa Wardell, Myra Williams and Dillian Eustace, pianists; All Nations Singers; Christopher Joseph; Christy Penniman; Jessy Percy; Claudine Robinson; The Master's Praise Mass Choir; Tiffany Spencer and Pastor Curtis Wright.

This event marked 30 years since the first African-American convocation in Arizona, organized in 1981 by the late Emmalyn Collins at Camp Yavapines in Prescott.

*Florence Darby*



*Bobby Mitchell shared his personal testimony in the afternoon program.*



*Pastor Walter Arties welcomes the congregation.*

PHIL DRAPER



*Walter Arties and Wintley Phipps shared personal stories of God's leading in their lives and music careers.*

PHIL DRAPER



*Pastor Wintley Phipps' sermon for the 31st African American Convocation was "Living in the Flow of Destiny."*



*Arizona SDA veterans were acknowledged in the afternoon.*



*Wintley Phipps (l.) presents an award to Annette O'Bannon for her service to the Arizona Conference.*



*Sarah and James Washington accepted an award from Wintley Phipps (l.) for their years of service to the Arizona Conference.*



*Samuel and Juanita Bond also accepted an award from Wintley Phipps (l.) "For a Lifetime of Meritorious Service" to the Arizona Conference.*

# “God’s Day” brings business blessings

**G**iving is a blessing, and Eric and Sandra Manro have always been as generous as possible. But four years ago, their giving paradigm began to shift from what they thought to what they believe God thinks.

Eric inherited his father’s business, All American Muffler, when he was 26, and has owned it for the past 20 years. With his wife Sandra and their two sons, now 19 and 17 years old, it’s a family business.

As small business owners, the Manros never know how profitable the business is until the year ends.

“We always gave a little bit outside of tithe and offerings,” Sandra says. But with two sons in Adventist school, there wasn’t much left over.

Their giving paradigm began to shift on a Sabbath morning. A church member shared something he was doing to help fund their church-sponsored mission trip. “He had set aside the net income from his business on the last Friday of the month. Eric began doing that,” Sandra explains.

And business on that day began to grow. “God just kept blessing,” Eric says. “There is a fear if we give more we will have less, but that is not true. If you are giving from a generous heart, He is going to bless you.”

At the 2008 Soquel camp meeting, Eric suggested they double their evangelism offering pledge. “We had two teenage sons who were



*Eric and Sandra Manro pose in the office of their All American Muffler business.*

about to enter academy,” Sandra says. “I prayed and surrendered to the Lord. ‘Go for it, but I don’t see how this is going to happen,’” she said.

Ten months later, the school bills were paid and their evangelism offering pledge was completed early. “We knew God was doing something,” says Sandra, who was also dealing with a life-threatening health issue.

Reading in Proverbs, Eric discovered promises about honoring God with your wealth and the first fruits of all your crops (3:9-11). “The promise [to me] in that text was I would have plenty to pay my bills,” Eric says. He told Sandra that he wanted to give God the sales from the first business day of the month — the gross earnings.

“That translates into 100 percent of sales,” Eric explains. Sandra was troubled. Employee pay, parts, supplies and overhead were included

in the gross. “Well, whatever,” she thought. “I still have my paycheck, so we would have groceries.”

When “God’s Day” started, customers grew dramatically. “How can we give this much away on faith before the end of the year?” Sandra thought. There was no need to worry — 2010 was their most prosperous year ever. By November 2011, income was 25 percent higher than the previous year.

“Our giving has increased 100 percent,” Eric reports. It’s a simple arrangement. God provides the blessings and then presents the giving opportunities. The lat-

est one is playground equipment for a growing church. “This has really broken the selfishness in my heart. Now, it’s just fun!” Sandra adds.

Others have been watching — their sons, employees, vendors, and nearby business owners. When the owner of a Shell station asked Eric how he was increasing his customer base, Eric told him about God’s Day. “He’s a Christian and is doing a God’s Day. And he is prospering,” Eric shares.

“It is a thrilling, joyous and humbling experience,” Eric says. “The climax for me is that Jesus has given me a testimony to share with others, especially business owners.”

*Caron Oswald*

# Central California Conference elects leaders and celebrates 100 years of progress

On Nov. 13, delegates to the Central California Conference constituency session elected Ramiro Cano as president. Cano has served in that position since the CCC Executive Committee elected him in 2010 to replace Jerry Page, who moved to the Adventist world headquarters.

The 450-plus delegates who gathered at Fresno Adventist Academy also elected Ronald Rasmussen, executive secretary; Nelson Tabingo, treasurer; Steve Horton, vice president for ministries; and Ezequiel Nichols, associate executive secretary (replacing Kenny Fraser). The three directors of ethnic ministries were re-elected: Frederick Anderson, African-American ministries; Daniel Botabara; Asian/Pacific ministries; and Daniel Escamilla, Hispanic ministries.

Cano reported that during the most recent four years in the CCC, 5,307 new members joined the church through baptism and profession of faith. A net gain of 2,998 brought the membership to 35,698 at the end of 2010. During the years 2007-2010, the actual amount received from the camp meeting evangelism offering was \$6,865,714. This offering is used to fund a wide variety of evangelistic initiatives in the conference.

Four new churches were welcomed into fellowship: Bakersfield Asian Adventist Fellowship, Fresno Spanish Remnant, Santa Clara Hispanic and Santa Maria Korean.

Conference priorities for the next few years, according to Cano, include embracing the world Church's call for revival, reformation and prayer; distribution of the book, *The Great Controversy*; and a 10-year initiative entitled, "Cradle to Crown — Children First" in partnership with Kids In Discipleship, a Tennessee-based ministry.

The conference's ministry by and for youth and children was evident throughout the session. Through the GLOW (Giving Light to Our World) literature program, which was started by young Adventists in the CCC in 2007, members have distributed more than 10 million small tracts worldwide, including two million per year in the CCC.

Cano concluded his written report by quoting from the minutes of the first constituency session in 1911:

"Resolved that this conference . . . express publicly its heartfelt gratitude to our heavenly Father for His sustained grace in all branches of our work; and as ministers, colporteurs, school teachers, department secretaries, and church officers, together with non-official members at this time, renew our consecration vows, pledging to more faithful work in behalf of fallen humanity."

*Gerry Chudleigh*



**Front row (l.-r.): Nelson Tabingo, Ramiro Cano, Ron Rasmussen, Steve Horton, Frederick Anderson. Back row: Daniel Botabara, Ezequiel Nichols, Daniel Escamilla.**

PHOTOS BY GERRY CHUDLEIGH



**President Ramiro Cano welcomes delegates to the constituency session.**

In his introductory remarks, Cano noted that the CCC was organized as a conference in 1911 when California was divided into four conferences. "As we review God's blessings in this conference, we are humbled by the many acts of love, dedication and sacrifice by those who came before us," said Cano.



**Prayer team members pray on stage for God's blessing on newly-elected leaders.**

# New union committee assumes leadership

## *Votes more than \$200,000 for evangelism*

Once every five years, the 48-member Pacific Union executive committee gets a major facelift — at the first meeting after the constituency session. On Nov. 17, President Ricardo Graham welcomed 22 new members before they took up the business of the church. For a complete list of the committee members, go to [paucadmin.adventistfaith.org](http://paucadmin.adventistfaith.org).

The committee started its work by approving four pastors for ordination: Jamey Houghton, Samuel Hsiao and Frederick Showalter, all from the Central California Conference; and Herbert Hernandez, from the Southern California Conference. They also approved four pastors for ministerial scholarships: Ryan Hablitzel and Tammie N. Lindsey, from the Nevada-Utah Conference; Marco Quarteroli, from the Northern California Conference; and Christine Wallington, from the Southeastern California Conference. They also approved Wendy Farias, from the Nevada-Utah Conference, for a

business scholarship — a program designed to produce trained personnel for conference and school business offices.

Several volunteer leaders were elected for union ministries: Dorothy Means, women's ministries; Betty Kelley, prison ministries; Karen Martell, prayer ministries; Charlene Sargeant, disaster response; Barbara Babcock, Adventist Single Adult Ministries; and Audrey Graham and Jennifer Newton, Ministerial

Spouse Association. A small expense allowance is assigned to each of these ministries, but no personal remuneration.

Charlie Whitehorse was elected Pacific Union Conference director of Native American Ministries, but his salary and expenses will be paid entirely by the Nevada-Utah and Arizona Conferences, where he performs almost all of his ministry.

Several years ago, the union established an endowment fund for evangelism — a fund that

bank, teaching Braille to the blind, after school tutoring, urban missionary training, and much more.

The next year's budget is always voted at the November meeting, and this year was no exception. During 2012, the Pacific Union is budgeted to receive about \$31 million, mostly from the tithes of members. According to the budget, the union will appropriate \$23.4 million back to the conferences (where it will be used mostly for ministerial salaries) and to La Sierra University



does not depend upon tithes from local conferences — to assist with evangelism projects throughout the union. At the first meeting, the committee approved \$207,000 for 12 ministries in 2012. (Additional funds for other projects will be granted during 2012.) The largest grant was \$55,000 for Truth Link, a project that involves designing and testing a new, simplified way to present Adventist understandings of the Bible to non-believers. Other projects included a food

and Pacific Union College. Of the remaining funds, \$2 million will go into the retirement fund, and about \$7.4 million will be used for other union ministries and expenses, most of which involve services to local conferences and churches.

The executive committee will meet next on March 15.

*Gerry Chudleigh*

## Calendar

### Jan. 7

Hispanic Church Officers Training at the San Jose Spanish Church

### Jan. 8

GLOW Rally at the Fresno Central Church

### Jan. 27-29

Women's Retreat at the Tenaya Lodge

### Jan. 20-21

Hispanic Youth Federation in the Bay Area

### Jan. 21-22

Ham Radio Training at the Central California Conference Office

### Jan. 21-22

Involved Youth Training at Armona Union Academy

### Feb. 3-5

Hispanic Women's Retreat at the Tenaya Lodge

### Feb. 10-11

Hispanic Convocation at the Bakersfield Spanish Church

### Feb. 17-18

Religious Liberty Rally at the Fresno Central Church

### Feb. 17-18

Youth Fest in the Bay Area

### Feb. 24-26

Marriage Retreat at the Cliffs Resort

### Feb. 25

Children's Ministry Training at the Central California Conference Office

### Feb. 26

Vacation Bible School Training at the Central California Conference Office



Spiritual Growth



Loving Fellowship and Unity



Mobilization of the Spiritual Gifts of All Members



Outreach

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Caron Oswald, Editor  
Taneshia Farquharson, Asst. Editor  
Bonnie Villegas, Copy Editor  
E-mail: [coswald@cccda.org](mailto:coswald@cccda.org)  
[communication@cccda.org](mailto:communication@cccda.org)  
<http://ccc.adventist.org>

# Central Acts

Newsletter for  
Central California  
Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Out of Service



One day the sewer pipe to the bathroom of our church collapsed. It had served us faithfully for more than 15 years until it finally gave out and quit. We put a sign on the bathroom door that read "Out of Service."

As this New Year begins, let me ask you a question: Are you still "In Service?" Or is it possible that outwardly you look like an individual "In Service," but in reality, problems beneath the surface have blocked or drained your passion for Jesus, and you are now "Out of Service?"

Since sin entered this world, nothing lasts forever. Things wear out, give out and finally quit, leaving in its path an "Out of Service" condition. We are accustomed to this.

However, this characteristic is foreign and contrary to God's nature. He is not a quitter, He does not give up, He finishes what He starts.

Before Jesus' crucifixion He prayed to His Father: "I have brought You glory on earth by completing the work You gave me to do," (John 17:4) At the cross He cried out: "It is finished." (John 19:30), signaling the completion of the work of redemption.

Praise God! Because of the work at Calvary, He is still providing service to the countless millions who are starving for something better. Our Savior is dependable, He can be counted on to go the distance.

The good news for you and me is that His endurance and His strength is available to all of us today—pray for it! A follower of Christ,

filled with Jesus' Spirit, will have endurance to go the distance—even when the going gets tough.

Why do people quit? For some, their spiritual strength has grown weak. Others become exhausted trying to do it all on their own. People quit because they have let go of the source of strength promised to us. Proverbs 24:10 explains it: "If you falter in times of trouble, how small is your strength!"

Let's be honest. We've all been tempted, at one time or another, with the thought of quitting. There may be some reading this message entertaining such a thought: quitting school, quitting your husband or wife, quitting your children, quitting church, quitting God, or maybe even quitting life.

Our Savior gives us spiritual strength and leads us to safety. Peter reminds us: "Cast all your anxiety on Him; because He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

When I was pastoring in Milpitas, we went on a mission trip with 7th and 8th graders from Foothill Adventist Elementary School. With two vans filled with kids, we drove to volunteer at the La Vida Mission on a Navajo Indian Reservation in New Mexico.

While driving on dusty back roads we spotted two flocks of sheep on two separate occasions, about an hour's distance from each other. These flocks were cared for by sheep dogs. What was so peculiar is that the dogs guarding each flock were three-legged.

That was too much of a coincidence. Finally, it dawned on me – coyotes. The sheep



cont. on page 4

# Local Church Takes Mission Trip to Monterey Bay Academy

By Taneshia Farquharson

Mission trips are an important part of the Watsonville Hispanic church members' ministry. This year their plans focus on a destination much closer to home – Monterey Bay Academy (MBA).


The project, which is expected to take several weeks, ironically involves doing maintenance work on the maintenance building. Every week, 10–15 youth and young adults from the church, provide the manpower to repair and eventually paint the building. Pastor Luis Rendon says, "MBA is part of our church. We want to do missions and what's better than

doing it in our own backyard."

Pastor and Mrs. Rendon live on the campus of the academy and often take walks to the beach which takes them right by the physical plant building. "Like our other schools, MBA is struggling with their budget so the buildings don't always get the repairs they need," Pastor Rendon explained. "It feels great to do this. The young people are excited to get involved, and that is so good to see."

MBA is the only Adventist boarding school in the Central California Conference and has numerous old buildings in need



of repair. Because of that, Principal Tim Kubrock says, "This project is a huge blessing and inspiration to all of us here at MBA. It is a wonderful example of how our church and school can work closely together to help better fulfill the mission we share to our local community." 

# K.I.D. University: Learning to Lead Children to Trust, Follow and Share Jesus

By Caron Oswald

Clark and Melissa Bassham don't have children yet. Members of the Hollister church, they were asked to be part of the leadership team that attended the K.I.D. University training at the Soquel Conference Center on November 4-6, 2011.

Clark brought his laptop ready to zone out if necessary. "I kept so engaged that I never turned it on," he shared on the evaluation report. "I saw this as a revival and reformation for the entire church and am excited about what God will do in my life," he wrote.

"K.I.D. University is not just



Don MacLafferty (far right) leads a discussion with a family, modeling positive interaction through mentoring. He is the founder of the Kids in Discipleship ministry.

an event. It is the beginning of a total lifestyle change," explains Rosa Gillham, children's ministries director, about the three-day training event that includes the pastor and three or more lay leaders from each church.

"It is going to help the entire

church from young single adults to older members know how to be spiritual mentors and how to love and care for the children," Gillham says.

K.I.D. University is part of the Kids in Discipleship (K.I.D.) ministry which offers a variety of discipleship trainings built to equip

an adult to (1) Grow deeper in his/her own personal relationship with Jesus Christ and (2) Lead children to trust follow and share Jesus.

There is also a K.I.D. School training for teachers, administrators, parents, and pastors. ([www.KidsinDiscipleship.org](http://www.KidsinDiscipleship.org))

cont. next page



One church member from San Francisco learned how to really pray during the training. He had written down a problem and carried it in his Bible for quite a while. During one of the prayer times, he pulled it out and prayed over it. That evening he received a phone call with the answer.

"I knew I was coming to learn about a program to take back to my church. I was not expecting to get help for myself," Froilan Ascano says. ✚



Participants from the Mtn. View Japanese church practice building a tower with cups and thin sheets of paper. The tower then had to withstand the turbulence caused by the table being lifted, turned and moved to a new location. K.I.D. Executive Director Eric Johnson (far right) enjoys watching the activity.



The first K.I.D. Coach, an introduction of Kids in Discipleship (K.I.D.) for the Pacific Union Conference (PUC), was hosted by Central California Conference and led by Arnold Trujillo, vice president of the PUC November 2-4, 2011. Children's ministries leaders from its seven conferences, representing more than 200,000 members in more than 700 churches, attended. "K.I.D. Coach Training is invaluable because it equips individuals to be the trainers for churches in our local conferences. The entire Pacific Union Conference had only one pastor who was equipped to be a trainer for this initiative before the Soquel training. Now we have over 15, with at least one in every conference," says Trujillo. "It is my prayer, hope and plan that every parent of children between the ages of 5 and 12 will be motivated, educated, trained and, thereby, equipped to be the spiritual mentors of their children, so that their children can become transformed into spiritual champions and disciples of Jesus."

## Sixth Annual Fun Run Raises \$14,700

By Taneshia Farquharson

Students, teachers, parents, and friends of Fresno Adventist Academy in Fresno Calif., completed a combined a total of 10,875 miles in the Academy's 2011 Fun Run. The annual fundraiser raises approximately \$15,000 each year.

Unlike other fundraisers, participants in the FAA Fun Run raise money for their individual classes – for class projects or new classroom equipment. Debbie Fritz is president of the Parent Teacher Club, which organizes the 4-hour event. She says that in tough economic times and even with budget cuts "this fundraiser gives teachers money that they can invest in their classes during the school year, without having to touch the school budget. The kids are motivated to do something healthy too,

to help their bodies as well as help their classroom."

Miah, a fourth grader, completed 36 laps of the quarter mile track. "I did the most laps out of all of the elementary," she squeals proudly. Last year her class was able to buy a projector for their classroom, but this year the class will use the money for a field trip.

Marquise, a sixth grader, participated in the Fun Run for the first time and completed 25 laps. "My dad can barely do two miles on the treadmill and I did six miles so I'm really proud of myself. Plus because I did more than 20 laps

I got a water bottle too, which is really cool."

Staff members usually assist the Parent Teacher Club with managing the Fun Run. Sixth-grade teacher Terry-Ann Ricchiuti prefers to do laps around the track as it gives her a chance to catch up with some of her former students. "It is such a great fundraiser," she says. "It brings the school together with the church, the community and the families. Everybody is exercising and raising money. Its not about how much you make, its just such a great way to get everyone involved." ✚



are out on the open range and the coyotes come at night to feed. The dogs, staying true to their task, had each sacrificed a leg while protecting their flock. Yet, through adversity and pain, they continued "In Service!"

Our Lord promised: "...but the one who endures to the end will be saved." (Matt. 10:22, NET) To those who endure, to those who faithfully continue "In Service" with Him, He utters these words in the parable of the talents: "...well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness!" (Matthew 25:21)

"WELL DONE" not well thought, or well-intended, but WELL DONE "In Service" for the Master in this New Year.

*Ramiro*

One of the biggest surprises members of the Evangelism Committee have had is the growth in church plants. Did you know that church planting is the cutting edge of evangelism in the North American Division? We plant churches to reach: new communities, new and growing language groups, untouched populations, and targeted audiences. (i.e. unchurched, young adults, etc.)

Most often, church plants are spon-

## Adventist Teacher Recognized Among Outstanding Teachers in Northern San Joaquin Valley

Kari King, a kindergarten teacher at Central Valley Christian Academy in Ceres Calif., has been recognized by a local newspaper, the Modesto Bee, as one of the outstanding teachers in the Northern San Joaquin Valley.




Kari King

Lynne Baker submitted the outstanding teacher nomination to Modesto Bee's Class Acts. She describes King as "the most caring, giving, supportive teacher who creates an amazing and fun atmosphere for her students to grow and learn in."

King loves working with children, and has built a 22-year career teaching K-3. She has spent 17 years in public school and five years in private school. She says she felt called to teach and is excited to have a front row seat to watch her students grow


and realize their full potential. "Each child is precious." King says, "Each student in my class is a marvelous gift of huge potential just waiting to be discovered and encouraged."

King believes that a healthy, supportive home environment, which prioritizes education, is one of the key elements to student academic success. Therefore, she advises students to "surround themselves with friends and mentors who are positive and make good choices." To parents she says, "Children need your presence, not your presents. Turn off the TV and you'll be amazed how much family time you can find in a day."

Kari King lives in Waterford, Calif. She is married to Robert and has two daughters. 

sored by a church which provides people and funds. The Camp Meeting Evangelism Offering provides funds as well. Bible workers and/or church planters are essential leaders. The journey to church status can be three years or 10 years, as the churches pictured below experienced. Whether a few years or many, their growth is a testament to passionate and dedicated disciples that follow Jesus' command to "Therefore, go and make

disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have taught you..." Matthew 28:19, 20.

Four new churches were welcomed into the Central California Conference fellowship at the 32nd constituency meeting on November 13, 2011 at Fresno Adventist Academy. 



▲ Fresno Remnant Hispanic church application was made in 2009 and achieved church status on May 21, 2011.

Santa Clara Hispanic application was made in 2003 with seeding work beginning much earlier, and achieved church status on March 27, 2010. ▶



◀ Bakersfield Asian Adventist Fellowship application was made in 2004 with seeding work beginning in 2002 and achieved church status on October 8, 2011.



◀ Santa Maria Korean application was made in 2004 with seeding work beginning in 2002 and achieved church status on September 12, 2009.



Award-winning documentary filmmaker Martin Doblmeier answered questions from a panel of student interviewers at PUC.

# Producer of “The Adventists” speaks at PUC

Award-winning documentary filmmaker Martin Doblmeier, creator of over 25 films including “The Power of Forgiveness,” “Bonhoeffer,” and “The Adventists,” visited Pacific Union College last week to address students, present one of his films, and give the college’s annual Longo Lecture.

Doblmeier’s engagement at PUC opened Wednesday evening with a screening of “The Adventists,” his documentary exploring the denomination’s unique whole-person approach to healthcare. After the screening in Scales Chapel, the filmmaker spent several minutes answering questions about the film, which premiered on public television in 2010.

On Thursday morning, Doblmeier faced a panel of student interviewers for PUC’s Colloquy Speaker Series in the PUC church. Following a moving clip of his film “The Power of Forgiveness,” students Samantha Angeles, Peter Han and Justin Feltman took the stage with the filmmaker to ask him about his views on Adventism, justice, filmmaking, and the controversial German resistance figure Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

“The common denominator in my films is exploring the question, ‘How is God working in

the world today?’” Doblmeier said, responding to a question from Feltman on how he chooses his topics.

Doblmeier also discussed the complexities of showing “The Adventists,” a film that to a degree promotes facets of Adventist faith and culture, on public television. “Public TV is very skittish about denominational religion,” he said. “But when they saw the film, they realized that it wasn’t just about promoting one group — it had a broader theme that was beneficial to a wide audience.” The film ended up getting an overwhelmingly positive response, and after its premiere spent several days as the number two seller on Amazon.com.

Doblmeier said that the film came about at the urging of his Adventist friends. Curious, he visited Loma Linda and then started researching the faith only to be intrigued. He said, “I became convinced that if I was interested in it, that I really cared about it, then actually it might have impact on other people.”

He was particularly interested in the notion of Sabbath as a day of rest. “As a Christian, I feel as though Sundays have been lost for most people. Most Christians will get up and go to church

on Sunday and then want to paint the house on the rest of the afternoon. But the whole notion of really taking the day and calling it a Sabbath, a sacred day, was not only a good health idea . . . but it was the true intention of what the day was supposed to be.”

Thursday evening, Doblmeier presented the 2011 Longo Lecture, a lectureship series exploring topics on faith and society, to more than 200 guests. His lecture, “Through the Lens of Faith” centered on Matthew 16, with Jesus’ question to His disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” Doblmeier said college students are always asking, “What do I want to do with my life?” Instead, we should be asking, “Who do I want to be?”

Afterwards, Doblmeier shared that he is working on a second documentary about Seventh-day Adventists, focused on the international aspect of Adventist health care.

*Julie Z. Lee and Larry Peña*



Dr. Laurence Weekes (r.) performs a laparoscopic cholecystectomy on a patient at Simi Valley Hospital Aspen Surgery Center.

# Mission in action: Adventist Health employees reach beyond hospital doors

**A**dventist Health cherishes its mission — to share God’s love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing. Before new employees can work with patients, they are taught the mission and what it means to the organization. And they embrace it wholeheartedly. Not just on the floor during their shifts, but in their everyday interactions outside of the hospital. Here are a few examples of the thousands of employees who share God’s love everyday.

## Help on the side of the road

One morning on his way to work, Matt Whitaker, physical therapy director at Howard Memorial Hospital in Willits, Calif., saw a big rig parked on the side of the highway onramp with its hood up. Not an unusual sight, but his

attention was quickly drawn to the ground where the driver of the truck was lying in the road, having some sort of major medical trouble. Whitaker stopped his car and got out as another man arrived on the scene.

The man on the ground was gasping, taking infrequent breaths and appeared to be having a seizure. Whitaker, trained in CPR, immediately felt for the truck driver’s pulse and couldn’t find one. While the other person on the scene called 911, Whitaker began CPR.

“I started chest compressions and breathing for the man,” Whitaker said. “It’s a somber moment when you know what you are doing may contribute to saving someone’s life.”

The Redwood Valley Fire Department responded to the 911 call first.

Whitaker recalls, “I helped the fire fighters place the AED (Automated External Defibrillator) pads, and they shocked the man to get his heart going again. Within minutes, we had a pulse.”

Fire fighters started an IV line, and shortly thereafter, the ambulance arrived to transport the patient to the nearest hospital, Adventist Health’s Ukiah Valley Medical Center, and eventually on to a large facility where he received a pacemaker.

“The patient called me after he was discharged to thank me. He had no memory of the event, but he is now recovering,” Whitaker said.

## A mission — 3,000 miles away

For a team of medical professionals from a small hospital on the northeast coast of



JUAN CARLO VENTURA/COUNTY STAR

**Dr. Laurence Weekes (l.) and Dr. Dantae Davies get ready to perform a laparoscopic cholecystectomy on a patient at Simi Valley Hospital Aspen Surgery Center. Weekes invited six Jamaican doctors to observe as he performs surgery. Weekes is behind an organization called Jamaican Awareness Association of California, which is designed to encourage better understanding between the Los Angeles/Southern California community and the Jamaican community. Because of Weekes' visits to Jamaica, the Jamaican doctors are able to perform laparoscopic cholecystectomy.**

Jamaica, a recent visit to Simi Valley Hospital's Aspen Surgery Center was a source of education and inspiration. For SVH surgeon Laurence Weekes, M.D., the visit was part of his ongoing commitment to the health of the residents of the Caribbean island nation nearly 3,000 miles from Simi Valley, Calif.

The team from Jamaica's 119-bed Annotto Bay Hospital visited the Aspen Surgery Center in early November. The two surgeons, one anesthesiologist and two nurses watched as Weekes performed two gall bladder removal procedures, and also observed pre-operative and recovery procedures at the center. In addition, they toured SVH and learned about the mammography equipment in the Nancy Reagan Breast Center.

"They are established doctors and nurses, but they don't have nearly the equipment and facilities that exist here in the U.S.," said Jeanine Maurer, director of the Aspen Surgery Center. "They went home feeling empowered, wanting to teach others at their hospital and become leaders in making things better there."

Weekes is committed to serving in Jamaica. After spearheading the effort to open the first-ever laparoscopic surgery center at Annotto Bay Hospital in 2003, he has worked tirelessly to educate medical professionals in the intricacies of laparoscopic procedures. Every year, he and a medical team visit Jamaica to perform surgeries and work with local medical professionals to

teach them and encourage them in their work. The group also brings donated medical equipment with them to give to the hospital.

**Treating strangers like family**

Late one evening, a 4-year old boy was brought into White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles. Due to the need for some insurance clarifications, and the late hour of the arrival, it was necessary to wait until the next morning for treatment.

The family didn't have enough funds to afford a hotel overnight. Knowing that this little boy needed treatment, Luis Del Pozo, a volunteer chaplain at the hospital, immediately made himself available and met with the family at 10 p.m.

After hearing their predicament, he contacted his own son and arranged for the entire family of four to stay at his son's home.

He also made arrangements for transportation back to WMMC the following day for the appointment. The family, who were Seventh-day Adventist, felt they were cared for physically, emotionally, spiritually and financially.

Edgar Urbina, director of Chaplaincy Services at the hospital, said, "This is just one example of the many unsung acts of charity and kindness Chaplain Del Pozo frequently performs as a volunteer chaplain here at the hospital."

*Brittany Dobbs*



**Chaplain Luis Del Pozo with White Memorial Medical Center president and CEO, Beth Zachary.**

# Conference to examine aging healthfully through lifestyle

**H**ealthy aging begins now, and it means a better life at every stage. This will be the message of the Healthy People 2012 conference at Loma Linda University on March 6 and 7.

The conference will use the latest and best scientific evidence to demonstrate that lifestyle drives one's health — both today and down the line — and show that prevention is the key to healthy aging and whole living. Specifically, Healthy People 2012 will define 10 lifestyle priorities necessary for healthy aging.

- Healthy eating
- Active living
- Prioritizing rest (more than just sleep)
- Mental and emotional well-being
- Creating health-sustaining environments
- Preventing substance and alcohol abuse
- Stress reduction
- Reproductive and sexual health
- Social support networks
- Spiritual support

Recommendations for policy and program development will take center stage, with preference given to sustainable efforts impacting large numbers of people.

"Things can be better than the way they are now," says conference coordinator Krystal Gheen, M.P.H. "People can be liberated from prolonged ill health that begins at a young age. Instead, they can experience a full life both now and throughout their golden years. We want this conference to move the country closer to that goal."

The conference curriculum draws inspiration from the Surgeon General's National Prevention Strategy, as well as decades of federally funded research through Loma Linda University's Adventist Health Studies. Thirteen units of continuing education will be offered.

Participants of Healthy People 2012 may choose from three specialized tracks to address

THINK STOCK PHOTOS



healthy aging: clinical preventive strategies, empowered people, and healthy community environments.

Health care practitioners will benefit from the clinical preventive strategies track. The empowered people track is designed for the informed public, senior citizens, caretakers and educators. The healthy community environments track will guide community organizers

and organizations, policy makers and public health professionals.

Working together, these groups could drive the change needed for Americans to lead longer and healthier lives.

Please visit [www.healthypeopleconference.org](http://www.healthypeopleconference.org) for more information, or call 909-558-4595.

*Heather Reifsnnyder, M.A.*

# Loma Linda embraces its legacy of mission

As she stepped off of the boat into a strange new world, the first thought to enter Almeda Kerr's mind was how different everything in Uruguay was from what she thought it would be.

"I supposed that I should be out among the natives working where there was very little civilization, but instead of that, we find ourselves in a modern city," she wrote in the January 1910 issue of *Life and Health*. "But we are glad we are here," Kerr continued. "We are thankful to be instruments in the Lord's hands to carry truth to them."

So began the journey of the first medical missionary sent by Loma Linda. Kerr, known as "Meda" to her friends, graduated as part of the first nursing program at Loma Linda.

It was that small handful of graduates who, in 1907, began the work they were called to do. It had not been even two years since Ellen G. White, pioneer of the Adventist Church and one of the founders of what is now Loma Linda University, had stood on the campus grounds and announced boldly how much impact mission work could have on a person's heart.

"We have been instructed by the Lord that the medical missionary work is to be to the work of the third angel's message as the right hand to the body," said White at the official dedication in 1905. "In new fields no work is so successful as medical missionary work."

With medical equipment in their hands and the love of Christ in their hearts, the first alumni missionaries set out to do God's business. Of the first 40 graduates of the School of Medicine, 10 had gone out as missionaries.

"In his quadrennial report to the General Conference in 1966," says Richard Schaefer, LLU historian, "President G. T. Anderson announced that of the 6,500 graduates, 12 percent had served overseas."

Schaefer also points out that at the time, it was reported Loma Linda had sent out more physicians to world medical missions than all the other medical schools in the United States combined. These graduates did more than just

see patients and hand out literature; they made lasting impressions. During the first 50 years of the school, graduates opened an average of one new hospital per year.

"As you look out across the globe, the landscape is literally dotted with hospitals and clinics started by our graduates," says Richard H. Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president of LLU.

Currently, there are 56 medical and dental students and residents in the deferred mission appointee program. These individuals are preparing to serve in various locations around the globe, continuing to answer the call. Through the program, more than 226 medical graduates have been sent overseas, each with an average of more than six years of service.

"Our prayer is that each of our students will have the chance to experience God's blessings in their studies and the excitement of service to Him," says Hart.

A unified dedication to mission work has been the driving force since the founding of LLU. To symbolize this continuing emphasis, a Mission Globe now stands in the center of campus.

Alumni, students and staff of any LLU entity who have served for a cumulative period of one year or more can have their name engraved in granite at the base of the globe at no cost. Simply go online to apply at: [www.llu.edu/central/centennial/pathway/missionglobe.page](http://www.llu.edu/central/centennial/pathway/missionglobe.page).

*Kelly Phipps*

BARRY TAYLOR



**The Mission Globe stands in the center of LLU's campus, symbolizing a commitment to mission work throughout the world.**

# La Sierra business school celebrates 25th year with record enrollment

It's a record-breaking year at La Sierra University where its School of Business jumped ahead this fall with a new enrollment high of 442 students, the largest pool of registrants in the school's 25-year history. The number includes 292 undergraduate and 150 graduate students who arrived at La Sierra's business school from around the globe.

School of Business Dean John Thomas attributes the growth to "innovative, creative and entrepreneurial thinking in managing our school. It's a good team effort," he said. The School of Business's reputation for qualified faculty and curriculum, new centers, and World Cup-winning Students In Free Enterprise team also helps draw students, he said.

The school is aiming to best its current record. "We hope to have over 600 students within the next five years," said Thomas. He also plans to hire five or six more faculty members in the next five years as enrollment increases.

Dr. Gary Chartier, associate dean of the School of Business and a former La Sierra student, remembered when the business program was housed in the College of Arts and Sciences as the Department of Business and Economics. The business school's first dean, Ignatius Yacoub, led the charge to create a freestanding school. Aside from the enrollment increases over the years, Chartier cites as a key change in school programs "the substantial increase in the quality of the faculty, something for which Johnny [Thomas] gets lots and lots of credit. The intellectual heft of the School of Business faculty, the emphasis on research and professional engagement, has dramatically distinguished the School of Business of today from the School of Business a quarter century ago," said Chartier.

The School of Business offers eight undergraduate degrees and nine Master of Business Administration degrees, including new MBAs in medical management and dental management. It houses the Center for Philanthropy, the Edward C. Allred Center for Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship, the Center for Conflict Resolution as well as the university's Students In Free Enterprise team, or SIFE.

"The School of Business has developed a reputation among its stakeholders as an outstanding provider of rigorous and relevant business education," said Thomas, a 1988 graduate of La Sierra's business program who also holds a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University and is the School of Business Bassir Hasso Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship. Thomas taught at the business school for 10 years before becoming its dean in 1999. He continues to teach entrepreneurship while pursuing his research and administrative efforts.

"Inside and outside the classroom, students, faculty members, and staff members are challenged to create value and make a difference," Thomas added.

MIKEL VIGIA



*Johnny Thomas, dean of the School of Business.*

Such growth has resulted in the need for additional and improved space. Toward meeting this challenge, final plans are underway to begin in spring 2012 the construction of a new School of Business building. This 60,000-square-foot business education center, named in honor of pioneer Seventh-day Adventist philanthropists Tom and Vi Zapara, will host the largest Adventist business school in North America.

"The new building will help the school live out its dream of fostering transformative business education, and it can be expected to serve as a powerful draw for new students, faculty members and staff members committed to creating value and making a difference," Thomas said.

*Darla Martin Tucker*



# NARLA West sponsoring Freedom Classroom pilot project

Liberty of conscience is central to the gospel of Jesus Christ. He doesn't twist anyone's arm to get them into the kingdom, but died to save all who would respond to His love. Adventists understand that the gospel and freedom both come under severe attack in the final, rapid movements of Bible prophecy.

To be proactive in light of that prophecy, the North American Religious Liberty Association West has developed "Freedom Classroom," a program to provide resources and encouragement to academy teachers to emphasize the value of liberty of conscience across curriculum, including Bible, government, history and social studies. The goal is to fire up youth with a vision of God's character that's worth giving one's life to uphold and proclaim.

In June 2012, Freedom Classroom will sponsor a dozen academy students for a week-long

trip to Washington, D.C., and area historical sites, including Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's home, Colonial Williamsburg and Harper's Ferry.

NARLA West President Norm Farley and his team are partnering with the SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) program at La Sierra University to assist in developing Freedom Classroom, not just as a pilot program, but for long-term success in impacting future generations of Adventist youth. Many Americans [including Adventists] have lost sight of the significance of religious freedom, but this has always been central to Adventist identity. "Our hope is that Freedom Classroom will help Adventist youth recover and retain a genuine Adventist identity based on a solid appreciation for the gospel," said Alan J. Reinach, Esq., director of Public Affairs & Religious Liberty for the Pacific Union,

which is providing funding for sponsorships in partnership with NARLA West.

"We have recruited a number of academy teachers who are excited about participating in the program," said Farley. The students are selected based on the quality of essays they submit for credit in their academy classes. Essay topics vary, exploring current themes such as the Ground Zero mosque, the prosecution of famed polygamist Warren Jeffs, and the political polarization between red and blue states, liberals and conservatives.

More information about Liberty Classroom can be found on the web at [www.churchstate.org](http://www.churchstate.org).

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*

## What is your liberty worth?

For more than a hundred years, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has published the nation's foremost magazine dedicated to religious freedom. Why? Because our liberty is a gift of God, Who seeks a relationship based on love, not coercion, manipulation or force.

Every year in January, the church takes up an offering to fund its religious liberty ministry, including providing Liberty magazine to many thousands of "thought leaders" throughout the nation. These funds also provide lawyers for many church members who lose their jobs because they will not work on Sabbath.

Our First Amendment religious freedoms have been challenged seriously and often for many years. I thank God for the religious freedoms we still enjoy. In recent months, another part of the First Amendment — free speech — has been redefined by the Supreme Court and challenged on the streets. Corporations now have "free speech" rights to spend as much as they please influencing elections, while college students and military veterans are pepper sprayed and beaten for exercising their rights to free speech and assembly.



As I watched the YouTube video of U.C. Davis students sitting peacefully as campus police walked up and pepper sprayed them ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmJmmnMkuEM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmJmmnMkuEM)), I thought of my own daughter Zoey, who enrolled at Pacific Union College this fall as a freshman. Those kids could have been your kids or mine. Many readers probably don't agree with the message the kids were trying to express. I often disagree with my teenagers — it seems to go with the territory. But I still love my kids, and I don't want to see their rights denied, or anyone's kids beaten or hauled off to jail for peaceful political expression.

One thing is sure: these kids are paying a price for their freedoms. So, the question remains: what is our liberty worth? Are we willing to pay for the privilege of retaining our freedoms of religion, assembly and speech? Are you willing to support church ministries that are fighting to preserve liberty of conscience for all peaceful people of faith?

Freedom is not free; it never has been. It costs nothing to lose it, but everything to preserve it. Remember that when your church collects the offering for religious liberty.

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*

# Advertisements

## CALENDARS

### Arizona

**HISPANIC MINISTRIES** "Ten Days of Prayer" (Jan. 4-14) All Hispanic churches in Arizona emphasize prayer. Info: Cinthia Riffel, 480-991-6777, ext. 117.

**HISPANIC SCHOOL OF LAITY** (Jan. 7) Tucson area. Info: Cinthia Riffel, 480-991-6777, ext. 117.

**TEEN LEADERSHIP TRAINING** Ski Trip (Jan. 18-19) Camp Ponderosa, Heber, Ariz. Info: Jeff Stevens, 520-904-3447 or doors@largercompany.com.

**WINTER YOUTH RETREAT** (Jan. 20-22) Camp Ponderosa, Heber, Ariz. Info: Lisa Anderson, 480-991-6777, ext. 125.

### Central California

**HISPANIC CHURCH OFFICERS TRAINING** (Jan. 7) San Jose Spanish church. Info: Florina Morales, 559-347-3150, fmorales@cccsda.

**GLOW RALLY** (Jan. 8) Fresno Central church. Info: 559-347-3152, cccglow.org.

**WOMEN'S RETREAT** (Jan. 27-29) Tenaya Lodge. Pre-registration required. Info: Pat Curtis, 559-642-2396, cccwomens.adventistfaith.org.

**HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT** (Feb. 3-5) Tenaya Lodge. Pre-registration is required. Info: Florina Morales, 559-347-3150, fmorales@cccsda.

**HISPANIC CONVOCATION** (Feb. 11) Bakersfield Spanish church. Info: Florina Morales, 559-347-3150, fmorales@cccsda.

**RELIGIOUS LIBERTY RALLY** (Feb. 17-18) Fresno Central church. Info: Florina Morales, 559-347-3150, fmorales@cccsda.

### La Sierra University

**WINTER QUARTER** (Jan. 9) Info: 800-874-5587.

**BRANDSTATER GALLERY** (Jan. 10-Feb. 2) "Emanations: Paintings and Works on Paper." Info: 951-785-2959.

**FACULTY RECITAL SERIES** (Jan. 21) 7 p.m. Giovanni Santos, trumpet. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Free.

**WINTER ORCHESTRA CONCERT** (Jan. 28) 7 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Free.

**FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP.** Fridays at 8 p.m. LSU church. Info: 951-785-2090.

### Northern California

**RALPH CARMICHAEL CONCERT** (Jan. 19) 7 p.m. Napa Community church, 1105 G Street. Musical legend Ralph Carmichael and his Big Band will perform a live concert of gospel music. Enjoy an unforgettable program by this well-known composer and conductor. Ticket info: 707-252-2444, www.napasdachurch.com/article.php?id=449.

**MAD ABOUT MARRIAGE** (Jan. 20, 21) St. Helena church, 1777 Main Street. Free seminar conducted by Faith for Today speakers Mike and Gayle Tucker. Register at madaboutmarriage.com. Info: 707-963-4461, www.shsda.org.

**VIOLIN CONCERT** (Jan. 21) 4 p.m. Sacramento-Central church, 6045 Camellia Avenue. Jaime Jorge, violin. Free concert to benefit Abundant Life Broadcasting television. Refreshments afterward. Info: 916-457-6511.

**HISPANIC LAY LEADERS RETREAT** (Jan. 20-22) Leoni Meadows. Speakers Dr. Julián Melgosa and Pastor Juan Cubero. Info: Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092.

**FUSION** (Jan. 28) Conference-wide youth rally. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Avenue. Info: African-Ministries Department, 925-603-5097, or Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE STUDENT RETREAT** (Feb. 1-5) Leoni Meadows. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

### Pacific Union College

**WINTER QUARTER BEGINS** (Jan. 9) Instruction begins for the New Year's classes.

**TRI-CAMPUS RETREAT** (Jan. 13-16) PUC joins with Loma Linda University and La Sierra University for a weekend

of spiritual renewal at Camp Wawona. Info: 707-965-7190.

**RASMUSSEN ART GALLERY** (Jan. 21-Feb. 11) Artist to be announced. The gallery is open Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Sabbath from 1-5 p.m. Info: 707-965-6303.

**WINTER REVIVAL** (Jan. 25-28) PUC's quarterly worship series, featuring innovative Adventist evangelist Paul Graham. Info: 707-965-7190.

**MUSIC FACULTY RECITAL** (Jan. 28) 7 p.m. Paulin Hall Auditorium. Info: 707-965-6201.

### Southern California

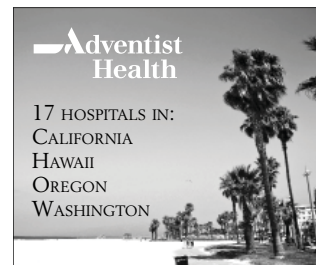
**SECOND SPARKLE OF HOPE 5K WALK** (Jan. 8) 200-plus people wanted to join us! 8 a.m. registration. Berean church, 4211 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles. Sponsored by SDA churches in the metropolitan area. Info: 310-622-3806.

**SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT** (Jan. 14) 4 p.m. Phil Smith, organist. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241.

**L.A. ADVENTIST FORUM** (Jan. 28) 3 p.m. Speaker, Mike Leno, senior pastor, Ontario church. Topic, Leno's graduate research on the origins of belief in hell, which earned him the President's Award for Outstanding University Graduate

Student. Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241.

**GIFTS WITH INCOME FOR LIFE SEMINAR** (Jan. 29) 9 a.m. Learn how a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust can work for you. Presenter, Geofry Park, M.Div., CSPG, CSA, director, SCC Trust Services/Planned Giving. Scholl Canyon Estates, 1551 E. Chevy Chase Dr., Glendale. Free brunch, Q&A. Info/reserved seating: 818-546-8500; gpark@scsda.org. Walk-ins welcome.




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**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** offers master's degrees in business, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through online and on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit [www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees](http://www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees).

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**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY,** Department of Biology/Allied Health, Fall 2012. Prefer biology Ph.D.

teaching upper and lower division classes and has a strong interest in origins. Desire Adventist scientist holding a short-term interpretation of creation and committed to involvement with undergraduate student learning and research. Send CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to: Keith Snyder, Biology Search Committee Chair, Southern Adventist University, Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; Phone: 423-236-2929; FAX: 423-236-1926; e-mail: [kasnyder@southern.edu](mailto:kasnyder@southern.edu).

#### Events

**HERITAGE SINGERS CONCERT** (Jan. 28) 5:30 p.m. Join us for a special evening with Pastor Dan Smith, Garden Grove church, 12702 Ninth St., Garden Grove, Calif.

**SAN DIEGO ADVENTIST FORUM** (Feb. 18) 9:30 a.m. David Neff, Editor, *Christianity Today*, "A Better World: How compassion and justice can flourish alongside eschatology." Tierrasanta church, 11260 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego. Info: [www.sandiegoadventistforum.org](http://www.sandiegoadventistforum.org) or 858-775-4671. E-mail [sdaf.org@gmail.com](mailto:sdaf.org@gmail.com).

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**BEREAN.** Contact: Peggy Dobson, Clerk, 4211 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90018, 909-622-3029 or e-mail [lepedo@msn.com](mailto:lepedo@msn.com): Joseph Angeli, Sandra Angeli, Persephone Angeli, Anthony Arnold, Arlene Canada, Muhindo Mupole, Petra Palacio. Campbell. Contact: Arlene Alexis Oliver-Catala, Campbell SDA Church, 600 W. Campbell Ave. Campbell, CA 95008, 408-268-8343, [acatala@pacbell.net](mailto:acatala@pacbell.net). Tonya Renee Allen, Ester Alvarado, Marion Alvarado, Rafael Alvarado, Falina Andzilevich, Joe Asenaca, Kaci Asenaca, Jerry Baggett, Sherrie Bedrossian, Michele Felice Bell, Sharon Bennett, Daniel Bighaus, Kristy Boehme, Paula Camuso, Rick Camuso, Sandra Carvalho, Darrell Carey Jr., Darrell Laura, Catherine Minnie Cavozos, Martina C. Cavozos, Francisco M. J. Cavozos, Wendelin Cody, Sergio Collins, Soledad Collins, Patricia Courtney, Rosilene De Souza, Maria Nora Diaz-Serratos, Alvina Dislevy, Dronen, Warren Daniel Edwards, Brian William Enos, Mark Escalera, Elizabeth Orpoezia Escobar, David Forncrook, Robert Gayler, Jr., Eddie L. Glassford, Roger Goodwin, Katherine Goodwin, Elizabeth Goodwin, Jennifer Ann Hammond, Carroll Haygood, John Holland, Jason Holmes, John Joseph Holmes, Wesley Huber, Linda Hubert, Joseph Troy Hubert, Wendy Jacobs, April Jones, James Jones Jr., Lisa Jones, Jeannette Kanna, Nicole Kelley, David Kenney, Andre Kovalenko, David Lewis, Egmery Rodrigues Nunes Lima, William Joseph Lowe, Jeff Michael Magill, Quintino Mano III, Wanda Mantor, Patrick Ryan McCoy, Drenda Montgomery, Paula Mueller, Nataliya Napadiy, Valentina Yuryevna Oziouomenko, Stephen Perry, Maria Powers, Justin Lee Price, Lennie Michelle Price, Jason Raley, Julleta Ribiro, Marie Robinson, Asenaca "Sisi" Sarevi, Joe Sarevi, Caitlin Patricia Scaglione, Faye Schwantes, Michelle Shay, Ron Shay, Louis Shepard, Marisol Simoniak, Dorothy Simmons, Toni Lynn Sims, Deborah Stake, Josephine Stelman, Nicholas Erik Stelman, Carl Sugg, Lesina Kolaisa Taulafai, Carol Terranova, Aklilu H. Tesfu, Jeanie Tork, Alida Torres, Kristi M. Torres, Betania Maria Venturini, Catherine Walker, Kevin M. Watts, Weston Wheelen, Vincent Alan Zapula, Brian Zuill.

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## Reunions

**CALEXICO MISSION SCHOOL** 75th Anniversary & Homecoming (March 3) Come join your friends in worshipping God, enjoying good food, and fellowship. Special musical program featuring alumni and friends of the mission school; "Kermess" (Mexican Fair) in the evening. Info: Marvin Pinder, Director of

Development, 760-357-3711 ext. 207, [mpinder@cams-education.com](mailto:mpinder@cams-education.com).

**GLENVIEW ADVENTIST ACADEMY** 75th Anniversary Celebration (Feb. 17-18) Former faculty, staff and students invited. Speaker Tony Anobile, Arizona Conference president; music by violinist Jaime Jorge and others; potluck; campus tours. 6801 North 43rd Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85019. 623-931-1846. [www.glenviewadventistacademy.org](http://www.glenviewadventistacademy.org). Info/RSVP to [stonet@glenviewadventistacademy.org](mailto:stonet@glenviewadventistacademy.org).

**LA SIERRA ACADEMY** Alumni Homecoming (April 27-29) Honor classes '62, '72, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02. Friday: benefit golf tournament, evening reception, LSA Library; Sabbath: 9:30 a.m., roll call and reunions, LSA gym; basketball varsity/alumni tournament; Sunday: 4 p.m., LSA Gala Ladies' Tea. Info: 951-351-1445 x 244; e-mail [Isaalumni@lsak12.com](mailto:Isaalumni@lsak12.com); [www.lsak12.com/alumni.htm](http://www.lsak12.com/alumni.htm).

**MAPLEWOOD ACADEMY** West Coast Alumni Chapter (Feb. 19) 10 a.m. Lunch served at noon. Price: \$10 lunch, \$4 dues. Azure Hills church, 22633 Barton Rd., Grand Terrace, 92324. 909-825-8611. Info: Elaine Cramer, [lainielou31@hotmail.com](mailto:lainielou31@hotmail.com) or 805-748-3746.

**UNION COLLEGE** Homecoming (April 5-8) Honor classes: '42, '52, '57, '62, '72, '82, '87, '92, and '02. Special Unionaires

reunion celebrating 25 years under the direction of Dan Lynn. Info: alumni office, 402-486-2503, 3800 South 48th Street, Lincoln 68506 or [alumni@ucollege.edu](mailto:alumni@ucollege.edu).

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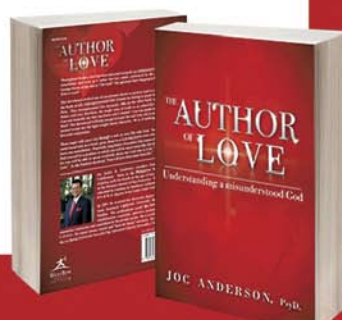
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 — Exodus 20:8

## SUNSETS

	Jan 6	Jan 13	Jan 20	Jan 27
Alturas	4:48	4:55	5:03	5:12
Angwin	5:04	5:11	5:18	5:26
Calexico	4:51	4:57	5:04	5:10
Chico	4:58	5:05	5:13	5:21
Eureka	5:04	5:12	5:20	5:28
Fresno	4:58	5:05	5:12	5:19
Hilo	5:57	6:02	6:06	6:11
Honolulu	6:04	6:09	6:14	6:18
Las Vegas	4:41	4:48	4:55	5:02
Lodi	5:00	5:07	5:15	5:23
Loma Linda	4:55	5:01	5:08	5:15
Los Angeles	4:59	5:05	5:12	5:19
Moab	5:11	5:18	5:25	5:33
Oakland	5:05	5:12	5:19	5:27
Phoenix	5:35	5:41	5:48	5:55
Reno	4:51	4:58	5:06	5:14
Riverside	4:61	5:02	5:09	5:15
Sacramento	5:00	5:07	5:14	5:22
Salt Lake City	5:15	5:22	5:31	5:39
San Diego	4:57	5:03	5:10	5:17
San Francisco	5:06	5:13	5:20	5:28
San Jose	5:05	5:12	5:19	5:27
Tucson	5:34	5:40	5:46	5:53

AT REST

**ARMSTER, RHODA H.** — b. June 28, 1921, Vicksburg, Miss.; d. Oct. 4, 2011, Banning, Calif. Survivors: sons, Maurice, Robert Jr.; daughters, Barbara Butler, Rhoenna; 10 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**BUGLINO, VERONICA** — b. Dec. 14, 1906, Italy; d. Sept. 12, 2011, Grass Valley, Calif. Survivors: five children; 14 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren.

**CAMPOS, TERESA** — b. Sept. 28, 1933, Denver, Colo.; d. Oct. 29, 2011, Bullhead, Ariz. Survivors: husband, Allan; son, Vernan; daughters, Linda, Sue; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

**DIAZ, VICTORIA** — b. Nov. 15, 1929, Linares, Nuevo Leon, Mexico; d. May 11, 2011, Wasco, Calif. Survivors: son, Gabriel; daughters, Guadalupe, Cirina Sanchez, Rosamaria Orozco.

**DIRKSEN, ILA** — b. Nov. 28, 1927, College Place, Wash.; d. Nov. 5, 2011, Porterville, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Jan Forbes, Sandy Hutchins; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

**GROOME-FRINK, MARY (WITCHEY)** — b. May 29, 1910, Alva, Okla.; d. Nov. 28, 2011, Wichita, Kan. Survivors: nieces, nephews. Served as a teacher in Adventist schools.

**HOWLETT, ROLLAND H.** — b. Feb. 10, 1915, Dansville, Mich.; d. June 9, 2011, Napa, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Pat O'Neil, Louise Driver; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Served as an educator at La Sierra College, Pacific Union College, Monterey Bay Academy, Sandia View Academy, and in Vietnam, Singapore, Haiti, Kenya; principal of Antillean College in Puerto Rico.

**HUSTON, DOROTHY ELIZABETH** — b. Feb. 18, 1925, Laguna Beach, Calif.; d. Nov. 2, 2011, O'Neal's, Calif. Survivors: son, Ron; daughters, Nancy Wellington, Charlotte Huston-Johnson.

**JONES, LENNIE** — b. Jan. 29, 1920, Scott, Okla.; d. Nov. 5, 2011, Sonoma, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Nancy Adams, Karen Michal; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

**MYAPE, ESTHER** — b. Sept. 5, 1921, Tasai City, Philippines; d. Oct. 30, 2011, Cerritos, Calif. Survivors: husband,

Robert; sons, Ernie, Robert; daughter, Irma Bibler.

**NIEMAN, HERSCHEL L.** — b. April 21, 1931, Riverside, Calif.; d. Feb. 24, 2011, Galt, Calif. Survivors: wife, Judith; daughters, Marci Leuie, Patricia Lauer; step-son, Robert Miller; step-daughters, Elva Borsch, Joyce Kinnear, Nancy Miller, Connie Theobald; 15 grandchildren.

**POLI, GEORGE** — b. April 17, 1932, South San Francisco, Calif.; d. Nov. 14, 2011, Eureka, Calif. Survivors: wife, Karole; sons, Ron, Paul, Eddie; five grandchildren.

**RAHE, RUSSELL A.** — b. May 11, 1914, Pittsburgh, Pa.; d. Sept. 24, 2011, St. Helena, Calif.

**REAK, PHYLLIS A. (DUTCHER)** — b. Jan. 12, 1923, Medina, N.Y.; d. Sept. 27, 2011, Placerville, Calif. Survivors: son, John; daughter, Bonne Daggett; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren.

**RENTFRO, RICHARD ALLEN "PAS-TOR DICK"** — b. Feb. 4, 1920, Kansas City, Kan.; d. Oct. 21, 2011, Thorp, Wash. Survivors: daughter, Connie Coleman; five grandchildren; one great-granddaughter. Served as evangelist for Washington, Central California and Upper Columbia conferences; pastored in Utah, Nevada, California, British Columbia and Washington; wrote for Adventist publications and newspapers.

**ROGERS, DOROTHY FLORENCE (SMELSER)** — b. July 28, 1927, Salem, Ore.; d. Nov. 5, 2011, Shingle Springs, Calif. Survivors: husband, James; sons, Jim, Jeff, Jerry, Jay, Joel, Jon; daughter, JeAnne Miller; 23 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren.

**ROHAY, MARGUERITE A.** — b. Nov. 19, 1919, Middleton, Idaho; d. Nov. 25, 2011, Las Vegas, Nev. Survivors: son, Ralph; daughter, Phyllis Otto-Sainati; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**SCHEITHAUER, BERND** — b. Aug. 30, 1946, Gelsenau, East Germany; d. Sept. 19, 2011, Rochester, Minn. Survivors: son, Hans; daughter, Monika Maxey. Served as a physician; world-renowned for his expertise in neuropathology with an emphasis on the pituitary gland.

**SIAGIAN, RONALD** — b. Nov. 25, 1963, Bandung, Indonesia; d. Aug. 11, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Tanya; daughters, Lindsey, Lauren; brothers, Victor, Alvin; sister, Esther. He ran his

own consulting business; worked for the Loma Linda University Foundation.

**TAGUE, CARL** — b. March 23, 1915, Lawton, Okla.; d. Oct. 15, 2011, Yucaipa, Calif. Survivors: daughters, June Cannon, Carol Miller; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

**VAN VRANKEN, BELLVA** — b. Jan. 14, 1908, Shelbyville, Ind.; d. Oct. 23, 2011, Lincoln, Neb. Survivors: son, Donald; daughters, Dorothy Wilkerson, Lois; seven grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren.

**WATTS, LOIS MAY (SHEPHERDSON)** — b. May 25, 1919, Kirksville, Mo.; d. Nov. 13, 2011, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, Carl B.; son, Howard T.; daughter, Kit; two grandchildren. Served with her husband as conference workers in Kansas, Missouri, and South-eastern California; and as missionaries for 18 years in Japan and Okinawa.

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

**WILHELM, JAMES** — b. Feb. 21, 1934, Cyril, Okla.; d. Sept. 18, 2011, Visalia, Calif. Survivors: wife, Beverly; sons, Jeff, James; daughter, Julie; four grandchildren.

**YOSHIKO, HIGASHI (DIANE)** — b. Aug. 1, 1914, Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii; d. Nov. 10, 2011, Kihei, Maui, Hawaii. Survivors: sons, Raymond, Myron; daughter, Joyce Garrigus; one grandchild; one great-grandson.

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