

# PACIFIC UNION recorder

CONNECTING THE PACIFIC UNION ADVENTIST FAMILY >> JANUARY 2013



**4** Seven Southeastern California Conference Pastors  
**Newly Ordained in 2012**



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## about the cover

Marlene Ferreras shares how special ordination is for her and asks the congregation for continued prayer for her ministry.

PHOTO BY ENNO MÜLLER

# PACIFIC UNION recorder

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# Transitions

Perhaps you've heard the story of the boy who had trouble getting to sleep one night. As he lay in his bed, he heard the Grandfather clock chiming in the darkness of the night. Listening to the "gongs," he counted each one. "... 10, 11, 12, 13..." "Thirteen?" He sat up and said out loud, "It's later than it has ever been!"

Cute story, perhaps, but it illustrates a fact. It is later than it has ever been. Each revolution of the clock reminds us that time continually moves us into the future, and the future, becoming the "now," then transitions into the past.

This is very apparent at the transitions between years. Thanksgiving and Christmas usher us to the end of the calendar, while New Year's Day celebrates the arrival of another year.

Being grateful to God for getting us through another year is standard fare for people of faith. Yet, approaching the transition between 2012 and 2013 poses the query, so what?

Well, for one thing, we are nearer to the culmination of the Blessed Hope, the Second Coming, and the Regal Return of our Righteous Redeemer! Jesus is coming again, and even though he didn't announce His arrival date, we believe His promise is true. The three parables in Matthew 25 emphasize different aspects of our preparation for His return.

As the Apostle Paul stated, "And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts" (Romans 13:11-14, NKJV).

The transition between years gives us a chance to review the year that is fast fading into history and to prepare for the New Year that awaits us. It presents another opportunity to draw closer to God, as is every day.

Perhaps Ellen White had this in mind when she wrote, "The New Year has commenced, and with the commencement of this New Year, you should dedicate yourselves to God. Now give yourself to him, soul, body, and spirit, to do his will. Let all selfishness . . . all your faults, and

besetting sins die with the old year. Begin this New Year to the glory of God. Pray to him, morning, noon, and night, to give you a meek and humble spirit, a mild temper, an affectionate disposition. Live as you never lived before. Begin this New Year with new feelings, fresh desires, and a strong determination to glorify God" (Youth's Instructor, Jan. 1, 1856, par. 2).

While it was written over one hundred years ago to young people, it is relevant to all of us today. Why not make 2013 a year of OSG — Optimum Spiritual Growth? At best, all our efforts are without merit; but if we follow the advice cited above, we will put ourselves in a position for God to do what He alone can do: revive us and lead us in a Godly reformation.

Remember what Jeremiah wrote: "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'Therefore I hope in Him!' The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him.

It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord" (Lamentations 3:23-26).

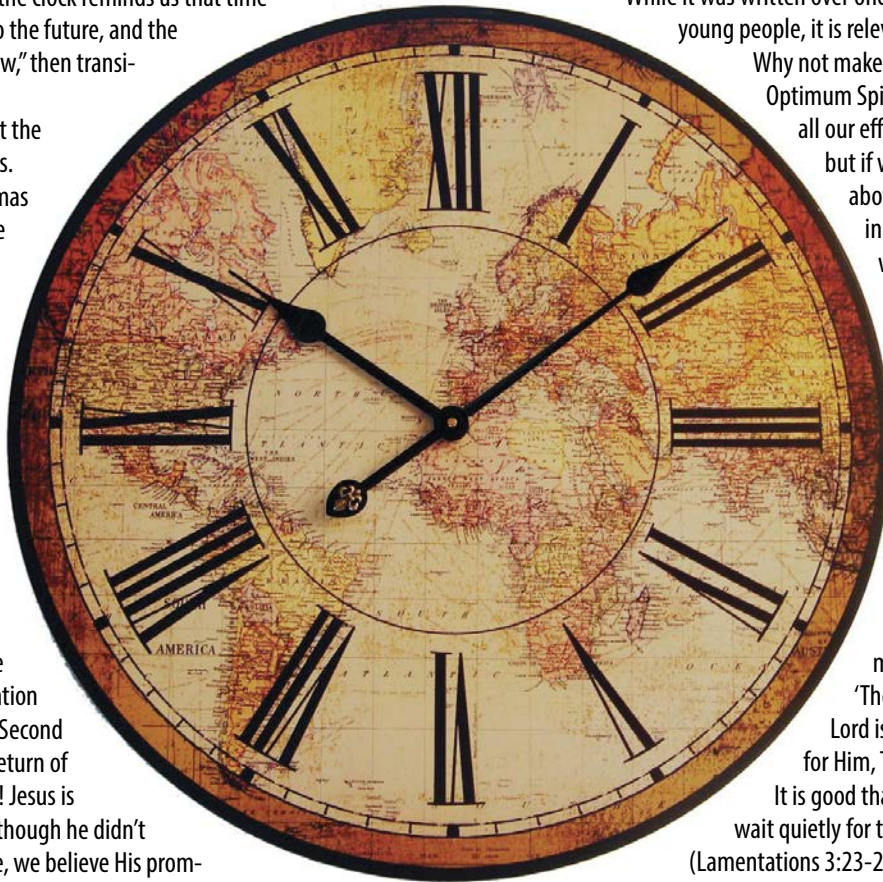
And the promises of Jesus Himself assure us of His willingness to receive us and teach us to walk in righteousness:

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30, NKJV).

"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out" (John 6:37, NKJV).

We are not sure of what the next year holds. There are many who are giving gloomy prognostications — which I will not recite here — for our nation and the world. They may be right. They may be wrong. Whatever happens, we do know that our God is able to sustain us and advance us in righteousness for His name's sake. That has always been part of His agenda, and He is always "right on time."

After all, it is later now than it has ever been.



Ricardo Graham

# Seven Pastors Newly Ordained to Ministry in 2012

During 2012, seven pastors were newly ordained in Southeastern California Conference. This number does not include those whose credentials were changed from ordained-commissioned to ordained during that same time period.

## Loma Linda Filipino Church

A worship and ordination service was held June 9 at the Loma Linda Filipino church. Gerald Penick, conference president, recognized the service as “an acknowledgement that God is at work in our community, calling individuals to ministry.”

## Lambert Trinidad

Being born into a Roman Catholic family, Trinidad did not encounter Adventism until he was 9. He attended a Vacation Bible School, where he met Mr. and Mrs. Ramos. Many years later, at the age of 16, he met the Ramos couple again, and they invited him to visit the local Adventist church. Trinidad was impressed by the warm fellowship and touched by the sermon.

He was physically and emotionally persecuted by his family, and was commanded not to attend Adventist services. In spite of that, he was baptized at the age of 17, and as a result, disowned by his family.

“When I was baptized, I decided to become a pastor right at that moment,” he recalls.

Without the support of his family, Trinidad was steered by his church elder to attend Philippine Union College, now called Adventist University of the Philippines. He studied there and graduated in 1991.

For his master’s degree, Trinidad took the majority of his courses at La Sierra University and eventually received his degree from Far East Advent School of Theology.

Over his time in ministry, most of his family members have become members in the Adventist church.

Trinidad is married to Sarah, and they have two daughters, Stephanie Marie and Shelly Mae. He currently serves as associate pastor at the Loma Linda Filipino church.



Wade Forde shares with church members his journey to ministry.

## SECC Camp Meeting 2012

On June 30, three candidates were ordained on Sabbath afternoon, culminating the SECC camp meeting held at Loma Linda University. Sandra Roberts, executive secretary, presented the candidates, and George King, vice president for black ministries, gave the ministerial charge. Additionally, Penick gave a sermon based on Philippians 1:3-7, with the theme, “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.”

The candidates ordained that day included Wade Forde, Ruben Rios and James Uyeda.

## Wade Forde

Wade Forde was born in Loma Linda. He spent his early youth connected to Adventism. He attended Loma Linda Academy, but eventually graduated from Redlands High School.

Forde decided to study at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala. His original plan was to pursue a degree in business management. However, the Holy Spirit impressed him that

he was pursuing the wrong career. In 2002, he graduated with a theology degree.

Upon his return to the Inland Empire, Forde began his ministry at the 16th St. church in San Bernardino as a youth pastor. Eventually, he served as youth pastor at Crosswalk church in Redlands and the Kansas Avenue church in Riverside.

In 2005, Forde married Stacey Jackson. Soon after their wedding, they attended graduate school at Andrews University. They both completed their studies in 2007. Forde received his Master of Divinity. During their time in graduate school, they were blessed with two children, Wade II and Olivia Monale.

Forde is currently pastoring Perris 5th St. church and the Lake Perris 5th St. church.

## Ruben Rios

Ruben Rios was born in San Diego as a third-generation Adventist. Continuing in the footsteps of his family, he embraced Adventism and even decided to work for the church.

ERIN MÜLLER



Gerald Penick, SECC president, and Ernest Furness, ministerial director, dedicate Lambert Trinidad during prayer. Trinidad serves as associate pastor at the Loma Linda Filipino church.





*Sandra Roberts, conference executive secretary, presents the candidates for ordination to the gospel ministry.*

“When I was young, I would sit while the pastor was preaching, and I would be taking notes while my buddies were talking,” he says. “I was always attracted to ministry.”

He graduated from La Sierra University in 2007 with a bachelor’s degree in religion. In 2011, he completed a master’s degree from the seminary at Andrews University.

Rios is passionate about proclaiming the gospel. “I want to move forward with a ministry

that goes beyond the church walls,” he says.

“The Great Commission should go with us every time the service is over.”

Rios and his wife, Martha, are proud parents of Ruben Reuel. He currently serves as the youth and media pastor at the Kansas Avenue church.

### **James Uyeda**

James Uyeda was born and raised in Japan. He attended Far Eastern Academy in Singapore. While there, he was exposed to many different cultural perspectives, gaining a deep appreciation for diversity.

Uyeda studied at Pacific Union College and majored in psychology. However, about a month before his graduation, he was convicted to study theology. He continued school and received another degree in theology.

“The change was a direct result of prayer on behalf of my parents. Unbeknownst to me, it had been their wish even before I was born,” says Uyeda. “They never forced me, but when the time came, I knew clearly that was the direction I should go.”

He continued his education, and in 2008 received a master’s degree from Andrews University.

His first ministerial assignment brought him to Orange County, a diverse community. He served as a pastor over a Japanese language congregation.

Uyeda’s passion for multi-cultural ministry served as an impetus for the merging of other

congregations with his own. These congregations included African-American, Anglo, Hispanic and Vietnamese people groups. As he makes an impact in the community, his joy is in “witnessing lives being changed before my eyes.”

He currently serves as associate pastor over the Westminster Good Samaritan church. He is married to Sachi.



*With great emotions Ruben Rios explains how much this day means to him.*



*James Uyeda shares stories of his ministry experience and expresses his gratitude for the support he has received in ministry.*

### Loma Linda University Church

Three more pastors were ordained on Oct. 6 at the Loma Linda University church. The program was held on Sabbath afternoon. The candidates ordained that day include Marlene Ferreras, Cristian Iordan and Genevieve Koh Isidro.



*Marlene Ferreras shares how special ordination is for her and asks the congregation for continued prayer for her ministry.*

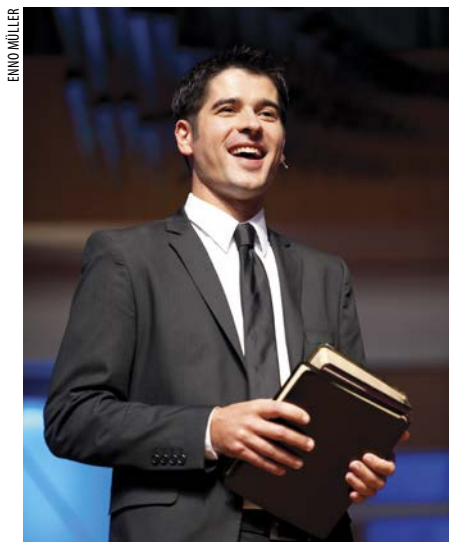
### Marlene Ferreras

Marlene Ferreras, now serving as associate pastor for children and family ministries at Azure Hills church, has always had a desire to serve God. Her mother emigrated from Cuba in the 1970s during a time of political unrest.

Ferreras and her family made the La Sierra Spanish church their home, and later, the La Sierra University church. As a youth, Ferreras integrated herself into the ministry and became involved as a deacon at an early age.

Her passion for ministry was nurtured in her home churches, and in 2003, she graduated with bachelor's degrees in religion and Spanish. She continued her studies at Loma Linda University and received a master's degree in marriage and family therapy in 2011. In 2012, she decided to pursue another master's degree, this time in theology from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Over the last 12 years, she has pastored at the Campus Hill church, Loma Linda Spanish church and is now at Azure Hills church.



*At the end of the ordination service, Cristian Iordan thanks church members for their continued support throughout his ministry years.*

### Cristian Iordan

Cristian Iordan graduated from the Adventist Theological Institute in Bucharest and holds a degree in pastoral theology. In 2010, he received a master's degree in marriage and family therapy from Loma Linda University.

"The Lord took me by the hand and led me to ministry," he says, reflecting on his journey to becoming a pastor.

Iordan began his ministry at the Campus Hill church in 2003. He worked as the pastor of children's ministries and developed close relationships with many of them. The following year, Iordan developed and grew the media ministry.

Over the following years, he was able to fully develop the ministry, and ever since, the church has been broadcasting its church services, concerts and other events on Hope Channel, LLBN and HD OCTV.

In 2010, Iordan accepted a call to be the Campus Hill associate pastor for youth and media.



*Gerald Penick, SECC president, gives words of encouragement to Cristian Iordan, Marlene Ferreras and Genevieve Koh Isidro during their ordination service at the Loma Linda University church.*

Moving forward, Iordan plans to pursue his passion. "People," he says. "The important part of transformation, metamorphosis and conversion is in people getting to know the Lord."

He and his wife, Ramona, have a daughter and a son, Faith and Caleb.

### Genevieve Koh Isidro

It wasn't until after graduating from Pacific Union College that Genevieve Isidro experienced God's call to serve and empower others to live a life according to God's plan. Earlier in her life, she had served as a student missionary in Puerto Rico. She also directed numerous mission projects for other students.

But after receiving her bachelor's degree in physical education, she knew she had something else in mind.

"I had been working at a job, and I hated it," she says. "I felt God was calling me." Her answer was direct. "You're my boss; I'm going to do what you want me to do."

She enrolled at the seminary at Andrews University and received her master's degree.

Isidro spent four years at the Garden Grove church, serving as youth pastor. While there, she also developed a young adult ministry and introduced them to short-term mission projects.

She then served as associate pastor at Crosswalk church, where she also developed ministries, including a collegiate program.

She now serves as associate pastor for junior high ministry at the Loma Linda University church.

Isidro and her husband, Michael, have one son, Preston.

*Mario Munoz*



*Genevieve Koh Isidro shares her passion for ministry during her ordination.*



# Truckee Church Shows Community that with Jesus, Everything Is All Right

**A**midst tall pines, at an elevation of nearly 6,000 feet, the California town of Truckee thrives on tourists who flock there for snow skiing in winter and other alpine pleasures the rest of the year.

Truckee was named after a Paiute chief, whose assumed Paiute name was Tru-ki-zo. The first Europeans who came across the Sierra Nevada's encountered the friendly chief riding toward them yelling "Tro-kay," which is Paiute for "everything is all right." The travelers assumed he was yelling his name.

The Truckee Seventh-day Adventist Church delivers the message to its community that in Jesus, "everything is all right."

Outreach to the community has been a focus for the Truckee church in recent times. Rather than expecting the community to come to them, the church has made a decided effort to go to the community. Rather than planning premature, unproductive public evangelism events, a friendship evangelism approach is in play, anticipating future success in more formal evangelism down the road.

"We have made inroads into the community by taking cooking schools, health screening, depression seminars, and addiction recovery programs to neutral community centers in the Truckee area, and people have responded," says Truckee stipend pastor Julio Juarez.

Careful attention has been given to the physical and technical attributes of the church itself — its decor, furnishings, eye appeal, lighting, sound, and other technical amenities — so that when new friends visit, they find the facility comfortable and appealing. "Our desire is to have a beautiful, appealing, inviting and presentable church plant that is welcoming to our new friends and guests, and creates a desire to return again and again," says Juarez.



*The Truckee church sits at 6,000' elevation along Interstate 80, just north of Lake Tahoe, Calif.*



*A beautiful sanctuary awaits members and visitors every Sabbath.*

The church also has an intentional focus on ministry to community children. For several years, emphasis on children has boosted the overall attendance on Sabbath morning and has opened doors with parents who see the positive impact on their children.

Church and community children are given opportunities to participate in the worship service. This has given them both confidence and a reason to be present on Sabbath mornings. In addition, Bible study options, service opportunities, recreational activities and social events have bonded the children and adults together.

The church's next goal is to raise funds for a van or bus to transport kids to church and members to outreach events, where they can continue to demonstrate that with Jesus, "everything is all right."



*Eunice Detton tells a children's story.*



*A craft on Sabbath morning keeps the children engaged.*



*Pastor Julio Juarez hopes to reach the Truckee community, especially children.*

*Denny Krause*

# Breath of Life Members Serve in Ghana

**B**reath of Life church members Melba Bland, Antonette Simpson, Fedly Bonneau and Heaven McCoy took community service and outreach to a new level this past summer during a ministry mission in Ghana. They traveled this sub-Saharan African country during August, assisting at camp meetings and getting a hefty dose of third-world culture far beyond the comforts of home.

"That's the main reason I encouraged my 13-year-old granddaughter Heaven to come with me," said Simpson about her travel companion, who worked with youth at camp meetings. "I knew this experience would be a light-bulb moment for her and for me."

Bland, a retired R.N. who organized and coordinated the trip with the Ghana Adventist Mission, presented her "Eight Laws of Health" lectures especially designed for women. This was her fifth African mission and everyone else's first trip to the continent.

Bonneau and McCoy engaged the youth with Bible Jeopardy games and other interactive instructional activities. Simpson assisted camp meeting organizers.

A key goal was to train and empower fellow laypersons to manage churches in the absence

of conference-appointed pastors, since some pastors were assigned to nearly 20 churches each, scattered across vast regions. Another goal was to train women to engage in street and door-to-door evangelism.

By the end of the mission, Bland said, the team felt they had accomplished what God had sent them to do.

"I was impressed by the love the people of Ghana showed for God," said Bonneau.

"We were at a camp meeting at Bawku, and the consecration service was scheduled

for 4:30 Sunday morning. When we arrived, we were surprised to find the church packed. Pastor Fred, the mission president, delivered a powerful message that made you truly see what it means to love the Lord."

The preaching and response at the sunrise service so impressed Bonneau that he opted to return to Ghana — for a year. "Seeing their dedication was powerful," Bonneau reflected. "I recognized that they had something different that I wanted to experience." Bonneau is preaching and teaching during his added time in the country.

"Ghanaians show up for every service, no matter the weather or life condition," said Bland. "They traveled by bikes and strapped their kids with them onto motorbikes. Some came by car; others walked for miles. They hunger for the Word in ways unlike us in America. Some of these people were Muslims. Just amazing!"



*Fedly Bonneau, a competitive long distance runner and a native Haitian interested in the gospel ministry, is currently serving in Ghana for a year.*

McCoy reflected, "I was impressed by the way the kids lived and how they were content with the little bit they had."

The travelers recalled how "nobody but God" delivered them from a harrowing experience in the backwoods.

"It was pouring rain, and we were in the car surrounded by darkness at a point where we could not turn back," shared a humbled Simpson. "The roads were awful; the thunder and lightning, frightening. Pastor Fred was driving. We felt we would die. The pastor pulled over, and we started praying. Before we could say 'Amen,' the sky lit up as though God had flipped on the light switch. We could see the road well enough to drive ahead for hours. God truly watched over us."

Despite the challenges of ministering to the people, they all said they would "return to serve in a heartbeat."



*Through Melba Bland's lectures to women (translated into several dialects), women were "left with a better sense of how to take care of their health, and the importance of practicing healthful living as witnesses to others."*

*Clarence Brown*



# Plant-Based Cooking Events Draw Hundreds of Area Residents

Since 2009, the South Bay church has been involved in a nutrition outreach that has been drawing exponentially larger numbers of people.

"We started in 2009 with 50 people attending free vegan cooking classes which my wife Susan, a Registered Dietician, conducted, and most of the attendees were from the community," said Pastor John Jenson. "We have continued to offer the free vegan cooking classes at least once each year (twice in 2009). In the most recent class in the fall of 2012, 409 people attended — reflecting an 818 percent growth since the outreach began." Classes are offered on the four Tuesday evenings in October. "We give all glory and honor to our Father in Heaven, His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit for any and all success that these outreach events have had," Jenson added. "We pray that this seed planting will result in an abundant harvest for His eternal kingdom!"

Susan Jenson seconds her husband's statement. "I am very quiet and was not expecting anything like this," she said. "I had no idea what God had in mind for me with this outreach."

In addition to the classes, the church in recent years has followed up with Healthy Taste of L.A., part of a two-event outreach featuring vegan chefs from area restaurants and a well-known

author focused on the vegan lifestyle. The weekends open with a Saturday evening dinner and presentation by the author, and follow with the chef presentations on Sunday.

In 2012, 108 people attended a Saturday evening dinner with Caldwell B. Esselstyn Jr., M.D., author of *Prevent and Reverse Heart Disease*. The following day, 248 people participated in a Healthy Taste of L.A. all-day event. Nearly 1,000 people watched the program online from a wide range of countries, including Australia, Europe, the Bahamas, Canada, Ecuador, Israel, Nepal, Russia and the U.S. A fee is charged attendees for the chef-and-author events. Attendance at all lifestyle events includes both Christians and non-Christians coming mostly from the community, many of whom are fans of one or more of the featured chefs.

A few people who attend the church's lifestyle events have begun attending Sabbath services. At the latest follow-up to the cooking



Cooking class participants enjoyed taste testing the food after evening lectures.

outreaches, at least four responded to an invitation to attend a Sabbath International Day. Others affirm their positive experiences with what they learned at the church via e-mail.

"Your plant-based cooking class was wonderful," wrote Janis Lukstein, "and I am already practicing more of your plant-based eating habits."

"Thank you for the education and opportunities!" e-mailed Pat and Briana Stone. "We are eating better because of you and Susan. Baby steps! I am checking out the Dollar Store (they have fresh produce — and great prices, obviously). So, if anyone else is on a budget, it's a good source."

The seminars were sponsored by Loma Linda University, White Memorial and Glendale Adventist Medical centers, Weimar Center for Health & Education and Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

*Betty Cooney*



Some of about 30 church volunteers for lifestyle events sing a song written by widely-known Chef A.J. (center) for attendees of "Healthy Taste of L.A." Susan Jenson, R.D., is at the far right.

# Lodi Fun Run Helps Homeless Women and Children

**M**ore than 200 runners combined exercise and altruism at the second annual Fun Run hosted by Lodi Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School. The event raised \$7,000 for Lodi House, a non-profit organization that helps homeless women and their children.

Held Sept. 30, the Fun Run included a 5K run and a kids' half-mile run. "It was good exercise, and we're raising money for a good cause. That gave me an incentive to endure the pain," said Raissa Hill, who jogged with her two children, fourth-grader Rhett and fifth-grader Elise — both students at the school.

The event not only helped Lodi House for the second year in a row, it also provided a lesson in unselfishness for the school children. "The Fun Run was established in an effort to give our

WOODY ROSS



More than 200 runners participated in the Fun Run to benefit Lodi House.



Miguel Borquez and son Miguel, Jr., a fifth-grader at Lodi Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School, display their Fun Run shirts.

students an opportunity to help others without expecting anything in return," said Ross Sakata, school board chair.

Principal Walter Turner encouraged students to raise more money than they did last year. "I challenged our students to sign up for the Fun Run and get lots of sponsors," he said. "If they were successful, I told them I'd cut my hair. They were, and now I sport a 'Mr. T' mohawk."

Each Fun Run participant wore a shirt displaying the names or logos of the event's business sponsors, who donated anywhere from \$100 to \$1,000 to the cause. All the funds collected from the sponsors went to support Lodi House.

The money came just as the organization needed it to build a job resource center. The homeless women who come to the organization for help are required to secure employment, but finding jobs is often difficult for those with few skills, according to Suzanne Mangum, Lodi House executive director. Currently, the women get their training through another organization, but they can use its resources only during limited hours, and they are unable to bring their children with them. "We feel that if we're telling the women that they have to get a job to stay here, then we should help them," said Mangum. The resource center, located inside Lodi House's transitional

DENIS SILBER



Runners leave the starting line of the kids' half-mile run.

KRISTA SAKATA



School board chair Ross Sakata, Lodi House director Suzanne Mangum and assistant director Shereen Hays hold a check displaying the amount of money raised by the Fun Run. "There are few purely independent non-governmental charities in town like Lodi House," said Sakata. "They provide support for women and their children and teach them life and job skills."

facility, will provide training in computers and other job skills.

According to Mangum, the organization received a \$15,000 grant for the center, but the cost of the project was \$20,000. "The Adventist school Fun Run came at just the right time!" she exclaimed. "Their \$7,000 donation will more than cover our building needs. On behalf of all of us at Lodi House, we'd like to thank the students, staff and business sponsors for making so many dreams come true."

Denís Silber



# NCC Hosts 34th Annual African-American Convocation

In mid-October the Northern California Conference held its 34th annual African-American Convocation, themed "Occupy Holy Spirit." Every year, church members look forward to the inspiration and fellowship of this unique gathering. "From start to finish, something good is always going on," said Robert Chiles, Oakland Market Street church elder, who has attended each NCC convocation. "It's a yearly opportunity for the various churches in the area to come together and see each other," he said. "It's almost like Christmas."

PHOTOS BY JOYCE RICHARDSON



**Darriel Hoy, pastor of the Highland Crest church in Topeka, Kan., spoke for Friday night vespers and the divine worship service on Sabbath.**

A Friday evening vespers service at the Sacramento Capitol City church kicked off the weekend. The next day's Sabbath services and activities were held at Trinity Life Center in Sacramento. Its spacious facility accommodated the programming needs of various age groups.

The weekend's main speaker was Darriel Hoy, pastor of the Highland Crest church in Topeka, Kan. She also serves as a consultant for churches and nonprofit organizations across America, specializing in grant writing, holistic ministry and youth leadership development. "I particularly enjoyed hearing a youthful woman as the pastor who preached such a rousing message," said Valda Dounveor, Richmond Beacon Light church member.

The Sabbath day celebration began with Early Morning Manna. Pittsburg church member Denise Tarvin used analogies between the military tactical manual *The Art of War* by Sun Tzu and the battle that is ongoing as God's people prepare for the end times. Later in the morning, Pacific Union College President Heather Knight and Pacific Union College Outreach Chaplain Norman Knight led the adult Sabbath school lesson, exploring what the Bible says about itself, how it was inspired and how useful it is today.

The weekend's youth speaker was Dilys Brooks, associate chaplain at Loma Linda University. Her dynamic message engaged and challenged the young people in attendance to allow themselves to be open to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. "She gave a stirring testimony of her life story," said Trevor Barnes Jr., Sacramento Capitol City church assistant pastor. Brooks also spoke for the Sabbath evening vespers program, which followed the afternoon's annual Quiz-a-Rama for the youth.

Gospel recording artist Lawrence Beamen provided the special music for both the youth and adult worship services. He also presented a mini-concert on Sabbath afternoon. "He mixed neo-gospel with the old hymns and spirituals



**Loma Linda University associate chaplain Dilys Brooks spoke to the youth for the divine worship service and Sabbath evening vespers.**



**Bernadine Weir and her granddaughter Jessica Graham attended the NCC African-American Convocation.**

that we used to sing," said Paula Brown, Valley Community church member.

Children's church was a leadership workshop for kids ages 5-12. Pittsburg church members and friends engaged children through stories, games, songs and puppet shows. "A character named Lester the Leader taught the kids to handle difficult situations in a kind and caring way," said Pittsburg church member Kathy Batchelor.

Those who regularly attend the convocation appreciate the blessings it brings each year. "The convocation is a spiritual experience that can affect your life for the rest of your life," said Brown, who has attended for 12 years.

In between the many programs, old and new friends get the chance to catch up on the news of each other's lives. "It's an opportunity to see people you don't get to see very often because you're so busy at your own church," said Dounveor, who has been to about 15 convocations.

Those who attended this year believe that God did indeed occupy hearts and minds during the weekend. "I was in awe as I watched the Holy Spirit uniquely use each speaker to present Jesus during the entire weekend," said NCC African-American ministries coordinator Virgil Childs, who serves as senior pastor of the Oakland Market Street church. "I left the convocation compelled to surrender more fully to the Holy Spirit's leading."

*Beverly Davis*

# K.I.D. Pioneer MacLafferty Joins CCC in Clovis

**D**on MacLafferty, new senior pastor at the Clovis church, is passionate about family, the discipleship of children, youth and adults to Jesus, and the leadership development of those who are called by God to champion these priorities.

Relocating from Collegedale, Tenn., to Clovis, Calif., was a family decision. "April and I had been praying for months, asking God to place us where He wanted to grow us as family and where we could serve God best," MacLafferty says. "God impressed us, along with each of our three children, that He was calling us all here."

In Clovis, God merged the dreams He had placed on the hearts of two leaders. In 2011, the Central California Conference voted a new 10-year initiative: Cradle to Crown – Children First. MacLafferty, founder and director of In Discipleship (formerly Kids In Discipleship – K.I.D.), was impressed that In Discipleship's expanding mission should be modeled and taught from a church center.

Developing an official partnership with CCC was a serious decision. K.I.D. leaders had presented trainings in the conference for several years. Currently, 40 congregations are integrating the K.I.D. model for their children and families.

"Uprooting not only a family, but also the In Discipleship ministry, to Central was a decision initiated and confirmed by Divine providence. It solidly affirmed in our hearts that we were on heaven's path with the Cradle to Crown – Children First initiative," says Ramiro Cano, conference president.

## The Journey

Since fifth grade, MacLafferty knew that he wanted to be an elementary school teacher. Strongly influenced by his teacher, his heart's burden was simple. "I wanted to reach kids for Christ," he explains.

But during his sophomore year at Canadian Union College, he experienced a transforming event.

Every Sabbath for a year and a half, he led a team of students for outreach ministries at an

American Indian reservation and experienced the joy of leading children to Jesus. Then he took a six-month position as a taskforce pastor working with all ages. "God gave me a call to be a spiritual leader — to lead and equip people to walk with Jesus and to share Him," MacLafferty says.



*The MacLafferty family includes Don, April, 19-year-old Jason, 11-year-old Jessica and 16-year-old Julie.*

Changing his major to theology, he transferred to Southern Adventist College (now Southern Adventist University) and began dating April Thayer. They were married on May 2, 1988. "I am more sure than ever that I married the right woman," MacLafferty says.

The couple pastored in the Kentucky/Tennessee and Michigan conferences and served as director of youth ministries for the Gulf States Conference.

"All of a sudden, something began to gel," MacLafferty explains. "I realized that, as a denomination, we ran a lot of programs for kids and youth, yet we were still losing them. Often when they are baptized, they really didn't have a relationship with Jesus or a place to serve."

He asked God what to do. "You are not discipling the children," was the answer he heard. "It is possible that a child can go to all the programs of the church and never become a disciple of Jesus."

When he resigned, the conference president asked where he was going. "God hasn't told me yet," MacLafferty answered. "He has just told me to pioneer the discipling of children and families at a church somewhere." April was just as confident in God's leading in their new adventure.

## Kids In Discipleship/In Discipleship

Using their paid vacation benefits for living expenses, the family kept praying for a place to launch a discipling ministry. On their last paid day, Georgia Cumberland Conference asked him to develop a discipleship training ministry at the Collegedale, Tenn., church. The goals: Build your personal relationship with Jesus; Know the truth of Jesus; Share Jesus with others.

K.I.D. was officially organized in 2002 as a ministry of the Collegedale church. MacLafferty continued to train church teams from around the world while serving as an associate pastor for nine years.

The expanding ministry was renamed In Discipleship in 2012 and includes four discipleship trainings: Inside Out Retreat, Schools in Discipleship, K.I.D. University, and K.I.D. Coach. In Discipleship is dedicated to uniting children, youth and adults as disciples of Jesus Christ. Learn more at [www.indiscipleship.org](http://www.indiscipleship.org).

"Coming to the Clovis church presented an amazing opportunity to lead a church family to become a discipling center for children, youth and adults, and to also partner with Fresno Adventist Academy as a K-12 school system," MacLafferty says about adding Schools in Discipleship training.

"Pray for us," he says. "It is time to equip young and old to work together in accomplishing God's final mission."

*Caron Oswald*



# MVA Seniors Put Theory into Action at Albion Field Station

Research has indicated that college students who achieve better academic success participate in at least one extra-curricular club or activity. The Life Science curriculum at Mountain View Academy is one example of applying current findings to expand the classroom experience. For the past 40 years, and long before such research existed, MVA teachers have been integrating these same research principles.

Senior biology and marine biology students at the Mountain View, Calif., academy participated in the annual Albion Field Station near Mendocino, Calif., on Nov. 1-4, 2012. Owned by Pacific Union College, Albion provides practical learning in a captivating setting.

"They get to actually see what the Good Creator has made and how it works. If the student is willing, it can translate into academic success, but it always develops a value system about God and our planet. Kids will strive more, contribute and extend themselves," says biology teacher Jim Marxmiller, who developed the program.

"The Albion Field Station offers exploration opportunities in some of the most interesting marine science teaching venues on the West Coast," says Greg Brooks, the trip's videographer. Three tide pools provide a hands-on textbook experience. Several side trips are available such as the Pygmy Forest, Point Cabrillo Light Station, a large nearby sinkhole, an evening

star-gazing walk, visiting working fishing boats, and a Coast Guard Station at Hoyo Harbor.

"It's awesome to see and observe everything we had studied in class right in front of us. The best part was being able to identify and name the marine animals," Rischel Tabiolo says.

"Priceless and enlightening," Marissa Lian adds.

"Albion was such a blast," says Rebecca Chan. "I could walk around the tide pools and recognize the creatures we studied in class. I could practice what I had learned, could look at a sea urchin and say, 'That's a stonylocentrolus purpuratus.'"

School board chair Greg Richmond has been an avid supporter of Adventist education for 25 years. "I see examples of [academic] success as students achieve much higher than average test scores." He credits excellent teachers and staff for the students' future opportunities. MVA graduates are accepted into top colleges and universities in preparation for their professional career choices.

But academic accomplishment is not the most significant measure of success. "I strongly believe that Christian education is foundational to the healthy development of children to become the adults God wants them to be," says Richmond. "Since students spend so much time at school and after school with their friends, where they get their education makes a huge difference."

In 2012, California poured \$38 billion tax dollars into the public school system for updated equipment and modernized facilities. Richmond says, "Those pale in comparison to the results of superior morals and a selfless work ethic and



**Biology and marine biology seniors pose for a group picture at the annual trip to the Albion Field Station near Mendocino, Calif. The two-fold purpose of the four-day outdoor school is: Expanding the academic impact with practical, hands-on learning and providing students with new perceptions about who God is and the magnitude of His intentional designs and care for His Creation.**

an understanding of principles of God's creation and His law of love."

"Those qualities of character have more to do with future success than a student's access to some expensive gadget," Richmond says.

Returning from God's living textbook, students share the impact. "God has an eye for beauty. The ocean is so majestic, and each little creature in the tide pools has its own set purpose in the grand scheme of things," Daniel Grigore says.

"What an amazing designer God is," says Nigel Lalassays. "It is important to me, because I know that I serve a great God."

Yuzu Yoshida says, "If He put that much design and uniqueness into the marine world, how much more design and uniqueness He has put into us."

For Michelle Camba, the experience opened new insights about her Savior. "It helped me realize how much God loves His creation," she says. "Every little detail and slight nuance helped me visualize that God pays attention to everything. Since God takes care of even his smallest creatures, I am reassured that He'll always take care of me."



**Biology teacher Jim Marxmiller introduces an octopus *rebescens* (red octopus) to his students. Examining marine life students have only studied in a textbook significantly expands the learning process.**

Caron Oswald

# South American Bible Competition Brings Brazilian to La Sierra

Leonardo Galleni de Oliveira always enjoyed the Bible knowledge competitions held by the churches in his city of Olimpia, Brazil. But the contest, Bom de Bíblia Universitário, offered by the South American Division of Seventh-day Adventists last year was much larger, encompassing contestants in eight countries. De Oliveira wasn't certain he would win.

In December 2010, after at least seven phases of tests on his familiarity with the Bible, de Oliveira was announced the first place winner during a broadcast on Nuevo Tiempo, a Spanish Seventh-day Adventist television channel in Lima, Peru, and part of the Hope Channel network. His prize — tuition for one academic quarter of English as a Second Language classes at La Sierra University, as well as costs for airfare, room and board, and other expenses.

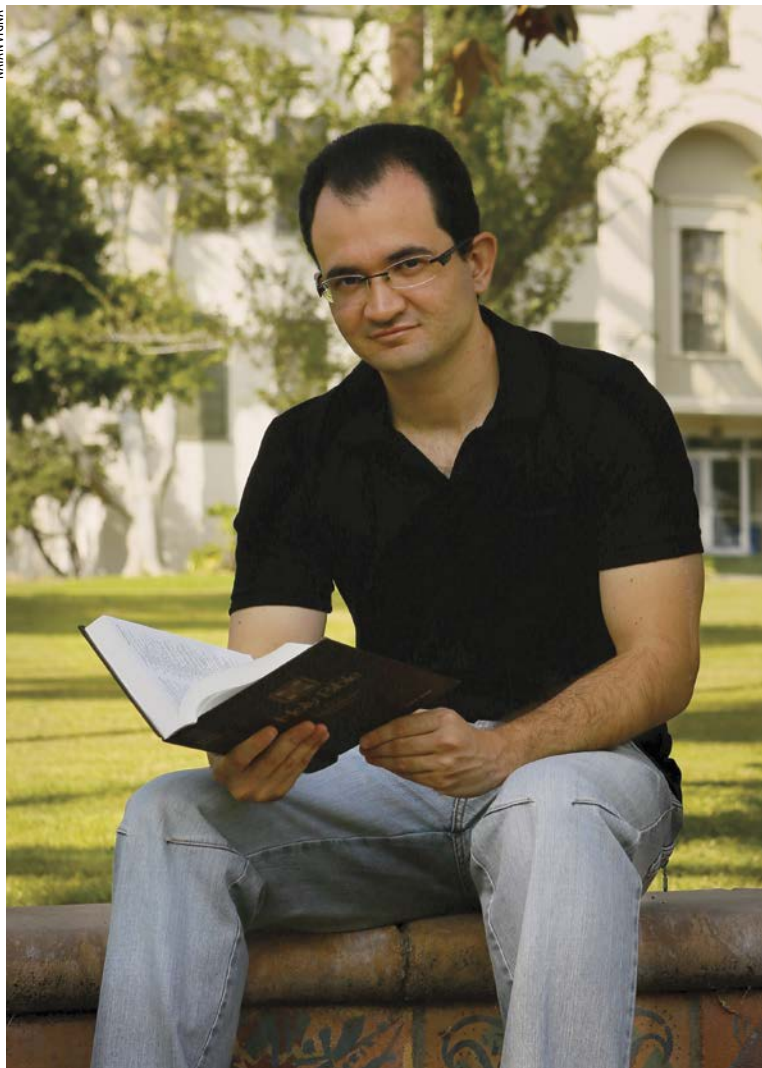
He enrolled for 2012 fall quarter at La Sierra to study grammar, reading skills, conversation and American culture. "I've been studying the Bible since I was a kid," de Oliveira said with translation assistance from Josianne Ruberto, International Enrollment assistant. De Oliveira says he has read the Bible two or three times and reads passages daily along with the Sabbath school lesson.

De Oliveira works as a court clerk in the State Court of Justice of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and has taken a leave of absence from his job to study at La Sierra. He communicates with his parents, sister and girlfriend through Skype. He has taken college math courses online and plans to continue his education, he said.

Areli Barbosa, South American Division youth director, developed the competition to inspire college students to read their Bibles. The Bible knowledge contest began at local churches in Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. Theologian and archaeology expert Dr. Rodrigo Silva, a professor at the Centro Universitário Adventist de Sao Paulo, prepared the test material, which took into account the biblical, historical and cultural context of the Bible.

The competition concluded with a 95-question test for 15 finalists, one from each union of the South American Division. Lastly, the finalists

MANANVIGMA



Leonardo Galleni de Oliveira is studying at La Sierra University thanks to winning a Bible knowledge competition in South America.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

The La Sierra University constituents will meet in a special session at the Pacific Union Conference Office, 2686 Townsgate Road, Westlake Village, CA, on February 21, 2013, at 1:00 p.m.

The agenda will focus on the La Sierra University Bylaws.

*Ricardo Graham, Chair*  
*Randal Wisbey, Secretary*

answered five additional questions live on Nuevo Tiempo TV in Lima. The top three winners were then announced with de Oliveira in first place. The second place finisher received tuition for one academic quarter at an Adventist university in South America and the third place contestant received a computer and printer.

"The main purpose of this competition was to encourage students to study the Bible and really understand it, and through this study, encourage them to seek their mission and help spread the Word," said Andreia Silveira, La Sierra Enrollment Services counselor.

*Darla Martin Tucker*



**Jan. 12**

Church Officers Training at Mountain View Academy  
Hispanic Church Officers Training at the San Jose Spanish Church

**Jan. 19**

GLOW Rally in Fresno

**Jan. 19**

Health Seminar at the Santa Maria Church

**Jan. 25-27**

Women's Retreat at Tenaya Lodge

**Jan. 26**

Health Seminar at the San Jose Ephesus Church

**Feb. 1-3**

Hispanic Women's Retreat at Tenaya Lodge

**Feb. 2**

Pathfinder Bible Experience

**Feb. 8-9**

Youth Festival in the Bay Area

**Feb. 8-9**

Hispanic Convocation in Bakersfield

**Feb. 9**

Health Seminar at the Bakersfield Hillcrest Church



Spiritual Growth



Loving Fellowship and Unity



Mobilization of the Spiritual Gifts of All Members



Outreach



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# Central Acts

Newsletter for  
Central California  
Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists

Message from the President

## Rescue Part I



**O**n Saturday, August 12, 2000, the world was deeply moved with the news of the sinking of the *Kursk*, the Russian Navy's giant, Oscar II class, nuclear-powered cruise missile submarine, in the icy waters of the Barents Sea.

Launched in December 1994, the *Kursk* measured 104 m (505 ft. 3 in.) long, four stories high and the largest attack submarine ever built. It now rested on the ocean's floor.

Two successive explosions, the second registering 4.4 on the Richter scale, and the following fire, left the crew of 118 in a hopeless situation. Around the world, the press reported the situation as "extremely grave."

Confusion erupted. Help from nearby countries was immediately offered. Initially, however, the Russian government refused any outside help, and then remained slow to respond to the dire situation.

More than a week later, a group of Norwegian divers opened the rear hatch of the submarine, but found no survivors.

Huddled together in Compartment 9 at the boat's stern, divers found notes in the pocket of a lifeless crew member. "There are 23 people in the ninth compartment. We feel bad ... We're weakened by the effects of carbon monoxide from the fire...The pressure is increasing in the compartment...If we head for the surface, we won't survive the compression."

It is estimated that these men probably lived for up to four days.

From the onset of their ordeal, the crew had no chance of survival unless

timely rescue attempts were made from an outside source. Unfortunately, that help was not engaged in time.

The stark realism of the *Kursk's* demise paints a sobering picture of humanity's situation. When sin exploded into the world, the human race sank into a hopeless, life and death situation with no chance of survival from within—help had to come from an outside source.

Praise the Lord! Our Rescuer did come in time to save those trapped in our sunken world.

Unlike the Russian government, our Savior was not caught by surprise. He was not preoccupied with other matters. All of heaven focused on earth's rescue mission.

However, to facilitate the rescue, the hatch of this sunken ship had to be opened from the inside. And our Rescuer is waiting for each of us to respond to His invitation. "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me." Revelation 3:20 NIV

Heaven's rescue mission was very much in my mind with the passing of my mother November 5. As our family observed her life slowly slipping away, we were strengthened and greatly comforted with the fact that

my mother had long ago opened the hatch of her heart and let her Savior, her loving Rescuer, come into her life.

She went to sleep with the assurance that the door of her earthly grave will



Cont. on page 4



# Courageous in Christ Men's Retreat

More than 200 attended the annual conference-wide Men's Retreat at the Soquel Conference Center on October 19-21, 2012. Guest speakers were Alex Horton, pastor of the Birmingham, Ala. church, and Dr. Collins Ross, director of health education for Pacific Health Education Center in Bakersfield, Calif.

For more than 28 years, Steve Horton has guided men to a more courageous walk with Christ, courage to trust Christ with ruthless abandon and strength to withstand mounting pressures in our daily choices. Ross addressed how life's pressures take a toll on a man's mind and spirit, as well as his body. His topic was a Christian Man's Keys to Staying Fit—physically, heart healthy and prostate healthy.

The theme "Courageous in Christ" was inspired by the Christian movie *Courageous*, based on the journey


of four men striving to live a life of integrity, honesty and commitment through the challenges of family, work and daily living. Supporting and encouraging each other to trust God and to be faithful, each steadily grows in character and love for his Savior.

A movie? Marlan Knittel, pastor of the Bakersfield Central church, has witnessed dramatic changes in the men in his church as a result of this movie. (Just ask their wives!) Knittel found it to be "The most powerful way to grab the hearts of men and impel them to become the husbands and fathers that God ordained them to be."

*Courageous* is the fourth movie produced by Sherwood Pictures,



Albany, Ga., a ministry of the Sherwood Baptist Church. Other films include *Facing the Giants*, *Flywheel* and *Fireproof*, for more information visit [sherwoodpictures.com](http://sherwoodpictures.com).

Thirty men from the Bakersfield Central church shared their testimonies and encouraged the audience to experience the courageous journey. 

## Courageous Journeys at Bakersfield Central

"What would you say if I decided to join your church," Rob McCown asked his wife Debbie. Stunned, she finally answered, "Well, if that is what you want to do." For 30 plus years, McCown had attended church with his wife and kids, but never felt any connection to the church. When the Revelation of Hope seminar with Taj Pacleb, conference evangelist, started in February 2012, reluctantly he started attending the meetings.

"He [Pacleb] got my attention with his discussion of the Bible and history." All of McCown's confusion and questions seemed to fall into place, and finally he could understand God's plan and promise. He was baptized on March 17, 2012.

"It changed our lives!" exclaimed Edgar Quispe and Brian Copeland about the movie *Courageous*. They invited church members to the fellowship hall that evening. Baptized that morning, McCown's second life-changing experience began.

After the movie, Quispe and Copeland offered the men a study group. This was the beginning of the Courageous Men's Group (or CMG). The book *Resolution for Men* was the guide.

"Chapters on forgiveness, your wife, your kids, walking with integrity, really forces the guys to take a hard, deep look at themselves and start cleaning up inside," McCown explains. One of the first changes Pastor Marlan Knittel observed was,


"Their prayer life suddenly exploded." So did the friendship and brotherhood bond of these men.

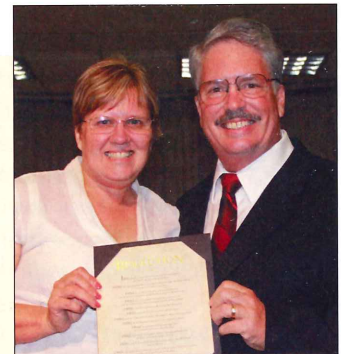
Five months later, the study series ended on August 26 with a Resolution Signing Service.

Hosted by Pacific Health Education Center, 20 men signed their own Resolution to take full responsibility for becoming the men God wants them to be, while their wives, children and friends looked on.

Knittel describes their changes as "Men grabbing the reigns of their spirituality and morality."

"I am not the same as I was before," McCown shares. His wife and children agree! His daughter told him he is now the dad she always wanted. "We want to bring this message to every church up and down the conference. This series and study would make such a change in the conference. It could even change the entire world. It is amazing!"

The Bakersfield Courageous Men's ministry members are available to visit other churches to share their journeys. 



Debbie and Rob McCown



# Dinuba Junior Academy Turns 100

By Caron Oswald

**D**inuba Junior Academy celebrated a century of educating students to live for Jesus in this world and live with Him for eternity. More than 400 people—alumni, church members, friends, and former members—attended the homecoming reunion on October 5-7, 2012.

The special weekend began Friday night and concluded with breakfast Sunday morning. Program participants included alumni from the 1938-2012 classes. Local church members participated. The oldest alum was 100-year-old Lydia Baerg. The youngest were from the class of 2012. Highlights included special music by an alumni choir on Sabbath morning (their first practice was Friday night), Saturday night talent show and, of course, reuniting with friends.

“It was a meaningful weekend, especially for the people who had been students,” says Steven Losey, principal and 1-4 grades teacher.

A host of volunteers made the event possible. Hearing about the upcoming



*Alumni gather in groups for a class picture. A highlight of the weekend, years 1938-2012 were represented. The oldest alum was 100-year-old Lydia Baerg from Dinuba.*

event, Marilyn Wileman offered to help. Losey and Allen Lipps, 5-8 grades teacher and previous principal, were overjoyed. Wileman’s husband and four daughters had attended the Academy. An ardent supporter of Adventist education, she has continued to be involved.

Wileman put together a leadership committee core of six: Brititte Butler, Derlinda Stotz, Beverly Wilhelm, Francine Baerg, and Anita Purviance. Fran Stoner organized the potluck. Mary Towes wrote the school’s history. Announcing the 100-year celebration was the first task by expanding a 10-year-old alumni list. Assisting with the weekend’s planning was their next

step. Teams of volunteers were organized and assigned various responsibilities.

“It was fun and a worthwhile project,” Wileman says. Acknowledging that the volunteers were tired, she says, “Everyone went away feeling spiritually uplifted and encouraged.”

## The First School

Dinuba church member Charles Driver owned a large piece of property and planned to build his house. Once built, the structure remained empty. In 1912, he donated the property for a church school. There was one stipulation—the property could only be used for Adventist education. It began as a one-room classroom and, as it prospered, the school building was divided into two rooms.

By 1918, the nearby Orosi and German churches also had started church schools. In 1925, the three schools merged and added 9th and 10th grades. The Orosi school building was moved to the property for additional classrooms.

“Jacob, my older son, first attended the Academy in 9th grade and it changed his life,” says John Bindernagel. His family had moved into the area in 1979. “He gave his heart to the Lord and was baptized his sophomore year.” Bindernagel gives the teachers high marks for their dedication and positive influence.

“I sincerely believe if not for Dinuba Junior and Armona Union Academies, they [my two sons] wouldn’t be in the church today.” A high school teacher at a public school (he teaches welding) Bindernagel says, “The influence and draw of the world is enticing for high school students.”

Today, the school continues to be supported by the Dinuba and Orosi churches. In recent years, 9th and 10th grades were discontinued due to decreasing enrollment. At the weekend’s close, Losey reports the resounding response from alumni and guests. “This was great. Why don’t we do this every year!” **C**



*A guest enjoys seeing the school’s history in pictures, articles and news reports. It was no small task to find and display 100 years of this dedicated ministry.*



burst open when she hears the melodious words of our Savior, "Ofelia, Come forth!"

Many today will be slow or even refuse to be rescued. For a myriad of reasons, they choose to stay trapped inside a hopeless and fatal situation. They hear the consistent knocks of a loving Savior just outside the door, and yet fail to respond to His invitation.

As we begin the unwritten pages of 2013, may each of us cling to heaven's rescue invitation. With God, nothing is hopeless. No matter where we've been or where we are now or where we end up, our Rescuer is already at the door. All of heaven is focused on each one of us.

*He reached down from on high and took hold of me; He drew me out of deep waters. He rescued me from my powerful enemy; From my foes who were too strong for me. They confronted me in the day of my disaster, But the Lord was my support. He brought me out into a spacious place; He rescued me because He delighted in me.*

Psalms 18:16-19

*Rescued*

Part 2, Coming in March: Rescue from "My foes who are too strong for me"

## Fresno Adventist Academy Collects Food for Families

With Thanksgiving just a month away, the Spiritual Life committee thought of the many families that are in desperate need of help. Partnering with Fresno Adventist Academy's Student Association and HANDS (His Ambassadors Never Deny Service), a community service project for grades K-12 came to life.

The Plan: A food drive during the first two weeks of November. Each class was challenged to exceed all expectations. Elementary grades

brought food goods from home and other sources. In 5th grade, a grandmother matched each can received.

Academy students divided into teams, learned a script (like canvassing), borrowed shopping carts, and, in one hour, raced through neighborhoods knocking on doors. "Meet me at the garage door," a lady instructed and donated a garbage bag filled with non-perishable

items. "I've been wondering why I was supposed to have this here."

The teams returned with overflowing shopping carts. Added to grades K-8 donations, just over 3,000 food items were collected.

Once sorted and individual food boxes made, two Adventist churches with active food programs, helped with distribution—The Neighborhood Center in Pinedale with the Seven Palms church and Fresno Central's Community Services. The school had its own list of families in need and a church member ministered to migrant families.

Local TV stations interviewed students as they distributed food boxes. "I didn't know the impact of it," said Taylor Stanic about delivering food to the hungry. At least 125 families (probably near 150) received boxes of food. 📺



The K-12 grade students and staff pose with more than 3,000 cans and non-perishable food items. The food was collected in just two weeks.



Teens deliver food boxes to hungry residents at the Fresno Central church's community service center.

The annual Holiday Gala fundraising event happened on Dec. 2. A variety of choices for giving included tables filled with donations for the silent auction, baskets filled with large variety of wares and desserts. Tables were purchased by corporate sponsorships and, at the Giving Tree guests could select a student in need of financial help. Development Director Richelle Rickert said, "I am always excited, especially knowing it benefits the students. And I am so grateful for faithful volunteers." Donation totals are still being calculated. Over the past years, the average raised yearly is between \$80,000-100,000.





# Rojas Returns to PUC, 60 Volunteer for Student Missions

Popular Seventh-day Adventist preacher and PUC alumnus José Rojas encouraged students to spend a year of their lives in service abroad when he returned to Pacific Union College to speak at a worship service focused on missionary service Oct. 23. Following Rojas' presentation, 60 students answered his call, signing up to serve a one-year term as student missionaries.

An internationally sought-after speaker and bestselling author, Rojas was most recently the director of the office of volunteer ministry for the Adventist Church in North America. The office promotes volunteerism through community projects, international mission service, and other activities. As of Jan. 1, he launched a new ministry called MOVEMENTUM, where he will conduct evangelistic meetings, speak for events, provide consulting services and train leaders.

Citing the biblical call for Christians to be salt of the earth, Rojas drew an analogy between service to others and salt's role as a catalyst in melting ice. Saying today's students are part of the most advanced generation in history, he appealed for them to use their abilities to become catalysts for change.

"If your mind is that of a catalyst, if you're out to make this world a better place no matter how many people make fun of you for being an idealist — if you really have a vision for your life — then you can turn this world upside down," he said. "Go off and be a catalyst around the world for one year of your life."

He urged students to participate in service and mission opportunities while in college. In addition to the Adventist Church's student mission programs, Rojas mentioned government programs such as the Peace Corps for international service and AmeriCorps for domestic volunteerism, as opportunities for service.

"We have a million American young adults going around the world, across the countries serving, and most of these people don't even know Jesus," he said. "It changes your life when you serve. Jesus said, 'if you really want to know what it means to serve me, do unto the least of

ANDREW LOREN



*Evangelist José Rojas returned to PUC to encourage students to serve God by serving others.*

the people as you do unto Me.' You wanna serve God? Serve people."

"PUC already has incredible projects — for the homeless, [community service] projects in Calistoga — you got stuff going everywhere!" he enthused. "I praise God for the vision of this campus which has been steady for many years."

Rojas also reminisced on living in Newton Hall as a student at PUC from 1978 to 1982. He recounted meeting his wife, a PUC alumna, and getting to know her, exclaiming that he could still remember exactly where they met on campus. "I met her here; I'm emotional about it," he said.

He grew academically and socially as a PUC student, he said. "I owe a lot to PUC. I went in a boy and came out a man. I had a mustache, [and] it grew bigger while I was there."

"It was an intentional God thing," says PUC campus chaplain Laffit Cortes. "When we invited him to come and speak, it was for the purpose of helping us recruit student missionaries. Before he went up front, he asked us for a goal — how many students we wanted to sign up. We asked for 50."

*Giovanni Hashimoto*

PHIL DRAPER



At Mud Madness 2012, each triathlon participant receives a medal and ribbon for participating.

# Holbrook Students Attend Mud Madness Triathlon

Thanks to a grant from the Navajo Nation, 30 Holbrook Indian School students and staff traveled, expenses-paid, to Scottsdale to participate in the fourth annual Mud Madness Triathlon at Thunderbird Adventist Academy.

Athletes of all sizes, ages and endurance levels gathered at Thunderbird Adventist Academy Sunday, Nov. 4. Their challenge was to merely finish the race — a 125-yard swim, six-mile bike ride, and two-mile run. At the end, each received a medal.

LAUREN AITKEN



Chris Albrecht makes a splash at the Mud Madness finish line.

For most, the dramatic mud pit at the end of the track was the highlight. TAA boys' dean Dennis Anderson and maintenance supervisor Nathan Chipman-Bonden created the race's biggest and most complex series of mud pits at the end of the course.

"The mud pit was the most challenging it has ever been," observed Thunderbird Christian Elementary eighth-grader Martin

Corpus. "I'm sure there must be 50 pairs of shoes lost in the mud."

Arizona Conference Young Adult Ministries Director Benjamin Lundquist was pleased with the huge increase in the number of students participating in the triathlon. TCE alone had 80 percent participation.

Lundquist cites one highlight as watching new TAA Principal Rick Maloon and Arizona Conference Education Secretary Ruben Escanlante complete the course and dive with enthusiastic abandon into the muddy finale.

Local Christian triathlon group "Team Endurance" participated in record numbers during this year's event, which help raise awareness about Mud Madness to a much broader Christian audience in the Phoenix area.

During the past four years, Lundquist has developed a strong relationship with the City of Scottsdale, whose leaders have been enthusiastic in their support for the event, even with last-minute changes and improvements. Through those connections, Adventist pastors have been invited to pray at civil gatherings at City Hall.



PHIL DRAPER



**Holbrook Indian School senior Ethan Ethelbah traveled from Holbrook to Scottsdale to participate in his first triathlon.**

Pastor Jay and Dee Dee Warren, both registered nurses, provided first aid and health support during the event. "Knowing exercise

is the single best way to improve our health in general, it's really exciting to see the students from the Reservations become excited to participate in the triathlon," Jay Warren said.

"Being able to bridge schools across the state and create strong relationships between TAA and HIS has been phenomenal," said HIS Pastor Phil Vecchiarelli. "This happened in part because of TCE's annual mission project to HIS. Now HIS students and faculty are reaching back by participating in Mud Madness." It took five vehicles to bring the students and 28 bicycles from Holbrook.

"This is the main event in the conference that brings together such diverse support in connecting teachers, administrators, pastors, students and community members — all celebrating and promoting the gift of health, while bringing awareness to Adventist education," Lundquist said.

"We love this event!" Scottsdale community participant John Foster told Lundquist. "You really have an amazing thing going to get kids hooked on triathlons and Jesus."

The weekend started on a spiritual note with Gotta Tri Vespers, where three-time Christian

Ironman Athlete Mark Sidey shared his personal testimony about Jesus and the sport of Ironman. Sidey has lived in Phoenix for five years and is heavily involved in team endurance. He has done three Iron Man triathlons.

Over the last four years, more than 400 students have gotten their first taste of being a triathlete through Mud Madness. Event organizers are looking with anticipation to the future when some of these students could become Iron Man athletes.

This year's youngest participants were twins Bailey and Briley Carter, who competed for their second triathlon event with their father, Jason. Their mom, Andrea, said her twins were experienced athletes at the age of 4-1/2.

During the final awards ceremony, honors were given to the top three winners of each category. Then gold ribbons were placed around the necks of each participant, making everyone a winner — just by completing the race. "You cannot win the race alone," said HIS senior Ethan Ethelbah. "You must have a teammate — and that teammate is Christ!"

*Phil Draper*

JOSH JEWETT



**Amanda Beal almost disappears in the mud obstacle pit that took more than a week to construct.**



# Community Gardens Cultivate Spiritual and Physical Health

The first instruction God gave Adam and Eve was to cultivate and tend the Garden of Eden. Now several Adventist Health hospitals are following suit, by nurturing fresh food gardens that provide both physical and spiritual enrichment.

While each garden's model is different, their goals are the same; to provide sustainable fresh produce and a place for exercise and restoration at a time when rates of obesity and chronic disease are skyrocketing.

"Our goal was to create a community resource," said Matthew Beehler, director of business development for Adventist Health's Central Valley Network, which includes hospitals in the California communities of Hanford, Selma and Reedley, as well as nearly 40 community clinics. The Greenfield Community Garden, located on unused hospital land in Hanford, opened in March 2012. Community residents — some from a nearby low-income apartment complex — grow their own vegetables for a modest fee that offsets utility costs.

"I feel very blessed," said gardener Jim Hanson. "You get some exercise, fresh air, sunshine; you meet people and form friendships."

White Memorial Medical Center and Simi Valley Hospital in Southern California also support local community gardens by providing volunteers and other resources. Across the ocean in Hawaii, where available land is scarce, Castle Medical Center on the island of Oahu has taken a different and innovative approach: rooftop farming.

"When I visit farms, it uplifts my spirit," said hospital nutritional services director Ruby Hayasaka. She also found that produce traveling long distances, such as from the mainland to the islands, is more prone to food-borne illness. "I thought wow, wouldn't it be neat to bring a farm to our patients, doctors and nurses?"

The hospital did, with a pioneering system from local company FarmRoof. Fat worm-like tubes of organic fibers, filled with soil and compost, were laid out in rows atop the hospital roof. Liners underneath

provide drainage and insulation. Holes are made in the tubes to plant the seeds, and a pipe infuses each tube with water.

"We grow 'super greens' with the very highest in vitamins and minerals, as well as tomatoes, herbs and other vegetables," Hayasaka said. Patients, employees and visitors enjoy the fresh produce within hours of harvest. The excess is sold at a daily farmer's market in the cafeteria.

Ananda Johnson and her husband, Keith, also grow food for patients, staff and visitors at a five-acre garden at Howard Memorial Hospital in Willits, Calif. In development for several years, the garden yielded its first crops in 2012. "My mission is for the garden to be a model of sustainable gardening," Johnson said.

Volunteers help cultivate seasonal vegetables and more than 50 fruit and nut trees. A "healing knoll" and gazebo provide a place of rest, rejuvenation and reflection. Extra produce is donated to the local senior center and food bank. "I thought it would be an incredible thing to grow the food for the hospital," Johnson said. "It can't get any fresher than this!"



*Greenfield Community Garden is located on property owned by Adventist Medical Center – Hanford.*



*Castle Medical Center physicians discuss how the rooftop farm can influence lifestyle change for patients and the Hawaiian community.*

*Beth Martin*





***Commonwealth Garden, the 5-acre organic garden project supported by the Howard Foundation to grow produce for the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital/ Adventist Health, completed construction of the 30x96 ft. greenhouse in November of 2011. All vegetable crops were started from seed in the greenhouse March 2012, which made it possible for the Garden to provide hundreds of pounds of produce to HMM/AH starting this July. Winter crops are now providing the Hospital kitchen with lettuce, greens, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kohlrabi, and snow peas, along with produce picked and stored from the summer's bountiful harvest.***



***The Orchard at Commonwealth Garden was planted 4 years ago and was allowed to have its first fruit production this year (2012). Undeveloped fruit from the previous years was removed to allow for root development, which in turn would grow healthy trees for healthy fruit production. The gazebo sits atop Christopher's Healing Knoll, in memory of Christopher Bailey, and will offer hospital patients, staff and visitors a place of respite and relaxation. The arbor and bench were added this year by HMM/AH and the Foundation to honor Howard Hospital Auxiliary.***

# Loma Linda Researchers: Vegans Less Likely to Develop Cancer

New research on the Seventh-day Adventist population suggests that in comparison to non-vegetarian Adventists, vegans are less likely to be diagnosed with cancer overall, when defined as cancer in combination of all body sites, and with female-specific cancers, such as breast cancer, uterine cancer, ovarian, and other genital cancers. The research also demonstrates that lacto-ovo-vegetarians are protected from cancers of the gastrointestinal tract, such as colon, stomach and pancreatic cancer, as a group.

Previous research studies have suggested that vegetarians are less likely to develop cancer compared to non-vegetarians. However, other studies, often from different countries, have not found such an advantage. This lack of clarity may result from differences in vegetarian diets between subjects and in different countries, which may vary greatly in the ratio of dairy foods to plant foods eaten, the quality and identity of plant foods, cooking methods, limitations of measures used to quantify dietary intake, and other lifestyle factors that may produce an impact on the risk of cancer.

"These findings should give us a better understanding of the relationships between specific vegetarian subtypes with specific cancers," says Yessenia Tantamango-Bartley, M.D., Dr.P.H., a researcher at Loma Linda University School of Public Health and postdoctoral fellow with Adventist Health Study-2 (AHS-2). She is the lead author of the research, which was recently published in the November online issue of *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers Prevention*.

The findings used prospective data, which indicates that the study followed the test subjects over time, collected from 69,120 Seventh-day Adventists participating in the Adventist Health Study-2. AHS-2 launched in 2002 as a study among Adventist church members throughout the USA and Canada. The scope of this study is to investigate the role of various foods and nutrients, lifestyle factors and metabolic risk indicators that may be involved in cancer causation. All AHS-2 participants filled out a questionnaire that asked how often they consumed more than 200 foods. Participants were then classified into a dietary category — either

vegan, lacto-ovo-vegetarian, pesco-vegetarian, semi-vegetarian, or non-vegetarian — based on their responses.

There are at least three strong features of this research. First, researchers were able to categorize the dietary patterns into specific vegetarian subtypes. "Other studies may have used a broad category for vegetarian diet," says Karen Jaceldo-Siegl, Dr.P.H., head of AHS-2 nutrition section. "In our study, we divide vegetarians into vegans, who consume no meat, poultry, fish, dairy, or eggs; lacto-ovo vegetarians, who consume no meat, poultry, or fish; and pesco-vegetarians, who consume no meat or poultry. By doing this we can study which specific diet provides more

or less protection from certain cancers." Second, researchers were also able to validate 2,939 incident cancers with cancer registries in 38 U.S. states and Washington D.C., producing results that may indicate a nationwide trend. Many other studies match cancer cases in only one or a few states.

The third strong feature of this research is the unique lifestyle of the Seventh-day Adventist test subjects — who, along with an emphasis on health dietary habits discourages alcohol and tobacco consumption — further reduces the possibility of confounding by non-dietary factors.

*James Ponder*

## Staff Members Build Bicycles for Underprivileged Kids

Nine teams from the Loma Linda University Health Office of Advancement assembled nine bicycles on Thursday, Nov. 29, to spread a bit of holiday cheer to nine Inland Empire kids selected by the Children's Fund.

Rachelle Bussell, senior vice president for advancement at Loma Linda University Health, says the purpose of the special exercise was to engage the advancement team — from the departments of marketing, planned giving, public relations, philanthropy, and stewardship — in giving back to the community.

"These are the people who are usually asking others to contribute money to the university or publicizing it in the press," Bussell says. "We just thought it would be good for them to get an early start on the giving that characterizes the season."

When members of the advancement team arrived at Wong Kerlee International Conference Center, they were assigned to work teams to assemble the bicycles.

Billy Hughes, dean of the School of Pharmacy at Loma Linda University, suggested the bike assembly activity to the team-building task force. Hughes sponsored a similar event two years ago in which pharmacy faculty and staff built bikes for underprivileged or at-risk children.

Davieone Marshall, an eight-grade student from Kolb Middle School in Rialto, said owning a brand new bicycle represents something very special for him.

"It means I got something I really own," he said. "I feel good for that."

When asked what the new bike would allow her to do, Britnie Beltran, an 11-year-old who attends Lyle S. Briggs Fundamental School in Chino, had a short, but comprehensive reply.

"I can ride around," she said with a smile.

Children's Fund was created in 1986 and is the non-profit member of the San Bernardino County Children's Network.

Be a part of Loma Linda University's community at [www.facebook.com/lomalindauniversity](http://www.facebook.com/lomalindauniversity).

*Barry Manembu*



**Members of the Loma Linda University Health Office of Advancement gather with nine Inland Empire children to receive brand new bicycles.**



# International Health Conference 'Reclaims the Vision'

**M**ore than 300 health professionals and administrators from around the globe headed to Loma Linda for the first Global Health Care Conference, Oct. 18-21. The conference, titled "Adventist Mission Hospitals: Reclaiming the Vision," was hosted by Loma Linda University in collaboration with Adventist Health International.

"I found the presentation on spiritual care very powerful," says Mercy Banda, a nurse at Lusaka Eye Hospital in Zambia. "I expect this conference will have an impact on how I treat my patients."

Banda and three of her Zambian coworkers had never been out of their own country before. For them, this conference was more than just an opportunity to travel. It offered a chance to meet other professionals who face the same difficulties they do.

"I am meeting people from different countries that are helping me to see how they have solved their own problems," adds George Mamba Chama, acting principal tutor at Mwami nursing school in Zambia. "I am learning how we can work together to share resources."

In the opening plenary session, Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president of Loma Linda University and Adventist Health International, walked participants through the history of health care in the Seventh-day Adventist Church and underscored its importance to the mission of the church.

"The conference was one of the best I have participated in," says Peter Opreh, M.D., CEO at Adventist Hospital Ile-Ife in Nigeria. "The sessions went beyond just professional best practices and highlighted a paradigm shift toward public health in the various communities. I understand that we need to step up our outreach in our communities."

Presentation topics for the conference ranged from board governance to financial management to strategic planning. The presentations were streamed live over the Internet to more than 30 different countries and around the United States.

The LLU Global Health Institute provided overall conference leadership, with support from a conference planning committee with cross-campus representation. In addition, GHI coordinated all logistics for more than 100 international attendees, including arranging flights, transportation and accommodations.

On Sabbath, Lowell C. Cooper, M.P.H., general vice president of the General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventists, shared the message of "A Healing Presence — In Jesus' Name." Cooper is chair of the Loma Linda University board of trustees and also chair of the Adventist Health International board.

"Being at this conference was what I imagine heaven will be like — seeing friends from all over the world," says Siow Leong Fam, M.D., general surgeon at Adventist Hospital Ile-Ife. "I met with missionaries from all parts of the world and saw old friends from India, Zambia and Malawi. This has emphasized to me that we are one family."

*Dustin R. Jones, MA*

JEFF JACKSON



*Attendees were encouraged to wear their native dress to a cultural banquet in their honor, held on Sunday, Oct. 21.*

JEFF JACKSON



*More than 300 health care professionals and administrators attended the first Global Health Care Conference, which was hosted by Loma Linda University in collaboration with Adventist Health International, Oct. 18 to 21.*

# Committee Approves Ordinations and Funds for Evangelism and Hurricane Relief

The last Pacific Union executive committee meeting each year is usually long and busy, and the meeting on Nov. 15 was no exception.

The executive committee unanimously approved requests to ordain two men and seven women. Most of the women who were approved for ordination have been in ministry for several years — in

some cases several decades — but they had previously been considered “commissioned.”

According to Bradford Newton, executive secretary of the Pacific Union, “This vote removes any reservations or limitations on the church’s affirmation of the ministry to which God has called these pastors and trainers of pastors.”

## Men approved for ordination:

1. Pablo Gaitan, Southern California Conference, pastor, Lynwood Spanish church, Los Angeles.
2. Mark Lastimoso, SCC, associate pastor, Glendale Filipino church.

## Women approved for ordination:

3. Yamileth (Yami) Bazan, vice-president for student life, La Sierra University.
4. Cherise Gardner, SCC, family ministries pastor, Glendale City church.
5. Myriam Salcedo-Gonzalez, SCC, pastor, All Nations church, Monrovia, Calif.
6. Ginger Hanks-Harwood, associate professor of religious and theological studies, H.M.S. Richards School of Divinity, La Sierra University.

7. Courtney Ray, SCC, associate pastor, Tamarind Avenue church, Compton, Calif.
8. Kendra Haloviak Valentine, associate professor of New Testament studies, H.M.S. Richards School of Divinity, La Sierra University
9. Janet White, SCC, associate pastor, Simi Valley church, Calif.

\$50,000 was approved for Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. “We are happy that we can help others in need,” said Ricardo Graham, union president.

The number of women ministers approved for ordination in the Pacific Union now stands at 21. “Almost all female ministers in this union who are doing the same work as ordained male ministers have now been approved for ordination,” says Newton. “There may be one or two more whose names have not yet come to the union committee for approval.”

In other business, \$50,000 was approved for Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. “Other parts of the North American Division and the world have helped the Pacific Union recover from fires and earthquakes,” commented Ricardo Graham, union president. “We are happy that we can help others in need.”

The committee also voted a new annual budget of up to \$50,000 for union-wide events planned by the local conference youth directors. This money will help fund union Bible bowls, Pathfinder camporees, youth congresses, etc. Because there is no youth department at the union level in the Pacific Union, there had previously been no budget for union-wide youth activities.

In another effort to compensate for the lack of a youth department, the committee voted to send Arnold Trujillo, union VP, and another

person (not yet determined) to the world youth congress in Pretoria, South Africa, July 8-13, 2013.

The North American Division has announced plans to select several large cities in this division for a wide range of concentrated evangelism during the next five years. The union committee voted to recommend the San Francisco/Oak-

land/Bay Area as one of those urban areas. “In the United States, there is only one large urban area with fewer than one Adventist per one thousand population,” said Trujillo. “This

is it; the San Francisco area.”

Bobby Mitchell, union director of African-American ministries, requested that the union not forget about the Los Angeles area, which, he said, is also in need of special efforts. “When I started this job nine years ago, there were 11,000 members in the predominantly black churches in the Los Angeles area,” said Mitchell. “Today that number has declined to 6,700. We need all the help we can get.” Administrators stated that extra help for San Francisco would not come at the expense of other areas.

In an unusual item of business, the committee voted to purchase the former Adventist Risk Management land and buildings at the corner of Pierce Street and Golden Avenue in La Sierra. The offices will most likely be leased to La Sierra University and La Sierra University church.

A request from the Arizona Conference for \$30,000 for Polish evangelism was approved. The committee also voted to ask the union treasury department to present, at the next meeting, a plan to fund evangelism for mostly-unreached language groups in the Los Angeles area, home to more than 70 language groups.

*Gerry Chudleigh*



**CALENDARS**

**Arizona**

**TEN DAYS OF PRAYER** (Jan. 3-12) Tucson Hispanic, Phoenix Central Spanish church, 821 W. Flower, Phoenix. Info: Cinthia, 480-991-6777, ext. 117.

**TEN DAYS OF PRAYER** (Jan. 10-19) Tucson Hispanic, Holiday Inn, 4550 South Palo Verde Road, Tucson. Info: Cinthia, 480-991-6777, ext. 117.

**RAW FOODS POTLUCK SUPPER** (Jan. 12) Central church, 777 W Montecito, Phoenix, 6:30 p.m. Newcomers, bring a vegetable or fruit salad without dressing. For recipe ideas, visit [www.hacres.com](http://www.hacres.com).

com. Info: [stanhowerton@yahoo.com](mailto:stanhowerton@yahoo.com) or 480-430-5492.

**DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING** (Jan. 19-20) Scottsdale. Info: Pastor Robert Lawson, 928-254-8345 or [ralawson74@hotmail.com](mailto:ralawson74@hotmail.com).

**ASIAN PACIFIC MINISTRIES CONVOCAATION** (Jan. 26) Info: Pastor Glenn Sta Ana, 520-404-8059 or [gstaana@gmail.com](mailto:gstaana@gmail.com).

**Central California**

**HISPANIC CHURCH OFFICERS TRAINING** (Jan. 5) San Jose Spanish church. Info: Florina, 559-347-3144 or [fmorales@cccsda.org](mailto:fmorales@cccsda.org).

**HEALTH SEMINAR** (Jan. 5) Bakersfield. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3142 or [ministries@cccsda.org](mailto:ministries@cccsda.org).

**CHURCH OFFICERS TRAINING** (Jan. 12) Mountain View. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3142, [ministries@cccsda.org](mailto:ministries@cccsda.org).

**GLOW RALLY** (Jan. 12) Fresno. Info: Desiree, 559-347-3152.

**HEALTH SEMINAR** (Jan. 19) Bay Area. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3142, [ministries@cccsda.org](mailto:ministries@cccsda.org).

**WOMEN'S RETREAT** (Jan. 25-27) Tenaya Lodge. Info: Pat, 559-342-2396. Applications: [cccwomens.adventistfaith.org](http://cccwomens.adventistfaith.org).

**HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT** (Feb. 1-3) Tenaya Lodge. Info: Florina, 559-347-3144, [fmorales@cccsda.org](mailto:fmorales@cccsda.org).

**PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE** (Feb. 2) Conference wide. Info: Sandra, 559-347-3144, [spasillas@cccsda.org](mailto:spasillas@cccsda.org).

**YOUTH FESTIVAL** (Feb. 8-9) Bay Area. Info: Sandra, 559-347-3144, [spasillas@cccsda.org](mailto:spasillas@cccsda.org).

**HISPANIC CONVOCAATION** (Feb. 8-9) Bakersfield. Info: Florina, 559-347-3144, [fmorales@cccsda.org](mailto:fmorales@cccsda.org).

**HEALTH SEMINAR** (Feb. 9) Bay Area. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3142, [ministries@cccsda.org](mailto:ministries@cccsda.org).

**La Sierra University**

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT** offers "Brash Bash," part of the Faculty Recital Series (Jan. 12) 7 p.m., and the Student Chamber Series String Orchestra on (Feb. 2) 7 p.m., both in Hole Memorial Auditorium. Free admission.

**BRANDSTATER GALLERY** Faculty Art Show (Jan. 14 - Feb. 3) with works by Beatriz Mejia-Krumbein, Terrill Thomas, Susan Patt, Tim Musso, and Susan Elizalde. Info: 951-785-2959.

**WINTER QUARTER BEGINS** (Jan. 7) Info: 800-874-5587.

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

**Nevada-Utah**

**SALT LAKE CITY** Area-Wide First Aid/CPR Training (Feb. 24) West Jordan church, 2125 West 9000 South, West Jordan, Utah 84088. Info: Pastor David Hall, Church Ministries Director, 775-322-6929, or e-mail: [nucyouthdirector@gmail.com](mailto:nucyouthdirector@gmail.com).

**Northern California**

**RETIRO DE LAICOS** (Jan. 18-20) Leoni Meadows. Hispanic Lay Leaders Retreat with Pastor Eleazar Cipriano. Info: Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5080.

**FUSION** (Jan. 26) 10 a.m. Sacramento Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Avenue. Teens, come for community service in the morning and worship in the afternoon. Lunch provided. Info: Youth Ministries Department, 925-603-5080.

**CHURCH CLERKS TRAINING** (Jan. 27) 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. NCC Headquarters, 401 Taylor Blvd., Pleasant Hill. Lunch provided. Info and reservations: NCC Church Clerk, 925-603-5001 or [tcchrane@nccsda.com](mailto:tcchrane@nccsda.com).

**FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE STUDENT RETREAT** (Feb. 1-3) Leoni Meadows. Open to all high school-aged freshmen and sophomores. Emphasis on student-led, small group Bible study. Info: Youth Ministries Department, 925-603-5080.

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**KEYNOTE ADDRESS:** Dan Jackson, NAD President

**FEATURED PRESENTERS:** Jose Rojas, Lafitt Cortes, Sharon Cress, Larry Witzel, Terry Johnsson, David Solomon Hall Sr., John Webster, Dave Gemmel, Rich DuBose, Jonathan Park, Cesar DeLeon

Pacific Union College

**NATURAL INSTINCTS** (Jan. 19-Feb. 9) Artists Fred Vedder and Gerald Arrington present an exhibition of fiber and encaustic art at PUC's Rasmussen Art Gallery. Opening reception at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

**MUSIC FACULTY RECITAL** (Jan. 26) 7 p.m., Paulin Hall Auditorium. Part of PUC's Fine Arts Series. Admission is free, donations accepted.

Southern California

**TEN DAYS OF PRAYER** (Jan. 9-19) 7 p.m. Glendale Filipino church, 606 S. Louise St. Prayer groups sponsored by small groups, in different homes. On Sabbaths (Jan. 12 and 19) special corporate prayer times will be held in the church from 4-6 p.m. Info: 818-543-0110.

**SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT** (Jan. 12) 4 p.m. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. featuring Weicheng Zhao. Zhao, still in his 20s, has become an organist who is sought worldwide for concerts. Donation received at the door. Info: 818-244-8241.

**HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD** Really Love Jesus (Jan. 12) 3:45-5 p.m. Altadena church, 2609 Lincoln Ave. An interview with author Donna J. Habenicht, Ed.D., Professor Emerita, Educational and Counseling Psychology, Andrews University. Q&A will follow.

(The book is available at the ABC.) Info: 626-794-3953.

**FIX MY LIFE YOUTH RALLY** (Jan. 18-19) Eustace Laurie III, assoc. pastor, Breath of Life church; Andrew Carpenter, religion teacher, San Gabriel Academy. Followed Jan. 19-20 by the Maranatha Jump Start Rally, Temple City church, 9664 Broadway. Info: fmlyouthrally.com.

**JUDAISM, ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY** in America and Toleration Seminar (Jan. 18-19) Alan Reinach, Esq., PARL director, Pacific Union Conference. Thousand Oaks church, Friday, 7 p.m.; The Place, Saturday, 11 a.m.; Newbury Park Library, 2331 Borchard Rd., Newbury Park, 3 p.m.


**L.A. ADVENTIST FORUM** (Jan. 26) 3 p.m. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Speaker, Sam McBride, Ph.D., English/Communication Dept., La Sierra University. Topic: "C.S. Lewis and the Adventist Church." Recommended reading: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Mere Christianity, Surprised by Joy, Preface to Paradise Lost*. Info: 818-244-7241.

**60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** of Simi Valley church (Jan. 26) and the 50th anniversary of the church's grand opening. Relive its history with reminiscences from former pastors and early members. Info: simiadventist@gmail.com; 805-526-0141.

"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."

— Exodus 20:8

SUNSETS



	Jan 4	Jan 11	Jan 18	Jan 25
Alturas	4:47	4:54	5:02	5:11
Angwin	5:03	5:10	5:17	5:25
Calexico	4:50	4:56	5:03	5:09
Chico	4:57	5:04	5:12	5:20
Eureka	5:03	5:10	5:18	5:27
Fresno	4:57	5:03	5:11	5:18
Hilo	5:56	6:01	6:05	6:10
Honolulu	6:03	6:08	6:13	6:18
Las Vegas	4:40	4:46	4:53	5:01
Lodi	4:59	5:06	5:13	5:21
Loma Linda	4:54	5:00	5:07	5:13
Los Angeles	4:58	5:04	5:11	5:18
Moab	5:10	5:16	5:24	5:32
Oakland	5:04	5:11	5:18	5:26
Phoenix	5:34	5:40	5:47	5:53
Reno	4:50	4:57	5:04	5:12
Riverside	4:55	5:01	5:07	5:14
Sacramento	4:59	5:06	5:13	5:21
Salt Lake City	5:14	5:21	5:29	5:37
San Diego	4:56	5:02	5:09	5:15
San Francisco	5:05	5:12	5:19	5:27
San Jose	5:04	5:10	5:18	5:25
Tucson	5:33	5:39	5:45	5:51



*Sharing Christ Through the Arts*

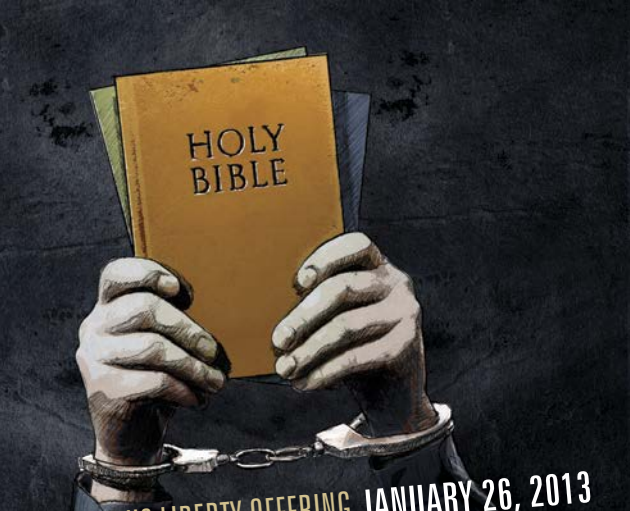
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**Bulletin Board**

**HAVE YOU WRITTEN** a children's book, life testimony, story of God's love, or your spiritual ideas and would like them published? Contact TEACH Services at 800-367-1844, ext. 3, or e-mail: [publishing@teachservices.com](mailto:publishing@teachservices.com), for a free manuscript review.

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**GUAM SDA CLINIC** is seeking individuals in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Orthopedic Surgeon, Nurse Practitioner, Rheumatologist, Dermatologists, Pediatricians, Hospitalist, Physician Assistant, Physical Therapist, OB/GYNs, Urologist, Surgeons, Cardiologist, Dental Director and Professional Recruiter. Call to learn about the benefits and opportunities at 671-646-8881, ext. 102; e-mail [hr@guamsda.com](mailto:hr@guamsda.com); visit [www.adventistclinic.com](http://www.adventistclinic.com).

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**PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE** has two fleet mechanic positions open in their Facilities Management Department. Qualified candidates should have experience in repairing and operating all types of machinery. ASE 1-9, bus certifications, and Class A license are preferred. For more information and to apply, visit: [www.puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings](http://www.puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings).

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**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for full-time, tenure-track faculty positions in Biology. For more information and application process, please visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>. The position will remain open until filled.

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for a full-time faculty position focusing on Medical-Surgical Nursing on the Portland, Oregon campus to begin September 2013. For more information and to apply, please visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>.

Events

**COMPREHENSIVE HYDROTHERAPY SEMINAR.** Wildwood Health Retreat. (Dec. 9-16). Learn to give home hydrotherapy treatments, both theory and hands-on practice. General revulsive; hot blanket pack; contrast baths; steam baths; wet sheet pack; and more. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$370. Contact: Charene, 931-724-6706. See website for details: [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org).

For Sale

**HAWAII SCUBA STORE** business partner needed. Current partner moved and wishes to sell his 49%. If you are interested in a solid business model, and enjoy Hawaii, or diving, or all three, and are intent on keeping the Sabbath a holy day, then let's talk. E-mail: [hiloceanadventures@gmail.com](mailto:hiloceanadventures@gmail.com). [www.hiloceanadventures.com](http://www.hiloceanadventures.com).

**IN GOD'S LOVE SONG,** Ginny Allen shows God's love through stories that come from the deepest places of the heart. *God's Love Song* is the women's sharing book for 2013. To order, call 800-765-6955, or shop online at [AdventistBookCenter.com](http://AdventistBookCenter.com).

**END-TIME HOPE.** Terrorist threats, devastating tornadoes, a shaky economy is enough to frighten anybody. Mark Finley's *End-Time Hope*, the 2013 sharing book, provides answers to the turmoil the world is facing. To order, call 800-765-6955 or shop online at [AdventistBookCenter.com](http://AdventistBookCenter.com).

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and 4 news networks. No monthly fees. We are an Adventist owned company shipping systems nationwide at affordable prices. Discounts on bulk orders. FREE Satellite Evangelism seminars available. 877-875-6532 or visit: [SDAdish.com](http://SDAdish.com) or [SatelliteEvangelism.com](http://SatelliteEvangelism.com).

Missing Members

**ALL NATIONS, ELK GROVE.** Attn: Sid Jones, 916-549-5286; e-mail: [sidneyirl@gmail.com](mailto:sidneyirl@gmail.com). Pat Agnello, Julio Alvvadaro, Veronica Anthony, Louis Arnold, Vera Arnold, Judy Ascunio, Katherine Ascunio, Sari-Anne Ascunio, Tiffany Ascunio, Eugene Barnett, Linda Barnett, David Benavides, Desiree Benavidez, Russell Berry, Alica Black, Vincent Blea, Larry Borreson, Linda Borreson, Sherry Borreson, Bounthay Bouttavong, Khamsay Bouttavong, Carnell Broom, Gina Broom, Dianne Bulanadi, Thongkham Bunphan, Patricia Burrirt, Beatriz Cardenas, Esperanza, Cejudo, Ignacio Cejudo, Daniel Cinciu, Delores Clippinger, Keith Collins, David Conley, Yumi Cooper, Pollyanna Cooper, Charlotte Carrigan, Jim Crawford, Deborah Czerkasij, Annette Denzer, Leland DeVoiile, Ronnie DeVoiile, Yukie DeVoiile, Virginia Donajoy, Le Angela Eason, Aurelio Estrella, Susan Feliciano, Adana Frucianso, Keiko Gamble, Chow Hop Wing Gee, Ryan Biberson, Jassen Guertin, Bill Hector, Kevin Hiroshima, Rick Huchinson, Kichiro Ichinose, Chanthachone Inthirath, Khamsay Inthirath, Xayavone Inthirath, Rhonda Jackson, Sandra Jackson, Letha Johnson, Michael Johnson, Viengxai, Khanyai, Willie Sun Ho Kim, Kongkai Kongsaisy, Sang Kongsaisy, Taen Kongsaisy, Makelesi Kuriseru, Toby Lao, Douangchanh Lattasima, Soukan Lattasima, Thomas Lewis, Gilbert Lopez, Cindy Lampa, Matt Lampa, Tony Lampa, Tessie Lozano, Donnie Lyons, Lam Foon Young Ma, Kathleen Marineau, Connie Mattos, Alexander Michkels, Jay Mintalar, Joel Mintalar, Perri Mintalar, Ray Mintalar, Ryan Mintalar, Yda Mintalar, Glenn Mintoma, Sherry Morones, JoAnn Nomura, Wendy Nomura, Morris O'Brien, Richard Oliver, Khamsone Onedara, Gail Pagailinan, David Parrilla, Kenneth Parvin, Angelina Pascua, Miguel Pascua, Charry Pelenio, Khamsob Rasasy, Sia Roney, Chiochiam, Saechao, Don Saetum, Violeta Sager, Pilar Sanchez, Mariko Sasano, Carolyn Schmidt, Lorez Schmidt, Barbara, Siemens, Lottana Silafau, Sly Silafau, Young Sim, Andrew Singh, Christina Singh, Avis Spencer-Murray, Anthony Tadena, Roy Takemoto, Greg Umipeg II, Miki Umezuo, Eleuterio Urboda, Gregoria Urboda, Jason Uyeyama, Aloun Vadisirisak, Sisomphone Vadisirisak, Somrae Vadisirisak, Ka Vang, Ma Vang, Mee Vang, Kham Vankham, Dottie Vert, William Vert, Winifred Villano, Rachel Vive-Almodovar, Dell Waggy, Bilha Wakhungu, William West, Davids Worlds, Keith-Holland Worlds, Khoua Yang, Mee Yang, Paoshoua Yang, Bryant Yee, Franklin Yee.

Real Estate

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Reunions

**SAVE THE DATE.** Valley View Adventist Academy, Arroyo Grande, Calif., marks 100 years of providing Christian education on the Central Coast. The Centennial Celebration is April 5-7. If you're an alumnus of VVAA or know of anyone who is, please contact Cheryl Vines at [sc\\_vines83@att.net](mailto:sc_vines83@att.net) or call 805-929-3706.

Vacation Opportunities

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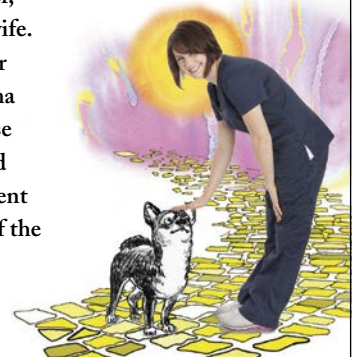
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*Sarah Winder is a dog lover, a dedicated walker and a wife. She's also a valued member of the nursing staff at Loma Linda. She brings her sense of humor, her humility and commitment to every patient interaction. Sarah is one of the people that help to make Loma Linda a center of clinical excellence and supportive faith-based care.*



Sarah Winder, RN

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**AT REST**

**BAIRD, EARLE JUDSON** – b. July 14, 1928, Sydney, Australia; d. Nov. 2, 2012, Newport Beach, Calif. Survivors: wife, Irene; daughters, Audrey Railey, Tracy Pacini, Kimberly Hertzog; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

**BALLEW, NAOMA** – b. Jan. 13, 1930, Tulare, Calif.; d. Oct. 21, 2012, Porterville, Calif. Survivors: sons, Mark, Jeff, Jerry; daughter, Cindy Silva; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

**BEVINS, DAVID SAMUEL** – b. July 14, 1935, New York City, N.Y.; d. Oct. 18, 2012, Auburn, Calif. Survivors: wife, Denephine Garcesa; sons, Ronald Lee, Donald Ray, Daniel Scott; daughter, Darla June Aaron; 14 grandchildren; brother, Robert Charles.

**BURT, GLEN BYRON** – b. March 9, 1953, Paso Robles, Calif.; d. Sept. 25, 2012, Los Angeles, Calif. Survivors: wife, Dawn; daughters, Amy Shultz, Lisa Lace; one grandchild.

**COMBS-SCOGGIN, JOSEPHINE D.** – b. July 12, 1930, Friona, Texas; d. Oct. 25, 2012, Klamath Falls, Ore. Survivors: husband, Donald; son, Kenneth Combs; daughters, Karen Stribling, Diana Curtis, Martha Freitas; 11 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; brother, Ralph Standiford; sisters, Opal Weber, Diane Beebe, Juanita Tozier.

**DOMINGO, ROSALIA M.** – b. Nov. 30, 1940, Paia, Maui, Hawaii; d. Nov. 1, 2012, Haiku, Maui, Hawaii. Survivors: sons, Lawrence, Rolando, John; daughters, Diana, Priscilla; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**HAMLIN, ANNE D.** – b. Oct. 6, 1915, Pine Knot, Ky.; d. Oct. 13, 2012, Las Vegas, Nev. Survivors: son, J. Andrew; daughter, Sally Tackley; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

**HANGER, HAZEL LEONA (KERR)** – b. Jan. 21, 1914, Cassville, Mo.; d. Oct. 15, 2012, La Quinta, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Kay Cook, Bonnie Smith, Gloria Risken; nine grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren.

*Correction:* **HANSON III, RUSSELL THEODORE (JOEY)** – b. Aug. 17, 1978, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Sept. 30, 2012, San Bernardino, Calif. Survivors: wife, Evelyn; daughter, Madison; father, Russell Theodore Hanson Jr.; mother, Virginia McJee-Leone; brothers, Matthew, Avery.

**HERNANDEZ, ERNESTO J.** – b. June 11, 1931, Lordsburg, N.M.; d. Oct. 16, 2012, Oakdale, Calif. Survivors: wife,

Bonnie; sons, Randy Marquez, Ernesto Jr., Sammy Marquez, Socrates, David Marquez; daughters, Tracy Brodner, Roxanne, Chenoa; 10 grandchildren.

**HUTCHINS, MARJORIE (PARKS)** – b. Sept. 27, 1933, Sonora, Calif.; d. Oct. 23, 2012, Sonora, Calif. Survivors: husband, Leroy; twin sons, Elwin, Erwin; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

**MAPLE, MAXINE "MACKY" ELAINE** – b. Aug. 11, 1924, Rock Island, Ill.; d. July 4, 2012, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: sons, Steven Brown, Gordon Brown; daughter, Terry Ann Van Eck; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

**MCDONALD, ALMA FLORENCE** – b. Sept. 3, 1922, Leola, S.D.; d. Jan. 31, 2012, Manteca, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Kathy Stearman, Karen, Sharon, Sandy Stauffer, Margie Beasley; eight grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; sister, Marlene Williams.

**MCMILLAN, EVANGELINE ROSE-MARY** – b. July 8, 1919, Walker, Minn.; d. Jan. 1, 2012, Manteca, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Ann M. Porter; two grandchildren.

**POWER, TERRY** – b. Oct. 1, 1950, Napa, Calif.; d. Oct. 25, 2012, Napa, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Ashley, Andrea; three grandchildren; brother, Ron; sister, Marsha.

**RIEHEL, WILLARA (LARRIE)** – b. Dec. 7, 1915, Minneapolis, Minn.; d. Oct. 11, 2012, Scarborough, Maine. Survivors: sons, James, Ronald; brother, Bill Chasky.

**SHIMKOWSKI, CARLA G. (ERM-SHAR)** – b. Feb. 19, 1926, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. Sept. 16, 2012, Auburn, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Kathie von Pohle, Jana Hammond; four grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

**SMITH, KENNETH DALE** – b. Aug. 8, 1929, Broken Bow, Okla.; d. Nov. 4, 2012, Sonora, Calif. Survivors: wife, Rebecca Jean; sons, Robert, Wade, Donald, Jack; daughters, Kathy Bacon, Sue Franks, Rita Bigbee, Rebecca Kohl, Laura; 21 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

*Correction:* **SPOTO, JOHN ANTHONY** – b. Aug. 7, 1938, N.J.; d. Dec. 27, 2011, Weaverville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Maria; daughters, Esther, Debbie, Diana; four grandchildren; brother, Leonard. Served as a Bible worker in the Northern California Conference and worked for Christian Record Services.

**STRAIGHT, WILLA M. (FORD)** – b. Dec. 19, 1926, Doloras, Colo.; d. Oct. 18, 2012, Oroville, Calif. Survivors: sons, Dean, Darrell; daughter, Crystal Nocelo; two grandchildren.

**TILLMAN, RUBY MAE** – b. Dec. 15, 1946, Woodbury, Ga.; d. Oct. 9, 2012, Las Vegas, Nev. Survivors: husband, William; son, Harold; daughters, Necretia Bastian, Nefetari Nickerson, Nicole.

**ZAPPIA, VIRGINIA MAE (BASSLER)** – b. April 16, 1951, Ann Arbor, Mich.; d. Nov. 19, 2012, Reno, Nev. Survivors: son, Joe; daughter, Donna Tucker; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. Served as a registered OB nurse both at the former Glendale Sanitarium and Northern Inyo Hospital.

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**Information** — Circulation is approximately 76,000 homes, and magazines are scheduled to arrive in homes by the last Thursday of the previous month. For more information about advertising, please click on the Advertising tab at [www.pacificunionrecorder.com](http://www.pacificunionrecorder.com), e-mail [commdept@puonline.org](mailto:commdept@puonline.org) or call 805-413-7280.

**Deadlines** —  
 February: January 3, 2013  
 March: January 29, 2013  
 April: February 26, 2013  
 May: March 26, 2013  
 June: April 30, 2013  
 July: May 28, 2013  
 August: June 25, 2013  
 September: July 30, 2013  
 October: August 27, 2013  
 November: October 1, 2013  
 December: October 29, 2013  
 January 2014: November 26, 2013



# PUC and LSU are teaming up to show how you can pay for college.

Financial aid can be one of the most intimidating parts of the college process. This winter, LSU and PUC will offer Financial Aid Workshops all over California. You'll learn about all of the steps you need to complete to get the highest amount of financial aid.

[www.puc.edu/fa-workshop](http://www.puc.edu/fa-workshop)

## Financial Aid Workshop Schedule/Jan-Feb 2013

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Jan 7</b> Bakersfield Adventist Academy  | <b>17</b> Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy                         |
| <b>8</b> Fresno Adventist Academy   | San Diego Academy (6:30)  |
| <b>9</b> Armona Union Academy<br>Mesa Grande Academy  | <b>22</b> Redding Adventist Academy<br>Glendale Adventist Academy |
| <b>10</b> Calexico Mission School (6:30)<br>Lodi Academy<br>Newbury Park Academy                    | <b>23</b> Paradise Adventist Academy                              |
| <b>14</b> El Dorado Adventist School<br>Loma Linda Academy  | <b>24</b> Central Valley Christian Academy                        |
| <b>15</b> Escondido Adventist Academy (6:30)<br>Pine Hills Adventist Academy                        | <b>28</b> Napa Christian Campus of<br>Education                   |
| <b>16</b> Redlands Adventist Academy<br>Sacramento Adventist Academy<br>San Fernando Valley Academy | <b>29</b> PUC Preparatory School                                  |
|   | <b>30</b> La Sierra Academy<br>Redwood Adventist Academy          |
|   | <b>31</b> Mountain View Academy                                   |
|   | <b>Feb 12</b> Hawaiian Mission Academy (6:30)                     |

*All presentations begin at 7 p.m. except as noted.*