

PACIFIC UNION

# recorder

CONNECTING THE PACIFIC UNION ADVENTIST FAMILY >> AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2015



38

**SEVENTEEN BAPTIZED**  
*During End-of-Year Service at La Sierra University*

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Kendra Haloviak Valentine, Richards Divinity School faculty member, baptizes Catherine Kent at the outdoor baptismal service held at La Sierra University in June.

PHOTO BY NATAN VIGNA

# PACIFIC UNION recorder

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# Union Mourns Gerry Chudleigh

## *Pacific Union Communication Director Passes Away July 4*

**G**erry Chudleigh, communication director for the Pacific Union, passed away July 4 after a year-long battle with non-smokers lung cancer.

George Norman Chudleigh Jr. was born on July 26, 1943, to Norman and Beth Chudleigh at Paradise Adventist Hospital in National City, Calif., near San Diego. Everyone except for Andrews University and a few churches and campers in the Northwest called him Gerry.

He attended El Cajon Adventist School, and then San Diego Academy. From there he went to college and graduate school, and earned degrees in theology from La Sierra College and then the seminary at Andrews University.

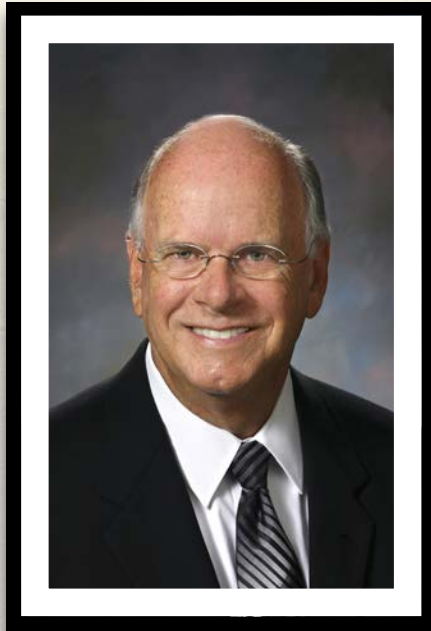
He pastored Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Washington Conference and was frequently called on to be the interim pastor for churches in Southern California. He served as youth director in the Oregon, Texas, and Southeastern California conferences.

Chudleigh's career in communication and media began with a stint as the vice president for marketing and communications for Pacific Living Centers, owned by Adventist Health. He served Faith For Today Television as manager, public relations director and development director. He then worked in the North American Division as the associate director of the Church Resources Consortium. From 2002 until his death, Chudleigh was the director of communication for the Pacific Union.

Chudleigh began his long association with Adventist youth work at about age 10, when he became a Pathfinder in the El Cajon Pathfinder Club. He was a Pathfinder ever after. During high school, Chudleigh was a fixture at Idyllwild summer camp, and then at Pine Springs Ranch, eventually becoming the director of the camp. When PSR was devastated by a fire several years ago, Chudleigh was among the first to visit and photograph the camp, and was active in raising money for its reconstruction.

In the 1970s, Chudleigh was on the frontline of those who lead the church from the "MV Society" culture of the 1950s to the youth ministry culture that persists to this day. He was a vocal advocate for all aspects of youth ministry throughout his career.

Chudleigh was a world-renown authority on 20th century author Harold Bell Wright, famous



for his controversial novel, *The Calling of Dan Matthews*.

Chudleigh was also an expert on the filming locations of the 1963 Hollywood classic, "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World," and would, without any warning or provocation, turn into a human GPS and go off looking for a hill or tree or turn in the road that appeared in the film.

Chudleigh also loved to travel. He enjoyed run-of-the mill road trips, but especially off-roading in his Jeep Rubicon. He sought opportunities to scare his wife, Mary, by crawling along sheer cliffs and over big boulders. He also traveled internationally with the media ministries and shooting pictures with Hope for Humanity.

He loved to build and tinker, starting with stringed instruments like guitars, then clocks, and even rebuilding a Porsche and turning it into a Targa convertible because he wanted to prove it could be done.

During the last five years, Chudleigh has been an outspoken supporter of equality in ministry and the ordination of Seventh-day Adventist women to the gospel ministry. His booklets and published writings on these issues, as well as his personal advocacy and leadership, has won him the affection and respect of pastors and scholars all over the world.

Chudleigh is survived by his beloved wife, Mary; his sisters, Irene Priester and Ellie Veverka; his children and stepchildren, Brian and Hafize Chudleigh, Brenda Taeye, John and Amy Lewis, Richard Lewis, and Shannon Lewis; his grandchildren, Stella Chudleigh, Luke Chudleigh, Seth Lewis, Amanda Schumacher, Amelia Schumacher, Addison Schumacher; his nieces, Deweese Quigley, Selena MacArthur, Jody McAlexander, Chandra O'Neil, Chalene Abreu; and nephew, Darryl Priester Jr.



*B.J. Christiansen, left, and Gerry Chudleigh, right, address attendees at a Pathfinder event.*



*Gerry Chudleigh shows a woman her photo in the back of the camera.*

*Ray Tetz*

# Pacific Union Embraces Mission, Moves Forward with Ministry

**B**y now, most Seventh-day Adventists have read countless stories and watched reports detailing and analyzing every moment of the 60th General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, July 2-11. The quinquennial world church business session, which drew as many as 65,000 visitors on weekends, was the largest and longest convention the City of San Antonio has ever hosted.

Delegates, 2,566 of them on the official roster, voted scores of times on actions, both mundane (such as changing the word “tithes” to “tithe” in official documents) and controversial (including those related to creation and women’s ordination).

## The Big Question

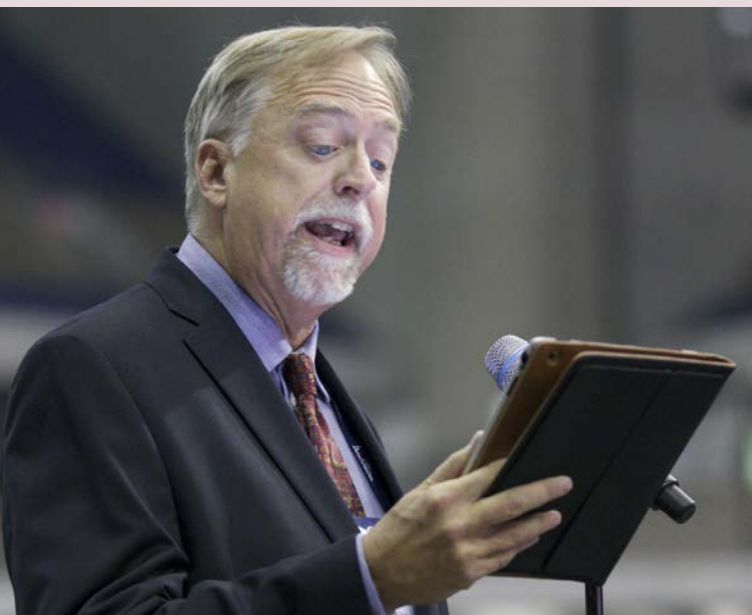
On Wednesday, July 8, delegates wrestled with the issue of whether or not to allow the 13 geographical divisions of the international church to decide for themselves if they will permit women pastors to be ordained to the gospel ministry within their territories. Delegates said no with a vote of 1,381 to 977.

The vote left current policy unchanged and did not address whether women can function as credentialed church pastors or ordained elders and deaconesses (those roles are already allowed by policy).

Because it views the full participation and recognition of women pastors as crucial to the success of ministry and mission in its territory, the Pacific Union, which covers the Pacific Southwest region of the United States and is part of the North American Division, held a special constituency session on Aug. 19, 2012, where its delegates voted (79 percent to 21 percent) to “approve ordinations to the gospel ministry without regard to gender.” Several of

the seven local conferences within the Union have been ordaining women pastors since then, and there are 22 ordained female pastors currently serving in the union (Northern California Conference – 4; Southeastern California Conference – 10; Southern California Conference – 4; La Sierra University – 3; Pacific Union College – 1).

The July 2015 vote did not impact the mission or ministry of the church in the Pacific Union. “We will continue to deploy all the gifts God has given our members, with appropriate recognition,” says Ricardo Graham, president of the Pacific Union.



*Brad Newton, executive secretary for the Pacific Union, encourages delegates to vote Y-E-S for Youth, Evangelism and Submission in love.*



*Delegates, guests and staff stopped in the prayer room to bring special requests before God each day.*



*Pacific Union President Ricardo Graham speaks in favor of a yes vote on the question of women's ordination.*



DAVID B. SHERWIN

Fun Run participants stretch before starting the 5K.



PIETER DAMSTEGT

Pastor Tara VinCross speaks to Impact San Antonio attendees.

“The Pacific Union is committed to the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” continues Graham. “It is worth noting, though, that mission and ministry are different. Both are essential. The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to preach, teach and live the three angels’ messages, globally. Ministry, on the other hand, is built on the specific gifts given by God to His people in a geographical area. We stand unified with the world church

secretary. “The Pacific Union has had a large part in helping the church overseas to grow. As those divisions have been so involved in growing, they have not had the opportunity to understand the challenges we have been facing in North America. We have to find a creative way to demonstrate our dual commitment to the world church and to the work needed in our Pacific Union churches.”

on the mission as articulated in the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

Graham quotes from the book *Evangelism* by Ellen White, one of the church’s founders: “My workers are different in temperament, and their ways and manners are different, but we blend in action and stand united in spirit, seeking to help and strengthen one another” (pp. 102-103).

“We definitely have a commitment to be part of the world church,” says Bradford Newton, executive

“While the vote at the GC Session denies authority for divisions to decide on ordination in their respective territories, the Pacific Union intends to support women in ministry to the fullest extent,” Graham says. “We will recognize the operation of the Holy Spirit among all God’s people.”

### Other Business

Though the ordination discussion was the most watched, delegates completed a great deal of other business, as well.

They elected church leaders, including incumbents Ted N.C. Wilson as president of the General Conference and Daniel R. Jackson as president of the North American Division, as well as dozens of other division and General Conference officers and directors.

They also voted to recognize many new union missions and union conferences, most of them in Africa and South America, indicating rapid church growth in those areas.

Over the course of the session, the body looked at revisions to the Church Manual, which describes the governance, operations and functions of local churches. Some proposed changes were accepted, others were rejected, and some were referred back to the Church Manual Committee for reconsideration. Items discussed included who is allowed to preach in local churches, reasons for disciplining members, communion services, finance issues, local church officers, and more.

Delegates also voted amendments to all 28 of the Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists and to the General Conference Constitution and Bylaws. For a transcript of all the business sessions, including the actions taken during each meeting, see [www.adventistreview.org/gcs2015-proceedings](http://www.adventistreview.org/gcs2015-proceedings).

### Outside the Dome

While official delegates wrestled over church business, thousands of other visitors flocked to the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center to stroll through the exhibit hall, attend various ministry workshops, listen to concerts, hear about the latest in healthcare and mission work, and even watch movie screenings.

Still others decided there had been enough talk and took their ministry to the streets. Approximately 500 young adults ages 18 to 35 attended Impact San Antonio, a 10-day community service initiative that ran concurrently with

SETH SHAFER



**Impact San Antonio volunteers head out into the community to serve local residents.**

the main session. Weekend sessions swelled to as many as 4,000.

Benjamin Lundquist, young adult ministries director for the Arizona Conference, coordinated scheduling for the event. "Impact brought together young adults from around the world to worship, serve and network," he said. "It inspired our leaders to dream bigger and broader for the cause of Christ. I know we will see many more innovative young adult ministry efforts happen in the Pacific Union in the years to come. This experience proved that there is power in uniting together to move mission forward."

In June, 20-year-old Carissa Belonio, a Loma Linda Filipino church member, was fresh off a year serving as a student missionary in Pohnpei, Micronesia. She was struggling to readjust and "was hungry to return to missions and continue working for Christ," she says. "Impact San Antonio was an incredible blessing and an answer to prayer. It was so inspiring to see Adventist young adults from across the entire world, setting aside differences in opinion and culture, and uniting together in what we've been called to do — serve. I am encouraged to see our church taking action for the Lord."

"Impact was one of the most encouraging and inspiring young adult experiences I've ever had as an Adventist," says Akande Davis, 24,

of Phoenix, Ariz. "Young adults were out there getting their hands dirty and working hard. It's one thing when a church talks about doing

something vs. actually doing it. San Antonio was changed for the better."

During the 10-day event, participants, including 50 volunteer leaders, completed 12 training sessions and 14 major service projects, and distributed more than 2,000 bottles of water, 750 hygiene packs, and hundreds of hugs to passersby at the Alamo.

One of the most noticeable new developments for this session over its predecessors was the major role social media played in disseminating information about everything from business sessions to local restaurant options. Thousands of people followed moment by moment on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other outlets, keeping pace with hashtags such as #GCSA15, #IMPACTSA15, and others. There was no daily print newsletter distributed on site, and the trend toward digital communication will likely continue sharply upward.

The next 61st General Conference Session will convene in the summer of 2020. Organizers chose Indianapolis, Ind., as the host city.

*Alicia J. Adams*



**Daryl Gungadoo, Global Research Engineer, Adventist World Radio helps Adam Sabangan to use the 360 degree virtual reality headset on display in the AWR booth.**

# Central Celebrates 135 YEARS of Camp Meeting

**F**or the 135th year, the Central California Conference has organized a 10-day camp meeting experience that draws campers and attendees from all over North America. Since the late 1940s, the event has been hosted at the Soquel Conference Center, located a mere three miles from the Pacific Coast. Central's camp meeting attracts several thousand resident campers, swelling to more than 10,000 attendees on weekends.

## A Centralizing Theme

This year's camp meeting theme, "The Master's Keys: Unlocking the Abundant Life," centered on the concept of stewardship. While most Christian believers are familiar with stewardship, programming at this year's event gave campers a chance to fully explore this powerful principle that calls Christians to wise management of life's God-entrusted resources. Various speakers and seminar presenters emphasized five significant life areas that call believers to stewardship: time, talents, treasure, temple (or body), and terra (the Latin word for earth).

These themes emphasized the fact that while people respond to Christ's invitation to use these resources to serve and to enlarge the Kingdom of Heaven, they will become keys to living the full and abundant life that Jesus spoke of long ago. "The theme this year sought to place the biblical stewardship model in its original biblical holistic frame," explains Ramiro Cano, president of the Central California Conference. "We learned that stewardship is not just about money, but involves an all-inclusive utilization of life's God-given resources. I was thrilled to see how each camp meeting speaker unlocked the richness of 'the Master's [stewardship] Keys' for a full and abundant life."

Keynote speakers for 2015 challenged the congregations with inspiring messages. The lineup in the main auditorium included Oakwood University President Leslie Pollard, It Is Written speaker/director John Bradshaw, famed storyteller Dick Duerkson, and speaker/president of The Biblical World, Tony Moore. Spanish-language keynote presenters included La Voz de la Esperanza's Omar Grieve, North American Division Vice President Ernest Castillo, and Roger Hernandez, who serves as ministerial and evangelism director in the Southern Union Conference.

"We have seen many of the speakers on recorded programs," said Len and Sharon LaClair from New Mexico, "but when you see them in person, their personalities and sense of humor really comes through." Evening speakers included pastor and stewardship author Roland Hill, White Horse Media speaker/director Steve Wohlberg, former NAD stewardship director Ed Reid, and Light Bearers co-director Ty Gibson. These and other messages and programs are available online at [ccc.adventist.org/campmeeting](http://ccc.adventist.org/campmeeting).



*Leslie Pollard delivers powerful messages to a packed main auditorium.*





## Inspiring Programming

Programming featured a series of compelling stories, testimonies, and reports called Miracle Roadways. More than three dozen segments featured Central members and leaders sharing ways in which God has been transforming lives throughout Central and beyond. Among the stories shared were the results of several evangelistic series presented by a group of Hispanic ladies, by a deaf evangelist, and by academy students. Others shared exciting accounts of church planting, community relations, and members who have won neighbors and friends for Christ. Cano shared several key reports about major conference initiatives including a new Life Hope Centers initiative aimed at creating ministry centers around Central and a mobile dentistry service being

launched first in the Bay Area. "This is the place where we can come together to talk about mission, plan for mission, and implement mission," observed one CCC pastor. "This has been more evident this year than I have seen in the past 13 years that I've attended camp meeting in Soquel."

Various conference departments including GLOW, discipleship, and youth ministries also shared memorable stories associated with the scope of their ministries. All Miracle Roadways ultimately focused on individual people and how the gospel has added value to or completely transformed their lives. "Our goal continues to be to encourage and inspire people to participate in ministry and outreach, and these Miracle Roadway stories provide tangible evidence that if one person can do it, then we all can," said David



Hudgens, pastor of the East Palo Alto church and administrative director of worship programming for camp meeting.

A new programming feature was a service of recognition in which several people were recognized for their service for Jesus in the CCC. Onalee Showalter, long-time conference employee and administrative assistant to the president, was recognized as she retires in 2015; evangelist Taj Paceb, along with his wife, Wati, was recognized for his successful efforts as he leaves Central to launch a new faith-based, church supporting evangelistic ministry; appreciation was extended to camp meeting organist Ed Wagner as he retires this year; Jim

Hobbs and Gary Reese were recognized for their many years of service to the camp meeting audio-visual ministries, and Tibor Shelley, associate communication director, along with media professionals Terry Cantrell and Paul Zenk, were recognized for winning a Telly Award for the Bridges to Health review video. "We have been so blessed by the ministries of all of these individuals, and it was an honor to recognize them for their work and for their commitment to serve the Lord," said Ron Rasmussen, CCC's executive secretary.

Music continues to be a big part of Soquel camp meeting. This year's robust lineup of musicians included Ignacio Lucero, Mayra Hamilton, Gerson Raul Perla, The Lamb Wins, Lloyd Shand, the Miranda Family and many others, along with a mass camp meeting choir. The men's group Christian Edition, the Breath of Life quartet, and solo artist Shelea Frazier presented full concerts. "The Breath of Life quartet was so inspiring," commented April Hyatt, from Coarsegold, Calif. "I'll definitely be purchasing their CD." As in years past, dynamic praise team Revelation of Hope led the congregation in worship throughout the 10 days.



*Breath of Life choir fills the auditorium with music.*

VICTOR CARRERO

### Adventures Abound

Camp meeting wouldn't be the same without a full array of children's programming. In line with this year's theme, kids of various ages focused on "living the abundant life." Each division had its own sub-theme and Scripture verses that went along with the programs. In the beginners' tent, little ones learned through the theme, "Jewels for Jesus." "Even at this young age, we can effectively share Jesus' love for each child," shared Rosa Gillham, Central's children's

*So much happens behind the scenes in the main auditorium.*



VICTOR CARREIRO

ministries director. “We’re happy to say that we have had large numbers of participants this year.”

The kindergarten division focused on “Standing Strong for God.” A new addition to the tent this year was the science corner. Each afternoon, children observed fun and educational science experiments, while learning to put on the “Full Armor of God.” More than 80 kids participated by singing and sharing about God’s strength and power. Meanwhile, the primary tent staff taught children to learn and memorize Scripture to music. Some of the verses were quite long. The staff used both music and décor that featured natural disasters to help children remember the verses. Children learned that they can trust God and be fearless because God promises to go alongside them at all times.

In the junior tent, leaders used a new resource from the NAD called Stewardsville. Each activity built on the other to teach kids how to be good stewards for God, using time, talents, treasures, and their temple and terra to develop practical and positive life skills. “What an awesome opportunity it is to share with these young people the love God has for each one of us,” concluded Gillham.

### Younger Generations

Camp meeting also had many offerings for teens and young adults. Youth tent activities included inspiring testimonies in the morning by various speakers. In the afternoon, teens were able to participate in the ministry of outreach by helping to clean up the property at VHM Christian School, while giving encouragement to the community. The youth tent also featured powerful evening talks given by speakers including Lo-Ammi Richardson. Teens explored practical

steps toward gaining a strong relationship with God. Several requested baptism. “If you’re really searching, you’ll find it here,” says Kendra Miranda, a teen from Fresno, Calif. “You know others here are going through the same struggles that you are. I leave every night with a blessing.”

Program organizers explained that interaction, relevance and transformation have been key to the experience in the young adult division. Each morning, they met together in small groups to share and discuss different Bible stories. This smaller, more interactive format has helped the young adults connect and share with their peers in a relevant way. Each

VICTOR CARREIRO



*Omar Grieve delivers a message with passion in the Spanish tent.*

# Faces of Soquel: *Sajeda Charter*

Camp meeting is a place where many people make decisions for Christ. Every year, dozens of people choose to be baptized in front of friends, loved ones and the entire conference family.

Five in the Spanish tent followed Sajeda Charter, the first candidate to be baptized in the main auditorium. Pastors Earl Canson and Dennis Ray officiated her service on the opening Sabbath afternoon. The sixth-grader took baptism classes as part of her religious education at Fresno Adventist Academy this past year. Her family now worships with the Fresno Westside congregation.



MARK BRUNING

Taneshia Kerr **Pastor Earl Canson baptizes Sajeda Charter.**

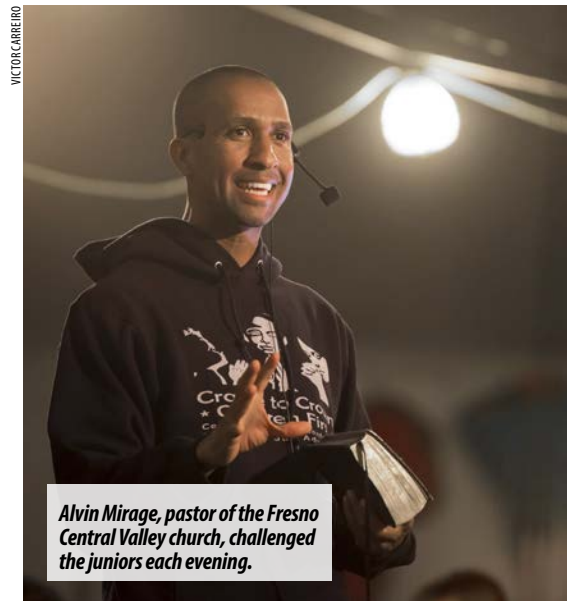
individual brought a fresh perspective to the table, enriching others' understanding of these powerful Bible stories. "Seeing familiar thoughts from a different perspective has helped me get a bigger picture and greater understanding of how to apply the Bible to my life, and also to develop closer friendships with other young adults," said Haben Tekeste, a young adult from San Jose, Calif.

Another young adult from Chowchilla, Calif., found the small groups helpful because, although she is very shy, she felt comfortable sharing with others in the group. The ultimate goal of each group was to apply the story in a transformational way. Young adults were encouraged to think of specific ways they could apply Bible truth to their own lives. The groups grew each day, and participants were encouraged to start similar groups upon returning to their own churches. Speakers for the young adult programs included Amie Regester and Coming Out Ministries, resulting in multiple commitments for baptism. Young adults expressed appreciation for the diverse programming available. "In such events as these, they always dwell on things we already know," explained Femi Archie, a young adult from Valencia, Calif. "This young adult program challenged us to grow and showed us how to tackle worldly influences and to experience God in different ways."

**Younger campers attend their own meetings.**



MARK BRUNING



VICTOR CARRERO

**Alvin Mirage, pastor of the Fresno Central Valley church, challenged the juniors each evening.**

## A Constant Reality

Prayer, a core value of CCC, is lived out perhaps most evidently during each camp meeting season. Every driver registering at the front gate is greeted by members of the prayer team, who take time to pray with each camper. Throughout the event, the team also operates a prayer room, named The Upper Room, which offers personalized prayer and anointing, an informative booth, and, for the first time this year, offered a walk-through model of the sanctuary. Attendees were encouraged to prayerfully reflect on the significance of each symbol and room. "Over the years we've witnessed many answers to prayer, healings and the lifting of burdens," says Joyce Mulligan, Central prayer coordinator. "This year was no different, and we praise God for it!"

## Learning Opportunities

In addition to corporate meetings, Soquel offered a variety of seminars throughout its campus on a number of topics. This year, options included several health-related seminars including "Longevity Lifestyle Matters — Keeping Your



The newly designed main auditorium stage featured more space.

VICTOR CARREIRO

# Faces of Soquel:

## Maxine Smith

Maxine Smith has been coming to camp meeting since it was first held in Soquel in 1948. As a girl, her family came only on Sabbaths and didn't start camping until 1953. "We stayed in a tent that first time; we didn't get a trailer until the second year," she said.

VICTOR CARREIRO



David and Maxine Smith

The oldest of seven children, she remembers smashing boxes and sliding down the side of the hill with her siblings. "We would keep going until we heard security calling for parents to come and get their children off the mountain," Smith laughs.

Smith and her family came to camp meeting faithfully for decades. She has fond memories of worshipping in the junior and youth tents, memories that come flooding back whenever she sings hymns like "Lift Up The Trumpet" and "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus." "We would stand up and reach for heaven!" she remembers. "We would rock this place when we sang in that tent."

In 1984, with a family of her own, her responsibilities made it difficult to continue attending. Now a grandmother, Smith has returned so her grandchildren can have the same kind of experience she did. "There are so many trailers now and all the technology and screens are wonderful," Smith comments. "But even though a lot has changed, it's still the same camp meeting I remember. It's so great that everybody can still come together and bond together like this."

Taneshia Kerr

Brain, Body and Weight in the Game," with brain expert Arlene Taylor, "Achieving Abundant Family Health," with psychologist Carlton Oler, an exercise class offered by Esther Alonso-Neal, and "Eat More Rainbows," a cooking class by Charmaine Vierra. Spiritual growth seminars included "The Psychological Ramifications of Righteousness" by Faith with Ty Gibson, "Defining Discipleship" with Leah Jordache and Don MacLafferty, a current events seminar with Steve Wohlberg, and a history and archeology seminar with Tony Moore. Other offerings included an informative financial stewardship

seminar with Ed Reid, a wills and trusts seminar with Chuck Simpson, a how-to seminar on mastering Bible software e-Sword, and a ham radio training course. "The seminars at Soquel have urged me to prepare for the coming of Christ now!" says Joyce Gregory, an attendee from Cutler, Calif., commenting on Wohlberg's seminar.

### Soquel 2.0

One of the most notable changes this year involved the design, staging and technology in both the main auditorium and the Hispanic tent. Both stage sizes were expanded significantly to allow for more programming variety, with an additional 200 square feet of stage space in the main auditorium alone. Sergio Cano, CCC lead graphic designer and director of creative services for camp meeting, designed both stages to accommodate larger platforms, utilizing



Kenny Fraser, prayer team member and pastor of the Mountain View church, welcomes campers as they arrive on campus.

MARK BRILING

# Faces of Soquel: *William Leyva*



VICTOR CARREIRO

**W**illiam Leyva is looking for Jesus, and came to Soquel in search of a spiritual reset. “I need a change in my life, and I can’t take the steps to process that out there [in the world],” the homeless San Francisco native explained. “Here, I can reflect and get built up by other people of faith.”

Leyva, who has been attending the Adventist church for a year, comes from a background of Satanism, drugs and alcohol, which left him sleeping on the floor of an office building. “One night I saw ‘A Trip Into the Supernatural — Roger Morneau,’ and I was like, ‘Wow that’s so much truth! I just had to find these Seventh-day Adventists.’ Since then, he’s been attending the San Francisco Central church and is excited to be at his first camp meeting. “The speakers are just, wow!” says Leyva. “I love Roland Hill’s enthusiasm and Dr. Arlene Taylor, I just love her!”

*Taneshia Kerr*

**Charmaine Vierra demonstrates how to Eat More Rainbows.**



multiple thematic banners and projected surfaces all designed to match this year’s theme. “The entire Hispanic tent has been upgraded, from the stage to the sound system,” said Martin Giron, a Spanish-speaking attendee from Salinas, Calif. “This is important because the Lord deserves the very best.”

Much of the work on the stage upgrades was done by Central pastors along with communication department staff, while some of the materials were donated by Fresno-area businesses. All banners were printed in-house at the CCC headquarters in Clovis at a significant discount off market rates. “We’re extremely grateful for the many donated hours of labor as well as donated materials that have helped us make these and other improvements in a

cost effective way,” explains Costin Jordache, Central’s vice president for communication.

This year also represented the first time that the Soquel camp meeting, in both the main auditorium and Hispanic tent, has been captured and broadcast using high-definition cameras, complete with a 20-foot boom used to create visually dynamic shots. “The HD environment helps us share the Soquel camp meeting experience with those who aren’t able to attend with clarity and appealing visual presentation,” says Tibor Shelley, CCC’s associate director of communication.

“I am extremely grateful for the spirit of unity among our leaders, pastors and administrators,” adds Antonio Huerta, CCC’s director of Hispanic ministries. “I praise God for the major improvements made to our Spanish tent. The Spirit of God has brought us together here at Soquel, and we’ve experienced the presence of God.” Central’s camp meeting continues to increase its national and international audience, drawing viewers from as far as Europe.

VICTOR CARRERO



*Campers live the tent life.*

VICTOR CARRERO



*Kids play a football scramble in "Central City," the primary RV area adjacent to the main auditorium.*

Having a camping trailer affords people their own restrooms and showers, eliminating the need to line up at 5 a.m. to beat the morning rush. In addition, this year Soquel saw record high temperatures reaching nearly 90 degrees, and those in trailers with air conditioning appreciated an escape from the relentless heat.

## Home Away from Home

For those enjoying the experience in person, attendees and campers have several options for accommodations at the Soquel Conference Center. This year however, represented a milestone for RV camping. Rows 1-5 of the Central City RV lot, housing 97 RVs, received upgraded full-hookup utilities and expanded lots this year. Campers celebrated by continuing to create homes away from home. Many RV lots were uniquely outfitted and decorated, complete with hanging lanterns, mod shade structures, colorful deck chairs, fresh potted plants, astro-turf porches, wind chimes, umbrellas and hanging lights.

Overall, most people anticipated meeting up with old and new friends. Yvonne Valles enjoyed cozy get-togethers and just relaxing. "It's like a home, but not, with our little yards to sit and greet people as they pass," added Letti Esquivel of Visalia, Calif. RVers admit that it takes a lot of work to pack up and load a trailer, only to unload it 10 days later; but the fellowship, unity, rekindled friendships, and camaraderie is well worth the effort, they say.

*Debbie Fritz, Noemi Roman-Gallego, Costin Jordache, Zac Page, Sue Schramm and Sabrina Velasquez*

# Couple Celebrates Silver Renewal at Soquel

A few Soquel campers spotted an unusual site as a "bride and groom" made their way to the earliteen tent. "Soquel has always been the high of our year and a place to recharge our batteries," said Jeannette and Garrick Peterson. "We thought, what better place to renew our vows after 25 years?"

Jose Rojas, who performed the couple's wedding 25 years ago, met them at the altar. The unity candle used in the original ceremony was not cooperative, and Rojas remarked. "The symbolism of the unity candle is two people becoming one. There was no need for real fire. Their marriage had been lit by the fire of the Holy Spirit. Truly they did light their candle. And it continues to be lit by the love of God that reigns in their home. It's kept their marriage together and made their love real."

*Noemi Roman-Gallego*



*Jeannette and Garrick Peterson renew their vows.*

VICTOR CARRERO

# Canoga Park Spanish Church Inaugurates New Building

On May 30, the Canoga Park Spanish church held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the inauguration of their building. To start the celebration, deaconesses led visitors on a tour of the building after Sabbath school, while members were taken on a different route, to the sidewalk outside the front of the church.

There, they waited quietly for the deaconesses to bring the visitors to witness the ribbon cutting from inside the church. Pastor Javier Caceres directed the ribbon-cutting ceremony from the church front door. Using a small megaphone, Caceres called the members to enter and witness the ceremony. Velino Salazar, SCC president and a former pastor of the church; and Luis Peña, Hispanic Region director, cut the ribbons for both doors of the large front entrance. From the foyer, Salazar unveiled a dedication plaque and read its message to the congregation. Pathfinder director Socorro Dickerson and her sister, Rosa Caceres, along with 15 Pathfinders, led the congregation into the building.

Eight former pastors attended the inauguration, including Antonio Cabrera, Jose Luis Martinez, Ian Leyva, who are still serving in SCC churches.

Maria Yañez has been a member of Canoga Park Spanish church longer than any other member — more than 35 years. “I moved

away for 10 years to the Van Nuys Spanish church,” she said, “but I came back to Canoga Park. My happiest memories are of doing missionary work and canvassing for the church. My children were baptized and got married here,” she added. “On the inauguration day, I felt humbled to see what God had done for us and wished those who had passed away could have been there on that special day.”

The ceremony not only marked the church’s inauguration; it was also a celebration of the church’s unique history. “Our church is considered a miracle,” said Javier Caceres, the current pastor. “Fifteen years ago, when Gustavo Suarez was pastor, the church bought land for \$230,000 in order to build a church. When we realized that the cost of building was too high for us, we offered the land for sale.

Two years ago, a developer offered \$1.8 million for the land, but we knew we would need more to purchase a building, so we told the developer we would wait for a better offer. He soon came back with a final offer of \$2.2

million. We found a building that we wanted to purchase for \$3 million. We bought it and were one and a half years in escrow when the owner dropped the price to \$2.2 million. We were blessed to be able to buy our new church with no debt!”

“The Canoga Park Spanish church rented the facilities at San Fernando Valley Academy for 15 years,” noted Abel Rosario Jr., communication director. “God had helped church leaders find a beautiful new place in Van Nuys, and the congregation moved into it in August 2013. After many repairs and renovations, the church finally shines and will be evangelizing until the Lord comes.”

*Abel Rosario Jr. and Betty Cooney*



*Members line up outside for the ribbon cutting ceremony.*



*Pastors Peña and Salazar officiate at the unveiling of the commemorative plaque.*



*Pastor Javier Caceres, center, calls members to the ceremony as Pastor Velino Salazar, left, looks on. Long-time member Maria Yañez, right, holds a tray with the scissors for the ribbon cutting.*

PHOTOS BY ABEL ROSARIO JR.



# Russian-American Church Celebrates 50 Years of Ministry

The Russian-American church celebrated its 50th anniversary on the weekend of May 30. On Sabbath, the church was filled to capacity with members, many of them young adults who now worship in area English-speaking churches so they can improve their English. Russian believers also came from Arizona, Oregon and San Diego. Artur Stele, a general vice president of the Adventist world church, was the featured speaker for the weekend.



*Choral and instrumental music laced the weekend celebration, including Siuzanna Iglidan playing a Russian-Armenian instrument called a bandura.*

"Our purpose is to become living Bibles," Stele said, "to walk according to the Word. Many people may read only a live Bible."

Alex Parasuk, former pastor of the church, reflected on the church's earlier days. "God took care of this church when it was established," he said. "When I was pastor here, my sister came, but she couldn't find the church because she spoke no English. One day while she was in class, a lady said, 'I am a believer.'"

"Which church?" my sister asked. 'I am Adventist.' That's how God helped my sister find the church!

"By 1974, the church had paid all of its debt, and the church needed to be remodeled, but there was not enough money," Parasuk continued. "The members decided to begin. Then a fire

broke out at night due to an electrical problem. People offered the church the use of their building for worship services, but the congregation wanted to continue in their own church and do the repairs. At that time, three young people came with their mother, and members felt we could offer nothing for the young people. Later, a couple came to offer youth meetings, so we invited local young people. The circle of friends expanded greatly."

"An elder named Alex Mikhnilouk worked on the church building repair," said Valentina Gumeny, currently the church clerk and secretary, "and Elder Parasuk worked on the church building for three years while he was pastor at our church." Pastor Aivars Ozolins, currently pastor of the Rolling Hills church, was also present at the celebration. Ozolins served as a contract pastor 1992-1995 and more recently in an advisory role for Russian contract pastors.

Anatoliy Gurduiala, the current pastor, brought the church's story up to the present. "Every week, we circulated Russian newspapers and literature about health," he reported. "Each week, we give out donated food. We had a project to build a studio where we record programs and post videos on YouTube. We also have a podcast, available at [linguaspirita.net](http://linguaspirita.net).

"I believe every church has to help others to have a global mission," Gurduiala continued. "This year, we have 65 orphans we are caring for in an orphanage in the Ukraine."

"You came to us as missionaries," reflected Larry L. Caviness, who recently retired as SCC president. "Others send missionaries to Los Angeles, too. We have 160 nations in the L.A. area. The Superior Court of L.A. employs 580 translators to help people who come to court. That is the diversity of Los

Angeles. Our conference embraces you, because you are missionaries who have come to help us reach the Russian community and to help with missionary work here."

After the Sabbath morning worship services, members and visitors enjoyed a fellowship meal together that included many Russian specialties. Outside the fellowship hall, visitors from the community as well as from the service circled another table filled with boxes of donated food from which they could gather food to take home to their families.

*Betty Cooney*



*Current Pastor Anatoliy Gurdaiala, left, translated for Pastor Velino Salazar, SCC president, right. Speaker and General Conference Vice President Artur Stele is in the center.*



*The Russian-American church provides donated food for the church members and community families.*



Ramirez-Johnson makes a point with a student at Fuller Theological Seminary.

# Adventist Professor at Fuller Seminary Presents Sabbath as a Day to Remember

**A**t Fuller Theological Seminary April 29 to May 2, Walter Brueggemann, Th.D., Ph.D., a world-renowned Old Testament scholar, spoke about the “Covenant, Justice and Law.” Johnny Ramirez-Johnson, Ed.D., professor of intercultural studies in Fuller’s School of Intercultural Studies in Pasadena, was the faculty member invited to respond to Brueggemann’s lecture.

Ramirez-Johnson, a member of the Pasadena church, spoke on the doctrine of the Sabbath. His presentation marked the first known time the Sabbath had been presented in a large forum at Fuller and was titled, “Neighborly Love in Sabbath Keeping. Sabbath-keeping guides us in living with neighborly love and justice in relationship with other people and the rest of creation.” Close to 1,000 people, including faculty, delegates and members of the academic community, heard the Sabbath presentation, which reportedly gained positive reviews.

“We invited Dr. Ramirez-Johnson in order to reinforce a theme of the forum from the writing of the primary Bible teacher, Dr. Brueggemann, who has written extensively on the Sabbath,” said Tim Dearborn, Ph.D., director of the Lloyd John Ogilvie Institute of Preaching. “Our conviction is that the practice of Sabbath isn’t simply a personal or a church community spiritual practice. Rather, as set forth in the Old Testament, our conviction is that it is an act of justice — giving all creation (including the land and animals), and all people — including those who are poor — a day of rest.

“The Sabbath says to all creation that we are made by the good Creator and are to be treated with dignity and honor. Also, Sabbath reorders our lives from the false dependency on ourselves, our own productivity and our own provision. Thus, it stands in opposition to our idolatry.

“Ramirez-Johnson, as both a scholar and someone deeply rooted in the practice of Sabbath, was ideally suited for this. He brought a clear,

compelling and engaging call to the practice of Sabbath as an act of justice for all people.”

“I especially was grateful for the invitation I received to share the Sabbath with my colleagues,” said Ramirez-Johnson. “I recognized the invitation as a historic one. I have been fully embraced and welcomed at Fuller, which may not have happened two decades ago, when Adventists, more likely than not, would not have fit in as professors at Fuller. But today, both Adventists and Fuller are at a different and better place.

Ramirez-Johnson is currently the only ordained Adventist minister employed as a full-time professor at Fuller. He taught in the Loma Linda University religion department for many years until his retirement. With his background in the academic fields of education, psychology and theology, he joined the faculty at Fuller as professor of intercultural studies; professor at Centro Latino School of Intercultural Studies.

Raised in Puerto Rico in a spiritualist household and named by his grandmother as the inheritor of the spirits in his family line of mediums, Ramirez-Johnson and his older brother and sister learned about Christianity from a local Adventist church. As their experience with Christianity deepened, confrontations with family members grew. Since their mother was a nonreligious family member, the three young people turned to her for help to escape the abuse. Early one morning, with only their toothbrushes and the clothes on their backs, they fled with her. Eventually, just over 2,000 miles away, Ramirez-Johnson began his post-baccalaureate journey on the campus of Andrews University, eventually earning a master’s degree. By God’s grace, he and his family had traveled an incalculable distance.

*Betty Cooney*

# Greg Hoenes Elected West Region Director



JOHN RAYE  
Greg Hoenes

On June 23, the SCC Executive Committee appointed Pastor Greg Hoenes to the office of West Region director at its first meeting of the new term following the 2015 constituency session. Rick Roethler, previous director of the region, will return to pastoral ministry.

Hoenes has been in West Region churches since 1997. He served as senior pastor of the Hollywood church from 1997 to 2004 and as senior pastor of the Santa Clarita church from 2004 until June 2015. Concurrent with his pastoral roles, he also served as vice-chair of the West Region Committee from 2012 to 2015 and as adjunct professor of pastoral studies at the HMS Richards Divinity School at La Sierra University in 2013. He is currently working on a Ph.D. in Practical Theology and Religious Education at Claremont Theological Seminary in Claremont, Calif.

Prior to his time in Southern California Conference, Hoenes served internships in Central California Conference and an externship

in Northern California Conference. He was ordained to gospel ministry in Fresno, Calif., in 1995.

"My goal at the outset of my ministry as West Region director," said Hoenes, "is to bring healing and unity to our Region where possible, develop existing staff and recruit skilled pastors where there is opportunity to do so."

The new director hopes to better know and support region pastors in their fields of service, helping to facilitate professional growth and aspirations. "I want

to increase the value of mandatory Region and Conference meeting times for pastors and maximize representation and participation in key processes of the Region," he said.

"I also want to evaluate the effectiveness of our churches in relation to the pursuit of their stated missional goals and outreach ministries,

fostering a greater sense of mission through strategic planning and initiatives. My aim is to increase the level of dialogue and trust among our Region pastors, lay leaders and churches, and to explore training opportunities specifically for lay pastors and local elders.

"I am humbled, challenged and energized by the opportunity to lead and nurture the amazing group of pastors in the West Region, who represent diverse peoples and perspectives in our rather sizable territory," Hoenes added. "My prayer is that God will bless our endeavors as we seek His will for us in our churches and communities. I look forward to seeing the blessings, and successfully navigating whatever roadblocks may come."

Hoenes and his wife, Jill, are the parents of Brennan, a student at Walla Walla University, majoring in humanities with a minor in biology. Brennan plans to enter the legal field. Jill is a certified nurse-anesthetist, serving as assistant department administrator of Anesthesia Services at the Kaiser West L.A. Medical Center.

The Hoenes family enjoys both domestic and international travel, exploring cities and regional and ethnic cuisine. Elder Hoenes enjoys conversation and people, academics and religion, music and fine arts.

Betty Cooney



BETTY COONEY  
(L. to r.) West Region Director Greg Hoenes joins the four other SCC region directors who were re-elected on June 23: Royal Harrison, Greater Los Angeles; Gerard Kiemeny, L.A. Metro; Samuel Y. Lee, Asian Pacific; and Luis Peña, Hispanic region.

# Provo Church Serves the Community

**P**rovo, Utah's, Adventist Community Center (PACC), constructed six years ago, has become the home for the Utah Valley Symphony, a kids' gymnastics program, Bike and Build for Habitat for Humanity, Narcotics Anonymous, the American Red Cross, Zumba and karate classes, Clinical Pastoral Training for area chaplains, the Utah Valley Handbell Choir and the Provo Fire Department — a total of 700 community visitors every week.

On top of that, Pathfinders, prayer meeting, potlucks, Sabbath school and Saturday night volleyball also are scheduled, according to Linda P. Walton, Provo Adventist Community Service (ACS) director.

"Now our Wednesday night prayer meeting, which coincides with symphony rehearsals but meets in adjoining areas, finally has great music," Walton said. "Also, every service is bilingual and about 10 nationalities are represented."

PACC was designed for use by the local Seventh-day Adventist congregation, but has also opened its doors for the Circles/Community Action program that helps disadvantaged families, a children's soccer program, Utah County Health Department immunizations, Sunday faith groups, and others.



*The Utah Valley Handbell Choir rehearses and stores their equipment at the Provo Adventist Church Community Center.*

"Our church uses the facility on Sabbath (Friday night sundown to Saturday night sundown), but the rest of the week, we try to accommodate everyone that needs space — once a year or routinely," Walton said. "Of course, if a disaster or emergency takes

place, the doors are open 24/7." Provo ACS has Memorandums of Understanding with FEMA, Utah State Emergency Management, Utah County Disaster Services, the American Red Cross and Provo City, so that, in the event of a disaster, the facilities can be used for a warehouse, shelter or emergency command center — the location is next door to Provo City Police and Fire Departments' Station 5.

"We have a room dedicated to disaster supplies, including medical items that are routinely checked by the paramedics," she said. "The Red Cross teaches first aid classes and stores cots and we do routine disaster drills to prepare for a 10.0 earthquake that could take out Deer Creek dam during the winter — worst case scenarios."

The facility has a gym, seven classrooms, a double-size classroom, pianos in almost every room and, of course, the sanctuary for civic events like the National Day of Prayer. There are numerous restrooms, storage areas for everything from music stands and drum sets to Christmas decorations, and a library.

Many charities were struggling because of high overhead and low donations, so paying rent for a commercial property forced some out of business. Groups are not charged a fee, but many make donations to cover overhead. Groups also come to help with maintenance at monthly "work bees."

The symphony and hand bell choir have both performed on behalf of the PACC, raising donations and participating in Sabbath worship services.

Space is booked through 2016, with Utah State University beginning Healthy Parenting classes



*Bike and Build for Habitat for Humanity uses the Provo Adventist Community Center for overnight stays while they construct a new home for a family in the community. These bicyclists come from the east coast, ride across the United States, stop along the way to build houses for those in need, and end on the west coast.*

every Monday night in January, April, June, and September.

Right now, Adventist student literature evangelists are "sleeping over" for 30 nights while they distribute literature to the Utah County area. It will be cozy when another 30 bicyclists will be in town for two nights building a Habitat for Humanity house — the Southern Baptists will bring in their shower trailer to supplement the two showers on site.

"We practice for disasters every day!" Walton said.

The PACC kitchen has two stoves and refrigerators, three microwaves, and a washer and dryer. A Coleman stove, ice boxes, candles and blankets are also available. The PACC is raising money to buy a generator in case of power outages.

Outdoors, the parking area can accommodate 75 vehicles and a lawn area can handle either a soccer game or a circus tent to house people or equipment. The parking area also hosts a Boys and Girls Club dumpster for used clothing donations.

Handbell choir director Karen Eskew-Wylie said, "The Provo church is truly a church that serves the community. They truly walk the walk and talk the talk."

Church members are doing what Jesus did when he was on earth, Walton said.

"If we really are Christian, we look at what Christ did — He healed and fed people before He sermonized. That's the way we feel — we see people in trouble and we offer our space and help," she said.

*Linda P. Walton*

# Nevada-Utah Members Attend GC Session

Many Nevada-Utah officers, pastors and local church members attended the General Conference Session in San Antonio July 2-11. The city warmly welcomed the tens of thousands that flocked there from all over the world. Hospitality included a mariachi band and many information volunteers at the airport, custom vegetarian and vegan items on local restaurant menus, altered bus schedules, re-routed traffic patterns, patient bus drivers and welcoming smiles in hotels across the city.

Attendees cheerfully walked long distances (at least 0.75 miles each way), despite the heat and humidity, in order to attend the daily meetings. One San Antonio police officer said that in 31 years working conventions in San Antonio, he has never worked with a group that was so pleasant and cooperative.

"It's easier to control a cooperative crowd of 50,000 than a group of 2,000 that choose to do their own thing," said officer Matt Anderson as he herded thousands of church members on the walkway between the Alamodome and the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center.

"You are all so happy!" said Letty O'Brien, an information ambassadors serving in the Alamodome. "I love how you greet and hug those friends you haven't seen for a long time. I don't understand how some people can choose to live without Jesus."

Although not every vote of the business session went the way some had hoped, there

was still a sense of family among the delegates. Division reports each evening provided an inspiration look at how the work of God is moving forward so rapidly in every corner of the earth. One police officer providing security for the evening meeting wiped tears from his eyes as he watched the inspirational report from the Trans-European Division.

The reports presented by Jim Nix on the lives of early Adventist pioneers, and the important role each one played in the Church's history, gave many a broader view on its mission. The featured musicians and concerts included some of the most gifted members of the church.

Sheryl Palmer, wife of Sparks pastor Omar Palmer, was attending a GC session for the first time. "I am glad that I am a Seventh-day Adventist," she said.

"This was our third General Conference Session," said Pastor Haroldo Barcelo and his wife, Judy. "Most of all, we enjoyed the fabulous and numerous exhibits, where we gleaned a wealth of information on the various ministries of the church, learned more about many of our educational institutions, watched live interviews and concerts, and joyfully met and mingled with old and new friends from around the world. For us, attending a GC Session is like taking part in a marvelous global camp meeting. We count it a privilege and a blessing, and should time last, we are already looking forward to attending the next GC Session in 2020."

According to Omar Palmer, "Any doubt about the stability of the church was hushed as people from all cultures were able to hunker underneath the umbrella of Adventism and embrace the challenge: 'Arise! Shine! Jesus is coming! Go light the world.'"

Michelle Ward



Pastor Omar Palmer and his wife, Sheryl, were inspired by the business sessions and the worship events.

The series resulted in the baptism of four new members, including Stanley Binion, left, being baptized by Pastor Donald McLeod, while Pastor Michael Rogers assists.

## Series Brings Revival, Renewal and Baptism in Las Vegas

The week of June 14-20 was a very important time for the members and visitors attending the "All in the Family" revival that was held at the New Life Seventh-day Adventist church in Las Vegas, Nev.

The guest speaker for the week was Pastor Emanuel Chester of Huntsville, Ala. Chester focused on family life with sermons such as "Family Ties Matter," "Many, Yet One Family," "Three Keys to Sustained Peace," "The Power of Oneness," and more.

To prepare, the church held a prayer summit in March 2015, and in the weeks before the revival, the church prayed daily for the participants, concentrating on a different aspect of family life each day.

As part of the Sabbath worship service, many couples renewed their wedding vows. Pastor Donald McLeod baptized four new members on the last day of the revival. "I was not planning to be baptized today, but the sermon convicted me that today was the day, so I was baptized," Agnes August shared.

Additional candidates are studying and preparing for baptism. "The revival had me thinking about the past and the future with God," said Louise Taylor. "The chains are being broken daily."

Joe L. Thomas

# Hawaii Conference Mourns the Loss of Feryl Harris

**F**eryl Harris served the Hawaii Conference as the children's ministry director and trust services officer for 11 years. On Monday, June 15, Harris was killed in a car crash in Riverside, Calif., just days after departing Hawaii to retire in West Virginia.

Feryl Emily Morehouse was born Sept. 17, 1941, in Melrose, Mass. When Feryl was young, her sister, Audray, asked Mahlon Francis Harris to help them and their mother, Emily Morehouse, escape their abusive and dangerous home. Emily recognized that Mahlon had fallen in love with Feryl and because he was a kind and wonderful man, she encouraged him to express his love for Feryl. On Aug. 2, 1959, just two months after she graduated from high school, Feryl Morehouse became Feryl Harris.

After a short stint in the Army at Fort Benning, Ga., Feryl and Mahlon returned to Riverside and had two daughters. Then after a three-year stay in Sonora, Calif., the family decided to accept a call to the mission field. When the house was emptied, the crates filled, and the suitcases packed, the family was notified that the assignment to Saigon, Vietnam, was withdrawn due to political turmoil.

They were re-routed to Taiwan, where Feryl set up a new home. Her willingness to use her talents for Christ led her to many different roles. She hosted families in transition to foreign destinations, fed thousands of meals to both friends and strangers, and was the pioneer of the "missionary supper" — fruit salad and popcorn, served every Saturday night.

Feryl was a talented musician. She was the youngest student at the New England Music Conservatory as a child. Her love for music and her willingness to sing for Christ took many forms. She was the vocalist for the South China Island Union Mission Voice of Prophecy, learning to sing all songs in Mandarin Chinese, and she sang for thousands during Billy Graham's evangelistic series in Taipei.

After their mission term in Taiwan, the family moved to West Virginia. Feryl later recounted how the culture shock was more intense than moving to an undeveloped nation. They



*Feryl Harris, Sept. 17, 1941 – June 15, 2015*

explained to their real estate agent that they wanted "a simple country home." Their first stop was a house with no floors, no running water and an out-house. "Call the truck! Stop this move!" Feryl told Mahlon. "We are going back to California!" They eventually found a nice house and established their ministry.

Feryl dedicated her talents to the Mountain View Conference as the director of wills and trusts. As in most small conferences, she wore many hats. Soon Feryl was leading children's and women's ministries.

In 2004, Feryl accepted a position in the Hawaii Conference with children's ministries and trust services. She had a passion for training church members to minister to children and be faithful stewards of the resources. She held a leadership convention called Hand 'n Hand each year, providing ideas and inspiration for church ministry directors.

One of Feryl's favorite things to do was give away resources to leaders who could not find the funding. Feryl would network with various

publishers and church departments to find great giveaways at each event. Every leader left Feryl's training events with their arms full of materials and their hearts full of appreciation.

One of Feryl's biggest passions was Vacation Bible School. When she first arrived in Hawaii, just a handful of churches were running VBS programs. Feryl promoted the program, recruited leaders, and supported churches with conference funding. Ten years later, more than four times as many churches are running regular VBS programs.

Conference staff saw Feryl as a peacemaker, always willing to listen and suggest ways forward. She led by example, and was willing to share workloads for the common good. Feryl always found ways to encourage and support her co-workers.

Feryl also volunteered Thursday afternoons at Castle Medical Center as volunteer chaplain. She was known for her gentle voice, listening skills, and willingness to pray with each patient. She also took time to listen and encourage staff members when she had the opportunity.

Feryl's home was always open to guests. Some referred to Mahlon and Feryl as the Mayor and First Lady of their apartment building, because they were always ready to welcome new tenants and offer a meal. Their home was filled with food, fellowship, and worship every Friday night. Friends, old and new, would come to open the Sabbath and just relax in the living room, sometimes to very late in the evening.

Those who have been touched by her faithfulness, work, hospitality, preaching, teaching, and genuine witness will miss her greatly. Those who share her faith know they will see her again.

Feryl is survived by her husband, Mahlon F. Harris; daughters, Liesl Clark and Sherylin Jackson; five grandchildren, Kyly and Dyllyn Clark, Kristopher, Alec and Seth Jackson; her sister, Audray Johnson; her cousin, Eleanor Cooper; and three brothers, Walter, John and Kenneth Morehouse.

*Sherylin Jackson*

# Unbelievably Kind

Jesus said, "Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets" (Matthew 7:12, NLT).

Have you noticed how increasingly difficult it is to be loving and kind? In the marketplace, at home, work, church, and on Facebook, many people are highly abrasive and on edge. Some are downright nasty, including many who profess to be Christian.

Undoubtedly Jesus said what He did because He knows how easy it is to be critical and mean. After all, Jesus was constantly badgered by hypercritical people who made it their mission to destroy His influence. But He resisted the urge to prove His identity and put them in their place. Even though He was falsely accused, called ugly names, and eventually killed, Jesus continued to love His accusers — even to the point of praying for them from the cross.

If we want to be like Jesus, we need to accept the possibility that we will be treated

like He was. If we are, will we respond as He did, or in self defense, push back with criticism and disdain?

Imagine what it would be like if every Adventist member was primarily known for their compassion and grace? In a corrosive world where animosity and hate dominate the news and social media, and where even Christians are doubted for their sincerity, God wants us to be different. If we were singularly focused on being like Jesus, I predict that our church parking lots would be filled each Sabbath, and that people would have a hard time finding seats in our services.

**Read online at:**

[www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org/kind](http://www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org/kind)



## Stories of Faith

**Dining With a Doc** – Learn how one Adventist church is connecting with its community through an innovative approach to health education.

The Pacific Union produces a library of short video clips that can be used for inspirational and ministry purposes. They can be downloaded and shown in various settings. Our latest video features the Carmichael Seventh-day Adventist Church, in Sacramento, Calif.

**Visit:** [www.vimeo.com/channels/storiesoffaith](http://www.vimeo.com/channels/storiesoffaith)





# The Irreverent Christian

by Rich DuBose

I think I've finally figured out what's missing among many of us who claim to follow Christ. For months I've had this nagging conviction that much of what we call "Christian" isn't really so. Yet, I haven't been able to identify why until now. It troubles me greatly that instead of being known by our love, we are often more known for what we hate.

We hear it said that, "Christians hate gay marriage, abortion, Obama, big government, socialism, communism, and welfare. Christians hate socialized medicine, illegal immigration, and taxes." Of course such statements are broad generalizations that are not uniformly true, or fair. It is no secret that the opposing poles of morality and politically correct thinking have set our culture on edge. One can hardly speak about issues of the heart without being demonized or vilified by others. It is a corrosive environment that diminishes meaningful interaction and prevents heartfelt dialogue. And now, I think I know why.

**Read full article:**  
[www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org/reverent](http://www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org/reverent)

## Knowing:

*An Agnostic's Journey on the Way to Spiritual Recovery*

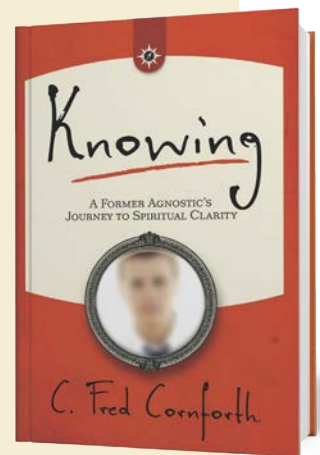
by C. Fred Cornforth

The journey from childhood to adult life can be challenging and frightful, even if we've been raised in a good Christian home. The hardest part of growing up is navigating the labyrinth of personal faith and spirituality. At some point we can no longer sing, "Give me that old time religion, if it's good enough for Dad and Mom, it's good enough for me." Hand-me-down clothes and faith both have a statute of limits and must be eventually exchanged for something that truly fits us and that we can own.

Even though his parents provided him with an upbringing that included strong Christian values, Fred Cornforth found himself on a journey that wound its way through years of questioning, doubt, agnosticism, and disillusionment. Only after coming to terms with his brother's untimely death, which he felt responsible for, did he realize that he would never be able to experience self forgiveness without Divine intervention.

This book is easy to read, but don't be surprised if you find yourself lingering at different points along to way to digest what you've read. "Knowing" is a book you can safely give to non-religious friends or church members who may be struggling with questions of faith. Pages: 104.

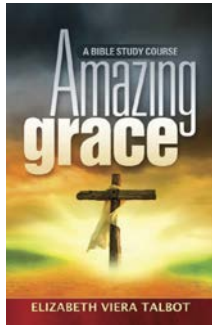
**Price:** US\$12.95 (Paperback). **Available at:** Amazon.com.





# Resources

## You Can Use



### **Amazing Grace: A Bible Study Course**, by Elizabeth Viera Talbot

This book features a relational Bible study format that can be used in the home, community, or at church. Talbot is speaker and director of Jesus 101 Biblical Institute, a teaching and training media ministry of the NAD that offers biblical training and develops resources for seekers, church members, lay leaders, and ministers to

motivate and equip people for the study of God's Word. Published by Pacific Press, 2015. Pages: 79.

**Price:** US\$3.99. **Available at:** AdventistBookCenter.com and Amazon.com.



### **Real Family Talk**, by Willie and Elaine Oliver

The most challenging and the most important aspects of people's lives the world over are having meaningful and happy relationships. What God meant for harmony and symphonic communication often turns to frustration, fear, and despair. In this book, the Olivers answer questions from real people with problems just like yours, on dating, doctrines, infidelity, parenting, and sex — anything and everything relating to relationships. Published by

Pacific Press Publishing. Pages: 128.

**Price:** US\$13.99. **Available at:** AdventistBookCenter.com and Amazon.com.

## Present Truth Revisited

by Reinder Bruinsma

### **What is postmodernism? Is it real? What are the characteristics of a postmodern person? Am I a postmodern person?**

This book probes how Christianity (the church, as well as individual believers) has been affected by postmodern thinking. Specifically: Has the Adventist Church been affected by postmodernism? How does a 'modern' Adventist Christian differ from a 'postmodern' Adventist Christian? And how can postmodern people be approached with the Christian message?

Finally, the author wants to show how, in fact, the Adventist interpretation of the Christian faith becomes more relevant if some of the key beliefs and practices are seen through a postmodern prism. Published by, Reinder Bruinsma and Ut Intelligam. Pages: 193.

**Price:** US\$8.90. **Available as** an eBook through Amazon.com.



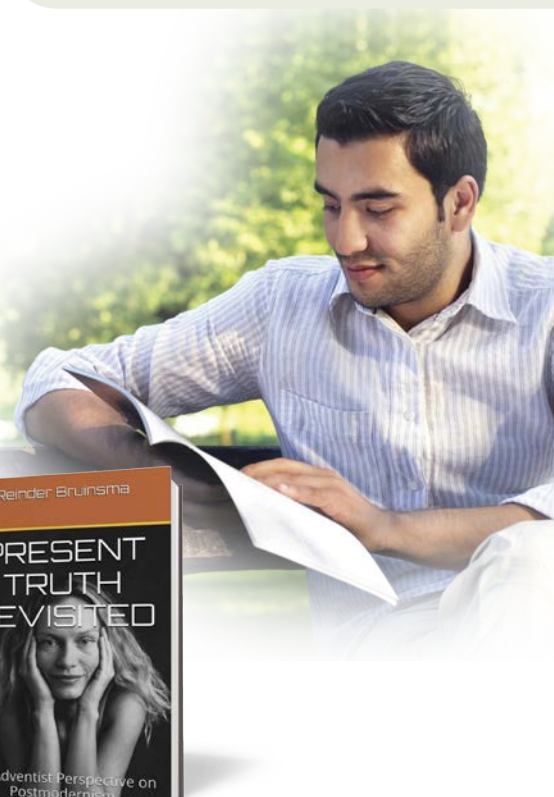
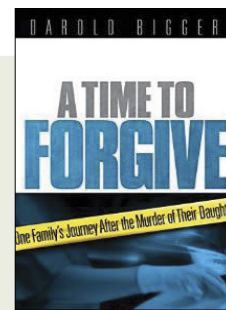
### **A Time to Forgive**, by Darold Bigger

Describes one family's journey after the murder of their daughter.

In the first part of this three-part book, Dr. and Mrs. Bigger tell about their daughter's death and their reaction to it. This isn't a view from a distance. Dr. Bigger in particular lets us see his struggle — what he was thinking and feeling — and the breakthrough that gave life value again. The second part is an in-depth look at forgiveness, and the third part offers a unique and helpful look at love. The perspective these three parts provide makes it easier for us to love our enemies and to forgive them. Published by Pacific Press, 2015. Pages: 191.

**Price:** US\$16.99.

**Available at:** AdventistBookCenter.com and Amazon.com.



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# WhenPeople AreKind.org

Church Support Services is developing several resources to promote importance of showing kindness and grace to all people — regardless of their backgrounds, religious beliefs, race, or political affiliations.

Specifically, we wish to encourage acts of compassion, generosity, and positive interaction among Seventh-day Adventist members toward each other, the people who visit our churches, and people in general.

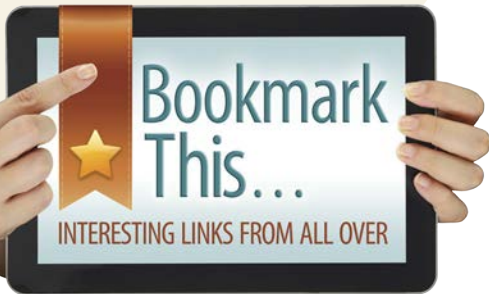
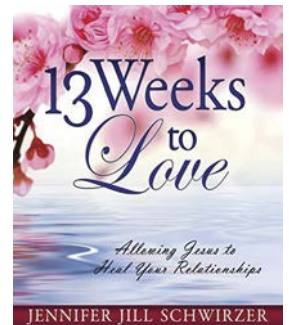
In a world where animosities and passions are stoked by radio talk-show hosts who purposely alienate us from each other for the sake of ratings; where racial and cultural divides are exaggerated; where political and religious differences are exploited by those who wish to destroy civility, it is imperative that we return to the simple approach of treating one another with dignity and grace.

[www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org](http://www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org)

## 13 Weeks to LOVE

Somehow along the line, a bond fractured, or at least twisted into a malfunctioning tangle. You regret it, but cannot seem to fix it. In this book, author and speaker Jennifer Jill Schwirzer shows how to live God's love and how doing so fulfills the purpose for which He created us. This is a great resource for personal reading, small group study, or a specialized Sabbath school class. Published by Pacific Press Publishing. Pages: 184.

**Price:** US\$15.99. **Available at:** [AdventistBookCenter.com](http://AdventistBookCenter.com) and [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)



**SpiritWERKS**

[www.spiritwerks.org](http://www.spiritwerks.org)

**Jesus 101**

[www.jesus101institute.com](http://www.jesus101institute.com)

**Revived by His Word**

[www.revivedbyhisword.org](http://www.revivedbyhisword.org)

**Eerdmans Books**

[www.eerdmans.com](http://www.eerdmans.com)

**Software for Ministry**

[www.softwareforministry.com](http://www.softwareforministry.com)

**Come and Reason**

[www.comeandreason.com](http://www.comeandreason.com)

**When People Are Kind**

[www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org](http://www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org)

**I Like Giving**

[www.ILikeGiving.com](http://www.ILikeGiving.com)



**inSpire 2016** will be held at the Carmichael church in Sacramento, Calif. If you are an Adventist artist, songwriter, poet, photographer, videographer, or creative type, you belong at this gathering. Plan now to join us in April 15-16, 2016.




# Tens of Thousands Visit Loma Linda University Health Exhibit

As Loma Linda University Health's message of wholeness continues to spread globally, people from 168 countries met and interacted with the organization's theologians, physicians, researchers and other leaders, who are continuing to explore the subject of wholeness, during the 60th General Conference Session.

Many of the 65,000 participants experienced Loma Linda University Health at the organization's exhibit in San Antonio, Texas. The conference — the largest ever held in that city — took place July 2 to 11.

After being welcomed by Loma Linda staff, guests entered the exhibit between walls replicating those on Anderson Street near the Mission Globe. They chose from a variety of activities, with many posing in front of a replica of "This is the Very Place." This sculpture of Ellen G. White, John Burden, and Mrs. White's son Willie, depicts the moment in 1905 when she said the words that foretold today's Loma Linda University Health.

Activities on the Loma Linda stage included quizzes about health topics and the storied history of Loma Linda. In addition to the lively quiz sessions, speakers highlighted Loma Linda's signature areas of expertise. Danny Fontoura, MBA, vice president for wholeness, shared the landmark progress in the area of wholeness that experts at Loma Linda continue to pursue. Terry Butler, Dr.P.H., presented recent Adventist Health Study findings and gave tips about how to live a healthier, longer life. D.P. Harris, vice president for information services, demonstrated computer games that Loma Linda is developing to help students learn about various systems of the body and improve first responders' efforts during major disasters, among other topics. Other life-changing takeaways included tips by School of Behavioral Health Dean Beverly Buckles, D.S.W., on how to bolster one's resilience in the face of stress.

Visitors viewed Loma Linda University Health's nationally distributed PBS television documentary series, "Life on the Line," and a film trailer about the life and work of Wil Alexander,



Hundreds of visitors took photos in front of a replica of the "This is the Very Place" sculpture.

Ph.D., who founded the university's Center for Spiritual Life and Wholeness. Many of Alexander's acquaintances from as many as 50 years ago paused to greet and visit their friend and mentor. He stayed throughout the conference.

As the conference progressed, Loma Linda alumni were able to meet with representatives from their schools, and President Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., hosted two receptions for them.

During the conference, several video crews taped stories on Loma Linda University Health, including Adventist Mission, Hope Channel and a group from Norway.

Part of every presentation included a focus on Vision 2020: The Campaign for a Whole Tomorrow, Loma Linda University Health's monumental plan for the future. Videos showed the impact Vision 2020 will have in enhancing health care and health education, including a major building initiative on campus.

A depiction of the new hospital appeared in an area dedicated to Vision 2020, and throughout the conference philanthropy staff shared information about the campaign and answered numerous questions.

Many Loma Linda alumni live lives of service, including Gillian Seton, M.D., who, with Hart, made several presentations about her work as a deferred mission appointee from Loma Linda University Health through Adventist Health International.

Seton arrived at Liberia's Cooper Adventist Hospital in March 2014, just before the Ebola



During a mission emphasis program, Richard H. Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president, Loma Linda University Health, interviews Gillian Seton, M.D., about her service in Liberia during the Ebola outbreak on the stage of San Antonio's Alamodome.

outbreak. She chose to stay and continue to help those in need. In addition to speaking at the Loma Linda University Health exhibit and from the Mission Spotlight stage, Seton and Hart were interviewed on the Alamodome stage live before an audience of tens of thousands.

In a demonstration of how Loma Linda University Health staff "Live It," Hart gathered with more than 30 of his colleagues, family and friends before dawn Sunday, July 5, in downtown San Antonio. Wearing blue shirts in support of Loma Linda University Health's mission of wholeness and living its mission, they participated with about 2,500 people in a 5K Fun Run and Walk sponsored by the General Conference health department.

Loma Linda University Health communicated how it is fulfilling its mission, "to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ."

*Jiggs Gallagher and Nancy Yuen*



During the General Conference Session, Loma Linda University Health staff, family and friends showed how they "live it" by participating in a 5K run/walk.

# PUC Preparatory School Students Grow Food — and Life Skills

**H**ey, Mr. Helmer! They're selling our radishes!" Pacific Union College Preparatory School freshman Alex Carelock was excited to see some of the fruit of his own labor for sale at Angwin's College Market.

During the second semester of last school year, Carelock — along with eight other Prep students — completed the class Agriculture 101, taught by Doug Helmer, the school's board chair. The students not only got their hands dirty in a thriving organic garden, they also learned about the financial and marketing potential of the agriculture business. "We wanted to give students an opportunity to develop life skills, and starting a garden was just the right project," said Helmer.

Preparations for the class began last fall. Alumnus Hillary Hasso, a gardening enthusiast, came on board to help Helmer. They planted 6,000 onion seeds, hoping to have a place to replant the starts. Soon, they acquired the school's former science lab as a home base, and they contacted the owner of Timberlane Ranch to inquire about renting some land. When the owner learned it was for the agriculture class at the school, he said they could use a 1.5-acre tract free of charge.

The class officially began in January, as students tested the water and soil for nutrients. (They were given the freedom to choose which

foods to grow, as long as their choices showed promise of being profitable for the farm.) With the help of many friends of the school, Helmer and the students started the initial transfer of onion seedlings and began installing a fence around one acre of the property to keep deer and rabbits out. Using the existing well and storage tank, water lines were run throughout the planting area and set up on timers for regular irrigation. "We had 10 varieties of onions, six kinds of potatoes, and 12 types of tomatoes, which the students helped plant from seed, replant to pots, and then transfer to the farm," said Helmer. They also planted cucumbers, eggplants, peppers, okra, watermelons, cantaloupes, beets, radishes, garlic, lettuce, basil, kale, spinach and Swiss chard.

The class met once a week for about two hours. The students typically started in the "grow room," where on any given day they might plant more seeds in flats, talk about cutting-edge growing techniques, and run tests on plants to determine nutritional value. Helmer set up a hydroponics system so the students could grow plants year-round for sale.

Helmer estimates that total produce sales to the College Market, the Pacific Union College cafeteria, a farmers' market, and (possibly) a vegetable stand will have the potential to yield \$10,000 to \$15,000 income each year. "It will take a couple years to pay off our initial investment," he said.

The teens have responded enthusiastically. "I can tell that the students are getting it when we drive away from the farm and they are looking back at the work we've just accomplished that day," said Helmer. "It's good for them to see the tangible results of their efforts."

The mission of PUC Prep is to prepare students for college, for life and for heaven. The farm accomplishes all of these by encouraging the students' enthusiasm for learning, along with teaching them valuable life skills. According to Helmer: "It's a great way for students to learn about God and His miraculous way of giving life to us every day."

HILLARY HASSO



**Volunteer Jody Pfeifle and student Bethania Helmer stamp out holes for onion planting.**

HILLARY HASSO



**Pacific Union College Preparatory School students plant tomatoes.**

If you would like to support the agriculture program, please contact Principal Peter Fackenthal at [pfackenthal@pucprep.org](mailto:pfackenthal@pucprep.org). Or if you would like to donate a later-model farm tractor, please email Doug Helmer at [doug@helmers.net](mailto:doug@helmers.net).

*Carol Loree*



**While many of their classmates are away on a music trip, more than 20 students and faculty plant a half-acre of potatoes and install a water line at the farm.**

# Willits Church Offers Smoke-free Help and Support



On June 20, the Willits church family welcomed LoisAnn Smart, who joined the church through profession of faith. A week earlier, Jason McNabb was baptized. (Front row, far left: Pastor Stan Caylor, Jason McNabb, LoisAnn Smart. Second row, far right: Dennis Porter, church outreach coordinator.)

When LoisAnn Smart came to a stop-smoking class at the Willits church, Pastor Stan Caylor took one look at her and thought she'd never be able to quit. "It seemed impossible that someone looking so ill could make even an attempt to overcome [smoking]," he said.

It was difficult, but she did it — through the grace of God and the help of the supportive Willits church community. "They lifted me up, and God has worked through them to touch my life," said Smart. "I'm healing physically, I'm happy, and more importantly I'm being nurtured and cared for to see the life ahead that God promised me." On June 20, she joined the church through profession of faith.

Last fall, Smart and others attended a five-day smoking cessation class, presented by Caylor and Dennis Porter, a home health nurse who serves as the church's outreach coordinator. Since the original class, Caylor and Porter have conducted a number of follow-up meetings and another complete class — all in the aptly named Friendship House, a renovated house on the church campus that serves as a gathering place for meetings, classes and fellowship meals. Caylor and Porter plan to present another class this fall. "I have a patient who wants to quit," said Porter.

The two men originally decided to hold the class because they knew people who were

attending the church that were struggling to give up smoking. They invited interested community members to join, as well. After seeing a newspaper ad, one area woman chose to attend the class because she was attracted by its holistic and spiritual approach. According to Caylor, all the participants appreciated the class' emphasis on spirituality to help them stop smoking. "They want their bodies to honor God, be healthy and serve as a witness," he said.

The class and its follow-up meetings provided a supportive, family atmosphere where people could openly discuss issues and ask questions. This support extended outside the classroom walls, even after the class was officially over. "People are helping each other, calling each other, trying to encourage each other," said Porter. Prayer groups from the church pray for the participants, and they are encouraged to pray for each other.

During the classes, the leaders utilize a variety of methods to educate their students, including films, presentations and group discussions. Participants also learn ways to manage cravings naturally, through exercise, drinking water and deep breathing. (Each person receives a breath barometer.) Many especially like hearing from the ex-smokers — one of whom began smoking as a 9-year old — who visit the class to encourage and inspire them.

One of the ex-smokers who shared his story with the class was Jason McNabb. After several positive encounters with church members in California and Arkansas, he became interested in Adventism and started attending the Willits church when he moved into the area. McNabb was baptized on Sabbath afternoon, June 13 — just a week before Smart joined the church. "God has used the church family in many tangible ways to welcome, love and care for these two new members whom God brought to us," said Caylor.

*Julie Lorenz*



The Willits church's Friendship House is the site of many church outreach activities, including stop-smoking classes.

# Golden Gate Academy Alumni Remember and Look Ahead

In May, more than 200 alumni and friends of Golden Gate Academy gathered on the campus to reminisce and celebrate the transformative impact the school has had on their lives. Although GGA closed in 2007, the school has many alumni who haven't forgotten their alma mater and hope to see it reopen in the future.

Sponsored by the GGA Reorganization Committee, the event was the first official alumni weekend in a number of years. "It was so cool to be back on campus," said Karen Cortese, class of 1979, who was attending her first-ever alumni event. She remembers her GGA experience with gratitude. "Who knows how I would have ended up without that environment?" she said. "It was a beautiful Christian influence."

GGA alumni president Moses Leroy Mayne Jr., class of 1966, was the weekend speaker, inspiring attendees to live full of trust in God's power. When he wasn't speaking, he mingled with the alumni. "On Sabbath, I enjoyed the camaraderie — seeing people I hadn't seen in years," he said. He is hopeful that more individuals will be interested in engaging in the leadership of the alumni association.

After a Sabbath lunch prepared by Oakland Spanish church members, a forum shared progress and gathered input from attendees on the development of the new Golden Gate Academy. "The alumni love GGA and want to see it flourish," said Mayne. "We have to work together to make it happen."

A highlight of the weekend for many was the GGA Reunion Choir conducted by Mellonie Barnes Bank, class of 1997. Cortese said she enjoyed singing in the choir because it reminded her of the Goldenaires (GGA's elite choir). Music was an important part of GGA's culture, and many fondly remember long-time Goldenaires director Richard Kisling. "Any student who was in choir with him will tell you how amazing the experience was," said Cortese.

GGA was originally founded in Berkeley in 1923. The school moved to its present 15-acre site in the Oakland hills in 1949. After educating hundreds of students over 80 years, it closed for financial reasons. (A public charter school now leases the property.) "It's sad that it closed; it was like a close-knit family," said Pat Childs, class of 1975. She still serves as the office manager at GGA, and looks forward to the day it will reopen. "We have to have faith and believe,"

she said. "If we're doing what the Lord wants us to do, it will happen."

The GGA Reorganization Committee, directed by Erin Conner Ngeno, Ph.D., undertakes many responsibilities, including managing the property, seeing to its upkeep, raising money and making plans for the new school. Their aim is to reopen GGA as a top-tier K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

academy, embracing a combination of tradition and innovation, grounded in sound Christian principles. For more information, contact Erin Conner Ngeno at [erin@goldengateacademy.org](mailto:erin@goldengateacademy.org).

*Erin Conner Ngeno*



*Bernice Garrison, one of the weekend's honorees, speaks to alumni and friends. She taught at Golden Gate Academy and the GGA preschool for many years. The other honorees were Ernesta Brown, Gloria Michaels, Doris Walker and Ada Ward.*



*The Golden Gate Academy Reunion Choir performs — a highlight of the weekend for many singers and audience members.*

MARK ROBINSON

37TH ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CONVOCATION

Sponsored by Northern California Conference African American Ministries. All Are Welcome.

# MAKE

# Us One

Friday

October 9, 2015 7 p.m.

Valley Community SDA Church  
2929 South B Street  
Stockton, CA 95206

Sabbath

October 10, 2015 8 a.m.

Stockton Christian Life Center  
9025 West Lane  
Stockton, CA 95210

*And when the day of Pentecost  
was fully come, they were all with one  
accord in one place.*

Acts 2:1, KJV



**Guest Speaker**  
**Debleaire K. Snell**  
Senior Pastor, First SDA  
Church (Huntsville,  
Alabama)/Adjunct  
Religion Professor,  
Oakwood University



**Youth Speaker**  
**Michael Kelly**  
Senior Pastor,  
Mt. Rubidoux  
SDA Church  
(Riverside, California)



**Children's Church  
Presenter**  
**Marc Raphael**  
Children's & Youth Pastor  
Mt. Rubidoux  
SDA Church  
(Riverside, California)

Also, don't miss the **Golden Gate Reunion Choir**, and spiritual children's programming for ages 5-12.

VISIT [WWW.NCCSDA.COM/AFRICANAMERICANMINISTRIES](http://WWW.NCCSDA.COM/AFRICANAMERICANMINISTRIES)

# Retirees Learn, Socialize a

**A** balanced program of learning experiences, praise and worship, and plenty of time for social interaction brought 160 retired church members and friends to Pine Springs Ranch for a three-day spring retreat.

Providing the opportunities for learning were presenters Gilbert Vega, pastor of Escondido Spanish church, Alger Keough, executive pastor

of Azure Hills church, and Julie Swafford, a physical therapist in the Loma Linda area.

The establishment of California's chain of 21 Franciscan missions was Vega's topic on Monday afternoon, May 18. The first mission, in San Diego, was established in 1769. Vega drew from research for his doctoral dissertation to explain that King Charles III of Spain fully supported the work of Junipero Serra and the other missionaries to California. While the missionaries settled along the coastline in the name of the Church, they were at the same time doing the work of the king — occupying the territory for Spain, securing the coastline to prevent the Russians from

moving farther south, and settling in the bays to provide safety and supplies for Spanish galleons traveling between Spain and the Philippines.

Vega dispelled the notion that the Franciscans were uneducated, calling them "academics with missionary zeal." They were gifted scholars and writers who brought their libraries and their musical and other skills with them. Among other things they established California's first schools, medical clinics — and the first "freeway," El Camino Real, which connected the missions and now has become the Pacific Coast Highway.

Keough, on Tuesday, spoke about Battle Creek, Mich., often referred to as "the cradle

PHOTOS BY JOCELYN FAY



*Gilbert Vega answers questions about the California missions and their contribution to California's history and culture.*



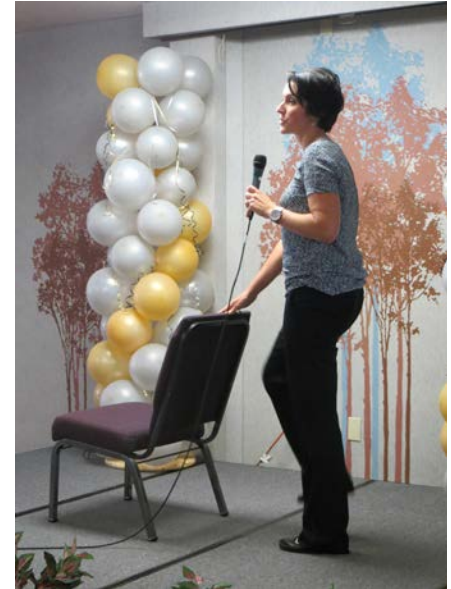
*Alessandra Sorace soars to musical heights, and recounts her own experience of learning to trust in God's leading.*



*Nelma Peet, left, a member of the Vista church, was, at 102, the retreat's oldest attendee. "I'm always the oldest these days," she commented, but she had no trouble keeping up with her daughter, Roberta Chaffin, right, during the exercise class.*



*Clearly enjoying exercise time led by Kathleen Geraty, Sharon Harder leads a row of women behind her in swaying from side to side. Harder, her husband, Harley, and Dorothy Wareham led each day's musical praise.*



*Julie Swafford, a physical therapist with a special interest in helping seniors avoid injuring themselves in falls, demonstrates helpful exercises.*



*Lines form outside the dining hall well before the doors open for meals.*



# and Worship at PSR Retreat

of Adventism." His theme for the day was that church members have no need to fear the future as long as they remember how God led and taught their predecessors.

Keough knows Battle Creek history well, having been pastor of the Battle Creek church and president of the Battle Creek Historical Society. He went back to the founding of Battle Creek by Quakers and explained that the openness of residents there, as well as the city's location, created an environment in which Adventism could not only flourish but also make an impact on the world.

Battle Creek Adventists gave the world "a new way of doing breakfast," Keough said, by establishing the cereal industry and introducing peanut butter and non-caffeinated beverages to the public. They established medical work that now reaches around the globe and established the largest Protestant school system in the world.

Keough personalized his message about the past, giving courage for the future, encouraging his listeners to tell their stories to the younger generation. "Don't waste your years," he advised. "One of the best ways children learn is by listening to their parents and grandparents. We learn powerful lessons from our elders."

Ruth Fagal, who attended the retreat with friends from the La Sierra University church, said Keough's presentation brought back memories for her. Her late husband, Harold Fagal, at one time pastored the Battle Creek church.

The third presenter, Julie Swafford, a physical therapist, has a special interest in geriatric rehabilitation. "People usually come to me after they've had a fall," she said on Wednesday morning. But her belief that it would be far better to prevent falls led her to speak about and demonstrate ways of doing that. She recommended a home exercise program and asked the seniors in her audience to stand up and do a few exercises with her.

"The best thing to do is walk," she said, adding, "It's OK to swallow your pride and use a walker or a cane" in order to remain mobile. She also recommended practical ways to make home a safer place, such as removing small rugs that could be tripped over.

Harley and Sharon Harder led the singing each session, and Dorothy Wareham, accompanied on piano. An orchestral group performed on Tuesday morning. The musical highlight for many was the vocal concert on Tuesday evening by 15-year-old Alessandra Sorace, who engaged the audience in a worship experience as she spoke and sang of God's love and grace in her life.

Exercise opportunities abounded, with plenty of places for walks around Pine Springs Ranch (many of those who attended had not been there since fire damaged part of the camp two

summers ago). Also, Kathleen Geraty, from Linda Valley Villa, led daily exercise sessions for those who wanted to stretch their muscles between meetings.

Sandra Roberts, conference president, spoke briefly to the seniors on Tuesday evening, saying, "You are great resources to our churches. Thank you on behalf of Southeastern California Conference." She gave a brief update on happenings in the conference, mentioning SECC's 100-year anniversary, which will be celebrated October 3 and 4. In preparation for that, she has been interviewing centenarians, saying that they have "spiritual maturity that I value so much."

Mario Perez, assistant to the conference president and this year's retreat planner, said he was pleased with the turnout and

particularly liked "the way people sang with so much gusto." He also enjoyed watching the fellowship happening throughout the retreat as people reconnected with old friends and made new ones.

This retreat was Perez's first one. He said he volunteered for the job when Lorie Purdey, former director of retirees' activities, decided to pass the mantle to someone else. Purdey attended the retreat, however, supporting Perez and calling the event "truly good."

*Jocelyn Fay*



*Edward Ko photographs the landscape while taking a hayride down the lane beside Pine Springs Ranch. Evidence of the wildfire there two years ago was still clearly visible.*



*In spite of the bright and sunny spring weather outdoors, attendees spent much of three days attending meetings. Meals and recreational activities gave them breaks between sessions.*

# Hispanic Churches in Orange County Come Together for Camp Meeting



*Jose Rojas, president of MOVEmentum, addresses the congregation.*

A group of six orange county Hispanic churches recently came together for a camp meeting event at Orangewood Academy in Garden Grove. The guest speaker was Jose Rojas, president of MOVEmentum, a ministry-focused organization designed to develop and empower people.

The idea for the event came about from individual church members as well as leadership who were seeking a way to bring churches together in order to create and foster a sense of community. Joel Soto, pastor of Santa Ana Broadway church, was instrumental in bringing the leadership together.

Pastors from each of the churches convened months prior to the event to discuss the details and come up with a budget. In order to find a centralized location for the participating churches, the leaders contacted Orangewood Academy and agreed to use their gym.

The participating churches included Santa Ana Spanish, Broadway Bilingual, Emmanuel, Costa Mesa Spanish, La Habra Spanish and Anaheim Spanish churches.

"The focus was not necessarily to host an evangelistic event," said Oscar Pereda, pastor of

Costa Mesa Hispanic church, one of the event organizers. "Instead, it was geared toward current church members in order to build relationships and establish a sense of belonging to a greater whole."

The event started on Wednesday night with a presentation by Rojas, and continued nightly. His theme for the meetings was "Transformed by His Grace." On Sabbath, he also presented to a congregation of approximately 1,200 people. He talked about how God accepts every individual regardless of their background, and further, empowers them to ministry and leadership.

"I appreciate the sermons from Pastor Rojas," said Susy Garcia, a member of the Costa Mesa church. "They were simple and straight to the point. They surely made a big impact in my personal and family life."

Although a meal was not formally organized, many families from the churches brought food for a picnic on the grounds. Many individuals crossed the boundaries usually set up by church walls and communed together.

In the afternoon, there was a musical concert and another presentation by Rojas to close out the spiritual portion of the event. Afterwards,

there were different sports activities hosted at the academy for the youth and young at heart.

"It was beautiful to see the engagement of all the people serving," said Pereda. "From people in the parking lot, to greeters, to those planning the worship, the praise and worship team, ushers and many more, everyone was happy to interact with each other."

Ricardo Ortiz, a member of Pereda's church, agreed. "What I really liked most was to see the engagement of all the people serving at this event. They had a smile and a visible passion to serve," he said.

The event was a reminder of how all are part of the body of Christ. Everyone who participated was excited and encouraged. Although this was only the first time an event like this has been organized, the leaders and members are already looking forward to next year.

"It is possible to work together as a church and have good experiences," said Pereda. "Once members of different churches come together, they see how we can fellowship together in spite of our differences."

*Mario A. Munoz*

# Garden Grove Church Organizes Mission Trip to Malaysia

In May, a group of 52 people went on a mission trip, organized by the Garden Grove church, to Sabah Mission on the island of Borneo, which is part of Malaysia. Eight people from the Penang Adventist Hospital joined the trip. Led by Edward Nathan, the group of 60 held 11 series of evangelistic meetings and 11 Vacation Bible Schools, operated five clinics every day in various villages and worked to complete the construction of a local church.

The main evangelistic series was held at the Goshen Adventist Secondary School, which was established by missionaries more than 60 years ago. Even though there is a large Muslim population in the surrounding communities, a substantial Adventist community has developed. Today there are 160 students at the high school and 550 kids at the elementary school. During the trip, the team baptized more than 300, most of whom were students from the school.

Some of the people that came on the trip were doctors, nurses and dentists. Along with the group from Penang and some local medical personnel from Sabah, they went out into the more remote villages and held up to five clinics nearly every day. Hundreds came each day for health testing, diagnosis, simple treatments and dental work.

Pastors and lay speakers from Southeastern California Conference included: Leslie Aragon, Basil Bell, Sara-May Colon, Art Morales, Micah Mupfawa, Richard and Dan Smith. Each night at about 6 p.m., a driver from each of the 11 sites

would pick up a speaker, the VBS team and a translator. The various groups then headed out to their sites, some as far as over an hour away.

There the VBS team would partner with locals to have a Vacation Bible School for maybe 50 or more kids while the main program took place in the church or auditorium. Sandra Caldwell, a church member of the Garden Grove church, organized the curriculum and brought crafts and puppets for four sites and 300 kids. A donor had made a donation of 11 sets of felts for each site, which at the end would be left for the local churches so they can be used in their children's ministries for years to come.

The last Sabbath all the sites came together to the Goshen auditorium, with over 2,000 people present. Over 100 young people got onto the stage to sing "Worthy Is the Lamb," the theme song for the main meetings. After the worship experience in the auditorium, the entire crowd walked one kilometer in the heat to a pond to baptize the 300 people lining the banks.

"Even though many of us have done this for many years, it never gets old, watching their faces light up as they come out from under the water knowing they have stepped over a huge line and have made a choice for God," said Dan Smith, senior pastor of Garden Grove church.

He continued, "Please pray for the new converts, for the incredible needs of the Adventist school there. Pray for the mission as they navigate trying to evangelize in spite of the unique

challenges there and finding a good balance with the police and government. It is the largest mission in Southeast Asia, and it was an incredible honor to be part of the Sabah Mission for the two weeks we were there."

*Dan Smith with Enno Müller*



*Children at Goshen Adventist Secondary School pose for a picture during class periods.*



*Many people come to listen to the evangelistic series in Sabah Mission in Malaysia.*



*Three hundred people are baptized on the final Sabbath of the evangelistic efforts.*



*Participants of the large baptism pose for a picture before baptizing the 300 people that are lined up on the banks.*



*Children attend the Vacation Bible School program.*

# Arizona Sunshine Provides Free Medical Care for 800



Dental assistants were busy sterilizing equipment for the dentists.

Eight hundred guests stood in line June 17-18 to receive free medical services at the two-day Arizona Sunshine event at the Prescott Valley Event Center. The event coincided with the annual nine-day Arizona Conference camp meeting held at nearby Camp Yavapines in Prescott, Ariz.

The motivation for this project, showing Jesus' love to the community, was taken from *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, pages 31-35. "The camp meeting is one of the most important agencies in our work. It is one of the most effective methods of arresting the attention of the people and reaching all classes with the gospel invitation. . . . The Lord has instructed us that the camp meeting is one of the most important instrumentalities for the accomplishment of this work. . . . Our camp meetings should be so conducted as to accomplish the greatest possible amount of good."

"Community outreach has long been a feature of our camp meeting," said Arizona

committee had a bigger idea. They wanted to bring Jesus to the community in the form of free health care."

Nearly 400 volunteer workers convened over the two days to provide a variety of services such as dental, vision screening, primary care, neurology and sleep medicine, radiology, occupational therapy, massage therapy, chiropractic care, physical therapy, dermatology, HIV screening, lifestyle counseling, diabetes counseling and pain management.

Along with the medical care were spiritual components such as counseling, literature, and an invitation to attend the camp meeting and nearby Seventh-day Adventist churches. Committee members spent the past year carefully planning the event, which they named Arizona Sunshine.

Many local dignitaries, including mayors, county officials and hospital administrators, visited Arizona Sunshine and received tours. Prescott Valley Mayor Harvey C. Skoog was so



Phoenix nurse Mary Norman (left) saw to the needs of her patients during triage.

Conference President Tony Anobile, "but this year Pastor Steve Salsberry and his

Some of the people who had received treatment attended Sabbath services.

Another unique feature during the two days of Arizona Sunshine was live music by dozens of musical groups and recording artists. Volunteers and patients enjoyed the music as they worked and received services.

One resident brought her camping gear to stay overnight to be the first in line. She said, "I don't have insurance and cannot afford dental



Prescott Valley Mayor Harvey C. Skoog was happy to be photographed with one of his constituents who stood in line for medical care.

care. I need this help! And at no cost, I'm thrilled to be here."

A nearby hotel donated toothpaste and other toiletry items. One of the maids at the hotel came for care. The hotel owner gave her two days off to complete her dental work. He said next year the hotel would be available for accommodations and more free toiletries.

The longest lines were for dental care. Dentists worked nearly 12 hours straight and

commented they needed much more help. A Loma Linda University dentist who worked the event plans to bring a team of dentists and technicians next year.

While the results are still being tabulated, it is estimated that more than \$750,000 of services were given to just over 800 individuals who attended the Arizona Sunshine event. Four hundred individuals were treated for dentistry-related needs, 150 people received

vision screening, 1,245 meals were served to the volunteers and all who were still waiting to receive services during the lunch hour on both days.

The committee scheduled next year's Arizona Sunshine for June 9-10. The need for professional help is great. For more information, visit [www.arizonasonshine.com](http://www.arizonasonshine.com).

*Phil Draper and Michelle Ritzer*



**Triage nurses and volunteers carefully processed each guest before sending them to receive treatment.**



**Many of the patients seen had never had any previous dental care.**



**An assembly line of dentists, dental hygienists and technicians saw patients for 12 hours each day.**

# Seventeen Baptized During End-of-Year Service

**O**n a balmy Friday evening in late spring, 17 individuals gave their public testimony of lifelong commitment to Christ during La Sierra University's annual end-of-school-year baptism.

The event was held on the Founders' Green June 5 in a baptismal pool built into an outdoor stage area. Dozens of family members and friends of those baptized gathered on the grass under sprawling trees, sitting on lawn chairs and blankets to witness the occasion. Chaplain Sam Leonor, assistant chaplains Martin Corona and Linda Biswas performed the baptisms. Kendra Haloviak Valentine, associate professor of New Testament studies with the H.M.S. Richards Divinity School, also baptized one candidate

Adrian Cortez, a security officer at La Sierra University aiming for a career in criminal justice, was among those who made public their commitments to Jesus. Cortez, in response to a questionnaire from the university's chaplain's office, said he found Jesus irresistible because of "His never-ending love" for the world and His sacrifice to save humanity. If I had to choose one thing, I would say how He truly leads by

example, and how He is truly a hero. You have Jesus, who in this case is the boss or higher-up, [who] came down to Earth as the God to save us. That is something I have not seen anybody but Jesus do," said Cortez.

The questionnaire for baptismal candidates asks several questions designed to shed light on the candidates' interests, future plans, and feelings and views about their Creator.

"I find Jesus' love and forgiveness irresistible," wrote Summer Nichole Johnson. She plans to be a nutritionist and registered dietician who works with children. "I love the fact that I talk to Him anytime and anywhere. It's like having a best friend who is there for you 24/7, and you don't even have to call Him."

Daniel Gonzelez, who wants to build a photography business and local newspaper company, says he is passionate about "investing in others, helping them attain a solid relationship with their Creator. I am passionate about people and why they believe what they do." Cortez said he finds Jesus' desire "to show me what love truly is irresistibly beautiful."

Alejandra Marcella Caceres Najarro, senior class president and senior health science/health care management major, was also baptized. In addition to several short-term overseas mission trips, she served for a year as a student missionary and head nurse in Pucallpa, Peru, providing medical care to local communities, including assisting with baby deliveries. "Every day, I had personal encounters with God's love," she wrote. "This experience only strengthened my desire to want to serve God and follow Him on a journey to truly get to know Him."

Brothers Daman Singh Uppal and Kamran Singh Uppal made their commitment to Christ during the same baptismal service. Said Daman, a biomedical science major, "What I find irresistible about Jesus is His undying love for us. I think knowing that there's someone out there who cares that much about us is enough to get us through some of the most difficult and stressful situations."

PHOTOS BY NATANVIGNA



Sam Leonor baptizes Martiene Macias at the end of year baptism service held on La Sierra's Founders' Green.



Assistant chaplain Linda Biswas baptizes Alejandra Najarro. Najarro is one of 17 baptized at a special service on the La Sierra campus in early June.



Assistant chaplain Martin Corona baptizes Daniel Gonzalez in early June. Gonzalez has a strong desire to help others develop a relationship with Christ.



Daman Uppal decided to be baptized after coming to understand that Jesus has undying love for each of us. Martin Corona, assistant chaplain, baptized Uppal.

Darla Martin Tucker

# Adventist Health Participates in 60th General Conference Session

At the recent General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, Adventist Health hosted a large booth in the exhibit hall along with its sister systems: Adventist HealthCare (based in Maryland), Adventist Health System (based in Florida) and Kettering Health Network (based in Ohio.).

The booth was designed to inform and educate attendees about how the four health care systems are an integral part of the church's mission and represent the church in a positive way to the many communities served.

The towering display featured nine touch screens with options to learn about the history of Adventist health care, the hospitals and health services in the United States, and a variety of health quizzes. (Loma Linda University Health hosted its own booth in close proximity to the Adventist Health Care booth and other health related ministry booths.)

Sixteen Adventist Health employees helped to staff the booth. Participants included chaplains, marketing/communication and human resources staff as well as several executives. Each day hundreds of small bottles of hand sanitizer were handed out along with small cards, which featured fun health facts. The staff's distinct green shirts made it easy for visitors to identify who could help answer questions and assist with the health quizzes.

Visitors to the booth were a cross section of people from around the world.

Deanna Paxton, clinical performance specialist in Roseville, California, had the opportunity to visit with a couple from Ukraine who produce interviews for Hope Channel Ukraine. Helen Wilson, director of Quality also in Roseville, California, met a mission pilot from Venezuela who spoke to her about the current needs for rural health clinics. Many visitors from different African countries such as Botswana, Nigeria and Kenya were intrigued to learn more about health care in America.

A number of former Adventist Health employees stopped by to learn about the latest news from the system and to catch up with former co-workers. The General Conference is not only a great opportunity to share about Adventist Health but it also serves as a crossroad for people from around the world.



Three visitors from Africa stopped by the booth to learn more about health care in the United States.

As a part of the joint effort between the four health systems, a website ([www.sdahealthcare.org](http://www.sdahealthcare.org)) was created to help church members and others stay current about Adventist health care in the United States. Nearly 120,000 caring employees touch 10 million people a year in more than 79 hospitals, urgent care clinics, home health agencies, long-term care facilities, and hospices.

Jenni Glass



Pictured in the center are Helen Wilson, Adventist Health director of Quality, and her husband, Lee, along with two Adventist HealthCare representatives.



Teresa Nelson (left), chaplain at Sonora Regional Medical Center stopped to pose with a visitor from Panama along with a representative from Kettering Health Network.

# Pacific Union College Launches New Online Nursing Degree



*Pacific Union College's new online RN to BSN program offers nurses the chance to advance their careers while balancing their professional and personal lives.*

This summer, Pacific Union College is enrolling adult students for a new online degree program, an RN to BSN in Nursing. This WASC-approved degree program is designed for registered nurses who are interested in career advancement. Classes start Aug. 31 for the fully-online program. PUC is the first Seventh-day Adventist college or university in the western United States to offer an online RN to BSN degree.

New students may enroll at various times throughout the year, as classes are offered in a flexible format designed to meet the scheduling needs of working adults, according to William Chunestudy, Ph.D., PUC's associate academic dean for Distance and Adult Learning, and the college's lead administrator for the new initiative. A generous transfer credit policy allows prepared students to earn a RN-BSN degree in as little as one year.

"Nursing is currently PUC's largest on-campus program," Chunestudy stated, "and beginning our new online initiative with this RN-to-BSN program makes sense in terms both of resources and potential students."

The online nursing program is the first program to be introduced as part of PUC's distance and adult learning initiatives. With a goal to roll out new online degrees each year, "PUC promises to expand the student body, transform how the college reaches its constituents, and provide working adults an opportunity to return to the classroom in an online setting to complete a degree they have previously begun, or advance from an associate degree to a bachelor's degree," says Chunestudy.

PUC plans to expand online program offerings in January of 2016, when a bachelor's degree in management will be added. "I truly believe," Chunestudy said, "that if Adventist

education at all levels is to survive and thrive in the future, there needs to be innovative and creative methodologies that can speak to all learning styles."

"PUC has over 133 years of experience of offering excellent Christ-centered education. We currently offer over 70 degrees and emphases on our Napa Valley campus, and we no longer want to limit our education to only those who can fit into our schedules and meet in our locations," explains Nancy Lecourt, Ph.D., academic dean and vice president for Academic Administration. "Our new online programs provide opportunities that are flexible, affordable and faith-based. For many adults, earning a college degree may open doors to advancing at their place of employment, or to changing careers."

The online programs are designed for adults age 23 and older who are starting or continuing a college degree. Financial aid and a flexible part-time or full-time commitment are available, providing students with a more affordable route to a bachelor's degree.

For information about PUC's online program, call an enrollment counselor at 707-294-6544 or [www.onlinecourses.puc.edu](http://www.onlinecourses.puc.edu).

*Martin Surridge*



*Dr. William Chunestudy has joined PUC as the associate academic dean for Distance and Adult Learning. He is leading the development of the college's new online degree programs.*



# Sabbath Accommodation Gets Boost from Supreme Court

**H**ave you ever found a job that seems perfect for you? You really need it. You can taste it. Then you get to the part on the application where it asks whether there are any days you are unavailable for work. You pause. How do you answer? If you say you're not available on Saturday, you'll never get an interview. But it's illegal to discriminate, so maybe you're not supposed to say anything about Sabbath. What to do?

It's true, it's illegal for questions like this to be used to exclude job applicants from being hired when they can't work certain days or times because of their faith. But in a case recently decided by the Supreme Court, Abercrombie & Fitch argued a position that would permit employers to screen out job applicants who attend church weekly. The Court rejected their position.

Samantha Elauf is a young Muslim woman who interviewed for a job with the popular clothing retailer wearing a black headscarf. The interviewing manager wanted to hire Elauf, but she didn't know what to do about the scarf. The company has a strict "look" policy; hats of all kinds are forbidden.

In court, it became clear that the district manager told the store manager not to hire Elauf because they assumed she wore the scarf for religious reasons, and would want to wear the scarf at work. The court held this to be religious discrimination. On appeal, A&F argued, and the court agreed, that it was not discrimination because Elauf never notified the employer that she wore the scarf for religious reasons.

If the retailer had won the case, companies could legally use the job application to screen out people of faith, simply by stating that availability for work seven days a week is required. All who wanted to participate in regular weekly religious services would be automatically excluded.

In a eight-to-one decision, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Elauf. Abercrombie argued that its "look" policy was religion neutral, and that it could not be charged with discrimination simply for applying its own company policy. The Supreme Court disagreed. Justice Scalia's opinion observed that the Civil Rights Act requires employers to treat religious practices favorably. They can't hide behind religion neutral policies.

"This decision will give a huge boost to many, including Adventists, who either are never hired or are fired on account of their Sabbath observance," said Alan J. Reinach, Esq., executive director of the Church State Council. "The decision will help the Council win some pending cases, or so we hope, and may help many others to keep their jobs."

The Church State Council is the religious liberty arm of the Pacific Union and provides legal services to persons of all faiths suffering religious discrimination. For more info, visit [www.churchstate.org](http://www.churchstate.org).

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*

## California Clarifies Retaliation Law

**W**hen Scott Rope requested a 30-day leave to donate a kidney to his sister, his employer fired him instead. An appellate court ruled that Rope's request for an accommodation was not protected under state law.

In response, the Church State Council teamed up with the California Employment Lawyers Association to sponsor Assembly Bill 987, which Governor Jerry Brown signed into law in July.

Authored by Assembly Member Marc Levine, (D-Marin), AB 987 clarified that requests for accommodation of either disability or religion are protected activities, such that employers cannot retaliate against workers who seek such accommodations.

Alan J. Reinach, Church State Council executive director, presented a hypothetical in testimony before both Assembly and Senate committees that approved the bill: "Consider a Sabbath observer who requests an accommodation not to work on Saturdays. The boss removes him from the Saturday schedule for three weeks, and then decides he can't be bothered, and fires him. Courts are unlikely to hear a claim of failure to accommodate because he was accommodated — for three weeks. And after the Rope decision, the worker cannot claim retaliation, because the accommodation request is not protected against retaliation."

The committees were very receptive to the bill, and both chambers of the legislature approved the bill unanimously. There was no recorded opposition.

"Retaliation claims are increasingly important," observes Reinach. "Most Sabbath discrimination cases also include retaliation claims, and these are often easier to prove than failure to accommodate claims."

Reinach also testified about how the Rope decision has a disparate impact on minorities. The Rope court held that only those who "opposed" discrimination were protected against retaliation. Reinach dubbed this the "obnoxious worker" rule: those who tell the boss that he or she is violating their rights are protected, while those who are respectful, and whose cultural traditions do not encourage speaking up, are left with no protection.

This is the third time in recent years the Church State Council has succeeded in strengthening California law protecting those who seek religious accommodation. In 2012, the Council sponsored the Workplace Religious Freedom Act, greatly strengthening the obligation of companies to provide religious accommodation unless doing so would result in a "significant difficulty or expense." Then, earlier this year, new regulations clarified that a religious accommodation must eliminate the conflict between job and religious obligations. Now, this retaliation measure provides additional protection for workers who need religious accommodation.

The Council is now focusing on expanding opportunities for Sabbath observers to be hired by: pushing for tougher regulations, filing claims in court, and urging the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to get involved. Recently, the EEOC settled a "failure to hire" case against Dunkin' Donuts on behalf of a Seventh-day Adventist who had been denied employment because of Sabbath.

If you or someone you know needs help obtaining religious accommodation, email [secretary@churchstate.org](mailto:secretary@churchstate.org).

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*

# CALENDARS

## Arizona Conference

**SEEING JESUS** through Muslim Eyes (Aug. 1) 2:30 p.m. Presented by A Sure Harvest Ministries. A seminar in training and equipping the body of Christ to reach our Muslim brothers and sisters for Jesus. Glendale SDA church, 6801 N. 43rd Ave., Phoenix. A mini piano concert precedes the seminar. Info: 623-934-3295.

**REVELATION SPEAKS**—Are There Any Good Answers? (Aug. 3) 7 p.m. and continuing Mon., Wed., and Fri. Beacon Light church, 2602 N. 51st Ave, Phoenix. Free admission, study materials and parking.

**RAW FOODS POTLUCK** Supper (Aug. 8) 6:30 p.m. held the 2nd Sat. of each month, Central church, 777 W. Montecito, Phoenix. Newcomers, please bring a vegetable or fruit salad without dressing. Info: 480-430-5492.

**HEALTHY FOOD PREPARATION** (Aug. 8) 2:30 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Casa Grande church, 1867 N. Trell Rd. Info: Sandy 541-729-6759 or Carolina 520-876-5240.

**THUNDERBIRD CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY** classes begin (Aug. 10) 7410 E. Sutton Dr., Scottsdale. Please check with your local Adventist elementary school for starting dates.

**THUNDERBIRD ADVENTIST ACADEMY** classes begin (Aug. 13) 7410 E. Sutton Dr., Scottsdale. Registration is on-going. Pick up registration packet at the office Mon-Thurs, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

**DANIEL 7, 8, 9: THE SANCTUARY** Doctrine (Sept. 16-ending Nov. 18) 6 p.m. Presented by Karl Wagner. Gilbert SDA church, 2130 E University, Mesa. Info: karlwagner@cox.net.

**17TH ANNUAL STATE WIDE MEN'S** Spiritual Retreat (Sept. 25-27) Camp Yavapines. Speaker: Pastor Ray Navarro; Sabbath school guest speaker, Karl Wagner. Evening concert with recording artist Michael Harris. Registration begins at 4 p.m. Friday. Registration forms will be available at your church or contact Dennis, 602-431-1444 for costs, further information.

**7TH ANNUAL ARIZONA WOMEN'S** Ministry (Oct. 9-11) with Ginny Allen, author "God's Love Song" and founder of Joy! Ministries. Retreat includes morning devotionals, inspirational music, a banquet, fun night and prayer sessions.

Info: Tammi Morby, 602-561-1634, for a brochure and costs.

## Northern California Conference

**READY, SET, MOVE!** (Sundays, Aug. 2-Oct. 25) 2-3 p.m. Sacramento Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave. Free fitness for the whole family! Co-sponsored by California Black Health Network. Info: 916-381-5353 or www.capitolcitysda.org.

**AMEN FREE CLINIC** (Aug. 23) Orangevale SDA School gym, 5810 Pecan Avenue. Volunteers needed: dentists, hygienists, assistants, physicians, nurses, therapists, non-medical volunteers. AMEN provides all equipment. Just bring yourself and a willingness to serve! Info and sign-up: amensda.org/orangevale.

**SPIRITUAL MEN'S RETREAT** (Aug. 28-30) Leoni Meadows. Theme: "Be Not Deceived" Keynote speaker: Pastor Randy Skeete. Powerful workshops, Bible studies and spirit-filled, inspirational fellowship. Info and registration: www.ltwmensministry.com or Ramon Cooks, 916-271-4555.

**HISPANIC YOUTH RETREAT** (Sept. 4-6) Leoni Meadows. Speaker: Pastor Elden Ramirez, director of North American Division Office of Volunteer Ministries. Info and registration: Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092 or jose.marin@nccsda.com.

**ADVENTURER AND PATHFINDER** Leadership Convention (Sept. 11-13) Leoni Meadows. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080 or eddie.heinrich@nccsda.com.

**HISPANIC EVANGELISM TRAINING** (Sept. 15-19) Leoni Meadows. Speaker: Alejandro Bullón. Info and registration: Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092 or jose.marin@nccsda.com.

**EL DORADO ADVENTIST SCHOOL** Alumni Reunion (Sept. 18-19) 1900 Broadway, Placerville. Friday golf tournament; Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m.; Sabbath worship service, 10:30 a.m. Honored classes: 2000 and 2005. Featured speaker: Dr. Jeff Youker. Sabbath lunch provided. Info: Lois Roberts, lois.eas48@gmail.com.

**MESSIAH'S MANSION** (Sept. 19-27) 1-7 p.m. daily. Sonoma church, 20575 Broadway. See a full-scale model of the Mosaic Sanctuary. Come for a free, guided tour! Info: www.sonomasdachurch.

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com, 707-996-2008 or secsonsa@gmail.com.

**STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** (Sept. 24-27) Leoni Meadows. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080 or eddie.heinrich@nccsda.com.

**PATHFINDER CAMPOREE** (Oct. 1-4). Lake Mendocino. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080 or eddie.heinrich@nccsda.com.

**37TH NCC AFRICAN AMERICAN Convocation** (Oct. 9-10) See ad in Northern California Conference section.

**FOOD, FUN, FELLOWSHIP** (Wednesdays in Oct.) Orangevale church, 5810 Pecan Avenue. Meal at 6 p.m. (donation: \$2 per person). Community interest classes from 7-8 p.m., including cooking, discipleship, elder care, marriage and more—plus children's classes. Info: 916-967-2838 or www.ovsda.org.

## Pacific Union College

**PUBLICATION WORKSHOP** (Sept. 8-10) Academies learn how to make the most of their publications through writing, photography, graphic design, and

film courses taught by college educators and industry professionals. Info: publicationworkshop.squarespace.com.

**NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION** (Sept. 16-20) New freshman experience five days of orientation, advising, and spiritual and social programs, including the FUSION Weekend retreat. Transfer student orientation takes place Sunday, Sept. 20. Info: www.puc.edu/orientation or 707-965-7362.

**FALL QUARTER BEGINS** (Sept. 21) PUC kicks off the 2015-2016 school year with a Welcome Back Celebration. For a full calendar of the year's events, visit www.puc.edu/calendar.

**WELCOME BACK CHURCH Service** (Sept. 26) 11:15 a.m., PUC church. Lead Pastor Mark Witas speaks for the first Sabbath of the new school year. Info: www.pucchurch.org or 707-965-7297.

**ANGWIN AIRPORT FLY-IN** (Oct 11) 10 a.m., Virgil O. Parrett Field. Enjoy air-crafts, food and flour bomb flights. Info: kvarney@puc.edu or 707-965-6219.

**PUC COLLEGE DAYS** (Oct 18-19) High school juniors and seniors from Central California Conference area academies,

high schools, youth groups and home school experience classes and college events at PUC. Registration required as space is limited. Info: enroll@puc.edu or 707-965-6336.

**ANGWIN TO ANGUISH** (Oct. 25) Trail run offering Family 4k Fun Run, 12k, and 24k courses on PUC trails. Benefits PUC's Service-Learning Program. Info: www.angwintoanguish.com.

**ALBION RETREAT** and Learning Center (ongoing) Comfortable lodging for visitors and groups available along the Mendocino Coast. Perfect for classes, retreats, reunions, weddings, or vacations. Info: www.puc.edu/albion or 707-937-5440.

## Southeastern California Conference

**ACE LEADERSHIP EVENT** (Aug. 7-9) Event is geared towards junior high, high school and early collegiate students and their parents. Info: Liz Adams, 951-509-2260 or aceleadership.net.

**PATHFINDER LEADER'S CONVENTION** (Sept. 11-13) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: Judi Jeffreys, 951-509-2265.

**ADVENTURER LEADER'S CONVENTION** (Sept. 18-20) Pine Springs Ranch. Annual event for all Adventurer leaders and parents interested in the program. Info: Judi Jeffreys, 951-509-2265.

**ADVENTURER BEACH DAY** (Sept. 27) Beach Day is open to any family that is part of a SECC registered Adventurer club. Info: Judi Jeffreys, 951-509-2265.

## Southern California Conference

**CREATION HEALTH**, Session 7, Outlook (Aug. 15) 3-5 p.m. South Bay church. 401 S. Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach 90277. Info: 310-214-3123.

**"CAN U HEAR ME NOW"?** Youth Mini Camp Meeting. 7 p.m. Presenters: David Solis (Aug. 21); Alfred Luna (Aug. 22). EndTimes Like These School of Evangelism & Resource center, 1501 East Chevy Chase Dr., Glendale 91206. Info: 818-549-4147; www.endtimeslikethese.org.

**GET MAD ABOUT MARRIAGE!** (Aug. 22) 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mike & Gayle Tucker, Faith for Today speaker/directors will present a highly-acclaimed relationship seminar. Registration free, but seating limited. Five seminar sessions. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241; Registration: www.madaboutmarriage.com.

**LOS ANGELES ADVENTIST FORUM** (Aug. 22) 3 p.m. Topic, "The Rabbi's Sabbath in Six Concepts." Presenter: Erik Carter, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof., School of Religion, Loma Linda University. Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Glendale City Adventist church, 610 E. California. Info: 818-244-7241.

**AMATEUR RADIO TRAINING** (Aug. 23, 30) Aug. 23; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Aug. 30; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. including licensing exam. SCC office, 1535 E. Chevy Chase Dr., Glendale 91206. RSVP required. Free with \$5 lunch donation; materials available for purchase. Registration: Send name, cell no., address, email. Previous license? Indicate advanced training wanted. Info: bcooney818@sbcglobal.net.



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**DEMAND IS HIGH** for Automotive Service Management with an expected job growth rate of 17 percent between 2010-2020, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Southern Adventist University offers an associate's degree in automotive service as well as a bachelor's in automotive service management. Both programs feature hands-on experience with ASE master mechanics and a focus on incorporating Christ-centered values in the classroom as well as the workplace. Southern students have an 85 percent pass rate on ASE certification exams. Part-time work opportunities and internships are available in the auto shop on campus. Visit [southern.edu/tech](http://southern.edu/tech) for more information.

**THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT** job outlook is strong with an expected growth rate of 16 percent between 2012-2022, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Southern Adventist University offers an associate's degree as well as a bachelor's in construction management. Students learn to unravel the complex components of commercial and residential construction projects and gain management techniques and leadership skills needed to supervise a job site. Southern's program features hands-on experience while incorporating Christ-centered values into both learning and working environments. Visit [southern.edu/tech](http://southern.edu/tech) for more information.

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**Employment**

**MATHEMATICS PROFESSOR** sought by Union College, Lincoln, Neb. Doctorate or ABD required for tenure track position. Strong commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching, and scholarship essential. Submit cover letter and CV to Dr. Carrie Wolfe, chair, Division of Science and mathematics, [cawolfe@ucollege.edu](mailto:cawolfe@ucollege.edu).

**PROFESSIONAL FARMER** needed to live and make a living on 80-acre ranch above Temecula at 4,000 ft. mountain elevation. Crop development, 60'x25' greenhouse to grow all year long. 2-bdrm, 2-bath, 1,600 sq. ft. mobile plus utilities. Established orchards, vineyard. Producing chicken business. Animal care. Call, Janette, 760-808-1434.

**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** has an immediate opening for a full-time nurse educator to serve as Chair for Nursing Department. Doctoral degree required with three years of university/college teaching experience; must have an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send cover letter and current CV to Dr. Amy Rosenthal at [arosenthal@swau.edu](mailto:arosenthal@swau.edu).

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**Events**

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in Tualatin, Oregon (Oct. 2-3) Rolling Hills Community church. Celebrate missions with updates from around the world, and musical performances by Wintley Phipps. Children's programming provided on Sabbath. This event is free of charge. Register at www.maranatha.org or call 916-774-7700.

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**Reunions**

**100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** of the Porterville church (Oct. 24) 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Speaker, Jerry Lutz, former pastor. Learn the history, share memories, and meet friends. Noon meal provided. Info: 559-784-6031; email: office@portervilleadventist.org.

**CARMICHAEL CHURCH 50TH** Anniversary. The Carmichael Church building in Sacramento turns 50 this year, and for the upcoming celebration the staff is seeking to reunite former members who were choir directors, organists and other leaders in the congregation since 1965. All former members are invited to join current members for the anniversary celebration that starts with a Christmas concert at 7 p.m. Friday, December 18. The celebration continues the next morning, December 19, with a special Sabbath School program and church service, followed by a luncheon. Finally, a memorable afternoon program begins at 2 p.m. Save the date and check www.carmsda.org for the latest information as the anniversary weekend approaches.

Enrichment Tour. Fantastic buffets, fellowship, and guides. Affordable. Two departure dates: Nov. 15-23 or Nov. 18-29, 2015. Contact: Jennifer at Maranatha Tours, 602-788-8864, or Jill at 3ABN, 618-627-4651.

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**AFFELDT, JOANN (ALLEN)** – May 2, 1930, Durango, Colo.; d. Aug. 2, 2014, Truckee, Calif. Survivors: husband, Bud; son, Rob; daughter, Janna; one grandchild; sister, Dorothy Loesche.

**AJIMINE, GEORGE** – b. Feb. 22, 1922, Kaimuki, Oahu, Hawaii; d. April 11, 2015, Crescent City, Calif. Survivors: wife, Kay; sons, Vern, Ed; daughters, Susan, Sande Huntington; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**BAUTISTA, ERNESTO** – b. Sept. 15, 1938, Philippines; d. May 26, 2015, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivor: wife, Amor.

**BEAVERS, JAMES C. JR.** – b. Dec. 12, 1930, Falling Water, Tenn.; d. May 2, 2015, Roseville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Rosie; sons, Randall, Thomas Nivison; daughter, Cynthia Innocent Snyder; seven grandchildren; sister, Barbara. Served as a medic during the Korean conflict.

**BILDERBACK, JOHN** – b. June 17, 1922, Portland, Ore.; d. Dec. 21, 2014, San Andreas, Calif. Survivor: son, John.

**CARPENTER, JUANITA** – b. Feb. 24, 1921, Davis, N.M.; d. June 11, 2015, Riverside, Calif. Survivors:

son, Gary; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

**Correction: CLEM, JOHN HENRY** – b. July 12, 1930, Leedey, Okla.; d. April 29, 2015, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: wife, Velma; sons, Randy, Terry, Lynn; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

**CHUDLEIGH, GEORGE NORMAN "GERRY" JR.** – b. July 26, 1943, National City, Calif.; d. July 4, 2015, Newbury Park, Calif. Survivors: wife, Mary; son, Brian; daughter, Brenda Taege; stepchildren; John and Amy Lewis, Richard Lewis, Shannon Lewis; six grandchildren. See complete biographical sketch inside Recorder.

**COLWELL, WILLIAM F.** – b. Sept. 17, 1925, Wakefield, Mass.; d. June 14, 2015, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Norma; sons, Timothy, David, Daniel, William Jr.; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren.

**COMSTOCK, DARRYL L.** – b. Sept. 16, 1933, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. Feb. 17, 2015, Stayton, Ore. Survivors: wife, Betty; sons, Darryl, Doug; daughter, Sharyl Ashley; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister, Deanna Kindrick. Served as teacher and/or principal in California, Oregon and Hawaii.

**DE LEON, BETTE S.** – b. June 28, 1927, Shushan, Persia; d. June 12, 2015, Loma

Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Lynnae Higgins; two grandchildren; brothers, Ellis Olson, Lennart Olson. Served at Loma Linda University.

**DOBYNS, LOWELL C.** – b. June 29, 1929, Wenatchee, Wash.; d. May 29, 2015, Fortuna, Calif. Survivors: wife, Beverly; daughters, Sandra Rhoads, Cynthia Neumann; two grandchildren; sister, Phyllis Warren. Served as a dentist.

**ENSMINGER, RUTH (WACKER)** – b. December 28, 1915, Mont.; d. May 22, 2015, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Joan Decker; one grandchild; sister, Arta Corona.

**FALCONER, DORIS E.** – March 10, 1926, Tacoma, Wash.; d. June 4, 2015, Murrieta, Calif. Survivors: son, Ron; two grandchildren.

**GREWAL, SANDRA** – b. Dec. 26, 2960, Baghdad, Iraq; d. June 11, 2015, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: stepmother, Elke Arshat; sisters, Selwa Zaheer, Lillie Favela, Linda Matthews; stepbrothers, Brad Arshat, Heiko Arshat.

**HAGEN, ILA P. (NELSON)** – b. July 8, 1921, Elk Horn, Iowa; d. May 18, 2015, St. Helena, Calif. Survivors: husband, Rusel; son, Bruce; daughter, Joan Hughson; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

**Correction: HAGOOD, BETTY A. (FRYER)** – b. Jan. 26, 1925, Hanging Langford, England; d. March 27, 2015, Fortuna, Calif. Survivors: husband, Ted; son, Fred Shoales; daughters, Elizabeth Gwin, Linda Shamblin; five grandchildren.

**JACOBSON, LAURITA E.** – b. Jan. 29, 1918, Hinsdale, Ill.; d. July 5, 2015, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: son, Douglas; daughters, Margaret Stephens, Karen Kugel, Verne Day; 15 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren.

**JUDD, WARREN DOUGLAS** – b. March 31, 1944, Sydney, Australia; d. May 26, 2015, Yucaipa, Calif. Survivors: wife, Jan; son, Marc; daughter, Shani Diehl; three grandchildren. Served as CEO of the Adventist Media Center; was in charge of the audio-visual work for the past five General Conference sessions; a visionary for media within the Adventist church.

**LOHMAN, AVALEE J. (WARD)** – b. Nov. 12, 1950, Salinas, Calif.; d. May 31, 2015, Oklahoma City, Okla. Survivors: daughter, Lorrie Baker; stepson, Don Baker; stepdaughter, Rebecca Hammond; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

**MELLER, GEORGE ROBERT** – b. Sept. 14, 1934, Cando, Saskatchewan, Canada; d. May 12, 2015, Jackson, Calif.

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**2015 Deadlines** — Please note that these are the advertising deadlines for the Recorder. Your local conference news deadlines will be earlier.

October: August 25  
 November: September 29  
 December: October 27  
 January 2016: November 30

## CONTRIBUTIONS

The Recorder pages are assigned to the local conferences, colleges and health care institutions, and all content comes through the communication directors in those organizations. If you have a news story/idea, calendar announcement, etc., please contact your local communication director. See page 2 for contact information. Want tips for writing for us? See [www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news](http://www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news).

Survivor: wife, Barbara. Worked at the Pacific Union College Press.

**MEZA, FRANCISCO SALVADOR** — b. Oct. 7, 1955, Chillan, Chile; d. June 7, 2015, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Nannerl; son, Oscar; daughter, Ariana.

**MILLER, RETHA P. (MCCANN)** — b. Jan. 23, 1920, Scottsbluff, Ariz.; d. Nov. 4, 2014, Bakersfield, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Linda Seager; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**NEILSEN, CELIA DORIS (JEYS)** — b. Oct. 21, 1916, Oakwood, Ala.; d. May 25, 2015, Angwin, Calif. Survivors: son, Nicolas; daughter, Cheryl Daley; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Taught secretarial science at Pacific Union College; served as secretary at Loma Linda School of Dentistry.

**NELSON, ELLEN NAOMI DICK (WADDELL)** — b. Oct. 15, 1912, Beiseker, Alberta, Canada; d. May 22, 2015, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Ralph Waddell II; daughters, Corlene Lambeth, Beverly Tarr; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Medical missionary to the hospital and school in Bangkok, Thailand and also teacher at Columbia Union College for nursing.

**PESHECK, JOHN ROBERT "BOB"** — b. March 13, 1924, Dickenson, N.D.; d. June

17, 2015, Folsom, Calif. Survivors: wife, Phyllis; sons, Greg, Brad; daughters, Belinda Adams, Laura Ball; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two step-grandchildren.

**PRATT, DOUGLAS FREEMAN** — b. Jan. 8, 1929, Glendale, Calif.; d. May 30, 2015, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: sons, Dale, Mark, Orlyn; daughter, Enola Pratt Miller.

**QUALIA, RAELENE L.** — b. April 9, 1947, Whittier, Calif.; d. March 21, 2015, Angwin, Calif. Survivor: sister, Arlene Ermshar. Worked as a surgical and ER nurse at White Memorial Hospital, taught nursing for LVN program in Glendale, Calif.

**QUISTINI, GLADYS IDELLIA** — b. Jan. 11, 1923, Sutter, Calif.; d. May 5, 2015, Yuba City, Calif.

**REES, VERNON D.** — b. May 24, 1916, Washington, D.C.; d. April 29, 2015, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Vernon D. Jr.; Loretta Davis; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. Served as pastor in over 20 churches; served as a chaplain at Loma Linda University Medical Center for 18 years.

**REYNOLDS, VERNON** — b. May 30, 1924, Hastings, Neb.; d. Dec. 27, 2014, San Andreas, Calif. Survivor: wife,

Phyllis. Served as a literature evangelist in California.

**SAULSBURY, ELLEN** — b. Feb. 15, 1927, Columbus, Kan.; d. June 3, 2015, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: son, Tim; daughter, Judy Cizmar; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brothers, Everett Jr., Donald; sister, Roberta Simmonson.

**SLUSARENKO, MIKE** — b. Oct. 22, 1928, Beauvallon, Alberta, Canada; d. May 2, 2015, Ukiah, Calif. Survivors: wife, Joy; sons, Brian, Bob, Don; daughters, Debbie Merritt, Leanne Kunihiro; 10 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Served mission building projects around the world; Maranatha International, The Quiet Hour, and Chehalis, Wash. church.

**STOCKTON, ALBERT H.** — b. July 31, 1953, Eureka, Calif.; d. June 7, 2015, Loleta, Calif. Survivors: wife, Dorothy; sons, David, Jonathan, Steven; daughter, Mindy Levandowski; brother, Asa; sisters, Karen, Peggy Jensen, Susan, Sally Miller.

**STRATTON, ELDON EPARD** — b. May 14, 1927, Granger, Wash.; d. May 25, 2015, Walla Walla, Wash. Survivors: wife, Barbara Jean; son, Marc; daughters, Yvonne, Bonnie Lu White, Aletha Mae Ensminger; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild. Served as minister, teacher in educational administration and counseling.

**SWATEK, ROSE LARSON** — b. May 4, 1919, Richfield, Minn.; d. May 20, 2015, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, William; daughter, Pam Singleton; daughter-in-law, Vanessa; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**TURPEL, WILLIAM PAUL** — b. March 29, 1934, Boston, Mass.; d. Jan. 15, 2015, Moses Lake, Wash. Survivors: wife, Lois Ann; daughter, Lori Ann Diaz; brother Alan; sister, Jane Sutter.

**WESTMORELAND, RICHARD** — b. Dec. 21, 1931, Shelton, Wash.; d. June 6, 2015, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Laurel Stewart, Marcia Walters, Darla Carroll, Gwen, Jan Novotny, Margo Blehm.

**WINN, ALFRED VERNON SR.** — b. March 15, 1915, Galt, Calif.; d. May 26, 2015, Napa, Calif. Survivors: sons, Alfred Jr., Kenneth; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**ZITTRICH, WILLIAM "TERRY" SAMUEL** — b. Aug. 29, 1951, Cheyenne, Wyo.; d. July 1, 2015, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Jennifer Barker; mother, Florence Sylvia; sister, Valerie Horne.

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

## SUNSETS

	8/28	9/4	9/11	9/18	9/25
Alturas	7:40	7:28	7:16	7:04	6:52
Angwin	7:44	7:33	7:22	7:11	7:00
Calexico	7:10	7:01	6:52	6:43	6:33
Chico	7:43	7:32	7:21	7:09	6:58
Eureka	7:53	7:42	7:30	7:19	7:07
Fresno	7:31	7:21	7:11	7:00	6:50
Hilo	6:38	6:32	6:26	6:20	6:13
Honolulu	6:50	6:43	6:37	6:30	6:23
Las Vegas	7:12	7:02	6:52	6:42	6:31
Lodi	7:39	7:28	7:18	7:07	6:56
Loma Linda	7:18	7:09	6:59	6:50	6:40
Los Angeles	7:23	7:14	7:04	6:54	6:44
Moab	7:51	7:41	7:30	7:19	7:07
Oakland	7:42	7:32	7:21	7:10	6:59
Phoenix	6:57	6:48	6:38	6:28	6:19
Reno	7:35	7:24	7:12	7:01	6:50
Riverside	7:19	7:10	7:00	6:50	6:40
Sacramento	7:40	7:29	7:18	7:07	6:56
Salt Lake City	8:04	7:53	7:41	7:29	7:17
San Diego	7:17	7:08	6:58	6:49	6:39
San Francisco	7:43	7:33	7:22	7:11	7:00
San Jose	7:40	7:30	7:19	7:09	6:58
Tucson	6:51	6:42	6:33	6:24	6:15



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