

PACIFIC UNION

JANUARY 2017

# Recorder

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**7 MISSION ROAD CHURCH**  
*International Cultural Fair*



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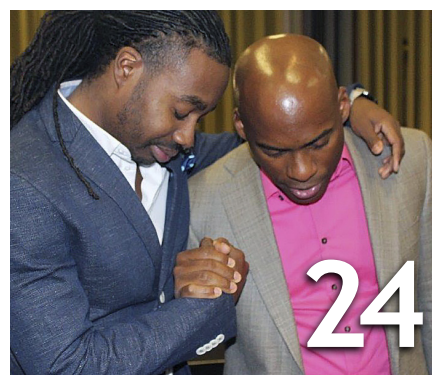
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about the cover

Panke Siripool represents Thailand at her booth, the "Thai-Tanic," at the Mission Road Cultural Fair Nov. 6.

PHOTO: JESSICA ANZAI



# INTERESTING *Indeed!* TIMES,

"May you live in interesting times" is an English expression purported to be a translation of a traditional Chinese curse. Could there be more of an interesting year than 2016? I am sure those who have lived longer than I and paid closer attention to world and national events might think so.

God only knows for sure, but many people think that we are in for more "interesting" times as we transition into the future. What we do know, for sure, according to the Bible, which we believe, is that God is in charge. Prophets of old tells us so repeatedly in the Holy Bible. Take this one for example:

"Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, For wisdom and power belong to Him. It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men And knowledge to men of understanding. It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, And the light dwells with Him. To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, For You have given me wisdom and power; Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, For You have made known to us the king's matter" (Daniel 2:20-23, NASB).

Many Bible students will recognize the above quotation as a portion Daniel's "praise report" before giving the answer king Nebuchadnezzar sought from his "wise men;" the king had forgotten the details of His dream; it had gone dark — lights out, as it were.

God gave Daniel not only the details of the dream, but the interpretation of it. Only The Most High God could do that.

What seems like the dark, unknown future was not then and is not now a secret to God. He is there already, holding it in His hands. In the words of the old spiritual song, "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands."

That's how Proverbs 3:5,6 can instruct in a proclamatory manner: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight."

That includes us; our future is assured, as we progressively trust the One who is in charge. Our role is to keep trusting and obeying Him as the days go by and remember the yet-uncompleted mission that He has assigned us to proclaim the three angels' messages in the context of the everlasting gospel.

He is faithful to be with us until the very end.

However, if we fail to factor in his advice and counsel, we often limit ourselves to the advice of other people. And God has already advised us about the source of our recommendations: "Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help" (Psalm 146:3, KJV).

Our true help, our best help, our only hope of everlasting help, lies in the Lord our God. In all things, big and small, some that seems short-term in time, and those of a longer duration.

Our aim is not the next year but all the years of our God-given future. If we are just concerned about next year, we are aiming too low or too short of the target.

To borrow from the Pen of Inspiration, "There is need of a broader scope, a higher aim. True education means more than the pursual of a certain course of study. It means more than a preparation for the life that now is. It has to do with the whole being, and with the whole period of existence possible to man. It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come" (White, *Education*, p.1).

Yes, I realize that this statement is directly pertaining to formal education, but education is a lifelong process, and I believe that God can use and indeed does use everything to educate us and transform our character to fit us to live with Him; whether in a formal class room, or through the "college of hard knocks," we all remain under the tutelage of the Master Teacher, Jesus Christ.

So, no matter how "interesting" the world scene may become, we are to trust in God and follow His lead. He knows all its details and He will bring us through the future, because "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands."



*Ricardo Graham, D.Min.*

# In Memoriam: *Wil Alexander, Revered Pioneer of Whole Person Care*

**W**il Alexander, Ph.D., M.Th., died Nov. 16, 2016, at the age of 95. It is “the loss of a friend, the fall of a leader and the end of an era,” describes his colleague in the Loma Linda University School of Religion, David Larson, Ph.D., D.Min.

Alexander made whole person care into the model it is today at Loma Linda University Health. He described his vision for patient care this way:

“I’ve spent a great deal of time in clinic situations where the patient becomes the best teacher. I see most patients as wounded storytellers who, out of pain, fear, emotions and relational things that are happening to them, find themselves feeling better having told their story. This helps the physician understand how this all inner-weaves together toward caring for them as whole persons.”

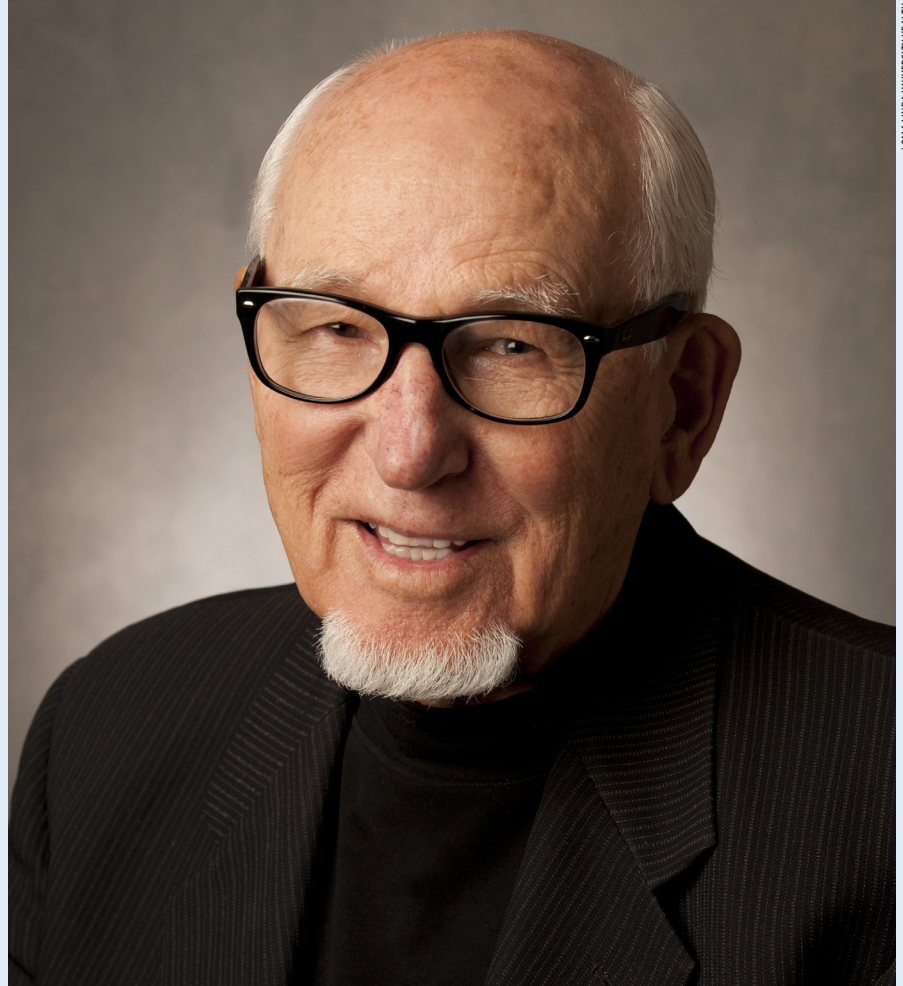
“Our friend Wil Alexander is now gone,” says Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president of Loma Linda University Health. “His impact on this campus has been immeasurable and will continue for generations in the lives of those students, residents, faculty and patients he impacted. He was absolute in his commitment to Loma Linda and in his desire that this campus become a model of whole person care, as he so ably defined it.”

After his ordination into the ministry in Lynwood, Calif., in 1954, Alexander joined the Loma Linda University faculty as an associate professor of practical theology. For the next nine years he taught courses in counseling, guidance, evangelism, preaching and speech.

Before rejoining the faculty of Loma Linda University in 1973, he earned two master’s degrees, a doctor of philosophy degree and wore many professional hats for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Alexander served as the first dean of the Faculty of Religion at Loma Linda University after the separation in 1990 from what is now La Sierra University.

As part of the effort to integrate the institutional motto, “To make man whole,” into practice, Loma Linda University created



*Wil Alexander, Ph.D., M.Th., 1921-2016*

a taskforce on spiritual life and wholeness in 1991. The same year, Alexander was appointed special assistant to the president for spiritual life and wholeness.

In 1996, he founded the Loma Linda University Center for Spiritual Life and Wholeness to help foster and nurture spiritual life and wholeness in students, health care professionals, their families and their patients.

“One of our greatest storytellers has said goodbye for now. Our lives have been blessed by his presence among us. This organization will move forward greatly influenced by the path he has paved,” says Carla Gober-Park, Ph.D., M.S.,

M.P.H., director, Center for Spiritual Life and Wholeness.

Roger Hadley, M.D., dean of the School of Medicine, says: “Wil Alexander was successful in teaching generations of physicians a practical and highly effective way to incorporate spiritual care in the practice of medicine.”

In addition to serving as director of the Loma Linda University Center for Spiritual Life and Wholeness, Alexander was professor, School of Medicine and emeritus professor, School of Religion.

*Heather Reifsnnyder and  
Richard A. Schaefer*

# 50th Anniversary Celebration at Fullerton Church Looks Back to Early 20th Century

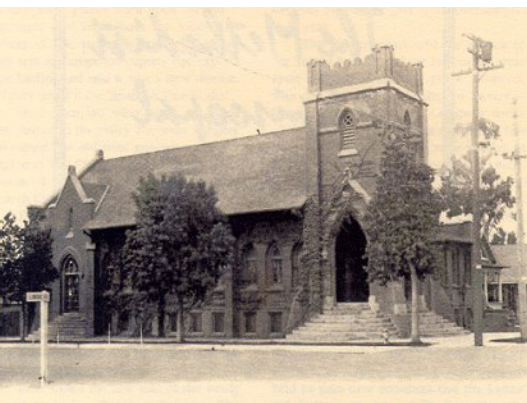
In the spring of 1966, Fullerton church members held their first services at their newly built church on West Valencia Drive in Fullerton. Fifty years later, on Oct. 22, 2016, the members celebrated their 50th anniversary of worshipping there. However, as one of the oldest churches in the Southeastern California Conference, its history spans back even further than that.

In the early 1900s, traveling evangelists began their work in Fullerton, conducting Bible studies and tent meetings in the area. The fruits of their labor were evident when the church formally organized in 1912 at the local YMCA.

As the church grew, members found it necessary to move from one location to another, and in the early 1920s, they built a small church and school on land near Amerige Park in downtown Fullerton.

Their growth continued, and by 1931, they found it necessary to purchase the Methodist church on the corner of Amerige and North Pomona avenues, renaming it "The Tabernacle Church." The church, built in 1909, is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Eventually, even that structure was too small. After 30 years, the members bought five acres of land and built a school, Valencia Junior



*This Gothic-style church was used by the Fullerton church for more than 30 years before their current building. It was built in 1909 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.*



*The Fullerton church has more than 360 members, some of them posing here for a group picture after their anniversary celebration.*

Academy, and the sanctuary in which they still worship today.

"The event generated such goodwill," Melbert Baga, Fullerton church pastor, said. "In spite of challenges we have faced over the years, we're still here with the chance to grow and keep going into the future."

The celebration was kept simple and intimate. After the worship service, everyone enjoyed a potluck lunch. A special invitation went out to previous members, and a handful of individuals who had been at the dedication 50 years ago were able to attend.

The church continues in the same spirit as its origins. It remains very active and features a diverse congregation. People from different backgrounds continue to come together and make an impact in the Fullerton community. They have a vibrant children's ministry, as well as Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs.

A few years ago, the church brought a portable shower truck to its property to provide a place for local individuals without access to proper bathrooms and showers to use.

The church is also active with evangelism efforts. In 2016, after a Revelation seminar,



*Church members gather on Oct. 22, 2016, to celebrate their 50th anniversary of worshipping in their current church in Fullerton.*

they baptized 17 new members, a number that equaled those baptized after last year's evangelistic crusade.

"I am honored to be part of this legacy," Baga said. "As a pastor, you stand on the foundation built by others. It's not just the physical, but the life of the church and the theology. I am always mindful of those that have gone before me and am happy to contribute toward the continuation of this congregation."

Mario A. Munoz

# International Cultural Fair Draws Hundreds to Mission Road Church

**A** Loma Linda resident who wanted to get away for the weekend did not have to travel far on Nov. 6. Mission Road church members hosted their second International Cultural Fair which attracted almost 500 locals for food and entertainment.

“We wanted to do something to be involved with the community that was open to all ethnic groups,” Dean Horinouchi, senior pastor at Mission Road church, said. “It’s nice to have an event to support and learn about each other’s cultures together.”

More than 16 cultural booths served food from all over the world: Navajo fry bread, Nigerian desserts, Hawaiian musubi, Malaysian soup, Colombian empanadas, Romanian dishes and even French fries. Other countries represented by their cuisine included Korea, Mexico, Thailand, Japan and India.

In addition to the food, there were internationally themed crafts, games, an international fashion show, hula dancing, and music performances from a Chinese band. Hundreds of people sat under the awning at

tables with open seating, eating and watching the performances.

“The food was delicious, but my favorite part was watching the hula,” Kaisar Ahmed said. “I like learning about different cultures, so this event was very enriching.”

Ahmed is from Redlands. He found Mission Road church in the Yellow Pages and decided to attend church service on Nov. 5. While he was there, someone made an announcement about the fair. His interest in cultures and religion brought him back the next day.

“Everyone was so inclusive and smiling,” Ahmed said. “I even met two friends, one I’ve known for over 20 years. I had no idea he went to Mission Road church!”

Ahmed said he would consider coming back to the church, not only for the food, but also because of the variety of people there.

That was the goal of the church members who started the event in 2015. Margie Brodeur, Yarnie Cheng and Shirley Tan from craft ministries wanted a way to sell some of their crafts, such as quilts and handmade baskets. Since the church has a diverse membership from all over the world, the idea arose to incorporate food. After the first event, food became a main focus and other members provided more entertainment.

“This was not something the church board decided; this was something the church members owned, planned and got involved with,” Horinouchi said.

Plans for future events include a larger program with a larger variety of entertainment.

“This is an outreach opportunity for church members to invite their community to a good program with quality food,” Colin Siaw, an event organizer, said. “It is a great demonstration of God’s love in action.”



*People line up to taste Romanian food like Zacusca, a spread of grilled eggplants and red peppers, or Mamliga, polenta made of boiled corn flour.*



*Everyone receives a card with all the different booths. Visitors can then make their way around the festival at their own pace, and sit at the tables in between trying different foods.*



*Hula dancers draw a crowd as they perform with traditional Hawaiian music.*



*Panke Siripool, member at Mission Road church, represents Thailand at her booth, the “Thai-Tanic.” Other catchy booth names included “Wok in Kitchen” and “Mt. Food-ji Bento.”*



*Chinese musicians perform at the International Cultural Fair on Nov. 6 at the Mission Road church.*



*The international fashion show features cultural looks from places such as Hawaii, Bangladesh, Thailand, Japan and more.*

Jessica Anzai

# Partnering for Eternity Brings LSA Students and Seniors Together

**L**a Sierra Academy is in its second year of a Partnering for Eternity program, a scholarship grant program for Adventist elementary schools administered by Southern Adventist University. PFE encourages students to form intergenerational relationships with elderly people in the community. Eleven schools in Southeastern California Conference participate in this program.

“PFE is an excellent way for our students to establish a relationship of service and companionship with a senior mentor,” Don Dudley, superintendent of schools, said. “It helps to close the generation gap through fellowship and communication.”

There are currently 77 K-8 students at LSA who visit with their mentors once a week for one hour, accompanied by a parent. Afterward, students must provide a written report on what they did. They then receive a monthly

scholarship credit that goes toward the year’s tuition: 20 percent from the school, 80 percent from the PFE scholarship grant program.

“That’s the beauty of this program — it’s a win-win situation. It lines up with our school’s mission, service and community involvement,” said Michele McKinstry, PFE coordinator at LSA. “Families who want their child to attend our school but need financial support now have a way to send their children, while also helping others.”

Students and mentors do various activities together, including reading, walking, baking, crafts and playing games.

“The seniors take their bingo and bowling seriously,” Lauren Parchamento, a fifth grade LSA student said. “Believe it or not, they’ve competed and won trophies!”

Lauren is in her second year of PFE. Last year, her mentor was Mary, from Brookdale Senior Living in Corona. When she first arrived there with her brothers, Landon (sixth grade at the time) and Logan (first grade at the time), the seniors wondered if it was going to work out.

“They were hesitant to have children there, thinking we wanted money from them,” said Finny Parchamento, mother of Lauren, Landon and Logan. “We started out doing small activities, like serving food, picking up trash and cleaning.”

Soon, the seniors started saying “thank you” more often and were more welcoming. Then they started saying “hello” and “goodbye.” Opportunities arose to help them play games, exercise and even hand out Christmas gifts to all the residents. And eventually, Lauren and her family were able to share about God and read the Bible with Mary.

“The Bible tells us to serve one another with brotherly love. It also taught us to help and honor our elders. We are thankful for PFE because it made us think of other people rather than ourselves,” Lauren said.

*Jessica Anzai*



**Lauren Parchamento, a fifth grade student at La Sierra Academy, with one of her mentors, Martha Mueller.**



**Lauren Parchamento and Martha Mueller participate in a round of Nickle Bingo at Brookdale Magnolia in Corona.**



**Lupe, right, spends time with her mentor before the holiday season.**



**Danielle and David, students in the PFE program, spend time with their mentors, Ron and Carole Sue.**



**Schools participating in PFE must raise 20 percent of the scholarship fund. Funds raised go towards a PFE student’s tuition for that year.**



# SECC Welcomes Two New Senior Pastors



*Elizer Sacay, conference vice president for Asian/Pacific ministries, right, welcomes Alponso Tarigan, left, as the new senior pastor of the Loma Linda Indonesian church.*

## Alponso Tarigan, Loma Linda Indonesian Church

Alponso Tarigan, pastor of the Loma Linda Indonesian church for only a few months, is already busy leading members into more evangelistic outreach in their community.

Tarigan served as pastor in the Jakarta Conference in Indonesia for 12 years before pursuing his doctoral degree at the Adventist International Institutes of Advanced Studies, a university located near Manila, Philippines. It was there that he met Praban Saputro, one of his professors who would later introduce him to the new job at LLIC. After receiving his degree, Tarigan returned to Jakarta for two months before being called to Universitas Advent Indonesia. He spent three semesters there as an Old Testament professor before being called to LLIC.

Saputro, Tarigan's former professor, asked for his email address. "Two days after sending my email address to him, I got an email from Elizer Sacay, vice president for Asian/Pacific ministries in Southeastern California Conference," said Tarigan. "He was asking me to be senior pastor here in Loma Linda."

After spending time in prayer, he responded that if it was God's will, he would follow. The paperwork began, and soon, Tarigan, his wife and their three children moved to California, arriving in fall 2016.

Since beginning his ministry at the Loma Linda Indonesian church, Tarigan has been working with the church members in increasing evangelistic outreach.

"The church has great potential in taking part in accomplishing the divine commission given to us in reaching the world," Tarigan said. "I would like the church to take part in preaching the three angels' messages."

Tarigan hopes that the church will be mission-forward, and that every member will join in the work of evangelism.

## Andrew Nohrip Kim, Orange Central Korean Church

Andrew Nohrip Kim, new pastor of the Orange Central Korean church, moved to SECC from the Central California Conference, where he was pastor of the Mountain View Korean church for eight years.

Kim was born and raised in South Korea. His Korean name means "build a nation," so while Kim was growing up he had the passion to be an architect. He went to Busan, formerly known as Pusan, for college. It was not until he was 30, while staying in Guam, that he became a Seventh-day Adventist.

Later Kim went to study at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University in order to learn more about the Bible. While there, he heard God's calling to become a minister.

On Oct. 1, 2016, Kim was asked to become the pastor of the Orange Central Korean church. He moved to Orange County with his wife, Sukhyung, their two sons, UooRam and JoonGul, and daughter, Boram.

In his free time, Kim likes gardening and playing the guitar and autoharp.

His mission for Orange Central Korean church is to grow the children's and English-language ministries for young people. He also wants to continue the growth of the church's Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs.

"There are about 400,000 Koreans living within an hour of our church," Kim said. "My goal is to expand this church within our community."

*Julia Bonney and Jessica Anzai*



*Andrew Nohrip Kim and his wife, Sukhyung, are now pastoring at the Orange Central Korean church.*

# Members Take Mission Trip to Los Angeles

**T**eams of members and leaders from nearly 20 SCC churches drove to Los Angeles' Skid Row on Thanksgiving Eve to share Thanksgiving dinners with more than 1,000 homeless people. Initiated by Tamarind Avenue church in 1999, the outreach has since been embraced by other Greater Los Angeles Region (GLAR) churches. More recently, churches from the L.A. Metro and Hispanic regions have joined in.

Participating in the outreach involves real commitment: each participating church contributes a full Thanksgiving dinner for 100 people, with table service and a serving table. Churches and members are also invited to donate new blankets, jackets, shoes, socks, gloves and more to give to the homeless people at the dinner. "I was asked by Pastor Michael Jenkins, who oversees the entire project, to coordinate the food with the various churches," explained Dimple Fields, Women's Ministries director for the Smyrna church. "This year, 11 GLAR churches each prepared an ample Thanksgiving menu. In addition, this year a handful of L.A. Metro and Hispanic Region churches participated or supported the ministry.

"We do what we do only to share the joy of giving thanks with those who are not as fortunate as we are," Fields reflected. "Jesus Himself said that if we do it 'unto the least of these my brethren,' we have done it unto Him. Our desire is simply to be the hands and feet of Jesus."

"The Skid Row ministry is one of the truest and purest forms of community outreach," commented Jenkins. "I do it because I feel called to be a blessing to others and to give them a reason to praise God. I also do it because it provides others an opportunity to minister. I enjoy seeing the smiles and expressions of gratitude from the people to whom we minister. I also enjoy the smiles and expressions of gratitude from the people who volunteer and serve. To be honest, those who participate and partner in the ministry inspire me the most to continue leading the ministry. I think those who participate get a greater blessing than those who are on the receiving end.



Many young people help at the event, including Pathfinders as well as young adults.

"I've learned that all types of individuals from every walk of life make up the homeless community of Los Angeles," he added. "I've also learned how to view my personal problems in their proper perspective. When I consider the issues that the homeless community face on a daily basis, I have learned not to complain about my minor trials and to be more thankful for my blessings."

"I'm here because, when I was at Andrews University, they sent me as a student missionary to Goiania, Brazil, for a year," said Yudi Acosta, an Adventist who has been working for three years in Skid Row missions. "That's where I got the taste for mission work here at home. There is so much need here."

Acosta currently teaches ESL at two missions and shares spiritual values and encouragement with the people who live at or come to the missions. Though the area attracts a diverse group of individuals, some choose to stay homeless and resist rehabilitation, Acosta has seen lives changed. "Rick came here from Michigan," she explained. "He is living

in the Union Rescue Mission. He became homeless more than a year ago. Previously, he had completed one to two years of college, and now he is an apprentice, acquiring clerical skills and helping at the mission."

When one student blamed his family for his drug use and his departure from his home, Acosta gently



White Memorial Church volunteers unload donated food and other items for the meal.



Pastor Michael Jenkins asks the blessing on the meal.



**Volunteers serve more than 1,000 people.**

explained to the class that free will is a gift that God gave us, so that we can make our own choices. Lettie, a student who lives under a bridge, was listening. "Lettie stopped drinking when she learned that she can't blame others for her choices," Acosta said, smiling. "I love my work!"

The number of young people participating in the Skid Row ministry especially excited Ira Barksdale, who had previously served as youth pastor of the Rolling Hills church and SCC associate treasurer. "I was excited to see the number of members from my former church and especially excited and inspired to see the number of young people there," he noted. Barksdale is currently the pastor of the Maranatha and Miramonte churches, which also participated in the outreach.

"One man wanted a blanket really bad," Barksdale recalled. "My wife had given about a dozen new woolen blankets she had collected and had asked me to give them to ladies. But this man was very cold and he only had a very small blanket, like a baby blanket. 'It gets really cold about 4-6 a.m.," he told me. 'I really need a warm blanket.' So I told him I'd help him, but he didn't believe me at first. 'If you will give your small blanket to someone, I'll give you a nice woolen one,'" I challenged him.

"I believe you," he said, and he gave it away. Tears flowed as he received the warmer blanket.

"When our young adult group arrived at Skid Row, we were excited to be participating in this event, because we were practicing Jesus' method of meeting the needs of the people," said Pastor Fedly Bonneau, White Memorial church young adult pastor. "We had clothes, blankets, food and water to hand out to the people, which, besides housing, are their greatest needs. The young adults from White Memorial church go out on every second Sabbath to feed the people on the streets with sandwiches, but they were amazed to see the good food that was cooked to pass out to the people. One young adult said, 'This is a meal you will find on the table of many Americans on Thanksgiving, and here we are bringing that joy to some who don't even have a table!'

"One touching experience occurred when we went around the block to invite people for an abundance of food. We reached a crowd of people trying to get into a shelter for the night. When they heard about our meal, they debated about whether food was more important or a place to sleep off the streets. Realizing their concern, we assured them the lines weren't long and they could make both happen on this night."



**Dimple Fields, event food coordinator, speaks with a dinner guest.**

The small army of young adults who came out for the Skid Row outreach impressed all who came. But one individual was impressed even before arriving on the scene.

"On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving," said Velino Salazar, SCC president, "I heard my young adult son calling other young people from our church about going to feed homeless people on L.A.'s Skid Row. So I thought I'd better join them and support this initiative. My son and daughter, along with my nephew and niece who were visiting us from Tennessee for Thanksgiving, drove with me to Skid Row.

"There I had one of the most impressive caring experiences, one that I didn't plan for," he continued. "I was thrilled to see dozens of young people happily active, unloading water, food and blankets to give to these indigent people. I could see that we didn't have to go overseas to find a real mission field! We have it at the core of our territory: in downtown Los Angeles. The 52 blocks comprising L.A.'s Skid Row became the mission field for anyone, especially the young people, who had not had the experience of going on an overseas mission trip.

"I dream that in 2017 we can double or triple the number of young people participating in this experience, which provides us with a preview of what Jesus will do when He comes, as described in Mathew 25:31-46. Let's do it again next year, but on a major scale!"

*Betty Cooney*



**SCC President Velino Salazar speaks to the crowd.**

# Thousand Oaks Church Lives the Gospel through “Serving the Servers” Event



PHOTOS BY GAYLENE CLARK EXCEPT AS NOTED.

*The kitchen is bustling as Jordan and Lauren put the final touches on the meal.*



*Lauren and Jordan get ready to serve the main course.*



*Pastor Jon Clark smiles for a quick picture before bringing out the lasagna.*

**I**f I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you." John 13:14-15.

That's just what Thousand Oaks Associate Pastor Jonathan Clark and his wife Gaylene set out to do when they invited people from the community who serve in different ways into their home for a special dinner. Pastor Jon constantly looks for ways to build relationships with people in the community — whether it's avoiding the ATM so he can go inside and visit with the same bank teller each time, or frequenting the same restaurants to get to know the waiters and waitresses. As a result, he and Gaylene have developed a rapport with several of the servers in the community.

"We had this brainstorm. I really feel like it was from the Holy Spirit," Gaylene remembers. "We should do something for these people to appreciate them — a relationship on a different level than them always serving us," we agreed. "Wouldn't it be nice if we had a holiday every year when we celebrate those who have served us?"

At first, they wondered, "Who would possibly come to this? Are we a little bit crazy?" But that fear was soon dismissed when they shared the idea with the servers at one of the restaurants they frequent, and it was met with enthusiasm. So just like that, the idea became a reality. They set a date, sent invitations and began planning.

The guest list included: Gaylene's hairdresser, Felicia Felipe; Felicia's daughter, Mayra Navarro; Mayra's boyfriend, Arnod Adjemon; Felicia's grandson, Josiah; and Debbie Nguyen and Adara Graves, waitresses at a local restaurant.

On the evening of the dinner, Jonathan, Gaylene, their son Jordan, Intern Pastor Lauren Cline and church member Leila Dali dressed in aprons, ready to serve. "We wanted to have opportunities to serve them as much as possible," Gaylene explained. They took a turn serving for the night, offering to grind pepper, grate Parmesan cheese and refill water for their guests.

Menus were printed and waiting on the guests' plates. On the menu was salad, soup, an artichoke appetizer, lasagna made from scratch and homemade crème brûlée for dessert. The Clarks used their best china. "Everything was something you would get in a restaurant," Gaylene said. "It was the very best we could do for them."

Cline helped to arrange games and mixers to get the evening started. One game gave guests the opportunity to tell the most interesting story about their work, the most unusual thing that had happened to them. Another game was a take on charades, similar to the mobile app "Heads Up!". There was even a prize table guests visited after the games.

In addition to the games, they felt it was important to give something to the guests that would help them remember that night. Jonathan



*Guests enjoy the start of their meal.*

and Gaylene bought small individual clocks as gifts. “We told them how meaningful it was for us that they took the time to go the extra mile to make us feel very special in their service to us and how we appreciated that and wanted to take the time to give back,” Gaylene recalls.

“They just couldn’t believe it,” Gaylene noted. “My hairdresser’s daughter’s boyfriend couldn’t believe it and started to say how much he wanted to come back to church because he hadn’t been treated like that. It really touched him.” Some of the guests from a local restaurant started talking about their experience, and they said they would like to do something like this for others — even discussing with Pastor Clark the possibility of inviting people they have been blessed by to the next event. “Hopefully, this is something that can continue,” Gaylene said.

Gaylene’s hairdresser also took her experience a step further. She hears many stories on the job from people who pour out their hearts to her as she’s cutting their hair. She texted Gaylene one day, asking about the name and location of the church so she could send one of her clients there.

One of the invited guests, a waitress named Jessica, was unable to attend at the last minute. Jonathan and Gaylene had a burden on their hearts for her, and she was one of the inspirations for the event. After the event, they visited her to share pictures of the dinner and to give her one of the clock gifts, sharing how much she meant to them. She had had a very negative experience with Christianity. “I’ve never met people like you guys,” she told Gaylene. “You guys are the only ones who haven’t tried to push religion on me.” She then asked if they offer counseling even to people who are not members of the church so she could talk through some of the hurt she carries.

“It was a huge ministry — unexpectedly,” Gaylene said. “We are trying to do what Jesus has done; to share what Jesus has done for us through action.”



*Salad and soup were the starters.*



*Felicia, Mayra, Pastor Jon, Gaylene, Lauren, Leila, Josiah, Debbie and Adara gather for a group photo.*

*Lauren Armstrong*

# CAMP WAWONA

## Continues Development of

# Master Plan

**W**ith the dawn of new year, the Central California Conference is preparing to advance its master plan at Camp Wawona — CCC's youth and retreat camp located in Yosemite National Park. Improvements are funded by Central members and friends who continue to contribute to the conference's Capital Campaign, an ongoing campaign that raises funds for the development of Camp Wawona, Soquel Conference Center and an educational scholarship endowment.

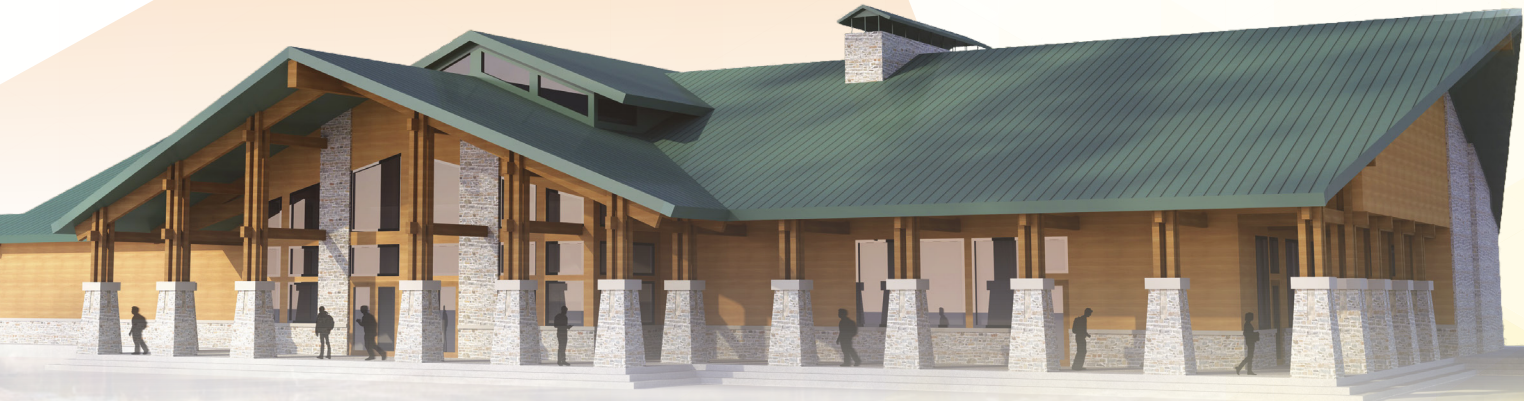
"We are so thankful to God for the amazing journey that He has had our conference on with our Capital Campaign," says Ramiro Cano, CCC president. "These generous contributions have allowed us to take critical steps in developing these precious properties for future ministry use." At Camp Wawona, phase one of the Capital Campaign focused on the building of a new recreational field, a camp fire bowl, and a yurt village consisting of eight yurts and a bathhouse complex.

The initial phase also included planning, surveying and the design of a double-lane road, which replaces the current single lane road. Trees have been removed to make way for the new road design, with building permits in the works. "We hope to have permits in hand by spring and to begin construction on the new road right after summer camp concludes," explains Ron Rasmussen, Central's executive secretary. The double-lane road will begin at the entrance to the camp and extend to the top



REAR VIEW OF SEYBOLD DINING HALL

FRONT VIEW OF SEYBOLD DINING HALL



of the hill where the swimming pool is located. The road construction project will also include necessary infrastructure for the new buildings, including sewage, electrical and data conduits.

A building committee of laypeople, construction professionals, several specialty consultants and administrators has been set up to facilitate the next phase of the construction process. "Everything is on track to complete the road in 2017, and begin dining hall construction after summer camp 2018," says Bud Dickerson, a Central member who chairs the Wawona Building Committee. "If funds are available, we could begin the chapel and medical/administration buildings at the same time — saving money in the long run."

Phase two at Camp Wawona will also include the construction of a new Seybold Dining Hall, named in honor of Ted and Dorothy Seybold, from Modesto, Calif. Construction is scheduled to begin in Spring 2018. The dining hall will be built at the top of the Camp Wawona hill with a breathtaking view of the Wawona Dome. The hall will seat 420 people inside, in two separate dining areas, with additional seating on the outside deck for 130 people for those who wish to enjoy outdoor dining experiences.

In addition, a new Adventist Health Medical and Administrative Building will be constructed near the dining hall. The building bears the name of Adventist Health, reflecting contributions from Adventist Medical Center in Hanford, Calif., San Joaquin Community Hospital in Bakersfield, Calif., and Sonora

Regional Medical Center in Sonora, Calif. Central hopes to begin construction on this building at the same time as the dining hall, in order to minimize costs. "Whole health and partnering with our communities is at the center of our Adventist Health mission and we love the fact that we have the capacity here in the Central Valley to partner with Camp Wawona on the new medical building," says Andrew Jahn, president and CEO of Sonora Regional Hospital.

Finally, Wawona's phase two will include a new indoor chapel. The camp currently has an outdoor worship area, which can only be used during fair weather. "The new chapel will make it nice for our campers, churches and groups in the winter and rainy times of the year to have a special place to worship God inside, surrounded by windows to enjoy God's nature outside," says Central's junior youth ministries director Norma Villarreal, whose office oversees Camp Wawona.

Total construction costs for the new road, dining hall, medical building and chapel are approximately \$9 million. To date, the campaign has raised \$2 million dollars towards the new dining hall, \$310,000 towards the new

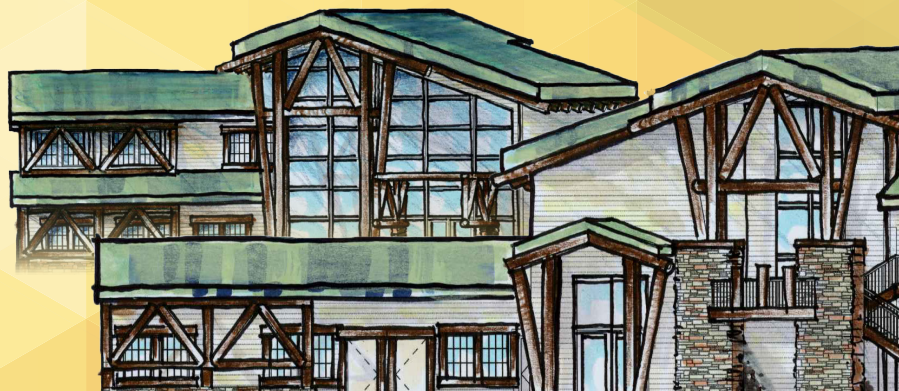
medical building and a \$500,000 pledge towards the new chapel. "I would like to encourage anyone who has been blessed by the ministry of Camp Wawona to consider making a gift to Camp Wawona," says Dorothy Seybold who contributed significantly to the dining hall project together with her late husband Ted Seybold.

"We all love Camp Wawona, and we cherish the history and want to preserve the amazing memories and great ministry that has been done there," concludes Cano. "We are looking forward to the new development for the future generations that will love and enjoy Camp Wawona like others have over the last 86 years."

*By Jackie Phillips*

*For more information, please contact Jackie Phillips, Capital Campaign Director at 559-217-1031 or [jphillips@cccsda.org](mailto:jphillips@cccsda.org)*

CONCEPTUAL VIEW OF ADVENTIST HEALTH MEDICAL/ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



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Christian Women's Retreat*

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# Live Like You The Ocean

There is a powerful motto created by the renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium's education program that helps to motivate teachers and students to solve ocean pollution issues plaguing our coast. The motto is "Live Like You Love the Ocean" and Jovinia Mustard, a teacher at Foothill Adventist School, and her students take this motto to heart. They visit the Aquarium each year for ocean learning and the Ocean Plastic Pollution Summit. Foothill Adventist School is a K-8 Christian Seventh-day Adventist school, with more than 100 students, located in the heart of the Silicon Valley.

With about 300 million tons of petroleum-based plastic bottles, bags, utensils, and other disposable items being thrown away each year, the Aquarium challenges teachers and students to develop new ideas for the use of these items, and solutions to the plastics problem.

Each year, select groups are chosen to present plastics projects at the Summit. This year, Mustard's class was invited for the third time. Her students enjoy presenting their projects at the Aquarium, and meeting hundreds of other students with similar goals.

Their favorite part is the Aquarium's massive sleepover where students get to sleep surrounded by the ocean life in residence.

"Instead of counting sheep," said Eliana, one of Foothill's students who attended, "I counted tuna fish to sleep!"

Sleeping bags line the Aquarium walls as students race to get a spot near their favorite ocean animal. Timothy, another student, remembers, "I got to see a baby whale while I was eating breakfast."

Last year at the Summit, Foothill third-graders presented their plastic bottle cap artwork

PHOTOS BY JOVINIA MUSTARD



*Foothill Adventist School students present at the Ocean Plastic Pollution Summit.*

ranging from blue whales to colorful clownfish. They later auctioned the artwork at school. With the proceeds, they were able to purchase and install a water bottle refill station for the school. "We wanted to reduce single-use plastic in our school by teaching students and staff the benefits of recycling," explained Mustard.

Mustard's students look forward to presenting new and creative ideas for the

recycled use of plastics — and scoring a premium sleeping spot near the shark tank. Follow their progress at [www.foothilladventistschool.org](http://www.foothilladventistschool.org).

*Sarah Mondestin*



*Plastic bottle caps used in artwork stay out of the ocean.*



*Creating bottle cap art takes concentration and hard work.*

# NCC President Discusses Plans for 2017

Near the end of 2016, Northern California Conference President Jim Pedersen shared some of his hopes and plans for the coming year.

STEPHANIE LEAL



NCC President Jim Pedersen discusses plans for 2017.

## What has impressed you most recently about the work going on in the Northern California Conference?

Many church members are discovering that God gets the glory when we work as a team. This way of thinking has contributed to the success of

our “Bridges: Bay Area for Jesus” evangelism initiative. I’m grateful to see how churches have been willing to work together, putting aside loyalties to their individual congregations to enhance the work across Oakland.

This team approach has caught on throughout the conference. Local churches have banded together in various locations such as Lake County, Lodi, the Napa Valley and Oakland, to offer free dental, vision, and medical clinics. These clinics wouldn’t be possible without this teamwork, as well as the support of other Adventist institutions, including schools, hospitals, and independent ministries, such as AMEN [Adventist Medical Evangelism Network]. When we work together, we get more done than when we work separately.

## You mention Bridges. Tell us what’s been going on with that program.

A special event will be held on New Year’s Eve at the Grand Advent church to celebrate all the wonderful results of this initiative. Bridges continues to have a lasting and ongoing legacy. We’re seeing a growth potential for Oakland that we haven’t seen before, and we look forward to building on the foundations laid by Bridges. We want to see the ideas and philosophies that have come out of this initiative get transferred to other communities, especially larger population centers. One of those ideas is teamwork, which I mentioned earlier. Another is creative community engagement.

## Give us a few specific examples.

One Bridges project, which has been in the works for some time, is The Veg Hub bistro, a vegan restaurant in Oakland, headed by Chef GW Chew.

We hope a lot of church members will come out to support Chef Chew and his team [2214 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland]. The Veg Hub isn’t just a restaurant — it’s a ministry! Eventually, we plan that the ministry will plant a church group in an area of Oakland where there is no organized Adventist work.

Another Bridges success is the work of the Oakland Spanish church. The congregation has adopted 15 blocks around the church, plus a nearby park, to clean and maintain. In the process, the church has formed an excellent working relationship with city government and has been formally commended by the city.

## What else are you looking forward to in 2017?

There are so many things, but I’ll mention just a few. One of the ministry opportunities that is taking off is the NCC Adventist Book

JAMES LORENZ



People from many churches serve as volunteers at the free dental/vision clinic held in Oakland.



DEB PEDERSEN

**Chef GW Chew and several of his team give an advance tour of The Veg Hub bistro, which will celebrate its grand opening in early 2017.**

### The current strategic plan ends in 2017?

Yes, and we're going to transition into a new one. We want to assess where we have done well and where we need to make some changes. We haven't determined how many goals the new plan will have or what shape it will take. We'll be working with various groups in the conference — pastors, educators, administrative groups, the NCC Executive Committee, and other focus groups — to help us zero in on where we are going to be putting our emphasis next. We hope to have the new plan completed in the latter part of 2017.

### If you were to suggest a New Year's resolution for NCC Adventists, what would it be?

With all the discussion lately about fake news stories in social media, I encourage church members to be equally vigilant in avoiding fake stories having to do with the Church. Staying informed — knowing what is really happening — keeps people from forming misconceptions and passing along misinformation. If you read something, or if someone comes to you with news about your local church, the conference, or the worldwide Church, find out if it's true before you pass it on.

Another way to keep focused on positive and accurate information is to be involved in the wider Church community. Volunteer and attend programs at your nearby Adventist school and go to programs at other Adventist churches. I also suggest that people sign up to read the e-newsletter "The Word on the Street," which I write each week to let people know what's going on. [Sign up by visiting [www.nccsda.com/WOTS](http://www.nccsda.com/WOTS).]

### What message would you like NCC church members to remember as we begin the new year?

Throughout our denomination's history, we've always emphasized that we're people of hope. We have hope because of what Jesus has done, and is doing, today. Nowadays, hopefulness is in short supply for many, but we have something to offer. I encourage people to share their faith one-on-one with others, and to support evangelism and outreach that share our hope with a wider audience. We need to remember our core message: Jesus is at the heart and center of everything we do.



JULIE LORENZ

**ABC Manager Sal Alvarado has outreach plans for the NCC stores located in Pleasant Hill and Sacramento.**

*Julie Lorenz*

NCC HISPANIC MINISTRIES DEPT.



**Oakland Spanish church Pastor Marco Molina (left) and Oakland Councilman Noel Gallo take a break from clean-up work during the Day of Hope and Compassion.**

Center, with locations in Pleasant Hill and Sacramento. New ABC Manager Sal Alvarado plans to use the stores as an outreach to the community.

I'm also excited about our upcoming spring mission trip to Kenya, sponsored by our youth department! It's so encouraging when people from across the conference, of all ages, volunteer to work on behalf of others in our global Adventist community. [For more information, visit [www.nccsda.com/missiontrip2017](http://www.nccsda.com/missiontrip2017).]

I'm happy to report the revival of the "10+10" project, which will raise funds to help students who need financial assistance attend Adventist schools. By the way, for the first time in a number of years, our NCC schools have a net increase in enrollment. In 2015, the education department hired a marketing specialist, Carol Tilstra Nash, who has been working closely with several schools and more generally with other schools to spread the good news about Adventist education.

We're also going to be working on a new strategic plan for the conference.



North Highlands Spanish company members and friends light candles during their organization service.

# Two Companies Organize in 2016

In 2016, the Northern California Conference organized two new companies, the North Highlands Spanish company on June 25, and the San Leandro Spanish company on Aug. 27. The conference now has 17 companies, in addition to 143 churches.

## North Highlands

The North Highlands Spanish company originated in 2009 as a daughter group of the Sacramento Spanish church. They met in a member's North Highlands home and then in an office before moving to a rented church in nearby Fair Oaks in 2014. When Pastor Jaime Calvo came to the group several years ago, he was very impressed with the members. "They had a positive attitude, and I sensed the love of Christ," said Calvo, who also pastors the Sacramento Spanish and Woodland Spanish churches. "Everybody was trying to contribute."

Someone invited Angelica Bernal's sister to worship with the group, and she invited her two sisters. As a result, all three women were baptized. What attracted them? "First of all, it was the love in that church," said Bernal.

"Everybody was so kind; everybody focused on being there for us, as much as we needed." She especially appreciated the prayers of her church family when her son was injured in an accident.

Bernal is now part of the congregation's potluck ministry, and she plans events with new people in mind. "I think of the first time I came to church and everybody gave me a really nice welcome. I want to help everybody like they helped my sisters and me."

## San Leandro

The San Leandro Spanish company also had its beginnings in 2009, as a daughter group of the Oakland Spanish church. They met in the home of church members until 2012 when they moved to the cafeteria building on the Golden Gate Academy campus. "I love the congregation," said Pastor Marco Molina, who also pastors the Oakland Spanish church. "We're all close to one another."

The group's love and unity enabled them to work together to make their dreams for their congregation come true. "There is no member who hasn't worked. From day one, everyone

said, 'Count on me!'" said Robin Arriaza, the company's youth and Pathfinder director. "We're still working together."

As a result of three evangelistic series each year, the group added 17 new members in 2015 and 14 new members in 2016. They recently started a Pathfinder club and Adventurer club. "God's hand has been on everything that has been done," said Arriaza.

The new company is part of a master plan for the Oakland Spanish church, the first of 10 daughter groups that the church plans to start in the next decade. "Our idea is not to have a big church, but instead smaller churches within a bigger area," said Molina.

"Spanish-speaking church members are very involved in both corporate and personal outreach," said NCC Executive Secretary Marc Woodson. "The Hispanic work is really growing in our conference!"

*Julie Lorenz*

PHOTOS BY NCC HISPANIC MINISTRIES DEPT.



Jose Marin, former Hispanic ministries coordinator; Mario Alvarado, company leader; Jaime Calvo, pastor; Jim Pedersen, president; Marc Woodson, executive secretary; and Ed Fergusson, assistant to the president, celebrate at the North Highlands Spanish company organization.



Anibal Moreno, a company leader; Marco Molina, pastor; Jose Marin, former Hispanic ministries coordinator; and Marc Woodson, executive secretary, display the certificate of organization for the San Leandro Spanish company.



The congregation prays during the San Leandro Spanish company organization service.

# Oscar Flores Named NCC Risk Management Director, Assistant Treasurer

Oscar Flores is the new Northern California Conference risk management director and assistant treasurer. On Nov. 1, he took over responsibilities previously held by Jeff Klam, who left the NCC earlier this year to work for the British Columbia Conference.

Flores has worked as an accountant in the NCC Treasury Department since May 2010. "It's really a pleasure to work with the treasury team," he said. "We accomplish a lot of things. Everybody is focused on the same goal — finish the job." Previously, he also worked for the conference as an auditor and assistant auditor.

"Oscar has been a trusted and valuable part of our NCC team for a number of years," said NCC President Jim Pedersen. "We look forward to working with him, and supporting him, in his new responsibilities."

Born in El Salvador, Flores was raised in an Adventist home. In 1985, he graduated from the Universidad Adventista de Centroamérica in Costa Rica with a bachelor's degree in business administration. In addition to learning job skills at the university, he was encouraged to use his talents to work for the Church. "The professors taught me how to serve the Church," he said. "This is the most important thing."

A year after graduation, Flores moved to California, where his sister lived. He wanted to escape the violence plaguing Central America during that time. "My generation of men is no longer there," he said. "A lot of young guys fled or got killed. It was really hard."

In California, Flores worked at a variety of accounting jobs, which helped him rapidly learn English. "If you want to learn English, go to your career — not a basic class that teaches things such as 'This is a pencil,'" he said.

Flores has two children, Oscar and Monica, both students at Pacific Union College. He looks forward to being married to his fiancée, Ana Lopez. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his loved ones, playing soccer and basketball, and visiting NCC churches.



JULIE LORENZ

As he assumes his new responsibilities, Flores anticipates interacting with pastors, educators and church members. "In my past jobs, working with people is what I've enjoyed the most," he said. "I will do my best to serve the churches, schools and ministries throughout the conference."

*Julie Lorenz*

## PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE 16TH ANNUAL PRAYER RETREAT

March 10-12, 2017 Leoni Meadows

*Guest Speaker*



**D**ebleaire K. Snell was born in 1977 to Deborah and Larry Snell. He is the eldest, with two brothers, Javaris and Andrew. His family accepted the truth in 1987, and he and his parents were baptized into the Maranatha church in Tallahassee. After pastoring several churches, Snell now serves as the senior pastor of the First church of Huntsville, Alabama. Since his arrival, over 650 souls have been added to the Kingdom. Snell also serves as an adjunct professor for the religion department at Oakwood University. He has written two books, as well as numerous articles and essays.

Contact [naomi.parson@nccsda.com](mailto:naomi.parson@nccsda.com) or call (916) 955-4583 for more information.

# Kauai Children's Choir Tour Expands

The pastor calls it "The World-Famous Kauai Children's Choir," but he always says it with a special twinkle in his eye as he proudly points to the 32 kids from the Kapa'a and Lawai Valley churches, Kahili Adventist School and the Ken-yen Learning Center, who are becoming known for their musical performances on Kauai and Oahu.

Pastor Douglas Na'a and his wife Meliana love working with children. Pastor Doug enthusiastically leads the group while Meliana accompanies them at the piano with the support of Carltron Antoine on his violin.

The group also includes the Kahili Adventist School Bell Choir, conducted by Lohelani Nabeshima. The combined talents of singing

and bell playing by children from five to 17 years of age, along with their supportive parents who have dedicated their children to God, has resulted in a musical group that brings blessings to many.

The choir was first designed to bring the children of both sides of the island of Kauai together to perform at convocations when both churches meet together. This happens on the fifth Sabbath of the month, or approximately four times a year.

It wasn't long before an invitation came for the children to travel to Oahu to share their musical talent in the Central church and in an afternoon concert that included a number of Oahu musical groups.

In October 2016, the Kauai Children's Choir was invited back to give an afternoon concert on Oahu and also perform the church service at the Kailua church. Not only did the children sing several songs, but five of the members (Asa Hatcher, Grace Cottrell, Chelsea Cacal, Keana Kuzma, and Kimbao Pham) gave five-minute sermons focusing on Christ's second coming.

After the service, Pastor Jesse Seibel commented, "The Kailua church was blessed by young people excited to share the gospel. The choir inspired us to empower our kids even more to do ministry!"

On Dec. 17 and 18, the Kauai Children's Choir was invited to be special guest artists at the annual Kauai Chorale's Christmas concerts in

Lihue and Princeville, directed by Lois Ricciardi. This was quite an honor. They sang "Let There be Peace on Earth," with the adult chorale and then performed four more Christmas songs in a special segment of the concert dedicated just to the children's choir.

After working and with the children, Lois remarked, "The children were fabulous! They were so well-behaved and prepared."

The Kauai Children's Choir is not "world famous," but each year they are bringing a rich spiritual blessing to an ever-increasing audience.

*Kay Kuzma*



*The Keiki Choir impresses the community chorale with their preparation and behavior.*



*Pastor Douglas and Meliana Na'a lead the children to reach the community at the Kauai Chorale's Christmas Concert.*

# Waimanalo Church Open for Community

In order for a church to reach its community, it has to listen to the needs that are being expressed. In October, Waimanalo Church heard a mother's plea, "Please, we need a safe place for our children for Halloween. Will you do something like VBS for our kids so they won't be in danger on the streets?"

Pastor Eliezer "Elie" Graterol shared, "Our church does not have a good number of children but it has not been an excuse to let them go unnoticed in ministry. On the contrary, children are very important to our congregation. If you want to have an effective children's ministry in your community, you do not need children. You need a core team of committed, faithful, caring and loving adults. That's exactly what we have."

With just one week to prepare, this was a major challenge. Kids would be coming in costumes, and had little or no church background. "Our hearts were stirred," said Dolly Tabura, church secretary. "When God answer prayers, He does it well!" In just a few days, the plans were in place for the Hallelujah Festival.

The parking lot was transformed with booths dressed with pumpkins and other seasonal décor. At one booth, kids had to transfer candy corn from a large dish to a smaller dish using only chopsticks. Another area was a campfire station for S'mores, where players tossed glow-in-the-dark bracelets over the neck of a soda

bottle or pumpkin. Nearby, others raced with arms behind their backs to eat donuts from a string. Everywhere one looked, kids were having fun, popping balloons for prizes, pinning noses on pumpkins, rolling pumpkins through an obstacle course, or having their fill of pizza, watermelon, and fruit punch.

A craft table was set up, giving children a chance to create something with a message to take home. Each child left with a gift bag with the words "Jesus is the Light," or "Shine with the Light of Jesus."

More than a hundred people from the community stopped by, many for the first time. A couple of high school girls remarked, "We had more fun with the games and food than going around trick-or-treating house to house!"

"I'm so thrilled to know that this idea did not come from me, the children's ministry coordinator, or even the church board,"



Children line up for their turn at the ring toss.

Graterol said. "This idea came directly from one member of the community who has witnessed the presence of our congregation in the community."

As they were leaving, one parent asked, "What are you planning for next year?"

The neighborhood is wondering what is happening next. Waimanalo Church listened to its community and now its community is listening, too.

*Dolly Tabura and Jesse Seibel*



Sandy Ing provides backup for kids working on their crafts.



Warren Hann restocks the bottles and cans while the children keep his ears ringing.

# Regional Convocation 2016 "THIS MEANS WAR!"

**T**his Means War" was the theme that launched the 36th Arizona Conference Regional Convocation.

The Convocation began on Friday evening with a charge to attendees, "I opened my mouth to the Lord and I won't turn back, I shall go, I will go to see what the end is going to be." A choir dressed in army fatigues marched down the center aisle of the packed Tucson Sharon SDA Church. This set the stage of what would follow as the 36th Annual Regional (African-American) Convocation weekend, Nov. 11-12, 2016 at the Tucson Convention Center.

Guest speaker Dr. Gene Donaldson, senior pastor of the Ephesus SDA Church in Richmond, Va., opened an old war manual and shared a familiar story found in 1 Samuel 17:45-50. The next hour the audience was spellbound with a detailed, provocative, and insightful explanation of David's strategic three-step battle plan to defeat Goliath:

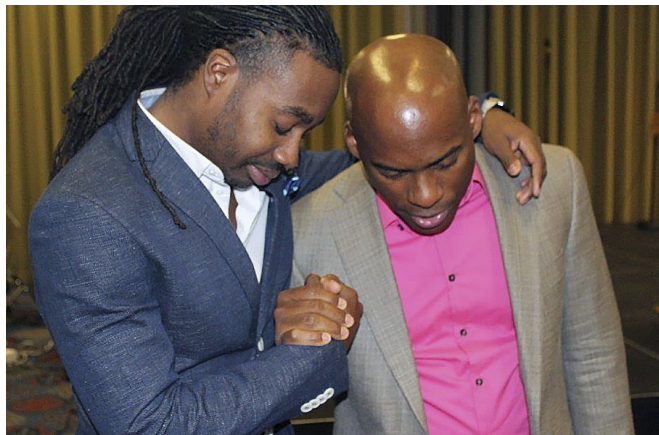
1. David's attitude of faith in God.
2. David's affirmation as a shepherd of past victories in God.
3. The selection of five stones which symbolized God's victory was already assured since the battle is not ours but the Lord's.

Donaldson explained, "And because this means war we are well able to bring giants of any size and stature down."

Pastor Ranison Kennedy of the Maranatha SDA Church delivered early morning manna at the Leo Rich Theatre. This was followed by a lively and interactive Sabbath School discussion led by Lorraine Daniel-Palmer, Darrien Claxton, Cassandra Galloway, Tim Cotton, Maxine Coffy and Leticia Long. The children's division, youth and young adult classes were held in the multi-purpose rooms of the convention center.

Special recognition and honor was given to our war veterans by Master Sergeant Jerry White (Ret.) and former Conference Executive Secretary Mike Ortel.

The 2016 Regional Ministries Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Annie Florence Darby of Phoenix, AZ and Deacon Hosea



*Prayer was a central theme at the Convocation. Pictured: Sherman Dockworth and Russell Lewars.*

Cotton of the Tucson Sharon SDA Church. A special presentation by the regional pastors and their families was given to Elder Mike and Lynn Ortel for their services to pastoral families of the Arizona Conference.

On Sabbath, Dr. Gene Donaldson told an engaged crowd, "Because 'This Means War' and the odds are stacked against us, breakthroughs are inevitable, based on 2 Samuel 5:18-25, which tells how God showed David how to defeat the Philistines at the Valley of Rephaim."

Youth and Young Adult Pastor Rahshan Wall of the Kansas Avenue church in Riverside, Calif., challenged the young people to understand that in any battle they must understand the rules of war. He challenged them to know how to "use the spiritual weapons you have at your disposal to make a difference wherever you are."

A concert featured musical talent from area churches, including Cyiza Music Ministry and a presentation from the newly formed Beacon Light/South Mountain drama group.

The weekend concluded much the same way it had begun with a powerful vesper message by Pastor Rahshan Wall, based on the story in Acts 16 where Paul and Silas ended up in prison after freeing a young girl from a demon and God sent an earthquake to set them free.

He said, "In warfare when the evil one tries to interfere, it's not what we've done. It's what we are about to do that worries him because there is power and victory in the name of Jesus."



*Kingsley Palmer*

*Regional Ministries Director Kingsley Palmer and his team planned an inspiring Regional Convocation.*



*Men and women responded to a call for re-commitment by Elder Gene Donaldson, guest speaker.*



# Yuma Central Church Celebrates 100 Years

On Nov. 4, 1916, 100 years ago, Leander and Jennie Stearns, along with 14 others, founded the Yuma Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church in Somerton, Ariz. In 1924 the small congregation moved to Yuma and changed its name to the Yuma Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Soon after the church was built, it was doused with gasoline and burned to the ground by some antagonistic neighbors. Undaunted by opposition, the members rebuilt the church, this time with their own handmade bricks so it couldn't burn. That brick building still stands today.

In 1927, the members opened a church school which is still going strong. Then in 1967, they bought the current building. In 2004 the church completed a major renovation, which included a new interior and exterior design and the adding of a Family Center. The current membership of the Yuma Central Seventh-day Adventist church is 384.

Sabbath, Nov. 5, 2016, the Yuma Central church and its daughter, Gila Mountain church, united for a greatly anticipated and carefully planned centennial celebration.

The congregation welcomed former members Luke and Evelyn Kolpacoff from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, who delighted their many friends with their music.

Betty Jean Stearns Bannister, granddaughter of the church founders, and her cousin, Steve

Stearns, gave the story of the church's beginnings, followed by memories and inspiration from four previous pastors, Paul Gibson, Phillip McGoldrick, Steve Hadley, and Bill McVay.

Yuma City Councilman Edward Thomas offered words of congratulations for the positive impact the church had on the community.

Arizona Conference President Ed Keyes gave a timely message entitled "Keeping Hope Alive" for the worship service. "I praise God," he said, "for making Yuma Central and Gila Mountain churches towering lighthouses as they work together to win the world for Jesus."

A high point of the service featured 32 students from the Yuma Adventist Christian School who marched up the aisle singing praises to the Lord.

A delightful fellowship luncheon served well over 300 people, filling the Family Center and overflowing to shaded tables on the school ball field.

The meal was followed by a heart-warming concert by Michael Harris. Next, an open microphone gave everyone an opportunity to share their thoughts and memories. It was so inspiring, hardly anyone left during the two hours it continued. The program ended with everyone joining hands for a prayer for the church's future.



Arizona Conference President Ed Keyes is surrounded by previous Yuma pastors Paul Gibson, Phillip McGoldrick, George Boundey and Steve Hadley.



The Yuma Central church received community awards after its remodel in 2004.

By then it was dark outside and the event was capped by a half hour of fireworks.

Pastor George Boundey noted, "This is a day to praise the Lord. A small group of 16 people started a movement in Yuma that has grown to five Adventist churches with a total of over 900 members, including daughter churches Gila Mountain, Yuma Spanish, and Living Water Ministries just across the border in California, as well as a "granddaughter" church started by the Yuma Spanish church in nearby San Luis. But this really isn't a celebration of what we have accomplished. It is a celebration and praise session for what our gracious and all-powerful God has done through these 100 years."

Phil Draper



Leander and Jennie Stearns, along with 14 others, founded the Yuma Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church in Somerton, Ariz., 100 years ago.

# Red Cliffs Church Cuts Ribbon

**A**fter years of waiting and dreaming, the Red Cliffs church members in St. George, Utah, officially opened the doors to their new church building on Nov. 8, 2016. For nearly 20 years, this small congregation has been meeting in private homes or a rented chapel, never having its own place of worship. In spite of this inconvenience, the congregation has grown in membership to approximately 100, with more than 60 active members.

By combining proceeds from the sale of a property they had hoped to someday build on, plus a very generous donation from an anonymous friend, the congregation was able to purchase the former New Covenant Christian Center, located at 1165 Silicone Circle, just off the Dixie Drive Avenue in St. George last June.

This building, with more than 12,000 square feet of useable space, houses a sanctuary capable of seating over 200 people. There is also an ample social hall with a kitchen, rooms for the children's divisions, storage and a pastor's office. They have begun minor remodeling, which will provide more adequate rooms for the various divisions, outreach ministries, and special small group meetings.

"After more than 19 years of meeting in homes or renting halls, we feel divinely blessed to have been able to acquire this building which we can call God's house, where we can come and worship Him and from which



*St. George city mayor, the Honorable Jon Pike, together with Red Cliffs Pastor Dan Walter, perform the ribbon-cutting for the new facility.*



*The bright, simply-appointed sanctuary provides a peaceful place to congregate.*



*The entrance welcomes members and guests to worship.*

we can show His love to the community around us. We feel bad for the congregation that lost this building, but trust they have found another place in which to worship. Praise the Lord that this place can continue to be a house of worship for all people!" said Dan Walter, pastor.

The Honorable Jon Pike, city mayor, together with Walter, cut the ribbon. "We are delighted that the Seventh-day Adventists now have their own place of worship and service," said Pike. "Knowing the principles of the church and their history of community service, we look forward to working together for the benefit of this city."

Attendees filled the sanctuary for a presentation entitled, "Who Are the Adventists?" Then Dr. Gerry Bryant, chairman of the building committee, presented the history of the Red Cliffs church.

"I am delighted to see the progress of the church since my tenure in St. George," said Don Pate, former pastor of the congregation.

Tours of the new facility followed.



*Daniel Walter*

*St. George Mayor Jon Pike expresses his appreciation for the Red Cliffs congregation and their contribution to the community.*

# PUC Named to 2015 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll

Pacific Union College has been named to the annual President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. This is the second year the Corporation for National and Community Service has recognized the college's commitment to helping improve local communities through service learning and community service.

Started in 2006, the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll is managed by the Corporation for National and Community Service and given in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the American Council on Education, Campus Compact, and the Interfaith Youth Core. The awards highlight the impact colleges and universities can have within their local community, and student involvement in civic engagement. The President's Honor Roll recognizes higher education institutions in four categories. PUC placed in the general category.

"Service learning is one of the high-impact practices that help our students engage in meaningful, active learning; it has the added bonus of both helping our community members and encouraging our graduates to live lives of useful service," said Nancy Lecourt, vice president for academic administration and academic dean.

In 2015, approximately 522 PUC students participated in service learning and community service activities, including mentoring students at the Boys and Girls Club of St. Helena and Calistoga; working to preserve rare plants through courses such as Ecology and Flowering Plants; participating in the UpValley Family Center's VITA program to provide free tax-assistance to the local community; and helping to feed and spend time with the homeless in nearby Clearlake every Saturday. These projects accumulated an impressive total of more than 21,300 hours, with an impact value of \$573,000. Internships, field experiences,



*PUC student Jordan Fode participates in Rebuilding Calistoga, a student-led ministry.*

clinicals, student teaching hours, and both short- and long-term mission trips also contributed to the total.

"PUC has a long history of community service and mission, especially within the last few years. We've put additional resources and energy into creating more service and service learning opportunities for students, both locally and globally. It's great to see our campus be recognized nationally for the work our students and faculty are doing. We're

grateful to our wonderful community partners for their mentorship of our students and their willingness to include us in addressing community needs," said Alisa Jacobo, who served as the college's service-learning coordinator last year.

For more information, and a full list of Honor Roll awardees, visit [nationalservice.gov/special-initiatives](http://nationalservice.gov/special-initiatives).

*Larissa Church*

Missionaries include GAMC staff, nurses and physicians.



# Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Armenia Fund Conclude Successful Second Mission to Armenia

**G**lendale Adventist Medical Center in Glendale, Calif., and Armenia Fund held a joint medical mission trip providing free medical services and advanced surgeries, from Oct. 13-20, 2016, in Noyemberyan, Armenia, two kilometers from the border with Azerbaijan and Georgia.

The medical mission was a result of joint, careful planning between the two organizations since March 2016. Led by Kevin Roberts, president and CEO of GAMC, the medical mission team consisted of 42 physicians, surgeons, nurses, and healthcare professionals from the United States.

In order to ensure optimal operational efficiency, an advance team of medical professionals from GAMC arrived at the Noyemberyan Hospital prior to the start of the medical mission to help prepare the medical and surgical equipment, supplies, and pharmaceuticals that were donated to the Noyemberyan Hospital within the framework of the project. Months in advance, Armenia Fund transported 2.5 tons of supplies and oversaw its clearance to Armenia.

Building upon last year's mission, GAMC tripled the surgical service line of the mission to include ophthalmological, gynecological, orthopedic surgeries, in addition to the general and oral-maxillofacial surgeries. After five days of back-to-back operations, the total number of surgeries

reached 110 — an unprecedented record even in Armenia's history.

The mission significantly expanded service lines for women's health, most importantly, screenings for cervical cancer, a leading and growing cause of death in Armenia, especially among the rural population. The mission was able to perform these screenings by collecting pap smears and having them analyzed and read by the team pathologist from the United States. Physicians would later interpret the results to Noyemberyan patients and provide further care.

"The difference between last year and this year was phenomenal. We learned so much and applied those lessons for about a three-fold result! The people of Noyemberyan are so appreciative of these missionaries and our missionaries appreciate them! There is no greater joy in life than using your God-given talents to bless others, without expecting anything in return. It is pure joy and at the same time thoroughly exhausting. We can't wait to do it again next year!" stated Kevin Roberts.



*A GAMC nurse helps patients at Noyemberyan Hospital.*



*Minas Melidonian, M.D. (left), and Kevin A. Roberts, CEO (right), talk with patients.*



*A patient enjoys a moment with family.*



*Romic Eskandarian, Pharm.D., GAMC pharmacy director (center), speaks with patients and staff.*

The clinic saw more than 1,700 patients during the week-long medical mission. Specialists from GAMC thoroughly screened patients and provided free, high-quality medicines to treat various illnesses and conditions. Two hundred twenty orthopedic interventions were performed during the mission.

“Armenia Fund draws a long history of touching peoples’ lives in so many ways. Our partnership with the Glendale Adventist Medical Center has taken this to another level, by making it more personal and directly impacting the quality of peoples’ lives. Thanks to this continuous program and teaming up with the best healthcare professionals in the U.S., we expect to reach new heights every year, all with the purpose of serving the people who live in the most rural and challenging areas of Armenia,” stated Maria Mehranian, president of Armenia Fund U.S. Western Region.

“The Glendale Adventist Medical Center initiative is much more than a humanitarian relief effort, as it helps restore what is most precious

to people: their health, thanks to which they are able to regain their strength and confidence. As a result of this wonderful mission, nothing less than our beneficiaries’ quality of life is being raised, and that makes our work all the more worthwhile. The partnership between Glendale Adventist Medical Center and Armenia Fund U.S. Western Region is unprecedented, and, I hope, will continue well into the future,” said Ara Vardanyan, executive director of Hayastan All-Armenian Fund of Yerevan, Armenia.

Following the completion of the mission, the GAMC team was received by Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan and Health Minister Levon Altunyan at the prime minister’s office. Both expressed high praise for the work of the medical professionals, as well as the leadership of GAMC and Armenia Fund. In his remarks, the prime minister also emphasized the importance of the mission “as an endeavor that fosters a new culture of professionalism in Armenia.”

*Jenni Glass*

# Teachers Train with Live Simulator, Robo Games at LSU



ERIC MELGOSA

Their movements were somewhat stiff and awkward, yet the five virtual middle school students expressed distinctive personality types as they interacted with their La Sierra University student teachers.

During fall quarter, the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in La Sierra's School of Education hosted a series of training sessions using TeachLive, a mixed-reality simulation training program from Mursion.

More than 40 La Sierra teaching candidates aiming for a Seventh-day Adventist or state credential, participated in three types of simulated training exercises: general classroom management, middle school content instruction, and management of a parent-teacher conference. During the middle school training, La Sierra teaching students stood in front of a screen on which were projected their virtual students in a classroom setting. The subjects on the screen responded to questions by the student teachers and reacted in real ways, including at times with comments on the teachers' appearance, a feat accomplished through live simulated video technology.

The simulated training provided the student teachers opportunities to develop their direct instruction skills and classroom management abilities as well as their communication and collaboration capacities.

On Nov. 17, approximately 20 La Sierra teaching candidates attended a middle school social studies training session with five virtual students named Maria, CJ, Kevin, Ed and Sean. The student teachers each conducted five-minute sessions on the composition of the federal government and received feedback afterward from instructors and their peers.

"Do you have any idea who makes up the executive branch?" a La Sierra education student asked her on-screen students who were sometimes energetic, sometimes quiet, sometimes mouthy.

"You're telling me the Cabinet is part of the executive branch? We're doomed," quipped virtual Kevin from his seat at the back of the virtual classroom.

**Enoch Hwang, chair of La Sierra's computer science department gives instruction to participants during last June's Robotics Camp.**

The virtual students represent the various personality types that are typically present in a real classroom, said Keith Drieberg, curriculum and instruction department chair. "As teachers, understanding the social and emotional variables becomes very important," he said.

"I've never stood up in front of a classroom," said teaching candidate Rajesh Inparaj, following the middle school training exercise. A psychology and neuroscience major, he aims for a career in education. "I'm going to be [in a classroom] in a couple of weeks. It helps get some of those nerves out. It helps a lot with preparedness."

## First-Ever Robo Games Offers Chance for Scholarships and Cash

La Sierra University is hosting its first-ever robotics competition this spring, offering participants an opportunity to win \$22,000 in scholarships and cash prizes.

Robo Games will be held April 23 and is open to students in grades 1 through 12. Participants may use any building materials including Legos or Meccano/Erector sets, and any microcontroller such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi. Robots must be pre-programmed to run autonomously in a timed game that requires moving colored balls into like-colored goals. Participants will compete in teams of up to five people in first and second rounds of competition. First place will be a \$300 cash prize and a \$3,000 La Sierra scholarship per team member.

The competition derives from talks computer science Chair Enoch Hwang has had with teachers, administrators and sponsors at several local schools about their computer programs and computer or robotic-related clubs.

"The sense that I got is the need for me to pull this special interest group of people together in one event where they can interact with others with the same interest. And one way to do that is to have a competition," he said. "There are many elementary up to high school students who are interested in computers and robotics, but these classes are not taught at many of the schools, and so they have no formal way to learn these skills."

ERIC MELGOSA



*Young participants work on building their various robots during last summer's Robotics Camp. Organizer Enoch Hwang, computer science chair, has established a first Robo Games competition to take place this April.*

The competition follows an inaugural robotics camp Hwang held at La Sierra last June, attended by 36 youth, with a waiting list of 40. One of the main goals of the camp and the competition is to pique the interest of children and youth in pursuing computer science-related occupations, an objective in line with President Obama's "Computer Science for All" initiative, says Hwang.

"Robotics is a good jumping-off point to teach computational thinking skills because people, especially young children, are more interested in robots than writing computer programs," he said. "But in order to make the robots do what they do, they'll have to write programs."

Robo Games will be held from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at La Sierra's Alumni Pavilion gymnasium. Further information and registration for Robo Games is available at [lasierra.edu/robgames](http://lasierra.edu/robgames).

*Darla Martin Tucker*

NITAN YIGNA



*Education students at La Sierra University participate in a virtual teaching simulation experience with a TeachLive program by Mursion.*

# the One project:

**T**he One Project. Few other Adventist gatherings have garnered as much attention, conversation and critique. Even so, much of what people believe about the movement comes not from personal experience, but from hearsay and gossip. Because the One project's next major event is in San Diego next month — the Pacific Union's territory — we caught up with Japhet De Oliveira, senior pastor of the Boulder, Colo., Seventh-day Adventist Church and chair of the One project board of directors, to get answers to some common questions.

## What is the One project, and how did it start? Who are the principal organizers and facilitators?

The One project organizes gatherings, focused around a different theme each event, encouraging participants to develop a closer relationship with Jesus. These gatherings typically take place at a hotel or other conference center and last for two days. Short talks by a variety of dynamic speakers are followed by informal conversations around round tables and are interspersed with music from a live band. There are large lunch breaks allowing those attending to continue their conversations as they catch up with old friends and meet new people. The large North American gatherings typically have 700-1,200 attendees. Gatherings in Australia and Europe are significantly smaller, but retain many of the same characteristics and innovative expressions.

The seven original founders of the One project are me (Japhet), Alex Bryan (senior pastor of the Walla Walla University church), Tim Gillespie (lead pastor of the CrossWalk church in Redlands, Calif.), Dany Hernandez (Lifesource Adventist Fellowship church pastor, Denver, Colo.), Sam Leonor (La Sierra University chaplain), Terry Swenson (Loma Linda University chaplain) and Eddie Hypolite (Avondale College church pastor). Rod Long has since joined the team as producer for the Australian gatherings. Zan Long creates all the TOP kids children programs. David Smith coordinates generationOne — the teen program. Dilys Brooks, Paddy McCoy and Becky De Oliveira are also heavily involved.



Japhet De Oliveira



## Where have TOP meetings been held previously?

Australia, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, England, Denmark, and several locations in the USA, including Atlanta, Seattle, San Diego, Chicago, Boulder, etc.

## In your estimation, why is the focus of the One project important and relevant? Why have people responded so favorably to it?

Churches are facing challenges in contemporary society as many people — especially young people — become disillusioned with what they see as misplaced priorities and hypocrisy. The Seventh-day Adventist Church faces its own challenges as we battle perceptions of legalism and judgmental attitudes. We decided that focusing on Jesus — simple as it may sound — might provide a way for us to infuse our local churches with more love, a greater sense of purpose, and better engagement with each other and with our communities. As Ellen White pointed out, "It is only by connecting with Jesus through faith that the sinner becomes a hopeful, believing child of God."

We think people have responded to the One project because they do really want to be engaged in a life of faith, and they want church to be powerful and meaningful in their lives. The One project reminds them that it really can be. They listen to the amazing presentations by our speakers, meet with other people who share their desire for discipleship and a richer walk with Jesus, and this helps them remember what church can be. It doesn't have to be dry or tedious or rife with controversy and petty arguments. Seventh-day Adventist Christians can band together to



# Revelation in San Diego



bring positive change to their communities — starting with their own churches and extending to their schools, neighborhoods, and workplaces.

## **There have been some rumors about the orthodoxy the One project. How would you respond to these concerns?**

This past year (2016) has brought the issue of “fake news” to the forefront of the national discussion, and we’re happy that this reality is finally being acknowledged as a problem. The One project has been the victim of fake news spread over the internet by individuals who are misguided, misinformed, and in some cases, malicious. The first issues regarding orthodoxy came about because of an unrelated organization that shares a similar name. Since then, those who enjoy conspiracy theories have spread all kinds of ridiculous rumors that have absolutely no basis in fact. The founders of the One project are all ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastors. We are committed to and passionate about the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its teachings. It has a unique place in history, and has the ability to bring people into a lasting and redemptive relationship with Jesus. Our church can offer hope to people for the future and help make their lives more fulfilling and meaningful in the present.

## **There must be some milestones you find most affirming. What stands out in your mind as the One project’s most significant contribution to the Adventist community?**

Every single gathering feels like a milestone. So much work and anxiety goes into each one—and it is always extremely rewarding to see

it go well, and to have so many people tell us about what a difference it has made to their journeys of faith. Our most significant contribution has been the way that since the One project started, we’ve noticed that everyone in Adventism is talking about Jesus. That’s really all we wanted. Jesus is the center of all we are.

## **When is the next gathering, and what will be the topic?**

The next gathering is Feb. 25-26 in San Diego. There is a special worship service (Resound) the night before (Feb. 24) and the Create conference — a one-day event focusing on the future of the local church — will take place the day after the gathering (Feb. 27). You can register for all three at [www.the1project.org](http://www.the1project.org).

## **Who should attend? Why do you think those reading this should attend?**

We cater to all ages and demographics and have special programs for kids and teens, so the One project is particularly good for families. Really though, anyone who wants their relationship with Jesus to be stronger, who is looking for a richer spiritual life, and who wants to engage with others who are passionate about the same things should come. Attending a One project gathering is a great way to revitalize your sense of purpose as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. It will make a difference to the rest of your year — and perhaps to the rest of your life.

*Ray Tetz and Alicia Adams*

# Religious Liberty Ministry: It IS the Gospel!

**M**any Adventists share a common misperception that our church's religious liberty ministry is based on our beliefs about last day events. Too often, religious liberty is equated with a preoccupation with Sunday laws. I hate to disappoint you, but Sunday laws are not a current issue. So, I challenge you to consider this question: if there will be no Sunday law crisis in our lifetime (we don't know whether or not there will be), does this mean we don't need to care about religious liberty?

In *The Desire of Ages*, Ellen White wrote that "love cannot be commanded or coerced, only by love is love awakened." You see, the real foundation of religious freedom is the character of God and the plan of salvation.

Early on, Adventists rejected the Calvinist emphasis on predestination, and understood that the plan of salvation emphasizes free will. "Whosoever believes in me shall have eternal life," Jesus said. Christ secured salvation for all, but all will not choose to receive the gift. Christ does not coerce the conscience. Or, as I have often preached, you don't have to go to heaven if you don't want to. No one will drag you kicking and screaming into the kingdom against your will.

Not long ago, I had four teenagers all at once. I wasn't sure I would survive. Often, I was tempted to pray God would use His almighty power to rearrange their brain chemistry and fix them up from the inside out. And in my more honest moments, I was tempted to pray the same prayer for myself. How easily God could have fixed Adam and Eve using His power to wipe their brains, and restore them to a sinless state.

Because God would not, could not use force or power to save us, Jesus had to die. Jesus paid the ultimate price for human freedom. God could not use force, because love cannot be forced. It is really that simple.

So, I ask you, even if Sunday laws never come, is it worth promoting religious liberty, if religious liberty means promoting an understanding of God's character, that a loving God does not coerce the conscience? That people are free to worship God, or not, according to their own conscience and beliefs?

Many see religious liberty as insuring more time to preach the gospel. But religious liberty IS the gospel, as it proclaims essential truth about the character of God.

"So what?" you ask. "Don't all Christians understand this?" Sadly, no. Many do not. Many believe that God predestines people either to eternal life, or to burn in hell. Man does not get a choice. Your destiny is pre-determined by God.

What's worse, since they believe they know God's will, they feel they have the right to make the laws, and make sure society conforms to God's will. And if you suspect such

an attitude could produce coercive Sunday laws, you're on the right track. Indeed, this is what happened at the end of the 19th century in America, and some Adventists even went to jail for working on Sunday.

Religious liberty is not an appendage to the gospel, it is not an arm or a leg, or a finger. It is at the heart of the gospel. Ellen White spoke of the banner of truth and religious liberty, a single banner, and she observed that this banner has been committed to our hands – to your hands!

We are facing unprecedented challenges to religious liberty, challenges that require all hands on deck. Your religious liberty leadership is planning a series of programs and events to train and mobilize church members to be effective champions of religious freedom in your community. So stay tuned, stay prayerful, and by all means, check out both our Facebook page, and website for the Church State Council, [www.churchstate.org](http://www.churchstate.org), for a calendar of events and the latest developments on legislation and other topics.

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*

Director of the Pacific Union Church State Council

**To: Local mosque, synagogue, Sikh, Hindu and Buddhist temples**

**From: Your Local Seventh-day Adventist Church**

**Re: Standing together against religious intolerance**

May the Lord's blessing of peace be upon you. We write to express our outrage at the flood of hostility unleashed against so many – Muslims, immigrants, Jews, LGBT. The mainstreaming of bigotry and intolerance in our nation is a threat to all minorities, religious and ethnic. We want to stand with you, and unite in standing against all forms of bigotry and intolerance.

Seventh-day Adventists are firmly in the theological traditions of the Protestant Reformation, but we, too, are a religious minority, derided on account of our commitment to observe the Sabbath, from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday.

We will not stand by when people are beaten and killed because they are of a different religion or nationality, when houses of worship are defaced with hateful graffiti, or even burned.

We affirm the message of Lady Liberty, that America is a welcoming beacon to all.

For too long, America's religious groups have remained divided, separated into our discrete communities, with far too little interaction or understanding. This must change.

It is time for us all to get to know one another, to break down the walls of intolerance and fear by truly becoming neighbors and even friends. To this end, we would like to plan what we hope will be the first of many joint programs, where our communities can begin to get better acquainted.



**CALENDARS**

**Arizona Conference**

**JAIL/PRISON MINISTRY** Support Meetings (Jan. 21) 1:30-3 p.m. Beacon Light church, 2602 N. 51st Ave., Phoenix. Classroom C. Third Sabbath, monthly. Info: 480-991-6777, ext. 125.

**URBAN GARDENING SEMINAR** (Jan. 22) 2-4 p.m. Presented by Paradise Valley Women's Ministry. Info: Carole Zingale, 602-750-1433.

**HAM RADIO LICENSE TEST** (Jan. 22-28) Receive a Ham Radio License (first level technician); no charge for class or exam. Exam given at Quartzfest 2017. Use internet or smart phone Hamstudy.org as a tool to study prior to the exam. Info: website quartzfest.org/ or call Glenn, 602-228-4492.

**Hawaii**

**COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP** (April 9) Training for local church communication officers and/or church secretaries. Learn basic news writing, photography, social media and best practices to enhance the mission of your church. Hawaii Conference office. Info: tmcguire@hawaiisda.com.

**La Sierra University**

**LSU ORCHESTRA** (Jan. 28) under direction of Dean Anderson, with pianist James Dick, 7 p.m., Hole Memorial Auditorium. Osvaldo Golijov's "Last Round," Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Piano Concerto No. 23," Joseph Haydn's "Symphony No. 104." Tickets \$15. 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, Calif., 92515. Info: music-events.lasierra.edu/2016-2017-concerts-events, music@lasierra.edu, or 951-785-2036.

**BRANDSTATER GALLERY EXHIBIT** of sculpture by Ben Jackel. "Providence of Night," opens (Jan. 17-Feb. 9). Reception (Jan. 22) 6-8 p.m. Brandstater Gallery, located in La Sierra's Visual Art Center, La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, Calif., 92515. Info: brandstatergallery.com, or call 951-785-2170.

**Northern California**

**VALLEY ASAM FELLOWSHIP** (Jan. 7) 4 p.m. Agape feast, storytelling and music. Info: Mary, 209-471-9395.

**TURNING POINTS** (Jan. 27-28) NCC Women's Ministries leadership conference. Friday, 3-9 p.m. Sabbath, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Orangevale church, 5810 Pecan Avenue. Speaker, Dr. Arlene Taylor, plus many seminar presenters. Young

women's track features Pastor Krystalynn Martin, plus seminars geared for young women ages 13-20. \$40 reg. includes meals. Info: nccsda.com/turningpoints.

**HERITAGE SINGERS CONCERT** (Jan. 28) 5 p.m. Pleasant Hill church, 800 Grayson Road. Info: 925-934-5803.

**NCC ELDERS TRAINING** (Jan. 29) 9:30 a.m. Lodi Fairmont church, 730 South Fairmont Avenue. Presenters: Del Dunavant, Kris Widmer, Walter Groff. Topics: platform duties, visitation, local elder as leader. Lunch provided. Info and RSVP: Bernadette.Johnson@nccsda.com.

**FRESHMEN/SOPHOMORE RETREAT** (Feb. 3-5) Leoni Meadows. For academy, high school and home school freshmen and sophomores. Info: NCC Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**Southeastern California**

**PATHFINDER TEEN/STAFF SWIM CHECK-OFF** (Jan. 22) 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Drayson Center, 25040 Stewart St., Loma Linda. This event is for teens and staff attending the river trip who are not certified. This requirement must be completed to be allowed in the canoes and on the water. Info: seccyouth.com.

**REPAIRING RELATIONSHIPS** with Adult Children (Jan. 28) 2-6 p.m. El Cajon

church, 1630 E. Madison Ave., El Cajon. SECC family and children's ministries is exploring how to repair relationships between parents and adult children. Dinner with preregistration. Info: Liz Adams, 951-509-2260, ladams@seccsda.org, www.seccyouth.com.

**JAIME JORGE CONCERT** (Feb. 25) Calexico Mission School benefit concert with violinist Jaime Jorge; La Sierra Spanish church, Riverside, Calif. Info: 760-357-3711

**Southern California**

**SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT** (Jan. 7) 5 p.m. Featured organist, Wolfgang Reisinger from Vienna, Austria. Glendale City church, 610 E. California. A donation is requested at the door. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Info: 818-244-7241.

**ALL-DAY SEMINAR** (Jan. 14) 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Presenter, Ron Pickel, NAD Secular Campus Ministry director. Glendale Adventist Medical Center, 1509 Wilson Terrace, Glendale 91206. Pastors, high school/college/graduate students encouraged to attend. Focus: Putting Adventist Campus Fellowship chapters on secular campuses in SCC area. Info: Pastor Donald Smith, 818-415-0279; raiderpastor@hotmail.com.



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**Bulletin Board**

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your daily walk? Visit us at [www.TEACH-Services.com](http://www.TEACH-Services.com). For USED Adventist books visit [www.LNFBooks.com](http://www.LNFBooks.com). AUTHORS: If you're interested in having your book published, call 800-367-1844 for a free evaluation.

**ARC, A NONPROFIT** SDA laypersons' organization, provides funding to support SDA ministries, student leaders, and chaplains on public college campuses. We provide scholarships for ministry training events and funding to support campus ministry activities. Join us to develop a long-term ministry presence on non-Adventist campuses! Learn more at [BethARC.com](http://BethARC.com).

**Employment**

**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** seeks a Communication Faculty. The Department of Visual Art, Communication, and Design is hiring a professor to teach Public Relations and general Communication classes at Andrews University. The ideal individual will be qualified to teach graduate and undergraduate level courses and mentor students in the area of Public Relations. Ph.D./doctorate in Communication related fields preferred; preference is given to those with terminal degrees and emphasis/experience in Public Relations. For more information or to apply, visit: [www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/1217](http://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/1217).

**DEAN - SCHOOL OF BUSINESS** at Southern Adventist University. Doctoral degree in a field of business, commitment to holistic student development, relating successfully with School of Business

colleagues, and oversight of undergraduate and graduate programs in business and technology. Submit curriculum vitae along with cover letter, and statement of administrative teaching philosophy to: Dr. Robert Young, [ryoung@southern.edu](mailto:ryoung@southern.edu) visit: [www.southern.edu/hr](http://www.southern.edu/hr) for more information.

**MID-LEVEL PRACTITIONER** at Southern Adventist University. Mid-Level Practitioner assesses patients, diagnoses, and prescribes treatment and/or medication to Southern Adventist University's students and employees/families as per mid-level/physician protocol. Medical oversight provided by supervising physician both remotely and on-site. Requirements: Five years of experience in ED/Urgent care and/or General Family Practice; successful completion of an accredited Mid-Level Practitioner Program with certification; and BLS and ACLS certification. Competencies in laceration repair, burn care, and wound management. Submit résumés to Sarah Shelburne: [sarahshelburne@southern.edu](mailto:sarahshelburne@southern.edu). For more information, visit: [www.southern.edu/hr](http://www.southern.edu/hr).

**PROFESSOR FOR SCHOOL OF BUSINESS** at Southern Adventist University beginning June 1, 2017. Will be teaching undergraduate level management courses, directing student projects, involvement with research, advising management majors, and teaching in subject

areas: business administration, healthcare administration, and human resources management. Qualifications: Doctorate degree in Management, Human Resources Management, Healthcare Administration or related field, with related business experience. Teaching experience and extensive scholar activity is preferred. A master's degree and 18 graduate hours in management may be considered. Send curriculum vita to [markhyder@southern.edu](mailto:markhyder@southern.edu). For more information, visit: [www.southern.edu/hr](http://www.southern.edu/hr).

**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & PSYCHOLOGY** at Southern Adventist University beginning August 1, 2017. Full-time faculty to teach graduate level and undergraduate courses. Will also provide graduate academic advising and clinical supervision. Requirements: Doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision from a CACREP-accredited program or doctoral degree in clinical/counseling psychology from an APA-accredited program and have experience as faculty member in a counselor education program for a minimum of one full academic year before July 1, 2013. Licensed or eligible for licensure in the state of Tennessee as Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) or School Counselor (LSC); Minimum 2 years of experience in clinical mental health or PK-12 school counseling settings; Doctoral-level preparation in clinical supervision; and commitment to

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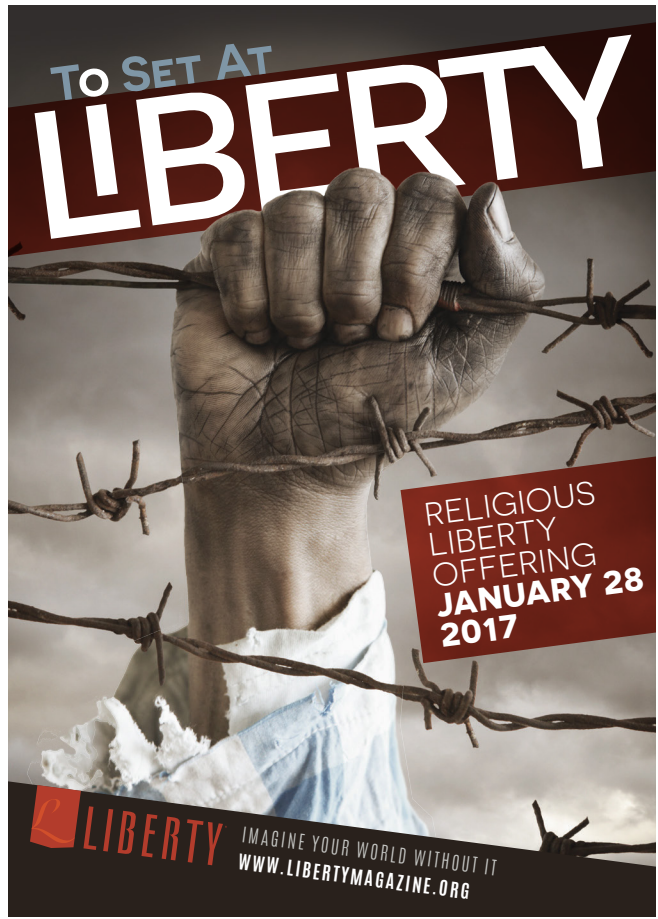
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**SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY's** English Department is seeking applications for a full-time faculty member specializing in British literature of the 18th or 19th century. Preferred candidates will have a Ph.D.; a creative writing background is a plus. Send CV with cover letter to Dr. Judy Myers Laue, lauej@swau.edu.

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks an Adventist, Masters-Prepared PA faculty member. The ideal candidate will have clinical experience in Family Practice and Emergency Medicine. Prior teaching experience is desired but not necessary. Start date June 1, 2017. Send CV and references to Jodi Chewakin, jochewak@ucollege.edu.

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks an Art and Graphic Design professor, beginning June 2017. Master's degree in art or graphic design required; MFA preferred. Responsibilities include teaching art and graphic design courses, academic advising, recruiting, and program development. Further information, [www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings](http://www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings). Submit C.V. to Bruce Forbes, Fine Arts Division Chair, at b2forbes@ucollege.edu.

**UNION COLLEGE** seeks full time professor of Communications and English with strong skills in magazine journalism, editing and writing instruction for position beginning July 2017. Doctorate is preferred. Please submit curriculum vitae to Dr. Mark Robison, Humanities Division chair, at marobiso@ucollege.edu.

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** has two faculty openings in the School of Education and Psychology. For details and to apply, please visit: [jobs.wallawalla.edu](http://jobs.wallawalla.edu). We invite you to share this announcement as you deem appropriate. To learn more about Walla Walla University, please visit: [wallawalla.edu](http://wallawalla.edu).

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### Missing Members

**RAMONA BILINGUAL.** Joyce Nkhoma, Clerk, P.O. Box 370, Ramona, CA 92065, 760-670-8139; mail to: joycechitura@

*gmail.com:* Maria Selene Abazan (Roblero), Felipe Aguilar, Mercedes Aguilar, Ruperto Velasco Aguilar, Cobian Antonia, Kay Bauman, Jonathan Belew, Laura Alcocer Belew, Elizabeth Berry, Jose Rodrigo Berry, Maria Elena Briseno, Mark Bryan, Sheri Haley Carter, Eduardo Ceja, Olga Di Castello, Mario Juan Diego, E. Loren Dunscombe, Ana Rosa Escalante, Rudy O. Escalante, Abril Figueroa, Maria de Los Angeles Hernandez Gallegos, Consuelo Gonzales, Alfonso Beltran Guillen, Esther Guillen, Irene Henderson, Jonathan Heredia, Francisco A. Hernandez, Tonja Hoffman, Alpha Krystal Caro Islas Daniel Jauregui, Maria Consuelo Jauregui, Amy Johnson, Hernan Lagos, Maria Magdalena Lagos, Abraham Lagos, Pam Linsley, Salatiel Cortez Lira, Juan Torres Martinez, Angela Hernandez Mendoza, Karla Mendoza, Maria Mendoza, Rosario Mendoza, Sandra Mendoza, Brenda Mercado, Maricela Meza, LaVita Mickelson, Rayma Montero, Fernando Morales, Jose Juan Morales, Amparo Moreno, Fernando Moreno, Rene Ortega, Justin Wray Palmbach, Kaleb David Palmbach, Levi Matthew Allyn Palmbach, Ernesto Calero Perez, Esteban Perez, Margarita Perez Paul Price, Jorge L Quijano, Pamela Jane Rabebl, Thomas William Rabebl, Litzzy Ramos, Liz Ramos, Loida Ramos, Francisco Reyes, Maria Dolores Reyes, David Roblero, Diana Rodriguez, Efrren Rodriguez, Martha Rodriguez, Nora Iloa Rodriguez, Pedro Rodriguez, Raul Rodriguez, Teresa Rodriguez, Reina Sanchez,

Elizabeth Shockley, John Slater, Donna Stamps, Martha Tamayo, Michelle Taylor, Ryan Taylor, Luis Antonio Trujillo, Berta Velasquez (Morales), Yanire Liduvina Villalpando, Guillermo Villegas, Maria Villegas, Tracee D. Warren, Kateri Wells, Paul A. Wells, Paul F. Wells, Rick Young, Frances Younkins, Charito Beatriz Zorrilla.

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**Submit your best song. Prizes will be awarded.**

For details: **Visit [Inspire.org/2017songwriting](http://Inspire.org/2017songwriting)**

*Produced by Pacific Union Conference Creative Ministries.*

**AT REST**

**ANDERSON, CYNTHIA KAREN (ABELL)** – b. June 24, 1965, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. Oct. 22, 2016, Oroville, Calif. Survivors: husband, Earl; son, Maurice Webb; two grandchildren; mother, Lora Abell; sisters, Jaimie, Tracie.

**BARRETT, ELSIE (WILSON)** – b. March 25, 1925, Rochester, N.Y.; d. May 31, 2016, Stockton, Calif. Survivors: husband, Carl; son, Edward; daughter, Joyce McPeak; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

**BGLAU, DONALD LEROY** – b. Nov. 8, 1932, San Mateo, Calif.; d. Oct. 29, 2016, Yucaipa, Calif. Survivors: wife, Barbara; daughters, Lori, Pamela Cole; five grandchildren. Served as one of the primary clinic instructors and as associate professor of restorative dentistry at the LLU School of Dentistry.

**BORG, ARLAN CARLYLE** – b. Aug. 22, 1934, New Castle, Ind.; d. Oct. 16, 2016, Rancho Mirage, Calif. Survivors: wife, Doris; children Douglas and Linda Borg, Kimberly and Johnny Thomas; four grandchildren.

**BULLER, VIRGINIA (LOVETT)** – b. Dec. 12, 1928, Berryville, Ark.; d. Oct. 1, 2016, Stockton, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Shirley Burns; son, Gary Beal; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

**COCHRAN, MICHAEL RAY** – b. May 8, 1951, Modesto, Calif.; d. Sept. 5, 2016, Napa, Calif. Survivors: son, Sean Humphreys; mother, Geraldine Cochran; one grandson; sister, Peggy Voegelé.

**CRAIG, RAY** – b. Jan. 28, 1921, Long Beach, Calif.; d. June 30, 2016, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Wilda; daughters, Sharon Nakadate, Claudia Selko; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Served in maintenance and as an engineer at White Memorial Hospital; as a cameraman for LLBN.

**CROWLEY, HELEN** – b. Jan. 16, 2016, Gary, Ind.; d. Nov. 13, 2016, Moreno Valley, Calif. Survivors: son, Richard; daughter, Susan; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

**DENNEY, FLOYD ERNEST** – b. Sept. 2, 1932, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. Oct. 5, 2016, Washougal, Wash. Survivors: wife, Charlotte; sons, Brad, Brian, Jonathan; daughter, Jana Clifton; 11 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sisters, Dolores Blackmun, Loletta Ward. Served as a junior high teacher and principal at numerous schools in the Central and Northern California conferences.

**DUDAR, PETER DONOVAN** – b. July 7, 1923, Two Hills, Alberta, Canada; d. Jan. 22, 2016, Sun City, Calif. Survivors: wife,

Rosamond; sons, Peter Jr., Gary, Brian; two grandchildren.

**HEMPE, MARGARET "PEG"** – b. Oct. 29, 1922, Pottstown, Pa.; d. Oct. 31, 2016, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: son, David; daughter, Jo Anne Hempe Huston; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren. Served as the first ordained female pastor on the West Coast and later retired as an associate pastor from LLU church.

**HOGATE, JAMES RAYMOND** – b. Aug. 21, 1929, Bladen, Neb.; d. Sept. 16, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash. Survivors: wife, Mary; son, Ralph, brother, Richard; sister, Eleanor Schafer.

**HUMPHREY, ANNA** – b. Nov. 11, 1939, Kansas City, Miss.; d. Nov. 21, 2016, Palm Desert, Calif. Survivors: husband, AC Sr.; sons, Charles, Albert, Rodney; daughters, Mahasin Sheppard, Hollie Green; 12 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren. Served at Pine Springs Ranch.

**KESZLER JR., JOHN** – b. Oct. 9, 1916, Washburn, N.D.; d. Oct. 19, 2016, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: wife, Irene; son, Bruce; daughter, Sharon Blaufus; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sister, Ellen Lewis.

**LEMONAS, HRYSAINTI (CLYDE COOPER)** – b. May 1, 1922, Bulgaria; d. Oct. 21, 2016, St. Helena, Calif.

**MCCORMICK, ELMER JAMES** – b. Feb. 2, 1919, Goodrich, Mich.; d. Sept. 14, 2016, Clovis, Calif. Survivors: sons, Terry, Tim; daughters, Vickie Metteauer, Nancy Hissa; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren. Co-founded Payson church and helped establish Phoenix Spanish church.

**MEISSNER, LINDA** – b. April 24, 1942, Winnemucca, Nev.; d. Oct. 24, 2016, Fernley, Nev. Survivors: husband, Don; sons, Blaine, Bruce; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**MELL, RAYMOND LEON** – b. Nov. 9, 1938, National City, Calif.; d. Oct. 28, 2016, Phoenix, Ariz. Survivors: son, Raymond Wendal; daughter, Lorena Ann.

**MORRIS, DELORES GEORGENE (JACOBSON)** – b. Jan. 24, 1930, San Jose, Calif.; d. Oct. 18, 2016, Angwin, Calif. Survivors: husband, Virgil; daughters, Marsha Crow, Debi Blevins; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister, Barbara Taylor. Served in various hospitals throughout California and in Hong Kong.

**NAGEL JR., SHERMAN A.** – b. May 26, 1915, Burbank, Calif.; d. July 31, 2016, Langley, British Columbia, Canada. Survivors: sons, Lewis, Charles, James; daughter, Betty Steinke; five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren. Served in Nigeria as a medical missionary; taught anatomy & physiology at PUC.

**NGO, HANNAH** – b. April 16, 1916, Kuching Sarawak, Malaysia; d. Nov. 10, 2016, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: sons, Eddie, Earnest, Eric; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

**PARKER, STANTON** – b. May 30, 1933, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Oct. 29, 2016, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Dolly; daughters, Linda, Sandra Hillmon, Shirley Manning, Lori Aceves; six grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren. Served with Adventist Risk Management, eventually as president.

**ROOSEN, WILLEM ERNEST** – b. Oct. 13, 1937, Indonesia; d. Oct. 18, 2016, Buckeye, Ariz. Survivors: wife, Yvonne; son, Jefferson; daughter, Gabriella.

**ROTTACKER, RUSSELL** – b. Sept. 1, 1921, Blackfalds, Alberta, Canada; d. Oct. 31, 2016, Manteca, Calif. Survivors: son, Brad; daughters, Deena Adams, Kathryn, Sherida Zapara; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; brother, Leonard.

**SNIDER, WILLIAM E.** – b. Aug. 31, 1927, Parkersburg, W.V.; d. Oct. 24, 2016, Chico, Calif. Survivors: sons, Doug; daughter, Jan Morikone; sister, Eleanor Kelly; five grandchildren. Served as pastor for the El Monte church and chaplain at Glendale and Simi Valley Adventist Medical centers.

**WANG, JOHN S.** – b. Oct. 26, 1934, Nanking, China; d. Oct. 6, 2016, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Betty; sons, Samuel, Steven; daughters, Waylene, Marilene; nine grandchildren.

**WILES, HERBERT** – b. Feb. 9, 1911, St. Ives, Cornwall, England; d. Nov. 19, 2016, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Lynne Kootsey, Julie Wiles; five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren.

**WILLUMSON, JEANNE ANDREWS** – b. Feb. 6, 1922, Tibet, China; d. Nov. 18, 2016, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: sons, John, Karl; daughter, Tina; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild. Jeanne was the first pediatrician at LLUMC.

**WING, DOUGLAS A.** – b. Nov. 26, 1947, Lebanon, Ore.; d. Oct. 6, 2016, Upper Lake, Calif. Survivors: wife, Arlene; son, Eric; two grandchildren; mother, Edna; brother, Larry; sisters, Mina, Mary.

**WOHLGEMUTH-DAHL, LORENE E.** – b. March 13, 1937, Littlefield, Texas; d. Dec. 21, 2015, Arcadia, Calif. Survivors: husband, Brian; daughter, Susan Supple; four grandchildren; sister, Mona Rue.

**ZIMMERMANN, ROLAND C.** – b. May 25, 1938, Marshall Town, Iowa; d. Nov. 1, 2016, Ontario, Calif. Survivors: wife, Melba; sons, Greg, Rob; daughter, Rolanda Everett; nine grandchildren.

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

**SUNSETS**

	1/6	1/13	1/20	1/27
Alturas	4:49	4:56	5:04	5:13
Angwin	5:05	5:12	5:19	5:27
Calexico	4:52	4:58	5:04	5:11
Chico	4:59	5:06	5:14	5:22
Eureka	5:05	5:13	5:21	5:29
Fresno	4:59	5:05	5:13	5:20
Hilo	5:58	6:02	6:07	6:11
Honolulu	6:05	6:09	6:14	6:19
Las Vegas	4:42	4:48	4:56	5:03
Lodi	5:01	5:08	5:16	5:23
Loma Linda	4:55	5:02	5:08	5:15
Los Angeles	5:00	5:06	5:13	5:20
Moab	5:12	5:19	5:26	5:34
Oakland	5:06	5:13	5:20	5:28
Phoenix	5:36	5:42	5:48	5:55
Reno	4:52	4:59	5:07	5:15
Riverside	4:56	5:03	5:09	5:16
Sacramento	5:01	5:08	5:15	5:23
Salt Lake City	5:16	5:23	5:31	5:40
San Diego	4:58	5:04	5:11	5:17
San Francisco	5:07	5:14	5:21	5:29
San Jose	5:06	5:12	5:20	5:27
Tucson	5:34	5:40	5:47	5:53

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#### FRIDAY Resound worship

February 24 (7:45-9:00pm)

EXPERIENCING WORSHIP  
Encounter Jesus through a creative worship experience featuring speaker **Sam Leonor** and worship leader **Elia King**.

#### SATURDAY & SUNDAY One project gathering

February 25-26 (8am-6pm)

FOCUSING ON REVELATION  
Two days of community and sharing centered around the last book in the Bible. Presenters include: **Alex Bryan, Steve Case, Damian Chandler, Tim Gillespie, Sam Leonor, Karl Haffner, William Johnsson, Dena King, Iki Taimi, Laurence Turner, Timothy Nixon, Chris Oberg, Jenniffer Ogden, Randy Roberts, Kendra Haloviak Valentine, and Mark Witas.** **Elia King** will lead worship. Special programs for kids and teens.

#### MONDAY Create conference

February 27 (8am-4pm)

CREATING THE FUTURE  
Explore three questions: What have been our lamentations and celebrations over the last six years? What challenges and opportunities does Adventist theology face? What transformations and applications have we seen in our local churches? Featuring **Alex Bryan, Sam Leonor, Tim Gillespie, Laurence Turner, Denis Fortin, Kendra Haloviak Valentine, Zan Long, Danni Sherwood, and Gordy Gates.**

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