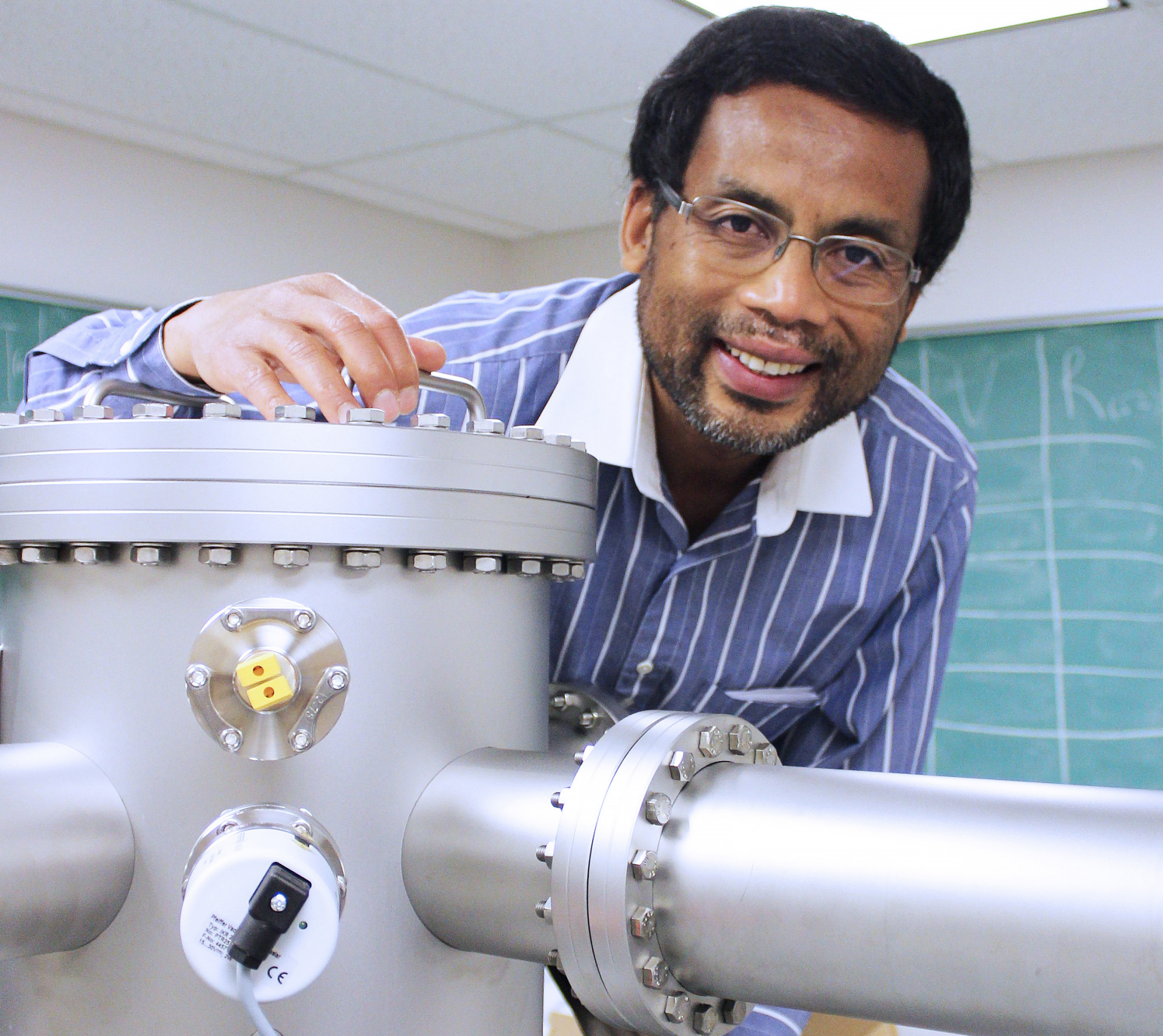


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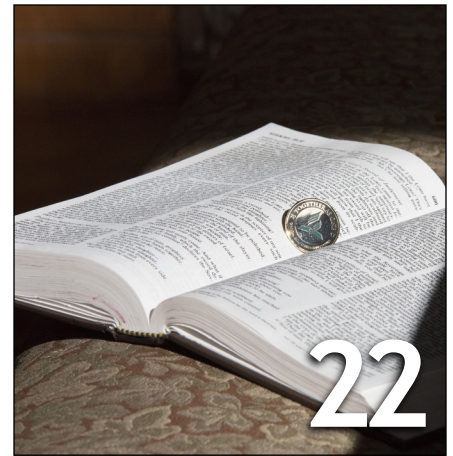
MARCH 2017



30 PUC PROFESSOR VOLA ANDRIANARIJAONA
Receives \$170,000 Grant for Ion Beam Research

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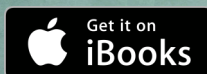
ABOUT THE COVER

PUC Professor Dr. Vola Andrianarijaona poses with the three-dimensional imaging device, paid for by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT: THOU SHALT BE KIND



In a corrosive world of trash talk, hate radio and abusive behavior, how can we apply the Golden Rule? How can we be like Jesus? This new iBook suggests (through text, audio and video) how to make your church a magnet for people!



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Can You Hear Me Now?

Our family enjoys watching Christian DVDs together. Often when I'm in a Christian bookstore, I look for titles I think the family would like. A few years ago, we watched a holiday DVD with one incredible line spoken by an actor who was portraying a pastor.

A young man was asking the pastor how it seemed God was not answering his prayers. The pastor's very profound answer was, "God speaks in the same tone of voice to all of us. It's our hearing that determines the volume."

When I heard that, many thoughts rushed through my mind along with several Bible verses. I remembered Jesus' words in Revelation, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20, NKJV).

This is an important reality to consider. Jesus knocks on everyone's door. If we hear His voice and open the door, He will come in. My question: Is your volume at the right level to be able to hear when the Savior speaks? Do you hear His voice?

To me this is an extremely important issue. We were created to have a deep, personal and meaningful relationship with God. But this can't happen if we aren't intentional about listening carefully and hearing when He speaks.

Many have written on the topic of how to hear when God speaks. While it is true God speaks or communicates in many ways to different people, here are three essential principles for us all.

Prayer. Be still and listen when you pray. Psalm 46:10 reminds us we need to be still and know God is God. In this "life in the fast lane" society, it is very easy to become so busy that we don't take the time to be still and allow God to communicate with us. This requires discipline. Prayer means talking with God and allowing Him to respond as well.

Spend time in the Word each day. Paul wrote to Timothy, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be

complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Studying God's Word, understanding the Bible and remembering Scripture allows us to be synchronized with God's voice so we can hear when He speaks.

Turn your eyes upon Jesus. The author of Hebrews wrote, "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

(Hebrews 12:2) When we look to Jesus, our focus becomes clear and the things of this world lose their value. In other words, things that really matter become important to us.

My prayer for every member of the Pacific Union is that we hear when God speaks. He is knocking on everyone's door. May we be quiet enough to hear Him, and in so doing, may we enjoy all the blessings He has prepared for each of us and share that gift with everyone we meet.



*Tony Anobile,
vice president*

Secular Campus Ministry Seminar Encourages Local Chapters

An NAD Barna study on Adventist young adults notes that 70 percent of Adventist young adults are walking away from the church,” noted Pastor Ron Pickel, director of the North American Division Adventist Christian Fellowship, the umbrella organization for Adventist ministry on public college and university campuses in the U.S., Bermuda and Canada. “The corollary is that 70-80 percent of Adventist collegiate-age students attend non-Adventist universities. I believe a strong public campus ministry program will do a lot to address these statistics.”

Pickel was the presenter on Sabbath, Jan. 14, at the ACF “Reach the Campus – Change the World!” seminar in Glendale. Nearly 30 young adults attended the all-day event. Pickel and other leaders invited participants to find ways to develop ACF chapters on secular campuses

in L.A. “Los Angeles is reportedly home to more than 85 college campuses,” he added, “a larger concentration than in other Pacific Union urban areas.” ACF–Pacific Union and the Southern California Conference co-sponsored the event. Pastor Donald Smith, Alhambra church, serves as the local ACF coordinator, assisted by Pastor Adam Hicks, Journey church.

With the young adults and leaders seated around tables in small groups, presentations broke frequently for discussions of questions and opportunities for personal experiences. One question was, “What has God asked you to do?” As with most of the discussion topics, participants were not shy about sharing with their peers.

“The ACF seminar was not at all what I expected,” said Keith Harris, a USC Adventist Fellowship member. “Initially, I did not plan to attend. However, by some providential circumstance, I ended up going, and it turned out to be an inspiring call to ministry.

“We had the opportunity to have a powerhouse in campus ministry come to our conference to show us ways to expand the kingdom of God in an often neglected but

incredibly important mission field: non-religious colleges and universities,” added Harris. “Strides were made to begin reaching this important mission field. God is waiting to partner with us here, and I believe we have a good start. The next question is, ‘Who will join us?’”

“It is essential that every secular college campus incorporate a group such as ACF,” said Olivia Awadalla. “College students are looking for answers and want to find the meaning of life. A community like ACF can fill that need, which can open a road for God to work and transform lives.”

“Current students and recent graduates who recognize the importance of this ministry are stepping up to help,” reported Pickel. “I cannot overestimate the importance of pastors Donald Smith and Adam Hicks in their support and coordination of this event. Another key individual is lay pastor Fedly Bonneau, who has a strong heart for Christ and student ministry. I pray that this latest ACF event is a small but important step in building this ministry in Southern California Conference.”

“With L.A.’s concentration of public colleges and universities,” said Smith, “it is strategic to our overall public campus ministry outreach. At this meeting, we had representation from Cal State L.A., Pierce College, USC and the Art Center. We will continue to reach out to these and other campuses.

“Our plan is to organize a group to join the NorCal ACF Winter Conference in Santa Cruz for the March 3-5 weekend, and we are

encouraging as many as we can to attend the ACF Institute being held this year in our union at Arizona State University, May 22-27.”

For details about these events, visit acflink.org.

Betty Cooney



SCC President Velino Salazar speaks to the groups, as Pastor Smith looks on.



Young adults lined up for their lunchtime topic assignment to share with a participant they had not known before. Pastor Adam Hicks (back to camera) gave instructions. Pickel is opposite him.

PHOTOS BY ESTHER ONG

Students Spread Messages of Hope with GLOW Outreach

Fifty-eight students from West Covina Hills Adventist Elementary School and approximately 25 volunteers combined forces to distribute GLOW tracts at the Eastland Shopping Center.

The day began in West Covina Hills, where students met for the chapel service. Heidi Carpenter, director of Literature Ministries in the Southern California Conference, offered the students a devotional message before departing campus.

Carpenter's worship thought was based on Matthew 5:14-16: "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Carpenter encouraged students to remember their purpose. "We are the light of the world," she said, "and that isn't meant to be hidden under a basket."

GLOW stands for Giving Light to Our World, and is a literature distribution initiative that aims to share Bible messages of hope with the world.

After chapel, the students were split into groups, to be accompanied by parent volunteers and teachers. Each student was given a plastic snack bag filled with two pieces of candy and two different GLOW tracts.

Principal Don Krpalek told students to approach shoppers and offer them the free gift. "Don't worry if people refuse the gift," he told them. "Just be polite and move on."

This isn't the first year WCHAS students have participated in GLOW outreach, but for the new students, it was their first time "GLOWing."

"The students who hadn't done it before were nervous," said Krpalek. "But once they got the hang out of it, once they got over being 'too cool to do this,' the students really enjoyed it."

Carpenter also agreed that it was a positive experience for the students. "You could tell the kids were excited to get out into the community," she said. "I hope each of the students who participated will look back on this experience with joy, knowing that the literature 'seeds' they planted in the community will be used by God!"

GLOW tracts cover a variety of different topics. They can range from addiction and health, to Sabbath and hope.

After handing out tracts, the students and volunteers went back to school to debrief and discuss their experiences.

Benjamin, a student, shared what he had learned by participating in GLOW outreach. "It is fun to tell people about God!" he said. "There are lots of people who need it."

"I learned that even the smallest thing you do can impact a person's life," said Karen, another student.

PHOTOS BY MELISSA TOMAS



Students (l. to r.) Azaya Hargrove (kindergarten), Todd Jeffrey (first grade) and Cherish DeCastro (second grade) hand out GLOW bags to shoppers at the Eastland Shopping Center.



Second-grader Isele Alamillo approaches a shopper during GLOW outreach.



Heidi Carpenter sings during worship before students break into small groups for GLOW mission day outreach.



Each bag contains two different GLOW tracts, candy and contact information for West Covina Hills Adventist school.

For more information about GLOW, visit glowonline.org. For more information about West Covina Hills Adventist School, call the Southern California Conference Office of Education, 818-546-8453.

Rachel Logan

Guests Connect Through Kalēo LifeGroups

When Resurrection church and Lighthouse church merged in 2014, Kalēo church was born and, with it, an idea. How could the church minister specifically to former members as well as those in the community who know nothing about Adventism?

Many members at least knew someone who has left the church; that seemed like a good place to start. “Our primary objective is to reach the dechurched, and they will allow us to reach the unchurched,” said Senior Pastor Manny Arteaga.

Kalēo’s three-fold strategy is to be a home for all, with a Savior for all and a purpose in all. “The idea is that a disciple of Jesus is assimilated into the community like a home, is baptized and finds their God-given purpose in the kingdom,” explained Arteaga. But they

don’t measure growth based on Sabbath morning attendance or even the number of baptisms. “A baptism without discipleship is incomplete,” he added. The goal, instead, is to close the gap between the total number of members and those who are actively involved in small groups and leadership.

“My preaching and rhetoric have to do with allowing people to rediscover the gospel,” Arteaga noted. “Most people who left the church did not leave rejecting the gospel, but because of a misrepresentation of it.”



LifeGroups members share and discuss the week’s topic.

There have been multiple baptisms of people who had left the church but were personally invited to Kalēo and gave it one last try. “Many people have been guests who visited the church and stuck around,” Arteaga pointed out.

Still, it goes beyond inviting friends to Sabbath morning service. One avenue for discipleship and evangelism is small group ministry. “I always say to our leaders at the start of every season that our LifeGroups ministry really is the heartbeat of our church,” said Allison Dubon, LifeGroups director.

There are four seasons for LifeGroups

at Kalēo each year, starting with a “Page One” Sabbath when the topic is introduced, with time for discussion and an opportunity to sign up. “Page One” Sabbath is followed by a six-week sermon series, and each sermon is the foundation for the weekly LifeGroup discussion guide. The discussion guide is always available through the Kalēo SDA mobile app. The biggest advertisement has been word of mouth — and members aren’t the only ones extending invitations. When guests find they enjoy the experience, they invite friends and family, too.

Kalēo offers eight different LifeGroups throughout Southern California, from Santa Monica to Lancaster. “LifeGroups removes the spectator nature of church,” said Jackson Boren, head elder. “It gives the church family an opportunity to interact with the gospel message from week to week and see how it affected us differently.”

The small group meetings offer guests and members the opportunity to stay connected throughout the week. “It’s an ongoing, intimate evangelistic effort,” Boren continued.

LifeGroups offer a safe space for open, vulnerable dialogue. “Society doesn’t provide that,” Dubon added.

Visit kaleosda.church to learn more, or follow Kalēo SDA on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Lauren Armstrong

PHOTOS BY BLANCA JO PHOTOGRAPHY



Allison Dubon (left, standing) stops by one of the tables as the group shares.



Friends share smiles and laughter during LifeGroups.

Women's Ministry Leaders Gather to Plan Year of Ministry

More than 20 women gathered to pray about their 2017 retreat and about ways to minister to women in their churches and communities. Chaired by Dimple Fields, liaison for the conference Women's Ministries organization and retreat director, the meeting afforded a multicultural group of women's ministry leaders an opportunity to get acquainted and consider what they might do.

The women represented churches in four of the conference's five regions. Plans were set to send renewed invitations so that all five regions will be represented, and to invite many more women for the February meeting. "While we are in the process of regrouping and planning," Fields added, "for the first time, we will be scheduling monthly meetings."

Fields electrified the session by sharing a strong sense of renewal and purpose. "Women's ministry is not only a tea party or retreat," she affirmed. "Those are good tools, but they only are the culmination of an ongoing ministry throughout the year in which we want to educate and nurture women. Our goal is for every woman to be engaged in ministry, in the church and community. We will be 'God in shoes,'" she added.

Janet Lui, SCC Prayer Ministry coordinator, gave the devotional. Her message reflected

on a much earlier time when women's ministry leaders gathered at Camp Cedar Falls to pray and plan for an SCC lay congress. When Lui invited all who would like to participate in a prayer session in the camp's Upper Room, about 275 responded. "We prayed for each other, for the conference and the lay congress," Lui recalled. "Many were touched by the Holy Spirit."

Alma Stacy, a member of the Tamarind Ave. church, supplied a touching follow-up to Lui's remarks. "I was at the same meeting," she told the group. "My friends and I were on our way to an exercise class when we heard singing coming from the Upper Room and decided to go there instead." Stacy had been dealing with a family issue for several months, but she had told no one. "My healing began in that room," she said, gratefully.

During a meet-and-greet time, women learned who had come to be a part of women's ministry and had a few opportunities to pray with seatmates. When one woman requested prayer, Lui and Fields, along with Sonia Barksdale, who also requested prayer, immediately went to surround her with prayer as the rest of the group prayed silently.

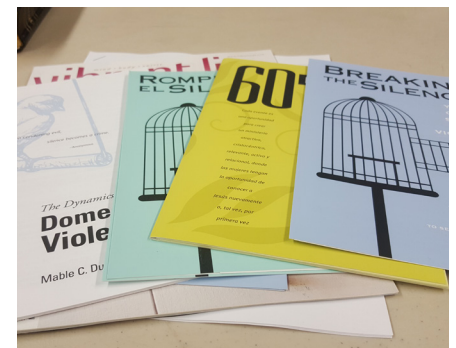
Dalma Ogundya, a midwife and the prayer ministry coordinator of the Rolling Hills church, shared a plea for victims of the sex trafficking epidemic. "We had a patient who delivered her baby at our hospital," she said. "When I went back to give her follow-up instructions two hours later, she was gone. She had been taken from the hospital by her pimp. We need to pray for and help women who may be victims of this trade."



(l. to r.) Janet Lui, Prayer Ministry coordinator, and Dimple Fields, Women's Ministries liaison, pray with Sonia Barksdale and Alma Wesley (seated).

Beverly Martin, Ph.D., is the SCC Women's Ministries coordinator. Because she was welcoming her first grandchild, Martin missed the meeting. Later, she affirmed the multicultural response and involvement. "It is important that the church's style of ministry remains broad enough to minister to all people groups represented," she noted. The majority of people who are part of a multicultural church are there because they appreciate being part of something larger than their own culture. The multicultural church and women's ministry must do all they can to create an inclusive culture where everyone who worships there feels welcome."

Betty Cooney



Free materials were available from the NAD Women's Ministries Department.



A multicultural group of women's ministry leaders gathered for a planning meeting.

The Veg Hub Bistro Opens in Oakland

What does city outreach look like in the 21st century?

It looks like a small restaurant in Oakland's Dimond District — bright and airy with a wall-length chalkboard mural. It looks like vegan "soul" food, created by a chef committed to healthy eating and community involvement. It looks like a line of people waiting on the sidewalk, eager to visit the new addition to their neighborhood.

It looks like The Veg Hub bistro, headed by Chef GW Chew, which celebrated its grand opening on Sunday, Jan. 15. "I'm amazed and grateful for what the Lord has done!" said Chew.

Just after noon, the restaurant officially opened with a prayer and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. During the next six hours, more than 250 people enjoyed some of Chew's original recipes for Philly Cheeze Steak, Fried Chicken, Mac-N-Cheeze and more — all vegan. Local church members came out to support the new

venture, but 75 percent of the patrons were community members, excited about a healthy restaurant that would also be good for the neighborhood.

Annie Campbell Washington, Oakland City Councilmember for District Four, cut the ribbon with Chew. "As city council member, I could not be more excited about Chef Chew bringing The Veg Hub to the Dimond," she said. "He has been so welcoming to the Dimond neighborhood, and the neighbors are so excited to have a new restaurant."

J. Joey Smith, co-chair of the Dimond Improvement Association, agrees. "He is a wonderful guy," she said. "I wish more religious organizations would take more of an interest in

our community. It's a great thing for a great neighborhood."

The restaurant had a "soft opening" in early December, so some people in line had already sampled the food and were returning for more. Most had heard about the event via social media. Chew's Facebook video, inviting people to come to the opening, had 27,000 views.

One customer, named Monk, stood in line wearing a T-shirt that read: Vegan Muscle, Killing Workouts Not Animals. He was impressed by the food selection. "It looks awesome. That's why I'm here; I've seen a menu," he said. "I'm going to take some menus to other people."



JIM LORENZ

Volunteer Andy Lee serves a meal.



JULIE LORENZ

GW Chew and Oakland City Councilmember Annie Campbell Washington cut the ribbon to open the restaurant.



SAL ALVARADO

NCC President Jim Pedersen, Chef GW Chew and NCC Executive Secretary Marc Woodson listen as Oakland City Councilmember Annie Campbell Washington speaks at the restaurant's Grand Opening.

Kristie Middleton, senior director for food policy for The Humane Society of the United States, waited by the counter to pick up her order. "It's good for the planet and animals and health. People are hungry for this food," she said.

The restaurant is part of the Northern California Conference's Bridges: Bay Area for Jesus evangelism initiative, focusing on Oakland. "Nowadays we must be creative and unconventional in our outreach, willing to think outside the box," said NCC Executive Secretary Marc Woodson. "We also have to take the time to form friendships and really become a part of the community."

The bistro is located in a part of Oakland with no organized Adventist presence, so the goal is to eventually start a church plant in conjunction with the restaurant. "We're going to build relationships, letting the Lord lead," said Chew. "This is my tent-making ministry — using my skill set as a means of reaching people with the gospel." He has been talking with community leaders about ways that the restaurant can contribute to the neighborhood in the future, through cooking classes and after-school youth programs.

The fact that the restaurant is closed on Saturday has confused some patrons. But it was a positive point for one woman when she learned about the Sabbath. "She wrote on Facebook that the world is so capitalistic that she was happy that we were being true to our values," said Chew. "She was impressed and excited about supporting us."



Customers line up to place their orders at the counter.

Chew's past has prepared him well for this new venture. As a kid in southern Maryland, he ate everything from pork to squirrel at home, but he ate vegetarian food when Adventist relatives took him to church. Chew turned down a full track scholarship to Howard University because it would interfere with the Sabbath, and was baptized at age 18. Wanting to create a more realistic vegetarian meat, he initially developed his meatless recipes while he was working as a literature evangelist. Pretty soon, he and the other colporteurs were selling his food in addition to books, and he started a restaurant in Maryland.

Later, Chew served as both a chef and lay pastor in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference for more than three years. He opened another restaurant in Arkansas, this one in

partnership with a local church. "As a result of the restaurant, we had people taking Bible studies and getting baptized," he said. "Meeting people's physical needs is a great way to lead them to Christ."

The Veg Hub is just getting started — and exciting times are ahead. "We don't consider The Veg Hub to be just a restaurant; we consider it a ministry," said NCC President Jim Pedersen. "We look forward to seeing the Lord work through Chef Chew and his team."

Stop by The Veg Hub at 2214 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. Visit their Facebook page to find out the hours of operation and news: www.facebook.com/thevegub.

Julie Lorenz



People line up to buy food at The Veg Hub bistro's grand opening on Jan. 15.

Adventist Compassion Care Clinic Serves the Red Bluff Community

Over the years, Randal and Noura Elloway dreamed about starting a free medical/dental clinic sponsored by the Red Bluff church, their home congregation. Randal, a dentist, and Noura, a dental hygienist who serves as his office manager, hated to turn patients away just because they didn't have insurance or money for services. With the support of their church and Pastor Robert Clark, the Elloways' dream became a reality. "When you allow God to lead, it is a blessing to serve Him anywhere in the world," said Randal. "But uniting with your own church family to minister locally brings the greatest joy and unity in Christ."

Adventist Compassion Care medical/dental clinic opened its doors on June 1, 2014. Since then, more than 440 clients have come to the clinic, and the number of volunteers has grown from 15 to more than 30. Much needed equipment and supplies have been purchased, thanks to a grant from the Pacific Union.

On a typical clinic Sunday, clients sign in and receive a number. (Since time is limited, ACC staff are only able to see about 20 people per clinic. Those who come later are added to a waiting list for the next clinic.) While waiting for their names to be called, patients have the opportunity to visit the NEWSTART tables, frequently manned by the church's youth, to learn the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and trust in God. Community services volunteers provide food and clothing for those lacking these basic essentials.

After the necessary paperwork is completed, a doctor/nurse team assesses the patient's physical health, takes blood pressure and refers the patient to a doctor or dentist. Those in need of dental care are further screened by a dentist in a separate room before being sent to the Elloways' office two miles away. Volunteers provide transportation for those without vehicles. While people wait at the fellowship hall or dental office, a team of volunteers provides a full meal.

After their treatment, each patient is invited to spend a few minutes with a chaplain, who gives each one a gift bag containing a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, water bottle, pen with the church telephone number, and two gift booklets — *Steps to Christ* and *Health and Wellness*. Each patient is encouraged to fill out an "exit" card indicating areas of further interest, such as health seminars, Bible studies, drug rehab classes, food and clothing. These names are then given to a team of Bible workers for follow-up calls, prayer and visitation. ACC sponsored two paid Bible workers this past year to assist in following up the spiritual interests of the clients.

Physician's assistant Rob Blehm and physician Irwin Maier facilitate a wellness coaching class at the church on Sabbath mornings. This class began with two or three patients from the clinic, and attendance is now a dozen or more every Sabbath. Attendees are encouraged to stay for the worship service and fellowship lunch afterward.

The Elloways' dream required the support of several key doctors and dentists: Brad Smith, orthopedist; Irwin Maier, radiologist; Gordon Lui, integrated medicine; and Danene Mercill and Stan Ramley, dentists. Red Bluff church members feel blessed to have



Nataasha Elloway, second-year Loma Linda University dental student, teaches with a smile.



Dentist Randal Elloway and assistant Jessica Ellyson discuss treatment options with a patient.

such a large percentage of medical professionals willing to volunteer one Sunday a month to provide free care.

Noura and Randal Elloway are amazed as they look back over the years and see how God has led in this faith venture. They continue to dream of new ways to reach the community with the gospel, using the health message as an entering wedge. They have dreams — a mobile unit to extend the reach of ACC to neighboring towns in Tehama County, a vegetarian restaurant and a rural live-in sanitarium. "We should never try to limit God," said Noura. "Dream big. With God, nothing is impossible."

Robert Clark

PHOTOS BY AL MEHARG



Dentist Stan Ramley talks with physical therapist Margo Blehm.

Check out these upcoming Northern California Conference events at www.nccsda.com.

Leading Children & Families! to Heaven



3 Dates Left
in 2017

Sabbath, January 28, 2017 - Sabbath, February 11, 2017
Sunday, March 5, 2017
Sabbath, March 11, 2017
Sabbath, April 1, 2017



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DISASTER ASSESSMENT Sabbath, April 22, 2017 ▲ 2-6 p.m.

SHELTER OPERATIONS Sunday, April 23, 2017 ▲ 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

at the Carmichael Church



ADVENTURER FUN DAY

April 23, 2017

Adventurers Join us for a tour of Columbia State Historic Park! We will be learning about mining and the history of the town. The trip includes a 45-minute train trip that starts from local Jamestown.



Adventist Community Services Retreat

April 23-26, 2017
at Leoni Meadows

Theme: Caring for Your Community During Crises

Riverside Ghanaian Company Officially Recognized in SECC

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ISAAC AMO-KYEREME



Isaac Amo-Kyereme signs the certificate of companyhood on Dec. 10 at the Riverside Ghanaian company.



Jonathan Park (left), executive secretary for the Southeastern California Conference, congratulates Isaac Amo-Kyereme, a leader at the Riverside Ghanaian company.



Members of the Ghanaian choir sing during the celebration service.

Members and guests of the Riverside Ghanaian company gathered Dec. 10 to welcome the new company into the sisterhood of churches of the Southeastern California Conference.

“Seeing this day after we began this group almost 10 years ago is just overwhelming for me,” said Kofi Antobam, one of the pioneers of the group. He used the opportunity to thank the Amponsah, Arko-Mensah, Bofo and Kankam families for their generosity and to welcome the pioneer members of the church.

During his sermon, Jonathan Park, executive secretary of the conference, said, “Your culture is amazing. Singing is in your conversation. Certain things should never be forgotten, such as the recognition in your culture about the God who created you.”

Before the Adventist message got to the shores of Ghana (then called the Gold Coast) in 1888, Ghanaians already worshipped God on Saturday. Though an agrarian society, there were no farming activities on Saturdays. Each Ghanaian child is given a day name that corresponds with the day of the week on which they were born. God’s day name is Kwame, meaning Saturday-born. To differentiate God from every other Saturday-born, God’s name was and continues to be “Onyankropon Kwame,” which means “the only true God born on Saturday.” Accepting the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s teaching about the Bible Sabbath is easy for Ghanaians.

Park reminded the congregation that they are called to follow Him. Following Jesus is to serve others and the community. While the world focuses on leadership, following Christ is about service.

“If a guest comes to this church, would that person be shocked by the humility of the leaders and the congregation?” Park said. “Would that person be shocked by your attitude of service? When your guests are shocked by your humble spirit, then this church will grow.”

The service was attended by members from the Bay Area Ghanaian group, Los Angeles Ghanaian group, Phoenix Ghanaian group and the All Nations African church.

The company’s 30-member Ghanaian choir also performed. The founding members had a strong vision to reconnect with other Ghanaians in the community and to help them worship in their cultural context to strengthen their spiritual walk and to create a venue for them to become active, engaged and vibrant church members. Part of this was accomplished by having creative evangelistic outreach, such as Sunday morning exercise events at the local park, homeless ministries, Friday night youth meetings and a branch Sabbath school in Los Angeles.

Over the past 10 years, the Riverside Ghanaian company has grown, and along with it their ability to reach out to the Ghanaian and surrounding communities. The members look forward to seeing how God will use them.

Isaac Amo-Kyereme

New Senior Pastor Installed at Riverside Kansas Avenue Church



Ainsworth "Keith" Morris, new senior pastor, listens as members pray for him.



Members fill the church on Dec. 17 to welcome their new senior pastor.



Conference officials and members of the Riverside Kansas Avenue church surround Ainsworth "Keith" Morris, new senior pastor.



Jonathan Park, SECC executive secretary, introduces church members to their new senior pastor.

Ainsworth "Keith" Morris joined the Riverside Kansas Avenue church as the new senior pastor on Dec. 17. He has over 22 years of ministry experience from Jamaica, Ontario and, most recently, New York.

Not everyone starts off knowing what career they want to have. Morris grew up in Jamaica and wanted to be a medical doctor. It was not until after college, when he went through a series of personal conversion experiences, that he became increasingly interested in theology. He returned to Northern Caribbean University in Jamaica and received his B.A. in Religion and Theology in 1994. Even then, he still was not sure he was ready.

"When I graduated, I still felt a high level of personal inadequacy," Morris said. "I wasn't desirous of public speaking. Always shy, I wanted to be in the background. I didn't even know at that time that I wanted to do ministry."

Morris became employed by the East Jamaican Conference and was assigned to assist Glenville Carr, a senior pastor, for one year.

"He made my first assignment extremely comfortable and helped me recognize my place in ministry. He encouraged me," Morris said.

Morris was the pastor at Goshen Temple church in Brooklyn, New York, for six years. While there, he received a call from Southeastern California Conference asking him to move to California. He wanted to accept, but he was not comfortable leaving his church in New York just yet, because it was under construction. During the next two years, he received two more calls from SECC. He had finished building the church in July 2016 when he received the third call. He agreed to come to Kansas Avenue and moved across the country in December.

"I couldn't help seeing it as God telling me for the third time, 'You need to do this. Get up and move,'" he said.

Morris enjoys the outreach program with the church members, along with community outreach and several other ministries that continue to run throughout the week. He plans to work with the church committee on research previously gathered on their community's demographics and needs. Morris said he intends to utilize the information to do ministry that would be contextually relevant.

According to Morris, "You should come to Kansas Avenue, because we provide the opportunity for a great, balanced worship; deep Bible studies; relevant, practical preaching; and warm and friendly fellowship."

Jessica Anzai

Asian/Pacific Ministries Hosts First Marriage Seminar in Riverside

Thirty-five couples attended a marriage enrichment seminar sponsored by Asian/Pacific Ministries in Riverside on Nov. 11-13. Elizer Sacay, vice president for Asian/Pacific Ministries, coordinated the weekend event, which featured family life specialists Drs. Alanzo and June Smith as guest speakers.

“When marriage is strong, the home and the church are positively affected,” Sacay said. “Normally, no one has formal education about marriage unless a person studies it for his or her professional career, but a regular person in the pew can attain knowledge about it through special seminars.”

Sacay chose the Smiths as guest speakers because of their expertise and education about family life, specifically in the area of marriage. Together, they have conducted more than 1,000 family life seminars and have twice received the distinguished service award for outstanding “Family Life Professionals” from the North American Division. Currently, Alanzo is the executive secretary and family counselor of Greater New York Conference and June is a professor at Long Island University in the department of counseling and development.

“The family is the primary social unit, and if the family functions well, people are able to be more at peace and thus able to serve the Lord,” Alanzo Smith said. “I believe when God established marriage in Eden, He intended for us to maintain this format and live happy lives.”



More than 60 people attended the marriage enrichment seminar.

The marriage seminar was well-received by its attendees. “This was our first marriage seminar since our wedding day four years ago,” said one couple. “The seminar was not only educational, but also inspirational and has helped us strive to be better spouses.”

Topics included how to build a stronger marriage, exploring personalities, anger, stubbornness, different love languages and even renewal of marriage vows.

“Every married couple should know that life will present challenges and that they are to work together to resolve them,” advised Alanzo. “You stay the course and commit to love each other unconditionally. If there are problems or concerns that you cannot resolve by yourselves, seek professional help. But by God’s grace, make your relationship a priority. Remember, you

cannot forgive your spouse more than God has forgiven you.”

“Our relationship hit rock bottom several times over the past years,” said one husband. “This retreat opened our minds and hearts to the many blessings of marriage.”

Because it was the first marriage seminar hosted by Asian/Pacific Ministries, there were a few challenges. Since the event was in a hotel, cost was an issue for some. Sacay reserved the amount of rooms required by the hotel, praying that enough people would be able to attend.

“By God’s grace, the registered participants were enough for the reservation,” Sacay said. More than 60 people came. He plans to host another retreat in the future in a more affordable location.

Avery Botticelli



Family life specialists Drs. June (left) and Alanzo (right) Smith, present during the marriage enrichment seminar.



Alanzo Smith teaches 35 couples how to build a stronger marriage.

SECC Honors Unsung Heroes

In December, the Southeastern California Conference Youth Department hosted a Christmas banquet for some of the Adventist Church's unsung heroes: those involved in ministry to children and youth. During the event, a number of these heroes — laypeople and pastors — were formally honored for decades of service.

Eugene Philip "Gene" Oswald received the department's Lifetime Achievement Award for serving in children's ministry for over 50 years.

"I am always amazed at Gene's creativity as I've watched him put on VBS programs, puppet shows and various children's programming," said Manny Vitug, associate youth director for family and children's ministry. "Gene is a few years away from retirement, but his love and passion continue today as he is still actively involved in children's ministry — both as a professional and a layperson. Truly, the Lifetime Achievement Award presented to him perfectly describes what he has accomplished."

The department also paid tribute to people who have spent decades as area Pathfinder coordinators. Sam and Elda Eller, and Dan and Sally Rogers were lauded for 30 years of service. Frances Racobs and Moe DeLeón were honored for 20 years of service.

"We really appreciate the dedication and commitment of our Pathfinder coordinators," said Rudy Carrillo, director of Youth Ministries. "For decades, they have traveled to Pathfinder events — sacrificing time, energy and money — to ensure that our Pathfinder programs run

smoothly. I know there will be people in the kingdom because of these dedicated leaders!"

Rolando "Coach" Gonzalez also received an award for his role in youth ministry for 20 years. "While his deepest impact has been felt in our youth Spanish ministries, his overall impact has been felt by all," said Eric Penick, associate youth director for senior youth and young adult ministries. "His passion and commitment to young people is matched only by the selfless hours he has put into volunteering his time and energy."

Two pastors were also commended. Todd Rosspercer was recognized for his 20 years of service as a youth pastor, and Doug Mace was honored for 20 years of work as a youth pastor and in youth ministry.

"Doug and Todd have not only been integral to so many ministries in our conference, but they have added to the intellectual wealth of how we do youth ministries," Penick said. He added that he also appreciates their creativity, teen leadership training and spiritual focus.

In addition to those mentioned above, SECC Youth Ministries honored a number of other people for 10 years of service.

"They don't do ministry for the recognition," Vitug said. "They do it out of the love of their hearts. But it's really nice when they can feel appreciated and loved and shown that their ministries make a difference."

Julie Lorenz



Eugene Philip "Gene" Oswald speaks at the SECC youth ministries Christmas banquet on Dec. 4 after receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award in serving in children's ministry for over 50 years.



Gene Oswald accepts his award from Judi Jeffreys, youth department secretary, at the SECC youth department banquet in December.



From the left are Liz Adams, Manny Vitug, Gene Oswald, Liz Adams, Eric Penick.

Kahului Church Says Aloha to Pastors Rivera and Khrapov

Aloha means both farewell and welcome in Hawaiian, and that's what the Kahului church has expressed to two dedicated families during a year of transition.

They bid farewell with much love to former Pastor Juan Rivera and his wife, Judith, who served Kahului for more than a decade and oversaw the shift to a new church building. "I will always remember Pastor Rivera telling me to look to Jesus, stay focused on the cross, never turn back and be strong," said Margaret Texeira.

Then, the congregation welcomed Pastor Vassili Khrapov, his wife, Marina, and their two sons, Samuel and David, in March 2016. They came to Maui after 10 years on the Big Island.

The selection process was an overwhelming "yes" from the church board. Khrapov has a doctorate in ministry from Andrews University and was ordained in 1999. His experience in ministry and love for God qualify him to handle the everyday needs of the members, the business of the church and the relationship with the community at large.

The Khrapov family is still in transition between the Big Island and Maui. But even while flying back and forth, closing one home and opening up another, he has kept up with appointments and successfully shepherded a new church family.

Khrapov's objective is to serve, teach and love as Jesus did. He focuses on a personal faith relationship with Jesus while supporting and embracing both members and nonmembers in worship, nurture and community outreach. He takes inspiration from Jeremiah 33:3, "Call to me and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things which you do not know."

"With this in mind, I would like to pursue my work here by talking to God and see what God is asking me directly to do," he said. "With the Lord, everything is possible if I will simply be dedicated to Him. I'm looking forward to the Kahului church to bring more people to Christ."

The church's vision for 2017 includes focusing on prayer, marriage and health. In January, the "10 Days of Prayer" seminar brought members to the church each night to pray for each other. In February, Khrapov held a series called "Mad about Marriage," and a health seminar, "New Life," begins in March.

Marina Khrapov brings her experience as a medical social worker. Samuel



From Russia to Hawaii, Pastor Vasili and Marina Khrapov continue to preach the Adventist message throughout the world.



Pastor Juan and Judith Rivera leave Kahului for retirement after decades of dedication to the church.

graduated with a biology degree from Walla Walla University in 2015, and is now attending medical school in Curaçao. Meanwhile, David is a junior biology major at Walla Walla.

Colleen Uechi and
Lehua Jackson

Give glory to the LORD and proclaim His praise in the islands. ~ Isaiah 42:12

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Featuring Pacific Union Associate Communication Director & Recorder Editor Alicia Adams



Pastor Bob and Stephanie Mason

The Playground That Went to Church

English Oaks, Lodi, California

Is your church community focused? Really? Sometimes we throw this phrase around as if we were serious about helping

our neighbors, but a quick look at church board agendas shows whether or not this is really true. Churches are viewed as significant players, when they address local issues and concerns (which often have nothing to do with religion). Such churches would be greatly missed if they were to pack up and leave.

What if the mayor of your city knew your pastor on a first-name basis, and the city council viewed your church as a serious partner in community service?

Pastor Bob Mason of the English Oaks, Lodi, California, Seventh-day Adventist Church, recently decided he wants English Oaks to be more than a nondescript entity that minds its own business and that keeps to itself. We asked Bob what that means.

Editor – Bob, my son recently saw you being interviewed on the Sacramento evening news about an offer the English Oaks Adventist Church was making to the city of Lodi. What is this about?

Mason – A local proposition [a city-wide vote] to fund park repairs and upgrades failed. I read an article in the paper that said that play structures that are falling apart are going to have to be taken down instead of upgraded. I immediately thought of the one in our neighborhood park, English Oaks Commons. I had taken my kids there, and I knew that damaged parts of the play structure had already been removed.

Finish interview at:
www.ChurchSupportServices.org/playground

Paradise Valley Youth Ministry Stories of Faith

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a video is worth a million! Check out the inventory of short stories featuring Adventists in action throughout the Pacific Union Conference.

Visit: vimeo.com/channels/storiesoffaith





The Value of *Social Media*

By *Christiane Marshall*

“*Let your internet engagement show your inner beauty through online actions with Netiquette.*”
—DAVID CHILES

Should Christians spend time on social media?

It was late, and I noticed I had a new message from Kim: “can you help me out? i need someone to call my sister and wake her up cuz she can’t hear me yellin. kinda weird, i know, but you’re the only person i can find online..”

Kim had ALS and was unable to walk and had minimal use of her hands. I had never met Kim in person. She lived in Texas and I lived in Ohio.

I was glad to help.

I joined mySpace years ago because my adult children were scattered in five different states. They were on mySpace so I signed on too! I soon began communicating with other people and realized that I was gathering a little community around

me. Kim was one of my new friends. I followed my children and some of my new friends to Facebook eventually.

I found myself encouraging others and bouncing ideas around. Others noticed my comments and asked to be my friend. It was almost like being in grade school again. “Will you be my friend?”

I’ve been living in a rural area for 13 years and have had fewer opportunities to have an impact on the physical world around me. People used to stop by and visit in the suburban area I grew up in. The internet has opened up a whole new world for me. And social media is the frosting on the cake!

Read full article:
www.WhenPeopleAreKind.org/social



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Motivational Moments

“For what question is my life the answer?”

—DR. SHELETTE STEWART

Refreshing the Heart

Every human resource and dependence will fail. The cisterns will be emptied, the pools become dry; but our Redeemer is an inexhaustible fountain. We may drink, and drink again, and ever find a fresh supply. He in whom Christ dwells has within himself the fountain of blessing, — ‘a well of water springing up into everlasting life.’ From this source he may draw strength and grace sufficient for all his needs” (*Desire of Ages*, p. 187).



Last Year in One Word

If you had to sum up this past year with one word, what would it be? So much out of the norm has happened; that could be a difficult assignment. However, there are people out there who fastidiously do it. Every year!

Recently, author, Bud Ahlheim, referred to this in a piece he wrote for *Pulpit & Pen* (an online blog). He wrote:

“The word of the year, selected by Oxford Dictionaries (other groups do it too, such as the American Dialect Society and Merriam-Webster) is, according to *Oxforddictionaries.com*, “a word or expression that we can see has attracted a great deal of interest over the last 12 months.”

After surviving the worst political season in memory, what word could that possibly be?

Are you ready? It is: “*Post-truth*”

“This hyphenated adjective, says Oxford Dictionaries, is defined as ‘relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeal to emotion and personal belief.’”

Interesting to say the least! This provides a great segway to a few questions that can generate meaningful discussion:

Read it online:

ChurchSupportServices.org/oneword

“Generosity has been called the new evangelism.”

—BONITA SHIELDS

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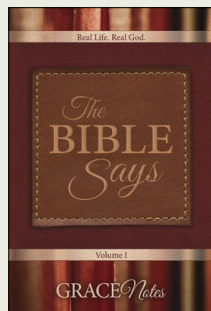
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Asian/Pacific Convocation Attracts 400+

The sixth annual Asian/Pacific Convocation held Jan. 21 drew more than 400 members and guests to the sanctuary of the newly-acquired Arizona Korean church in Gilbert, Ariz. Dr. Ricardo Graham, president of the Pacific Union, was the featured speaker.

Graham focused on “Why Church? Finding Meaning Together.” In his sermon, Graham said, “While we do not see Jesus’ physical form in the church building, we are not to entertain the idea that He is an ‘absentee’ landlord. Just because we don’t see Him with our eyes, doesn’t mean that He isn’t here. Though Jesus Himself is at heavenly headquarters, He has sent One equal to Himself to safeguard His property, the Church. The Holy Spirit is here, and wherever the Holy Spirit is, Jesus is. Jesus, through His true vicar, the Holy Spirit, is here today.”

Arizona Conference Asian/Pacific Ministries Director Glenn Sta. Ana planned and directed the convocation, which involved 10 language groups: Filipino, Korean, Tongan, Haitian, Ghanaian, Karen, Burmese, Ethiopian, Laotian and Congolese.

“I praise the Lord for the dedication and excitement of our people in planning our convocation,” said Sta. Ana. “Our guiding mission in Asian/Pacific and Refugee ministries is ‘Many Cultures, One Message, One Savior.’ We are part of the one big family of God.”

Representatives from both the Arizona Conference and the Pacific Union participated. Arizona Conference President Ed Keys welcomed the congregation. “It is always a thrilling experience to see our Asian/Pacific members worship God in their diverse ways,”



More than 400 members and guests fill the sanctuary.

he said. “You dear people are committed, enthusiastic members who love sharing Jesus and winning souls to Christ.”

Reggie Leach, Arizona Conference treasurer and stewardship director, challenged attendees to step out in faith by paying tithe. “If you are not already enjoying the blessings of tithing, or if you have discontinued paying a faithful tithe, we challenge you to give God a try,” said Leach. “If you have not realized a blessing as God promises to those who pay a faithful tithe, after a three-month period the Conference will give a refund of the money invested, no questions asked.”

Several music groups performed throughout the day, including Arizona Korean church choir; Chandler Fil-Am Girls; Bethel Community choir; Chandler Fil-Am strings and praise team.

Then, a panel discussion featured moderator Lauran Merginio, Dr. David Row, Dr. Abraham Owusu, Paw Pley and Dr. Joseph Moise. Afterward, a traditional Asian/Pacific feast, including many ethnic dishes and delicacies, quieted the growling stomachs.

The afternoon program included music from the Tongan East Valley singers, the Karen Group, Frantz Noel and the Ethiopian Adventist choir from Glendale. Pastor Ron Yabut led a panel discussion, “Why Church,” featuring Dorothy Aning, Maxx Jefferson Tio, Van Velarde, Arizona Korean youth and Jhelz Garcia.

Dr. VicLouis Arreola III, Pacific Union Asian/Pacific Ministries director, ended the convocation with a commitment service.



Dorothy Aning captures the children’s hearts with the story of Ruth and Naomi.



Event planners and speakers included Pastors Geof Tio, Glenn Sta. Ana, Reggie Leach, Junie Lee, Ed Keys, Dr. Ricardo Graham, VicLouis Arreola III, and Jose Marin.



Paw Pley and Dr. David Row participate in a lively panel discussion.

“The Asian/Pacific and Refugee ministries are growing at a tremendous rate in the Arizona Conference,” said Keys. “I thank God for the vision of our leaders who work tirelessly to meet the needs of our refugee population and welcome them into our family of believers.”

Phil Draper

Milestone Summit Emphasizes Shared Mission for Pastors and Educators

Not a single parking space was left open on Thursday, Jan. 3, as more than 250 Central California Conference employees gathered at Mount Hermon Christian Conference Center for the Conference's Pastors & Educators Summit.

The 2017 summit, aimed at engendering and inspiring missional dialogue between educators and pastors, was the second of its kind. The first of this sort, held in 2015, began the conversation, offering collaborative brainstorming environments for teachers, principals, pastors and chaplains.

"The idea behind this joint 'workers' meeting' was to create a space in which our very valued ministers — both in our churches and in our classrooms — could come together to understand each other better and to forge a common path into the future," recalls Ramiro Cano, president of the Central California Conference.

Inspiration

Several key features marked the three-day event. Keynote speaker Paul Anderson addressed the very purpose of the gathering, peppering his morning and evening messages with profound, yet Tweet-able insights into the relationship between churches and schools. Anderson is a pastor

and a retired Navy chaplain who currently serves as director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries in the North American Division.

"It's important that problems not be solved individually or unilaterally," Anderson suggested. The former Naval officer referenced the experience of Old Testament prophet Elisha numerous times to build a case for collaborative leadership — the central message of the summit. Anderson also unpacked the value of mentorship by sharing several pivotal moments in his upbringing. "I am who I am because of Adventist teachers and Adventist preachers who poured into me," he recalled emotionally.

Anderson concluded with a familiar phrase that resonated with his audience: "Teamwork makes the dream work." The keynote speaker drove home the point that in spite of challenges facing both churches and schools, local leaders should strive for radical partnership in pursuing mission. "I think it's time for us to go for broke."

Intentional Dialogue

The 2017 summit differed from its predecessor in several ways. Among them was the introduction of breakout sessions designed around very specific conversations and hoped-for outcomes. Ron Rasmussen, Central's executive secretary, facilitated a seminar on practical collaboration

approaches. He encouraged pastors to spend quality time on school campuses and educators to participate in local churches. Rasmussen also challenged the ministry counterparts to spend time outside of official meetings, forming meaningful relationships that transcend professional settings.

On the other side of campus, Central's president facilitated a brainstorming session. All ideas were welcomed. Topics varied widely, from questions regarding employee benefits to discussions about ways to create safe environments for children in local churches. The session was similar to a constituency "open talk" breakout facilitated by David Hudgens, CCC vice president for Personnel and Human Resources. No questions were off the table. Attendees seized the moment, asking questions about the ordination of women to ministry, the isolation felt by members and leaders located at considerable distances from the conference office, and the challenge of retaining newly baptized members as active participants of the local church. "I applaud our pastors and



COSTIN JORDACHE

Collaboration starts with conversation.



Dr. Paul Anderson speaks from the heart.

educators for asking tough questions,” says Hudgens. “It gave us a chance to have some necessary and transparent conversations.”

Other breakout conversations included “Walking with God” with Pierre Steenberg, CCC ministerial director; “How to Encourage Each Other” with Vicky Lauritzen and “Self Care” with George Bronson, both CCC associate education superintendents; “Accessing Scholarships” by CCC treasurer Keith Scott; “Customer Service” with Steve Horton, CCC vice president for ministries; “Understanding Mission” with Costin Jordache, CCC vice president for communication; and several topics on Adventist Education with Elisa Kiddo, project director of CognitiveGenesis and director of the Center for Research on Adventist Education.

The inclusion of breakouts was an intentional move on Central’s part. “We sent out a survey asking both pastors and educators what their summit preferences would be,” explains Steenberg, event co-organizer. “We wanted to listen carefully to those who would come.” Survey results showed a desire for a variety of smaller, more intimate discussion environments. The seminars gave attendees a chance to choose a topic of interest and allowed presenters to engage more directly and intimately

with those in the audience. “This summit was not about us as organizers,” clarifies Ken Bullington, CCC vice president for education and event co-organizer. “It was all about them.”

A Memorable Gift

Considered by some as the apex of the event, Central’s leaders surprised all attendees with a special gift. On the closing day, Bullington and Steenberg — after building up significant anticipation — unveiled the present that each pastor and educator would take, or wear, home. Each ministry leader received a Garmin activity monitor, akin to the well-

TERRY CANTRELL



Breakouts offered smaller group interaction.

known Fitbit activity tracker. The smart device tracks an individual’s daily physical activity, including heart rate, while doubling as a watch. Activity amounts and patterns are tracked and reported via a smartphone application.

“We wanted to demonstrate a small amount of the incredible appreciation we have for our pastors and educators and for their ministries throughout Central,” says Rasmussen.

“In addition, we wanted to give them something to encourage and support a healthy lifestyle,” explains Bullington, who originally proposed the idea. The activity tracker was purchased at a bargain price by the Conference. The manufacturer significantly discounted the units, and the Pacific Health Educational Center also subsidized a portion of the cost. “The Garmin is a fantastic tool that allows us to live out our health message in a fun and practical way,” says Scott, who worked diligently to find funding for the gift.

TERRY CANTRELL



Pastors and educators celebrate collaboration with a high five.

A Commemorative Moment

Central's summit concluded with a pinning ceremony. The moment was intended to encapsulate the collaboration and partnership that educators and pastors had been hearing about since they arrived. The pin, custom designed by the conference staff, bore the theme of the event — Together As One. Pastors pinned educators. Educators pinned pastors.

Together they prayed. Some embraced. Others spent a few minutes connecting with someone who shared their passion for service and for lifting Christ up in their communities.

Showers of Blessing

The event was defined not just by memorable ministry experiences, but also by several days of incessant rain — a rare but welcomed phenomenon in drought-stricken Central California. Water-logged umbrellas, soggy hair, and soaked shoes drying by nearby heating vents were common sights. "At first it was a bit of a hassle," recalls George Johnson, assistant to the president. "Then I remembered the hundreds of prayers that I had whispered for rain. I started rejoicing!"

While torrents of rain are certainly an answer to prayer, Central leaders also pray for a different kind of rain. "We are asking God to unleash the rain of the Holy Spirit among our pastors and educators," concludes Cano. "We believe that amazing things are ahead of us in Central as the ministries of the local church and the local school come together to impact their members, students, and communities in a powerful way!"

COSTIN JORDACHE



Pastors and educators exchange pins.

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Register and find out more at LifeHopeCentersCentral.com

2017 AMEN Clinic Las Vegas Serves More Than 400 Guests

The Thomas & Mack Center at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, site of the final 2016 presidential debate, opened its doors to the public again Jan. 15-16, but this time for a different reason. Residents of Las Vegas were invited to attend a free medical, dental, and vision clinic hosted by the Adventist Medical Evangelism Network.

For two days preceding the clinic, people waited outside in line for hours, in spite of the cold weather. Inside, more than 150 volunteers from six Adventist churches in the Las Vegas area served the public.

In addition, a few days before the clinic, dentists Andrea Eslava, D.D.S., and Nick DeLisle, D.D.S., heard about the event and decided to participate, even though they are not members of an Adventist church. "Even though we just happened to learn about this clinic only three days earlier, we knew that we both had to volunteer," Eslava explained. "We love opportunities like this where we can serve people, and we are so grateful for the organizations who are hosting this event. We will definitely volunteer to do [dentistry] again in the future for these clinics."

In addition to medical and dental care, volunteers gave massages, offered Bible Studies, prayed with patients, and much more.

During the two-day clinic, more than 400 people were served, most of them deeply grateful to receive the medical care they desperately needed. Robert Oshiro heard about the clinic from a stack of flyers located at the Veteran's Administration hospital. His wife, Cherylin, found a clinic flyer on her car that same day. Both came to the clinic on the second day,

and Robert had several teeth pulled. "The VA refused to touch him even though Robert badly needed his teeth pulled," said Cherylin. "My husband and I are so grateful for what you did for us today."

A lifestyle coaching station near the exit featured THRIVE (Teach, Heal, Revive, Integrated, Volunteer, Evangelism) team members sharing NEWSTART principles with patients and encouraging them to adopt a healthier lifestyle. Exit surveys also offered Bible studies, prophecy seminars, health classes and much more. As a result, more than 65 people signed up for personal Bible studies, and over 110 registered for other health-related services.

Paradise church members have been following up on these leads.

At the clinic, volunteers also offered to pray with patients following their treatment. "Everyone I prayed with was appreciative and many were in tears afterwards," said volunteer Jean Gaddy.

Plans are underway for another AMEN clinic in the fall of 2017 in preparation for Breath of Life Ministries Director Dr. Carlton Byrd's city-wide evangelistic series. Several church members agreed that hosting the free medical, dental and vision clinic was a tremendous blessing for both the community and the Las Vegas Adventist churches. "I believe that this is what Jesus did when He was on earth," said Neat Randriamilison, associate pastor of the Paradise church. "I was blessed to be a part of this ministry event."

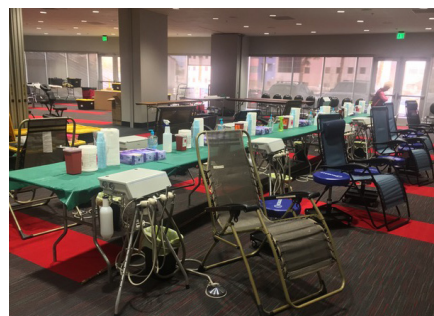
Sheela Nadarajan



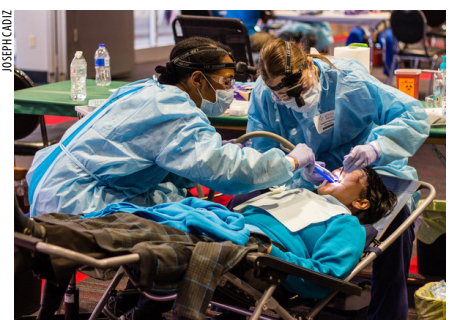
Volunteers of all ages participate and serve the community.



Daphne Alvarado (left), Jesse Morales (middle) and Karen Peterson (right) conduct health questionnaires and offer Bible studies to every patient.



The free dental clinic is ready to serve hundreds of patients.



Angella Figueroa, D.D.S. (right), conducts a dental exam on a patient with the help of her assistant.



Dr. Thorsen Haugen (left), an otolaryngologist, and his wife, Krimzen (right), a registered nurse, work together to provide relief to a patient.

Loma Linda University Medical Center CEO Receives Top Honor

Loma Linda University Medical Center CEO Kerry Heinrich, J.D., has been named one of the “135 Nonprofit Hospital and Health System CEOs to Know” by *Becker’s Hospital Review*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH



Kerry Heinrich, J.D., CEO, Loma Linda University Medical Center

“In the ever-changing world of health care,” says Loma Linda University Health President Richard H. Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., “it takes an individual with knowledge, patience, compassion and commitment to lead a hospital system to success, and that is exactly what Kerry Heinrich continues to do.”

Hart added, “Heinrich is dedicated to Loma Linda University Health and it shows in all that he does. I am honored to call him a colleague and a friend.”

After serving as interim CEO of LLUMC and LLU Children’s Hospital for nearly two months, Heinrich was named CEO of LLU Medical Center, Children’s Hospital and Behavioral Medicine Center in August 2014. An attorney, Heinrich joined Loma Linda University Health in 1984 and served on the legal counsel team. He previously served as partner at Schilt & Heinrich, LLP, a Loma Linda-based law firm.

“He has focused our team on transforming the care that we provide at Loma Linda through improved collaboration with our faculty physicians,” says Lyndon C. Edwards, MBA, MHS, senior vice president/administrator of Loma Linda University Medical Center adult services. “He has an acute focus on quality and reengineering operations through process improvement. Even in the midst of leading our expensive and complex campus transformation project, Kerry has kept our team focused on our primary objective of providing excellent care to patients.”

Becker’s Hospital Review has published a version of this list every year since 2012. Individuals on the list lead some of the largest, most successful and prominent nonprofit health care organizations in the country.

Briana Pastorino

Noreen Chan Tompkins Named Dean, School of Pharmacy

Noreen H. Chan Tompkins, Pharm.D., will lead the School of Pharmacy at Loma Linda University as its new dean. Her tenure began Jan. 3. She is the third dean of the school, which welcomed its first students in 2002.

Chan Tompkins is committed to leading an innovative curriculum revision to enhance Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy’s preeminence in California, as well as strengthening the school’s collaboration with Loma Linda University Medical Center.

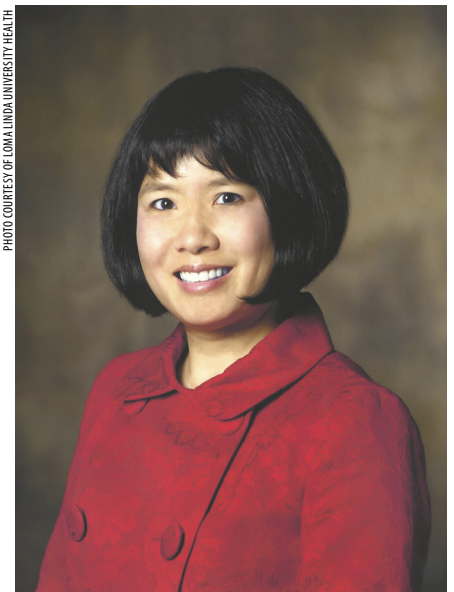
“I am delighted to have Dr. Chan Tompkins join the School of Pharmacy as dean,” says Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president, Loma Linda University Health. “Her extensive background in both research and clinical services will be a welcome addition to the school. Additionally, Noreen grew up in Loma Linda, so she is really coming home.”

Chan Tompkins brings 23 years of training as a clinical pharmacist and researcher, extensive experience as a preceptor and clinical instructor, and a significant publishing record.

Before graduating from the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy, Tompkins received her foundation completing the pre-pharmacy curriculum at Loma Linda University, at what was then the Riverside campus. Upon earning her doctorate, she completed her residency training at Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Provost Ron Carter, Ph.D., says, “This has been a year in the making, as we have been waiting for excellence — the ideal person to fill this role. Noreen’s credentials are perfect for our need, and we are excited to have her here.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH



Heather Reifsnnyder

Noreen H. Chan Tompkins, Pharm.D.



Adventist Health has been an integral part of the communities it serves, providing faith-based whole-person care for more than 100 years. As consumer expectations and the healthcare industry have changed and evolved, so has Adventist Health.

In January, Adventist Health announced the next chapter in its story. Its new brand direction will be shared across the entire health system, and includes an expanded mission statement and core values that support the organization's vision of transforming the health experience, outcomes and status of its communities.

The mission statement, "Living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope," broadens the organization's focus from solely caring for the sick to helping communities be healthier. It reflects a heritage of providing physical, mental and spiritual care and compels the breakdown of the walls of a traditional health system and extends its reach more deeply into the community.

In addition to its expanded mission, Adventist Health is introducing a new visual identity that represents the spirituality and fresh optimism of the organization. The tagline, "Together inspired," speaks to their coming together with the communities they serve and the power that connection will have to move their neighbors toward a healthier life.

"While it's true that we are changing the way we look, the true meaning of the Adventist Health brand is defined and delivered every day through the actions and interactions of our people," says Scott Reiner, CEO. "We have the best people in the industry."

Jenni Glass

Adventist Health

Together inspired™

Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 75 communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington.

Their workforce of 32,900 includes more than 23,600 employees; nearly 5,000 medical staff physicians; and 4,350 volunteers.

Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 20 hospitals, more than 260 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 15 home care agencies, seven hospice agencies and four joint-venture retirement centers.

In addition, the Adventist Health Plan serves patients in Kings County. Visit AdventistHealth.org for more information.

La Sierra Archaeology Center Director to Lead Jordan Museum Development

On Jan. 10, in the offices of an international archaeology organization in Jordan, La Sierra University's Center for Near Eastern Archaeology Director Doug Clark penned his signature on a grant that will launch development of a long-planned, state-of-the-art museum in the ancient Jordanian town of Madaba.

Clark will lead a multi-national team of archaeologists and antiquities officials from the United States, Italy and Jordan to further preserve Jordan's rich, cultural past with the creation of the Madaba Regional Archaeological Museum and the Madaba Archaeological Park West. The new structure will be located cross the street from the famous St. George's Church, whose floor is inlaid with a mosaic Holy Land map. The museum will showcase the region's monuments, dating from all time periods, especially the Roman-Ottoman periods between the 2nd and 19th centuries.

The museum will also house exhibits from numerous excavations in the broader region, including those headed by La Sierra University. At least 13 dig sites, including Jalul, Hisban, Ataruz and 'Umayri, where La Sierra archaeologists have worked for decades, have unearthed tens of thousands of artifacts and remains through the Iron Age periods. These artifacts have been stored in an aging museum far removed from the center of town.

The \$117,232 grant is provided via the Sustainable Cultural Heritage Through Engagement of Local Communities Project, or SCHEP, which

is a program of the U.S. Agency for International Development, or USAID. SCHEP is based out of the American Center for Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan, where the grant document was signed by Clark and SCHEP Chief of Party Nizar Al Adarbeh.

The SCHEP grant will cover costs for activities taking place between January 2017 and March 2018, including clearing and cleaning a series of Ottoman houses dating from the 1880s, removing trees and foliage from the museum site, creating and maintaining a

collections database, designing a website and logo, hiring and training staff, and finalizing architectural plans.

Existing museum buildings will be renovated and used for artifact storage and research activities.

"There are several houses which were built by Christians arriving from Karak to the south following a long abandonment of Madaba," Clark said. "The Ottoman houses will form the ground floor of the new museum, which will be built on pillars above these remains. The upper story, or stories, will house remains from the earlier periods in the Madaba region." These will include some artifacts from La Sierra's seasonal excavation at 'Umayri this past summer, which Clark directed.

The new museum project also represents an opportunity for La Sierra students and recent graduates who, this May, will help complete the clearing of the Ottoman houses and prepare the site for the professional restorers and architects.

The museum in Madaba, a city about 18.5 miles southwest of Jordan's capital city of Amman, resides in archaeological regions well known to Clark and his team. Clark, who holds a degree in Hebrew Bible and Old Testament studies from Vanderbilt University, has been involved in archaeological excavations in Jordan since 1973 when he began as a volunteer at Tall Hisban. In 1984, he joined La Sierra archaeologist Larry Geraty at the Tall al-'Umayri site.

In 1987, Clark became the consortium director for the Madaba Plains Project, then 'Umayri co-field director, followed by director in 2010. In the early 2000s, he was tapped by a former Jordan Department of Antiquities director to help digitize the archives of the existing museum in Madaba and train museum staff. Following that appointment, Clark met several times with a group of archaeologists, artists and scholars, including representatives from Jordan's Department of Antiquities and Ministry of Tourism, to hash out ways of better preserving the nation's extensive history and rich cultural heritage, Clark told The Jordan Times in Amman. The idea for a new, centrally-located museum took shape.

The Madaba region is rich in biblical history. "Madaba is mentioned numerous times in the Old Testament, beginning with the entry of Israel into the region following the Exodus. Sometimes it is listed as part of Moabite territory and sometimes as Ammonite," Clark said. "It was valued in particular because it commanded and controlled a huge area of agricultural land surrounding it, the Madaba Plains. Everyone wanted a piece of this economically rich pie. The city is often mentioned in conjunction with Heshbon (Hisban), and shows up several times in history and prophetic books in the Old Testament.

Biblical archaeology contributes to the recreation of biblical times and culture, informing our reading of the Bible and providing an essential component of Bible study, if we want to understand and appreciate the Bible in its original context," said Clark.

Darla Martin Tucker

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY



La Sierra University Center for Near Eastern Archaeology Director Doug Clark (left) signs a \$117,232 grant to develop a new museum in Madaba, Jordan. Also signing the grant document is Nizar Al Adarbeh, Chief of Party for the Sustainable Cultural Heritage Through Engagement of Local Communities Project, or SCHEP, a USAID program.

MARILENE THOMSEN



Kristina Reed (left), archaeologist and assistant curator of La Sierra's Center for Near Eastern Archaeology, and Bernina Ninow work at the Tall al-'Umayri dig site near Amman, Jordan, last summer.

PUC Physics Experiment Sees the Universe in a Beam of Ions

There's a little keypad-secured room in Pacific Union College's Chan Shun Hall where you have to raise your voice to be heard over the sci-fi-ish hum of a vacuum-sealed ion beam chamber.

The experiment is similar to the cutting-edge research being conducted at prestigious labs like Lawrence Livermore in the Bay Area and Oak Ridge in Tennessee. The fact that it's happening at a small liberal arts college in the Napa Valley is a sign of professor Vola Andrianarijaona's determination to prove that PUC can play in the big leagues of experimental particle physics.

"It's incredible to go to a lab or a conference, see someone from MIT or Yale, and be able to talk to them as peers, not as students from some small school in the Napa Valley," said biophysics major Charles De Guzman, who said Andrianarijaona's research was one of the things that drew him to PUC.

The department's experimental equipment was paid for by a \$170,000 grant Andrianarijaona — known as Dr. Vola — received from the National Science Foundation. Competing with large, research-focused universities, PUC's grant application was one of only five out of about 800 to receive full funding. Vola believes there are a few reasons the college received the grant: the racial and gender diversity of the students who would be doing the research, the apparatus' portability, which allows it to be used at other labs, and the experiment's multidisciplinary appeal to non-physics students who are studying medicine at the molecular level.

Although Vola was too modest to say so, his department chair, Steve Waters, said Vola's reputation was also a factor in PUC's tiny physics program punching above its weight class.

"We have some really prestigious professors here," Waters said, pointing to Vola, who has also worked at the Universite Catholique de Louvain in Belgium, the Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics in Germany, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"There are other departments that are doing research, but not with the same kind of funding and not on the world stage like this," Waters said.

The NSF grants — this is the second one obtained by Vola — have enabled PUC to collaborate with Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where PUC physics major Dmytro Panchenko spends a lot of his time. At those labs, PUC students have access to experiments and scientists that most liberal-arts college undergrads could only dream of working with.

"Dr. Vola is very active in engaging students in the department," Panchenko said. "He could have done all of this by himself much quicker and much better, but he wants to give us experience that's otherwise unavailable. Even in bigger schools it's often difficult to find research because undergraduates are really not wanted."

Like a lot of modern physics experiments, this one involves smashing tiny particles together and seeing what happens.

As physics major Aaron Watson explained, vaporized sodium is shot into a beam of H_2^+ hydrogen ions, which consist of two protons and one electron. The goal of the experiment, which has major implications for everything from fighting cancer to understanding comets, is to measure the energy

level of the hydrogen beam.

When the vaporized sodium hits the hydrogen ions, the sodium gives off electrons and one of two things happens to the ions: They either stay together in one molecule of H_2 , which

isn't very interesting, or separate into two neutral H particles, which is what the researchers are really after. Neutral H particles are plentiful in space but very rare on Earth, where hydrogen atoms are usually combined with another type of atom such as oxygen (H_2O).

When neutral H particles are formed during the collision, they shoot off in different directions and hit a pair of offset sensors. The time lag between particle #1 hitting sensor #1 and particle #2 hitting the slightly-further-away sensor #2 reveals the vibrational state (and therefore the temperature) of the original ions.

Thanks to the weird fluctuations of quantum mechanics, the energy reading isn't the same for every collision, so the experiment is repeated many thousands of times. Students plot each energy reading on a graph and use statistical analysis to study the results.

Building what amounts to a high-tech, amazingly expensive thermometer is fun, but the data that comes out of the experiment has practical implications. De Guzman is interested in the experiment's data because the breakdown of the hydrogen ions is remarkably similar to the way cancer breaks down strands of DNA. Figuring out exactly how that process works might eventually help doctors interfere with it.

"We're understanding biological phenomena through a physics lens," said De Guzman, who's bound for medical school next year.

The experiment also mimics the way solar wind ions emanated by the sun and other stars interact with passing comets to form the comets' colorful "tails," a subject that fascinates astronomers and astrophysicists.

"Astronomers can't go out and touch those objects," but studying similar interactions in the lab can reveal what happens in space, Panchenko said.

The NSF grant funds the equipment and enables PUC's physics program to work with major research labs, but Vola wants to raise another \$15,000 or so to cover some minor renovations in the little room that houses the equipment, as well as allow his students to attend physics conferences where they can share their work and see what other physicists are doing.

"At these conferences there will often be one or two Nobel Prize recipients," Vola said. "Nobody wants to miss that."



Dr. Waters and Dr. Vola in the physics lab at PUC.

Jesse Duarte

This article originally appeared in *The St. Helena Star*.

Know Your Neighbor, March 4-5

The Church State Council is co-sponsoring what we hope will be only the first of many “Know Your Neighbor” events at the Phoenix Camelback church in early March. The “Know Your Neighbor” concept was first introduced in New York by the Sikh Coalition as a way to address the widespread ignorance that confused Sikhs with Muslims and led to a spate of hate crimes against members of the Sikh community. It was designed to combat religious intolerance through friendship. We tend to fear what or who we don’t know.

The event is not designed as a proselytizing opportunity to convert others or debate

religious beliefs. Instead, it is a time to get better acquainted and to learn about one or more faith communities we know little about. We need to understand how others experience life in America and to search for ways we can work together to better serve our communities.

The more we get to know our neighbors, the less we will succumb to fear and stereotypes. We will better be able to heed the message of Jesus in Matthew 25 — that we must learn to see Jesus in those who are different. Surely we cannot heed the biblical injunction to “love our neighbor as ourselves” if we don’t even know our neighbor!

We are grateful to Kingsley Palmer for his leadership at the Arizona Conference in co-sponsoring this event. We hope other churches around the Pacific Union will be inspired to host similar events, inviting leaders of other faiths for a get-acquainted discussion.

For more information on how your church can sponsor a “Know Your Neighbor” event, contact neva@churchstate.org or call 916-446-2552.

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.
Director of the Pacific Union
Church State Council*

Religious Freedom in the Trump Era

Progressives and religious minorities are reeling in shock from the election of Donald Trump as president of the United States. But his election also presents abundant opportunities for Adventist churches to make a difference. Civil society and faith groups understand that the rights and values they cherish are likely to be abandoned by Washington. Therefore, they are redoubling efforts to build alliances at the community level and focusing on community outreach.

Among the key issues are violence and discrimination against religious minorities, such as Muslims and Sikhs, and the rise of anti-Semitism. This is a natural point of connection for Seventh-day Adventists. We espouse religious freedom for all, and our religious liberty ministry has always worked toward that end.

Today, as minority groups fear the worst, they are much more open to making new friends and allies. Seventh-day Adventists cannot condone such activities as FBI infiltration and monitoring of houses of worship, mass registration or persecution of immigrants on the basis of religion or national origin, defacing houses of worship, workplace harassment of religious minorities, or stereotyping members of a religious community as terrorists. These are all very real problems.

Adventist churches are encouraged to sponsor programs for the community that bring together diverse faith communities to build new friendships and alliances, to foster greater understanding of the challenges faced by each community, and to stand together against religious bigotry, intolerance and discrimination.

It is important to understand the difference between ecumenical work, which Adventists do not encourage, and interfaith work, in which we vigorously participate. Ecumenical work requires minimizing religious differences, which we must not do. Interfaith work recognizes that faith distinctions are important and the very basis for protecting religious freedom. We protect religious freedom because we respect one another’s differences, even when we disagree. So when we bring diverse faiths together, we don’t compromise our own beliefs. Instead, such efforts puts

skin and bones on the gospel message of God’s love for all humanity, and the reality of Christ’s death for all, not just the elect.

Clergy associations that are not restricted to Christian pastors are an excellent place to begin. Reach out to the local Rabbi, the Imam, the Hindu priest, the Sikh community. Organize programs to combat intolerance and discrimination in your community.

Don’t overlook the reality that religious intolerance is an even enormous problem within the Adventist community. There is much hostility toward Muslims and other faiths in our own churches. One of the best ways to overcome such hostility and intolerance is to make those you fear into your friends. When we get to know our Muslim neighbors, and realize they share many of the same values and concerns as we do, it will be impossible to cling to stereotyped beliefs.

Remember too that Christ’s method alone is the secret of success. He mingled among men as one who desired their good, ministered to their needs and won their confidence. We can and must follow His example.



Alan J. Reinach, Esq.

CALENDARS

Arizona

PUBLIC AFFAIRS & RELIGIOUS
Liberty Workshop (March 4-5) 9:30 a.m. Camelback church, 5902 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix. Speakers: Dr. James Standish, Edward Woods III, Fabian Carballo. Info: 602-991-6777, ext. 112/3.

INDIAN FAIR & MARKET (March 5) 9 a.m. Desert Cove church, 12400 W. Desert Cove Road, El Mirage. Seniors and others are invited to the 59th annual event, Heard Museum. Admission is \$20 for adults/free under 17. Ride share available from the church, contact Ruth Neff, rthneff1@gmail.com.

MEN'S MINISTRY PRAYER BREAKFAST (March 5) 9 a.m. Tucson Sharon church, 955 N. 10th Ave., Tucson. Theme: "To know God and make Him known." Featured speaker, Pastor Lee Venden, topic for the day is "Get Connected."

CONFERENCE PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE (March 4) Arizona Conference Office, 13405 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale. Info: 480-991-6777, ext. 125, or esaravia@azconference.org.

WOMEN'S MINI RETREAT (March 12) 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Paradise Valley church, 2727 E. Cactus Rd., Phoenix. "Trust & Hope in a Time of Uncertainty;" a one-day retreat for ladies of all ages! Guest speaker, Pastor Alicia Johnston. Registration: \$35 through March 6; \$50 at the door. Continental breakfast and lunch included. Info: azsdawomen.weebly.com; azsdawomen@gmail.com.

PATHFINDER FAIR (March 12) Phoenix Monte Vista Spanish church, 903 E. Baseline Rd., Phoenix. Info: 480-991-6777, ext. 125, or esaravia@azconference.org.

YOUTH RETREAT (March 17-19) Camp Yavapines, 2999 Iron Springs Rd., Prescott. Speaker: Jose Rojas. Info: 480-991-6777, ext. 125, or esaravia@azconference.org.

HISPANIC MEN'S RETREAT (March 17-19) Camp Yavapines, 2999 Iron Springs Rd., Prescott. Info: 480-991-6777, ext. 117, or gcorella@azconference.org.

Central California

PRAYER CONFERENCE (March 3-4) Fresno Adventist Academy featuring Pastor Dwight Nelson. Info: 559-696-3692.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT (March 3-5) Tenaya Lodge. Info: 559-347-3144.

AFRICAN AMERICAN-SPONSORED TEEN RETREAT (March 10-12) Camp Wawona, featuring David Solomon Hall. Info: 3acteenretreat.wordpress.com.

CHILDREN'S EVANGELISM & VBX WORKSHOP (March 11, 18) CCC office and Mountain View Central church. Register at cccchildren.adventistfaith.org.

PATHFINDER BIKE-A-THON (April 7-9) Castle Air Force Base. Info: 559-347-3174.

SINGLES RETREAT (April 28-30) CCC campus. Info: cccsingles@adventistfaith.com or 903-594-8868.

Hawaii

COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP (April 9) Training for local church communication officers/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

ACADEMY OF VISUAL and Performing Arts accepting applicants for its youth chorus (grades 3-12). Under the leadership director Joel Punay, the chorus will perform in June at New York City's Carnegie Hall and at community outreach concerts in the Riverside area. Register/audition by 3/31. Info: 951-785-2086 or avpa@lasierra.edu.

OPERA AT LA SIERRA PRESENTS "HANSEL AND GRETEL" (March 2, 4) 7 p.m., (March 5) 3 p.m., with composition by Engelbert Humperdinck and a libretto by Adelheid Wette, directed by LSU Orchestra Conductor Dean Anderson; Hole Memorial Auditorium. Admission \$15. Info: 951-785-2036, music@lasierra.edu, music-events.lasierra.edu.

BRANDSTATER GALLERY PRESENTS Award-winning Bulgarian artist Vasil Kolev-Vassillo (Feb. 21-March 16) The show, titled "Penetration — My Houses," has been exhibited internationally. An artist's talk and reception (March 12) 6-8 p.m. Free. Info: 951-785-2170.

Northern California

LEADING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO HEAVEN: SPANISH (March 5) 3 p.m. Sacramento-area location. Family, children's ministry, Sabbath school and VBS training. Info: nccsda.com/LeadingChildrentoHeaven.

NCC PRAYER RETREAT (March 10-12) Leoni Meadows. Speaker Debleaire K. Snell. Programs for children and youth. Info: nccsda.com/prayerretreat.

LEADING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO HEAVEN (March 11) 3 p.m. Redding church, 2828 Eureka Way. Family, children's ministry, Sabbath school and VBS training. Info: nccsda.com/LeadingChildrentoHeaven.

PARADISE ADVENTIST ACADEMY (March 10-12) Alumni Homecoming. Honor classes ending in "2" and "7." All former PJA/PAS/PAA students and staff invited: Friday Meet & Greet, Sabbath school, church service with Molly Simas Canfield, '97, potluck dinner, class reunions, Sunday fundraiser farewell breakfast. Info: Linda Corbit, 530-877-9610; Ethel Watts, 530-876-4107.

CAMPION ACADEMY MEETING (March 12) Northern California Chapter. 4:30 p.m. The Old Spaghetti Factory, 731 Sunrise Avenue, Roseville. Shake hands with new Principal Don Reeder. Make new friends and catch up on news with long-time friends. Dinner is available.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER (March 17-19) Sacramento area. Call or email to reserve your space or ask questions. Info: Rob & Debbie Purvis, 916-599-5560 (text ok) or purvis4@comcast.net.

MODESTO PRAISE VESPERS (March 18) 4:30 p.m. Men's chorus. Lodi English Oaks church, 1260 Century Blvd. Info: 209-369-1021.

SINGLES' GREEN PARTY (March 18) 6 p.m. Lodi English Oaks church fellowship hall, 1260 Century Blvd. All singles invited! Meet and greet. Wear green. Bring green food, ready to serve. Info: mdybdahl7@gmail.com.

RETIRO DE DAMAS (March 24-26) Leoni Meadows. Hispanic women's retreat. "Araigadas en Cristo." Info: nccsda.com/retirodedamas, Cynthia. Marin@nccsda.com, 925-603-5057.

LEADING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO HEAVEN (April 1) 3 p.m. Eureka church, 4251 F. Street. Family, children's ministry, Sabbath school and VBS training. Info: nccsda.com/LeadingChildrentoHeaven.

Southeastern California

LIVING GENEROUSLY: A COMMITMENT AND STEWARDSHIP EVENT (March 5) 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Zapara School of Business, La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Pkwy., Riverside. "Living Generously" is a SECC/NAD-sponsored event for all commitment and stewardship directors, pastors and members interested in living generously. Info: www.livinggenerously.eventbrite.com.

36TH ANNUAL ADVANCED HANDBELL FESTIVAL CONCERT (March 10) 7 p.m. La Sierra University

Alumni Pavillion, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside. Info: David Longa, 951-509-2321.

MISSION 5K RUN (March 12) Check-in: 7 a.m.; race: 8 a.m. Look for signs at Evans Rd. and Marigold Dr., Perris, Calif. Perris Spanish church Adventist education scholarship fundraiser. Info: perrisspanish.com/5k.html.

VBX WORKSHOP TRAINING (March 19) 8 a.m., Loma Linda Indonesian church, 10827 California St., Redlands. Register at seccyouth.com. Info: Liz Adams, 951-509-2260.

Southern California

2017 NAD WOMAN'S DAY OF PRAYER (March 4) "Passionate Prayers and Fearless Faith," 4-6 p.m. SCC Women's and Prayer Ministries invite men, women and children to share in the experience of prayer and praise for our families, churches and world. Vallejo Drive Youth Chapel, 300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale 91206. Info: 818-246-2476.

BREATH OF LIFE FASHION SHOW (March 18) 7 p.m. Breath of Life church Women's Ministry presents an Art, Fashion and Community Fashion Show, The Huffington Center, 1324 Normandie Ave., Los Angeles 90006. Info: 310-674-4061.

AMEN COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC (March 19, 20) 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free services include dental, eye exams/glasses, nutrition counseling, Veterans' Benefits 101, family/individual portraits, lifestyle counseling. Downey church, 9820 Lakewood Blvd. Co-sponsors, Adventist Medical Evangelism Network (www.amenSDA.org) and L.A. Metro Region. Info: FreeHealthClinix@gmail.com or www.FreeHealthClinix.com.

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Bulletin Board

ADVENTIST BOOKS: Looking for NEW Adventist titles to encourage and grow your daily walk? Visit us at www.TEACH-Services.com. For USED Adventist books visit www.LNFBooks.com. AUTHORS: If you're interested in having your book published, call 800-367-1844 for a free evaluation.

Employment

ADVENTIST MEDIA CENTER in Riverside, Calif., seeks an individual for a combined administrative assistant/technical support role (50/50). This is a full time, entry-level role, good for those with little technical skills who want to learn. For more info about AMC and the position, visit www.adventistmediacenter.com.

ADVENTIST MEDIA MINISTRIES treasury department is seeking a full time Payroll Accountant. A minimum of a bachelor's degree in accounting is required and two years of experience is preferred. Our offices are in the Riverside area of Calif. Please contact the Human Resources department at 805-955-7715 or hr@sdamedia.com or you may visit www.adventistmediacenter.com/article/46/employment/jobline for more information.

FRESNO ADVENTIST ACADEMY is seeking a full time principal to oversee the curriculum, instruction, facilities, and financial operations of the school's K-12 program. Candidates should be committed members of the Seventh-day Adventist church, have a passion for discipleship and possess a master's degree and current NAD administrative credential. Preference will be given for candidates with previous successful administrative experience. Position is open now until filled. Qualified candidates should send résumé to the Central California Conference Education Department at gbronson@cccsda.org.

M.D. & MID-LEVEL PRACTITIONERS wanted for our growing mental health clinic. Located in Northern California where there are beautiful outdoor escapes that would be ideal for an adventurous soul. Our company is family-oriented, offers competitive

benefits package, and flexible schedules. If interested, please call 530-226-7419 and ask for Blake.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S Nursing Department seeks a full-time nurse educator. Doctorate desired; MSN considered. Experience in mental health, medical/surgical or pediatrics preferred. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal (arosen@swau.edu).

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE of SDAs Office of General Counsel is seeking a law student for an 8-10 week summer clerkship. This position is not a full-time, hire-track position and is best suited for 1Ls. Duties include legal research and other projects, emphasis is on religious liberty and First Amendment work. Must be SDA church member. Interview and/or relocation expenses will be applicant's responsibility. Send résumé, writing sample, and transcript to Jennifer Woods at WoodsJ@gc.adventist.org.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY has two faculty openings in the School of Education and Psychology. For details and to apply, please visit: jobs.wallawalla.edu. We invite you to share this announcement as you deem appropriate. To learn more

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Filmed **LIVE** at the Oakwood University Seventh-day Adventist Church

This special, which was aired on ABC in 2016, will now be shown on NBC in 2017! "The Rising" includes an Easter message from Dr. Carlton P. Byrd, Speaker/Director of the Breath of Life Television Ministry and Senior Pastor of the Oakwood University Church in Huntsville, Alabama, along with music by Grammy Award winning vocalist, CeCe Winans; violinist, Jaime Jorge; and the internationally renowned Oakwood University Aeolians Concert Choir.

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Advertisements

about Walla Walla University, please visit: wallawalla.edu.

Events

6-DAY NATURAL REMEDIES & Hydrotherapy Workshop (July 31-Aug. 5) Andrews University. Details: Andrews.edu/go/nrhw, janinec@andrews.edu or 269-471-3541.

For Sale

REMNANT PUBLICATIONS has the perfect Study Bible that will enhance personal devotions for both adults and children. We can also provide you with sharing books, pocketbooks and DVDs to help you reach your community with the gospel. Visit your ABC or www.remnant-publications.com or call 800-423-1319 for a free catalog.

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END-OF-TIME REFUGE or just for your own retirement! Mixture of meadows and woods with a variety of trees on 95 acres on a beautiful and peaceful end-of-road location with wooded, undeveloped and public lands on three sides. Gardener's paradise with open spaces, great south (and sun) exposure even in the winter. Irrigation water to spare. Live off the land and what it can produce. Artesian

well produces 25 gpm. Excellent year around spring. Beautiful custom home, 4-bdrm, 4-bath (3,680 sq. ft.) with an oversize 2-car garage, mud room and great east views; a fully self-contained guest house; a workshop; a storage shed; and an RV site with full hookups. The main house features a bright open floor plan with both a living room and a family room, 2-master suites, a very large root cellar, a wood stove, a wood cook stove, a back-up generator, and much, much more. Grounds are nicely landscaped and irrigated. Located near Inchelium in NE Washington close to Lake Roosevelt and just 20+ miles from Kettle Falls. Price \$750,000. Contact Jim, 503-871-3344. Partial owner financing may be a possibility.

FOR SALE BY OWNER. 1,900 sq. ft. manufactured home located in Lake Ridge Mobile Home Park, a Seventh-day Adventist community. Beautiful 3-bdrm, 2-bath with multiple upgraded features in kitchen and laundry room plus recent "addition" off living room ideal for an office or craft room. Great location. Gated back yard has grass and 2 storage sheds. 55+ community with clubhouse and swimming pool. Please contact Albert or Tritia Humphrey at 310-650-6952.

INTERESTED IN OPENING a health retreat in California. Looking to buy or rent a house in the country. Prefer a temperate climate. Contact naturopath@protonmail.com or call 530-717-7708

Reunions

110TH JOHN NEVINS ANDREWS School Anniversary Celebration (April 1) Takoma Park Church and at JNA, 117 Elm Ave. Takoma Park, Md. Registration, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:15 a.m.; Fellowship Luncheon, 2:30 p.m. Class reunions, JNA school tours, 4:30 p.m. Musical Concert and JNA memories, Supper, Alumni Basketball Game. RSVP mrevollo@jna.org, 301-270-1400. Last anniversary & alumni celebration before school closes and moves to the new Takoma Academy Preparatory School site. Info: Facebook - John Nevins Andrews School Alumni and Friends.

OKLAHOMA ACADEMY "Academy Days." If you are a student who is serious about your walk with the Lord and His mission for your life, Oklahoma Academy may be just right for you. Come (March 31-April 2) for our Academy Days weekend and find out. Call 405-454-6211 to make your reservations today! Also visit www.oklahomaacademy.org.

CAMPION ACADEMY ALUMNI Northern California Chapter meeting (March 11) 4:30 p.m. Shake hands with the new Principal Don Reeder, The Old Spaghetti Factory, 731 Sunrise Ave., Roseville, Calif. Dinner is available.

CAMPION ACADEMY ALUMNI Southern California Chapter meeting (March 12) 6 p.m. Shake hands with the new Principal

Don Reeder, Double Tree Hotel, 285 East Hospitality Lane, San Bernardino, Calif. Enjoy making new friends and catching up on news with long-time friends. Complimentary dinner served.

Vacation Opportunities

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SUNRIVER, CENTRAL OREGON. Four-bedroom vacation home on the North Woodlands golf course. Two master king suites, two queens one bunk set, hot tub, loft, Jacuzzi bath, gas log fireplace, BBQ, W/D, bikes, all resort amenities, sleeps 10, no smoking, no pets. For rates, photos and reservations call: 541-279-9553, or email schultz@crestviewcable.com.

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AT REST

AKRAWI, HIAM (HASSO) – b. Nov. 29, 1937, Baghdad, Iraq; d. Jan. 13, 2017, Portland, Ore. Survivors: sons, Ray, Randy; five grandchildren; brother, Daniel Hasso; sisters, Samira Fargo, Eppy Green. Taught at Willows Adventist Academy and Napa Adventist Junior Academy.

AMUNDSON, LOLA – b. May 16, 1919, Linton, N.D.; d. Jan. 17, 2017, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Gary; daughter, Susan Clark; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

CANALES, MISTY (ARMSTRONG) – b. Jan. 2, 1961, Wenatchee, Wash.; d. Sept. 17, 2016, Coalinga, Calif. Survivors: son, Seth Cardenas; daughters, Ashley Jones, Kate Silverstein; eight grandchildren.

DAVIS, JANE – b. Feb. 20, 1959, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Dec. 22, 2016, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: husband, Greg; sons, Dallas, Drew, Dustin; daughter, Danae.

FONG, RACHEL MAY (JACABAN) – b. May 28, 1940, Sacramento, Calif.; d. Jan. 6, 2017, Woodland, Calif. Survivors: son, Wayne; daughters, Carol Sandoval, Brenda Loera; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

HEISLER, BARBARA MARGARET (ALDERSON) – b. July 10, 1935, Walla Walla, Wash.; d. Jan. 1, 2017, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, William; sons, W. Scott, Barry Martin, Bradley Paul; daughter, Susan Heisler Lewis. Taught kindergarten for 30 years and initiated the kindergarten program at Redlands Adventist Academy in 1981.

HOILAND, SCOT – b. May 28, 1945, San Francisco, Calif.; d. Dec. 1, 2016, Chico, Calif. Survivors: wife, Jaclyn; stepson, Dan Seward.

HOLST, ALICE L. – b. July 22, 1915, Kingston, Jamaica; d. Dec. 4, 2016, Angwin, Calif. Survivors: brothers, Bob, Leonard. Taught at Broadview Academy, Atlantic Union College, Pacific Union College, Napa High School.

JULER, VIRGIL KENNETH – b. Dec. 13, 1921, Visalia, Calif.; d. Nov. 20, 2016, St. Helena, Calif. Survivors: sons, Melvin, R. David; daughter, Delores Sticht; three grandchildren. Served on staff at Arizona Academy, San Pasqual Academy, Calexico Mission School, Pacific Union College.

KAYMAZ, GEORGE Z. – b. Dec. 31, 1925, Turkey; d. Jan. 18, 2017, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Ailene Lamia Brown; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

KING, DERRY – b. Oct. 18, 1946, Saint Louis, Mo.; d. Jan. 11, 2017, Santa

Barbara, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Alissa, Fara Haas; three grandchildren.

LILLEY, PHILLIP – b. Jan. 26, 1939, Oklahoma City, Okla.; d. Sept. 13, 2106, Porterville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Ann; sons, Brad, Timothy, Chris Klebba; daughters, Laura Coles, Karen Brown; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

LIVINGSTON, EVERETTE LEROY – b. May 8, 1923, Kansas City, Kan.; d. Jan. 7, 2017, Auburn, Calif. Survivors: wife, Rose Mary.

LOGAN, JAMES – b. June 11, 1935, Crescent City, Calif.; d. Nov. 9, 2016, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: wife, Ida Jane; sons, James, Alan; daughter, Jane Lorenz; 14 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

LOZENSKY, EDWIN – b. Oct. 6, 1921, Minot, N.D.; d. Dec. 7, 2016, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: son, Michael; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; five great-great grandchildren.

MOORS, WILLIAM M. – b. Feb. 23, 1941, Boston, Mass.; d. Dec. 24, 2016, Vacaville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Cynthia; son, Bryant; daughters, Celeste, Rhonda; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Served as a pastor, worked with Christian Record Braille Foundation, founded His Second Touch

Prison Ministry, served as chaplain at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville.

ORTNER, RICHARD – b. Nov. 25, 1952, Santa Rosa, Calif.; d. Dec. 16, 2016, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: parents, Lester and Betty Ortner; sister, Judy.

PONCIONI, PAMELA – b. May 29, 1945, Sacramento, Calif.; d. April 15, 2016, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: sister, Sharon Baldwin; nieces and nephews.

STUART DEDERER, ANN YVETTE (DARNELL) – b. Dec. 16, 1941, Caspar, Wyo.; d. July 31, 2016, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: son, Steven Bartley; daughters, Tami Smith, Tracie Cross; stepsons, David Stuart, Dale Stuart; stepdaughter, Carolyn Stuart; 11 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; mother, Nona Barrett; brother, Dean Darnell. Served as a nurse, working at Loma Linda University Medical Center, as well as in Riverside and Redding.

WILSON, GRANVILLE GENE – b. June 10, 1930, Sacramento, Calif.; d. Jan. 16, 2017, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Blanche; sons, Rodney, Barry, Daniel; daughters, Della Davenport, Diane Johnson; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren. Dr. Wilson spent 46 years serving the Navajo as a dentist/orthodontist in Chinle, Ariz., and Monument Valley, Utah.

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



SUNSETS

	3/3	3/10	3/17	3/24	3/31
Alturas	5:56	6:04	7:12	7:20	7:27
Angwin	6:06	6:13	7:20	7:26	7:33
Calexico	5:42	5:47	6:52	6:57	7:02
Chico	6:03	6:10	7:17	7:24	7:31
Eureka	6:11	6:19	7:26	7:34	7:41
Fresno	5:56	6:03	7:09	7:15	7:21
Hilo	6:27	6:29	6:31	6:33	6:35
Honolulu	6:37	6:39	6:41	6:44	6:46
Las Vegas	5:38	5:44	6:51	6:57	7:02
Lodi	6:01	6:08	7:15	7:22	7:28
Loma Linda	5:48	5:53	6:59	7:04	7:10
Los Angeles	5:52	5:58	7:03	7:09	7:14
Moab	6:13	6:20	7:27	7:34	7:40
Oakland	6:05	6:12	7:19	7:25	7:31
Phoenix	6:27	6:32	6:38	6:43	6:48
Reno	5:55	6:02	7:09	7:16	7:23
Riverside	5:48	5:54	7:00	7:05	7:10
Sacramento	6:02	6:09	7:16	7:22	7:29
Salt Lake City	6:22	6:30	7:37	7:45	7:52
San Diego	5:48	5:53	6:58	7:03	7:08
San Francisco	6:06	6:13	7:20	7:26	7:32
San Jose	6:04	6:11	7:17	7:24	7:30
Tucson	6:23	6:28	6:33	6:38	6:43

YOUNG, ADRIENNE E. – b. Oct. 11, 1938, Arcata, Calif.; d. Jan. 15, 2017, Palo Cedro, Calif. Survivors: husband, Harry; sons, Michael, Mark, Marlon; daughter, Marla; two grandchildren; sister, Annette.

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