

PACIFIC UNION

Recorder

SEPTEMBER 2017

Heirs of the
Reformation

1517-2017



A Monk
with a
Hammer

5

Festival of the Reformation, Sept. 16, SEE AD P. 40



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 Oct 5 San Fernando Valley Academy*
 Oct 9 Redwood Adventist Academy
 Oct 10 El Dorado Adventist School
 Oct 11 Paradise Adventist Academy
 Oct 17 Glendale Adventist Academy
 Oct 17 Redlands Adventist Academy*
 Oct 17 Armona Union Academy
 Oct 18 Fresno Adventist Academy
 Oct 19 Bakersfield Adventist Academy

Oct 23 Mesa Grande Academy
 Oct 23 Central Valley Christian Academy
 Oct 24 Pine Hills Adventist Academy
 Oct 25 Napa Christian Campus of Education
 Oct 25 PUC Prep School
 Oct 26 Newbury Park Adventist Academy*
 Oct 28 Monterey Bay Academy*
 Oct 30 Sacramento Adventist Academy
 Nov 2 Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy
 Nov 6 Thunderbird Adventist Academy*
 Nov 7 San Diego Academy*

Nov 7 Loma Linda Academy*
 Nov 8 Escondido Adventist Academy*
 Nov 9 Calexico Mission School**
 Nov 9 Orangewood Academy*
 Nov 9 La Sierra Academy*
 Nov 13 Hawaiian Mission Academy *
 Nov 13 San Gabriel Academy
 Nov 18 Rio Lindo Adventist Academy *

* starts at 6:30 p.m.
 ** starts at 6:00 p.m.

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Looking for a Home



Find statistics interesting. Rankings, polls, and surveys are engaging as they shine a light on how we think and live. Take the United States Census Bureau as an example. For 40 years, they have tracked the average square footage of American homes. If you want to win a trivia quiz, take note that from 1973 to today, the average new home is 61 percent larger. At the same time, the average household size has decreased. Today we live in bigger homes occupied by fewer people. Several things jump out at me from the first part of this text.

People are looking for a home. Not just a physical address, but that ideal of “home” hard-wired into our DNA. A secure harbor of safety from the buffeting forces of the world. The unique space marked by love, understanding, and acceptance. Home is where you flop into that familiar chair and exhale the stress of life, even if just for a little while. Can Seventh-day Adventist Christians offer anything to souls desiring such an experience? I believe we can. You and I can direct them to both the Word and the Word made Flesh.

The Word of God in Hebrews 11 extols the women and men of faith in Bible history. Of note for our theme of home is Abraham. Recounting his example, Scripture gives this commentary, “It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith — for he was like a foreigner, living in tents. And so did Isaac and Jacob, who inherited the same promise. Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God” (Hebrews 11:8-10, NLT, emphasis supplied).

Abraham was on a journey initiated by God. He departed his ancestral home to live as a nomadic chieftain (albeit a rich, powerful, and respected one) in a new country where he was most assuredly the quintessential outsider. Yet his confidence rested on assurances from God that the terra firma upon which he pitched his tents was an inheritance to be populated by progeny as numerous as the starry canopy above.

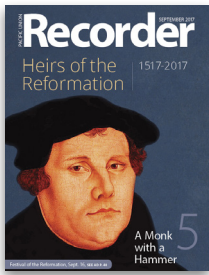
Hebrews emphasizes that Abraham’s life, and that of his son and grandson, were always lived “in the promise” rather than the fulfillment. But it would not always be so. The inspired pen strips aside the temporal veil and exposes an eternal certainty that gripped the father of the faithful. “Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God” (Hebrews 11:10, NLT), no longer a mobile tent with all its uncertainty. His visionary gaze rested upon that permanent city whose architect and builder would be his Lord.

As Abraham was then, so are we all now. The human race collectively lives in the promise. We have yet to see the fulfillment of that new city being prepared. Our lot today is to collectively reside as aliens in the foreign land of brokenness and sin. Yet the Giver of the Word will not fail to keep His Word. “Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am” (John 14:1-3, NLT, emphasis supplied).

By faith, we know that Jesus journeys with His children during this interim time of promise. But soon, all creation will stand witness that His promises are indeed sure and unshakable. The home we have looked for will be complete. Are you and I ready to move in? By His grace we shall be!

Bradford Newton, D.Min.





ABOUT THE COVER

Join the Festival of the Reformation at Pacific Union College Sept. 16, in person or online at livestream.com/pucchurch. Info: <https://goo.gl/9EPHVR>.



CONTENTS

- 34 Adventist Health
- 39-48 Advertising
- 21 Arizona
- 16-19 Central California
- 22 Hawaii
- 27 La Sierra University
- 35 Loma Linda
- 23-26 Renew Newsletter
- 32-33 Nevada-Utah
- 12-15 Northern California
- 20 Pacific Union College
- 28-31 Southeastern California
- 8-11 Southern California
- 6-7 Union Feature
- 36-38 Union News

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Heirs of the Reformation



done. The dialogue commenced. The world was changed forever. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Martin Luther was changed from a German monk with questions in his heart to the reformer whose legacy includes (in part) our own Seventh-day Adventist faith.

Ellen White describes the clarity for proclaiming the truth that marked the life and ministry of Martin Luther in the unexpected role of a reformer: "He had been called as a shepherd to feed the flock of God, that were hungering and thirsting for the truth. He firmly declared that Christians should receive no other doctrines than those which rest on the authority of the Sacred Scriptures" (*Great Controversy*, p. 125). Luther's insistence on sola

It's the image of a monk with hammer in hand that arrests the imagination.

The day was Oct. 31, 1517. The man was a German monk named Martin Luther. And the action was the nailing to the door of the Wittenberg Castle church his 95 Theses — arguments — protesting the sale of indulgences. No one could have known where it would lead.

As the 500th anniversary of the moment generally considered to be the beginning of the Protestant Reformation draws closer, the number of stories about it in the media will increase. There will be sermons and children's stories about Martin Luther in many churches. The visual portrayals of Martin Luther will include men dressed like 16th-century monks recreating the scene in Wittenberg — as well as photos and drawings of what people imagine the scene looked like. I wouldn't be surprised if there are already Martin Luther plush toys, replete with hammer and parchment.

No doubt there will be more TV specials and documentaries, and opinions will be published online and in print (like this) that extol Martin Luther's virtues. Books will be released and climb the charts, to which critical responses will also be written and released.

Comments will be made about the unfortunate name of the tribunal to which Luther was summoned to defend himself against charges of heresy ("The Diet of Worms"), and congregations large and small will sing "A Mighty Fortress" with fervor and enthusiasm.

But what endures is the image of a monk with a hammer — a young man in his thirties carrying a hammer and nails in one hand and a large piece of paper covered with writing in the other. After resolutely approaching the front door of the Wittenberg Castle church, where items to be discussed and debated were often displayed, it probably only took a few taps of that hammer to fix the page to the door.

Perhaps the determined young Luther spoke aloud as he held the paper in place and raised the hammer: "The just (pound) shall live (pound) by faith," (pound, pound) (Romans 1:17, KJV). The deed was

scriptura, the Bible as the only authority for faith, is a cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation and fundamental to our Adventist faith.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Luther and the other reformers coupled their embrace of the primacy of Scripture as the rule for life with the rediscovery of the great doctrine of righteousness by faith through the grace of God as revealed in Jesus Christ. Ellen White, writing of Luther's passion for communicating this salvation message observed "He longed to be enabled to open to their minds the true riches of the grace of God and the excellence of salvation obtained through Jesus Christ" (*Early Writings*, p. 223).

So while the man with the hammer nailing his arguments to the church door is memorable, of greater significance is what he taught us and how the journey begun by the Protestant church 500 years ago continues. As Luther was called to faithfulness in his time, so do we find our calling today.

And as Luther found the rule for life in Scripture, so do we. The promise of salvation through God's grace empowers our faith and our confidence, for we know that "God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7, KJV).

Ray Tetz



Why Mission Matters:

Randall Wisbey

In the July and August issues of the *Recorder*, we spoke with Pacific Union President Ricardo Graham and Adventist Health CEO Scott Reiner about their thoughts on mission and how it affects ministry within the Pacific Union. This month, we hear from Dr. Randall Wisbey, president of La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif.

What does “mission” mean to you?

For our La Sierra University family, our mission statement is a dynamic, living assertion as to who we are and how we will act. It is our most clearly enunciated bond that calls each of us to participate in work that is significant, meaningful, and transformative.

As president, I find myself consistently referring to our mission when discussing the university with students, parents, faculty and staff, alumni, and church and community leaders.

What is the mission statement for your organization?

As members of the diverse La Sierra University community, we are committed to inquiry, learning, and service.

Our community is rooted in the Christian gospel and Seventh-day Adventist values and ideals.

Our mission is

- *TO SEEK truth, enlarging human understanding through scholarship;*
- *TO KNOW God, ourselves, and the world through reflection, instruction, and mentoring;*
- *TO SERVE others, contributing to the good of our local and global communities.*

We pursue this mission with excellence, integrity, compassion, and mutual respect.

Does your organization also have separate vision, purpose or values statements?

The La Sierra University Statement of Vision is:

“To be an Adventist University that inspires the intellect, lives our faith, and changes the world.”

La Sierra University Statement of Directional Values:

1. Embracing our Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, values, and identity in a spirit of openness, contributing reflectively to their continuing development, and pursuing the integration of faith and learning.
2. Enlarging human understanding through research and scholarship by faculty members and students, undergraduates as well as graduates.
3. Nurturing a culture of improvement and innovation, facilitated by internal assessment and external accreditation.
4. Encouraging excellent performance and sustained engagement in learning.
5. Achieving an enrollment level that will maximize the efficient use of human, financial, and physical resources.
6. Offering every student a robust liberal arts education, faithful to a Seventh-day Adventist vision of global citizenship, service, and diversity.
7. Encouraging student development and sustained engagement in learning through a co-curriculum rooted in a philosophy of nurturing the whole person.
8. Acting in responsible ways with the resources entrusted to us by students, parents, donors and the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
9. Using technology to develop a more discerning, informed, and connected university community.

We reaffirm our dedication to fulfilling each of these commitments in an ethically appropriate manner.



Who are the “shareholders” in your organization, both internal and external?

In summary, the La Sierra University Board of Trustees has identified the following as key shareholders:

1. The Seventh-day Adventist Church.
2. The parents and families of our students.
3. Our alumni.
4. Our donors.
5. Our local community.

And the following are key beneficiaries of the university's services:

1. As is true for every institution of higher education, the primary beneficiaries of our La Sierra University learning community are our students.
2. Through our well-educated students, secondary beneficiaries include their families, organizations to which they belong, especially their faith communities and their employers, and also their neighborhoods, communities, our nation and the world; as our students offer productive leadership to address the needs and challenges that face us and contribute financially through their taxes and gifts.
3. The Seventh-day Adventist Church, along with other organizations, benefits from the research, consultation services, programs, presentations, and challenges offered by our faculty members.
4. The local and the broader communities are enriched directly by our university resources, including library; various centers; artistic, musical, drama, and athletic programs; and from our public facilities and beautiful campus itself.

Mission statements should be compelling to both internal and external audiences. Does yours fit the bill?

I believe that our university's mission is indeed compelling. Our administrative team, as well as the La Sierra University Board of Trustees, continually review the mission to make certain that it is not only appropriate — but one that we are fully embracing.

I am always delighted when I hear students and faculty utilizing the university's mission when discussing ideas and topics they are particularly passionate about.

How does the mission of your specific organization relate to, and differ from, the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church?

As an institution of higher education within the Seventh-day Adventist Church, I believe our mission is both vital and fully complementary to the mission of our church. In pursuing the integration of faith and learning, we embrace our Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, values, and identity in a spirit of openness that contributes to our students' continuing development.

How do you ensure that there is excellence in execution of your mission-driven activities?

The university is blessed by the work of our Strategic Planning Committee who are charged with overseeing the development and execution of the university's activities. Likewise, the university's system of shared governance provides significant opportunity for the Faculty Senate to work closely with administration and trustees in ensuring La Sierra's health and vitality. The Student Senate has a governance role to play as well — and their voice is likewise given careful attention.

What weaknesses or challenges do you see impacting the pursuit of the mission?

There are always challenges. At times we struggle to support the myriad of creative ideas that are always percolating. Yet this is also what I most love about working at La Sierra. It is such a remarkable pleasure to be surrounded by people whose daily task it is to think and to create. I also recognize that we are often at our very best when we recognize our own limitations and rely upon God's grace and wisdom to locate new resources and responses.

What is the most important measure of success?

Without a doubt our most important measure of success comes in our fulfillment of our calling to seek truth, enlarging human understanding through scholarship; to know God, ourselves, and the world through reflection, instruction, and mentoring; and to serve others, contributing to the good of our local and global communities.

This work is captured in moments small and large on the campus — from research that takes place in our labs, service that honors God and brings recognition to the university, and faithful students who continue to shape the world in positive ways long after they graduate. Most significant are the many benefits our students receive from caring professors and staff who so often provide a major mentoring role in their daily interactions.

How does your organization measure the outcomes/impact of its mission?

The university's Strategic Planning Committee, Assessment Committee, and Budget Committee oversee this important work. Departmental leadership, administration and trustees then utilize their reports and conclusions to assure effectiveness of mission.

We also are guided by conversations with students, parents, alumni, and constituent members — recognizing that their opinions and experiences likewise shape our understanding of our effectiveness.

And although it is often more difficult to phase out initiatives that were once believed to be important for the success of the university, this work is equally vital. As president, I am always most interested in what will best serve our students. Thankfully, my administrative team, along with the dedicated faculty and staff who serve with us, are fully supportive of this overarching commitment.

SCC Members to Gather at 2017 ALIVE Convocation

“It’s been more than 16 years since this conference family gathered for a day of worship and fellowship,” said Velino A. Salazar, SCC president. “It’s time for Southern California Conference to renew our sense of church family!”

This month, the SCC family is coming together again for a convocation. The event will be held starting at 9:30 a.m. Sept. 23 at the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles, which seats 5,900 people. “The event is first-come, first-served,” explains John H. Cress, executive secretary. “We can’t accommodate everyone, but we would love to have as many as possible of our members come, so please plan to attend.”

Themed “Alive:

A Journey to Health & Hope,” convocation speakers will highlight the intersection of health and hope, and how attendees can have an abundant life. The morning’s worship speaker will be Leslie N. Pollard, president of Oakwood University. Karl Haffner, senior pastor of the Kettering Adventist Church and mission strategist for Kettering Health Network, will speak in the afternoon. Lifestyle presentations by Nerida McKibben, host/co-producer of “Go Healthy for Good” on Hope Channel; H. Schubert Palmer, M.D., cardiology section chief, White Memorial Medical Center; and Neil Nedley, M.D., president and professor of Health Sciences, Weimar Institute, will give tips on diet, offer hope for beating depression, and much more.

Two mass choirs, made up of members from throughout the Southern California Conference, will sing at the convocation. Ricky Ferrando, Hollywood Spanish church children’s choir director, will direct a 60-voice children’s choir.



spearheading the plans for this portion of the program.

After sunset, a program especially by and for young adults will “celebrate and recognize young adults — college students, professionals and their journey,” says Pastor Iki Taimi, Gardena Genesis Community church. “All of us in every

facet of our lives need to celebrate our faith; to recognize there is challenge to that as well as power behind it. When we do that, it gives profound permission to young people to be exploratory and creative and go for the dreams that the Dream-giver has given them.”

Adventist Health, along with its Southern California Region hospitals and ambulatory

network, and Loma Linda University Health have partnered with SCC for the convocation, sponsoring the program and giveaways. “We are really pleased the hospitals are partnering with us,” said Betty Cooney, SCC communication director and chair of the Health Response Steering Committee. “They have been very supportive of our conference health and other activities on a regular basis, and we greatly appreciate working with them.”

The Greek Theatre is an outdoor venue, and attendees should bring sunscreen and plenty of water, dress comfortably, and wear a hat that won’t block others’ view. Don’t forget to pack a lunch; the neighboring Griffith Park is a great place for a picnic!

To pre-purchase a parking voucher, find the most up-to-date info about the event, and more, visit www.AliveConvocation2017.org.

Lauren Armstrong



A generous donation has made it possible for the event to be held at the historic Greek Theatre in Los Angeles.

Fred Settle, Valley Crossroads church choir director, is leading an international mass choir with more than 150 voices. “Our members are from many different SCC churches, backgrounds, and experiences coming together with one common goal: to unite our talents to praise the Lord in song,” Settle said. “Attendees can expect to hear a variety of styles of music designed to reach anyone and everyone and, prayerfully, draw them closer to Christ.”

Special programs during the morning and afternoon will also be provided for kids ages 5-13, themed, “A Day With Jesus and My Friends.” Alison Dorsey, University church, is



Scan the QR code to the left with a QR code reader app on your smartphone to visit the event page on Facebook, which will provide up-to-the-minute updates.

Conejo Students Read Their Way to Success — and Computers

Earlier this year, parents at Conejo Adventist Elementary School realized that the school had a need for technology in the classroom, so I did a little bit of research," said parent Laurie Hata. "A majority of the schools are using computers. Why aren't we?"

Parents knew the school had a prized WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) evaluation, which listed action items to improve the school, including upgrading the internet infrastructure and getting the equipment up to standard.

"We need to have this happen," Hata thought. When some of Hata's friends in the Northern California Conference told her about read-a-thons their schools had done, she began doing some research.

Hata learned that Adventist schools in Northern California Conference raise up to \$18,000 from a single read-a-thon. "Another reason read-a-thons are so good is because students are involved," said her friend, LeAnna Sunata. "They can take ownership of getting technology on campus. They get involved in reading books, getting sponsors, and working toward achieving a goal."

"Perfect!" Hata thought. "What can we do to bring in a lot of donations, but at the same time, have it not cost a lot to produce?"

"At our school," continued Sunata, "we had prizes so the students would be motivated. If a student read a certain amount and brought in a certain number of sponsors, they would be rewarded. For prizes, we gave Barnes & Noble gift cards to those who read 1,500 minutes and raised \$150. Twenty students raised that amount. We also had an Amazon gift card, and the grand prize was an iPad mini."

"Our goal was to get 100 percent participation in reading minutes and for the entire school to take ownership of this fundraiser," continued Hata. "We achieved those goals. The class with the highest number of reading

minutes got a pizza and ice cream party."

Hata, students, and their families, went to businesses to solicit sponsorships during the four-week read-a-thon. "What a great platform to get the word out about our school and to support a great cause!" she said.

"We don't know how much money the students are going to bring in," Hata thought. "We tried to motivate them,

PHOTOS BY JOAN HSU



Sixteen students received the Gold award, raising at least \$150 in sponsor money and reading at least 1,500 minutes.

including different prize levels: gold, bronze, free dress pass, and extra recess." Corporate sponsors donated gift cards for prize incentives. Costco gave money toward an iPad mini.

"I focused my attention on corporate sponsors, which was surprising, because asking for money is not my comfort zone," said Hata. "It was for a great cause that I believed in, so I realized that I could."

Many donors didn't have kids in the school. Some were alumni or church members. "A personal blessing I received was realizing how many people are willing to support Adventist education," said Hata. "You find that out when you ask. Wow!"

The technology committee's initial goal had been to raise \$10,000 for 30 Chromebooks and a Mobility charge cart. At the award ceremony, Hata and a team of volunteers announced that the project had raised \$26,231.81 in donations.

"The students brought in close to \$10,000 of that amount," said Hata. "It being our first read-a-thon, we were so happy to get students involved. They worked really hard. We could see on their faces that it was fun for them."

As a result of the effort, Principal Jennifer Lew was able to upgrade the infrastructure, purchase 75 Chromebooks and the charge cart, and get a few more iPads for kindergarten and first grade.



Volunteer Cathie Cook brought Baillie, a therapy dog, to visit the school during the read-a-thon. Readers included (l. to r.) Lauren Schmucker, Isaac Meager, Benji Ramos, Zahir Gomez, and Ivy Keenan (reading).



Eighth-grader Kaitlyn Stubbert read 10,520 minutes. Kindergartener Isaac Meager raised the most money, soliciting \$4,150 in sponsor money.

Betty Cooney and Rachel Logan

Camarillo Church Celebrates 50th Anniversary

According to Lonnie Melashenko, in the Camarillo church's early days, its elders became so perplexed about the church's soaring water bill, caused by an increased number of baptisms, that they sought help from the conference. Melashenko served as the second pastor of the church (1972-1977) and was the featured speaker at the church's 50th anniversary celebration on June 24.

During a "Remembering Our Past" segment of the program, Melashenko also told of a time when a meat boycott worried area school administrators. "What we will we feed the children?" they asked the church, having heard that Adventists were vegetarians. Melashenko invited dieticians from Loma Linda to conduct a nutrition seminar and vegetarian cooking class at the local Episcopal church, giving school leaders healthy alternatives for student cafeterias.

In the 50-year history of Camarillo church, members have taken evangelism very personally. "Baptisms and the growth of our church are tied to each aspect of the varied ministries and personal friendships of our Camarillo church members," said Dennis Stirewalt, who pastored the church from 2004 to 2016. "The church truly has been blessed through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in gifting Camarillo members with a passion for lost souls."

Dennis and Raschelle Stirewalt reflected on their 12-plus years of ministry in Camarillo. Pastor Stirewalt lauded the spiritual leadership of past Camarillo associate pastoral teams, including Janeen Little, Derick Littrell, and William Sellers, especially to young members.

"Their creative talents and love for the Lord brought a spark of life to children's ministries, youth ministries, college students, and the entire church," he said.

The Camarillo church began with 50 charter members. Today, its membership tops 400. "The most effective evangelism tools of our church (based on the demographics of the city of Camarillo)," Stirewalt said, "were the varied talents of members that were expressed in music, health and fitness, children's programs, Bible studies, Christian education, and community involvement."

From the church's earliest days, pastors and members have reached in and out of the

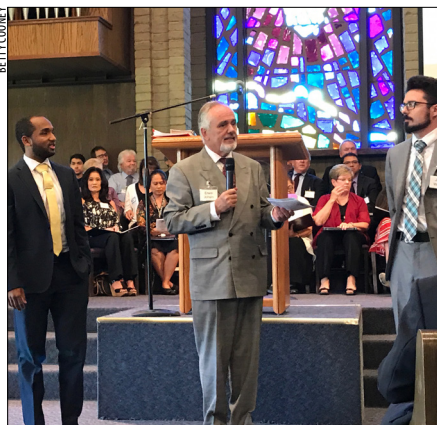
congregation to help meet needs and affirm people. George Swanson, affectionately referred to as "Mr. Music Man," was the church's music director for more than 27 years. For the anniversary celebration, Swanson traveled back to Camarillo from his home in Colorado to practice for a week with musicians for the celebration.

"The radical good news about the character of God," noted Melashenko in his message for the day, "is that we are here in the story of the Prodigal Son. It is up to us to go out of our doors and finish the story; to tell others about the good news of the gospel. The heart of the Father and His Son Jesus Christ must be our hearts."

"At the Camarillo church, we have a wonderful foundation to build on," said Erwin Joham, the current pastor. "The 50th anniversary celebration was an excellent opportunity for us to see where God has led in the past. Our challenge now is to build on that and to make a real impact in the community. Our plan and hope is to implement the biblical principal of having everybody in the church involved in soul-winning, with the goal of having small units all working in concert toward this common goal."



(L. to r.) Former Camarillo pastors Lonnie and Jeannie Melashenko, Leanne Garrison (whose late husband Tim Garrison pastored the church from 1992-2001), Geof Park, Dennis and Raschelle Stirewalt, and current Pastor Erwin and Jeannie Joham.



The Camarillo pastoral team includes Calvin Gardner, youth pastor; Erwin Joham, senior pastor; and Jason Whitley, associate pastor.



Darlene Dickenson received roses for coordinating "a great team of leaders" for the entire anniversary celebration.

Betty Cooney

SCC Education Appoints Two New Principals

The Southern California Conference Department of Education is pleased to introduce two new principals who will begin the 2017-2018 school year: Laura Williams will lead Los Angeles Adventist Academy, and Sheldon Parris will be the principal of San Fernando Valley Academy in Northridge. Both are experienced educators, bringing excitement and inspiration to their schools.

Laura Williams to Head LAAA

Laura Williams, Ed.D., was recently called to be the principal of Los Angeles Adventist Academy, following a vote by the school board. Williams, an experienced educator in the Boston public school system, was employed most recently as an Inclusion Specialist, co-teaching children with learning disabilities.

Williams taught for 16 years in Boston. "I was educated through the graduate level in Adventist schools, and I want to give back to Adventist education," she said. "I am a strong proponent of Christian education and am thankful that the Lord led me here to Los Angeles Adventist Academy."

"I am a witness to how the Lord led in bringing Dr. Williams to LAAA," said J.P. Willis II, an associate superintendent of the SCC Department of Education and chair of the LAAA personnel committee. "I am confident she will provide a strong ministry that educates our young men and women to fulfill God's plan in their lives. She is a longtime local church leader from the East Coast, who comes with many years of classroom instructional leadership and a doctorate in school administration."



Laura Williams



Sheldon Parris

Sheldon Parris Joins San Fernando Valley Academy

Sheldon Parris, M.A., the new principal at San Fernando Valley Academy, was introduced to Adventist education at the age of 16 after coming to the U.S. from Trinidad and Tobago. He graduated from Portland Adventist Academy and Walla Walla University, earning an undergraduate degree in theology. He holds a master's degree in education leadership.

Parris first considered teaching when he got a call from Harold Crook, SCC superintendent of education. He had been a Bible teacher, dean and dorm chaplain at Newbury Park Adventist Academy for three years when he became vice principal. Parris also spent a year as principal of Portland Adventist Academy.

The bigger picture of Parris' vision includes remembering the school's mission of getting students to heaven, in addition to offering

state of the art technology, a revamped sports program, advanced art options, opportunities for students to earn money for their school bills, and a renovated campus that reflects God and the quality within.

"For me, it is very personal, because Adventist education introduced me to Jesus Christ as a teenager," said Parris. "I'm passionate about it because it changed my life. I want that same experience for every kid that walks through those doors every day. I want them to see Him clearly, to know Him and to love Him. I understand Adventist education is more than the academics, more than the sports, more than the grades; it's placing Christ in the center of all we do. We do our best because Christ expects the best from us."

Betty Cooney and Lauren Armstrong

"Adventist education introduced me to Jesus Christ as a teenager," said Parris. "I'm passionate about it because it changed my life. I want that same experience for every kid that walks through those doors every day."

African American Ministries Camp Meeting Draws People from Around the Union

People came from around the Northern California Conference and beyond to attend the second annual camp meeting sponsored by the NCC African American Ministries Department. The event, themed “Ignite: Connecting with Relevance,” took place at Pacific Union College, June 28 through July 1.

For new church member Keisha Clark, the camp meeting was full of surprises. “Since I am new to Adventism, I had no idea what I was in store for. I hoped that it would be a great experience, and it was!” said Clark, who was baptized at the Manteca church in mid-June.

Eric Grace and his family came all the way from Nevada. “This was the first time, since we moved from Atlanta two years ago, that my kids were able to see such a large group of Adventist youth, excited about serving God. We will make the journey again, happily!” said Grace.

Camp meeting highlights included a variety of speakers: Debleaire Snell, senior pastor of the First church of Huntsville, Ala., as well as NCC pastors Trevor Barnes Jr., Kietrich Germany, Chanda Nunes, and J.L. Thompson. People attended seminars about prison ministry, activism in

Adventism, health, and cooking. Women’s Koinonia hosted a seminar especially for women.

Clark enjoyed the variety of seminars, and she relished meeting many new people. “I made quite a few new friendships,” she said. “It was an extremely

delightful experience for me to come into contact with such kind and pleasant people.”

Kids attended Vacation Bible School, facilitated by Theresa Nervis, and basketball camp, run by George Glover, coach of the PUC Pioneers women’s basketball team. Teen meetings featured inspirational speaker Jeremy Anderson and The GRACE Tour — a group of young people dedicated to sharing stories of grace and the gospel. During the camp meeting, 25 young people expressed their desire to be baptized.

“Because the messages were so focused on their level, my kids came back from each meeting excitedly sharing their experience with God,” said Grace. “That was priceless!”

Another person who appreciated “Ignite” was Yolanda Frazier, new administrative assistant in the NCC African American Ministries Department. “A diverse group of dynamic preachers, great worship and praise services, timely and valuable seminars, food, and fellowship — everything was great!” she said. “But what topped it off for me was that 25 young souls made a choice for Christ and wanted to be baptized. What can be better than that?”

Willie Johnson Jr., NCC African American Ministries coordinator, believes the Holy Spirit was at work during the four-day event. “It gave those of us in attendance a glimpse of prophetic fulfillment as we witnessed Joel 2:28 happening right before our eyes,” he said. “Visions and dreams came together in ways that are relevant to both young and old. I believe we will sustain the connections through the rest of 2017, as well as remain relevant in our churches and communities.”



The NCC Youth Mass Choir, conducted by co-director Bonnie Johnson, performs in the sanctuary. (Co-director Jamari Surney is in the red shirt, right.)



Debleaire Snell, senior pastor of the First church of Huntsville, Ala., speaks in the Pacific Union College church.

PHOTOS BY ERIC GRACE PHOTOGRAPHY



Jeremy Anderson, leader of The GRACE Tour, prays during the youth meetings.



George Glover, PUC Pioneers women’s basketball coach, watches as basketball camp participants and assistants celebrate.

Julie Lorenz

SAA Senior Class Gives University Tuition to Ugandan Student

Instead of presenting the traditional class gift of a bench or a clock, the graduating senior class of Sacramento Adventist Academy chose instead to give someone an opportunity. They gave a university education to a student in Uganda — a young man named Kambale Paul.

Throughout the 2016-2017 school year, the seniors sponsored Paul during his final year of secondary school in Uganda. Not only did they pay his tuition, they purchased a bicycle for him, provided scholastic materials, and wrote him letters of encouragement. As the end of the school year approached, they decided they wanted to invest in his future. “We hope to be an example to other classes that gifts do not need to be new things for the school,” said graduating senior Nathan Carr. “Our class was pleased to know that our gift would make a difference.”

“I’m so proud of them,” said Principal Matthew Jakobsons. “It’s an opportunity for them to see what it’s like to serve and care and love.”

The graduation program listed Paul’s name with the rest of the graduates. When it came time for the presentation of the class gift during the commencement service, the seniors announced their plans, and then invited the audience to join with them by contributing to an offering. The seniors’ gift of \$3,000 — together with the \$1,500 offering, plus \$300 provided by an anonymous donor — paid Paul’s entire university tuition.

The class connected with Paul after SAA bus driver Gary Myers challenged the seniors to sponsor a student during their last year of high school. Through his daughter, Myers had learned about Christalis Inc., a non-profit organization that helps Ugandan children in a variety of important ways, including education.

SAA Chaplain Tonja Rasmusson took the challenge further. She suggested that every class in the school could sponsor a Ugandan child at the same level of education as themselves. “Let’s try this for a year,” said Jakobsons. “I’m convinced we can do it.”

Every class from kindergarten through 12th grade sponsored a student. The preschool also



The graduating class poses for photos during the commencement service.

sponsored a child. In addition, SAA’s elementary school teachers sponsored a student of their own, as did the high school teachers. In all, 16 students received tuition from the school.

The classes collected the money in various ways. Elementary school kids carried in small amounts of money; families took turns making the payment each month; and the upper grades contributed money from their class coffers. The junior class had a weekly “Fiona Friday,” passing around a donation jar for their student, Fiona.

“Having Gary Myers connect our school with this program has been such a blessing!” said Rasmusson. “My hope is that our SAA students continue to connect with our new friends in Uganda and look for ways to help them.”

The program will be evaluated each year, but Jakobsons hopes that each class can sponsor the same student all the way through his/her education. He would like to see the program catch on with other schools, working individually or jointly to sponsor students.

In July, the school office received a thick envelope. In it were letters from Paul — one for each member of the senior class. Some included drawings, and many had Bible verses. Other sponsored students also wrote thank you letters to their American classmates.

Earlier this year Paul wrote a message to the entire class: “I wish to extend my thanks to you



Kambale Paul is an honorary member of the Sacramento Adventist Academy class of 2017.

for everything you are doing for me. Thank you for changing my life.”

SAA students have discovered the gift that keeps on giving.

Julie Lorenz

NO "GRASS SANDWICHES": Chef GW Chew Gives Teens a Lesson in Vegan Cooking

In mid-July, a group of teens walked into the kitchen of The Veg Hub a little unsure of what to expect. Less than two hours later, they left with some new cooking skills and an appreciation for vegan cuisine.

The Veg Hub Chef GW Chew taught a cooking class to the kids, ages 11 to 18, at the Oakland restaurant, which is a ministry sponsored by the Northern California Conference. After demonstrating a recipe and giving a brief lesson on proper knife skills, Chew supervised the teens as they prepared "Philly cheeze steak bar-b-chew quesadillas," using his signature vegan cheese and steak replacements.

The teens were part of a five-week summer program run by The Catalyst Foundation for Youth Development, an Oakland organization founded and led by Durwin Brown. As part of the program, Brown introduces kids to a variety of educational, hands-on experiences. "This specific age group has a special place in my heart," he said. "They're in the awkward stage where they don't know where they fit in with society around them. This is when they need the most guidance."

Brown and Chew happened to sit next to each other at the 2017 Oakland Indie Awards. The Veg Hub was nominated for a Social Changemaker award, and The Catalyst Foundation for Youth Development was nominated for a Pillar award. The two men got to talking, and Chew invited Brown to bring a group of students on a field trip to The Veg Hub.



Chef G.W. Chew gives a cooking demonstration to teens in The Veg Hub kitchen.

The teens were a little worried when they heard they were going to a vegan restaurant. "They didn't think the food was going to taste good," said Brown. "They thought they were going to be eating grass sandwiches."

But the kids were open-minded, especially when they discovered they wouldn't just be watching; they'd be cooking. After Chew demonstrated the recipe, they worked together in teams of two or three to prepare it for themselves. Chew had an easy rapport with the kids, and they felt free to ask questions. After cooking the quesadillas, they were eager to try them — and they enjoyed both the food and the process.

"It was amazing being able to experience something new and healthy," said Ebony, one of the teens. "I'm glad I got to be a part of Chef Chew's cooking class. The food was amazing, too!"

"Brother Chew taught me how to cut different ways," said another participant, Davion. "Thank you, Chef Chew, for letting me in your kitchen and letting me use your materials."

"Chef Chew broke everything down well," said Andrew, another teen. "He made sure everyone was cooking right and good."

Chew enjoyed teaching the class, which he considers a form of outreach — making connections with Oakland community members. "We have to go far beyond a sermon to reach people," said Chew. "We need to roll up our sleeves. This class is a great example of what's needed in our cities: practical education through health and mentorship."

As of August, Chew is now teaching a community cooking class on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Beginning in September, The Veg Hub employee Sarah Bellot will teach "Auntie Sarah's Kitchen," a cooking class for kids on the second Wednesday of each month. For more information, visit the restaurant's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/thevegub.



One cook-in-training spells out a message in bar-b-que sauce.

JULIE LORENZ



Two teens from the Catalyst Foundation for Youth Development chop vegetables, observed by Durwin Brown, the program's CEO and founder.

Veg Hub Gets Great Reviews

The Veg Hub is a popular eating place, located at 2214 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland. The restaurant is the foundation of an outreach ministry to its Oakland community, where Chew hopes eventually to plant a church.

Social media reviews show that customers not only enjoy the delicious vegan soul food, they also appreciate the people behind the counter and in the kitchen.

"By far the best vegan food that I've had in the Bay Area. The place is also run by the nicest group of folks you'll ever meet. Brighten your day — check this place out."

"Great food, the chef is very nice and puts TLC into each and every order. We need more places like the Veg Hub in our communities, great work."

"Absolutely love this place! As soon as I walked in I felt like home! They greeted us like we were old friends coming over for home cooked meal. Food was fresh, I look forward to trying out their other dishes!"

"Tried Veg Hub for the first time today! I am a lifetime meat eater and the cheese steak fries are so amazing! The people that work there are so kind, I will be back."

"This place is laid back, has plenty of seating, and everyone who works here is friendly — like, genuinely kind. Chef Chew is the guy behind the brand, and you can see his passion for Veg Hub and good vegan food in each detail."

Julie Lorenz

LOCAL CHURCH ELDERS' TRAINING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

Fairfield Community
Seventh-day Adventist Church
(1101 E. Tabor Ave.)
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
(Lunch will be provided.)

Preach the Word A practical seminar for lay-preachers

As leaders in your local church, you want tools to help you work effectively in your specific - and sometimes challenging - area of ministry. We hope you will join us for this half day of training.



IF YOU'VE BEEN ASKED TO PREACH, THIS SEMINAR IS FOR YOU!

We will explore effective tools to build a spirit-filled sermon. When you leave, you will have effective, proven, tools to preach God's Word. You will work on your sermon during this seminar under the guidance of an experienced preacher. When you leave this seminar, you will have a sermon nearly finished and will soon be ready to preach!

**Bring your Bible, notepad,
and a pen.**

Sponsored by the
Northern California Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists
Church Growth Department

RSVP to (925) 603-5089
or e-mail EldersTraining@nccsda.com.
Visit www.nccsda.com/EldersTraining
for more information.

Windows of Hope Open at Soquel Camp Meeting

Central California Conference hosted Soquel Camp Meeting 2017 at the Soquel Conference Center near Soquel, Calif., from July 13-22. This year marked the 137th year for the longstanding convocation. The theme, “Windows of Hope,” highlighted areas of biblical compassion in tangible areas and was reprised throughout the 10-day event in messages, activities, and service to the community. Each “window” represented a call toward Christian humanitarianism as stated in Matthew 25:35-40:

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me. Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” (NIV).

CCC’s annual flagship convocation showcased a dynamic lineup of speakers who echoed the above passage. Keynote speakers were Debleaire Snell, current senior pastor of the First church in Huntsville, Ala., and Mark Finley, assistant to the president of the General Conference. Other main auditorium speakers included Shian O’Connor, president of the Cayman Islands Conference; Bill Knott, executive editor of *Adventist Review* and *Adventist World*; and Julian Archer, founder of the ministry Faith vs. Finance from Queensland, Australia.

Alongside this, the Hispanic auditorium featured Roger Hernandez, Southern Union Conference ministerial and evangelism director, and Arnaldo Cruz, senior pastor of the Pilgrims’ Spanish church in Hialeah,

Fla., with the same theme, “Ventanas De Esperanza,” reprised. Antonio Huerta, CCC’s Hispanic Ministries director, says, “Soquel Camp Meeting was a life-changing event. We had transformational testimonies, uplifting music and inspiring spirit-filled messages. We need a bigger tent.”

Interwoven through the messages were interview segments about evangelism and education called Miracle Roadways; and Miracle Minutes featuring GLOW work, Youth Rush testimonies, and answered prayer.

A large focus was placed on CCC’s Life Hope Centers’ evangelism initiative. A video highlighted Central’s recent LHC humanitarian effort where free dental, medical, and vision services were offered to the greater Soquel area. These same services were provided to camp meeting attendees. During the week, volunteers served more than 210 patients in the dental clinic and 42 patients in the vision clinic. There were over 175 medical screenings and 20 foot-care patients served. A total of 427 camp meeting attendees, along with others from the community, received approximately \$106,750 worth of free services. Additionally, more than 57 individuals participated in the LHC dental assistant training program, provided throughout the week.

Dr. Ed Urbina, Life Hope Centers’ director, tells of a young waitress at a nearby café who had no insurance. When she heard about the June event, she was disappointed that she had missed the opportunity. But when she heard about the camp meeting LHC clinic, she came and received a vision exam and a brand-new pair of prescription glasses. She was overjoyed that someone cared enough, without any strings attached, and continues to share her story with friends and co-workers. “It is as Ellen White described, ‘disinterested benevolence,’” says Urbina.



Ramiro Cano, Central California Conference president, presents John Leopold, Santa Cruz County District 1 supervisor, with an award for his dedication and years of service to the surrounding community and for being a friend to CCC. Leopold visited the Soquel Conference Center for the June Life Hope Center event and endorsed the effort.



Service to the community was one window where camp-meeting goers came together to serve the local community.



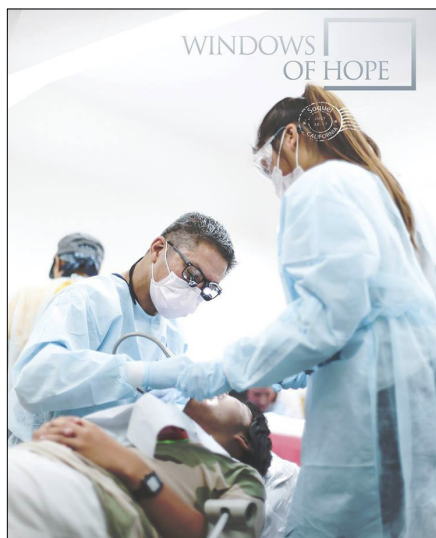
Pastor Mark Finley, assistant to the president of the General Conference, was a keynote speaker.

Attendance

Estimated attendance on Sabbaths was up to 10,000 people with worship services packed and standing room only in both auditoriums. The campground's 1,198 campsites were completely booked, with many hopefuls on a waiting list.

Music

The Revelation of Hope praise team led music at each service with the theme song "Build Your Kingdom Here." The first Sabbath featured a concert by the Breath of Life Quartet. The second Sabbath, Adventist Health sponsored a concert by Christian recording artist Michael Card, who has recorded over 37 albums and has penned classics such as "El Shaddai" and "Love Crucified Arose."



During the week, over 427 camp-meeting attendees, along with others from the community, were treated with approximately \$106,750 in dental, medical and vision services.



Keynote speaker Debleaire Snell, current senior pastor of First Seventh-day Adventist Church in Huntsville, Ala., addresses the crowd.

Prayer, Commitments, and Baptisms

CCC had a robust prayer team on campus. Joyce Mulligan, Prayer Ministries director, and her team held prayer warrior meetings daily, covering speakers in prayer before each meeting and passing out Bible verse cards among camp meeting attendees. There were 11 baptisms and 60 commitments made in the main auditorium and 18 baptisms in the Hispanic tent.

One of those baptisms came through Pastor Joel Terrones and his congregation in Caruthers, Calif. Terrones has been knocking on doors in his community and inviting people to church. At one home, he met Marshall, who was excited to have a Hispanic pastor invite him to church. He attended, learned about camp meeting, and



The Hispanic program featured Roger Hernandez (pictured), Southern Union Conference ministerial and evangelism director, and Arnaldo Cruz, Pilgrims' Spanish church senior pastor, with the same theme, "Ventanas De Esperanza."

attended that, too. At Soquel, he felt so loved and cared for that he decided to be baptized. "I want to be baptized in the Spanish tent by my Hispanic pastor in the presence of my Hispanic congregation," he said joyfully.

Children's Departments

The youth departments also kept in step with the Windows of Hope theme. Parents from the beginners' tent donated diapers, toys, and hygiene items, and made blankets for women and children who reside with Monarch Services, an organization that helps victims of domestic violence. The children didn't stop there. They also filled planting boxes full of flowers for the main auditorium and handed out water bottles labeled with Bible verses. One gentleman who



CCC had a robust prayer team on campus. Joyce Mulligan, CCC prayer ministries' director (not pictured), and her team held prayer-warrior meetings daily, bathing speakers in prayer before each meeting, and passing out Bible verse cards among camp meeting attendees.



Some camp meeting goes tent camp; others bring their "homes" with them.



Camp meeting is a time for friendship.

received a bottle from one of the toddlers said it warmed his heart to see a child so young spreading God's Word.

The junior tent hosted many outreach and in-reach activities for their division. From passing out Scripture cards, to painting fences for a nearby park, youth learned that the best part of knowing the Savior is sharing Him with others. According to Lisa Plasencia, CCC's Children's Ministries and Sabbath School director, 27 children have requested Bible studies to prepare for baptism.

Recognition

There were some distinguished faces honored this year. John Leopold, Santa Cruz County District 1 supervisor (the equivalent to a city's mayor), visited the campground and was recognized with an award for his dedication and years of service to the community and for being a friend to CCC. Leopold had visited the Soquel Conference Center for the June LHC event and endorsed the effort. He is becoming an integral point person for CCC and even spoke about his experience at Soquel on his own social media page.

Charlene Sargent, Adventist Community Services Regional Disaster Response coordinator, was recognized for her vision and development of the conference's disaster response program. Gregg Stutchman, chief forensic analyst at Stutchman Forensic Lab, was recognized for his 40 years of service with camp meeting security. Costin Jordache, *Adventist Review* and *Adventist World* news editor, was recognized for years of transformational ministry within CCC.

Tech-Savvy

CCC broadcasted all main programming live via the Hope Church Channel, Esperanza TV, and Better Life Television. Additionally, they promoted the event on social media. Early in the week, CCC started with a Facebook audience of approximately 2,000. By the following Saturday night, July 23, they had reached a social media footprint of over 627,000 people from more than 93 countries, including Turkey, Thailand, Korea, Germany, Serbia, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Over 44,195 people viewed the meetings live — 14,258 via Livestream, 29,937 via Facebook,



There is always time for fellowship at camp meeting.



The children's divisions get creative.



Part of the production team poses with Michael Card.



Case Lots offered a market to attendees. The income from this goes to support camp meeting operating expenses.

and an additional 700-800 through other portals. These statistics do NOT count those who watched via Hope Church Channel.

Central recently unveiled a brand new website featuring a fresh look, current events, an online giving portal, more comprehensive branding, and links to all social media channels. See the new website at: CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com.

Offerings and Pledges

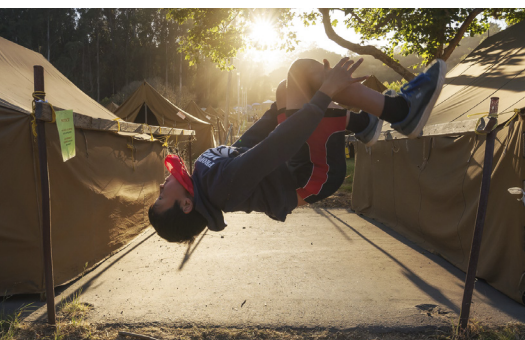
Known for its million-dollar evangelism offering, conference leaders presented the evangelism vision to both camp meeting goers and online viewers. Last year, donations hit the million-dollar mark before this year's camp meeting began. This year, the evangelism offering has already reached \$572,695, and there were new gifts through online giving, according to Keith Scott, treasurer. Scott also says donations for camp meeting expenses have hit an all-time high of \$50,000. Donations (including pledges) are still coming in and may be sent via mail to P.O. Box 770, Clovis, CA, 93613 or made online at centralcaliforniaadventist.com.

Conclusion

"This year's camp meeting experience was unique, in that doors once closed to us with the county are now opening as a result of the Life Hope Center event held in June at the Soquel campgrounds," said Ramiro Cano, CCC president. "Three county officials visited during camp meeting (visits that were unrelated to each other) with an invitation to hold another Life Hope Center event and expressing an interest to partner with us to impact the community. We see the hand of God working to open these doors. Christ's method (found in *Ministry of Healing*, 143.3) is truly God's formula for the last-day church. I call on all of our churches to embrace this anointed method in their own local church communities."

Betsy Phillips, a 100-year-old camp meeting attendee who attended with her friend Dee Gardiner, was asked what she loved about camp meeting. Phillips replied, "It's a place where families get together with pastors and Bible scholars to share their faith and encourage one another. It is a glimpse of the worldwide church waiting for our Savior to come."

Cindy R. Chamberlin



Camp meeting held moments of fun.



Youth listen intently to their speaker.



The Hispanic tent used the same theme as the main auditorium.

PUC Announces New Degree Programs in Biotechnology, Global Development Studies, and Religion

Pacific Union College is excited to announce several new degree programs offered this coming school year: a bachelor's in biotechnology; a bachelor's in religion with an emphasis in mission; and lastly, a bachelor's in global development studies.

Building upon the foundation of the college's well-established undergraduate biology program, the biotechnology major prepares students interested in working professionally in biomedical, pharmaceutical, criminal investigative, agricultural, and other related industries. Students can expect to gain a solid

foundation in basic and advanced biochemical techniques, along with developing personal ethics that consider the ramifications of biotechnology-related decisions. The program also fully prepares students who wish to pursue more advanced degrees in biotechnology to obtain more illustrious positions as administrators, primary investigators, and other professional positions.

The global development studies major offers a flexible approach to students interested in working in various capacities around the world, with career opportunities in administration,

research, fundraising, training, advocacy, and relief work. Students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills regarding complex world issues while considering social, economic, political, and cultural factors, all within a faith perspective. Taken in conjunction with another major, students will fulfill a foreign language requirement and participate in a study abroad program or international service project. Students will also complete several online courses in a special collaboration with Southern Adventist University.

Lastly, the bachelor's in religion with a mission emphasis prepares students interested in Adventist missions, ministry, and ministry education. Graduates of the program will gain a plethora of skills to be equipped for careers in missions and sharing the message of Christianity across the globe. Students will take courses on Adventist heritage, evangelism, and ethics, along with participation in a study abroad program or international service project. Students have the option of focusing their studies on mission in the Global North, which includes North America and Europe, or the Global South, which includes Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

"We work hard to scan the horizon for new majors and new opportunities for our students to serve both locally and globally," says Dr. Nancy Lecourt, academic dean and vice president for academic administration. In recent years, PUC has also added new degree programs in music composition, emergency services, health communication, and health sciences.

For more information about any of PUC's academic programs, talk with an enrollment counselor: enroll@puc.edu or 800-862-7080, option 2.



One of PUC's most popular programs, a degree in biology, provides students with opportunities to use modern laboratory equipment and perform their own experiments in current fields such as immunology, molecular genetics, and cancer biology.

Larissa Church

Western Adventist Foundation Celebrates 20 Years

Western Adventist Foundation (WAF) is celebrating 20 years of trust services and planned giving work. Organized in 1997, WAF was conceived under the leadership of Tom Mostert, former Pacific Union president. The administrative team realized the union had a need for trust services, and developed the organization with Robert Daum, Frank Cornwell and Elizabeth Matthews. “When the Foundation was established 20 years ago, two important reasons for creating WAF were to have specialists dedicated to working with union trustors as well as conference trust departments in order to limit the liability of the Pacific Union,” recalls Ted Benson, Pacific Union treasurer and WAF board chair. “With the myriad of federal and state regulations related to an organization’s fiduciary responsibility, it made sense to have an organization that only dealt with these types of issues. WAF has provided that expertise for the past 20 years.”



The WAF team enjoys their new home in Scottsdale, Ariz.

“The concept behind the formation of Western Adventist Foundation was to develop an organization that could provide professional, cost-effective trust management services to the Seventh-day Adventist Church across organizational borders,” said Frank Cornwell, WAF’s first president. “In looking back over the last 20 years, that vision has shown to have been a benefit both to the church and its many donors. It has been an honor to be a small part of building the Foundation to what it is today.”

The Foundation began growing quickly. In 1998, Jim Brown joined the team and was appointed president in 2000. “To be part of this organization is beyond anything I could dream,” said Brown. “The privilege of assisting organizations in North America with their donors who wish to benefit Seventh-day Adventist mission and purpose is incredible. Having the resources and expertise combined with using business principles and efficiencies has really benefited conferences,

universities, as well as small ministries. Providing all of them with the same level of resources and expertise is a privilege. It brings me great joy when I have the opportunity, on behalf of our clients, to visit with potential trustors and donors. We get to share in their dedication and commitment to help spread the gospel.”

Eventually, WAF outgrew its space in the Pacific Union offices. Studies determined that the Phoenix, Ariz., area was the best option. The organization needed a metropolitan area with significant church membership, a 12-grade school and a major airport. Recently, WAF moved from Tempe to Scottsdale, where they have a larger space at a lower cost.

The Nevada-Utah Conference was one of WAF’s first clients. “Without WAF, Nevada-Utah would not have the program that exists today,” said Harry Straub, former associate treasurer and development director. “Jim Brown assisted us with camp meetings and local church seminars. Through those meetings and with the support of the back office, WAF helped Nevada-Utah develop over 100 trusts and gifts. In that time, more than \$1,000,000 in maturities created an endowment focused on evangelism and worthy students. Many individuals were baptized and many students, who would not otherwise have had the privilege of Christian education, benefited from WAF’s assistance.”

In 2001, the Central California Conference signed a limited service contract with WAF and immediately experienced the value of that relationship. Since then, CCC has moved to a full-service contract. “We have the peace of mind to focus strictly on the ministry of funding God’s work within the CCC knowing WAF is handling all administrative and investment responsibilities competently and efficiently,” said Todd Paige, CSPG, director of Gift Planning Ministries. “Western Adventist Foundation continues to provide a valuable client relationship with the Central California Conference.”

Arizona Conference President Ed Keyes says, “WAF is a valued part of our conference. Since it moved to Arizona in 2000, we have benefited having their team of professionals nearby. Their invaluable services are a real blessing.”

Other ministries in the North American Division began requesting WAF’s services as it grew. With the blessing of the Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee, WAF began assisting organizations outside the Pacific Union, bringing their client base to more than 100 ministries.

WAF is currently managing more than 3,000 documents (which does not include maturities) nearing \$300,000,000 in assets. The distributions to ministries and church organizations to date are over \$130,000,000. Currently, WAF employs 15 staff members.

To contact Western Adventist Foundation, call 866-356-5595 or 602-220-0042, or email Jim Brown at Jim@wafsa.org.

Phil Draper

Kauai Family Camp Breaks Attendance Records

Kauai Family Camp attendance and experience keeps getting bigger and better. Held at Camp Hale Koa, the weeklong program includes a junior camp for kids and camp meeting for the whole family.

The past three years have seen more and more people enjoying the fun, food, and spiritual messages during this special week. This summer's attendance doubled, with more than 50 children and youth (which included a dozen who are not members of an Adventist church) enjoying the camp experience.

Pastor Douglas Na'a led the volunteers, including Celia Mahikoa, who was the master organizer of the camp. The team included church members and others, such as Perry and Lynelle Marcos, who traveled from California to participate. Perry taught fire building and outdoor shelter construction (in which the kids even slept!), and Lynelle taught creative crafts.

Keith Hatcher, principal of Kahili Adventist School, taught gymnastics, led the singing, and spoke on the theme "Preparing to Meet My Savior." Kevin and Angela Kuzma, Ken-Yen Learning Center teachers, constructed a popular "American Ninja Warrior" style obstacle course and held a daily exercise routine.



Seventeen people were baptized at the end of the camp week.

Ken-Yen science teacher Lynn Provonsha made science come alive with geocaching using a compass and orienteering skills, which culminated in a hunt that required the kids to use their compass skills to find the treasure.

And of course, camp wouldn't be complete without the delicious food prepared by volunteer cooks from both Lawai Valley and Kapaa churches, and the ever-popular campfire s'mores!

Starting on Wednesday night, parents and church members — and visitors from neighbor islands — came to hear John Bradshaw, speaker/director of *It is Written*. Each morning and evening, his messages focused on sharing Jesus. Bradshaw kept the attention of the youngest to the oldest camper. He told story after story, encouraging the audience to listen to how God wants them to share His message of love to their friends and neighbors.

More than 150 attended Sabbath services. It was standing room only as Bradshaw shared mission pictures and a sermon, complemented by the harmony of the Samoan Gospel Heralds from Oahu. Then came the highlight of the day: John Bradshaw baptized 17 people in a small inflatable pool.

"I want to learn more about Jesus so I can be baptized at next year's camp," one young non-Adventist camper told Bradshaw.

Vergie Same, a parent-leader, said, "Camping is a training ground for our youth to work together as a team, understand each other's needs, develop leadership skills and, above all, learn to be ambassadors for God's kingdom. What a blessing to be able to have summer camp on our island."

Church members are already marking their calendars for next year's camp, scheduled for June 25 to July 1, 2018. For more information, contact Denny Lauama, 808-346-1816.



Gatherings included object lessons, demonstrations and activities.



Campers and staff work to hang a shade tent.

Kay Kuzma

Givers or Takers By Kathy Corwin

There are two kinds of people in this world. Either they are the givers or they are the takers. The difference between them is amazing and certainly worth thinking about.

The givers are always looking for ways to help another person whether it's by giving of themselves physically, emotionally, financially or relationally. When our children were young, we wanted to teach them about the word "benevolent" which means to give to another without expecting any financial or appreciative gain. When they were teens, we took them down to the inner city to a place called "Baloney Joe's," where the homeless find shelter and a hot meal. Our kids volunteered in serving those meals, and even though they were not expecting anything in return, they were surprised to be blessed by the sincere appreciation from the people they served. It was then that they learned about the blessing of giving. As our children grew into adults they chose careers that minister to and help others. The world needs more "disinterested benevolence," the kind of example that Jesus gave with His life.

The takers on the other hand have careers or a life



that does the opposite. They expect others to always be giving to them. They are usually materialistically minded, seeking what they can get without much effort.

Kathy Corwin writes from the state of Washington.

Read full article:
churchsupportservices.org/givers



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 about Adventists in action throughout the Pacific Union Conference.

Visit: vimeo.com/channels/storiesoffaith



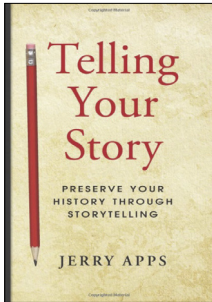
What's *Your Story?*

After Jesus healed the demon-possessed man in Decapolis and was told by the locals He had to leave (because they were afraid of Him), the man whom Jesus healed wanted to go with Him.

“But Jesus said, ‘No, go home to your family, and tell them everything the Lord has done for you and how merciful he has been.’ So the man started off to visit the ten towns of that region and began to proclaim the great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed at what he told them” (Mark 5:19, 20, NLT).

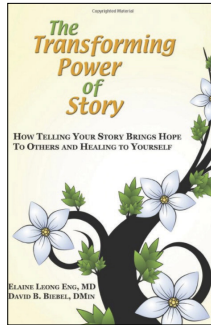
“Go home to your family, and tell them everything.” Storytelling has been with us a long time, and the importance of sharing our life journey with others cannot be overstated. People may argue with our theology, but they can't argue with our stories because they are first person accounts of what we have experienced.

Below are several resources that can help us organize and convey our stories in ways that are authentic and winning.



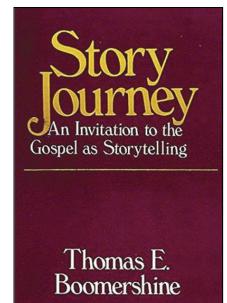
Telling Your Story, by Jerry Apps – Renowned author and veteran storyteller, Jerry Apps, believes that storytelling is the key to maintaining our humanity, fostering connection, and

preserving our common history. In *Telling Your Story*, he offers tips for people who are interested in telling their own stories. Readers will learn how to choose stories from their memories, how to journal, and find tips for writing and oral storytelling, as well as Jerry's seasoned tips on speaking to a live radio or TV audience. **Available from Amazon. Price:** US\$11.50. **Published by** Fulcrum Publishing.



The Transforming Power of Story, by Elaine Leong Eng – This book demonstrates, through multiple true life stories, how sharing one's story, especially in a group setting, can bring hope to listeners and healing to the one who shares. As we believe that history is God's story, we also believe that the smaller personal stories of our lives contribute to the larger story of God's grace and healing power throughout history and beyond. Designed for group use, individuals facing difficulties will find this book greatly encouraging. All readers will find it inspirational. **Available from Amazon. Price:** US\$10.60. **Published by** Healthy Life Press.

Story Journey: An Invitation to the Gospel as StoryTelling, by Thomas E. Boomershine – *Story Journey* offers a series of biblical stories to be learned and explored in a variety of ways. Each story is printed in episodes to facilitate memorization. Exegetical comments are offered with references to good commentaries that explain the meaning of the story in the original context. Each chapter also includes suggestions about ways to connect the story with contemporary experience and to pray with the story. **Available from Amazon. Price:** US\$16.23. **Published by** Abingdon Press.



Church Support Services has a new website. The URL is the same, but the site is being filled with fresh content that is mobile and user-friendly.

Check it out at:
ChurchSupportServices.org



Resources

You Can Use



Retro Blessings: 101 Blessings of Grace Cards – From the Retro Blessings Collection and made for sharing, these are 51 two-sided, playing card size, inspirational messages in a box. Give all at once away, or keep a box to tuck a message into a lunch bag, backpack, travel bag, pocket or purse (etc.), or to pass around. Your small gift will be received with smiles and gratitude for your thoughtfulness. They come packed in a sturdy, lidded box. The set has a uniquely designed

look with a message of Grace. **Available from** Amazon. **Price:** US\$4.42.

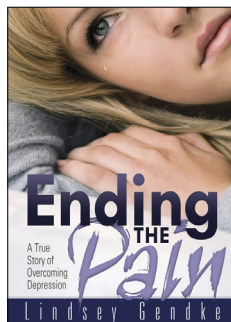
Published by Christian Art Gifts.



Colorful Blessings: Cards to Color and Share, by Christian Art Gifts – Relax and express your creative soul as you fill the delightful ink drawings with color. The box contains 44 cards with drawings to color on one side. You can write a personal message on the reverse, blank side. They come packed in a sturdy, portable lidded box. **Available from** Amazon. **Price:**

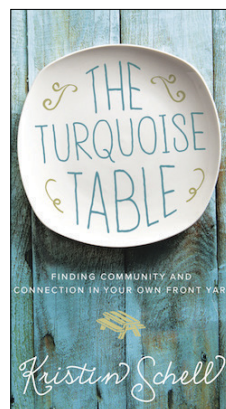
US\$4.99. **Published by** Christian Art Gifts.

Ending the Pain, by Lindsey Gendke – Nineteen-year-old Lindsey found herself at a Bible retreat desperate to hear something—anything, that would make her want to live. As the music played and the speaker claimed they could all be “free in Christ, right here, right now,” Lindsey silently screamed, How? How can I be free in Christ right now, when all my life I’ve heard that answer at church, and it hasn’t fixed me yet? **Available from** AdventistBookCenter.com. **Price:** US\$15.99. **Published by** Pacific Press.



Journeys, by Marvin Wray – Journeys is a duet of sorts. The author, Pastor Marvin Wray, takes readers on a 11,393 mile motorcycle trip around the U.S. – while providing an inside look at his own personal spiritual journey through six-plus decades

of experiencing God. It began as a sabbatical project through his church in an attempt to find out what is happening in Seventh-day Adventist Churches across America. Why are some growing and most not? What is the degree of optimism among the pastors and the laity? How willing are we to embrace change in a church that looks strongly to its roots? **Available from** Amazon. **Price:** US\$15.95. **Published by** AuthorHouse.



The Turquoise Table, A simple way to connect your neighborhood, your community, and build friendships, by Kristin Schell


– Are you consumed with a busy life but unsure how to slow down? Do you desire connection within your community and think, “Absolutely, but I don’t have time for that” or “I can’t create that?” What if there was another way through it all, a way to find those moments of peace and to create a time for honest, comfortable connection? What if meeting neighbors and connecting with friends was as simple as showing up and being available? **Available from** Amazon. **Price:** US\$11.72. **Published by** Thomas Nelson.

Throw & Tell (Life Application Ball) – Your children’s ministry just got bigger,



bouncier...and even more fun! *Throw & Tell* balls are your secret weapons when kids show up grumpy, distracted, or bored. Simply inflate a sturdy, colorful ball and let kids toss the ball back and forth for 10 to 15 seconds. When you call “time,” the student holding the ball reads aloud what’s written under his or her left thumb—and then everyone answers! **Available from** AdventSource. **Price:** US\$9.95. **Published by** Group.



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An App for Your Church – Your members are rarely further than an arm’s length away from their mobile phones. Why not reach them where you know they’ll be? With the digital bulletin feature, you can quickly and easily get them key church information—instead of having to wait a full week for another print cycle.



Digital Bulletins are environmentally friendly and will help your church cut down on its printing budget. By keeping information centralized, the bulletin helps you put vital information at members’ fingertips, get more involved, and invite their friends. Make content input and consumption easy by making it digital and mobile.

For more info visit: gobluebridge.com

What is **i**nSpire

inSpire is a real and virtual community where Seventh-day Adventist members, gifted in and passionate about the creative arts, can share their ideas and creations in a collaborative way. Songwriting, drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, poetry, videography and more can be used in powerful ways to convey God’s stories of hope and healing to our churches and surrounding communities.

Our History

i nSpire was launched by Rich DuBose, Director for Church Support Services (Creatives Ministries) for the Pacific Union Conference, partly as a result of his own journey as a creative within the Adventist Church. Through his own struggles as a kid within our educational system, and later as a pastor, he experienced frustration and bewilderment with how to integrate the arts and new forms of media into ministry. Today inSpire has morphed into a loose-knit community of church members of all ages who are passionate about using creative forms of expression (graphics, music, visual art, film, and more) in their efforts to tell God’s story in compelling and enchanting ways. The Gospel deserves our best creative energies!

The idea of launching inSpire was conceived shortly after the 2011 Union Constituency Session in Ontario, California. From that time forward steady efforts have been made to make it a reality.

Plan now to attend the next inSpire gathering on March 9-10, 2018, at LIFE Adventist Church of Berkeley, California. For more information visit: inspire.reviews



Resources for Life

AnswersForMe.org

An App for Your Church

gobluebridge.com

Campus Ministries

acflink.org

Good to Go Media

Goodtogomedia.org

Liberty Magazine

libertymagazine.org

Story Harvest

Storyharvest.org

Streaming Your Event

boxcast.com

Spread Kindness

WhenPeopleAreKind.org

NAIA Votes to Accommodate Sabbath-Observing Cross Country Teams

In a move that thrilled its Seventh-day Adventist member teams, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, through its National Administrative Council, officially transitioned cross country national championships away from traditional Saturday competitions beginning in 2018.

The national race next year will occur on either Friday before sunset or on Monday, the council ruled, to accommodate the Sabbath hours of Adventist college and university cross country teams belonging to any of 21 conferences operating under the NAIA umbrella.

“The NAIA has long been an organization focused on inclusion and providing a positive student-athlete experience,” said Rob Cashell, National Administrative Council chair. “The decision to increase flexibility with national championship scheduling, thereby allowing our Seventh-day Adventist members to participate, supports both these ideals and was widely supported by the NAC.”

The NAC voted to approve the motion June 15 at the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics conference in Orlando, Fla. The NAIA formally announced the decision in a statement on July 31.

Currently four Adventist higher education institutions are part of the NAIA — La Sierra University, Pacific Union College, Walla Walla University, and Washington Adventist University. All but Walla Walla currently include cross country in their varsity sports programs, although WWU has considered adding the sport.

The NAIA is attractive to faith-based schools in part because of its Champions of Character program that emphasizes building character through the teaching of five core values — integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership. La Sierra University moved from the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III to the NAIA in 2011.

Javier Krumm, La Sierra athletics director, and Randal Wisbey, La Sierra University president, appeared at the April NAIA national convention in San Diego along with athletics directors from the other NAIA Adventist schools in a meeting Krumm requested with association

leadership to advocate for Sabbath accommodation. They were accompanied by Don Ott, commissioner of the California Pacific Conference of which La Sierra and Pacific Union College are members.

Commissioner Ott, a former Baptist pastor, has spearheaded the effort for a Sabbath accommodation policy for SDA schools’ cross country programs over the past several years.

“This was a very meaningful and important conversation for Adventist athletics. [This resolution] will be seen as a significant decision long into the future,” Wisbey said. “We represent a system of 25,000 students around North America. Though not all are NAIA schools, this decision sends a clear message that SDA students are welcome to play in NAIA championships.”

“We are excited to share this great news,” said Krumm. “Moving the NAIA cross country nationals from Sabbath to Monday or Friday will not just benefit our current students and institutions, but many others in the future.”

La Sierra’s cross country coach, Erin Lowry, who is also a Seventh-day Adventist, said the decision “means everything to us. We will now be able to advertise that we can go to the national championship meet. Before, the farthest we could go was the conference finals.”

Key influencers in the cross country championships policy change included support from the Cal Pac member schools, advocacy from the Association of Student Athletes, and the April meeting between the SDA athletics directors, Wisbey, and NAIA leaders, Ott said. “So I’m thrilled that for generations to come I won’t have to look at a kid after handing him his trophy and say, ‘Congratulations on running so well, and you can’t go to nationals.’”

In its July 31 statement, the NAIA also addressed a written joint request submitted in February to the NAIA and NAC from the



(L. to R.) Athletics directors Patrick Crarey, Washington Adventist University; Javier Krumm, LSU; LSU President Randal Wisbey; Jordan Stimmel, WWU; and Brittaney Brown, Pacific Union College, at the NAIA convention in April.

presidents of its four Adventist institution members. The four schools sought the creation of a Saturday Declaration of Intent, an official document that would create a policy where by Saturday conference and national championship competitions for NAIA sports would be avoided except under mitigating circumstances. Such a declaration would mirror an existing Sunday Declaration of Intent for schools that do not compete on that day in keeping with religious observances. The four schools also sought an NAIA official letter “asserting that games that fall during Sabbath hours will be moved to before sunset on Friday, or after sunset on Saturday.”

The NAIA announced that after analysis and discussion, the administrative council has directed the NAIA Championships Department to “make reasonable accommodation whenever possible” for the Adventist teams’ Sabbath observance and noted that a precedent for such accommodation has already been established through championship scheduling. However, the NAIA did not grant a Saturday Declaration of Intent or official letter and noted that the council’s directive did not guarantee Sabbath accommodation in all instances toward maintaining event-scheduling flexibility.

“Regarding our request to have a Saturday Declaration of Intent, we will continue our conversations with NAIA leadership,” Krumm commented. “Our students and schools need this foundational policy accommodated, not only for our present needs but for those of other individuals with the same beliefs coming into the association in the future.”

Darla Martin Tucker

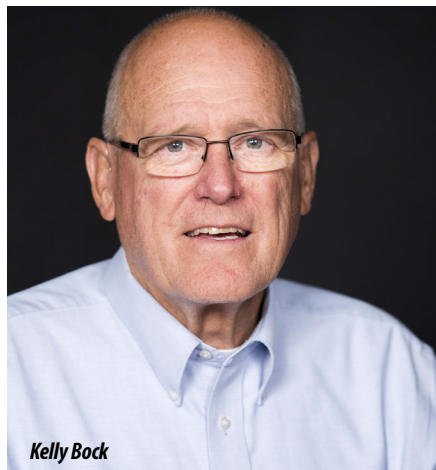
New Educational Leaders Start the 2017-2018 School Year

Kelly Bock, Interim Associate Superintendent, Office of Education

Kelly Bock graduated from La Sierra University and the University of Idaho. He enjoys sailing, biking, and outdoor activities.

Bock has worked at every level in education: boys' dean, guidance counselor, principal, in the office of education at the North American Division, and superintendent of several conferences. Most recently, Bock was the director of education at the Pacific Union for nine years before retiring in 2011.

"I can't imagine a career elsewhere that offers more than what I've been able to do. I enjoy the variety of things I can do in this career — I guess I just can't quit!"



Michael Connor, Interim Associate Superintendent, Office of Education

Michael Connor graduated from Loma Linda and La Sierra universities. He loves golf, small home renovations, and being a grandparent.

As the new interim associate superintendent, Connor's goals are to increase enrollment, enhance professional development of teachers, and model the importance of Christian education throughout the conference.

Connor is passionate about giving back to his Adventist education community. "I want to share the joy of what Christian education has



meant to me, and to invite those who have not experienced that to join the journey," he said.

Michael Armstrong, Principal, Oceanside Adventist Elementary



Michael Armstrong enjoys sports, hiking, and reading. He loves embracing new teaching practices and working with teachers to improve education. "The teachers at Oceanside and I are reading books to align our focus about mind-set, grit, and student leadership," Armstrong said. "Using tools like STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and PBL (problem-based learning) help kids do hard things, overcome fear of failure, and connect with their local community."

He loves that Adventist schools have been doing outdoor and character education. Best of all, he says, Christ is in the center, directing each student's focus toward an eternal future.

Almibar Cruz, Teaching Principal, Laguna Nigel Junior Academy

Almibar Cruz graduated from both Montemorelos and Southern Adventist universities. For more than 23 years, he has dedicated his life to education. His favorite hobbies are music and sports, and he also enjoys teaching and directing band and marimba.

Cruz hopes to bring a spirit of unity among teachers, staff, church, and community to increase enrollment and foster excellence academically, spiritually, and musically.

"My favorite part of working in Adventist Christian education is seeing how teaching can lead students to Jesus," Cruz said. "In my opinion, it's the most rewarding ministry one can ever experience!"



Joyce Fronda, Teaching Principal, El Cajon Christian School

Joyce Fronda graduated from La Sierra University. She moved to South Korea as a missionary teacher and later returned to California as a teaching principal. She loves drawing and traveling. Her favorite thing about teaching is seeing students' enthusiasm when they understand new concepts.



Joyce Fronda

“As a principal, I get to make decisions to improve learning and strengthen the spiritual atmosphere,” Fronda said. “I love hearing students talk about how God has touched their lives.”

Her goals include getting to know the school’s culture and needs while building a strong relationship with the community.

Catherine Killebrew, Teaching Principal, San Antonio Christian School

Catherine Killebrew graduated from Loma Linda University. She loves scrapbooking, photography, and being a brand new



Catherine Killebrew

grandmother. Her goals begin with developing deep spirituality, and empowering her teachers to introduce children to Jesus. She also places high value on ensuring that children are treated with respect and love.

“Our children are living in a complicated world,” she said, “and our Adventist schools provide students with meaningful

dialogue with God, creating thoughtful and compassionate children who value each person.”

She loves meeting children at the beginning of their academic journey, planting knowledge, and watching it sprout.

Susie Oliva, Teaching Principal, Victor Valley School

Susie Oliva graduated from La Sierra University and loves spending time with family, making crafts, and baking.



Susie Oliva

Her goal for the new school year is to create a safe environment where students are not only free from the fear of ridicule, but are encouraged to risk making mistakes in order to learn.

“It’s important to work as a team with parents to guide and teach our students together, giving them a Christian foundation.”

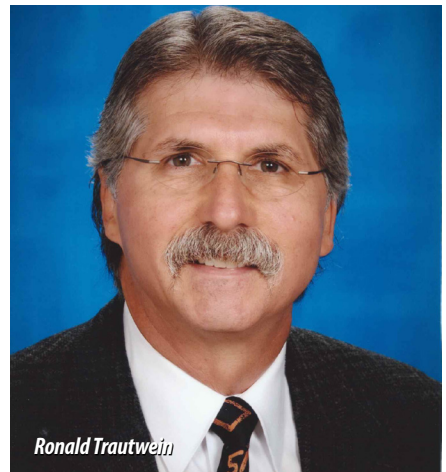
Oliva’s favorite part of Adventist education is being able to share her belief, understanding, and love of God with her students.

Ron Trautwein, Principal, Loma Linda Academy Elementary

Ron Trautwein graduated from Walla Walla and La Sierra universities. In addition to teaching, he has experience working with emotionally and behaviorally disturbed children. His hobbies include hiking, backpacking, and riding motorcycles.

Trautwein’s goal is to be used by the Holy Spirit as he works with the faculty and staff to create a compelling picture of Jesus to the children they serve.

“Adventist education is a great opportunity to work for our Redeemer in preparing young people for a life of service in this world and for



Ronald Trautwein

the eternal world that we have been saved to inherit,” he said.

Iveth Valenzuela, Principal, Redlands Adventist Academy

Iveth Valenzuela is a graduate of Andrews and La Sierra universities. She enjoys cooking, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Valenzuela loves partnering with teachers and parents to help students succeed. Her goal this year is to get to know the Redlands community and colleagues and to develop a vision together.

“One of my favorite things about being an Adventist educator is that every day is an opportunity to reflect and lift up Christ,” Valenzuela said. “My ultimate goal is that each student will have a Christian perspective through which they will make their big and small decisions.”



Iveth Valenzuela

Sarah McDugal

Summer Camp Ministry Thrives at Pine Springs Ranch

Pine Springs Ranch was in full swing this summer with eight camp sessions. Some camping traditions have remained constant throughout the 56-year history of Southeastern's summer camp program, when PSR first started in 1961. There was one new session introduced this year: "Combo Camp."

"We're trying Combo Camp this year to provide an opportunity for younger siblings to go to camp with their older siblings," said Carmen Ibanez, PSR director.

More than 140 campers aged 9 to 15 gathered July 16-23 for a week of making new friends, getting away from electronics, and gaining a safe and positive Christian experience outdoors.

PHOTO BY JESSICA ANZAI PERMAUL



Hope Johnston creates a kangaroo hopping into the sunset during arts class.



An archer lines up her shot at her custom-drawn target during archery class.

Girls lined up on one side of the flagpole at attention, boys on the other side. After the flag raising and announcements, campers grabbed their water bottles to make sure they had enough water for their morning rotations.

But before their individual activities of archery, gymnastics, go-karts, rock climbing, photography, cooking, and more, everyone gathered at the church bowl for camp songs and morning worship.

"It's not popular today, but loving your enemies takes courage — and that's what Jesus did," said Kenneth Grimes, speaker for the week.

All the activities featured positive reinforcement, teamwork building, and learning something new about the outdoors. At the nature center,

a group of campers learned how to use a field guide to identify different types of deer by their antlers, and different types of plants and birds. Then they went outdoors to test their new skill.

"I found it!" one camper shouted, pointing to a picture in a book. Everyone in the group gathered around a small milkweed bug, which they then decided was sitting on a milkweed plant.

On another part of the 16-acre camp, at a soccer game, the red team scored a goal on the blue team at the last second in soccer. The game tied at 3 to 3. Players gave each other high-fives and gathered for a drink of water.

"You need your team, just like Jesus and His disciples were a team," counselor Amy Ramos said. "And we want to be on God's team. Let's all shout 'God's Team!'"

Down the road, a group of calm and focused campers painted animal silhouettes against an orange, red, and yellow sunset. One girl painted her bunny from home; another painted an elephant.

"I have a passion for art, specifically sketching," said Tasman Aveling, 12. "It's the only thing I've stayed constant at."

It was Tasman's first time at summer camp. When he said he wished he could come every week, one of the art teachers encouraged him to work at PSR in the future.

"That's what I did! I was a camper every year for each age group growing up — and now I work here," said Ruby Ramirez, a camp staff member from Victorville.

Other staff members only recently found out about PSR. "The staff is very supportive, and we help each other," said Roque Miranda, a La Sierra University junior accounting major. "I think I'll be coming back next year, too."



Blue vs. Red: both soccer teams tied at the end of their game during morning rotations at combo camp.



Climbing the rock wall is only part of the large ropes course at Pine Springs Ranch.

Jessica Anzai Permaul

SECC Camp Meeting Goes Deeper

This year, Black Ministries focused on the theme “Deeper” during their annual camp meeting at the Riverside Convention Center July 7 and 8. Speakers encouraged the 2,800 people in attendance to think beyond the surface level of their spirituality and to take a deeper look at their relationship with God, Scripture, each other, and themselves.

George King, conference vice president for Black Ministries, saw the event as a huge success. “We have been sponsoring the SECC camp meeting since 1991,” King said. “We live in a world with many distractions. We want our members to think deeply about their relationship with Christ. People always tell us how they were blessed.”

The two main speakers for the meeting were Ainsworth Morris, senior pastor at Riverside Kansas Avenue church, and Carlton Byrd, senior pastor at Oakwood University church and also speaker/director for Breath of Life Ministries.



George King, conference vice president for Black Ministries, prays with the congregation at camp meeting on July 8 at the Riverside Convention Center.



A girl colors during the children's program at this year's camp meeting at the Riverside Convention Center.

Speaking on Friday evening and Sabbath, respectively, both speakers encouraged the audience to take a closer, more personal look at their own spiritual lives.

“Do not to assume you know everything about the Bible passages you have heard before; you have to go deeper,” Morris said. Morris preached on the three Hebrew men of Daniel 3, highlighting the “four-Cs” they went through: challenge, choice, courage, and change.

Byrd used the parable of the sower and the seeds to illustrate the levels of depth in studying the Bible. “As we get deeper into God’s Word, we are able to follow it better,” he said. “In these last days, we cannot afford to have a surface level understanding of Scripture. Our studies must be deeper.”

The youth and young adults had their own church program focusing on the sub-theme, “Deeper Praise.” Ricco Ruiz, of the Westminster Good Samaritan church, focused on going deeper in faith and deeper into a person’s own identity.

“It’s very important that young people have their own worship experience,” Ruiz said. “I’ve had young people approach me about



The camp meeting praise team and mass choir join in prayer with Kurt King, pastor at Imani Praise Fellowship company.



Carlton Byrd, senior pastor at Oakwood University church and also speaker/director for Breath of Life Ministries, speaks about the parable of the sower and the seeds during the main service on July 8.

sermons they heard many years ago that even I have forgotten; but because they had their own Christian experience, they still remember them to this day.”

This year’s camp meeting also included a health focus with free health services on Friday geared toward church members. Over 170 signed up for the four-hour clinic for educational resources and health talks; physical exams; dental cleaning and exams; nutritional, mental health, and grief counseling; mammogram and breast cancer support services; and diabetes education. For camp meeting in 2018, the health team plans to add a larger program with more services and an educational and prevention focus on heart disease, hypertension, obesity, and reducing the incidence of diabetes.

Jordan Shelton-Greene

Classmates Take On Conference Internships

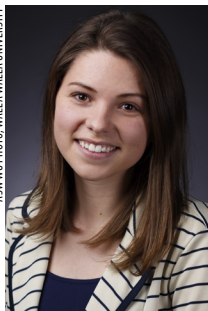
Two of Walla Walla University's spring graduates joined the Nevada-Utah Conference this summer as two-year interns. Faith Hoyt and Michael Prest come to the conference with prior internship experience, and two shared alma maters. Both Hoyt and Prest attended Mount Ellis Academy and WWU.

Faith Hoyt, Communications

Hoyt moved from College Place, Wash., to assume her role as the new communications intern for the NUC and social media manager for the Pacific Union.

She was born in Mountain View and spent her first 15 years in the California foothills of the Sierra Nevadas. Upon graduating MEA in 2012, she traveled west to WWU to earn her Bachelor of Arts in communications.

After her sophomore year of college, Hoyt served as a student missionary in the Northern Mariana Island of Saipan as the public relations assistant for the Saipan Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School. "My role there taught me so many valuable lessons about cross-cultural communication," Hoyt said. "I worked at the school for 10 months, and it



Faith Hoyt



Faith Hoyt sits on the rocky cliffs of the island of Saipan where she worked as a public relations assistant in 2015.

was helpful, because when I returned to Walla Walla, I knew for sure that I wanted to work in communications."

Hoyt learned about the joint-hire internship for the conference and union while reading an email of job listings sent by her university. She immediately picked up the phone to inquire about the position. "I am excited to work in this capacity for the church," Hoyt said.

The conference staff share her enthusiasm. "I am delighted to have the privilege of working with Faith," said Michelle Ward, communication director for the NUC. "On top of being an energetic, cheerful team player, she has demonstrated quality, skill and willingness that are a blessing to our conference. We are thrilled to have her."

In addition to writing articles for the Recorder, Hoyt will also help the NUC with website development and writing newsletters. Her role for the PUC focuses primarily on social media management.

Hoyt welcomes any stories, conference updates, or church news that members can share. "I'm looking forward to building our social media presence and sharing meaningful stories," she said.

Michael Prest, Business/Accounting

Michael Prest joins the NUC from Boise, Idaho, as a business intern. Prior to living in Boise, Prest lived in Bozeman, Mont., where he also attended Mount Ellis Academy during his freshman and sophomore years. Prest graduated from Gem State Adventist Academy in 2013 and then went on to WWU to earn his Bachelor of Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting.

Last summer, he worked as a business intern for the Idaho Conference. "I really enjoyed



Michael Prest poses by the window of the Willis Tower, tallest building in Chicago, Ill.

learning about how they do the accounting there," Prest said. His internship gave him experience handling JVs (Journal Vouchers), cash disbursements, cash receipts, and bank reconciliations. "I also worked on a couple of projects, such as making graphs that analyzed church performance on tithe, offering, and membership status throughout a five-year period." Additionally, Prest helped John Rogers, vice president for finance, prepare the 2017 budget.

In March of this year, Prest received an email about the NUC internship from Rogers. "A big thing for me about applying for this position was that Reno is pretty close to my family," Prest said. "I also really enjoyed my internship at the Idaho Conference and thought it would be fun to learn more about treasury for a conference."

Prest started working in June, and quickly made an impression on his co-workers. "It is very refreshing to work with such a charismatic person," said NUC interim accountant Noreen Vargas. "Michael is very motivated and eager to learn. In my opinion, he already is a great asset to our conference."

Prest looks forward to exploring the mountains near Reno, and gaining experience as a conference treasurer. "I hope to master my job, so if one day God calls me to another conference or this conference after my two-year internship, I can be a successful treasurer."



Michael Prest

Faith Hoyt

Darriel Hoy Joins Conference as Youth Director

The Nevada-Utah Conference welcomed in Darriel Hoy as its new youth director in July after a prayerful six-month search for the right candidate.

Hoy, a graduate of both Duke and Andrews universities, felt drawn to the vision of the NUC and to the opportunity for connecting young people to the love of Jesus through their congregations. Her résumé catapulted her name to the top of the list.



Pastor Darriel Hoy's mission in life is to walk joyfully and humbly with Christ in such an appealing way that others take note and follow Him, too.

Hoy's references and prior experience distinguished her as a well-prepared candidate for the position. Prior to joining the NUC, Hoy worked as a youth leader and later as the youth director for the Central States Conference. In April, she received three calls about jobs in addition to the NUC youth director position. "God opened several doors and, after much prayer, I believe Nevada-Utah was the door God wanted me to walk through," Hoy said. She interviewed with the executive committee, which offered her the job the same day.

In addition to a wealth of job experience, Hoy's résumé also reflects her enthusiasm for working with youth. "Pastor Hoy is passionate about sharing the love of Jesus to young people in the church and out of the church," said Leon Brown, president. "She cares deeply about

young people, and you are not going to be an afterthought. God has laid on her heart a desire to involve young people in ministry."

Hoy says that God has directed her path to ministry since she was 9 years old. She was born in Yazoo City, Miss., and grew up in Baton Rouge, La. When Hoy graduated high school, she asked her pastor about going to school for ministry. "He told me women weren't allowed to be pastors," she said. "My family isn't Adventist, and I'd never seen an Adventist female pastor at that time, so I assumed the pastor was right."

Hoy went to college at Duke University and majored in public policy. While in college, she served her church, Immanuel Temple in Bern, N.C., as assistant youth leader. After working as a youth leader, Hoy interned for the Rural Health Coalition in North Carolina, serving a population with a high concentration of poverty among all races. She witnessed the churches band together and organize free health clinics for the community and enrichment programs for children and teens. "I thought, this is what Acts 2 looks like in today's context," she said.

At her next internship with the Children's Defense Fund, based in Raleigh, N.C., Hoy again found herself working with churches of several denominations who were passionate about youth leadership development.

Hoy worked in Raleigh for three years. When her family experienced a traumatic event, she moved back to Baton Rouge to help raise six of her nieces and nephews. "Every weekend, I brought my nieces and nephews to church, and their friends would want to come, too," she said. "The church saw me with all of these kids and said, 'You already have a group of youth, so you might as well serve as the youth leader.'" She did, and she loved it.

Through her internships and volunteer work, Hoy realized youth ministry was her passion. Others recognized it, too. When the new pastor at her church approached her about becoming a youth pastor, Hoy started making plans to attend the seminary at Andrews University.

In her new role, Hoy plans to work with churches to grow the Pathfinder, Adventurer, TLT (Teen Leadership Training), and Master Guide ministries. She also plans to work with leaders to start new ministries that will involve service, sports teams, drama, life skills, human rights, social justice ministries, and young adult ministries. Hoy wants to help churches be talent scouts who encourage the use of the gifts God has given youth right now instead of waiting until they're older adults. "I want to help young people navigate life and become grace-filled adults," she said.

Hoy believes that Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people, and has a burden to help congregations share the love of Jesus with young people in practical ways.

Faith Hoyt



Pastors Ron Williams, left, and Donald Rolle, right, stand with Pastor Darriel Hoy, center, at her commissioning service.



The Nevada-Utah Conference team prays over Pastor Darriel Hoy.



Farmers markets are great places to stock up on healthy, fresh and local foods.

MORE THAN FARM TO FORK: *Making Healthy Foods Accessible to Everyone*

Wherever you are in the country, chances are you've found yourself spending a morning (or two, or three — no judgments here!) at your local farmers markets, perusing the colorful rows of fresh, local produce and goods. Whether you're picking up a few key ingredients for a fruit salad, or doing most of your shopping for the week — farmers markets are a great way to support your healthy diet and the local farming community, too.

Did you know that many of these farmers markets are going one step further and ensuring that they reach as many members of the community as possible by accepting SNAP EBT payments? The SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), formerly known as the food stamp program, is a project that helps low-income families by providing benefits and resources to purchase basic food products. In 2016, over 45.4 million people were participating in SNAP. These benefits can be used as payment in any SNAP retailer approved by the USDA.

As farmers markets surge in popularity, more of them are seeing the benefit in accepting SNAP/EBT payments: it's a key way to provide healthy, affordable foods for

the whole community. So instead of having limited options from big box retailers — where oftentimes the selections are primarily processed, high-sodium and caloric foods — farmers markets provide a bigger bang for the buck (farmers market foods are typically much cheaper than their grocery store counterparts), and you know the foods have gone straight from the local farm to your fork.

Just as these markets are jumping on board to make their wares more accessible to all families, businesses and healthcare facilities are taking notice and seeing the value these programs offer their communities — and they're eager to help. Adventist Health Lodi Memorial, in Lodi, Calif., for example, recently gave the Lodi Chamber of Commerce a funding boost by providing a \$2,500 grant. With these funds, the chamber will match the EBT payments of qualified SNAP recipients for farmers market produce purchases — dollar for dollar, on a first-come, first-served basis.

"Of the many meaningful projects in our community, we chose to invest in this program because it aligns with our mission of wellness," says Janelle Meyers, director of Marketing and Public Relations at Adventist Health Lodi

Memorial. "The ability to provide families with fresh fruits and vegetables is essential for the health of our population."

The Lodi Chamber of Commerce calls these types of grants the "ultimate win-win" because it fuels its philosophy that business and community health go hand in hand. The goal for the city of Lodi is to be empowered by nutritious food choices and to celebrate health and wellness as the community grows together.

Meyers adds, "This is a wonderful program we are proud to be part of. It makes it possible for low-income families right here in our community to access local, healthy foods — and it's a bonus that it also supports our local farmers."

If you find yourself in Lodi, check out the farmers market and all the great vendors and community events going on there during these warm summer months. Also head to the USDA website to find a list of national farmers markets — you can also see which ones participate in the SNAP program: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/local-food-directories/farmersmarkets>.

Mollie Hawkins



MISSION TRIP TO NIGERIA

Supports SDA Hospital, Regional Outreach

Loma Linda University Health President Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., took a turn treating some unusual patients on a recent medical mission trip to Northern Nigeria.

While students from four Seventh-day Adventist universities and local medical volunteers treated more than 10,000 people, Hart took time out from the clinic to give antibiotic injections to 60 cows belonging to local Fulani people east of Jos, a city of nearly 1 million people in Plateau state. Cattle form the backbone of the culture and economy of this nomadic people found throughout Northwest Africa.

“Keeping them healthy is extremely important to the Fulani and a great way to help this largely Muslim minority,” Hart said after assisting a volunteer veterinarian who treated more than 2,000 cattle and goats.

Last month’s trip is one of approximately 10 mission trips each year coordinated by the university’s Students for International Mission Service. Many of the trips support rural Seventh-day Adventist medical centers and clinics affiliated with Adventist Health International, which is based in Loma Linda. The Nigeria trip supported Jengre Adventist Hospital and established the Eto Baba and Buken clinics in Jos.

Volunteer Work

Thirty Loma Linda students, six students from Middle East University in Lebanon, one student from Montemorelos University in Mexico, and a number from Babcock University in Nigeria, joined with some 200 local Adventist medical volunteers in the region.

Danjuma Daniel, M.B.A., M.P.H., the trip’s coordinator, said an influx of local volunteer cooks, drivers and church members pushed the total volunteer count to more than 400.

Ed Drachenberg, director of SIMS, said the team performed more than 170 surgeries, treated more than 700 dental patients, treated more than 2,500 eye patients, and distributed more than 3,000 pairs of glasses.

Long-Term Support

The trip also helped further solidify Loma Linda’s ongoing support of medical outreach in the region. Peter Baker, J.D., M.B.A., administrator of Loma Linda University Medical Center – Murrieta, was appointed chair of the AHI-Northern Nigeria Board of Directors during the trip, taking over the post for Hart.

The board — comprising local Seventh-day Adventist Church officials, AHI representatives and selected lay members — oversees seven clinics and one hospital in Nigeria’s central and northern rural areas. It intends to establish more facilities in urban centers and turn a clinic into a regional diagnostic center.

Hart will continue serving on the board, and he and Baker will travel to Nigeria twice a year for meetings, and participate in two others each year by teleconferencing.

Hart said mission trips reaffirm the university’s commitment to global mission and reinforce its traditional emphasis on service. “This speaks to both alumni and other friends of Loma Linda University Health who watch our activities and believe in our commitments,” he said.

Hart insisted that even though locals benefited from the service provided, Nigerians were not the sole beneficiaries.

“The biggest impact will be on those of us who served,” he said.

James Ponder with additional reporting by Ansel Oliver

PHOTO COURTESY LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH



Surgeons performed more than 170 procedures during a mission trip to northern Nigeria. Loma Linda University’s Students for International Mission Service coordinated the trip.



Patients walk to Jengre Adventist Hospital for treatment.

La Voz de la Esperanza Celebrates 75 Years

La Voz de la Esperanza is a staple media ministry of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists that has its roots with the Voice of Prophecy. The ministry's mission is to preach God's Word to Hispanics across the globe, and hundreds of thousands have been baptized as a result. This year, the ministry celebrates its 75th year of spreading the gospel worldwide.

Most people recognize La Voz de la Esperanza as a radio ministry. It is. But that's not all. Over

the years, La Voz has sponsored mission trips and evangelistic meetings, and it has expanded into television, as well. Its Bible school is thriving. More than 25,000 students have finished the course this year alone.

La Voz's priority has always been to preach God's message of hope and love to the world. This year, La Voz has held more than 50 evangelistic efforts across the globe, resulting in thousands of changed lives and more than 2,700 baptisms.

The anniversary celebration tour will conclude with a program at the Loma Linda University Church Sept. 9 at 5 p.m. All are invited to attend.

"God has blessed this ministry for 75 years and we know that God will continue to bless this ministry," says Pastor Omar Grieve, speaker/director. "We will be an ever-shining light to a world filled with darkness."

Derek Grieve



Omar Grieve, La Voz de la Esperanza speaker/director, answers a Bible question during a live broadcast.



Pastor Omar Grieve (black suit, arm raised) and La Voz vocalist Junior Kelly Marchena (blue suit, head bowed) invite attendees at the evangelistic meetings in Cuba to make a decision for Christ.



Grieve speaks at an evangelistic series in Phoenix, Ariz.



La Voz Bible School students in Baracoa, Cuba, hold up their graduation certificates.

Union Grants Three Teacher Education Scholarships

The Pacific Union Office of Education offers a four-year Teacher Education Scholarship to worthy 12th grade students who want to become teachers. In order to qualify, the applicants agree to continue their education at a Seventh-day Adventist institution of higher education with the goal of becoming a Seventh-day Adventist educator. This year, Jayla Cruse, Amanda Harrison and Andrew Lee are the award recipients. Their reasons for becoming a teacher and the benefits of receiving the scholarship speak for themselves.

The purpose of this scholarship is to inspire the next generation to achieve their dreams of becoming Adventist teachers and fulfilling the mission God has put on their hearts. The Office of Education will continue to provide these funds each year as more students strive to become “something better” to benefit the Seventh-day Adventist school system and its students.

Jayla Cruse



Throughout my years of high school, I have been blessed to work in the kindergarten room and watch how hard, but rewarding it is to be a teacher. The predominant reasons, I want to be a teacher is that I want to help change

students' lives. I want to teach them about the love of Christ and how crucial it is to know Him on a personal level. I want to teach them about His love, and how wonderful it is to pray and to have Him on your side. — Jayla Cruse, Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy

Amanda Harrison



God calls each one of us to minister to the world in some way and I believe God is calling me into the ministry of teaching. I know it will not be easy and I know that I am not going to see the rewards every day, but it is like the parable of the sower. It is not my job to make the plants grow or to water them, only to plant the seed and let God do the rest. — Amanda Harrison, San Gabriel Academy

Andrew Lee



I want to make a positive impact on the Seventh-day Adventist education system. I want to be a teacher who is innovative, current, and engaging. This scholarship will support my goal to become a well-rounded teacher who can skillfully educate, advise, mentor, and serve as a role model. It will assist me in learning how to create that safe classroom for students to be inquisitive. — Andrew Lee, Loma Linda Academy

Beverly Benson

More than 60 Students Registered at Holbrook Indian School

On Sunday, Aug. 13, families from across Arizona and New Mexico traveled long distances to register their children at Holbrook Seventh-day Adventist Indian School for the 2017-2018 school year. The majority of these children came from non-Christian homes located on reservations hours away. More than 63 children registered, and more were expected to arrive during the week. Another 12 registered at Holbrook's sister institution, Chinle Adventist Elementary School (CAES).

Holbrook, a first through 12th grade boarding academy operated by the Pacific Union, has served Native American youth for more than 70 years. Located in Holbrook, Ariz., just outside the border of the Navajo Nation, Holbrook serves children from a variety of Native American tribes, including Navajo, Hopi, Apache, Supai, Lakota, Crow, and Pima, just to name a few. Chinle Elementary is a first through eighth grade day school located on the reservation in the town of Chinle, serving primarily the Navajo (Dinè) tribe.

Holbrook meets crucial needs of Native American families. Roads to their remote homes are often unpaved, making the long distances they travel to and from school even more challenging. Financial resources are limited, which makes the cost of gas prohibitive. More

than 51 percent of Native Americans live well below the poverty line.

HIS students receive meals, school supplies, housing, extra-curricular activities, and an accredited, college prep, Christian education for a tuition of only \$84.50 per month. For many families, even that amount is difficult to pay. At Holbrook, no child is ever turned away because their parents or guardians are unable to pay. "Why should a child be punished for being poor?" asks Principal Pedro Ojeda.

David Dickerson, Holbrook's finance and business manager, adds, "Although older students are willing to work, jobs we can offer are scarce. Holbrook simply lacks the funding needed to pay their students to work, and state labor laws make it difficult to employ students."

Staff members were excited to see the familiar faces of returning students and to meet new students who learned about Holbrook



The grandmother of a student completes registration paperwork.

from HIS alumni. During registration, the mother of a new student shared that she heard about Holbrook through a friend who graduated in 1995. As they looked at her friend's senior picture displayed on the walls with all of the HIS graduates throughout the years, she shared that her friend had recently died in a head-on collision caused by a

drunk driver. She was only 31 and left behind a husband and six children.

Many of the children at Holbrook have lost parents, siblings or other close relatives. To help them through the grieving process, Holbrook provides group counseling and one-on-one counseling when needed. As part of the registration process, parents and students are interviewed by staff counselors to help determine the emotional and mental well-being of each student so that issues can be addressed before they become manifest as behavior problems.

Following registration, students went to the dorm and got settled into their rooms. The last event of the day was what Holbrook staff call "The Handshake." This is an opportunity for students and staff to get acquainted, and for new students to make a friend or two. "It is a lot of fun to watch the students interact with each other and especially encouraging to see former students reach out and make new students feel welcome," says Diana Fish, Holbrook's director of development. "It's evidence of God working in their lives. Our students aren't particularly outgoing and tend to be shy."

To learn more about Holbrook Indian School and the services it provides to Native American youth, visit HolbrookIndianSchool.org.

Diana Fish



Senior Adrian Wiles has been attending HIS since third grade and will be graduating this year. He is this year's Student Association vice president and assisted with the registration process..

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11:15 *"Here We Stand: Heirs of the Reformation,"* Dr. Ricardo B. Graham, President, Pacific Union Conference

Sponsored by: Pacific Union Conference,
Pacific Union College, Pacific Union College Church.

Livestream of the program begins at 10:00 AM
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CALENDARS

Central California

HISPANIC YOUNG ADULT RETREAT
(Sept. 1-4) Camp Wawona. Info: 559-347-3174 or spasillas@cccsda.org.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S CONVOCATION
(Sept. 9-10) Fresno Adventist Academy. Featuring Elizabeth Talbot and concert by ReBorn. Call: 559-907-2537.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONVOCATION
(Sept. 15-17) Fresno Westside church, 2750 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Fresno. Join other guests to hear Rupert Bushner and others preach on the "Power to Break Every Chain." Info: wflowers@cccsda.org or 559-470-1777.

CLERK AND TREASURER TRAINING
(Sept. 24) Central California Conference. Please RSVP. Clerks, 559-347-3194 or anichols@cccsda.org. Treasurers, 559-347-3196 or auditassist@cccsda.org.

MEN'S CONVENTION (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) Onboard the Aircraft Carrier USS Hornet with men 'Chosen for Action.' Register at mensconvention.eventbrite.com or email ministries@cccsda.org.

SMALL GROUP HISPANIC LEADERS SEMINAR (Sept. 29-Oct. 1) Leoni Meadows; guest speaker, Alejandro Bullón. Details: 559-347-3144.

La Sierra University

CHAMBER MUSIC RECITAL SERIES
(Oct. 1) 7 p.m., featuring La Sierra University Director of String Studies Jason Uyeyama, violin, Robert deMaine, principal cellist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and other top classical artists. Hole Memorial Auditorium. General admission \$15. Info: music@lasierra.edu, 951-785-2036 or music-events.lasierra.edu/2017-2018-concert-events/.

FALL CONCERT (Oct. 28) 7 p.m. LSU Orchestra & 2017 Concerto winner Shuo Ma, cellist, including Rutter's "Suite for Strings" and Davidovich's "Cello Concerto No. 1." Hole Memorial Auditorium. Admission \$5-\$15. Info: music-events.lasierra.edu/2017-2018-concert-events/, music@lasierra.edu, or 951-785-2036.

Northern California

FEJA NCC CAMP MEETING (Sept. 1-4) Leoni Meadows. For Spanish-speaking young people, ages 14-35. Info: Andre, 209-451-6981.

ADVENTURER/PATHFINDER LEADERSHIP CONVENTION
(Sept. 8-10) Leoni Meadows. Info: Adventurers, 925-603-5082, or Pathfinders, 925-603-5080.

PUC PREP ALUMNI WEEKEND
(Sept. 8-9) Friday, 6:30 p.m. - supper and vespers, PUC church Fireside Room. Sabbath events begin at 9 a.m., PUC church sanctuary. Worship speaker Elder Mike Brownfield, class of 1967. Noon - potluck, gymnasium. 4 p.m. - Prep Talks, McKibbin Hall. Info: wilsondoug@yahoo.com.

DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING
(Sept. 10) 9 a.m.-4 p.m. NCC Headquarters, 401 Taylor Blvd., Pleasant Hill. Speaker: Charlene Sargent, director of Pacific Union Adventist Community Services Disaster Response. Learn how you can be ready to help others. Free; no registration needed. Info: 925-603-5072.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVANGELISM SUMMIT (Sept. 15-16) Life Adventist Church of Berkeley, 2236 Parker Street. Join the discussion on creative ministry. Info: 925-603-5080.

ALUMNI REUNION (Sept. 16-17) El Dorado Adventist School, 1900 Broadway, Placerville. Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.; worship service: 10:30 a.m.; golf tournament: Sunday. Honored classes: 2002 & 2007. Featured speaker: Pastor Ryan Jones. Lunch provided. Info: Lois Roberts, lois.eas48@gmail.com.

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LOCAL CHURCH ELDERS TRAINING (Sept. 17) 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fairfield Community church, 1101 East Tabor Avenue. "Preach the Word," a practical seminar for lay-preachers. Work on your sermon under the guidance of an experienced preacher. Bring Bible, notepad, pen. Lunch provided. Info: www.nccsda.com/EldersTraining. RSVP: 925-603-5089, EldersTraining@nccsda.com.

SINGLES INTERNATIONAL THEME PARTY (Sept. 24) 11 a.m. Lodi Fairmont church, 730 South Fairmont Avenue. Hosted by Valley ASAM Fellowship. Entertainment from a variety of countries, including Arthur Brogili, yodeler, singer, accordion player and Henry Neimann, harmonica player. Bring food/wear something that reflects your heritage. Info: 209-334-1844.

SACRAMENTO CENTRAL HOMECOMING (Sept. 30) 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sacramento Central Church, 6045 Camellia Avenue. 130th anniversary celebration and homecoming event. Guest speaker Doug Batchelor. Lots of music. Lunch included. RSVP requested: 916-717-6626 or 130Years@saccentral.org.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT (Oct. 6-8, 13-15) Leoni Meadows. Kathi Lipp, best-selling author and national speaker. "From Overwhelmed to Overcomer." Info: ourchristianladies.com.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER (Oct. 20-22) Sacramento area. DEADLINE: Oct. 9. Info: Rob & Debbie Purvis, 916-599-5560 (text ok) or purvis4@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE (June 22-23, 2018) The Placerville church will celebrate 125 years next June! All former pastors, members, friends invited. Friday night vespers; Sabbath services; lunch provided; activities for children; Heritage Singers concert. Please send your current address to receive more information. Info: office@placervillesda.org, 530-622-2446.

Pacific Union College

BE A PUC PIONEER this Fall! It's not too late to apply for the 2017-2018 school year. Financial aid is also available. Visit www.puc.edu/admissions to learn more and submit your application today.

PUBLICATION WORKSHOP (Sept. 5-7) High school students learn how to make the most of their publications through writing, photography, graphic design, and film courses taught by college educators and industry professionals. Info: publicationworkshop.squarespace.com.

FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION (Sept. 16) The Pacific Union hosts a special Sabbath event celebrating the 500th year anniversary of the Reformation. Speaker: Dr. Ricardo Graham, president of the Pacific Union. Info: <https://goo.gl/9EPHVR>.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION (Sept. 20-24) New freshman experience five days of orientation, advising, and spiritual and social programs, including the FUSION Weekend retreat. Transfer student orientation takes place Sunday, Sept. 24. Info: www.puc.edu/orientation or 707-965-7362.

FALL QUARTER BEGINS (Sept. 25) PUC kicks off the 2016-2017 school year with a Welcome Back Celebration. For a full calendar of the year's events, visit www.puc.edu/calendar.

ANGWIN TO ANGWISH (Oct. 15) Registration has opened! Trail run offering Family Run (4k), 10k, and half-marathon courses on PUC trails. Benefits PUC's Service-Learning Program. Info/registration: www.angwintoangwish.com.

PUC COLLEGE DAYS (Oct. 15-16) High school juniors and seniors from Central California Conference area academies, high schools, youth groups and home school experience classes and college events at PUC. Registration required as space is limited. Info: enroll@puc.edu or 707-965-6336.

PUC NOW (Online) Stay connected with Pacific Union College by signing up for our email newsletter. Info: www.puc.edu/puc-now.

Southeastern California

EMPOWER MINISTRY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (Sept. 2-4) Hyatt Regency Orange County, 11999 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove. The purpose is to equip and empower current and potential leaders to lead the church. Info: bit.ly/EmpowerConf.

PATHFINDER LEADER'S CONVENTION (Sept. 8-10) Pathfinder directors, deputy directors, counselors, instructors, secretaries, and treasurers and teens working on Master Guide or are staff are the only teens invited to attend. Pine Springs Ranch, 58000 Apple Canyon Rd., Mountain Center. Info: bit.ly/SECCPath2017.

ADVENTURER LEADER'S CONVENTION (Sept. 15-17) this program is designed to inspire and train adult Adventurer leaders; specifically directors, staff, and parents wishing to learn more about the Adventurer program. Pine Springs Ranch, 58000 Apple Canyon Rd., Mountain Center. Info: bit.ly/SECCAdv2017.

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OAK & ACORN PUBLISHING

Learn more about Oak & Acorn Publishing, a resource ministry of the Pacific Union Conference, at www.adventistfaith.com/oakandacorn.

ADVENTURER BEACH DAY (Sept. 24) 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Bolsa Chica State Beach, Huntington Beach. This event is open to any family that is part of a SECC registered Adventurer club. This offers a relaxing day at the beach with an opportunity to meet families from other clubs. Info: bit.ly/AdvBeach2017.

Southern California

SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT (Sept. 9) 5 p.m. Featuring violinist Dimitry Olevsky and pianist Pavel Gintov, with works by Bortkiewicz, Brahms, Mozart and Schubert. A reception follows. Ample parking on the lower level of the Fashion Center next to the church.

Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SABBATH (Sept. 9) 4 p.m. "Social Justice & the Adventist Church in Southern California" Central Filipino Church, 777 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles 90041. Speakers, Ganoune Diop, Ph.D., Global Religious Liberty Issues; Alan J. Reinach, Esq., School Vouchers; James G. Lee Jr., Johnson Amendment; Dennis Seaton, Getting Involved with Religious Liberty Issues. Info: 818-546-8405.

COMPLETE LEGAL IMMIGRATION TRAINING (Sept. 10) Instruction on helping immigrants achieve legal status. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (lunch included). Compton Community church, 1226 W. Compton Blvd. Please RSVP before Sept. 6. Contact: Barbara Hart, 818-546-8405; bhart@sccsda.org; or Betty Cooney, 818-516-6508 (cell); bcooney@sccsda.org. Info: scc.adventist.org/events/detail/136.

ANNUAL ANTELOPE VALLEY HEALTH EXPO (Sept. 10) 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Antelope Valley Adventist School, 45002 Fern Avenue, Lancaster 93534. Free health services provided includes vision and oral testing and anti-stress massage, etc. Info: 661-943-5725, churchoffice@lancasteradventist.com.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY (Sept. 20-Nov. 15) Nine Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Learn God's ways of handling money and take control of your money and life. Attend Sept. 20 free. Canoga Park Community church, 20550 Roscoe Blvd., Winnetka 91306. Register today for early online access at bit.ly/cpcfpu1.

SCC CONVOCATION (Sept. 23) Greek Theatre, 2700 N. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles 90027. Speakers: Leslie N. Pollard, D.Min., president, Oakwood University; Karl Haffner, Ph.D., mission strategist, Kettering Health Network; Neil Nedley, M.D., president, Weimar Institute; Schubert Palmer, M.D., interventional cardiologist, WMCC; Nerida McKibben, MBChB, program host, Hope TV. Space is limited; first come, first served! Info: www.aliveconvocation2017.org, 818-546-8461/8462.

WEST COAST MUSIC & WORSHIP CONFERENCE (Sept. 27-30) 11th annual event. White Memorial church, 401 N. State St., Los Angeles 90033. Featured artist: Marvin Sapp. Info: 909-580-0403. Registration required: westcoastmwc@hotmail.com, www.wcgms.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.TEACHServices.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.

CANVASBACK MISSIONS NEEDS three vehicles to transport volunteers and supplies as well as pull a food trailer delivering healthy produce and meals on the island of Majuro. Your tax-deductible donation of a running or non-running vehicle can help us share the love of God through health and healing! 800-793-7245, info@canvasback.org.

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Employment

PRIVATE PSYCHIATRIC AND WELLNESS practice in Auburn, Calif., has three openings: Psychiatrist or Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Professional Relations Coordinator, and Psychiatric Technician. Beautiful Minds Medical, Inc. focuses on wholeness accessible to anyone desiring personal growth and mental health. Our practice is expanding to meet the growing mental health needs of our community. Please visit our website, www.beautifulmindsmedical.com, or contact us at 530-889-8780, ask for Gary.

PSYCHIATRIST OR CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, Ph.D. needed for Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, Calif. Competitive pay and benefits. Call Dr. Randall Steffens, 615-604-0142.

SANIKU EAST-WEST LANGUAGE SCHOOL seeks to fill the positions of full-time elementary school teacher and full-time Principal/Manager. These positions require fluency of the Japanese language. Ideal candidates should be committed educators who are experienced working within the Adventist educational organization. Our school teaches K-9 using school text books that are written in the Japanese language and provided by the Japanese Government. We have three campuses in the south of Los Angeles with over 200 students. Classes are taught twice a week from 3:40 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. If interested, please contact: tozai@sanikutozai.org.

SDA ENGINEERING COMPANY or individuals wanted to coordinate with an SDA architect on projects in California & Washington states. Looking for licensed, structural, civil mechanical



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To make our clinic a complete success, we need many volunteers to assist with all aspects of working with the general public.



IMPACT PACIFIC

Special Offering: September 30, 2017

The offering on September 30, 2017, will be for mission opportunities here in the Pacific Union.

To maximize effectiveness, all offerings will be used within the conferences where the money is raised.

and electrical. Message phone 530-823-0234 or archrh@gmail.com.

UNION COLLEGE, Lincoln, Nebraska, seeks a Vice President for Enrollment Services. This person will be responsible for achieving the college's enrollment goals and managing financial aid to meet overall financial goals. Full description at www.ucollege.edu/staff-openings. Send application and résumé to Dr. Vinita Sauder, vinita.sauder@ucollege.edu.

Events

ATTEND THE 5TH ANNUAL Loma Linda University Health Symposium (Oct. 5) 6-8 p.m. Cancer prevention seminar, Drayson Center Collins Auditorium. Several presenters will discuss some of the lifestyle and dietary strategies to reduce your risk for cancer. Info: 909-651-5077.

Missing Members

RED CLIFFS. Contact: Mike Calvo, 1st Elder, Red Cliffs SDA Church, P.O. Box 528, St. George, UT 84770; 419-204-1435; donmiguel1949@gmail.com; Michael David Albitre, Peggy Alice Ballard, Dan Burden, Priscilla Cruz, John Allen Curtis, Lynette Curtis, John Ray Legere, Mark Narzekalski,

Verna Narzekalski, Daniel Palacios, Marisa Palacios, Laura Payne, Sheldon Penner, Shenzhen Shi Luoho Qu, Grace Perchez, Lydia Bageson Pescadon, Autumn Seals, Rainbow Sky Seals, Running Gold Seals, Guillermina Stastny-Shuker, Vincent B. Shuker, Jessie Smith, David Stahlecker, Gina Stahlecker, Kathleen A. Wertheimer, Mitch Williams.

VICTORVILLE. Contact: 16070 Lorene Dr., Victorville, CA 92395 or call 760-245-3620; vvsdachurch@gmail.com; Amy Johnson, Katherine Kieper, Kevin Kroeger, John Laird, Penny Laird, Margaret Landon, Mizpah Legaspi (Malaguit), Andy Leuridan, Eddy Leuridan F., Archelle Liggins, Archie Liggins, Marks Loreth, Minh Maj, Sam Manoram, Roy L. Marquez, Jessie McHenry, Andrew McIntosh, Carla McIntosh, Roger McIntosh, Scott McIntosh, Walter Mathews, Julie Medina (Keener), Alba Mejia, Diana Messer, Athena Milton, Cheryl M. Mitchell, Grace Morphin, Richard Myers, Jerry Olmstead, Nenita Orendain, James Page, Michael Page, Michelle Page, Regena Page, Andrew Thomas Schwartz, Darlene Self, Jerry Self, Rickey Self, Steve Self, Jack Sittler, Pam Sittler, Sean Sittler, Shannon Sittler, Steve South, Diane Stagnitto, Tina Stiles Jae Woo Styadi-Park, Grace Park, Yvonne Sullivan, Reba Tucker.

Real Estate

OFF-GRID, 3,000 SQ. FT., 3-bdrm, 2.5 bath home, 1G acres. Incredible, awesome view overlooking river-bordering U.S.F.S. & Glacier National Park, Mont. Home has gravity feed spring H₂O, attached garage and carport, sundeck. Guest home/solarium with solar panels, inverter/charger and battery pack, generator, welder, storage buildings (dozer, tractor, trailers, equipment, tools, etc.). \$975,500, owner finance (50% max). 770-548-4319.

RENO, NEVADA. Beautiful hilltop stone house located on Riverview Adventist church campus with breathtaking view of scenic Truckee River. Available for TV productions, cooking schools, church retreats, teaching seminars, administrative conferences, training work-shops, reunions, etc. Sunday-Thursday \$150 per day. Security Deposit \$350, refundable if left clean and undamaged. For additional information, please call Debbie Glass, 775-322-9642.

SDA REAL ESTATE BROKER available to help you find homes in small towns, country homes with acreage, and undeveloped land in beautiful Northeast Washington. Experienced with all facets of country living including home building, organic gardening,

orcharding, and off grid living. 509-936-3112. www.ruralpropertiesbyrob.com, Robmc@Windermere.com.

THE ULTIMATE "END OF TIME" property for a refuge at very "end of the road." Privacy, meadows, trees, a great garden area, lots of sun and lots of water (an artesian well and a spring) all on 95 acres. Two homes and a shop with one house 4-bdrm and 3,700 square feet. Large garages; a back-up generator for having your own power. And there are utilities in another beautiful home sites all ready to go. Land can be split into twenties. Prices start at \$225,000 for one home on 20 acres. The price for everything is \$650,000. Property is near Inchelium, Wash. Must see it. Ready to go now! Contact Jim, 503-871-3344.

WELLNESS CENTER FOR SALE by owner. Southern Ore., beautiful 1 acre, 10 minutes from Ashland, 10 minutes from Medford. Close to shopping, feels and sounds like rural living. Designed to be used for Wellness and Healing. Multiple buildings for residence/meetings/therapies. 50 gallon a minute well. Much more at wellnesscenter4sale.com.

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land. Good well. Off the grid, wired for generator power. New. \$194,900. 541-783-3788.

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SUNRIVER, CENTRAL ORE. 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.

Vacation Opportunities

ISRAEL AND JORDAN Bible Tour (March 21–April 1, 2018) with Dr. Carl Cosaert of Walla Walla University. Deepen your faith as we explore the world of the Bible by visiting places like Galilee, Capernaum, Caesarea, Petra, Jerusalem and more. Only \$2,365 plus airfare. For more information, contact Paul Blake, 509-995-6272 or pblake83@live.com.

ISRAEL TOUR with Pastor Jim Gilley, 3ABN's Pastor C.A. Murray and Friends. Two trips this fall 2017 (Nov. 12–20) \$2,995; (Nov. 19–27) \$2,995. Includes all tips, taxes, air, and breakfast and dinner buffets daily. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles.



OAK & ACORN PUBLISHING

Learn more about Oak & Acorn Publishing, a resource ministry of the Pacific Union Conference, at www.adventistfaith.com/oakandacorn.

AT REST

ATKINS, RALPH HENRY – b. Jan. 25, 1918, Oklahoma City, Okla.; d. July 1, 2017, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Linda Scott; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother, Robert.

BALSIGER, DAVID WAYNE – b. Dec. 14, 1945, Monroe, Wis.; d. June 27, 2017, Loveland, Colo. Survivors: wife, Victoria Gardner; daughters, Lori Vani, Lisa Burrell, Jennifer; three grandchildren. VP of marketing/senior producer, Grizzly Adams Productions, producers of movies, documentaries, TV specials, including "Ancient Secrets of the Bible" and "Encounters with the Unexplained" series.

BARNES-ICE, MARILYN D. (HANVILLE) – b. March 13, 1941, McMinnville, Ore.; d. May 25, 2017, Stockton, Calif. Survivors: husband, David; two grandchildren.

BOCK, MERLO B. – b. Nov. 21, 1925, Glendale, Calif.; d. July 12, 2017, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Allan; daughter, Colleen; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

BREINGAN, RONALD A. – b. May 5, 1926, Portland, Maine; d. July 20, 2017, El Centro, Calif.; Survivors: wife, Marilyn; sons, George, Tim; daughters, Mary, Martha Swab; four grandchildren; stepsons, Roger, Randy; stepdaughters, Kathy, Karen; four step-grandchildren. Worked in Adventist education for over 40 years and was the principal at Calxico Mission School.

CALKINS, ELIZABETH (ENNS) – b. March 13, 1920, Dinuba, Calif.; d. June 28, 2017, Dinuba, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Terry Rodman, Patty Becker; nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren.

CAMPBELL, PERRY D. – b. Dec. 7, 1934, Rochester, Minn.; d. June 13, 2017, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: wife, Corinne; son, Scott; daughters, Erin Kurtz, Heather Miller; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

CHASE, DONALD – b. Dec. 13, 1950, Omaha, Neb.; d. May 22, 2017, La Quinta, Calif. Survivors: wife, Resa; brother, James. Served as a pathologist at Loma Linda Medical Center for 35 years.

CLIFFORD, DONNA – b. April 18, 1922, Indianola, Iowa; d. July 24, 2017, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: sons, Ken, Sid, Monte; daughter, Carol McHenry; nine grandchildren.

COLLINS, EUNICE PAULINE – b. March 6, 1934, Providence, R.I.; d.

June 3, 2017, Visalia, Calif. Survivors: son, John; daughters, Sandra Newland, Linda Bachman, Sharon Hall, Rebecca Osborn, Janet Samuelian, Christine Thomas, Lynne Collins; 24 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren. Served as an Adventist educator for 38 years at Armona Union Academy and Monterey Bay Academy.

DAHLKE, WILLI – b. May 15, 1925, Sorochin, Ukraine; d. June 11, 2017, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: wife, Helen; daughters, Heidi, Rita Castro; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; sister, Johanna Janke.

ELLIS, BRENDA LORRAINE – b. Jan. 11, 1955, Van Nuys, Calif.; d. March 7, 2017, Visalia, Calif. Survivors: son, Foster Ellis; mother, Linda Pina; sisters, Patsy Spruittenburg, Suzanne Collishaw, Denise Pina, Lisa Godfrey.

GRAVES, EDWARD W. – b. Sept. 2, 1923, Glendale, Calif.; d. July 2, 2017, Hemet, Calif. Survivors: wife, Willeta; son, Ed Jr.; daughters, Jean Rose, Lori Foreman; two grandchildren.

HADLEY, IRMA ROLLER – b. March 21, 1932, Decatur, Ark.; d. June 15, 2017, Phoenix, Ariz. Survivors: sons, Steve, Jon; daughter, Sondra; two grandchildren. Served as academy English teacher and education superintendent in Arizona Conference.

HARDY, MARLENE MAE (ROMBEAU) – b. Feb. 24, 1931, Modesto, Calif.; d. Feb. 18, 2017, Discovery Bay, Calif. Survivors: husband, Gerald; sons, Brent, Bob; daughter, Raelene Rasmussen; eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren. Served as chaplain assistant at Portland Adventist Hospital and as head of Faith for Today Bible School in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

IVERSEN, DIXIE ELSIE – b. April 21, 1918, Idaho; d. Oct. 19, 2016, Ukiah, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Carolyn Brooks, Judy; three grandchildren.

KUSHMAN, LEONARD – b. Dec. 19, 1935, Mina, S.D.; d. July 2, 2017, Napa, Calif. Survivors: wife, Faye; sons, Duane, Dale, Randy; daughters, Rhonda, Pam, Kim; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

LEE, RAMONA (PEYTON) – b. July 28, 1928, Minneapolis, Minn.; d. May 24, 2017, Santa Maria, Calif. Survivors: son, John G.; two grandchildren.

LYLE, VIRGINIA – b. Jan. 7, 1933, Hinsdale, Ill.; d. July 21, 2017, Temecula, Calif. Survivors: husband, Harold; daughters, Cindie Duffy, Dianne Nash; one granddaughter.

MAGOS, MADELYN ELAINE – b. June 11, 1950, Kansas City, Mo.;

d. June 15, 2017, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: husband, Marty; son, Floyd; daughters, Jeri Avery-Christopher, LaTonya Avery-Johnson; 18 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Served as summer camp secretary for Pine Springs Ranch.

MITTS, DR. RUSSELL THOMAS — b. May 21, 1923, Dunbar, Pa.; d. March 14, 2017, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: son, Thomas; daughter, Ginny Davidson; three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren.

NASHED, YACCOUB — b. April 27, 1922, Ben Adi, Egypt; d. June 27, 2017, Corona, Calif. Survivors: sons, Arnold, Harold; daughters, Suha Huffaker, Nora Simmons; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

OGLESBY, DENNIS RAY — b. Oct. 5, 1943, Merced, Calif.; d. March 28, 2017, Ceres, Calif. Survivors: wife, Marlene; daughters, DeeAnne Harmon, Denise Pearman; and three grandchildren.

PEARCE, CHARLES F. — b. Jan. 26, 1935, Philadelphia, Pa.; d. June 17, 2017, St. Helena, Calif. Survivors: wife, Julia; brothers, James, Chester, Willard.

PFEIFLE, JOAN (TWING) — b. Feb. 8, 1939, Takoma Park, Md.; d. March 10, 2017, Merced, Calif. Survivors:

husband, Gerald; sons, Jasper, Jathan, Jody, Joel; three grandchildren.

PHILLIPS, MELVIN L. — b. July 16, 1941, Myrtle Point, Ore.; d. June 26, 2017, Yuma, Ariz. Survivors: wife, Betty Lou; sons, Melvin "Rick", Daniel, Merrel; daughters, Joy Buikema, Melonie Robanske, Cindy Lou Bailey; 15 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren. Pastored Gila Mountain church in Arizona.

PONDER, JAMES CLIFF — b. Nov. 13, 1932, Sebastian, Texas; d. Oct. 4, 2016, La Quinta, Calif. Survivors: wife, Betty Rae Gray; son, James; daughter, Suzanne Sparks; two grandchildren; two great-granddaughters. Served as Adventist school principal in Corpus Christi, Texas; Barstow, Yucaipa, St. Helena, and Stockton, Calif.

PORRAS, LUIS — b. Aug. 25, 1933, El Paso, Texas; d. May 25, 2017, Menifee, Calif. Survivors: wife, Mary Ruth; son, Larry; daughters, Suzanne Wang, Tina Louise Bagingito; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

PRICE, HUBERT — b. April 4, 1933, Edwards, Miss.; d. May 10, 2017, Santa Ana, Calif. Survivors: wife, Phyllis; son, Kevin; daughters, Debra, Lisa; three grandchildren; brother, John Jr. Pastored Advent Fellowship of All Nations church, Compton, Calif.

QUIBA, LEONILA CARBUNGCO — b. Sept. 12, 1925, Porac Pampanga, Philippines; d. July 4, 2017, Concord, Calif. Survivors: husband, Ismael; sons, Ronald, Gil, Dante, Mel; daughters, Raquel Hurst, Thelma Carter; 12 grandchildren.

RATTER, BERNICE — b. Sept. 12, 1931, Clear Lake, Wis.; d. April 18, 2017, Hemet, Calif. Survivors: sons, Michael, Ken; five grandchildren. Worked in Records office at Andrews and Loma Linda universities.

ROBINSON, VALERIE — b. April 29, 1919, Perth, Australia; d. July 18, 2017, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Llore Ellsworth, Leila; sister, Vivienne Rich.

SCHMIDT, ELBA — b. Sept. 19, 1930, Crespo, Argentina; d. June 30, 2017, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, Hugo; son, Dan; daughters, Heidi Meske, Lollie; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

SIESS, HAZEL (REMINGTON) — b. Aug. 1, 1932, Sumas, Wash.; d. Jan. 9, 2017, Chico, Calif. Survivors: husband, Herb; sons, Don, Stewert Douglas.

SMITH, VERA — b. Feb. 11, 1926, Honolulu, Hawaii; d. July 10, 2017, Avondale, Ariz. Survivors: daughters, Jeanine Linder, Joanne Futcher, Janelle Muthiah, Colette Kirkwood; nine grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; brother, Chester Lyau.

TOEWS JR., HERB G. — b. May 8, 1941, National City, Calif.; d. March 14, 2017, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: wife, Mary; sons, Herb G. III, Thomas, Daniel; daughter, Ruthie; six grandchildren.

WALKER, LORI L. — b. Aug. 5, 1960, Pittsburgh, Pa.; d. June 18, 2017, Escondido, Calif. Survivors: sons, Richard, Charles; two grandchildren.

WELLS, NADINE JOHNSON — b. Aug. 19, 1934, Vallejo, Calif.; d. May 9, 2017, Fairfield, Calif. Survivors: sons, Rick, Paul, Mitch, William; daughters, Sherry, Caroline, Marty; sister, Mary.

WILLIAMS, DON — b. April 29, 1934, Sanitarium, Calif.; d. March 30, 2017, Hanford, Calif. Survivors: wife, Darlene; son, Mark; daughter, Yvonne Stoltz; two grandchildren. Taught Bible in Hawaii and California, pastored in Central and Southern California conferences, and served as chaplain at Hanford Community Medical Center and Kings' County Jail.

WILLIAMS, PHILLIP — b. Jan. 24, 1937, Idamay, W.Va.; d. Nov. 18, 2016, San Francisco, Calif. Survivors: wife, Maudine; daughters, Phyllis, Iralea; one grandchild.

ADVERTISING

Advertising is accepted as a service to Seventh-day Adventist Church members in the Pacific Union. The Recorder management reserves the right to refuse any advertisement, especially ads not related to the needs and practices of the Church membership. Acceptance of any advertising shall be considered a matter of accommodation and not a matter of right, nor shall it be construed to constitute approval of the product or service advertised.

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

2017 Deadlines — These are the advertising deadlines for the Recorder. Your local conference news deadlines will be earlier.

October: August 29
November: September 26
December: October 31
January: November 27
February: January 4

CONTRIBUTIONS

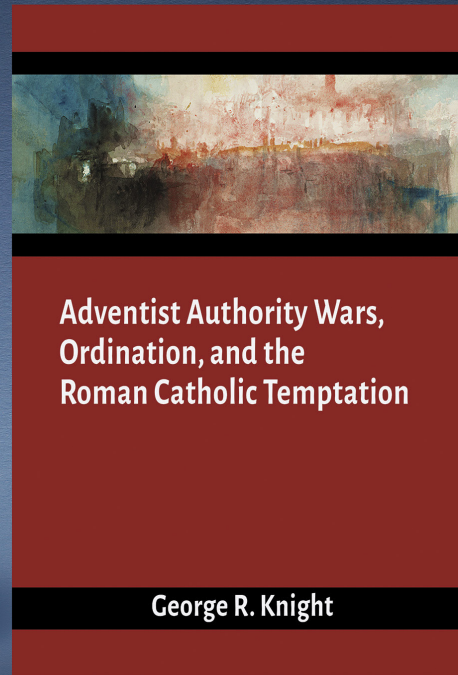
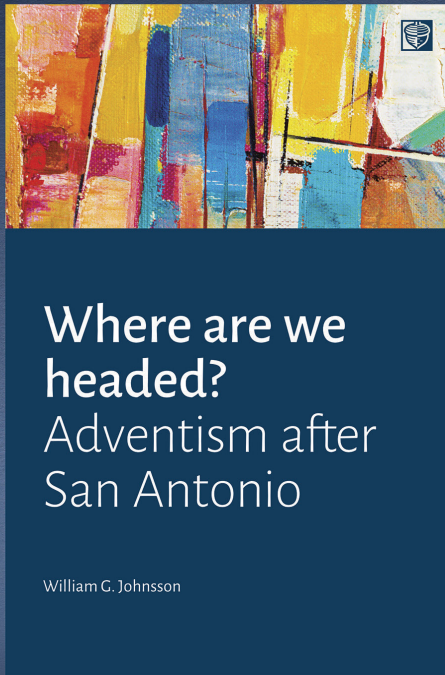
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*"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."
— Exodus 20:8*

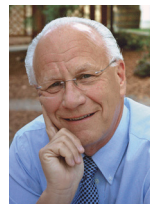
SUNSETS

	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/23	9/30
Alturas	7:32	7:21	7:09	6:56	6:44
Angwin	7:37	7:26	7:15	7:04	6:53
Calexico	7:04	6:55	6:46	6:36	6:27
Chico	7:36	7:25	7:13	7:02	6:50
Eureka	7:46	7:35	7:23	7:11	6:59
Fresno	7:25	7:14	7:04	6:53	6:43
Hilo	6:34	6:28	6:22	6:16	6:09
Honolulu	6:46	6:39	6:32	6:26	6:19
Las Vegas	7:06	6:56	6:45	6:35	6:25
Lodi	7:32	7:21	7:10	6:59	6:49
Loma Linda	7:12	7:03	6:53	6:43	6:34
Los Angeles	7:17	7:07	6:58	6:48	6:38
Moab	7:45	7:34	7:23	7:11	7:00
Oakland	7:35	7:25	7:14	7:03	6:52
Phoenix	6:51	6:42	6:32	6:22	6:13
Reno	7:28	7:16	7:05	6:54	6:42
Riverside	7:13	7:03	6:54	6:44	6:34
Sacramento	7:33	7:22	7:11	7:00	6:49
Salt Lake City	7:57	7:45	7:34	7:22	7:10
San Diego	7:11	7:02	6:52	6:43	6:33
San Francisco	7:36	7:26	7:15	7:04	6:53
San Jose	7:34	7:23	7:12	7:02	6:51
Tucson	6:46	6:36	6:27	6:18	6:09

Hard Questions. No Easy Answers.



Scholar, teacher, author, editor—William G. Johnsson has been an extraordinary voice for Seventh-day Adventists for more than 50 years. In the ten thoughtful and provocative chapters of *Where Are We Headed?* he turns his perceptive gaze to issues facing Adventism in a book that is personal, candid, and ultimately hopeful.



Known for their provocative approach, George R. Knight's books have a wide readership around the world. His new book will not disappoint. Following his usual style, speaking as a pastor and theologian, *Adventist Authority Wars, Ordination, and the Roman Catholic Temptation* raises issues critical to our faith and points to possible solutions.

Both *Where Are We Headed?* and *Adventist Authority Wars, Ordination, and the Roman Catholic Temptation* are available on Amazon.com and through adventsource.org.



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Hospital Sabbath Celebration

Saturday, October 28, 2017 • 10:30 a.m.

1720 East Cesar E. Chavez Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90033

White Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church



Laura Morena
Singer Sensation from Brazil



Scott Reed
Singer/Songwriter
Lead vocalist, Heritage Singers



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