

Recorder



Hundreds Request Baptism at

Pathfinder Camporee

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Dear Friends,

I have had the pleasure and privilege of editing your *Pacific Union Recorder* for exactly 15 years this month. The time has come for my family to begin a new adventure. This Union, "Where the beach is big enough for everyone," has been my home for nearly 20 years. I love it, and I love you. Let me leave you with this one request: regardless of what you see and hear in the world around you, or (especially) in the Church itself, keep your eyes on Jesus. "O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).

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Our mission is to inform, educate and inspire our readers to action in all areas of ministry.

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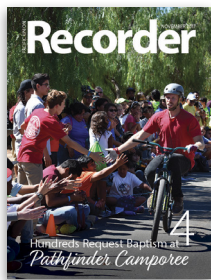
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ABOUT THE COVER

Joey Cordova from the BMX Bike Show's Team Soil greets Pathfinders during one of the crew's twice-daily performances at the Pacific Union Pathfinder Camporee.

PHOTO: ALICIA ADAMS



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Give Thanks with a *Grateful Heart*

We take gratitude for granted many times, at least I do. Jesus told a parable about two people who were forgiven debts, one much larger than the other. At the end He asked the correct question, “Which of the two debtors was more grateful?” The natural response: “The one who was forgiven the most.”

How much forgiveness do you need? Romans 6:23 reminds me that I was in big trouble because, being a sinner, I was condemned to die. But praise God for the gift of Jesus Christ, who died to save me from my sins and my sinful nature. So, I need a lot of forgiveness, and having received it, I try to be grateful to my Heavenly Father all the time.

Can you imagine how Adam will feel when he realizes what his fall had caused? Ellen G. White describes the scene when he meets Jesus for the first time in heaven. The exciting part is that we will be there to witness this monumental moment. Read how *The Great Controversy* describes this incredible event.

“As the ransomed ones are welcomed to the City of God, there rings out upon the air an exultant cry of adoration. The two Adams are about to meet. The Son of God is standing with outstretched arms to receive the father of our race — the being whom He created, who sinned against his Maker, and for whose sin the marks of the crucifixion are borne upon the Saviour’s form. As Adam discerns the prints of the cruel nails, he does not fall upon the bosom of his Lord, but in humiliation casts himself at His feet, crying: ‘Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain!’ Tenderly the Saviour lifts him up and bids him look once more upon the Eden home from which he has so long been exiled.

“Transported with joy, he beholds the trees that were once his delight — the very trees whose fruit he had gathered in the days of his innocence and joy. He sees the vines that his own hands have trained, the very flowers that he once loved to care for. His mind grasps the reality of the scene; he comprehends that this is indeed Eden restored, even lovelier now than when he was banished from it. The Saviour leads him to the tree of life and plucks the glorious fruit and bids him eat. He looks about him and beholds a multitude of his family redeemed, standing in the Paradise of God. Then he casts his glittering crown at the feet of Jesus, and falling upon His breast, embraces the Redeemer. He touches his golden harp, and the vaults of heaven echo the triumphant song: ‘Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and lives again!’ The family of Adam take up the strain and cast their crowns at the Saviour’s feet as they bow before him in adoration” (p. 647, 648).

Wow — what an awesome moment! I can’t wait to be there to witness that incredible scene and thank Jesus for His infinite love and saving grace. During this Thanksgiving season and all year long, may we be truly grateful for what God has done, is doing, and will do for us. And yes, worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb — Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!

Tony Anobile, Pacific Union Vice President



Pacific Union Pathfinder Camporee Draws 4,000+



ENNO MÜLLER

More than 4,000 Pathfinders and their leaders from all over Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah assembled at Lake Skinner Recreation Area in Winchester, Calif., Oct. 4-8 for the quinquennial Pacific Union Pathfinder Camporee, themed “One Way.” On Sabbath, attendance swelled to more than 5,000.

Pathfinders — an Adventist organization similar to Boy/Girl Scouts for kids ages 10 to 15 — fosters community and provides opportunities for young people to develop

practical skills and gain useful knowledge that will help them both succeed at life in general and to be more effective at sharing the love of Jesus with others.

The union camporee gives Pathfinders a chance to earn a lot of honors in a short period of time, to play, to hang out with friends, and to listen to dynamic, inspirational speakers.

During the daytime Thursday and Friday, the kids were able to choose from nearly 40 honors classes (out of approximately 350 recognized by the organization), each at least 90 minutes

long. Earning an honor means the student has a comprehensive understanding of a specific topic or skill, and the patches they receive as a result are generally sewn onto their uniform sash. This camporee offered honors on topics such as Sharks, Drawing, African Lore, First Aid, Card Making, Seeds, and Basic Rescue.

Hud and Larry Defluiter from Ridgecrest, Calif., taught the Seeds honor. “Campers have to put together a collection of 30 seeds,” said Hud. “They have to learn about how the seeds are dispersed, what the different parts of the seed do, and how to protect them.”

Marshall Freitas, Brandon Taylor, and Michael Huggins from the Hawaii Conference taught the Sharks honor. “I’m teaching about the different kinds of sharks, their anatomy and senses, and some common misconceptions people have about sharks,” said Taylor.



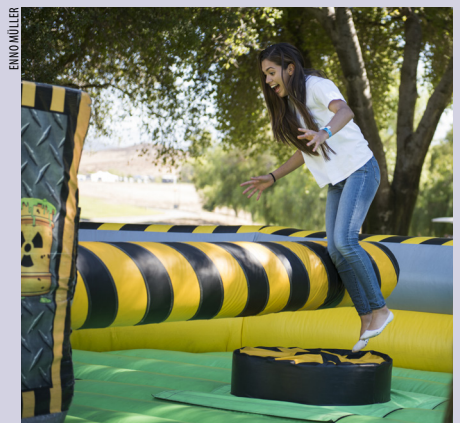
Marleen Mata’u, from the South San Francisco Samoan church in the Central California Conference, does a complete rotation on the bungee trampoline.



Evan Lee, a Pathfinder, and Jason Sopha, staff, both from the Paradise Prayer Warriors club from Northern California Conference, enjoy the thrill of the zipline.



Apollo Jayme, from Pleasant Hill Trailblazers club from Northern California Conference, races his soapbox derby car to victory for his club.



Bethsy Caballo, from the Emmanuel church in Nevada-Utah Conference, enjoys the Jump O’ Rama inflatable game.



Visitors learn Pathfinder history and other fun facts at the on-site Pathfinder Museum.



Pathfinders work on the Lego honor.



Maikale Pulini from the Riverwalk Tongan club makes a pot of curry and rice for her group's lunch.

Between honors opportunities, campers had access to soccer games, a bungee trampoline, go-karts, hula lessons, inflatable play structures, pinewood and soap box derby races, rock walls, a BMX show, playgrounds, and a splash pad and water play zone.

Pin trading is another favorite activity at Pathfinder events. "I just traded my conference pin for two other pins," said Alejandro De Leon, from Las Vegas. "Now I'm going to go buy more because they're \$2.50. I also like the honor classes and the rides, like the go-karts and the zipline."

This was also the first camporee for Gerardo Paniagua, also from Las Vegas. "I'm enjoying it so far, but they're strict, Pathfinders," he said with a grin. "Order and all that."

Campers had fairly extreme temperatures during their stay — in the 40s at night and

near 100 during the day. "It's cold at night and super early in the mornings, but it warms up during the day," said Adam Osiago from the Chandler, Ariz., Soldiers club. But he didn't seem to mind. "I really like the activities and the honors that we do. I've learned a lot today."

"I've been doing lots of honors and activities," said Knoah Dunn from Monterey Bay. "I did bungee jumping, that swifty thing that tries to make you fall, the jumpy houses, the zipline, and the water park. For honors, I did Spiders, First Aid, Dogs, Seeds, and Knots."

Each evening, featured speaker Meschach Soli, associate pastor at the Beaumont, Calif., church, mesmerized the audience with stories of his troubled youth and path to redemption. Scores of kids responded to his appeals each night. "I've learned that, when given a platform and an opportunity to share the gospel, that

there should always be an appeal for people to respond to God's Word," said Soli. "I was blessed to find out that all those involved in putting the camporee together were on the same page as far as making a call for baptism every night."

"I really wanted to connect with the youngest person in the crowd so that everyone could understand the gospel message in a real and practical way," continued Soli. "My prayer was that people would see beyond my exterior appearance and get a snapshot of my heart and love for our Heavenly Father."

"On Wednesday as we arrived at the camporee, eight individuals had registered for baptism," said Ted Benson, Pacific Union treasurer. "By Sabbath morning, we knew of 32. When the time for the baptism came, there were 71 Pathfinders and three adults that made their decisions for Jesus through baptism."



JO Cordero & Friends lead the nightly song service.



Dante Matuu, left, from Modesto Parkwood Pacers club (CCC), enjoys a relaxing afternoon talking with Dakota Recalde and Kendra Snarr, Pathfinders from Ceres Lightbearers club (CCC).



"What can the truth set you free from?" asks Meshach Soli, associate pastor at Beaumont church. "The truth sets you free from hate, from lies, from racism, from hurt, from hating others who have more than you do. Jesus is the Truth, and the truth is that He loves you."

Large events like this involve a staggering amount of planning. Each conference youth director managed a particular aspect of the camporee. Arizona handled the programming, Central California coordinated the honors, Hawaii managed the activities, Northern California's youth director coordinated the entire event, Southeastern California took care of the facilities (portable toilets, showers, golf carts, etc.), and Southern California organized camp security.



On Sabbath afternoon, 71 Pathfinders and three adult staff were baptized.

Hawaii

Hawaii Pathfinders faced a major obstacle to attending the camporee — the Pacific Ocean. Still, they rose (literally, flew!) to the occasion. Pastor Erik VanDenburgh, conference youth director, began promoting the event in 2015. With flight prices averaging over \$500, the amount of fundraising and support by the local clubs and churches was immense.

Clubs began fundraising two years in advance. Churches collected special offerings and donations. The Hawaii Conference funded their attendees' food and local transportation.

In the end, five clubs from two islands totaling 124 attendees represented the Hawaii Conference at the camporee. In addition, Hawaii Conference was responsible for coordinating all the daytime activities on site, such as the inflatables, go-karts, etc.

President Ralph Watts camped with his conference's group the entire camporee. He was also inducted as a Pathfinder Master Guide. "The camporee was a unforgettable experience," said Watts. "I want to applaud the dedication of each Pathfinder, parent, director, and church that made it possible for our group to attend. The Hawaii Conference believes in Pathfinders!"

"Having our conference president on site the entire time, hanging out with our young people and being invested as a Master Guide was really exciting," said VanDenburgh. "A lot of times presidents are not really accessible to young



Sabbath afternoon, Bible Bowl teams use Play-Doh to recreate a parable of Jesus.

people. He became a real person to our kids because of the time he spent in their world."

Northern California

About 450 Pathfinders and staff from 31 Northern California Conference clubs came to the camporee. "We're very proud of our Pathfinders!" said NCC President Jim Pedersen, who attended the entire event. "They represent our Church well."

The NCC presented six popular honors: African Lore, Card Making, Gold Prospecting, Heart & Circulation, Lighthouses, and Spiders (Level 2). The Paradise Prayer Warriors manned stations for three of those honors. "We had 50 clipboards at each station and were so packed with Pathfinders that some were sharing the clipboards!" said assistant to the club director Neoma Wisdom. "It was an awesome event."

The Pleasant Hill Trailblazers won the soapbox derby. "It wasn't just me who won," said Pathfinder Apollo Jayme, who drove the car. "It was a great team of builders, designers, and supporting cast." His friend Evan Farley was part of the pit crew, which helped the car win by less than half a second. "It was pretty cool!" said Farley.

For many, the highlights of the camporee were witnessing the baptism of eight NCC kids and watching as many others made decisions for Christ. "I was blown away — humbled in the moment — when over 250 kids came up



Hawaii Conference President Ralph Watts III marches with his group Sabbath morning.



Campers beat the 90+ degree temps by playing in the water at Lake Skinner's splash pad.

Friday night requesting baptism," said Pacific Union volunteer youth director Eddie Heinrich, who also serves as the NCC youth director. "I stood on the sidelines in total awe."

Southeastern California

More than 1,925 Southeastern California Conference Pathfinders and staff in 77 clubs enjoyed the camporee, which was not too far from their homes in the SECC territory.

"What our community and country is going through — tragedies, natural disasters — I think these kids are searching for an answer," Soli said. "And we have a message and a hope that's not filled with fear and doom. It's filled with Jesus and how He will walk with us through the hard times."

Rudy Carrillo, SECC youth ministries director, reflected on the Pathfinder's reactions to Soli's messages. "Hundreds of Pathfinders came up during his calls to follow Jesus," he said. "It was a powerful thing to witness."

This year, the first 100 Pathfinders to arrive at the camporee and solve a Morse code message, find Carrillo, and tell him what the message said, received a special SECC pin. This pushed the Pathfinders both to explore the campground and to meet and greet their Pathfinder director.

Southern California

The camporee "was an astounding success based on the responses we received from



Theresa and her husband, Olin Osborne, Jr.; with sons, Olin Osborne III, and Marlon Osborne, following the baptism.

both Pathfinders and club directors," said Steve Clement, an accountant who volunteers to photograph Pathfinder activities for the Southern California Conference.

Club directors overheard their Pathfinders saying that they enjoyed the evening meetings more than those at the international camporee at Oshkosh, because they were under 90 minutes, fast-paced, and focused on connecting with Christ.

"Pathfinders came to us and stated that Pastor Soli connected with them from the first night," said Clement. "He told his personal story and shared how doing things his way created nothing but trouble for him his whole life — until he decided to accept Jesus as his Savior.

Seventeen SCC Pathfinders were baptized at the camporee. Among these were two brothers from the Rolling Hills club — and their mom. Olin Osborne Jr. arrived at the camporee Friday night, where he learned that his youngest son, Marlon, 11, had gone forward requesting baptism the previous evening. On Sabbath morning, Osborne's wife Theresa and their son Olin Osborne III, 16, also requested baptism. "My wife had attended once in awhile for a number of years," said Osborne Jr., "but I was totally blown away when she made her decision!"

On Sabbath, attendees contributed to a special offering for disaster relief in Puerto Rico and Mexico. The offering came to just under \$5,000 and, according to Benson, the Pacific Union will match that and round up to send a total of \$10,000 on behalf of the Pacific Union Pathfinders.



Yajhaira Hernandez and Angel Rios pause to pose in the setting sun after filling their buckets at the SECC water tank.

This camporee also gave campers a glimpse at what the 2019 International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., will be like. "I'm not saying this event hasn't been fun, because it is, but I think Oshkosh will be three times more fun as this," said Yaleina Huffenberger from Monterey Bay. "There's going to be people from all over the world and lots of pins. I was thinking about all the miracles that happen every five years, and I wonder what's going to happen this time!"

"I'm going to like Oshkosh, too," said Dunn. "I'm going to see lots of other people and make new friends."

"I got really excited about the Pathfinders — especially from a very small conference like Hawaii — experiencing a much larger picture of the world church," said VanDenburgh. "This event built excitement for us to now go and start fundraising for Oshkosh, which will be more than 10 times this size!"

During the planning stages, Riverside County Parks was hesitant about having such a large group of kids on the property. "However, after watching how the event proceeded, the county was so impressed with the behavior of the Pathfinders that they have invited us to come back anytime," said Benson.

"The text the Lord placed upon my heart when I got home and reflected on what took place at camp is found in Ephesians 3:20," said Soli. "Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think."

To see more photos from the camporee, visit the Pacific Union and PUC Camporee Facebook pages, and search for #puccamporee on Instagram.

Alicia J. Adams

Oahu Churches Gather for Convocation

On Sept. 22-23, the Hawaii Conference hosted the Oahu convocation. Every congregation on the island joined for worship at Honolulu Central church with special guest Elder Ricardo Graham, president of the Pacific Union. Graham shared three messages on the gospel, grace, and transforming power of God.

Plans were underway months before at the conference office and church. "As we got closer to convocation, there was a spirit of excitement that filled the air," said Pastor Bill Payne. "We get to host our sister churches from around the Island of Oahu one more time. This is a highly spiritual occasion and we needed to prepare spiritually as well as physically. We organized in teams, we worked on our curb appeal, cleaned our church from the floor to ceiling, and prayed for the Holy Spirit. As host pastor, there was a great sense of satisfaction knowing that the hard work and effort of my members helped to bring joy, a beautiful worship experience, and a Christ-like spirit to each person who attended. We look forward to next year."

Friday night began with Oahu pastors leading a vespers service to open the Sabbath. That Sabbath morning, the sanctuary was brimming with attendees. President Ralph Watts welcomed the congregation and reminded everyone of the Hawaii Conference mission: Each One, Reach One. "Seeing all our Oahu churches come together was once again a highlight of the year for me," said Watts. "Every convocation, I am amazed

at how God is using our members to lead, serve, and reach our congregations and community."

In the youth chapel, Pastor Erik VanDenburgh and his youth ministry team provided a service for youth and young adults.



Honolulu Central church welcomes over 1,000 members of the Hawaii Conference.

They also welcomed those who may have been a little too young or way too old. VanDenburgh worked with the conference volunteer intern pastors, mentoring and empowering them to produce the event. "We wanted to make sure the youth knew they belonged at convocation," said one pastor. "We wanted them to have a voice and to be heard."

For many, the potluck after the service was a time to meet old friends and make new ones. While there was an official potluck for everyone, members set up buffet lines in various areas of the campus to expand fellowship with dear friends and family. With so much food and friendship available, many were invited (or just tempted!) to visit more than one potluck line.

Sabbath afternoon's musical concert featured voices and instruments from churches across the island. Praise teams, youth soloists, an elementary school bell choir, Hawaiian, Filipino, Samoan, and Korean choirs, and many others shared their talents to God's glory. Graham shared a message on witnessing, drawing on the story of the demoniac commissioned by Jesus to go home and tell everyone what God had done.

For the final song that afternoon, the congregation joined hands for "Hawaii Aloha," traditionally sung to bring unity in appreciation for God's blessing to live in such a beautiful land. When translated, one line in particular rang true: "We rejoice in the blessings of heaven!"



Pastor Erik VanDenburgh gives a simple yet provoking study on the gospel, the law, and God's character.



The Samoan Gospel Heralds lift their voices and the hearts of the congregation toward heaven.



Elder Ricardo Graham appeals to the church to understand and to be transformed by God's grace.

Three Island Schools Come Together in the Great Outdoors

Three Oahu schools met at Camp Waianae Sept. 26-28 for their second annual Outdoor School. Hawaiian Mission Academy Windward Campus, HMA Ka Lama Iki, and Adventist Malama Elementary School (AMES) took their 97 fifth- through eighth-graders out of their comfort zones and into nature.

Last year, Fernando Lista, principal of HMA Windward Campus, reached out to other schools to see if they would be interested in joining for the event. "I thought this would be a great opportunity to come together as a family, learn from one another and connect with nature and God," said Lista. "Starting this in September sets the tone for the rest of the school year."

Days were spent in a rotation of activities: survival and camouflage skills, knot tying, the giant swing, sports, water safety, and art. Students were placed in groups mixed with grades and schools. This mix allowed them to make new friends, depend on and support each other, and develop mentoring relationships.

While this is a school event run by principals and teachers, it was also a team effort. Parents volunteered as chaperones and group leaders. Pastors helped with activities. The conference volunteer intern youth pastors led out both morning and evening worship with music and messages. Each talk was based on a nature object lesson, challenging the students to learn about the character of God through His creation. "I enjoy seeing our students interact with other conference schools," remarked Travis Johnson, principal of HMA Ka Lama Iki. "We are seeing kids develop relationships and are making spirituality the focus. This is worth it."

While most students live on the other side of the island from the camp, AMES is just a couple miles away. Still, this was a big moment for the school. "This was our first year to participate with our Adventist schools," said Principal Cathie Workman. "We have a student enrollment of 85 percent non-Adventists. I wondered how our kids would be received and what their experience would be. Our kids love it. They fit in so well!"



Fernando Lista teaches knot tying to students.

Devon Cardines, a fifth-grader from AMES, was excited about his experience. "This is my first year at AMES, and coming to camp was fun because I love using my hands to learn," he said.



Gabriel Riojas, volunteer intern youth pastor, prepares Massimo Cretu for the giant swing.

Friday morning ended with the students praising God together. Within just a short time, three schools were connected as one, with God and with each other.

Jesse Siebel



Three schools join as one at Camp Waianae.

New Institute Trains and Empowers Spanish-speaking Laypeople

The Instituto Laico Adventista de California (Adventist Lay Institute of California) was established to help Spanish-speaking laypeople learn how to reach out to their families, friends, and communities with the gospel message.

ILAC was founded by a group of Northern California Conference pastors. "The objective of this institute is to train and empower the laity of our Hispanic churches in this conference, so that the work of evangelism can be productive in reaching many people who need to hear about our great Lord and Savior Christ Jesus," said ILAC Director Ezequiel Osorio, pastor of the San Anselmo Spanish/Santa Rosa Spanish district.

More than 200 people attended the first class, "Introduction to the Bible," which took place on Sept. 17 at Pacific Union College. The instructor was Angel Hernández, PUC professor emeritus of New Testament and theology. "My favorite part was to see the excitement and enthusiasm of the people learning more about the Word of God and how to communicate with others about our message," said NCC Hispanic Ministries Coordinator Roman Leal.

The plan is for ILAC classes — which will meet once a month — to be held in cycles, each with a different theme. The current cycle of classes, with the theme "Bible Instructor," will



Students attending the Instituto Laico Adventista de California pose with Pacific Union College administrators.

meet through March. The next cycle, "Christian Leadership," will begin in May. After completing three cycles, students will receive a diploma.

Although it means giving up one Sunday a month, more than 150 have already enrolled in the first cycle. "They are eager to learn and willing to make the necessary sacrifices in order to become better workers for the Lord's cause in Northern California," said Hugo Leon, Chico Spanish church member.

ILAC students are excited to be better equipped to reach others for Christ. "ILAC will enable us to convey this gospel message to others in a simple and practical way," said Carlos Hernandez, Tracy Spanish church member.

Marco del Cid, San Leandro Spanish company member, agrees. "We believe that ILAC will help



More than 200 people attend the first ILAC class at Pacific Union College.

us to be better prepared to preach the message that God has entrusted to us," he said.

Julie Lorenz



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Sacramento Samoan Church Members Transform their Health

"I have lost 31 pounds, and I went from a size 2X to an XL."

"I started at a size 16/18. I am currently fitting a 12 very loosely. In 11 weeks, I've lost a total of 37 pounds."

"I have more energy, a better night's rest, and I feel happier with myself. I have never felt stronger!"

These testimonies aren't from a commercial for diet meals or exercise equipment. They are statements from members of the Sacramento Samoan church who recently participated in the "Sac Samoan Weight Loss Transformation and Lifestyle Change Challenge." The 11-week program was designed and led by Eunite Mataafa, whose husband, Ulisese, serves as pastor of the church.

For a number of years, Mataafa has been investing in her own health, learning to eat wisely, exercising with Ulisese, and working with personal trainers. When she and her husband moved to the Sacramento Samoan church earlier this year, she decided to take everything she's discovered and make it her ministry.

Mataafa's program emphasized healthy choices for the participants — who called themselves the challengers. "It's not just about the weight loss but a whole new lifestyle of eating healthy!" said Ruth Unutoa. "I'm eating lots of green salads, various types of berries, drinking lots of water, and exercising. I have never felt so strong as I do today!"

The challenge started with a health seminar by Imelda Arreola, family health educator.

Then, every Sunday, the group met together to exercise. Mataafa gave them a list of healthy foods, as well as a list of foods to eliminate. She started a private Facebook group, where she provided motivation and encouragement. Challengers used it to be accountable for their choices — documenting what they were eating and how they were exercising. They were also able to post questions and share when they were struggling.

Some of the church members were initially unsure about the program, but they soon changed their minds. "I was very skeptical of the idea of losing weight because of past dieting experiences," said Jane Paulo. "Joining this weight loss challenge was the BEST investment I made."

As they supported each other, the challengers grew closer. "The most important part of this challenge was having the support of our team," said Rebecca Esera. "There are times you may get tired, but your fellow teammates are there to encourage and uplift you."

People are seeing results they didn't expect. "In March, I began an aggressive workout program with a personal trainer; however, due



Participants in the "Sac Samoan Weight Loss Transformation and Lifestyle Change Challenge" celebrate their good health, along with their leader Eunite Mataafa (far left).

to my poor eating habits, I wasn't seeing any significant results," said Tijan Oloa. "With my new healthy eating and exercising, I started to see rapid results week by week."

The challenge has had a ripple effect. "This healthy lifestyle has impacted their families, as well," said Mataafa. "The children are eating healthy at home and asking for their green smoothies. Husbands are joining the wives in their exercise and working on losing weight."

In addition to future eight-week challenges, plans are in the works for health seminars, cooking classes, exercise activities, and other fun events. "We want to practice and live our Adventist health message and to be able to share it with the community," said Mataafa.

Although the current challenge is complete, the challengers continue on their individual paths toward optimal health. "This is a journey with God," said Mataafa. "It's not by our might and power, but by relying on the power of God to help us through our new lifestyle journey, we will succeed."



Jane Paulo on July 9 (left) and Sept. 23.



Ruth Unutoa on July 9 (left) and Sept. 24.

Julie Lorenz

NCC Youth & Young Adult Evangelism Summit Encourages Creative Outreach

Want to know what Adventist youth think about evangelism? Ask them. Asking — and listening — were important parts of the Northern California Conference Youth & Young Adult Evangelism Summit, held in mid-September. Nearly 50 young people and pastors gathered for a Friday night and Sabbath at the Life Adventist church of Berkeley. “It was very energizing for us to be there; it inspired a lot of good conversations,” said Jessica Minton, a young adult leader from the Gracepoint church in Rocklin.

The NCC has earmarked \$50,000 for local church evangelism projects aimed at teens and young adults. Churches who wish to apply for the money must meet three requirements: send participants to the summit, receive church board approval, and match the money 100 percent. Seven churches sent young people and pastors to the summit.

Organizers wanted to encourage the participants to think beyond traditional methods of evangelism. “We want to shape people’s understanding of what evangelism is — and nudge them to be creative,” said NCC Youth Director Eddie Heinrich. “We want them to explore ways a 14-, 18-, or 25-year-old can do effective evangelism.”

During the summit, the participants divided into breakout groups to consider the question: If you had \$10,000 to spend on an evangelistic



Youth, young adults, and pastors meet in small breakout groups to discuss evangelism.

opportunity, what would you do? Some of the ideas included:

- Start a weekly sports league that includes a time for worship before or after playing.
- Host a summer day camp for kids at an affordable price for parents.
- Organize host families for young adults as they transition from college to jobs.
- Start small groups specifically for youth and young adults.

evangelism within our conference,” he said. “I enjoyed the time spent in brainstorming how to build relationships and how to minister to others so to have earned the right to share Christ.”

Relationship building was an important part of the summit. “I liked the opportunity the youth had to share with students from other places,” said Jesse Malin, associate pastor of the Lodi Fairmont church. He hopes to partner with other Adventist churches in his area to involve youth in outreach. “If their interest in evangelism starts early, it will continue on as they mature,” he said.

Young adult leaders from Gracepoint and the Auburn church have met together since the summit to talk about the next steps they plan to take. “Our plans are for projects that will show the love of Christ in very practical ways,” said Minton. “We want to show genuine compassion for people, using friendship as a starting point to show Christ’s love for them.”



Attendees use their creativity to think of fresh ways to reach out for Christ.

NCC Church Growth/Evangelism Director Del Dunavant listened to the variety of ideas with great interest. “I believe finding ways to do evangelism that appeal to the youth and young adults is absolutely necessary for the future of

Julie Lorenz

Area Six Meetings Feature José Rojas

The third semi-annual Central California Conference Area Six meetings were held at the Visalia, Calif., Convention Center Sept. 15 and 16, as organized by area pastors.

CCC's Area Six includes Armona, Coalinga, Corcoran, Cutler, Dinuba, Exeter, Hanford, Lemoore, Lindsay, Orosi, Porterville, Reedley, Tulare, Visalia, and Woodlake, Calif.

The keynote speaker was José Rojas, popular speaker, pastor, and president/founder of MOVEMENTUM, a ministry that exists to strengthen organizations by developing servant leaders. Rojas told his conversion story of growing up in an alcoholic, abusive, low-income family. He told attendees about the Christmas where members of a local Seventh-day Adventist church brought food boxes to his family. This, along with the friendship of an Adventist couple who cared about the family, were the seeds leading to Rojas' change in trajectory, eventually serving as an advisor for three U.S. presidents and director of several offices at the General Conference. Rojas relayed several times his gratitude for "coming home" to

CCC, a place where he was raised and where he started his pastoral ministry.

Rojas gave a robust alter call where more than 40 committed or recommitted their faith, along with a final call for the renewal of workers to recommit to the work — which was received by almost the entire audience. "If you have doubts, go home and pray, but don't spread your doubts," said Rojas throughout the weekend to the body of believers.

"There are many, many people who don't make it to camp meeting," says Brian Bilbrey, event coordinator and pastor of the Porterville and Lindsay churches, "so we thought it would be nice to bring a speaker to them. It was also our attempt to bring all the churches together. We try to convey to all the Area Six churches that we are building a kingdom, not just our own churches."

Attendance Friday evening was over 680 people with main services on Sabbath drawing more than 800 worshippers from all over the region. Additionally, children's programming was provided throughout the convocation, along with an emphasis on prayer, providing



José Rojas, popular speaker, pastor, and president/founder of MOVEMENTUM, speaks for CCC's Area Six meetings.

a separate prayer room for members to use. Victor Salazar, Visalia church youth and young adult pastor, and Stephanie Elick, Visalia church children's ministry and worship pastor, led worship. Stephen Eastwood, pastor of Merced and Mariposa, Calif., churches, welcomed attendees. Armona Union and Sierra View Junior academies, two of the Adventist schools in Area Six, gave special music. The day's offering was designated for Adventist education.

Cindy R. Chamberlin

African-American Convocation Held in Fresno

"Power to Break Every Chain," the 34th annual CCC African-American Convocation, convened at the Fresno Westside church Friday Sept. 15. The weekend began with a "Prayer Explosion" Friday evening, focusing on prayer, praise, and power, followed by a message by Jerrold Thompson, senior pastor of the San Bernardino Community church. Sabbath morning began with "Morning Manna,"

a Sabbath school led by Eric A. Holness, a native of the San Francisco Bay Area. Holness is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree from Vanderbilt University Divinity School.

Divine worship followed with featured speaker Rupert Bushner, pastor of the Mount Calvary church in Huntsville, Ala., and South Central Conference Men's Ministries director. Bushner gave a lively, two-hour keynote address to a full-to-capacity sanctuary and spoke candidly about real-life issues that form the bonds of addiction. He encouraged participants to not only let God break the chains of bondage, but also to not allow the chains to form in the first place.

"Fred Anderson, CCC African-American Ministries director, had a primary goal for this convocation," says Steve Horton, CCC vice president for ministries and an attendee of the convocation for all 34 years. "His desire was that our membership would be moved by the goodness of God to share the gospel of Jesus

Christ with all whom they may encounter. The theme for the convocation, 'Power to Break Every Chain,' was to be an inspiration and motivation for members as well as visitors to enjoy ultimate freedom in Jesus."

"Because of our belief that God 'is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think,'" says Keith Scott, CCC treasurer, "people came to the convocation knowing that the same powerful God who broke the chains to free the apostle Peter from prison (Acts 12) can break any chain that the enemy has put in their life."

The weekend concluded on Sunday, Sept. 17, with a breakfast and a Bible training session by the Pacific Union Bible Instructors' Guild, training workers how to give Bible studies, how to witness, and how to visit people with literature.

View the video archives here: fresnowestside.com/live-streaming.

Cindy R. Chamberlin



Rupert Bushner, South Central Conference Men's Ministries director and pastor of the Mount Calvary church in Huntsville, Ala., gives a lively two-hour keynote address.

Bike the U.S. for MS Ride Ends in San Francisco

Jeffrey Brownlow, a 24-year-old Adventist and 2017 accounting graduate from Southern Adventist University, was part of this summer's "Bike the U.S. for MS" team that brought him from Yorktown, Va., to San Francisco, Calif., on a two-wheel trek across America, benefitting those with Multiple Sclerosis. Brownlow served as a TransAmerica route leader and cyclist for the 3,785 mile, 62-day route across Virginia, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and California. Beginning June 1, the team averaged 67 miles a day, for up to 10-11 hours a day, to land in Central California Conference's Bay Area on Aug. 2.

From the Atlantic to the Pacific, the 22-member team of cyclists, ranging from 20 to 71 years old "wheeled in" more than \$105,900 for MS. They also stopped along the way to do service projects for MS patients, such as cleaning, doing yard projects, and providing firsthand help. "These direct contacts with patients reminded you why you ride on hot or rainy days, or in harsh conditions," says Brownlow. "We stayed at one location with a lady named Angela who is in a wheelchair and can't walk. With limited arm movements, she had an exercise machine for her hands that simulated our trip and 'exercised' along with us.

"The biggest blessing was watching people of all different backgrounds come together," says Brownlow. "Watching the news, etc., we get caught up in all the disturbing stories, but this restored my faith in people. Everywhere we went, people saw our jerseys and our bikes and would want to help, donate money, or pay for a meal."

But Brownlow wants to do more. He believes it would be a great witnessing tool for Adventist churches to host cyclists in fellowship halls or auxiliary rooms. Traditionally, those who make the coast-to-coast route commit to sleeping on picnic tables, on dirt, or in non-profit arenas. Currently, there are no Adventist host churches along the route. To learn more about hosting, call 201-503-6367 or email info@biketheusforms.org.



Jeffrey Brownlow reaches San Francisco, Calif., after a 62-day bike-ride across the country.

Cindy R. Chamberlin



Cyclists that make the trek agree to camp in all types of conditions. Currently, there are no Adventist host churches along the route. To learn about hosting, call 201-503-6367 or email info@biketheusforms.org.



From the Atlantic to the Pacific, the 22-member team of cyclists from 20 to 71 years old "wheeled in" over \$105,901 for Multiple Sclerosis.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY THE JEFFREY BROWNLOW FAMILY

GLOW Turns 10

Sept. 9 marked the 10-year anniversary of GLOW — Giving Light to Our World. Special guests, including Heidi Carpenter, Southern California Conference Literature Ministries director; Larry Carter, retired publishing director for the Pacific Union; and Bill Krick, Central California Conference Literature Ministries director, met at its founding location, the Ceres, Calif., church, to commemorate the milestone. Each guest was an integral part of the GLOW ministry.

“It was phenomenal to see how the people wanted to be involved in evangelism,” says Keith Mulligan, former CCC pastor of GLOW’s impact. “Our church came alive!”

Millie Brown, a member in her early 80s, got excited. She and a friend set up a table at Walmart several times a week with displays of GLOW tracts, religious books, and magazines. It became a greeting station for conversations while sharing literature.

In 10 years, nearly 90 million tracts have been printed in 60 languages with 41 titles for 45 countries. These numbers change quickly. By year’s end, church leaders are praying for 100 million tracts to be printed.

Two young adults in the CCC literature ministries department, Nelson Ernst and Heidi Carpenter, started GLOW in 2007. Several seasoned church leaders provided wisdom and guidance. Its mission: inspiring every believer to carry pocket-sized literature wherever they go, sharing as God opens opportunities. It’s a lifestyle. Launched by word-of-mouth, churches and conferences soon wanted GLOW ministries for

PHOTOS BY TABA YANG



Nelson Ernst, GLOW director for the Pacific Union, listens as Ashley and Aphi Signta, with Sebastian and Evelyn, share their journey from GLOW tract recipients to active members in the Madera, Calif., church. After several years of questions and studies, Aphi, a Buddhist, and Ashley, were baptized. Ernst gave Ashley her first Bible study.

their members. Writing new tracts, training congregations, controlling inventory, and deliveries — the small team worked 24/7 to keep up.

God’s Next Plans

In 2009, Julian Gudmunsson, a printer from Denmark, called. He had heard about GLOW and wanted it in Europe. He offered to print tracts free



GLOW volunteers get ready to hand out literature at the October 2016, semiannual, worldwide General Conference of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Nelson Ernst, GLOW director for the Pacific Union, gives instructions to one group for the three-day event.



Sabbath afternoon, 50 GLOW enthusiasts from Ceres and other area churches hands out tracts door-to-door in surrounding neighborhoods.

of charge using paper from leftover print jobs. Suddenly, GLOW became international.

Then, in 2015, Pope Francis' visit to Philadelphia, Pa., brought a unique opportunity. Millions of people were coming to large events around the globe. GLOW was already doing one-day trips, such as the Super Bowl and weekend events. Then, the 10-day mission trip was born. In Philadelphia, volunteers from the U.S. and Europe handed out 1 million tracts to thousands and thousands of visitors. More than a million people attended Sunday morning's mass.

Since then, seven 10-day mission trips have occurred in the U.S. and Europe, and members have given out 1 million or more tracts at each event.

Miracles and Dreams

A church member left a GLOW tract on a gas pump in Fresno, Calif. A man found it, called for Bible studies, and shared the story.

Two young adults were handing out GLOW tracts door-to-door in Southern California. A woman opened her door with a shocked look. In a dream, she had seen two ministers coming to her door bringing the answers she needed — Jesus' unconditional love, forgiveness, and information about the second coming.

A young man in Templeton Hills, Calif., had attempted suicide several times, but each attempt failed. Now, he was determined to succeed. But then, a divine encounter with a Bible worker changed everything. She handed him a tract with the words, "Where is God when I am hurting?" Sobbing, the man said it was the third time he was given the tract. Jesus had sent



GLOW volunteers pass out tracts on the Las Vegas strip in the hours leading up to the tragic mass shooting at the Route 91 Harvest Festival.



Current and former GLOW volunteers and staff attend the 10-year anniversary of GLOW at the Ceres church.



Millie Brown is all smiles during the 10-year anniversary of GLOW at the Ceres church, where the literature ministry was launched. She was the first GLOW leader. She chose the local Walmart as her station for handing out tracts several times a week.

three people to deliver His message of hope.

During Pope Francis' visit to Philadelphia, a volunteer handed a man three GLOW tracts. "Where is the other man?" he asked. "In a dream, I saw you with another man. You gave me three tracts — the same tracts I saw in my dream." He then thanked the volunteer and faded into the crowd.

In the Philippines, a GLOW tract fell in a pile of burning trash. A man noticed it wasn't burning and tried to set it on fire. Yet, it wouldn't burn. A small crowd gathered to watch. The church member, who was handing out the tracts, told the group the tract came from him. Then, he invited everyone to an evangelism meeting that evening. Most came that first night, studied, and were baptized.

The beauty of GLOW is its simplicity. Its variety and creative ways are limitless. "Every member can be involved in evangelism," says Ramiro Cano, CCC president. "I call these tracts 'sermons in shoes.'"

The difference our own witnessing makes can be hard to visualize. Too many people, too much noise, distractions, consuming lifestyles, diverse values, and belief systems add up to what feels like an impossible mission. Yet, one small tract, drenched with the Holy Spirit and prayer, can change a person's world for eternity.

Caron Oswald

Teacher Claritza Karry Passes the Torch

For the last 27 years, Claritza Karry has filled her time with decorating classrooms, planning field trips, and individualizing lesson plans. Now, after almost three decades of teaching, this educator is passing the torch.

Karry retired in June after serving as the fifth through eighth grade teacher and principal for Riverview Christian Academy in Reno, Nev., for 10 years. Prior to working for RCA, she worked as the teaching principal for Fallon SDA School in Fallon, Nev., for 17 years.

At each of the two schools where she taught, Karry brought enthusiasm, innovation, and a passion for the spiritual growth of students. "My primary goal for the students was always to guide them to the Kingdom," Karry said.

As a teaching principal, Karry had many hats to wear in order to keep the schools running effectively. "Claritza helped to grow the Fallon school," said Eileen White, NUC superintendent of schools. "She is the ultimate professional educator and has made many personal sacrifices for the benefit of the students and the Conference." White sees Karry as a strong and focused servant leader who was flexible when necessary to meet the parents' and students' needs.

Stacey Chilson, a school board member at Riverview, agrees. "She was always well organized and was always thinking ahead," Chilson said. "When the health department or OSHA came to inspect the school, they had a

hard time finding anything to mark the school on because she was always on top of it."

Chilson observed that Karry dedicated a great deal of her free time to the school. "She would draw all the decorations used in her classroom and the school hallways, which was a lot! I would joke with her that I didn't think she ever slept."

From August to June, and even over the summer months, Karry dedicated herself to improving the educational experience for her students. She was known for planning community service days at the local food banks and the women's shelter and day-hikes in the mountains near Reno. Every year she planned a school-wide Secret Santa, where students always got a gift from her, and organized educationally enriching field trips to museums and art galleries. One field trip in 2004 took students all the way to Puerto Rico. There, students were able to visit a florescent bay to see bioluminescence, as well as a protected rainforest. "I was thrilled to show my students where I was born and raised, and share some of my culture," Karry said. "Even to this day, my former students remember that trip."

It was during her childhood years in Puerto Rico that Karry developed her love of teaching. "My mother encouraged me to teach Sabbath school, so I started to teach at 8 years old." Karry loved every minute of it. "My mother always believed that I was going to be a great teacher."

When she began her teaching career in August of 1990, she was encouraged by her mentor, Kathy Melendy, former teaching principal of the the Fallon SDA School. "She helped me with all the challenging problems that a new teacher deals with," Karry said.

In addition to Melendy, Karry leaned on her biggest supporter, her husband José Karry Sr. "I couldn't have done those 27 years of teaching without my husband," she said. "He helped me with all my crazy ideas and with all the activities we hosted in both schools." Karry's events included fall festivals and auctions. "Parents and family members were pretty amazing, as well," she said.

Looking back on it all, Karry feels it was worth every second. Now in retirement, she is filling her free time with hiking in the Sierra Nevadas, painting, and traveling. She hasn't given up teaching, however. Karry is getting involved in her local church in order to start up Pathfinders. "We want to start Pathfinders in Fallon soon!" she said. "We also want to start a youth program with Sabbath activities and Bible studies."

"Teaching has made me the person I am today," Karry said. "I always thank Jesus when students share with me the impact I had on their lives. They changed my life, too."

Faith Hoyt



Families take pictures with Karry during her retirement party at RCA in June 2017. Left to right: Stacey Chilson, Cole Chilson, Claritza Karry, Macy Chilson, Hannah Chilson.



Claritza Karry, Heather Gutman and Fanga Finau pose in their outfits for "twin day" during school spirit week at RCA, April 2017.



Claritza Karry dissects a sheep eye with her students at RCA during school spirit week in 2016.

Susanville School's Resident Angel Shows Extra Love

In the Susanville and Quincy District, there is a pastor who has spent the last decade going above and beyond to meet the needs of the teachers and students at the Susanville Adventist Christian School.

Randy Barlow knows the value of Adventist education, and volunteers weekly in order to show support and provide students with another positive role model for how Christians should live.

On Monday mornings, Barlow walks up the cement steps of the white building with green trim on Cedar Street to lead worship for the school. Additionally, he goes to SACS once every month to make the students lunch. His menu typically includes meals like gluten steaks, vegetables, and bread, which he makes himself. Occasionally, Barlow even brings his own sack lunch so he can eat with the students.

Barlow also celebrates the students' birthdays by bringing an ice cream flavor of their choice on Fridays.

When he isn't inside making meals or helping out as a substitute teacher, Barlow is outside leading bike rides for the students or assisting with building maintenance projects.

"Susanville is a one-teacher school and is strongly supported by the church as a whole, and by the pastor," says Eileen White, NUC superintendent of schools. "It's important that the pastor set the tone for the relationship with the school." White sees Barlow as a major supporter of SACS.

Barlow believes that teachers play a crucial role, and wants to support those in that role as much as he can. "I try to come as often as I can, usually three times a week," he said. Often, his volunteer time is spent working on upgrade projects for the school.

"The storage shed outside is sometimes jokingly referred to as my second office," he laughed.

With help from school board members and church members, Barlow installed the new play structures and poured concrete for the playground. He also helped build the school's book shelves.



Pastor Randy Barlow, together with former Susanville Adventist Christian School teacher Dona Dunbar, Eileen White (NUC superintendent of schools), and the 2016-2017 classes.



Pastor Randy Barlow eats with the students at Susanville Adventist Christian School.



The Susanville Adventist Christian School in Susanville, Calif.



The bookshelves built by Pastor Randy Barlow and members of the school board.

Curtis Vixie, school board member for the last 18 years, says that Barlow is a hands-on, involved leader. "He lives his convictions," he said. Vixie spearheaded multiple maintenance and upgrade projects for the school and, for the last decade, Barlow has faithfully assisted him with the tasks. "His caring and friendship has opened the hearts of our community." Vixie believes that Barlow's example to students provides a practical model of what Christianity looks like.

Barlow's weekly volunteering all started when he asked the teacher one day where assistance was needed.

"I always come in and ask, 'where can you use help?'" Barlow said. "My mom, dad, sister, brother, and maternal grandparents were all

school teachers. My family is deeply involved in education."

Before serving this conference, he served as the academic dean of the Samyook SDA Language Institute in Seoul, Korea, for three and a half years. He has been a pastor for the last 40 years, and says that everywhere he works, he reaches out to the schools.

"I see our church schools as being such an important part of our evangelistic outreach," Barlow said. "The church, the school, and the home are three legs that should work together for the salvation of young people."

Faith Hoyt

Pathway–Phoenix To Bring Health Care to Thousands Over Christmas

As many as 10,000 residents and visitors in Phoenix, Ariz., will receive part of a multi-million dollar Christmas gift of free health care Dec. 25-27 at the Phoenix Convention Center.

Your Best Pathway to Health is a non-profit mega clinic that exists to serve the physical needs of the underserved by providing health screenings, dental, optical, ultrasound, x-rays, counseling, surgery, and much more — at no charge, with no strings attached.

Organizers held a rally Sept. 22-24 at the Camelback church. Dr. Lela Gilbert Lewis, founder and CEO, was eager to introduce a team of professionals who will provide services for the event. “God has totally blessed this weekend as hundreds of volunteers have joined our team from Arizona and beyond for Pathway-Phoenix,” she said. “With God’s blessings, we expect to serve between 8,000-10,000 people. We need 2,000 volunteers to make this event happen. If you have a heartbeat and a smile, you are needed.”

Thirteen training seminars included Dr. Neil Nedley, Weimar, “Depression Recovery;” Don Mackintosh, Weimar, “Living longer, living stronger;” Scott Griswold, “Refugee Evangelism;” Evelyn Kissinger, Lifestyle Matters, “Balanced Living;” and Dr. Randy Bivens, CEO Weimar, “Diabetes Undone;” and many more.

Bivens summarized the purpose of Pathway–Phoenix.

“Basically, we look at Pathway as bait. We’re fishing for men and women and know health evangelism is the very best bait we can use to get people into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. The goal is a soul,” he said. “We don’t just want to give them five or 10 more years to live, but offer them eternal life! We interest them by providing health, then they come to the Health Information Centers (local churches) for lab results or prescriptions, and we provide other services, seminars, Bible studies and cooking

events. We show them the foot of the cross and come full circle from Pathway to a saving relationship with Christ.”

Mackintosh said, “Pathway to Health is God-ordained. We’re told that, in the last days, we’re to reach the big cities for destruction is coming. We’ve seen this recently in Texas and Florida. What I like about Pathway is that it’s connecting with local churches who follow up with the people who come to the Pathway event.”

Loma Linda University Health and Loma

Linda University church have co-sponsored Pathway–Phoenix as their very first joint mission project. Dr. Richard Hart, president and CEO of Loma Linda University Health, and his wife, Judy, will be serving as volunteers all three days of the Pathway event, including on Christmas day. Dr. Hart encourages other professionals and providers to volunteer and “gain the best Christmas ever!”

Pathway–Phoenix still needs volunteers. “People are coming to Phoenix from many parts of the world, and especially the Pacific Union, to spend their Christmas reaching men and women with health, hope, and eternity,” said Lewis. “Please join us. I guarantee you will never be the same.”

To register for Pathway–Phoenix, call 734-552-6363 or visit PathwaytoHealthVolunteer.org.



Pathway CEO Dr. Lela Gilbert Lewis and Adventist World Radio VP Cami Oetman greet volunteers at the Camelback rally.

Phil Draper

December 25-27, 2017

A Multi-million Dollar

Christmas Gift

Your Best Pathway to Health Free Mega Clinic will serve up to 10,000 with free Comprehensive Medical Care: Dental, Optical, General Surgery, X-rays, Ultrasound, Labs, Pharmacy, Nutrition, Diabetes Reversal and much more!

2,000 Volunteers needed!

Make this your best Christmas ever!



Your Best Pathway to Health is a humanitarian service of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in partnership with the Phoenix Mega Clinic and the Arizona Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

to Phoenix, Arizona



To register call
(734) 552-6363 or visit **PathwaytoHealthVolunteer.org**

PUC Named Second in the Nation for Highest-Earning Alumni with Two-Year Degrees

In its 2017-2018 College Salary Report, Payscale.com recently ranked Pacific Union College as second in the country for having the highest earning alumni with two-year degrees.

For the report, Payscale surveyed approximately 2.3 million graduates from more than 2,700 colleges and universities throughout the United States, asking them to report their highest degree earned, major, school name, and salary. For the two-year degree granting schools category, PUC placed second for highest-earning alumni, following Helene Fuld College of Nursing in New York.

According to the report, the early career pay for PUC graduates with two-year degrees is about \$60,700, with their mid-career salary being around \$85,400. In 2015, the most recent year such information is available, the Social Security Administration determined the national average wage index was \$48,098.

"While earning potential isn't the sole reason students and families should consider when deciding on a college, it is an important factor, as college is a significant investment of both time and money," says Jennifer Tyner, vice president of student life, enrollment, and

marketing. "We are so pleased PUC graduates with two-year degrees are out in the workforce and receiving a high return on their college investment."

For more information about PUC's 70+ degree, talk with an enrollment counselor in the enrollment services office. Email enroll@puc.edu or call 800-862-7080, option 2.

Larissa Church



One of PUC's most popular programs is the associate's degree in nursing.

Radical *Peacemaking*

You are so wrong!" I said with a sarcastic smile. "Show me in the Bible where it says that."

"I'm telling you, it's true," he replied, shifting his weight impatiently.

"I'm not having this conversation with you. We can agree to disagree, but the fact is I'm right."

"I'll prove you wrong." Spinning on his heel, he headed for the boys' dorm. "I'll make you change your mind," he called back.

I smiled, slinging my backpack over my shoulder. He's wasting his time. I already know what I believe.

During my senior year of high school, a friend had approached me after class in the fall. He wanted to discuss current hot topics in Adventism. Eventually, talking about our desire for change within the church became a ritual. Our discussions evolved into opinionated debates that lasted for hours. Although I enjoyed intellectual conversations, I felt frustrated when his ideas didn't agree with mine. Instead of listening,



I shut down his opinions with anger and resentment. The more I thought about our discussions, the more bitter I became. Why did I feel the need to be right?

Looking back, I recognize my hypocrisy. I had focused on the negative aspects of the Church. Pride took over, and I behaved in a manner that was less than Christlike.

Read full article:

ChurchSupportServices.org/peacemaker

Madeline Temple is an English major with writing and speaking emphases from Buxton, North Dakota.



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



by Jennifer Jill Schwirzer

Take Five

Five Ways to Seek Peace and Defuse Conflict

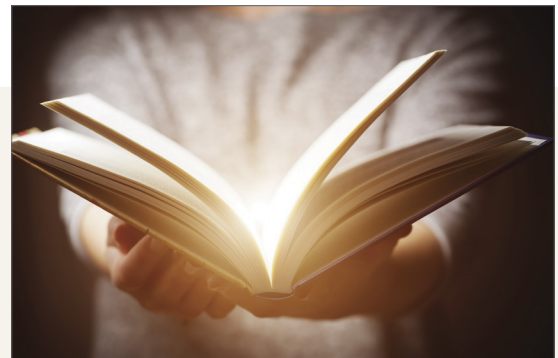
“As far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone” (Romans 12:18, AMP).

- 1. Put a face on it** – We all know how much meaner people are on social media. Behavioral psychologists call this online disinhibition effect, attributing it to anonymity. But more recent research says it arises from the lack of eye contact. Apparently face-to-face communication subdues natural hostility. If at all possible, work out conflicts face to face. If conflict must be addressed in writing, use better than average communication skills. Such as . . .
- 2. Listen better than you talk** – James 1:19 says, “Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.” Typically we turn that backwards, quick to speak and slow to hear, putting across our own view with increasing vigor as our opponent does

the same. Intensity mounts until it spills over into anger. Try reversing this by repeating back in your own words what others say. The FBI uses reflective listening to de-escalate hostage situations. Certainly we can use it with our brothers and sisters.

- 3. You’re human, admit it** – Argument tends to excite pride and defensiveness, morphing discussions into power struggles. Once committed to winning, we tend to forget the biblical teaching on humility. We’re told to “Consider yourself, lest you also be tempted” (Galatians 6:1).

Read full article:
ChurchSupportServices.org/takefive



Here are some responses that we’ve gathered over the years from Seventh-day Adventist pastors, elders and/or churches within the Pacific Union territory (they may be doing something different today). It provides an overview of what some churches and pastors have done, or are doing now.

Read full article:
ChurchSupportServices.org/newbelievers

The Value of a New Believer’s Class

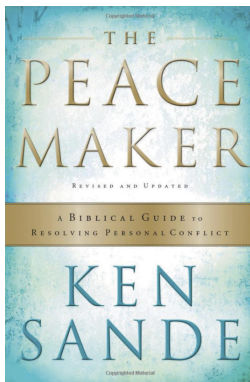
by Rich DuBose

Does your church have a New Member or Pastor’s Class on Sabbath mornings? Many believe this is an effective way to nurture interests and new members into the Church. If you have such a class or plan to in the near future, the Pacific Union Conference would like to know what material you are using, or plan to use so we can share it around.

If you have developed your own study guides or syllabus, we would love to see it. Contact us online, or by phone at: (805) 413-7372.

Resources

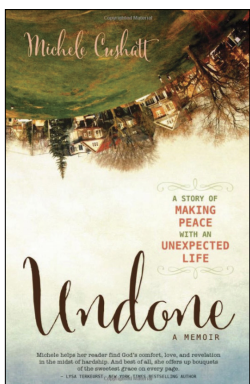
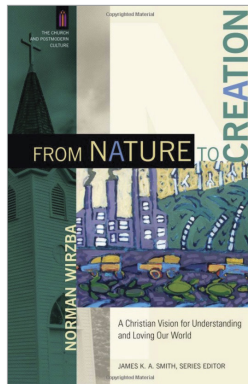
You Can Use



The Peacemaker, by Ken Sande – Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers.” But it often seems like conflicts and disagreements are unavoidable. Serious, divisive conflict is everywhere—within families, in the church, and out in the world. And it can seem impossible to overcome its negative force in our lives. In *The Peacemaker*, Ken Sande, presents a comprehensive and practical theology for conflict resolution designed to bring about, not only a cease-fire, but also unity and harmony. Sande takes readers beyond resolving conflicts to true, life-changing reconciliation

with family members, coworkers, and fellow believers. Biblically based, *The Peacemaker* is full of godly wisdom and useful suggestions that are easily applied to any relationship needing reconciliation. Sande’s years of experience as an attorney and as president of Peacemaker Ministries will strengthen readers’ confidence as they stand in the gap as peacemakers. **Available from:** Amazon. **Price:** US\$9.84. **Published by:** Baker Academic, 2004. Paperback.

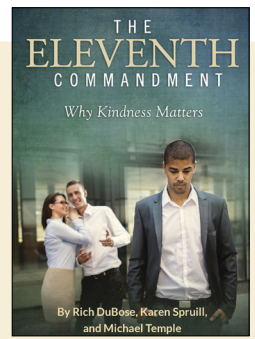
From Nature to Creation, by Norman Wirzba – How does Christianity change the way we view the natural world? In this addition to a critically-acclaimed series, renowned theologian Norman Wirzba engages philosophers, environmentalists, and cultural critics to show how the modern concept of nature has been deeply problematic. He explains that understanding the world as creation rather than as nature or the environment makes possible an imagination shaped by practices of responsibility and gratitude, which can help bring healing to our lands and communities. By learning to give thanks for creation as God’s gift of life, Christians bear witness to the divine love that is reconciling all things to God. **Available from:** Amazon. **Price:** US\$15.19. Published by Baker Academic, 2015.



Undone: A Story of Making Peace With An Unexpected Life, by Michele Cushatt – *Undone* is author Michele Cushatt’s quest to make peace with a complicated life. It is an honest confession of a diagnosis of cancer and the joys and disappointments of motherhood and marriage, ripe with regret over what is and, yet, still hopeful for what could be. **Available at:** Amazon. **Price:** US\$9.27. **Published by:** Zondervan 2015.

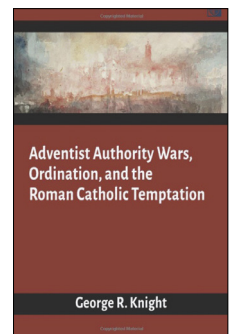
The Eleventh Commandment

by Rich DuBose, Karen Spruill, and Michael Temple – Have you noticed how increasingly difficult it is to be civil, let alone compassionate? In the marketplace, at home, work, church, and on Facebook, many are highly abrasive and on edge. Some are downright nasty, including some who profess to be Christians! It seems like political meanness and religious discrimination has become the norm. What’s a Christian supposed to do? Available now through the Apple’s iBook store and the Android Marketplace. **Price:** US\$6.95. **Published by:** Pacific Union Conference Church Support Services.



Adventist Authority Wars, Ordination, and the Roman Catholic Temptation

by George R. Knight – Known for their provocative approach, George Knight’s books have a wide readership around the world. *Adventist Authority Wars, Ordination, and the Roman Catholic Temptation*, following his usual style, raises denominational issues that many would like to keep buried. He not only raises the issues but points to possible solutions. **Available at:** Amazon or AdventSource. **Price:** US\$12.95. **Published by:** Oak & Acorn Publishing.



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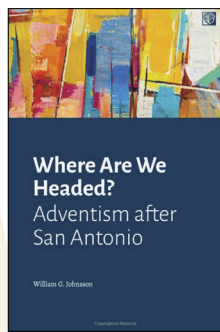
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Where Are We Headed? Adventism After San Antonio, by William C. Johnsson – San Antonio was a tipping

point in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. History may come to regard the General Conference Session of 2015 as a moment comparable to the 1888 Minneapolis Convocation, when dramatically differing views of the Church came face to face. In “Where Are We Headed?” William Johnsson looks at the life of the Church after the summer of 2015 with two questions in mind: What issues are shaping the Adventist Church? How shall we respond? Johnsson served as the editor of the Adventist Review from 1982 to 2006. In this book he moves easily and effectively into the role of pastor and teacher that he knows so well—and that Adventists have long appreciated. **Available at:** Amazon or AdventSource. **Price:** US\$11.64. **Published by:** Oak & Acorn Publishing.



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adventistpeace.org

Acts of Kindness
randomactsofkindness.org

Kids for Peace
kidsforpeaceglobal.org

Peace Direct
peacedirect.org

Ministry In Motion
ministryinmotion.tv

Making Peace
pricklypeople.com

Showing Kindness
whenpeoplearekind.org

Adventist Learning Community
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Peace Maker



Did you know that Pathfinders has a Peace Maker honor that can be earned? We need more peacemakers in the world and the Church. Perhaps this is an honor every member should be invited to “earn”—whether they are a Pathfinder or not. Some of the requirements for the honor include:

1. Define conflict and discuss the difference between good and bad conflict.
2. Identify the four causes of conflict as described in the Bible. Read the following passages for assistance: a. Acts 15:22-20; b. 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; c. Genesis 13:1-12; d. James 4:1-3.
3. Identify each segment of the slippery slope of addressing conflict, and discuss examples of each type from the Bible and your own experiences (pointers for dialogue is included).
4. Reverse role-play a conflict from your own life and identify where you are on the “slippery slope” and what possible conciliation options you might try.

For more information contact your local Adventist Pathfinder leader or AdventSource.



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Wall Street Journal College Guide Ranks La Sierra University No. 1 in Nation for Diversity



La Sierra University students head to class following an academic convocation at the La Sierra University church Sept. 26.

For the second year, La Sierra University has placed No. 1 in the nation for the diversity of its campus in the second annual college rankings guide released Sept. 26 by the Wall Street Journal and its partner company, Times Higher Education.

La Sierra topped the environment category of the WSJ/THE U.S. College Rankings 2018, which rates more than 1,000 colleges and universities around the United States. Environment, one of four key areas explored in calculating the overall ranking, considers overall diversity and inclusiveness by looking at the proportion of international students, diversity of students, faculty and staff, percentage of Pell grant recipients and number of students who are first in their families to attend college. The other three main criteria used to create the ranking include academic resources, student outcomes, and student engagement.

La Sierra is located in the most diverse state in the nation, according to U.S. census data, and resides in the highly diverse Inland Empire comprised of Riverside and San Bernardino counties. In fall 2016, the university's undergraduate Hispanic student enrollment stood at 46.6 percent, and Pell grant recipients at nearly 43 percent. About one in nine are international students.

The university strengthens its students' abilities to succeed through a variety of

programs. The Office of Advising and Career Services provides one-on-one coaching, career workshops, and a collaborative First-Year Experience program for freshmen that helps them stay on track academically and pursue career goals. In fall 2015, La Sierra University received a \$2.6 million federal Title V grant to enhance educational services for Hispanic and underserved students. Programs implemented with this grant include the Summer Bridge math program begun in 2016, which helps freshmen better their college-level math placement scores. Additionally, the funds support a tutoring center in the advising and career services office and an AVID for Higher Education program, which helps support college students to keep them enrolled and complete their education.

In the WSJ/THE college ranking environment category, California State University, Northridge came in second. An article describing the environment category cites the perception problem burdening the nation's elite universities and their struggle to attract a diverse student body. For instance, Stanford University, which ranked No. 3 in the nation overall, came in at No. 54 in the environment classification. Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. took the nation's top spot in the college guide and ranked No. 145 for environment.

"La Sierra University is mindful of the privilege and responsibility to serve our remarkably diverse student body," said La Sierra University President Randal Wisbey. "We are committed to making the most of the breadth of experiences found in our student's individual stories. These stories enhance and enliven the discussions in our classrooms, transform our understanding and experience of community, and create confident graduates able to communicate in an increasingly diverse world."

Provost Joy Fehr added that the university's diversity is one of its key strengths. "The opportunity all members of our campus community have to interact with so many unique points of view creates a rich learning and working environment. As a result, we are well prepared to reach beyond our campus and positively change our world," she said.

La Sierra's placement in the WSJ/THE diversity ranking follows the university's strong standing in the annual U.S. News and World Report 2018 Best Colleges guide published Sept. 12. The university continued an upward trajectory in the U.S. News rankings, placing at 44th out of 141 schools in the 15-state western region, six spots higher than its listing in last year's U.S. News guide for Best Regional Universities in the West.

Darla Martin Tucker

VBS Turns Azure Hills Church into Maker Fun Factory

Every evening from July 10 to 14, Azure Hills church's sanctuary overflowed with praise music, interactive demonstrations, games, and snacks for 360 children from preschool to sixth grade for Maker Fun Factory week.

The church was transformed to look like a factory, with heavy duty machinery attached by industrial tubing. In the sanctuary, a rocket fashioned to look like a NASA spacecraft almost touched the ceiling, towering above the factory-themed set.

Patty Marruffo, children and family ministries pastor, spoke with "Professor Pickles" about the day's Bible lesson. A new fictional character each day emphasized a message: Decker the Crab reminded the children that God made them; Tina the Termite taught that God is for them; Bubba the Whale said that God is always with them; Sklyer the Bird reassured them that God will always love them; and on the final night, Abee the Bee shared the message that God made them for a reason.

"For many kids, VBS week is the most impactful spiritual experience they have all year," said Trevan Osborn, executive pastor. "They learn important spiritual lessons while having an exciting time — and grow closer to God through it."

Keturah Reed and Nancy Yuen



JANNET SANCHEZ

Principals Go on a Retreat

More than 65 principals, teaching principals, vice principals, early childhood directors, business managers, and curriculum coaches in the conference gathered for their third annual retreat in La Quinta for a social and relaxing trip Aug. 7-9.

The focus, "Come Rest Awhile," was a spiritual retreat with a purpose to meet colleagues and pause from the fast-paced life before the new school year starts. There were four sessions of optional meetings hosted by the Office of Education. The speaker, Maury Jackson, challenged administrators to encourage students to stretch their thinking about how they relate to God and church on a personal level, and how that will ultimately be reflected in how they treat others.

Don Dudley, superintendent of schools, knows how important the trip can be for some leaders:

"There's a comradery for getting together with colleagues, breaking away from a busy schedule, and taking time to relax before the beginning of a new school year," he said. "It allows for them to embrace a spiritual challenge as the new school year begins."

Two other things Dudley made sure to emphasize to the leaders: sleep is important; and take a break every once in a while.

Larry McGill Retires After 32.5 Years at La Mesa Church

Larry McGill retired July 29 after serving 32.5 years at La Mesa church as senior pastor. Prior to being a pastor there, he worked for two years as a teacher while finishing his law degree. Before that, he was the chaplain at Union College in Lincoln, Neb. He was also a pastor, director of counseling, and Bible teacher at Mount Ellis Academy and at the same time associate youth director for the Montana Conference from 1976 to 1978. His other positions include being associate pastor at Azure Hills church from 1974 to 1976, a counselor at the Loma Linda University Medical Center, an associate pastor at Hayward church, and a student missionary to Sabah, Malaysia, and Port Hardy on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada.

So what made him stay at La Mesa for so long? "The people at La Mesa love their pastors and treat them so well — that's why we last so long here," McGill said. "They have very gracious hearts and loving spirits."



ERNEST FURNISS

McGill said he will miss preaching, teaching, and seeing people get the picture of the gospel. However, he hopes to continue working in missions, including going on mission trips.



WALT LANGKASTER

Phone Call Starts Chain Reaction for Displaced Hurricane Victims

“Imagine this room we’re in right now is the shelter. You’ve left your home with only the clothes you’re wearing, and maybe a small bag. You can’t leave for a month. What would you need?” asked Calimesa church member Raul Garcia one recent Sabbath morning. Hurricane Harvey had just begun wreaking havoc in the Houston, Texas, area, and he had received a call of concern from his mother, Rachel Garcia, a member of Azure Hills church.

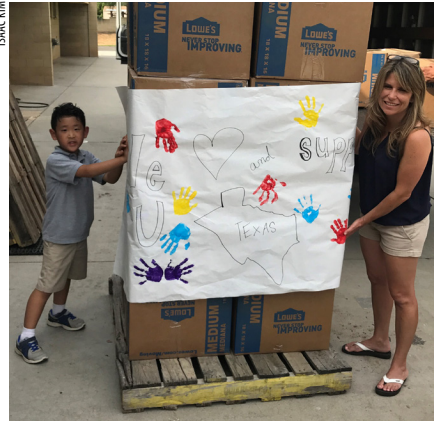
“We should do something,” she said.

After further encouragement from Garcia’s siblings, he approached Isaac Kim, associate pastor at Calimesa church. It didn’t take long for things to spring into action.

“We recognized an opportunity to meet a great need and for a tangible way for Calimesa’s young families to participate in outreach,” Kim said. “Opportunities like this can be the ultimate teaching moments for young people.” Soon all of Calimesa’s pastoral leadership was involved, supporting Garcia as he sought a large truck, a driver, pallets, and other shipping materials.

Meanwhile, the word spread. Garcia’s family members contacted their home churches and reached out to friends and acquaintances in leadership at other area churches and schools. Mesa Grande Academy served as a drop-off location. Soon, 14 churches and four academies worked together to gather supplies. The Baytown church near Houston, would receive the supplies and coordinate the distribution to the affected areas.

Adventurers at Calimesa church then sorted and boxed the donations. While packing socks and toothbrushes, they learned why these



Calimesa church member Stephanie Church, right, helps Noah, MGA kindergartener and Adventurer, left, wrap a stack of boxes with an inspirational message for the displaced hurricane families in Houston.

simple items were being gathered and how these boxes would be taken to families who were forced out of their homes by the hurricane.

The next day, there were 25 pallets stacked with boxes. The driver of the 18-wheeler had been told that he was hired only to drive, not to help. But when he heard what the boxes were for, he helped load the truck and refused tips. “I wanted to do my part, too!” he said.

As the last of the boxes were loaded onto the truck, everyone present gathered in a circle to surround the driver in prayer.

“It was heartwarming to see all our area churches and schools come together for a common cause,” said Elisa Suphol, elementary coordinator/marketing for Mesa Grande Academy. “It felt like the Holy Spirit was leading in this one.”

Amy Prindle



Calimesa church member John McClure loads the pallets on the truck. His company donated the use of the forklifts.



Calimesa church Adventurers and Mesa Grande Academy students help sort and pack donations.

Contributors:

- Calimesa church
- Mesa Grande Academy
- Arden Hills church
- Azure Hills church
- Beaumont church
- Crosswalk church
- Campus Hill church
- Corona church
- Hemet church
- La Sierra University church
- Loma Linda University church
- Loma Linda Filipino church
- Mentone church
- Palm Springs Fil-Am church
- Yucaipa church
- Loma Linda Elementary
- La Sierra Academy
- Redlands Adventist Academy

Number of items collected and shipped:

- 1,000 clothing items
- 300 school supplies
- 700 cleaning/laundry supplies
- 3,500 personal care items
- 1,200 baby supplies
- 380 blankets, pillows, towels
- 627 miscellaneous items



Garden Grove Youth Serve Brazilians Along Amazon River

In her first month at the Garden Grove church, Sara-May Colón, associate pastor of youth ministries, was sitting in a car with some of the youth group and asked them, "If you could go anywhere in the world for however long to do whatever you want to do, where would you go?" Not one mentioned leaving Orange County.

"It has Disneyland, it has Knott's Berry Farm, it's at the beach, and it's not far from Los Angeles. Why would we go anywhere else?" the group members replied.

However, two years later, the youth group was boarding a plane headed to Brazil to spend 10 days on a boat on the Amazon River without technology or bright city lights.

Colón and the Garden Grove church, together with ADRA and Amazon Lifesavers, planned a mission trip Aug. 3-17 that changed the outlook of many of the youth and young adults at their church. "I wanted it to be a trip that was easy access for everyone," Colón said.

Instead of planning an evangelistic trip, she planned one in which everyone could participate regardless of personal strengths. The group helped with Vacation Bible School programs, building outhouses, and performing minor medical procedures.

"They want to have purpose and a need and be relevant," Colón said. "Youth take ownership when they're handed the right cards."

This was demonstrated when it started raining amid digging one of the outhouse holes.



The Garden Grove church group of 33 gathers during their 10-day trip on a boat on the Amazon River.

Those working on the hole were given the option of returning to the boat. They all stayed.

"We all had this determination in our eyes," said Jonathan Campos, a Garden Grove youth member. "It was a proud moment to work beside my friends."

One of the most beautiful moments for the group happened as the trip came to a close and they floated toward land to board their plane back to the United States. Several wanted to stop by the first village they had visited and say one last good-bye. But because of

time restraints, the boat was not able to stop. However, as they neared, the group started hearing their names shouted from the shore. The group ran to the front of the boat, where they saw the villagers running beside the river, waving and calling to them.

The boat pulled near, and excitedly the group ran and got whatever candy and toys they had left to give as a final gift to the people who had no doubt changed their lives forever.

Suzanne Ocsai



Garden Grove youth group members spend 10 days on this boat, visiting villages along the Amazon River during their mission trip Aug. 3-17.



A young girl shows off her craft during a Vacation Bible School session.

SERGIO FROM PERU

SARA-MAY COLON

One Miracle after Another: Shipping Containers to Saint Vincent

A small volcanic island nation in the Caribbean Sea called St. Vincent and the Grenadines is home to a Seventh-day Adventist mission. When Joliet and Cornice Paris settled in Southern California 20 years ago, they started sending shipping containers full of supplies back to their home island of St. Vincent.

"I am a painter here in California, and people I work for have given me lots of books, Bibles, clothes, shoes, etc.," Joliet said. "So we began shipping containers back to the mission field."

Items in St. Vincent are very expensive because of import fees and costs. Shipping a

container costs around \$7,500. Because of the high cost, the Parises were not able to send more after 2007. However, they continued to buy shoes and paint whenever they could, hoping to one day raise enough money to ship more containers.

Then earlier this year, Joliet Paris asked William Penick, pastor at Beaumont church, to help raise money for another container.

"We as a church are missionary-minded," Penick said. "We support mission trips, so why not support this? We put that out there, and people responded."

Members of the Beaumont, Yucaipa, and Calimesa churches and students from Mesa Grande Academy collaborated to collect clothes, six refrigerators, a freezer, two organs, three pianos, new shoes, numerous church supplies, and more. The Parises also collected 1,200 gallons of paint. Cornice made sure everything was in good condition before church volunteers packed it up into two 40-foot containers.

The shipping cost for the two containers was \$15,000. Donations started pouring in from church members and the community, and the containers were shipped at the end of June.

In July, the two containers arrived in St. Vincent for



Before: one of the many buildings the Paris family and pastors painted.



After: building is completed with a fresh coat of paint.

members of the 42 churches on the island. Ian Williams, a pastor for one of the churches and a community service director, distributed the items to all the churches and also gave community members things they needed.

Joliet, Cornice, and their son, Joliet Paris II, then took a month-long mission trip to paint churches, schools, and two government buildings with local pastors. In a letter to the Paris family, Dermoth Baptiste, president of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Mission, expressed his gratitude.

The Paris family hopes to send another container soon with non-perishable food and 35 desks for the Adventist school. The mission still needs things such as pulpits, pews, communion tables, and media items such as speakers, microphones, and projectors. If any church is remodeling its kitchen and has a stove, refrigerator, etc., those things can be sent.

To get involved or to donate items, contact Joliet Paris at 760-885-1272.

Jessica Anzai Permaul

PHOTOS BY JOLIET PARIS



One of two shipping containers is loaded up with supplies to be shipped to St. Vincent in June.



Island pastors pose with their surprise gift — new suits — with Cornice and Joliet Paris in the middle.

Community Block Party Outreach Draws Hundreds

A block party on Sabbath? That's exactly what the Breath of Life church staged on Aug. 19 as a way to reintroduce itself to local neighbors and to lay a foundation for long-term relationships. More than 450 area residents converged on the church campus and the adjoining streets in Inglewood and engaged in an array of activities and programs during the event.

Adults engaged in worship with the BOL congregation under the main tent and listened to inspirational music and a relevant sermon by Pastor Eugene Hamilton, who tailored his gospel message for people from diverse cultures and experiences. He extended an open invitation to guests to engage with the church and take advantage of the various community services and family-oriented programs BOL offers, including the food bank and thrift shop. After worship, several guests signed up for Bible studies, requested prayer and were prayed for.

Meanwhile at the KidZone, neighborhood children engaged in a number of interactive activities with BOL youth. They participated in dramatic Bible stories and arts/crafts, played with animals at the onsite petting zoo, rode ponies, got their faces painted, and feasted on popcorn and refreshing watermelon on a warm summer day. The kids also marched to the beat of the BOL Pathfinder drum corps. Impressed with the group, several parents immediately enrolled their kids in Pathfinders and Adventurers.

To wrap up the day, everyone mingled, devoured tacos, and lined up to receive one of the hundreds of free backpacks filled with school supplies — all donated and packaged by BOL members.

"We wanted our neighbors to know that we value education and want to help our youth succeed, even if it just means providing them with some basic tools — pens, pencils, paper, binders, and a backpack to store everything in," said Hamilton. "This is our way of showing we care and are here to ease their burden in these tough economic times."

Regarding the overall block party concept, Hamilton acknowledged that the idea — especially as a Sabbath ministry — was unconventional and would raise some eyebrows. But he envisioned the event as a "creative way to get our neighbors on our campus who otherwise may never walk through the doors of our sanctuary for formal worship. We wanted them to get to know us as a caring, welcoming congregation that provides hope, support, and services that address their spiritual and practical needs, which was Jesus' ministry model."

Inglewood Mayor James Butts agreed. He was among notable guests who attended the block party, in addition to Royal Harrison SCC's



Backpacks for the approaching school year drew parents and their children.

Greater Los Angeles Region director. Butts commended the BOL congregation, noting, "What you've done here today aligns squarely with our efforts to revitalize Inglewood and serve our citizens with their most basic needs — economic, social, and spiritual. God bless all of you for being a blessing to our city."

"The block party also was instructive for the church leadership," said Hamilton, who was installed as BOL pastor in May. "We learned a lot about the community we plan to evangelize. Our neighbors are diverse, largely Latino, which means we, as a largely African-American congregation, must consider cultural factors in our outreach efforts going forward. We have now sown the seeds for an evangelistic harvest in the very near future."

Clarence Brown



At one canopied table, visitors registered and could receive free Bible lessons.



Hundreds attended the Sabbath block party that included a worship service.

L.A. Cantonese Fellowship Becomes a Company

The Los Angeles Cantonese Adventist Fellowship Group in San Gabriel, Calif., was officially recognized as a Company with a special celebration service on Aug. 12.

The L.A. Cantonese Adventist Fellowship Group originally grew out of the L.A. Chinese church. “We found there is a great need for outreach to Cantonese-speaking people in the community,” recalled Pastor Jeffery Chan.

The theme of the celebration service was “We Are the Light of the World.” Throughout the past seven years, the group had changed facilities multiple times. “We really want to serve the Lord,” said Chan. “We want to glorify how God has provided for us. That’s why we picked this theme for the event.”

“Since its inception seven years ago, this group has been very enthusiastic about mission and Cantonese culture and community,” noted Sam Lee, Asian-Pacific Region director.

Outreach is an important facet of the group’s growth, evidenced by the response to their annual evangelistic meetings. “We really want to have evangelistic meeting for the Cantonese-speaking community every year,” Chan said. Hundreds of attendees have come to hear topics on health, family, and spirituality.

“We have good results,” said Chan. “When people come, they find what they need.



Church leaders, members and guests commemorate the special event.

This is our mission to serve those who speak Cantonese.” Since the group was established in 2011, 33 members have been added through baptism. Their speaker for the most recent series in October, Dr. Brian Wong, professor of biology at Andrews University, speaks Cantonese.

In 2013, the group attended a podcast training hosted by the Southern California Conference. They were encouraged to produce a podcast in Cantonese, supported by Adventist World Radio. They launched their first episode in July of the same year and have produced more than 215 episodes since, with more than 25,000 downloads weekly.

In January 2015, the congregation welcomed Chan, who has built on the church’s outreach

ministries and growth. “They are a group of integrity with Adventist belief — that has been my impression from the outset,” Lee said. “The result is that God blessed the growth of this group. Pastor Chan’s character and caring mind as a leader is a great contribution to growth. The mission became greater since he came. I’d like to give the credit to him.”

“We hope that people in our church will still pray for us,” Chan noted, “because we only have a small group now, but we want to establish not only Cantonese but also a Mandarin and an English service in our community of Temple City.”

Lauren Armstrong



SCC President Velino A. Salazar presents church leadership with the Certification of Company status (l. to r., Salazar, Pastor Jeffery Chan, and head elder Bilta Tran).



The afternoon service was followed by a celebratory banquet at a nearby restaurant. Attendees listened to testimonies about the group’s history, and members expressed gratitude to the L.A. Chinese church for its support along the way. Small candles were on each table as a gift to guests, with votives designed to carry the “We Are the Light of the World” theme.

Indonesian-American AMEN Clinic Serves 500+ Patients

Over Labor Day weekend, the Indonesian-American church in Azusa conducted an event some people had thought might need to be rescheduled. “You won’t be able to get enough volunteers or professionals on a holiday weekend,” many said, but the Lord had other ideas.

Peter Young, D.D.S., from the L.A. Cantonese Adventist Fellowship company, enlisted 23 dental students for the clinic’s dental department. A church member who owns a lab donated two lab tests per patient, with the church providing only minimal materials needed for the more than 200 patients who took advantage of the free service. Eighteen Western University students volunteered to offer vision services, under the direction of faculty member Taylor Lamb, O.D.



EWAN WONOPRABOWO

Nurses with haircutting skills helped where needed.



BETTY COONEY

Volunteer health professionals and many others partnered in conducting vision tests and providing dentistry.

Leaders of the Los Angeles Indonesian Christian Association specifically asked the church to have the clinic on the holiday weekend. After praying, the church decided to do just that. And since the church has many Hispanic neighbors, the clinic offered translation in both Indonesian and Spanish.

The weekend was very hot and humid, but 385 volunteers came to assist with the different clinic services. For the outreach, the church partnered with AMEN (Adventist Medical Evangelist Network), offering medical, dental, and vision services, ultrasound, pharmacy, foot care, lifestyle coaching, massage therapy, and more.

Ewan Wonoprabowo, SCC auditor and Indonesian-American church head elder, reported on what many members saw as a miracle. “We had ordered 12 boxes of croissants for volunteer lunches,” he said. “When we went to pick them up on Friday morning, they only had two boxes. ‘Come tomorrow,’ they were told, but the next day was Sabbath.”

“We can’t come tomorrow,” the church member said, “because it’s the Sabbath.” Early Sabbath morning, a large surprise donation arrived from Trader Joe’s and was received by a night watchman. The donation included bread, croissants, and fruit — enough to share with both volunteers and patients. The church was able to give each patient a vegetarian sandwich, and volunteers never ran low on bread or sandwich filling.

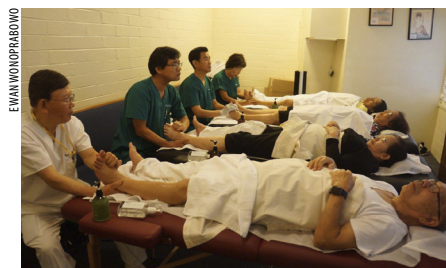
Wonoprabowo and the church’s clinic team worked for 10 months preparing the outreach, offering exercise and cooking classes twice monthly. “Diabetes Undone” classes will be offered in November. An evangelistic series starts in December.

Included in the extensive planning, preparation, and fundraising for the clinic were several visits with Azusa’s Mayor Joseph Rocha and his staff, arranged by Andres Altamirano, a community services activist and a member of Community Adventist Fellowship. The Mayor’s office collaborated with the clinic, offering police security, overflow parking at nearby schools, and attending the clinic on both



EWAN WONOPRABOWO

(L. to r., back row) Jonathan Kuntaraf, retired GC Personal Ministries and Sabbath School director; Pastor Eddy Kartagi; Patricia Endang Wirawan, Consul General of Indonesia; Cynthia Inderabudhi, chair, Indonesian Christian Association of L.A.; Anggiat Napitupulu, Consul for Immigration; Professor Wirawan.



EWAN WONOPRABOWO

Byung Ho Pak, M.D. (front left), prayed with patients after foot massages. He later volunteered to train church volunteers to do massage therapy for future outreach.

days. Also visiting were the Consul General and the Consul for Immigration for Indonesia. Clinic co-sponsors included the Asian-Pacific departments of SCC, Pacific Union, and North American Division. Lucyana Panjaitan, R.N., was the coordinator for the clinic.

Near the end of the weekend, Rocha asked if the church would sponsor a free clinic in 2018. “We will certainly consider it,” said Wonoprabowo, adding, “if the city can provide the funding.” A meeting was scheduled to discuss the possibility.

Wonoprabowo also asked about finding a larger venue for the clinic, since the 2017 turnout had overfilled the church. “No,” Rocha replied, “this is the perfect place for the clinic. It is the house of the Lord.”

Betty Cooney

SCC Literature Ministries: A Mission & Purpose

The mission of Southern California Conference Literature Ministries is to bring health, healing, and hope to the people of Southern California through life-changing resources and compassionate personal interactions. The vision for this ministry is to see a community of people in Southern California who know God personally, as the Bible so beautifully portrays Him, and who are ready for His soon return. “The reason I’m passionate about literature ministry is simple,” said Heidi Carpenter, SCC Literature Ministries coordinator. “Our literature leads people to search the Scriptures. As they search the Scriptures, they are led into a relationship with Jesus Christ. The following stories illustrate the power of literature and personal interaction.”

Aaron Zerna knocked on David’s door this summer. David had purchased all the books we offered several years before from a previous Youth Rush student. His favorite book was *The Great Controversy*. As David showed Aaron his well-read copy of *The Great Controversy*, Aaron could see that every page was highlighted,



Youth Rush 2017 students share a group photo during a fun group weekend at the Simi Valley church and school.

annotated, and referenced to the Bible like he had never seen before. “We never know if the people will read the books or not,” Aaron said. “But God showed me through David that these books can save lives. God also put me on His divine calendar to talk to David when I did, to show him about baptism, and I praise God for that.” David shared with Aaron that he had studied the Bible with many different denominations but didn’t believe any of them were true because he believed the Sabbath was actually on Saturday! When Aaron said that he was a Seventh-day Adventist, David immediately asked, “What do I need to do to be baptized?” After asking Aaron many more questions about the Seventh-day Adventist Church, David signed up for Bible studies. Aaron gave him more resources to read and study. He is currently receiving Bible studies to be baptized.

Megan Walker approached a door but was immediately turned away. As she was walking away, the man, Elmer, called her back and said that he would listen to what she had to say. In their conversation, he said that he had just moved from the Philippines. As he had studied the Bible on his own, he decided to become a Christian. He received a *Steps to Christ* that afternoon, and Megan took the time to pray with him. He said that he felt like God sent her to give him hope and encouragement. He decided to sign up for personal Bible studies. Roy Garcia, the local interest coordinator, followed up on Elmer’s interest within 24 hours. That weekend, as Youth Rush was worshipping at Roy’s church, the group was pleasantly

surprised to see Elmer there, too. He had already finished reading *Steps to Christ* and, through his studies, had come to the conclusion that Saturday was God’s Sabbath. “Meeting Elmer led me to personally experience people’s earnest need and value of the Word of God and His prophets,” Walker said of the experience. Elmer is continuing to receive Bible studies and wants to be baptized.

Marco Topete was born and raised in San Jose, Calif., in a non-religious home. He learned about Jesus and the Seventh-day Adventist Church while visiting his aunt and decided to be baptized. After serving the local church for a couple of years, his light started to grow dim. He couldn’t figure out what was missing, and then someone recommended Youth Rush to him. After serving in Youth Rush as a literature evangelist, Topete remembered that it was as if someone threw gasoline on a fire that was going out. Since then, Topete has been involved in literature ministries in different capacities and is on fire for Jesus and evangelism. Currently, Topete serves the Southern California Conference as the assistant Literature Ministries coordinator. “God has done great things in the lives of student literature evangelists, bringing purpose and meaning into their lives as Seventh-day Adventist Christians,” said Carpenter. “We praise God for the work He is doing through literature in the Southern California Conference.”



Megan Walker, Elmer, and Roy Garcia meet at Canoga Park Community church fellowship hall.



Marco Topete

Lauren Armstrong
and Heidi Carpenter

TRANSFORMING Our Communities Through Mission

Scott Reiner, CEO, Adventist Health

Jesus was a healer.

The Gospel of Matthew, in fact, tells us, “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people” (Matthew 9:35, KJV).

That’s the three-fold “cities and villages” ministry of Jesus — preacher, teacher, and healer. And it’s the third of those Christ-centered ministries I’d like to talk to you about for a moment — the ministry of healing.

I believe the most critical moment for the Adventist Health message is now. Our “cities and villages” (your community and my community) are sick and dying. Stress, anxiety, alienation, depression, and loneliness are reported at levels we have never seen before. Families and neighborhoods find themselves battered and broken as men and women attempt to live without needed rest, balance, good nutrition, healthy recreation, and freedom from the bondage of addiction. We live in a time when people are, quite frankly, desperate. They are starving for life. They are thirsty — for health, for wholeness, and for hope.

And so I couldn’t be more excited for the determined direction of Adventist Health and our work to be even more intentional and impactful in our healing ministry to the “cities and villages” of the Western United States.



Scott Reiner



Dustin Aho

Leading these efforts — our new mission integration initiative — is Vice President of Mission Integration Dustin Aho. He and his team have been tasked with drawing together all the important mission work currently happening in the Adventist Health system into a coherent and powerful whole. This effort is focused on the following three essential “discoveries:”

- **Spiritual calling within our organization.** We believe each and every healthcare provider has been endowed with a purpose, which comes from none other than God himself. To be a physician or nurse, a therapist or pharmacist, a custodian or cook — each of these and more is a spiritual gift on loan from the Creator. Everyone enjoys a holy purpose to serve and love the world in the way of Jesus.
- **Our collective culture.** Adventism has a long and rich history in the ministry of healing. We want each member of our healthcare team (some 30,000 strong) to appreciate the heritage to which they belong. This tradition is not only a valued history but also a present reality where we commit ourselves afresh to words like integrity, respect, compassion, and excellence.
- **Our ministry to community.** Hospitals and clinics, outpatient facilities and rehabilitation centers are about more than physical healing. The purpose of Seventh-day Adventist healthcare — and especially Adventist Health — is the restoration of God’s Creation, human beings living in community. The places Adventist Health takes up residence should be — must be — fundamentally transformed because of our presence in their midst.

And so I end where we began: “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages . . . healing.” It is my prayer and my intention that Adventist Health will follow Jesus with greater clarity and passion than ever before.



Dumpster Diving for God

One day as he sat in my office, I asked Tom, a new volunteer chaplain, “Of all the places you could volunteer in this hospital, why choose Chaplain Services?” Tom leaned back in his chair and, over the next few minutes, told me the following tale in response.

I think cigarettes were my brother Stan’s first love. It all began when he was a teenager.

Once he acquired the taste, he just couldn’t seem to get enough. He tried to quit a few times; but when life turned rough, cigarettes were the friend he could count on. They wouldn’t let him down.

As the years went by, my brother and his “friend” remained close. Then about a year ago my brother went to see his doctor because he wasn’t feeling well. The diagnosis was not what he expected — stage 4 lung cancer. His first love, the one who had been there all along for him, finally let him down.

Because of the advanced stage of his cancer, the prognosis was poor. We were told that the best thing for him was to keep him comfortable. So we talked about where he should spend the last days of his life and finally decided on Feather River Hospital’s Paradise Hospice House — a place which consisted of a six-bed inpatient, state-of-the-art facility that specialized in nursing care, 24-hour access, and spiritual and bereavement support.

Everything we learned about the Paradise Hospice House made us feel comfortable about sending him there. They even told him he could keep his “old friend” around, which pleased my brother. Dr. An, the medical director for hospice, was compassionate but clear about my brother’s prognosis — wisely making sure to not give us any false hope.

I came in to visit my brother two or three times a day, and what I saw unfold over the month my brother was at Paradise Hospice House was nothing short of miraculous. The staff showered all of us with compassion and care. Dr. An would make coffee for my brother, push him out to the garden, and pray with him while making sure our family was updated daily about my brother’s health.

And the staff would tease him and perform unpleasant tasks happily. The care was like no

other place I’ve ever seen. They even took an interest in Stan and tried to accommodate any of his reasonable requests.

The “cherry on top” of the goodness already seen in the staff was shown when my brother’s dentures disappeared. They searched the room extensively for hours until, finally, a nurse concluded it must have gone out with the trash. She called her husband to bring a ladder which she expertly used to gain access into the belly of the dumpster. After opening multiple trash bags, she excitedly exclaimed, “Eureka, I found it!” and, after a thorough sterilization, the dentures were delivered to my brother along with a big hug from the nurse.

Through the years, I attempted to share with my brother about God, but he’d always found a way to change the subject.

Then, in the last month of his

life, and with the help of a volunteer chaplain (Don Bean), Dr. An, Stan’s gardener, a variety of staff members, and me, my brother accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior — all through the compassionate love and ministry of those fine people.

The experience makes me think of the Scripture that says, “Some plant, some water, but the Lord gives the increase.”

To answer your question, based on that experience of the love and care given to my brother, I want to give back by being a part of team that would dumpster dive for God.

Brad Brown



Recent Studies at Loma Linda University Health Reveal the Association Between Dietary Choices and Health

Go Nuts for Weight Loss



A study published by the *European Journal of Nutrition* found that people who include nuts in their diet are more likely to reduce weight gain and lower the risk of obesity. During the five-year study,

researchers at Loma Linda University School of Public Health and the International Agency for Research on Cancer evaluated data from more than 373,000 Europeans, ages 25 to 70.

Joan Sabaté, M.D., Dr.P.H., director of the school's Center for Nutrition, Lifestyle and Disease Prevention, said participants who ate the most nuts experienced less weight gain than their nut-abstaining peers and enjoyed a 5 percent lower risk of becoming overweight.

Calcium or Dairy May Protect Against Cancer

A Loma Linda University School of Public Health study found that dairy foods may protect against colorectal cancers, and individual components that protect against rectal cancer may differ from those that protect against colon cancer.



The study, published by the journal *Public Health Nutrition*, found that dairy foods protect against rectal cancers while calcium — whether from dairy, non-dairy sources, or supplements — appeared to protect against colon cancer.

Principal investigator Gary Fraser, MBChB, Ph.D., said several studies have shown that calcium is associated with a lower risk of colorectal cancers, but most could not separate calcium from other components of dairy.

James Ponder

THE SEVENTH
ICMVN International Congress
on Vegetarian Nutrition
February 26–28, 2018
VegetarianCongress.org

MANY STRENGTHS. ONE MISSION.
A Seventh-day Adventist Organization

LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY
School of Public Health

International Congress on Vegetarian Nutrition to Feature Personal, Population and Planetary Health

“Plant-based Nutrition for Personal, Population and Planetary Health” is the theme for the 7th International Congress on Vegetarian Nutrition, which will be held on the campus of Loma Linda University Feb. 26-28, 2018.

Joan Sabaté, M.D., Dr.P.H., chair, says the congress, a community outreach of Loma Linda University School of Public Health, brings together physicians, dentists, dietitians, health educators and other interested parties who want to learn the latest ways to incorporate plant-based nutrition into everyday life.

More information about the congress is available online at vegetariannutrition.org.

James Ponder

Joan Sabaté, M.D., Dr.P.H., director of the Center for Nutrition, Lifestyle and Disease Prevention at Loma Linda University School of Public Health, will chair the 7th International Conference on Vegetarian Nutrition.



PHOTO BY LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH



HOLBROOK INDIAN SCHOOL

A Seventh-day Adventist Boarding Academy Serving Native American Youth Since 1946

From SOUTHWEST to SOUTHEAST HIS Student Extends the Healing Ministry of Christ

By Diana Fish, CFRE

“I was pleasantly surprised when he thoughtfully answered my question with an enthusiastic, ‘I think I’d like to do something in the medical field.’ I immediately began thinking about how we could further spark his interest in a way that would encourage him to excel in school, and be a role model for other students.”

When I chose to leave Florida Hospital to serve as the Director of Development at Holbrook Indian School (HIS), a boarding academy for Native American youth, it was not an easy decision to make. My husband and I loved the ocean and moving was not in our plans.

HIS is located just outside the borders of the Navajo (Diné) Nation in Holbrook, Arizona. I had been with the Florida Hospital system for a little more than ten years. Three and a half years prior to coming to Holbrook I was invited to join the amazing team at Florida Hospital Global Mission Initiatives. It was my dream job! But God was clearly calling us to Holbrook, so off to the desert we went.

As I became acquainted with the students, I noticed that many of them lacked vision for their future. You can ask just about any student, “What do you want to do after you graduate high school?”, and you’ll be met with an apathetic, “I don’t know.”

When I met Corwin Bahe, who at the time was a junior at HIS, I was pleasantly surprised when he thoughtfully answered my question with an enthusiastic, “I think I’d like to do something in the medical field.” I immediately began thinking about how we could help further spark his interest in a way that would encourage him to excel in school and be a role model for other students.

The sociological damage caused by forced assimilation of Indigenous people in North America during the late 1800s, has left many families in ruin. Native American youth face seemingly insurmountable obstacles as they try to find their way through the two conflicting worlds in which they live. We need to give our students a reason to overcome the challenges they face. It’s easy for them to settle for far less than what they are more than capable of achieving.

While at Florida Hospital (cont’d on back page)



Corwin Bahe presents a piece of his handmade pottery to Florida Hospital for Children CEO, Marla Silliman. From left to right: Elena Pathak, Meagan Krizek, Corwin Bahe, and Marla Silliman.

Teaching CREATION Health

The Florida Hospital Way

By Corwin Bahe

“Working with these children made me cherish my own little brothers and sisters. It also made me realize we can’t take our health for granted.”

I read the message from Mrs. Fish. Then I read it again. Was she really saying I might be able to work as a volunteer at Florida Hospital during the summer? I looked at the online application. It seemed a little intimidating. I started worrying about getting my shot records and having a TB test. I wondered about meeting all of the criteria. But I went ahead and filled out the form. My

mom said that opportunities like this don’t come along everyday and when they do you have to grab them. She took me to a clinic to get my shot records and have a TB test. We mailed in the application. Once we received approval from Florida Hospital, Mrs. Pathak booked my flights.

At first I could hardly believe it was really going to happen. It seemed too good to be true. Many thoughts

were racing through my mind; Will the family like me? Was I really going clear across the country? What will I need to take with me? Some nights I could hardly sleep.

Before I knew it, I was at the airport waiting to board the plane. It was my first time flying. I was nervous but not about flying, it was the boarding process. I was actually excited to be flying. Once on the plane and in the air, it seemed surreal to me. The clouds, and the earth below didn’t seem real. It was like watching T.V.. It seemed fake.

Mrs. Pathak picked me up at the airport. Almost instantly all my anxiety was gone. Mrs. Pathak made me feel comfortable. We talked about college, medical school, jobs, applications, and her wonderful family. Once we arrived at the Pathak’s home, it didn’t take long for me to feel like one of the family. Her son Aayan and daughter Anisa were adorable bundles of energy. I had so much fun with them.

My first impression of Florida was how green and humid it is. It’s very different from the dry desert air I am use to. I especially liked that it rained almost every day around two o’clock.

I began my job at Florida Hospital for Children following orientation.

I was amazed at what a fun place it is. You almost feel as though you are at a theme park. The environment was different from what I’ve experienced at other hospitals. Everyone was so friendly. I loved learning about the



Corwin Bahe with Elena Pathak and her children Aayan and Anisa, petting Sting Rays at Sea World in Orlando, Florida.

all the different jobs that are done at a hospital. I had no idea there were so many different career opportunities.

The first thing I learned about was Florida Hospital's mission to Extend the Healing Ministry of Christ with Skill and Compassion. Everything they do aligns with this mission.

I was trained to be a companion for children in the hospital, to help them not feel lonely when their families were not able to be with them. I also did CREATION Kids activities with them and their families to help teach ways to live a healthier, more balanced lifestyle.

Working with these children made me cherish my own little brothers and sisters. It also made me realize we can't take our health for granted.

Looking ahead, I am interested in pediatrics, but I am also eager to learn about other opportunities available in the medical field.

I am grateful to the team at Florida Hospital for Children. I appreciate all they did to make my experience possible. I'm especially thankful for the Pathak family and all that they did for me. They have truly inspired me to reach for my dreams. 🌈



Corwin Bahe petting one of the volunteer Pet Therapy dogs at Florida Hospital for Children in Orlando, Florida.

CREATION Health is an eight principle acronym that outlines a healthy, balanced lifestyle. It is a whole-person approach to mental, physical and spiritual health.

It's the Florida Hospital way.

C - Choice

First we make choices—then choices make us. To gain optimum value in life you first need to choose a destination. Next, learn the success steps for creating habits that will lead you to a healthy destiny.

R - Rest

Rest is powerful. It refreshes, rejuvenates, and rebuilds the mind, body and spirit. Rest empowers you to function at your best. Optimally, rest includes a good night's sleep and time to unwind daily, weekly and annually.

E - Environment

Environment is what lies outside our bodies yet effects what takes place inside us. All of our senses— sight, smell, sound, touch and taste— can influence our health either positively or negatively.

A - Activity

Activity includes both mental and physical movement and development. The mind and the body are intimately connected. A fit mind promotes a healthy body, and a healthy body promotes a fit mind.

T - Trust

Trust in God speaks to the important relationship between spirituality and health. Research shows that our faith, beliefs and hopes can play an important role in our health. It may even help us live longer.

I - Interpersonal

Interpersonal Relationships are vital to your well-being. Knowing you have the love and support of others can contribute to improved health, while toxic relationships can lead to negative health results.

O - Outlook

Recent research suggests that your attitude powerfully influences your health. Having a positive outlook not only colors your perspective on life, it is one of the best gifts you can give yourself.

N - Nutrition

Food is the fuel that drives your life. It can rev you up or slow you down. Take time to evaluate your intake. Even small improvements, done regularly, can supercharge your health. Eat for energy. Eat for life!




(continued from front page.)
I had the opportunity to work with Elena Pathak, an architect with KTH Architects. Elena has a contagious ‘anything is possible’ outlook on life. I told her about Corwin’s interest in the medical field and that I thought a few weeks at Florida Hospital would be a great experience for him. Without hesitation, she offered to host him in her home while he worked as a volunteer at Florida Hospital during the summer break.

I began encouraging Corwin to fill out the application while Elena, who also volunteers with Florida Hospital’s pet therapy program, began talking with Meagan Krizek, an employee in Florida Hospital’s department of volunteer services.

It was difficult because Corwin did not easily fit in either of the two established categories, as an intern or as a long-term volunteer. With some creative thinking they came up with a plan. Everything fell into place and Corwin found himself on a plane headed to Florida.

The Pathaks not only paid for his flight but covered all of his expenses while he was in Florida. They truly went over and above any hopes, I had in the beginning.

The mission of Florida Hospital is to Extend the Healing Ministry of Christ. For Corwin Bahe, they did just that.

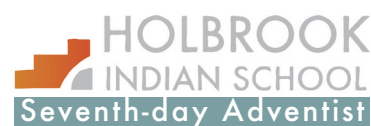
To learn more about HIS mission visit HolbrookIndianSchool.org 



Corwin Bahe making sand castles in Palm Beach, Florida.



Holbrook Indian School (HIS) is a 1st through 12th-grade boarding academy operated by the Pacific Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist church. HIS also manages a 1st through 8th-grade day-school on the Navajo reservation in Chinle, AZ. Eighty percent of funding comes from individuals who have a desire to support Native American ministries and Christian education. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of our students, their families, and the communities they serve. Thank you for your support!



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HolbrookIndianSchool.org

Public Affairs Ministry in Revival

Religious liberty is in the DNA of Seventh-day Adventists. After all, the love of God demonstrated on Calvary gives us the freedom to accept eternal life in Christ, or not. And in our understanding of last day events, freedom will be denied. But what about “public affairs?” The name of our department is “Public Affairs and Religious Liberty,” shortened into an acronym, PARL. Do our churches engage in “public affairs” ministry? *Should we?*

A better question might be: do our communities care that the Adventist church is there? Do our churches serve the community?

Too often, our strategy is to serve from a distance. We conduct excellent programming on health or Revelation or the Bible, but we do so without actually engaging the community or building bridges. Then, we’re disappointed by the lack of community interest and attendance.

There is a better way. “Christ’s method alone will bring true success,” said a very wise woman (Ellen White). “He mingled among men as one who desired their good. He ministered to their needs and won their confidence.” Are we doing that? If not, why not?

Public affairs, broadly understood, is a ministry to implement the wisdom of Ellen White. We build bridges with community leaders, elected officials, other pastors, and fellow faith communities. We become part of the community, and we serve with the community, not by ourselves.

The Holy Spirit has been moving in our churches to engage our communities. Many church leaders I have spoken to also see this need. Public affairs ministry is one aspect of this movement. Opportunities abound.

The Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department is specifically promoting public affairs ministry in the following ways:

- Public official appreciation days. Inviting elected officials to church to get better acquainted, to pray for God’s blessing on their public service, and to explore ways we can serve together.
- Know Your Neighbor programs, inviting representatives of other faith groups for panel discussions to get better acquainted, and build bridges of friendship.
- Immigration Rights seminars as a vital “felt need” of so many immigrant communities to understand the laws.

- Social Justice Seminars, raising awareness of injustice in our communities, and how we can make a difference. Our new initiative for next year will be to partner with a new ministry of the NAD Jewish Advisory, Adventists Against Anti-Semitism. I expect you’ll be hearing more about this in coming months, as we solidify plans.

One of the underlying principles of public affairs ministry is getting beyond the “us” and “them” mentality. In the parable of the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25, Jesus teaches us to see Jesus in others, even those we may look down upon. I don’t think we want to see Jesus as one of “them!” Instead, there is only us. This is the attitude that must empower public affairs ministry, and indeed, all aspects of gospel ministry.

We’re really talking about intolerance and bigotry, which happen when we are self-righteous and feel ourselves to be better, or more right, than others who look, act, or believe differently. Jesus says the one we look down upon as beneath us, as different, as lesser — if we want heaven, we must give them a cup of cold water, feed, clothe, visit them when sick or in prison . . . in short, treat them as if they were Jesus Himself. There is no room in Christianity for bigotry, intolerance, or self-righteousness.

If you want to learn how you and your church can participate in public affairs ministry, please contact the PARL department by email to neva@churchstate.org or by phone, 816-446-2552. We would be delighted to work on scheduling a seminar, training session or consulting with you on developing this ministry in your church.

Alan J. Reinach, Esq.



Too often, our strategy is to serve from a distance. We conduct programming on health or Revelation, but we do so without actually engaging the community or building bridges. Then, we’re disappointed by the lack of interest.

CALENDARS

Arizona

ADULT AFRICAN-AMERICAN MINISTRIES CONVOCATION (Nov. 10-11) "Staying Power through the Storm!" 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Pastor Gamal Alexander, Southern California Conference. Thunderbird Adventist Academy chapel, 7440 E. Sutton Drive, Scottsdale.

YOUNG ADULT AFRICAN-AMERICAN MINISTRIES CONVOCATION (Nov. 10-11) "Strength to Endure?" Speaker: Pastor Baron Sovory, Southeastern California Conference. Thunderbird Adventist Academy chapel, 7440 E. Sutton Drive, Scottsdale.

Central California

KIDS' TIME LIVE! (Nov. 4) Mountain View Academy. Two 75-minute shows at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets are available at OneMustardSeed.com. Info: 408-643-4461.

SINGLES FALL FEST (Nov. 4-5) CCC campus, hosted by ASAM. Info: singles@cccsda.org.

LIFE HOPE CENTERS (Nov. 5) Fresno Hmong community at 3323 E. Nevada Ave., Fresno. Volunteers needed for this free, one-day event. The more dentists, medical professionals, and optometrists that volunteer, the more community members can be served. Sign up at LifeHopeCentersCentral.com.

LIFE HOPE CENTERS (Nov. 19) Armona community at 10771 141/2 Ave., Armona. Volunteers needed for this free, one-day event. The more dentists, medical professionals, and optometrists that volunteer, the more community members can be served. Sign up at LifeHopeCentersCentral.com.

LIFE HOPE CENTERS (Dec. 3) Bakersfield community at 4201 Wilson Rd., Bakersfield. Volunteers needed for this free, one-day event. The more dentists, medical professionals, and optometrists that volunteer, the more community members can be served. Sign up at LifeHopeCentersCentral.com.

La Sierra University

WIND CONDUCTING WORKSHOP (Nov. 12) 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Guest clinician Allan McMurray and director of Wind and Percussion Studies Giovanni Santos. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Cost is \$30-\$95. Info and tickets visit: music-events.lasierra.edu/2017-2018-concert-events or email gsantos@lasierra.edu.

70TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT CONCERT (Dec. 1) 7:30 p.m. and (Dec. 2) 4 p.m., LSU Church. Christmas musical tradition featuring various choral and instrumental groups and soloists. Info: music-events.lasierra.edu/2017-2018-concert-events or email music@lasierra.edu.

Northern California

WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL KOINONIA RETREAT (Nov. 3-5) Leoni Meadows. "Where Do We Go from Here?" Speaker: Shantel Smith, Pacific Union College associate chaplain. Prayer walking, fitness session: Dr. Tanzy Chandler, physical therapist/professional trainer. Anointing session: Chanda Nunes, Capitol City associate pastor. For all women 18 and over. Info: womenskoinonia.com.

MEN'S CHORUS FESTIVAL (Nov. 4) 5 p.m. Carmichael church, 4600 Winding Way, Sacramento. Featuring six men's choruses in concert: Hinsdale, Modesto Praise, Bakersfield, Bay Area, and Carmichael, as well as the William Chunestudy Men's Chorus. Free! Info: 916-487-8684 or www.carmsda.org.

SACRAMENTO ABC OPEN HOUSE (Nov. 5) Noon to 5 p.m. 5207 Madison Avenue, Suite G. Info: 916-486-7730.

FAMILY LIFE SEMINAR IN SPANISH (Nov. 10-12) NCC Headquarters, 401 Taylor Blvd., Pleasant Hill. Info: 925-603-5092.

TEEN PATHFINDER CAVING (Nov. 10-12) Lava Beds National Monument. Info: 925-603-5080.

ALL SINGLES INVITED (Nov. 11) 4:30 p.m. Galt church, 619 Myrtle Avenue. Inspirational speaker, Bill Jarrett: "Is There Faith?" Interactive panel discussion: North Bay Singles, Redwood Empire and Friends, Bay Singles, Valley ASAM Fellowship. Your questions answered. "Bites in Garden of Lights" - dessert and games. Info: Mary Dybdahl, 209-471-9395.

PLEASANT HILL ABC OPEN HOUSE (Nov. 19) 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 401 Taylor Blvd. Info: 925-685-4409.

INSTITUTO LAICO ADVENTISTA DE CALIFORNIA (Nov. 19) Pacific Union College. Info: NCC Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092.

Pacific Union College

DEPTH OF FIELD, NEW LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES OF BROOKS ANDERSON (Nov. 4) 7-9 p.m. Rasmussen Art Gallery. Runs through Dec. 9. (Closed Thanksgiving week.) Info: 707-965-6303.

FALL FESTIVAL (Nov. 5) 4 p.m., Pacific Auditorium. PUC's student clubs host a variety of booths and exhibitions at this annual autumn celebration for the whole family.

COLLEGE DAYS (Nov. 5-6) High school students experience classes and college events at PUC. Info: 800-862-7080 or puc.edu/admissions/visit.

TRANSFER STUDENT VISIT DAY (Nov. 10) College students interested in transferring to PUC learn about academic programs, campus life, the admissions process, and financial aid opportunities. Info: 800-862-7080 or puc.edu/admissions/visit.

PUC COLLOQUY SPEAKER SERIES: DR. VAUGHN BROWNE AND FRIENDS (Nov. 16) 10 a.m. PUC church. A PUC alum, Dr. Browne is an attending physician and director of Emergency Ultrasound Education for the Emergency Department at University of Colorado Hospital. He passionately promotes excellence and diversity at all levels of medical education. Free. Info: 707-965-6303.

SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE CHRISTMAS CONCERT (Dec. 3) 4 p.m., Paulin Hall. PUC Artist in Residence Asher Raboy conducts the Symphonic Wind Ensemble in their holiday concert. Info: 707-965-6201.

PUC CHRISTMAS CONCERT (Dec. 8 and 9) The PUC music department hosts its annual Christmas concerts, Dec. 8 (8 p.m.) and 9 (4 p.m.). PUC church sanctuary. Free. Info: puc.edu or 707-965-6201.

PUC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DATES (Dec. 4, 2017; Feb. 5 and May 14, 2018)

Southeastern California

FILIPINO CONVOCATION (Nov. 3-4) Loma Linda Filipino church gym, 11180 New Jersey St., Redlands. Come be revived and hear how to engage with and empower millennials to grow together in the church during this year's Filipino convocation. Info: Dan Belonio, 951-543-2227.

INTERNATIONAL DAY E. PLURIBUS UNUM (Nov. 4) 9:30 a.m., San Bernardino Community church, 1696 North G. St., San Bernardino. Come to

the fourth international celebration featuring worship and a procession of flags from different nations, following with a cuisine of international flavor. Info: 909-883-2400.

YOUTH GEAR-UP CONVENTION (Nov. 5) 9 a.m.-3 p.m., San Diego Broadway Spanish church, 2411 Broadway, San Diego. This is a leadership training convention for leaders of youth and children's ministries. The theme is "Engage: Growing Together." Info: Liz Adams, 951-509-2260, seccyouth.com.

FREE MEDICAL CLINIC (Nov. 10, 12) San Bernardino Community church, 1696 N. G St., San Bernardino. Join in helping with medical and non-medical volunteers for a free medical clinic. AMEN is partnering with Loma Linda Chinese and San Bernardino Community churches to serve the San Bernardino community. To volunteer, call Kazar Ackerman, 951-212-9957, kazarleua@gmail.com, amensda.org.

STEVE GREEN CONCERT (Nov. 11) 6 p.m., La Sierra Spanish church, 5885 La Sierra Ave., Riverside. Tickets: 951-323-0124.

Southern California

GLENDALE ADVENTIST ACADEMY DAY (Nov. 8) 8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students are invited to spend the day on campus. There will be special presentations and class visits. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Parents welcome. Info/reservations: 818-244-8671.

CAMPAMENTO DE SALUD: LA VICTORIA AL ALCANCE DE TODOS (Nov. 10-12) Mediante charlas educativas, e interactivas, aprendiendo lo básico de masaje, remedios naturales e hidroterapia, dándole los conocimientos y recursos para ayudar a que continúe en su nuevo estilo de vida, con el Eddie Ramirez, M.D.; Hoguer de la Rocha, M.D. Camp Cedar Falls. Registration: 818-546-8400.

SCC HONORING VETERANS (Nov. 11) A day of remembering and honoring veterans in SCC churches/communities. All day, with special guests, presentations, veterans' benefits info, early evening screening of "Hacksaw Ridge," and more! Community Adventist Fellowship, 464 E. Walnut St., Pasadena 91101. Info: 626-460-868.



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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.

IMAGINE WORSHIP accompanied by the sound of a great organ — a three manual Baldwin 645, accompanied by two large speakers for exceptional sound and a processing unit. Free to the recipient, other than moving costs. If interested, contact Tom Nelson, 559-447-5174.

VEHICLE NEEDED: Adventist World Radio's shortwave station on Guam is in need of a diesel pick-up truck in good operating condition: 1 ton payload capacity or greater, 5.4-liter engine or greater, full-size long bed (6-foot or longer), 12,000 pounds towing package. If you are interested in donating your vehicle for a good cause (shipping covered by AWR), please contact site manager Brook Powers at 671-777-0501 or brook@awr.org.

Employment

CANVASBACK MISSIONS is looking for a part-time Development Director to help with their nonprofit work bringing specialty medical care to the islands of Micronesia. The position is responsible for Canvasback's fundraising including, the major gifts program, annual fund, planned giving, special events and

capital campaigns. For more info, visit canvasback.org/jobs.

EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITY in the beautiful Napa Valley near Pacific Union College. Lori's Shear Style, located on the campus of St. Helena Hospital, has immediate salon station rentals available. If you are an experienced stylist and/or manicurist please contact Lori Culbertson at 707-963-7849 or email her at sizrwiz@sbcglobal.net.

HAWAII FARM, Caretaker needed. Manila, Philippines, furnished apartment, \$400 monthly; gated next to SDA church. Email: filipinoparadise@gmail.com.

LADIES, ARE YOU on a fixed income? Interested in receiving FREE room and board? Missionary minded? The Maranatha House Sober Living Environment for ladies; located in Oroville, Calif., needs a Live-In House Manager. Requirements: SDA Christian; driver's license, and clean and sober for one year. Contact Wayne, 530-282-8210.

SDA PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR/ Teacher needed for Parkwood Christian Preschool, Modesto, Calif. Contact the preschool office via phone/fax at 209-557-9510 or email ninaherman22@gmail.com, board chair.

SECRETS UNSEALED is seeking a F/T Accounting Manager to join our

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Advertisements

501C3 ministry in Fresno, Calif. See position details at secretsunsealed.org/employment.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking an online adjunct professor/s to teach part-time courses in newly organized Senior Living Management Certificate program through the Department of Business. Submit cover letter and current CV/résumé to denise.rivera@swau.edu. Candidates must have industry-specific (Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care) knowledge and/or experience and a minimum of a master's degree in a related field. Preference given to those with prior teaching experience.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is looking for a full-time English professor with a Ph.D. Candidates with a degree in any literature or writing specialty will be considered. Send a CV to Dr. Judy Myers Laue, Chair, Department of English, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest Street, Keene, TX 76059 or lauej@swau.edu.

UNION COLLEGE seeks committed Adventist to direct its NCATE accredited Education program, effective December 2017. Doctorate preferred, master's required. Experience in K-12 church schools essential. For further info, ucollege.edu/faculty-openings. Apply

and submit C.V. to Dr. Frankie Rose, Academic Dean, at frankie.rose@ucollege.edu.

For Rent

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HOME for rent. Beautiful Pines near Adventist Health – Feather River; assisted living available, \$1,300 for couple, monthly; vegetarian, Hope/3ABN/LLBN channels.

For Sale

CHRISTMAS IS COMING. Check our colorful catalog for gifts that will continue to be a blessing all year. For a free sample, call 800-777-2848 or visit FamilyHeritageBooks.com.

Missing Members

SACRAMENTO WOODSIDE. Contact: *Glynes Benfield, clerk, Woodside SDA Church, 3300 Eastern Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821-4010; 916-471-9489; clerk.sacwoodside@nccsda.com*; Hilda Bartlett, Jim Cook, Katie Curtis, Jack Dawson, Susan Dishaw, Lorenzo Dixon, Keleigh L. Fallwell, Patti Farnsworth, Shauvin M. Horsley, John Lazzari, Jane Meunier, Sharunda Murphy/Oliver, Zelda Nichols, Evelyn Quigley, Catalina Quiming, J.T. Taylor, Peggy Taylor.

Real Estate

AZALEA, ORE., HOME for sale. Three acres, 3-bdrms, 2-bath, new roof, two wells, Creekside frontage, 2-car garage, machine shop and RV carport with power. Asking \$279,995. Contact: Ken, 909-801-4171.

THE ULTIMATE "END OF TIME" property for a refuge at the "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 at 3,700 square feet. Large garages. A back up generator for having your own power. And there are utilities in for another beautiful home site, all ready to go. Land can be split into 20s. Prices start at \$195,000 for 20 acres and the small house. The price for everything is \$600,000 for the next 90 days. Property is near Inchelium, Washington. Must see it! It is all ready to go now! Contact Jim at 503-871-3344.

Reunions

CHAPEL CHURCH REUNION (Nov. 11) with Pastor Clarence Schilt, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Loma Linda Academy Chan Auditorium, 10656 Anderson St., Loma Linda, CA 92354. All who attended Chapel Church in the '80s and '90s will enjoy a day of fellowship, memories, and worship. Contact Kathy

McMillan, mcmillanj@roadrunner.com, or Brenda Pfeiffer Boyd at 909-583-3033, or visit facebook.com/events/1676806789286030.

VALLEY SUN CITY CHURCH 25th Anniversary (Nov. 4) To all who have been members or friends at Valley – Sun City, you're invited to come back home for this celebration. Services: 9:30 a.m., Sabbath School, 11 a.m., Worship speaker, Pastor Vadim. Potluck. Info: valleysda.info; 951-672-9699.

Vacation Opportunities

MAUI VACATION CONDO in Kihei. Relaxing & Affordable. Only a 3-minute walk to the beach! 1-bdrm w/king bed. Clean, comfortable, well-maintained. Sleeps 4. Fully-furnished kitchen, washer/dryer & more! FREE parking, Wi-Fi, & calls to U.S./Canada. Friendly Kihei SDA church nearby. Visit us at: vrbo.com/62799. Email: mauivista1125@gmail.com or call Mark 909-800-9841.

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

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

SUNSETS

	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24
Alturas	5:53	4:45	4:39	4:35
Angwin	6:06	4:59	4:54	4:50
Calexico	5:48	4:43	4:39	4:36
Chico	6:01	4:54	4:49	4:45
Eureka	6:08	5:01	4:55	4:51
Fresno	5:58	4:52	4:47	4:44
Hilo	5:45	5:42	5:41	5:40
Honolulu	5:53	5:50	5:48	5:48
Las Vegas	5:41	4:35	4:30	4:27
Lodi	6:02	4:55	4:50	4:47
Loma Linda	5:53	4:47	4:43	4:40
Los Angeles	5:57	4:51	4:47	4:45
Moab	6:13	5:06	5:01	4:57
Oakland	6:06	5:00	4:55	4:51
Phoenix	5:32	5:27	5:23	5:20
Reno	5:53	4:47	4:41	4:37
Riverside	5:53	4:48	4:44	4:41
Sacramento	6:02	4:55	4:50	4:46
Salt Lake City	6:19	5:12	5:06	5:02
San Diego	5:54	4:49	4:45	4:43
San Francisco	6:07	5:01	4:56	4:52
San Jose	6:05	4:59	4:54	4:51
Tucson	5:30	5:25	5:21	5:19

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AT REST

BARNES, LOIS — b. June 14, 1922, Cherokee Territory, Okla.; d. Jan 10, 2017, Orange Cove, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Marj Hansen; two grandchildren.

COVERT, JUNE — b. June 1918, Battle Creek, Mich.; d. July 30, 2017, Napa, Calif.

CUMMINGS, ROBERT — b. May 29, 1935, Pasadena, Calif.; d. Nov. 30, 2016, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: wife, Karla; son, Bryson; daughters, Kami Berry, December Casey; four grandchildren.

CURTIS, BETTY (ELIZABETH) RUTH KOERBER — b. Oct. 15, 1934, Berkeley, Calif.; Sept. 21, 2017, Anacortes, Wash. Survivors: husband, Gary; sons, Brent Bolander, Brian Griffin; daughter, Brenda Griffin; stepsons, Mike Griffin, Peter Griffin, Gart Curtis; stepdaughter, Sylvia McCleary, Margo Reveil; 16 grand- and great-grandchildren; brothers, George Koerber, Steve Koerber; sister, Janice Mace.

DARBY, ANNIE FLORENCE — b. Nov. 9, 1923, Columbia, Miss.; d. Sept. 16, 2017, Phoenix, Ariz. Survivors: daughters, Edith Vanessa, Jacquelyn Cherie. Served at the Arizona Conference as administrative assistant and prison ministries liaison; was religion editor of the Arizona Informant newspaper.

DINWIDDIE, WENDELL EUGENE — b. Sept. 11, 1935, Santa Barbara, Calif.; d. June 9, 2017, Deer Park, Calif. Survivors: wife, Susan; son, John; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Served as an orthopedic surgeon at St. Helena Hospital.

DOWARD, LONEVA — b. Jan. 25, 1924, Ohio; d. April 14, 2017, Ferndale, Calif. Survivor: daughter, Melody.

DUNAVANT, JOSEPHINE "JO" SCHLOTTHAUER — b. Aug. 14, 1932, Visalia, Calif.; d. Sept. 9, 2017, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: son, Del; daughters, Gwen Dodini, Jolene, Kathie Rhoades; two grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. Served as a nurse at Feather River Hospital.

GRAEFF, KENNETH E. — b. Dec. 28, 1920, Crookston, Neb.; d. May 6, 2017, Oakhurst, Calif. Survivors: wife, Hope; sons, James, Phillip; daughters, Leona Miller, Carla Dredge, Peggy Kail, Kimberly Wagner; 12 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren.

HUBENSACK, HELEN (VON KAMPEN) — b. Feb. 6, 1927, Choritz, Ukraine; d. Aug. 24, 2016, Fortuna, Calif. Survivors: son, Karl; daughters, Helene Holm, Betty Davenport; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

LILLEY, PHILLIP — b. Jan. 26, 1939, Oklahoma City, Okla.; d. Sept. 13, 2016, Porterville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Ann; sons, Brad, Timothy; daughter, Laura Lelley-Coles; step-son, Chris Klebba; step-daughter Karen Brown; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

MENUS-GALVIN, FRANCES — b. July 30, 1938, Hollister, Calif.; d. July 5, 2017, Morgan Hill, Calif. Survivors: husband, John; son, Randy Nixon; daughters, Rebecka Larios, Lori Valdez; nine grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

ORTNER, LESTER EARL — b. Oct. 27, 1925, Hinsdale, Ill.; d. April 13, 2017, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: wife, Betty; daughter, Judy Hosterman; three grandchildren. Served the Adventist Church for over 56 years, including 17 years as associate pastor for Arden Hills church.

PAXTON, GORDON — b. July 14, 1934, Boulder, Colo.; d. Aug. 18, 2017, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: wife, Louise; daughters, Jennifer Eddlemon, Carolyn Sadler; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. Served as the Paradise church's visitation pastor and as a member of the Feather River Hospital chaplaincy staff.

PETERSON, DONALD I. — July 26, 1922, Moscow, Idaho; d. Sept. 17, 2017, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Elsie; daughter, Carol P. Lowe; son, Gordon W.; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. Served as a medical missionary to Nigeria, West Africa, 1954-1960; and as a professor and neurologist, Loma Linda University School of Medicine.

RIFFEL, LIDIA (SCHNEIDER) — b. Feb. 26, 1916, Ramirez, Entre Rios, Argentina; d. Aug. 1, 2017, Los Altos, Calif. Survivors: son, Raul; daughter, Marlyn Riffel-Krun; two grandchildren.

SALTER, BEVERLY ANNE (DASHER) — Sept. 20, 1939, St. Helena, Calif.; d. Aug. 28, 2017, Lebanon, Ore. Survivors: husband, H. Richard; daughters Shari, Shelli Marshall; two grandchildren.

SCHUMACHER, GEORGE — b. Oct. 10, 1938, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. July 18, 2017, Turlock, Calif. Survivors: wife, DeeAnna; sons, Jon, Jay; daughter, Jonie; one grandchild.

SURLS, JULIA (KALEIMOMI) — b. Feb. 17, 1929, Hilo, Hawaii; d. July 14, 2017, Banning, Calif. Survivors: husband, Earlie Lee; son, Gary; one grandchild; sisters, Elisabeth Strachane, Mae Moore. Served as supervising cook, White Memorial Hospital.

WAUGH, ARDYCE — b. May 24, 1933, Lincoln, Neb.; d. July 26, 2017, Mesa, Ariz. Survivors: sons Mark, Rick; daughters, Anne Lockridge, Jeannie Zepeda; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

WELLS, JUDITH (HERRERA) — b. Jan. 29, 1932, Mentone, Calif.; d. Aug. 26, 2017, Knoxville, Tenn. Survivors: son, Sam; daughters, Kimi Ruiz, Virginia, Judith; nine grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

WINTER, THELMA (PAYNE) — b. Aug. 24, 1915, Hankinson, N.D.; d. July 6, 2017, Sherman Oaks, Calif. Survivors: son, Robert. Taught Academy in Portland, Ore., Bakersfield and Newbury Park, Calif.

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.

December: October 31
January: November 27
February: January 4

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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*It was more than just
cement and board,
it was constructed
out of love.
And though it lays
in ashes now,
we will rise above.*

*The mighty Redwoods
at the gate
were home to squirrel
and dove.
Although their branches
now are scorched,
we will rise above.*

*Redwood is more
than a school.
It's a family
dearly beloved.
Our hearts are broken
and dreams seem dim,
yet we will rise above.*

*Teachers prayed
for students;
that each would
catch sight of
the character
of Jesus.
He will help us rise above.*

*We know that this is
not the end.
There's no need to kick
or shove.
For those who wait
upon the Lord,
they will rise above.*

Redwood Adventist Academy's English teacher Amanda Renslow writes about the loss of their school. "For me, poetry and writing help to heal hurt," she wrote. "I loved Redwood (the building) even more than I knew. I love Redwood (the people) even more than they'll ever know."

The fires that raged through Santa Rosa burned Redwood Adventist Academy to the ground on Monday, October 9, 2017. Along with their school, several RAA families lost their homes, along with many others across our territory, as wildfires spread through multiple counties.

Surround these members with love and support. Through this, we can truly be the hands of Jesus.

**He will help us
rise above!**



WWW.PURECHARITY.COM/AID-FOR-VICTIMS-OF-THE-NORTHERN-CALIFORNIA-FIRES

Donations will go to the victims of the Northern California fires.

WWW.PURECHARITY.COM/REDWOOD-ADVENTIST-ACADEMY

The property was insured, but donations will go for other costs as this school and its families try to recover.