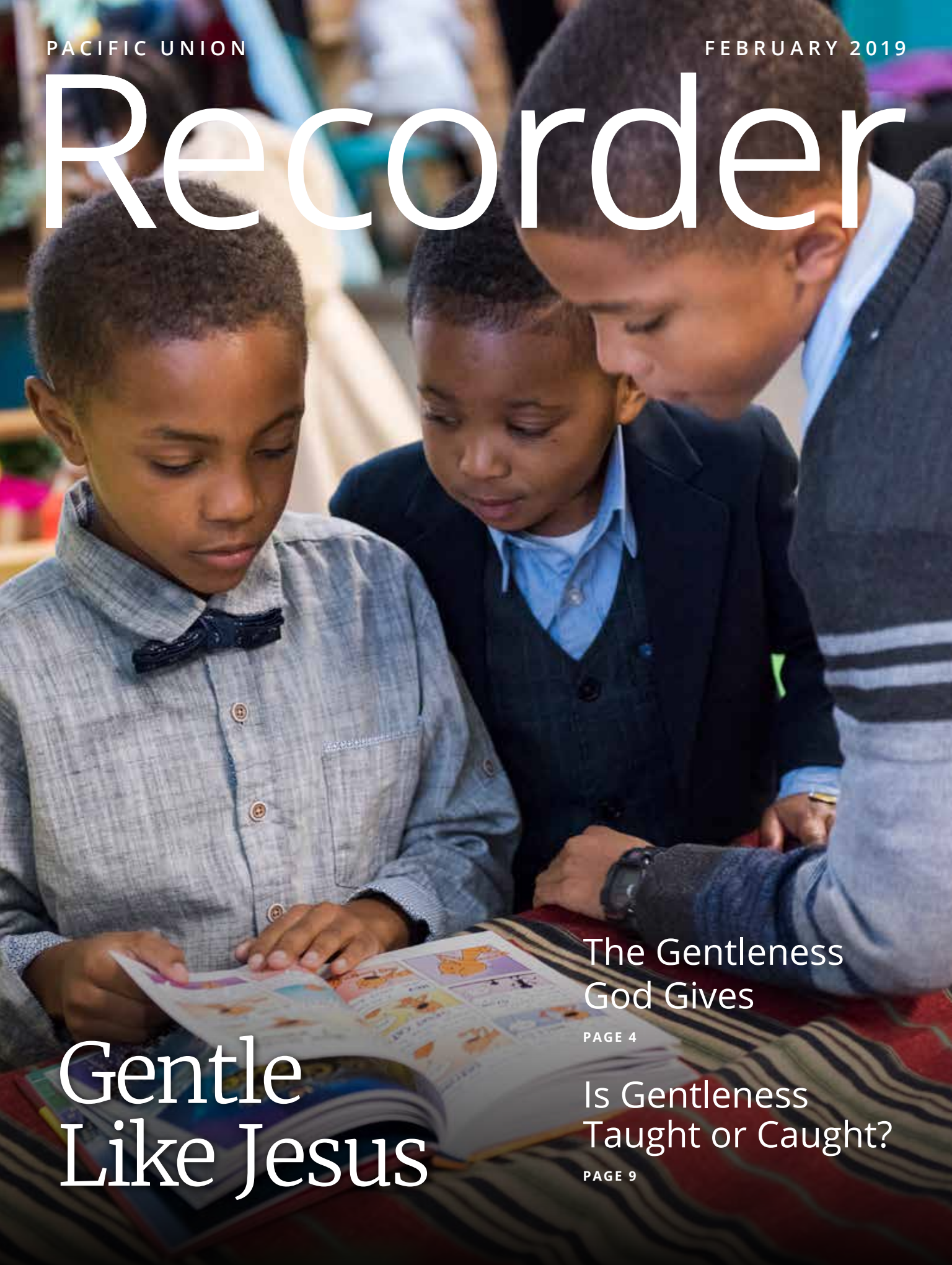


Recorder



Gentle
Like Jesus

The Gentleness
God Gives

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Is Gentleness
Taught or Caught?

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 Victor Valley SDA School

JUNIOR ACADEMY (K-10)

Laguna Niguel Junior Academy

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTERS (ECEC)

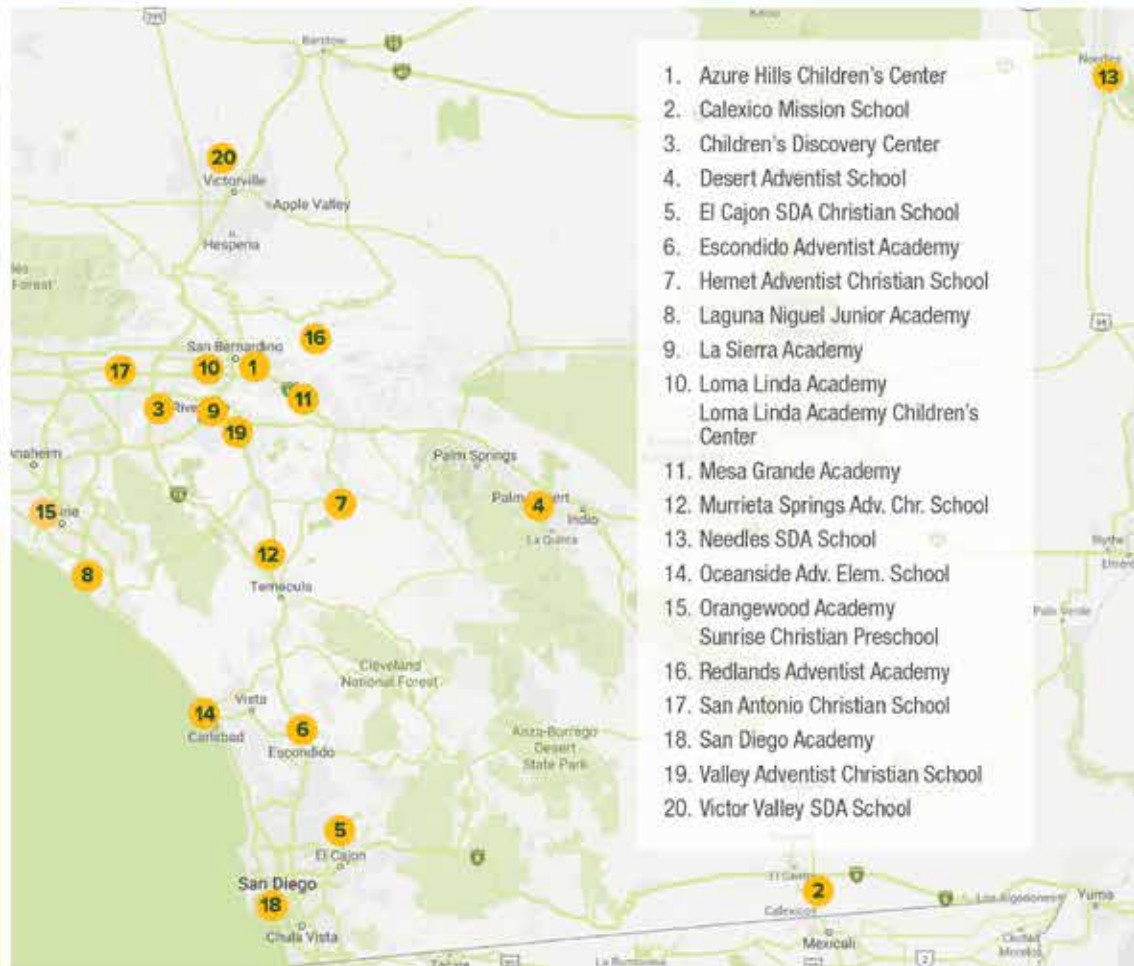
Azure Hills Children's Center
 Children's Discovery Center
 Loma Linda Academy Children's Center
 Sunrise Christian Preschool

ACADEMIES (TK/K-12)

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8. Laguna Niguel Junior Academy
9. La Sierra Academy
10. Loma Linda Academy
Loma Linda Academy Children's Center
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12. Murrieta Springs Adv. Chr. School
13. Needles SDA School
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This month churches across the Pacific Union Conference join in marking Black History Month.



The Gentleness God Gives

By Ricardo Graham

Gentleness is not something we talk about much. Nor do we see a lot of gentleness in social media, on Facebook, or in Instagram posts. At least I haven't seen it being promoted on those sites. However, gentleness is found in the Bible over and over, as though God is trying to remind us of this blessed attribute.

Jesus came to this world to teach us by example. He invites us, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:28-29, NIV).

I believe that God wants us to imitate or copy Him in all things. If that is true, we are to allow the Holy Spirit to reproduce in us this characteristic of gentleness.

To many, however, being gentle seems to be a weakness. But is any characteristic of God weak? I think it takes maturity, strength, courage, and clear thinking to be able to be gentle. Proverbs 15:1 states a reality: "A soft [gentle] answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger" (NKJV).

Gentleness is the eighth item mentioned in Paul's list of fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). This leads me to believe that the only way to become a gentle person is to be a recipient of the Holy Spirit that bears fruit in our lives.

I believe that as we consciously yield to the ongoing development of our characters under the influence of the Holy Spirit, He will lead us progressively into the fullness of character development after God's heart—including gentleness.

Remember, we come to God in self-denial and faith that He will complete the change of character in us through the justification, sanctification, and ultimately glorification He promises for His submissive people.

As I read Scripture, it seems to me that Jesus was gentle as He dealt with all people. He was not abrasive or harsh, but strong in His gentleness.

Ellen White wrote:

Jesus never suppressed one word of truth, but He uttered it always in love. He exercised the greatest tact and thoughtful, kind attention in His intercourse with the people. He was never rude, never needlessly spoke a severe word, never gave needless pain to a sensitive soul. He did not censure human weakness. He spoke the truth, but always in love. He denounced hypocrisy, unbelief, and iniquity; but tears were in His voice as He uttered His scathing rebukes. ("Wonderful Love," *Bible Training School*, March 1, 1908).

What a high and holy calling for Christians to speak to each other and all people with gentleness, humility, and kindness. With tears in our voices as Jesus did, we can learn to tell the truth gently.

I confess that I have failed to reach this standard many times. I have blown it time after time. Yet I am convinced that this is a characteristic Jesus wants to see in me.

Many times in my interaction with people in meetings or in private conversations, or even in e-mail or hard copy letters, members of the Pacific Union Conference churches or committees will criticize the actions of our administration. It is sometimes difficult to respond gently, but that is what God wants. His "gold standard," His preferred methodology, is for us to copy the way He handled criticism.

The New Testament records that Jesus used times of





criticism to teach. He changed those events into teachable moments.

Remember how He responded to His most consistent critics, the Pharisees and scribes, in Luke 15? He told three parables about the lost—the lost coin, the lost sheep, and the lost son—emphasizing the openness of God in seeking to bring the lost back home.

I think He was doing more than responding to the critics. He was attempting to teach them truth about our Heavenly Father and show how heaven regards the saving of the lost.

He gently and powerfully used that opportunity to re-educate the learned leaders of the nation. And how nicely He did it. He was the Master Teacher at work.

Let's look at that parable of the lost sheep:

And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, "Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep." I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent (Luke 15:5-7, NIV).

The gentleness of Jesus is profoundly demonstrated here. Not only is the Shepherd actively seeking the lost sheep, He rejoices when He finds it. The application of the story is clear: all of heaven rejoices when one sinner repents—there is even more heavenly rejoicing than over those who do not need to repent.

What a God-centered, lost-people focused story that is! I wonder how the audience responded. I hope there were some

in the crowd who thought about that story for a long time. I like to believe that some who heard those three parables had their understanding enlightened by the gentle yet direct teachings of Jesus.

Sometimes when having an intense discussion, I have asked my ministering comrades to be "gentle" with me. Not wanting to be crushed by their logic on the matter being discussed, I have asked for mercy. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't.

But my focus should not be on my receiving gentle treatment as much as on my being gentle in my words and deportment with others.

That's how I see Jesus interacting with sinners in His day, and I believe that, at this time, Jesus still operates that way and wants us to follow His example.

The Holy Spirit is the True Substitute of Christ. Not a man or an organization can rightly claim that position. And the Holy Spirit—equal to God—directs us gently. Thus we are to be gentle in our interactions.

How would the churches, schools, and related ministries in the Pacific Union Conference look if we each allowed the Holy Spirit to reproduce all of His fruits in us, particularly gentleness?

My prayer is that we can see the presence of God demonstrated in us by allowing His gentleness to prominently reside in our lives. ■

Ricardo Graham is the president of the Pacific Union Conference.



Gentle Like Jesus

By Darriel Hoy

Imagine Jesus taking a selfie so that you and I can have a clear picture of who He is. How would Jesus want us to view Him? What image would He choose to project to us? I believe Matthew 11:29 gives us an answer. In fact, it's as if Jesus is posting a selfie with words: "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (NIV).

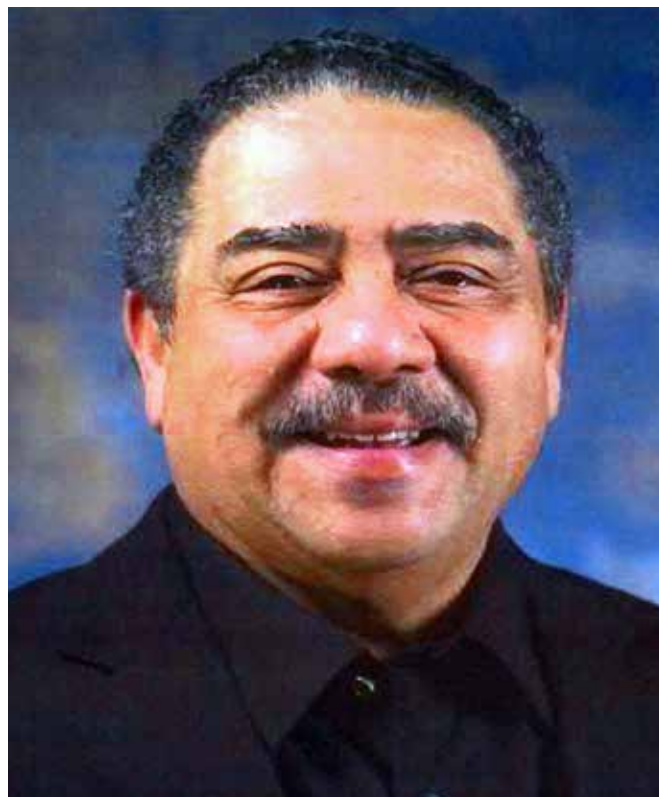
Of all the qualities God could share about Himself, He chooses to reveal His gentleness. While we often equate gentleness with being weak, Jesus' life illustrates that gentleness is really strength with a tender touch. And He often uses my mom to teach me about His gentleness.

My mom, Pearlina, was created to be a mother and nurturer. After being a second mom to her five siblings, she cherished and raised seven children of her own. My mom lavished love on countless students in her high school science classes and later on the kindergarteners she taught. She always kept an extra seat at our kitchen table for neighbors, friends, and our classmates who needed to be nourished by her special brand of gentle care.

As she braided my hair, it was literally at my mother's hands that I experienced the first glimpse of God's gentleness. My mom wielded a comb and a brush, and I sat at her feet with freshly shampooed hair. This was before the age of leave-in conditioners and moisturizers. To detangle my hair, my mom had to apply strength. She was strong enough to jerk the comb through my hair and finish the task in a matter of minutes. But, unwilling to damage my hair or cause me pain, my mom exercised gentleness. She employed strength with a tender touch and lovingly combed each tangle away.

Fast-forward a few years to when I was a sophomore in high school. I thought I had the perfect plan. I left four pillows bundled in a blanket on the right side of the bed to give the impression that I was sleeping. I then sneaked out the window to go dancing at a nightclub with friends and fake identification. At about 2:00 in the morning I wobbled back through my window, and there by my bedside sat my mom waiting for me. She had recognized right away that the lump on the right side of the bed couldn't possibly be me because of the height

and because I hog the middle of the bed. And what I didn't know was that my mom never went to bed without gently laying her hands on each of her children's heads and praying for them. You can imagine how surprised I was when she caught me sneaking through the window. But I wish you could have seen my mom's face! There wasn't anger or accusation. Instead, her eyes mirrored the relief, her smile reflected the joy, and her wide-open arms replicated the love of the prod-



HISTORICAL PROFILES

Earl A. Canson Jr.—Pastor, Fresno Westside; President, Black Adventist Historical Society—West Coast

Pastor Earl Canson Jr. and his wife Vivan have served in ministry for the Adventist church in the Pacific Union for nearly 40 years. He currently serves as President of the Black Adventist Historical Society—West Coast, an organization sponsored by the West-Coast Black Administrator's Caucus with the passion to gather, preserve, and share the history of the black work on the West Coast.



PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Pacific Southwest

igal's father—of our heavenly Father who welcomes sinners back to the safety of His home and family. Yes, my mom did ground me for a whole month. But it wasn't punitive. Because my mom covered her parental authority with compassion, her discipline was protection instead of punishment

Perhaps the most memorable example of my mom exuding the gentleness of Jesus is our family's five-second rule. You know it: when you drop the double chocolate chip cookie on the floor, after you've been looking forward to eating it all day, you have five seconds to pick it up, dust it off, chant "God made dirt, so dirt won't hurt," then savor the cookie melting in your mouth. My mom taught me that the five-second rule applies to people too, but it lasts a lifetime.

I was in first grade, and every day after school I would wait for my mom to come home from work. She taught at the school down the hill from our house, and my older sister would allow me to wait on the porch for Mom. But I wasn't the only person waiting. Every day, one of our neighbors—a little girl who I'll call Mandy—came outside, played in the dirt, and intercepted my mom. My mom would walk up the hill, scoop Mandy up, and bring her to my house. By the time Mom reached the porch, she would be covered in Mandy's dirt. Mom would lean down to kiss me, but I turned away. Mom would pat my shoulder and remind me of the five-second rule: "God made dirt, so dirt won't hurt." Then she'd take Mandy into my house, wash Mandy

in my tub, dress Mandy in my clothes, braid Mandy's hair with my ribbons, and feed Mandy my food. And if no one came to get Mandy before nightfall, my mom would place Mandy in my bed, read Mandy my bedtime story, and say my bedtime prayers with Mandy.

It really irritated me to have to share my mom with Mandy. So when my mom wasn't looking, I'd pinch Mandy or pull her hair. One day, Mom caught me in the act of pinching Mandy and making her cry. She comforted Mandy then took me aside to talk. She explained that Mandy was a little girl who needed the love of our family and needed a friend who was strong and kind like Jesus. Mom told me I would make the perfect friend for Mandy because I was bigger than Mandy and I knew how to be gentle with smaller people. My mom asked me to try being Mandy's friend for one day by acting as gentle and kind with Mandy as I could. One day turned into three days; three days became a month; and a month became a year. It was many years later that I learned that Mandy's parents were neglectful and addicted to drugs. By that time my mom had instilled in me what gentleness is—allowing God to use my strength and power to care for others and do good instead of harm.

Throughout the Gospels Jesus is depicted in His interactions with various people, and each picture captures His gentleness. It's not harsh judgment that transforms the woman at the well from adulterer to evangelist, Zacchaeus from greedy to generous, and Peter

from hotheaded and confrontational to humble and compassionate. Instead, it's the gentleness of Jesus. And as we sit at Jesus' feet, we have the opportunity to become more like Him. Not by our might nor by our power but by God's spirit of gentleness, we can change the atmosphere of our homes by choosing to give a soft answer instead of escalating an argument. By God's spirit of gentleness, we can change the environment at our jobs by choosing to collaborate instead of competing. By God's spirit of gentleness, we can change our neighborhood by choosing to be selfless and sensitive to others instead of being self-centered. I'm thankful for the gentleness of Christ and the example of my mother. As I minister to others I constantly pray, "Jesus, teach me to be gentle like you."

My mom still mentors with abused, neglected, and pregnant girls. It's never a surprise to see someone at her kitchen table being nourished by "Mama Pearl's" comfort food, endless patience, and listening ear. I first learned compassion, advocacy, justice, and ministry from my mom. She's my picture of who Jesus is. I can truly say the world is a better place because of my mom. Thanks, Mums! I love you! ■

Darriel Hoy is the director of Children, Youth, & Young Adult Ministries of the Nevada-Utah Conference.

Is Gentleness Taught or Caught?

By Manuel S. Vitug



Last September an Albuquerque youth football team was banned from the league because of the actions of, not the 13-year-old players, but a parent. After a penalty flag was thrown on a play, a player pushed a referee, who pushed back—and a father ran onto the field and body slammed the referee. Then the children watched while the adults descended into a brawl. Stories like this make you wonder: how do we best teach gentleness to our children? Is gentleness taught or caught?

Gentleness can be found in Galatians 5:22–23 in Paul’s list of the fruit of the Spirit. *Fruit* is a funny noun; its plural can be *fruit* or *fruits*. I like to think that the fruit of the Spirit does not consist variously of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-con-

trol. Rather, it is one fruit that stems from love and ends in gentleness and self-control.

It is easy to manifest gentleness when things are going well. We do not need the Spirit’s help in these circumstances. But how do we practice gentleness when we are attacked or confronted, or when our children are bullied?

No one really debates the importance of teaching gentleness. In our schools, we teach children to be peace builders. We create Vacation Bible School programs that teach kids how to relate to others. Parents want to teach gentleness to their children.

However, many will admit that when it comes to gentleness, we rely on “Do what I say, not what I do.” When our kids provoke us, we often feel justified if we yell, punish, or even strike out in anger. That’s

one of the reasons there are many opinions on how gentleness should be practiced.

To be honest, many see gentleness as a sign of weakness. They think that a gentle person is a pushover, is lacking assertiveness, or is even deficient in drive or motivation. Therefore, should we promote gentleness when the world equates it with powerlessness and teaches that good guys come in second?

We see this same conflict in the Scriptures as we view the life of Jesus, who modeled a life of gentleness. It was His own disciple, Judas, who felt that Jesus needed to be pushed to gain power. Judas betrayed Jesus, not because he didn’t love Him but because he felt that he was doing Jesus a favor by forcing Him to take control and begin His reign as King of the Jews. Tragically, Judas misunderstood what gentleness was all about.

I believe that gentleness shows its true power when circumstances are at their worst. Gentleness is not the avoidance of conflict, nor is it passiveness in the midst of conflict. Rather, gentleness us shows how to disagree without being disagreeable. It is more than an action; gentleness is a lifestyle.

It begins with a shift in attitude, described in Romans 12:2: “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (NKJV). So how does a person re-

new his or her mind? Here are a few pointers from Scripture:

A God-led life. Gentleness flows from an abiding relationship with Jesus (John 15). Only with the help of the Spirit can we be victorious when gentleness is tested. The Bible says, “In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:6, NKJV). Ellen G. White tells us, “Let the parents themselves be daily learners in the school of Christ. Then by precept and example they can teach their children” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 338).

Embrace goodness. Children are often viewed as “good” or “bad” based on their behavior. We need to view our children as good children, even when they make poor choices. How we embrace them, regardless of their choices, will determine their view of God. Romans 2:4 states that “the goodness of God leads you to repentance.”

Never respond in anger. Proverbs 15:1 says, “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger” (NIV). We respond in anger when we feel that our rights have been violated. The strength of gentleness is found in allowing God to be in control of our emotions while being assertive about what is fair and just.

Take time to reflect. Jesus took time to slow down and reflect by spending time alone with His Father. Because of His reflection time, He understood who He was in God and what His mission was. When accused, He didn’t feel the need to defend Himself because He knew God’s purpose for His life.

Love one another. “Beloved, let us love one another” (1 John 4:7-8, NKJV). Gentleness is more easily manifested in a loving relationship. When we take the time to know people and understand where they come from, we stop seeing them as adversarial but rather as co-laborers in God’s vineyard.

Embrace a forgiving attitude. I love the fact that Jesus said to those who were mocking and crucifying Him, “Father, forgive them, for they know not know what they do” (Luke 23:34, NKJV). Let’s be honest: people can be rude and children can be disrespectful. But gentleness embraces a forgiving attitude, understanding that we live in a sinful world. We must not forget that the true benefit of forgiveness is not for the person who has done wrong; it is for the person who has been wronged. Learning to forgive frees us from holding on to pain and anger, allowing us to experience peace and joy. People are often self-imprisoned behind bars that only they themselves can unlock. Forgiveness is a key that can open the prison doors.

So is gentleness taught or caught? I believe it is both. Gentleness is taught and reinforced by what is caught. The best way to teach gentleness to our children is to live a life of

gentleness. As Ellen G. White reminds us: “Remember that you will never reach a higher standard than you yourself set” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 331). Kids quickly learn that their parents believe what they practice. To paraphrase Francis of Assisi: “Preach Jesus (and His life of gentleness), and if necessary, use words.” ■

Manuel S. Vitug works for the Family Ministries, Youth Ministries, Children Ministries, and Junior High Ministries of the Southeastern California Conference.



HISTORICAL PROFILES

Established on August 8, 1908, in Los Angeles, Calif., with 28 believers, the Furlong church, now known as the University church, became the first black Seventh-day Adventist church west of Ohio. During the 110th anniversary celebration in August, members and friends celebrated how good God has been to His people. University is known as the “mother church” since eight churches sprang from its evangelistic efforts—54th Street, Normandie, Ephesus, Compton, Smyrna, Berean, L.A. Central, and Miramonte.



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Keep Up With “All God’s People”



All God's People is the weekly video series highlighting the people and ministries of the Pacific Union. The program features bite-sized news and inspiration from the diverse congregations of Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah, where Adventists are doing wonderful things to live like Jesus and further the gospel. It is hosted by Connie Vandeman Jeffery and posted online every Friday afternoon—just in time for Sabbath. Optimized for mobile devices.

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**2019
GOALS**

**A Belated
New Year's
Resolution
that Everyone
Can Keep**

By Marc Woodson

Studies estimate that only one month into a new year, 80 percent of people have already failed to keep their New Year's resolutions. I'd like to suggest a resolution that you can make this month, which I think you will be eager to keep—and which will change your life throughout the rest of 2019.

As conference president, I travel many Sabbaths to different churches, meeting some of the 40,000 members across our conference territory. It's not hard to see that people are struggling with stress and anxiety.

Last year brought some huge disasters to Northern California. As our territory was still reeling from the Tubbs Fire the year before, 2018 brought even more destruction with the Carr Fire in Redding and then the Camp Fire's utter devastation of Paradise and the surrounding areas.

The news from around our nation and the world is also grim as we hear about poverty, violence, and war. Social media highlights the many problems my friends experienced last year. Loss of jobs, setbacks, disagreements among families, and deaths all punctuated the news feed.

Americans are struggling to sleep. According to *Consumer Reports*, billions of dollars are being spent on sleep aids and remedies. Poor sleep is linked to mental impairment, stroke, heart attack, and many other disorders, along with reducing our ability to handle and deal with stress (www.consumerreports.org/sleep/why-americans-cant-sleep).

We need relief from all this.

There is a passage in Matthew that I encourage you to adopt as your belated New Year's resolution. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30, KJV).

What a wonderful promise from our Savior! And here's a resolution that could really make a difference in our lives in 2019: Give your burdens to Him.

In verse 29 of this passage, Jesus asks us to take His yoke and learn more about Him. Throughout the Lord's ministry, He demonstrated for us the fruits of the Spirit, and several of these—patience, kindness, faithfulness, and gentleness—are found in the yoke He is asking us to take. He is "meek and lowly in heart," perfect characteristics for our heavenly Teacher to use while instructing His children. His training is kind and gentle, not overbearing. He shares His love and guidance with us, not forcing us.

Jesus goes on to say that "My yoke is easy, and my

burden is light." Throughout the Bible, the word "yoke" is used to refer to the effects of sin or being bound by something. A yoke in Jesus' time was not considered light. I'd say that a yoke was a good metaphor for the many laws set up by the Pharisees of the time to keep people in order and continually stressed. So the fact that Jesus' yoke is easy is a conundrum to those who don't know Him.

If we take Christ's yoke upon ourselves, we truly give our lives over to Him, becoming believers and disciples. We follow the pathway that He has set up and, as one paraphrase of the text puts it, "you'll learn to live freely and lightly" (*The Message*).

Do you use those words to describe your life right now? Free and light? God's gifts for His children are many, but as our world becomes increasingly tough, here's a very important one that we need to focus on this year: the gift of being able to go to our Father in heaven with our burdens and receive rest.

And as we look outward to those around us, Jesus' kind approach needs to serve as the blueprint for our plans. We need to have a gentle hand and calm touch as we share this message with our family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

In 2019, the Northern California Conference will be introducing a new strategic plan. One of the subcategories of that plan is a focus on reaching our communities—finding ways to truly connect with our neighbors. We'll need compassion and humility to discover the most effective ways. Sometimes, we'd rather share Jesus' message as a "take it or leave it" proposition, when instead we need to meet our communities with a gentle and loving spirit that mirrors Jesus' words found in Matthew.

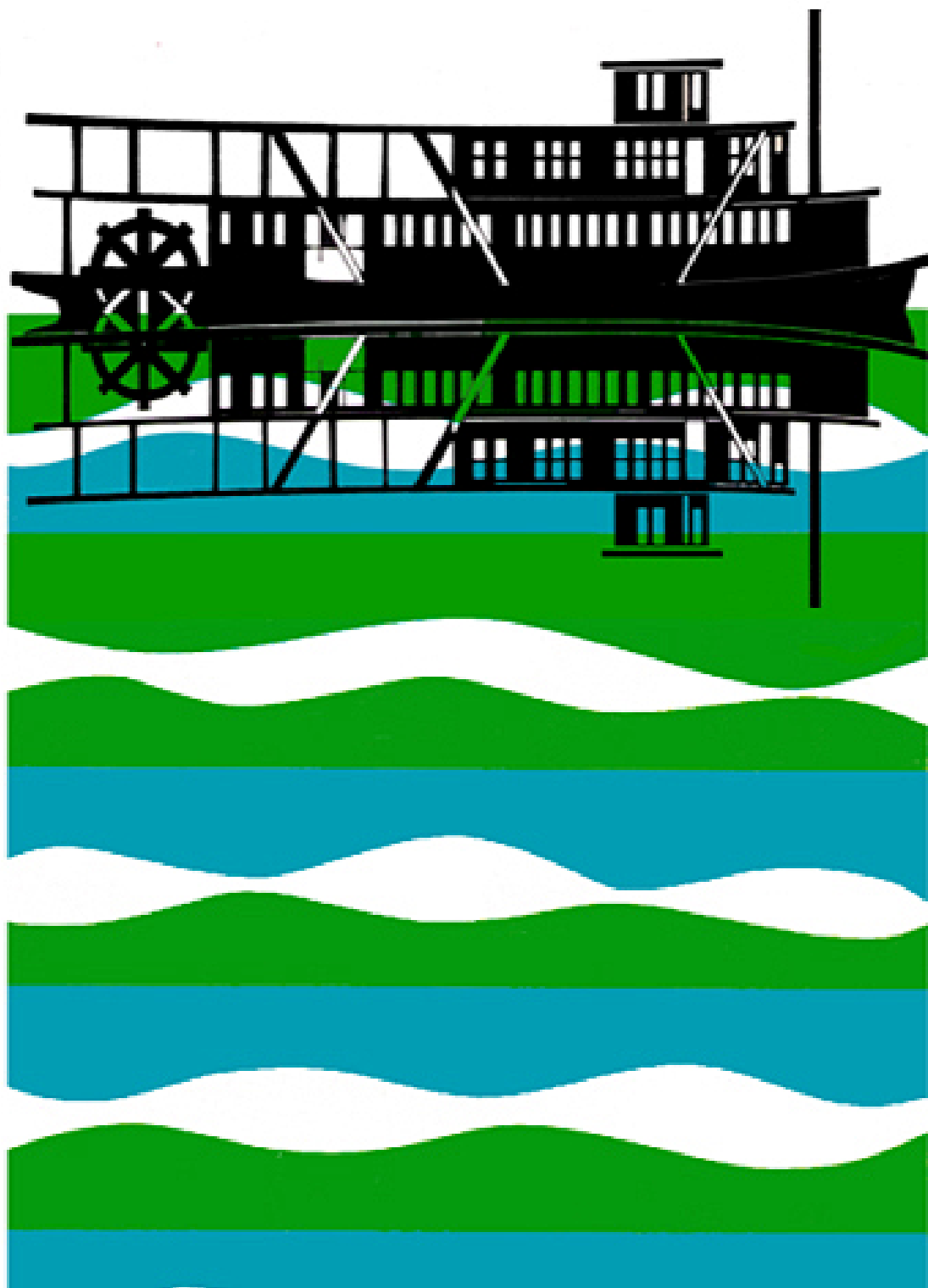
The invitation Jesus offers is a powerful solution to what ails many of us today. We are living in the "time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge," (Daniel 12:4, NIV), but going to God will give you rest.

This passage in Matthew gives me hope. It's a message telling me what to do with those things that worry me, and there is specific instruction for gently reaching out to those around me. Will you join me and make this text your New Year's resolution—starting now? ■

Marc Woodson is the president of the Northern California Conference.

The *Morning Star* Comes to Vicksburg

By Ronald D. Graybill



Vicksburg, Mississippi, in 1895 still showed many reminders of General Grant's devastating siege more than 30 years earlier. The battleground was left much as it had been at the time of surrender. The miles of breastworks and trenches could still be seen, as well as the excavations where people had tried to hide. Cannonballs, shells, shrapnel, or grapeshot could be picked up almost anywhere.

One bit of the city's geography had changed, however, much to the convenience of the *Morning Star*. In Civil War times, Vicksburg had looked down upon the river. In a flood in 1876, however, the Mississippi carved for itself a new channel across a neck of land below, leaving the city two miles from the river. In the old riverbed, just below the bluffs of the city, Centennial Lake had formed. The southern end of the lake was connected with the Mississippi by a narrow waterway, and a canal connected the upper end with the Yazoo River. The *Morning Star* pulled into Centennial Lake just below Fort Hill, on which one of the principal Civil War batteries had been erected in 1863. Streets, some of them mere paths cut into steps, ran along the steep sides of the hill where perched the houses and cabins of Negroes.

High up on Fort Hill stood the Mount Zion Baptist Church, one of about 20 Negro Baptist churches in Vicksburg. The *Morning Star* missionaries made this church their first objective and set to work. It wasn't until mid-March that Edson finally wrote to his mother about what happened:

"We began work in a little church on the top of a hill just overlooking the place where the *Morning Star* is moored. The pastor is an old man who had been a slave, and who at one time got 500 lashes for having a hymn-

This is an excerpt from Chapter Seven of *Mission to Black America: The True Story of J. Edson White and the Riverboat Morning Star* by Ronald D. Graybill. The book tells the amazing story of how the Adventist message was taken by riverboat to the people of Mississippi. An updated version of the book will soon be published by Oak and Acorn.

book, which, by the way, he could not read.... This man is, I believe, a good Christian man.... We have arranged with this church that we have the use of the church for one service on Sunday, and on Tuesday and Thursday nights. On these nights we hold first a reading class, followed by a short Bible reading or sermon."

In 1970 an aged member of the Vicksburg Seventh-day Adventist Church, Mattie Erwin, still remembered the meetings in the Mount Zion church. She recalled that the church was lighted with many hanging "coal oil" (kerosene) lamps. Sometimes the chimneys were so badly smoked by the end of an evening meeting that a person could scarcely see.

She remembered, too, that when the members of the Mount Zion church were trying to throw the Adventists out, old Pastor Churchville had tried to defend them, although without much success.

"We began work in a little church on the top of a hill just overlooking the place where the *Morning Star* is moored. The pastor is an old man who had been a slave, and who at one time got 500 lashes for having a hymnbook, which, by the way, he could not read...."

As word of the Mount Zion meetings spread, Edson wrote his mother: "Then we have invitations from other churches which we give attention as we can. A week ago last Sunday I first went two miles into the country to a little church in the morning to attend their Sunday School. I spoke to them on the raising of Lazarus. From there I went up to the Mount Zion church, and attended their Sunday School."

White, Palmer, and company, however, were not the only white people interested in the Black people of Vicksburg. They were surprised to find that two white ladies, Miss Maggie Scott and Miss M. M. Osborne, had already been at work, one for six years, the other for

two. They had been sent by the women's Baptist Home Missionary Society. In the midst of myriad difficulties, poverty, and illiteracy, these two tireless missionaries had worked on, teaching practical piety and holding Bible classes.

They had organized mothers' meetings, in which they taught homemaking, childcare, and sewing for the children. In their various classes throughout the city they had enrolled thousands of girls and boys. Since they were happy at last to have assistance, it wasn't long until Will Palmer had begun to study the Bible with them too.

About a year before the *Morning Star* had come to Vicksburg, Alonzo Parker, an itinerant Black preacher, came to the town from Arkansas. He had no church or creed and was sent by no society. He simply came, impressed by the Spirit to preach the Word as he found it in his Bible and in the Adventist classic *Bible Readings for the Home Circle*.

Fearlessly denouncing evil living, licentiousness, drunkenness, theft, and lying, he attracted a great following even though he declined to induce the emotional orgies many preachers sought to achieve.

At first the churches opened to him, and he preached in many of them. But when he didn't bother to spare the feelings of deacons or preachers, the doors were soon shut in his face. Next he hired a hall in the city and easily packed it. But that was shortly closed to him as well. Undaunted, he preached in the streets and walked from house to house, but as the fury of the people rose against him, his following grew smaller. Cold sneers and hateful glances met him until at last a mob grabbed him and beat him to death.

As he died, he said: "There will come to you people of Vicksburg just one more chance from God. He will send you other messengers, who will have a stricter message to bear than I have borne. And if you shall refuse to hear them, your fate will be sealed."

Thus, when the *Morning Star* steamed into Centen-

rial Lake on January 10, 1895, word went quickly among the city's Black populace that Alonzo Parker's prophecy had been fulfilled, that this was the last chance for the people of Vicksburg, and that a boat on the lake carried men and women to teach them the Bible.

This impression was so deep that some months later, after great opposition had grown up, when the *Morning Star* left her moorings for a short trip up the river, the hillside was quickly covered with men, women, and children, and the air was full of crying, "She's going away! Our boat is leaving us! Oh, God, we have no more chance."

Since so many of the Bible students could not read, Edson opened a night school on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

The night school was an instant success. The city had provided school facilities for Black children, but these were so overcrowded that hundreds of Black children were unable to attend; the city provided nothing at all for old people who were anxious to learn to read their Bibles. On the first night more than 50 scholars were present, and the number quickly swelled to more than a hundred.

The school began with 45 minutes of reading and spelling, all taught from *The Gospel Primer*, followed by 15 minutes of hymn singing. Edson, appalled by the quality of singing he heard in the church, complained that it was "depressing, to say the least," with "one drawling, snakelike tune for long meter, one for common, and another for short meter—a repertoire of three tunes to which all the words were fitted." After the hymns came prayer, followed by half an hour of Bible study.

Soon 12 classes flourished in the school, regular classes for children and other beginners, special classes for old people, and classes for advanced readers. The people were so eager to learn that the teachers had difficulty getting students to leave and go home after night classes.

Meanwhile the boat's cook, Albert Green, had been talking to Grant Royston and Duncan Astrap, two young men about his age, about the Sabbath. And they decided to join the boat's company this same Sabbath. So when Sabbath School finally began, five new members joined the group on board.

After the sermon that day, each new member expressed his desire to attend regularly. Edson, unable to contain his pleasure, stood again to close the meeting joyfully:

"It has been a wonderful day to us. For over a year we have been preparing to come down to do this work. We have had disappointments and hindrances at every step of the way, but at last we reached our field of labor. And now we have been toiling away here for weeks, not daring to open to you the Sabbath and many other truths, for we felt, as the Saviour expressed Himself, 'I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.' But we have found out that the Lord has a hand in the work, and when His time came He pressed the question upon us through you. And now to see so goodly a company of Sabbath keepers present on this day, who have come to a knowledge of the truth through our labors, is such a joy to us as you can hardly understand."

Soon the new converts began to share their faith in whatever ways they could. Edson had no printing press, but he was able to duplicate a copy of each Bible lesson for each student. Making his own duplicator from materials that cost him 50 cents, he described the process:

"To six ounces of melted glue and thirty-six ounces of heated glycerine, add one-third teaspoonful of carbolic acid. Take six common slates, and pour the mixture upon them. After standing twelve hours, they are ready for use. Write the copy with hectograph ink, and place it face down on the slate for two minutes, then remove. Repeat the process to the number of fifty or so, by lightly pressing sheets of paper on the slate."

For results modern copy machines could hardly have

done better. The little sheets turned out in this way found their way far into the interior cypress swamps, carried by the husbands of women who had joined the boat company. Their groups of workers studied each lesson, and small groups of Sabbath keepers began to appear among the cypress work gangs. ■

Ronald Graybill served for several years as assistant secretary of the Ellen G. White Estate.



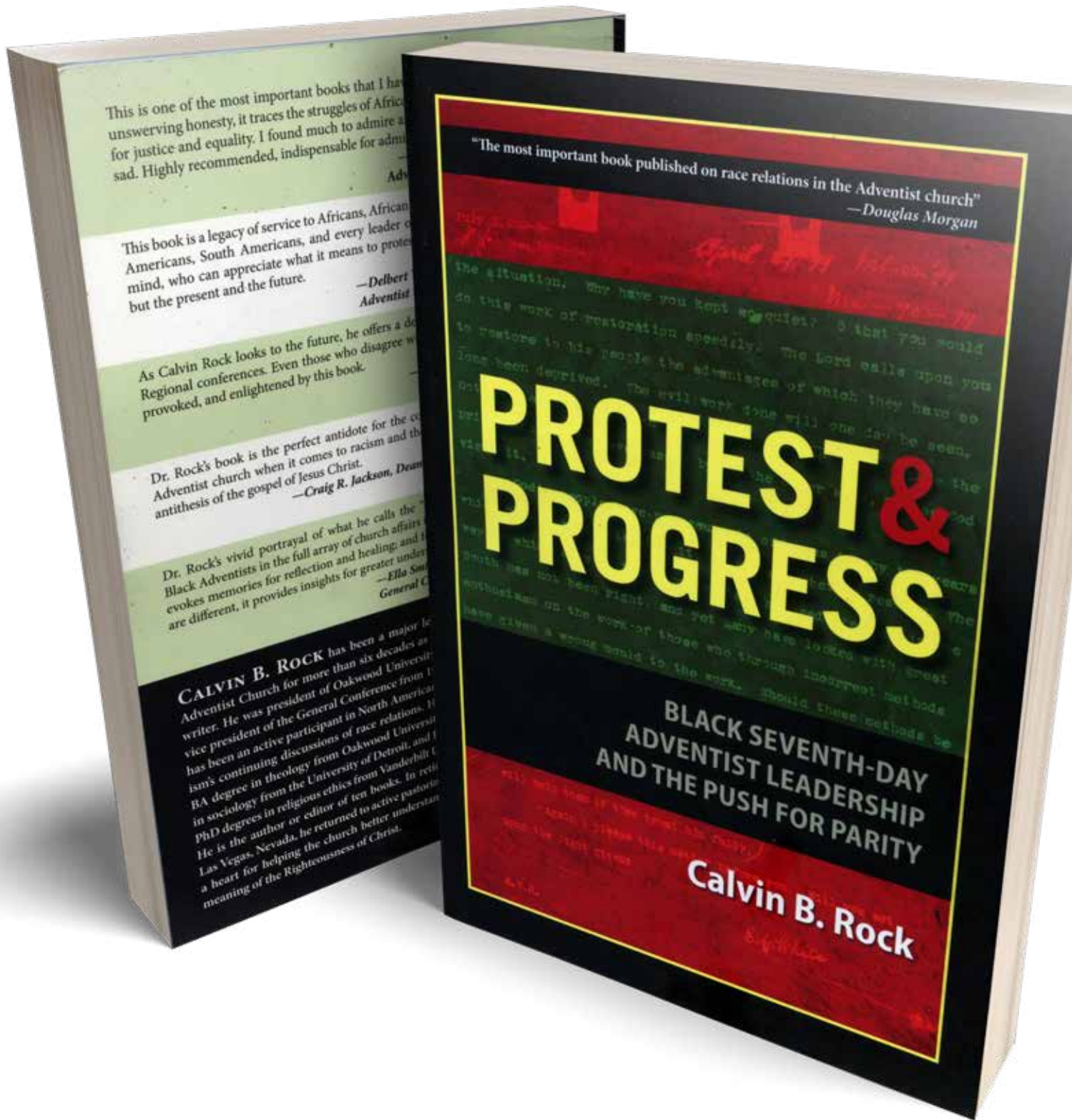
HISTORICAL PROFILES

Ruth Janetta Temple was a leader in providing free and affordable healthcare and education to underserved communities in Los Angeles, Calif. She and her husband, Otis Banks, established Temple Health Institute in East Los Angeles, which became a model for community-based health clinics across the country. Temple enrolled in the College of Medical Evangelists (Loma Linda University) in 1913 and became the first African American woman to graduate from the institution. A year prior to her death at age 91, the East Los Angeles Health Center was renamed the Dr. Ruth Temple Center in her honor.



PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Pacific Southwest



Calvin Rock on his Book *Protest & Progress*

Interviewed by Bradford Newton

Newton: What led you to write this book?

Rock: I was led to write the book by concerns that stem from my experiences in both a primarily African-American sector of Adventism and in the broader sector of the church where the African-American experience isn't known or shared or understood—and the good and bad that I have experienced in both sectors. My concern is that the story be told and that there be some resolution for the tensions that continue to exist.

Newton: Why is it important for the church that we address this carefully?

Rock: It's important because there are tensions and misunderstandings. Some of them are just plain unnecessary. Some I think are indelible, just because of cultural differences, but some are not and can be solved and resolved. I'm not speaking only of relationships but of tensions that exist in the African-American sector and the non-African-American sector, which really need not exist if people were just informed about the strength of cultural pull.

Newton: It's an understatement to say we have unresolved tension, bias, and misunderstanding that continues today. Do you see ways in which this conversation that we're having in the church can contribute positively to change in our broader American society?

Rock: I do not. Given the preponderance of societal elements and the histrionics that are afloat in politics and economics, it's doubtful that the institutions of society are going to be affected by what Adventists do. In fact, it works just the opposite. While we might think it would be a great thing if we could influence and affect society in a positive way, the fact of the matter is the church usually follows society. Almost always the church is slower than the larger society to change, to understand, and to move forward in terms of racial concord and agreement.

Newton: Why do you think that is? We're supposed to be the champions of the gospel, and yet we trail society on something as fundamental as human equality.

Rock: It's difficult for us to be thought of as strange, and we want favor with society. So we're reluctant to be different, except for Sabbath keeping—and even that is being neutralized today. A theologically conservative religious group is almost inevitably a socially conserva-

tive religious group, as well as being fiscally conservative. Conservatism seems to be an attitude that influences a group's entire operation. It just doesn't rest in one particular slot and say, "Well, we are religiously conservative, but we're socially liberal or progressive." Conservatism flavors the entire wheel; it flavors everything.

Our church history has also affected our attitude towards this. In 1898, when Charles M. Kinney made what is the first protest on record by black Seventh-day Adventists, he said in essence to the brethren, "When we sat in the middle of this camp meeting and you asked us to go to the back, we realize why you did it. It's because if we sat up in the middle the white people aren't going to come. Yet if we sit in the back, black folk are going to think we're too timid and they're not going to listen to us. So it's a catch-22." And the church, the whites, answered, "Well, it's better that the blacks go with the blacks and the whites with the whites."

That was a statement affecting ecclesiastical posture and that pretty much pervades. As things change, we change when we realize that it's possible to do so in certain places. But where black presence affects white attitudes, it's better not to, and I think most blacks would agree with that. And yet the other angle is that if blacks in the wider society think that blacks in the church are not protesting sufficiently or that they are accepting second-class treatment, then it hurts evangelism in the black sector. It's a matter of ecclesiology and appropriate and balanced approach, and that's not easy.

Newton: Have you thought about solutions?

Rock: Well, solution number one is reducing tension about the problem and not believing that the problem is solvable and not thinking that we are guilty if it isn't solved. We must be willing to admit that the church is a flower garden, not a melting pot.

The other thing is that the opposite of segregation is not homogenization and assimilation and integration, as is generally understood. Rather, it is desegregation. The opposite of segregation is desegregation.

When people say that the most segregated hour in the Adventist world (and this is paraphrasing Martin Luther King Jr.) is 11 o'clock on a Saturday morning, that is not true. Just because there's a black church worshiping with all black members does not mean they're segregated. And because there's a white church with all white members

or one or two blacks doesn't mean it's segregated. They may be compartmentalized by their cultural preferences, but segregation says, "You can't come in." Segregation says, "We don't like you." Segregation says, "We don't want you." Segregation says, "You're not welcome here." To be segregated you have to have an intentionality in excluding others, and I don't think that that's going on in Adventism today. It may occur in pockets, but it's not the prevailing attitude.

So when people say we are a segregated church because we have black congregants and black preachers, they're just wrong in my opinion. Segregation says, "Don't you come. We don't want you." Desegregation says, "You may come, please, if you like."

Newton: That's a profound distinction. Can you mention any areas in church race relations that you have felt some sense of satisfaction or improvement?

Rock: Sure. There are so many from the black community now attending so-called white churches that some of the black conference presidents feel a little bereft. And that's fine. A lot of it has to do with class as well as culture and taste. A lot of the more traveled black Adventists don't like some of the worship styles in black churches. They want to be out of church by 2 o'clock or they don't like the musical decibels, so they go to other churches. Well, that's fine if they want to do that, and I think that it's good for the races to know each other.

We just have to be comfortable. We're different in our tastes and it doesn't mean I don't like you. It just means that I like this better and I'm more comfortable here and I'm worshiping God. It's not a matter of us not being united. We're united doctrinally but we're not united culturally. We ought to relax and accept that fact and love each other and allow people to assimilate where they want.

Now, having said that, it is also true that if people don't get together and talk to each other they'll never learn about each other or get to know each other, and that's a problem. Even though we have the different churches and different conferences, we have to be intentional about doing things together when we can without being untruthful with regard to our cultural preferences. As I say in the book, in the two unions on the Pacific coast, where we do not have black conferences, the white and black churches assimilate and associate no more

frequently than do the churches where they have black conferences. I've worked in both places and you can go to churches in Pittsburgh, white and black, and they don't know each other any better or any less than the churches in California.

Newton: That's true in my experience as well. Now, finally, what are some areas where there is less progress than what you would have hoped.

Rock: Before I answer that, let me add one more area in which I've seen so much progress. One of the things I'm most proud of is the way that African-American leaders have risen to set examples for the younger African-American members who are coming along. Union presidents and secretaries—it's just wonderful. We've had a black woman president at Pacific Union College, and she was also provost at Andrews University. We can be proud that black men and women are chairing hospital boards and chairing universities, and by their example a lot of good things happen as they are watched not only by blacks but others as well.

One area where we haven't made the progress we could have is at the ground level of local conference operations where churches and companies don't know each other. The ministers in these cities aren't intentional about having the white and the black churches get together for annual picnics or other kinds of events that would allow their people to get to know each other better. This type of activity would, I think, take away a lot of the myths and a lot of the misunderstandings as we grew to know each other. We're isolated in the same city and don't know each other and that could be improved.

Newton: This is a practical call to action for conference leaders and pastors.

Rock: Right. There are things that could be done to allow the churches in a city to get to know each other. Then the myths can be dissipated and there can be more unity. To say there's black and there's white and therefore we're segregated, that's just not true, in my opinion.

Newton: Is there anything else you'd like to add about your book?

Rock: The first two-thirds of *Protest and Progress* is all about history, but I deal with questions of reconciliation in the last part of the book. People ask, "Why can't blacks

and whites be reconciled?” There’s no reconciliation to be had. Reconciliation involves the reunion of groups who were once in a healthy relationship. Black Adventists did not ask for black conferences because they were angry or weren’t in a good relationship. They were more like the children of Israel in slavery. They were oppressed by the white church at the time, and they wanted to break the administrative structure so they could have a more effective missional relationship in the black community. Yes, they wanted equal pay and, yes, they wanted to have administrative authority with their own structure and business, because alien leadership—which is what white leadership is in the black community—is never as effective as indigenous leadership. Indigenous leadership is always better. It seems like that could be understood and accepted so that people can stop this business of demanding unity, needing everybody in the melting pot. We all need to just take a deep breath and relax.

Every church in every community is serving not only its parishioners but also the community. The black church is fashioned not only by the culture of the people who said yes to the Sabbath but also by the community. They are working with a missional program that is hopefully effective, and every pastor is the pastor of the community. This is another reason why black conferences are so effective and so needed.

Newton: It was so fun to talk with you today. This takes me back to why I was so blessed many years ago to work with you in Nevada-Utah.

Rock: The pleasure was mine then, and it is still a pleasure to have you as a friend. ■

Bradford Newton is the secretary and the ministerial director of the Pacific Union Conference; Calvin Rock is a former vice president of the General Conference; after retirement he pastored in Las Vegas, Nevada.



HISTORICAL PROFILES

In 1942, Elder F. L. Peterson accepted the call to serve as secretary of the Colored Department of the Pacific Union. A gifted educator, preacher, musician, administrator, and author of the full message book “The Hope of the Race,” he added this new charge to pastoring the Wadsworth church (later University). This was over a year before the General Conference organized the black churches in much of the country into Regional Conferences in 1944-1945.

Significant “Firsts:”

1916—First black student to graduate from Pacific Union College.

1942–1945—Pacific Union Conference organized its first “Colored Department” under Peterson’s leadership.

1954—F. L. Peterson elected first black associate secretary of the General Conference and secretary of the North American Colored Department at the GC session.

1962—F. L. Peterson elected first black vice-president of the General Conference at the GC session in San Francisco.

We acknowledge the ministry of “The First” to serve the Pacific Union and the world field of the Seventh-day Adventist church.



PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Pacific Southwest

The African-American Churches of the Pacific Union Conference Invite You to Come and Worship With Us!

The University church in Los Angeles recently celebrated their 110th anniversary. We are proud to share a few photos from their worship service.



ARIZONA

Kingsley Palmer—director

Phoenix Beacon Light
2602 N 51st Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85035

Phoenix South Mountain
200 W Southern Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85041

Tucson Sharon
955 N 10th Ave
Tucson, AZ 85705

Merced Bethel
810 T Street
Merced, CA 95340

Modesto Westside
2301 Woodland Ave
Modesto, CA 95358

San Francisco Philadelphian
2520 Bush Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

San Francisco Rainbow
1400 Palou Ave
San Francisco, CA 94124

San Jose Ephesus
102 N. Ninth Street
San José, CA 95112

Seaside Community
1600 Obama Way
Seaside, CA 93955

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

James Scarborough—director

Bakersfield Southside
1330 Third Street
Bakersfield CA 93304

East Palo Alto
994 Bech Street
East Palo Alto, CA 94303

Fresno Westside
2750 Martin Luther King Blvd
Fresno, CA 93706

Hanford House of Hope
206 E. Ninth St
Armona, CA 93232

NEVADA-UTAH

Oneal Madden—director

Las Vegas Abundant Life
1720 N. J Street
Las Vegas, NV 89106

New Life
3920 W Charleston Blvd Ste F
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Salt Lake Central
460 South 800 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Sparks
2990 North Rock Blvd
Sparks, NV 89431

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Willie Johnson—direcor

Novato Haitian Company
1473 South Novato Blvd
Novato, CA 94947

Oakland-Elmhurst
9658 Thermal St
Oakland, CA 94605

Oakland-Immanuel Temple
2411 55th Ave
Oakland, CA 94605

Oakland-Market Street
900 34th St
Oakland, CA 94608

Pittsburg
900 Los Medanos St
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Richmond Beacon Light
607 S 19th St,
Richmond, CA 94804

Sacramento Capitol City
6701 Lemon Hill Ave
Sacramento, CA 95824

Stockton Mayfair
6940 N El Dorado St
Stockton, CA 92507

Union City
606 H St
Union City, CA 94587

Vallejo Berea
833 Louisiana St
Vallejo, CA 94590

Valley Community
2929 S B St
Stockton, CA 92506

SOUTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA

Robert Edwards—director

All Nations
2282 Pumalo St
San Bernardino, CA 92404

Fontana Juniper
7347 Juniper Ave
Fontana, CA 92336



Hope Community Adventist Company
11711 Palm Dr
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

Imani Praise Fellowship
24525 Iris Avenue
Moreno Valley, CA 92551

Mt. Rubidoux
5320 Victoria Ave
Riverside, CA 92506

New Hope
2420 52nd St
San Diego, CA 92105

Perris Fifth Street
300 E 5th St
Perris, CA 92570

Riverside Ghanian Company
12155 Magnolia Ave Ste 4A
Riverside, CA 92503-

Riverside Kansas
4491 Kansas Ave
Riverside, CA 92507-5155

SDA Fellowship of Rancho Cucamonga
8768 Helms Ave Ste B
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-4571

San Bernardino 16th Street
1601 W 16th St
San Bernardino, CA 92411

San Bernardino Community
1696 N G St
San Bernardino, CA 92405

San Diego 31st Street
414 S 31st St
San Diego, CA 92113

San Diego Maranatha
6065 Skyline Dr
San Diego, CA 92114

Valley Fellowship
275 E Grove St
Rialto, CA 92376-5177

Relove
9851 Bixby Ave
Garden Grove, CA 92841

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Royal Harrison—director
Altadena
2609 Lincoln Ave
Altadena, CA 91001

Antelope Valley
836 E Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93535

Berean
4211 W Adams Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90018

Breath of Life
425 S La Brea Ave
Inglewood, CA 90301

Compton Community
1226 W Compton Blvd
Compton, CA 90220-2839

Delaware Avenue
1845 20th St
Santa Monica, CA 90404

Ephesus Los Angeles
7005 S Western Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90047

Fifty-fourth Street
1973 W 54th St
Los Angeles, CA 90062

Hidden Treasures Company
10707 E Avenue S
Little Rock, CA 93543

Maranatha
3569 W Manchester Blvd
Inglewood, CA 90305

Miramonte Boulevard
7616 Miramonte Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90001

New Hope Company
1775 E Imperial Hwy
Los Angeles, CA 90059

Normandie Avenue
12420 S Normandie Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90044

Philadelphian Long Beach
2640 Santa Fe Ave
Long Beach, CA 90810

Smyrna
4394 W Washington Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90016

Tamarind Avenue
417 S Tamarind Ave
Compton, CA 90220

University
1135 W Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90037

Valley Crossroads
11350 Glenoaks Blvd
Pacoima, CA 91331

Camelback Church Member William Johnson *Receives Physician of Excellence Award*

BY PHIL DRAPER

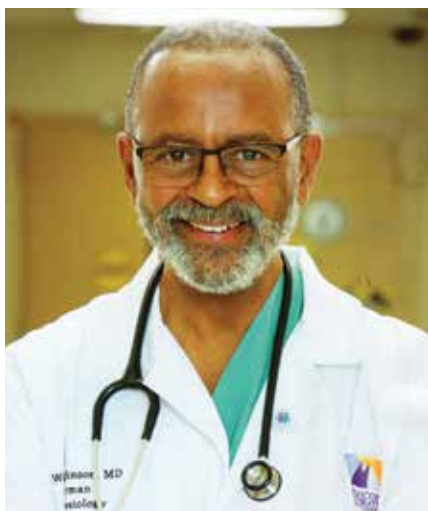
William “Bill” Johnson was presented with the J. Kipp Charlton Physician of Excellence Award at a gala in his honor in November. Johnson serves as chairman of the department of anesthesiology and as medical director of perioperative services for Maricopa Integrated Health System (MIHS) in Phoenix, where he has worked for 30 years. Johnson and his wife, Leonor, are members of the Camelback church in Phoenix.

“Dr. Bill Johnson is a strong, steady leader who is well respected, not just at MIHS, but across the state and nation. We are fortunate to have him at MIHS and proud he is being recognized,” said Steve Purves, MIHS president and CEO.

Johnson grew up in Pine Forge, Pennsylvania. Both his parents had postgraduate educations; his father was a chemist and his mother was a librarian. Their son knew that he wanted an education beyond a bachelor’s degree. As a high school senior, his goal was to be a cardiologist, an endocrinologist, a mathematician, a physicist, and a chemist. “Even back in the 1960s without today’s partitioned disciplines, you couldn’t be all those things—but I didn’t know that then,” he said.

His interest led him to extensive study, and by the time he was in college, he was able to take the most advanced mathematics, chemistry, and physics classes. In 1966 he received bachelor’s degrees in mathematics and physics from Pacific Union College.

After he and Leonor were married, they accepted a job with the National Teacher Corps to teach math to underserved children in Johnson City, Tennessee.



Camelback church member William “Bill” Johnson is a recipient of the J. Kipp Charlton Physician of Excellence Award.

In 1978 Johnson was accepted at the University of Florida’s College of Medicine. Leonor was hired as an assistant professor at Florida State University. After two years, they moved to Washington, D.C., where Leonor had accepted a new job. Johnson graduated in 1982 from George Washington University Medical School. After his residency at the University of Maryland, he taught in the Howard University Hospital Department of Anesthesiology for a year.

In 1986 the Johnsons relocated to Phoenix, where Leonor began

teaching at Arizona State University. Johnson was hired at Maricopa Medical Center in 1989 as a faculty member in the residency program. He has served at the medical center in the 30 years since then.

“While I’m in a field that’s very specialized, my real role is to serve and enable others,” said Johnson. “I have an opportunity at work to get a smile from my patients and also my colleagues. Surgeons, even psychiatrists, bring patients to our operating room. We see everyone ranging from obstetrics to orthopedics. I have a lot of opportunities to serve people—not just our patients, but my colleagues as well. It’s more than just putting a patient to sleep, waking them up, and saying goodbye; it’s being involved with patients and providing a positive experience they will remember.”

Johnson wants his legacy to reflect both his family and his professional life. “I’m extremely proud of our three sons, who all finished college and have successful careers,” he said. “I’d like to be remembered by my patients and colleagues as someone who had fun delivering excellent care, and by my family as a loving father, a husband in love with his wife, and as a man who did the very best he could to provide for them.”

Affirmation: Clinical Internship Solidifies *Pre-Vet Student's Future*

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

Last summer, Emily Castellanos, senior biology major and pre-veterinary student at Pacific Union College, began an internship at VetnCare California Pet Hospital in Napa. "This internship was an opportunity to see if veterinary medicine is where I belong," she said.



Emily Castellanos, Pacific Union College senior biology major and pre-veterinary student, works at a pet hospital in Napa. Her summer internship turned into a school-year job, giving her varied and in-depth experience for her intended career.

The opportunity arose through a career fair hosted by PUC. At the fair Castellanos was able to talk with the hospital's human resources and clinical managers, which resulted in a paid internship for the summer and then became a job that has continued through the school year.

"I am a veterinary assistant, which involves responsibilities similar to that of a vet technician," said Castellanos. Her duties include cleaning cages, sterilizing equipment, helping draw fluids for lab testing, preparing for surgery, monitoring anesthesia during surgery, administering oral medication and vaccinations, assisting veterinarians with taking patient history, and filling prescriptions.

"I am learning the ins and outs of vet medicine from diagnosis to treatment, and I love it all," she said. "This experience has really affirmed the veterinary field as the area I want to dedicate my life to."

It has also given her meaningful and critical hands-on experience that will serve her well in her career. "Thanks to this internship, I'm going to be able to walk with the client through every step of the process," she said. "I'll not only be able to explain exactly what process the animal is going through in their treatment, but I will be able to enact that exact treatment as well. This will allow me to make more meaningful connections

with my clients. The veterinarians at my hospital are wonderful role models."

Because there is currently a shortage of veterinary technicians in the industry, the biggest challenge Castellanos faces is a steep learning curve to be able to help in many different areas in the hospital.

Part of the challenge is also emotional. "There is a certain level of emotional stability that needs to come with you on the job," she said. "You're witnessing a lot of pain, and being able to be a supporter to both the client and the animal is extremely important. You have to be intentional about self-care at the end of the day, so you can continue providing effective care for your clients."

Castellanos has applied to veterinary programs at several state universities, as well as some in Australia and New Zealand. "I know I want to be a veterinarian," she said. "I love my job, I'm hopeful for the future, and it has never been a question of if I'll become a veterinarian but when. All I can do is my best, and I'll let God handle the rest."

For information about pre-professional programs at PUC, visit puc.edu/pre-professional, e-mail rvance@puc.edu, or call 707-965-6636. Or schedule a visit to check out the program in person: puc.edu/visit, visit@puc.edu, or 800-862-7080.

“What? No Adventist Church in Malibu?” *Celebrating 10 Years of God’s Faithfulness*

BY CONNIE JEFFERY

When Judith Miranda and her husband, Job, drove to Malibu one Sabbath in 2001, they looked for the local Adventist church, to no avail. She called the Southern California Conference office only to discover there was no church there. “What? No Seventh-day Adventist church in Malibu?” she exclaimed. It became Miranda’s personal mission to plant a church in the beautiful, wealthy beachside community. It took seven years of dedicated door-knocking before a congregation was planted in Malibu in 2008.

Fast-forward 10 years. On Sabbath, Dec. 8, 2018, the Malibu group celebrated its 10th anniversary. The congregation meets at Webster Elementary School, with a gorgeous view of the Pacific Ocean. As the group gathered in their school “sanctuary” for the first time since the devastating Woolsey Fire of early November, Miranda asked all the first-time attendees to stand. “What a blessing you’ve chosen to come today,” she said. “May the warmth



Judith Miranda hugs Andy Stuart, a medical supplier she had invited from her workplace. This was his first time in an Adventist church.



(Left) SCC President Velino A. Salazar presents a plaque to Captain Todd Garvey and firefighter Alan Averill of the Malibu Fire Department in appreciation for their extraordinary service during the Woolsey Fire. (Right) Jeffrey Brown, associate secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association, prays over the firefighters and attendees with December birthdays.



PHOTOS BY CONNIE JEFFERY

and sweetness of the Spirit of God here draw you back. I pray next Sabbath you say, ‘I’ve got to go to the Malibu church!’”

The welcoming spirit, beautiful music, Mission Spotlight, Sabbath School classes in English and Spanish, inspiring messages, and moving recognition of Malibu firefighters and law enforcement personnel made the 10th anniversary a stirring celebration of God’s faithfulness.

Velino A. Salazar, SCC president, presented a plaque to two representatives from the Malibu Fire Department. “We’d like to express special gratitude to our fire department in this area and also to the police department,” he said. “We want to recognize the great job you did and the sacrifices you made to save lives. Sometimes we are concerned about saving our homes, but the concern is about saving lives first. All around was great destruction—but we are pleased that so many lives were saved.”

Jeffrey O. Brown, associate

secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association, brought greetings from the world church. “When one rejoices, we all rejoice together,” he said. “So all 21 million Seventh-day Adventists worldwide are rejoicing with the Malibu church today. Our world church president, Elder Wilson, sends his regards and remarks about this area. He said, ‘We want to send our sincere condolences and Christian love to the many people who are facing great loss from the horrific fires in California,’” Brown read from a statement.

Lonnie Melashenko, former Voice of Prophecy speaker/director, charged the audience to become “fishers of men, not keepers of the aquarium.” Taking his sermon from John 17, Melashenko said, “The key to a greater impact in the world is found in Christ’s cosmic commission: ‘As you have sent Me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.’ That’s evangelization.” Let’s be Jesus Christ *in* the world!”

And all the people said, “Amen!”



(Far Left) Orville Ortiz, SCC treasurer/CFO, right, burns the mortgage document. (Left) SCC President Velino A. Salazar (left) addresses the congregation as Olympic Korean church Pastor Young Rin Kim (right) translates.

Olympic Korean Church: *Building for Mission*

BY LAUREN LACSON

God has been faithful to the Olympic Korean congregation in more ways than one. In the 41 years since the church was established, the congregation has been building for mission. With a 50-unit apartment complex, a second building housing various church ministries and a 250-seat sanctuary, and a main sanctuary that includes seven multipurpose rooms, the church is well equipped for outreach.

“Olympic Korean church now has enough facilities for every department and ministry, and also the facility itself provides decent financial resources for the church’s missional activities,” said Young Rin Kim, Olympic Korean church pastor.

Most recently, the congregation celebrated God’s leading as all debts were paid. A million-dollar loan that was anticipated to take seven years was paid off early in August 2018, after only five years. “Therefore, we had a building consecration service to celebrate God’s special blessing, dedicate the sanctuary, and also rededicate ourselves to God,” Kim said.

“Church buildings in California

are expensive,” said Orville Ortiz, Southern California Conference treasurer/CFO. “This church, for 24 years, has been making payments. Now that they are paid off, they have free resources to focus on mission and ministry for the church.” The mortgage documents were burned during the celebration ceremony to mark the special milestone.

While the church built a large facility, the goal was not expansion for its own sake. The purpose was to increase the church’s capacity for outreach. “We hoped our Korean community could use this facility for various purposes, [including] musical performances

and community gatherings,” Kim said. With a main sanctuary that can accommodate 600 people, plus a prime location close to the biggest Koreatown in the United States, the Olympic Korean church is literally built for ministry.

“Since the church is close to Koreatown and now has resources available, the church should be able to dedicate those resources to developing specific ways to reach the Korean community in their vicinity,” Ortiz said.

With a building dedicated and a congregation consecrated, the Olympic Korean church commits to ministry.





(Above) La Sierra University Golden Eagles baseball players, from left to right, Michael Moy, Leo Gomez, Jake Barbata, Kash Mattson, and Art Felix pose with patient Elijah Ortega. (Right) Charles Keehn, a patient of a Loma Linda University Children's Hospital outpatient clinic, holds holiday gifts he received from La Sierra University Golden Eagles baseball team members.

PHOTO: ERIC CENDEJAS



PHOTO: LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

La Sierra Students Bring Holiday Cheer and Warmth to Others

BY DARLA MARTIN TUCKER

As last year's holiday season approached, La Sierra University and its students offered gifts of toys and quilts to brighten the days and warm the nights of those facing big challenges.

La Sierra Golden Eagles baseball player Justin Shields, left, smiles as he and his teammates prepare to surprise pediatric patients with Christmas presents.



PHOTO: LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

The La Sierra University Golden Eagles baseball team, led by Head Coach Gabriel Gamboa, conducted a campus-wide toy drive in late November to benefit young patients of the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Clinic in San Bernardino, an outpatient service of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital. Earlier that month, students in two religion classes helped pack quilts donated by the university's Stahl Center for World Service. The quilts were shipped for distribution to those who had lost their homes during the devastating Camp Fire that destroyed most of

the town and surrounding areas of Paradise, California.

Toys for Patients

On Friday, Nov. 30, the La Sierra Golden Eagles baseball team paraded into the pediatric clinic carrying a big box decorated with holiday wrapping and overflowing with Christmas cheer—action figures, games, Barbie dolls, Legos, bubble shooters, My Little Pony figures, and many other toys. More than 100 toys were donated by the campus, including more than 30 toys that were purchased and contributed by team members and their families.



PHOTO: ERIC CENEVANS

La Sierra University Golden Eagles baseball players with Head Coach Gabe Gamboa, center, pose with the toys they collected for young patients.

toy drive this year, as well as the first team toy giveaway last Christmas.

“It was an

amazing experience. Going in I did not know what to expect, but I knew I wanted to bring out a smile on each kid I talked to,” said Justin Shields, an outfielder and freshman business management major. “Personally, this experience allowed me to take in new perspectives. I hope one day I can really help more children in rougher circumstances than me.”

Quilts of Comfort

On Nov. 16, 102 students from two “Jesus and the Gospels” religion classes taught by Stahl Center Director Robert Roth packed 75 quilts from the Stahl Center collection into boxes for shipping to Northern California, where they were distributed to those who had lost their homes in the massive Camp Fire.

The previous month, Roth’s students shipped 400 quilts to Lifeline Chicago for delivery along with Christmas gifts, clothing, and other supplies to orphanages, shelters, hospitals, and soup kitchens in Serbia.

The quilts are part of the Global Quilting project initiated in 1994 by the late Charles Teel, La Sierra University religion professor, scholar, social justice crusader, and Stahl Center founder, who passed away in September 2017. Global Quilting garnered more than 19,000 quilts from quilters, clubs, and nonprofit organizations. With his students, Teel personally delivered quilts to children in Armenia, South Africa, China, Thailand, Mexico, Peru, and Guatemala as well as the United States.

The Global Quilting project now has approximately 250 quilts left. It celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, and Roth said that he is contemplating a “Quilts Project II.”

“When I came to La Sierra University, one of my first classes was from Dr. Charles Teel,” Roth said. “That class rocked and changed my life forever. It was as if I saw the gospel as it was really intended to be ... as a verb of life transforming action and service.”

Accompanied by clinic staff, the ball players handed out some of the toys to youngsters who came that day with family members for their appointments. Clinic staff later gave out the remainder of the toys to patients as they arrived for treatment.

“It’s good, awesome,” said 15-year-old Charles Keehn when asked what it was like to receive a BrickHeadz Lego set and a kinetic sand molding kit from a couple of the players who lingered to chat with him.

Golden Eagles outfielder and senior marketing and business management major Josh Jubile expressed a similar sentiment from a different viewpoint. “It was a blessing giving the toys to the kids, and I couldn’t be more grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community,” he said. His mother, Aurora Jubile, organized the



PHOTO: ROBERT ROTH

Religion class students pose with quilts they helped box and ship to survivors of the Camp Fire in Paradise, Calif.



(Left) Leaders sing the final hymn with the congregation during the ceremony held in mid-October. (Middle) The Finau family children from Reno, Nev., participated in the afternoon musical program. (Right) The choir from the Los Angeles Tongan Church performs during the organization ceremony of the Tala Ki Mamani church.

Salt Lake City Tongan Congregation *forms to "Tell the World!"*

BY FAITH HOYT, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM VEISINIA MO'UNGAAFI

The recently formed Tala Ki Mamani church in Salt Lake City (SLC), Utah, gathered friends from across the Nevada-Utah Conference and beyond to celebrate with them in a church organization ceremony on Oct. 13, 2018.

The Tala Ki Mamani church was formed out of the desire to minister to the Tongan community in SLC. According to the Salt Lake Tribune's analysis of the 2010 United States census data, one of every four Tongans living in the United States resides in Utah. The state of Utah ranks second in the U.S. for total population of Tongans, behind California and ahead of Hawaii.

The Tongan congregation in the SLC area started initially when a group was formed in 2003. The group grew steadily, and as they grew, so did their vision for becoming a church and expanding their outreach. In October, one of their goals became a reality when they celebrated their church-status inauguration ceremony at a rented facility in the city.

"It was a very special day," said

Leon B. Brown, NUC president. "My greatest joy was seeing Christian young people actively involved in singing and sharing the love of Jesus Christ." Brown described the camaraderie between the Tongan and the Samoan church families, who came in support of the new church, as a wonderful blessing.

The church members chose the Tongan name Tala Ki Mamani because it means "tell the world." "The Tala Ki Mamani church is focused on preparing souls for Jesus' return," said Brian Rhoades, church pastor.

The members are proclaiming God's love in many ways, including through a brass band, led by First Elder Manoah Mo'ungaafi, which plays regularly at church and is actively involved in SLC events and

parades. The church also reaches out to young people and hosts youth and Pathfinder programs led by members Nohelani Ahoia and Toilose Mo'ungaafi.

Though they've reached a big milestone, the church members have their eyes fixed on the next goal: building a place of worship they can call home. "We have fundraised for this project," said Veisinia Mo'ungaafi. "We believe that God will make a way so we can either build or buy a church to become a home where we can continue preparing and winning souls for our soon-coming King and inherit the Kingdom to come."

If you would like to support the Tala Ki Mamani building fund, e-mail the NUC treasury department at Treasury@nevadautah.org.

Nevada-Utah Conference Women's Ministry Retreat Invites Women to Share Their Story

BY SARAH ABRAHAM

Over a late-October weekend, more than 120 women gathered at the Alps-inspired Zermatt hotel in Midway, Utah, for the annual Nevada-Utah Conference Women's Ministry Retreat. At the retreat, women were inspired by the theme, "Tell Me Your Story."

On Friday evening, Melody Darrow, NUC women's ministries director and pastor in Las Vegas, Nevada, shared the story of how God has worked in her life. Her willingness to be authentic inspired a welcoming atmosphere of acceptance that carried throughout the entire weekend.

Sabbath morning worship began with an uplifting song service that included the song that inspired the theme, "My Story" by Big Daddy Weave. During the service, three women from the NUC—Stephanie Jordana, Miriam Peckham, and Sarah Abraham—shared their unique journeys and the miraculous ways God has touched their lives.

Sabbath afternoon was spent crafting beautiful promise roses, a keepsake reminder of God's promises. Afterward, attendees



(Left) Nevada-Utah Conference President Leon B. Brown Sr. and Pacific Union Conference Women's Ministries Director Dorothy Means offer prayers of dedication over NUC Women's Ministries Director Melody Darrow.

(Right) A few of the retreat speakers and seminar facilitators gathered for a quick photo at the Zermatt hotel where the Women's Ministries retreat was hosted.



PHOTOS BY WYDIALIA BOLES

listened to three engaging seminars. Denetra Gary, a licensed clinical social worker and Christian marriage and relationship counselor, presented a seminar on how to heal from attachment disorder and reattach to God. "Everyone has attachment disorder because at some point in our lives we have detached from God," said Gary. "Now is the time that Jesus wants to walk us through all our hurt and pain so that we can reattach completely to Him."

Gail Merritt and Marsha Dupree, members of the Sparks church, shared a seminar focused on emotions and their effect on the body. Darrow spoke about "God time," sharing that a great way to engage with God is to take one line of Scripture at a time and ask oneself: who, what, where, when, and why? "When I did

this," she said, "I found things in every single line that I did not think of." Darrow said that this is a wonderful way to get to know God's stories for ourselves.

To close the Sabbath, Charmaine Francis shared the story of her journey in the field of education. Vespers was followed by a group birthday party, where each attendee brought a gift to give one of her sisters to celebrate the birth of each woman there.

On Sunday morning, women heard a testimony from Gail Ann Guy-Cupid, assistant social work professor at the University of Nevada, Reno, who shared her incredible story of overcoming the odds and having the courage to trust in God. To conclude the retreat, the attendees and presenters circled together to pray the words, "God, as we write our stories in this next year, please help us to keep You as the center."

For more information about women's ministries events in the NUC, e-mail melodydarrow@gmail.com.



Retreat participants display the promise roses they made on Sabbath afternoon.

African-American *Adventist History*

The turn of the 20th century proved a significant time of firsts for the African-American movement within the Adventist Church, not just in California, but in the country. The Central California Conference invites you to celebrate some of these accomplishments.

1900s

During the 1900s, the first Black group was organized in Allensworth, California. Lottie Blake (1876–1976) was the first Black Adventist woman to practice medicine (in Birmingham, Alabama), and Anna Knight (1874–1972) was the first Black woman of any denomination to serve as a missionary in India.

1930s–1940s

Five more churches were formed in what would become the CCC. In 1941, the first Black church building was purchased by Fresno Westside. During the General Conference Session of 1944, delegates voted to develop Regional Conferences. Regional Conferences could form where there were more than 1,500 believers.

1950s

In 1955, the Pacific Union Conference, with the agreement of Black members, maintained its structure, keeping ethnic churches in local conferences. The Union established the Regional Ministries department (formerly the Colored department) with Black

Coordinators in each conference with

representation. In 1958, the Pacific Union Conference created the first Interracial Committee to study and plan for further integration.

1960s

By 1961, there were 30 Regional churches and one company in the Pacific Union Conference. In 1962, Frank L. Peterson was elected general vice president of the General Conference at the 49th General Conference Session in San Francisco—the first person of color to be in the position. Previously, Peterson led the Negro department at the Pacific Union Conference.

1970s

Two churches were formed in the CCC. In 1971, Anna Knight was presented the Medallion of Merit Award, the highest recognition given by the General Conference for extraordinary meritorious service to Adventist

Timeline of Central California Conference

<p>1901—Black work began in Los Angeles.</p> <p>1910—First Black group began meeting in Allensworth, Calif.</p> <p>1932—Fresno Westside Seventh-day Adventist Company was formed.</p> <p>1936—San Francisco Philadelphian Seventh-day Adventist Company was formed.</p>	<p>1942—Fresno Westside Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.</p> <p>1943—Alamo Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.</p> <p>1943—Bakersfield Southside Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.</p> <p>1943—Pacific Union Negro Department was led by F.L. Peterson.</p>	<p>1950—National Youth Convention held in San Francisco. (Pictured below.)</p> <p>1955—Pacific Union creates Regional Ministries Department, formerly the “Colored Department” with Black Coordinators.</p> <p>1957—San Jose Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.</p> <p>1958—Pacific Union creates the first Interracial Committee to study and plan for further integration.</p>	<p>1961—There are 30 Regional churches and one company in the Pacific Union.</p> <p>1965—Pacific Union Regional Ministries was led by G.N. Banks.</p>	<p>1970—East Palo Alto Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.</p> <p>1970—Seaside Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.</p> <p>1977—Pacific Union Regional Ministries was led by Earl Canson Sr.</p>
1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	



education. She was also remembered for her missionary work in the 1900s. In 1972, physicist and inventor Robert Shurney (1921–2007)—an African-American Adventist—designed the tires for the moon buggy used during the Apollo 15 mission.

1980–1990s

Four more churches joined the CCC. In 1989, Earl A. Canson Sr. conducted a feasibility study that led to a recommendation that each conference form an advisory council of laity and pastoral leadership. Three years later, the CCC established the African-American Advisory Council, or 3AC. In 1987, Dr. Ben Carson (1951–) brought the Adventist Church to the forefront of the nation’s attention after he performed the first successful separation of conjoined twins (joined at the top of the head).

2000s

The turn of the century brought two more companies to CCC, as well as more attention to the Adventist faith. In 2003, Barry Black (1948–) was elected as the 62nd chaplain of the U.S. Senate. In 2007, Ricardo Graham was elected president of the Pacific Union Conference. They were the first African-Americans to hold these positions. In 2009, Heather Knight was appointed president of Pacific Union College, the first Black person and first woman to hold the position.

2010s

In 2010, African-American Adventist James Graves Jr. (1953–) was nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals by then-President Barak Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate the next year. In 2014, Celeste Ryan Blyden became vice president for strategic communication and public relations

at the Columbia Union Conference. In 2017, Ben Carson was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Carson was the first Adventist to be appointed to a cabinet-level position in the U.S. government.

Tithe Teaser

What famous, tithe-paying entrepreneur said, “To do a common thing uncommonly well brings success...”? Here is a clue: You often squeeze a dab of the sauce he created on food that needs flavoring. *To find who this inventor was and to read about the company he created, go to www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com.*

- 1981—Merced Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Company was formed.
- 1981—Clarence J. Williams was named as the first Black Coordinator in Central California Conference.
- 1983—First Central California Conference African-American Convocation was held.
- 1983—Paso Robles Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.
- 1983—Lawrence L. Hamilton served as Black Coordinator in Central California Conference.

- 1983—Modesto Westside Seventh-day Adventist Company was formed.
- 1987—S. Arthur Bushnell Jr. served as a Black Coordinator in Central California Conference.
- 1989—San Francisco Rainbow Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.
- 1989—Ezra Mendinghall served as Black Coordinator in Central California Conference.

- 1992—The African-American Advisory Council (3AC) was established in Central.
- 1993—Steve Horton served as African-American Coordinator in Central California Conference.
- 2000—Hanford House of Hope Seventh-day Adventist Church was formed.
- 2000—Fresno Temple of Praise Seventh-day Adventist Company was formed.
- 2002— Steve Horton becomes vice president for ministries.

- 2003—Earl Canson Jr. served as African-American Coordinator in Central California Conference.
- 2006—Joseph Jones served as African-American Coordinator in Central California Conference.
- 2008—Fredrick Anderson served as African-American Coordinator in Central California Conference.
- 2016—David R. Hudgens becomes vice president for personnel and human resources at Central California Conference.
- 2018—James Scarborough served as African-American Coordinator in Central California Conference.

1980s

1990–2010s



In Memoriam

Loma Linda University Health lost three of its pioneering physicians during the final days of 2018. Joan Coggin died at age 90 on Nov. 29. Ellsworth Wareham died Dec. 15 at age 104. And James M. Slater died Dec. 26 at age 89.

Coggin and Wareham co-founded the Loma Linda University Overseas Heart Surgery Team in 1963. Established at a time when few hospitals performed open-heart surgery, the team was founded at the request of the John F. Kennedy administration to help build goodwill overseas. These two innovators went on to visit dozens of countries, performing more open-heart surgeries than any similar organization.

Slater helped found what became the world's first hospital-based proton treatment facility, which has treated more than 18,000 cancer patients from across the nation and around the world since it opened in 1990.

Through their passion for helping others, their service established a legacy of healing around the world—a legacy Loma Linda University Health strives to live up to each day. We will miss them.



Wareham, 104, was “Blue Zone” pioneer and cardiothoracic surgeon

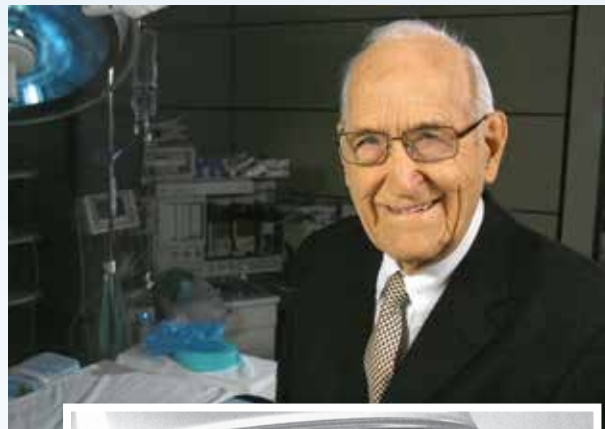
BY MARK KELLNER

Ellsworth Wareham, known at the end of his life as much for his vegan-supported longevity as his distinguished surgical career that included the first open-heart surgeries in many countries, died Dec. 15 at the age of 104.

An ebullient and active centenarian, Wareham—a 1942 surgical graduate of Loma Linda University—gained global fame through numerous media outlets in his later years for being the epitome of a “Blue Zone” resident, someone who lives in one of the healthiest parts of the world.

According to a 2008 article in *National Geographic*, Wareham epitomized the Adventist lifestyle of a vegan diet, exercise, and faith in God—all of which the physician cited as reasons for his longevity.

"I think it's important for an individual to have some security and peace in his life," Wareham told Mehmet Oz, at the time a contributor to Oprah Winfrey's television program, in 2008. "And I get that from believing in a loving, caring God, you see. And so if He's in charge of my life, why sit around and worry? I mean, He takes care of the universe; He can certainly take care of me, so I don't worry."



During his medical career, Wareham performed more than 12,000 operations and continued to assist and observe younger surgeons until he was in his mid-90s. At 100, he drove, continued to do his own gardening and lawn maintenance, and lived in the two-story house he shared with his wife of 68 years, Barbara.

Perhaps his greatest medical accomplishment came in the early

1960s, when the John F. Kennedy administration was trying to improve relations with many nations, including Pakistan. A visit there by then-Vice President Lyndon Johnson led to a young Pakistani girl being brought to White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles for open-heart surgery. That led to an invitation from Johnson's office for Wareham, cardiologist Joan Coggin, and the Overseas Heart Surgery Team to go to Karachi and

perform surgeries there.

The surgeries did much to enhance the image of the United States in those days. Such programs are now common around the world, but during the 1960s and early 1970s, the procedures were considered new in many parts of the world. Wareham was a true goodwill ambassador for Loma Linda University Health, the Adventist church, and the United States.

Wareham was also a mentor to

surgeon Leonard Bailey, who in 1985 performed the world's first infant heart transplant.

"His gentle spirit and humble demeanor belied a confidence and skill that changed heart surgery around the world," said Richard Hart, president of Loma Linda University Health. "He left an indelible mark on many of us as young professionals at Loma Linda University Health that carries on to this day."

Coggin, 90, helped take open-heart surgery team overseas

BY NANCY YUEN

Joan Coggin, the Loma Linda University Health cardiologist who in the 1960s co-founded the Loma Linda University Overseas Heart Surgery Team, which went on to perform more open-heart surgeries than any similar organization, died Nov. 29. She was 90.

In 1963, Coggin's influence extended across international borders when she and Ellsworth Wareham co-founded the overseas team, which was established at a time when few hospitals performed open-heart surgeries.

Coggin and Wareham pioneered use of the heart-lung machine in Southern California, operating one day a week at Los Angeles County General Hospital. Each week, they packed a heart-lung machine and ancillary equipment needed for cardiac surgery into the trunk of Wareham's large car for the short drive from the White Memorial Medical Center to Los Angeles County Hospital.



It led them to wonder: if they could pack all the equipment in a vehicle and transport it to another hospital, why couldn't it be transported thousands of miles and make open-heart surgery available overseas?

In the coming months, she and Wareham refined their plans for the Overseas Heart Surgery Team until the U.S. State Department, on the recommendation of Vice President Lyndon Johnson, sponsored the team



on its first trip—to Pakistan. From the moment she began working on the project, Coggin was convinced it would be successful. "I always believed in dreaming dreams and not being afraid of failure," she said.

Coggin participated as a team member on missions to Europe, Asia, and Africa. The team initiated or upgraded open-heart surgery programs in numerous countries for more than 50 years. In the course of her travels, she met with heads of state from Pakistan, Greece, Saudi Arabia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Vietnam, and Nepal. At home, she met U.S. Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon.

**"I ALWAYS BELIEVED IN DREAMING DREAMS
AND NOT BEING AFRAID OF FAILURE."**

Coggin began her career when women made up less than five percent of medical school graduates nationally.

Her administrative and teaching capacities at Loma Linda University Health included serving as vice president for global outreach, special assistant to the president

for international affairs, associate dean for international programs, as well as assistant professor, associate professor, and professor at the School of Medicine.

“Joan Coggin was an icon at Loma Linda University. Her passion for helping those in need and her dedication to teaching others how

to enhance the level of care in their countries leave a legacy around the world,” said Richard Hart, president of Loma Linda University Health.

“She will also be remembered for her sense of humor, which infected those with whom she came into contact and even helped to ease tense situations.”

Slater, pioneer of proton therapy, transformed cancer treatment

BY NANCY YUEN

James M. Slater, whose determination to improve the quality of life for patients undergoing cancer treatment inspired him to use proton therapy for patient care and to champion and oversee creation of the world’s first hospital-based proton treatment center at Loma Linda University Health, died Dec. 26. He was 89.

The James M. Slater, M.D. Proton Treatment and Research Center—which opened in 1990—has treated more than 18,000 patients from around the world, including royalty, celebrities, and an NBC news reporter who in 2008 chronicled his battle with cancer and search for treatments.

Proton radiation treatment, a precise and advanced form of radiation therapy, allows physicians to deliver full or higher treatment dosages to destroy a tumor with minimal side effects to a person’s surrounding healthy tissue and organs.

In 1986, the Loma Linda University and Loma Linda University Medical Center boards of trustees approved Slater’s request to work with Fermi National

Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) to begin planning the Loma Linda University Medical Center Proton Treatment Center, which would result in the construction of the most expensive piece of medical equipment that had ever been built. The issue was one of the most disputed items the boards would ever deliberate.

When the Loma Linda University Medical Center Proton Treatment Center opened in 1990, it was the only place in the world to offer proton therapy for patient treatment and research in a hospital setting. The center was a \$100-million, three-story facility. The equipment, including the accelerator and the proton guidance system, weighed 400 tons and produced up to 250 million electron volts of radiation.

It remained the only hospital-based treatment center of its kind in the U.S. until 2003. Today there are approximately 25 proton therapy



centers in operation, with another 11 centers under construction or in development, according to the National Association for Proton Therapy.

“Dr. Slater will be memorialized by his development of proton therapy, but I will remember him even more as the consummate gentleman, always ready to listen and assist younger faculty and staff in pursuit of their dreams,” said Richard Hart, president of Loma Linda University Health. “His gentle spirit and deference to others made him a natural leader on our campus.”

Extended versions of these three tributes are available at news.llu.edu.



(Top Let) Angela Newton's family remembers their dream home in Paradise as a retreat from city life. Her family hosted countless dinner parties, birthdays, and holidays there until it was destroyed during the Camp Fire. (Middle) Newton's family members gather at the family home in Paradise. (Right) Angela Newton, director of nutritional services at Adventist Health Bakersfield and Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley, holds up a photo of her childhood home lost during the Camp Fire in Paradise, Calif.

Family Finds Hope *Amid Devastation*

BY HAROLD PIERCE

When Angela Newton reflects on her childhood in Paradise, California, she thinks about the home her family built. The one with the blue siding and wraparound decks. The one where her mother hosted dinner parties with fine china on holidays. The one where she worked alongside her daddy in the garage, changing the clutch in her first car. The one she helped build, digging leach lines and laying floors, transforming a plot of barren land in the forest into her family's 3,300-square-foot dream.

It's the same one that no longer stands, and now exists only in memories.

"It's part of my grieving process—not for the property and not for the things we lost, but it's the legacy," said Newton, director of nutritional services at Adventist Health Bakersfield and Adventist Health Tehachapi Valley. "It's knowing what my father and mother lived through and worked through to realize this dream."

Newton's family home was one of nearly 14,000 houses destroyed by the Camp Fire, the deadliest fire in the

state's history, which scorched more than 153,000 acres in Butte County and devastated the community of Paradise where Adventist Health Feather River stands.

Despite that devastation, Newton and her family are finding things for which they're grateful. She attributes much to divine intervention.

Her father, Ron—a surgery tech-turned-deacon—and mother, LaFreeda—a nurse who became director of chaplain services at Adventist Health Feather River for 14 years—have found God in the unexpected again and again.

Even the way they came across the land in Paradise seemed serendipitous. Ron wanted a life for his kids that stood in stark contrast to his upbringing in 1960s South Central Los Angeles, which was marked with gang murder, violence, and fear.

A picturesque forest retreat seemed like the right fit, but Ron and LaFreeda thought they would have to travel to Oregon to find property. Then, while trekking upstate in the early 1980s, their van broke down. When Ron and

LaFreeda looked up, they saw the land for sale—a little piece of paradise in Northern California. They built their lives there.

The Camp Fire wasn't the first time the family's home was threatened by fire. Ron stood his ground in 2008 when another blaze approached, fighting flames until he was evacuated.

This time Ron didn't have that opportunity. It was a blessing from God, Newton believes, that her parents traveled to Bakersfield early for her birthday. They were among the first ones off the mountain when the fire sparked. "I believe that's divine intervention," Newton said. "Nobody's walking around with their head down over the fact that this is a catastrophic loss. This is another part of the journey and a temporary situation."

Christmas, however, was different. The family didn't retreat to the home where they spent so many holidays. They couldn't. But the holiday wasn't somber. They gave thanks for the blessings they have and talked about their plans to rebuild in Paradise against all odds, inspiring hope for another generation.

Hawaiian Mission Academy Students Lead *and Serve through Mission Trips*

BY MEGAN ELMENDORF

Hawaiian Mission Academy's (HMA) Applied Leadership: Missions (ALM) crew members experience the joy of service as they participate in mission trips throughout Hawaii.

From Nov. 15-20, crew members went on a five-day mission trip to the neighboring island of Kauai. Every evening during the trip, they conducted a Vacation Bible School, themed "God's Big Backyard," at the Lawai Valley church. One day they participated in the Kahili Adventist School gardening program, and another day they helped to clean up around the church building. On Sabbath they presented the keiki story (a script they wrote about Naaman's cure and Gehazi's treachery) as well as their testimonies.

The students also had some fun adventures, including playing with tortoises at the Makauwahi Cave Reserve, visiting Hanapepe, Waimea Canyon, and hiking the Kalalau Lookout trail.

ALM leaders—junior Jan Navales, junior Anaya Realin, and senior Katie Mota—coordinated the trip. Navales was unable to go, but she helped to prepare everything beforehand. "Hard work and faith go hand-in-hand," she said. "Without one or the other, I wouldn't have persevered as much as I had. I'm really thankful for the missions team through the process."

The ALM leaders, as well as former ALM member Dannica Roberts and a previous mission trip attendee Justin Mordeno, traveled to Kauai with HMA Principal Joe Lee. They appreciated

the hard work that the Lawai Valley church ohana (family) did to prepare for their arrival. They were grateful for the trust that Pastor Shane Davis, intern Youth Pastor Jeff Bradburn, and the entire community had in their leadership capabilities.

The trip was made possible thanks to the generous donations made directly to the school's missions program through the HMA business office, as well as through their Fundly fundraising account: ALIVE in Christ Missions Program.

In October, the ALM crew went to Maui for a similar mission trip (though they did not conduct VBS). Both trips offered opportunities for HMA to give back to the Kauai

and Maui communities, who—like the other islands of the Hawaii Conference—have been supportive of the high school for so long.

ALM crew members are currently preparing for their Big Island trip in February, as well as their annual international trip to Taiwan.

At HMA, students learn how to be leaders as they make missions a lifestyle. "What makes any mission trip worthwhile is when young people realize how simple it is to be a blessing to others," said Lee. "Through some effort, they can take an active role in service and find that it simply came from a willingness to do so. When we make the choice to serve, God will open endless opportunities for us to further His work."



Pastor Brennon Kirstein—with wife Brandy, son Jax, and daughter Scarlet - looks forward to pastoring the Kailua church on the island of O'ahu.



Kailua Welcomes *New Pastor*

BY MIKI AKEO-NELSON

Pastor Brennon Kirstein has joined the pastoral team of the Hawaii Conference as pastor of Kailua church on the island of O`ahu.

Kirstein was born and raised in Orlando, Florida. His academic road took him through Highland View Academy, Southern College (B.A. in Theology, 1994), and Andrews University (M.Div., 1998). More recently, he finished a Doctor of Ministry from Andrews University (2012).

Kirstein served as a youth pastor in Calhoun, Georgia; a collegiate/young adult pastor in Orlando, Florida; and lead chaplain at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, before

accepting the call to Hawaii.

While Kirstein has an ongoing passion for youth and young adult ministry, he has experienced a recent shift of awareness—a gradually intensifying sense of an invitation to shift away from the university life to one where family ministry can take center place in his life.

“We are excited about Brennon joining the pastoral team in Hawaii,” said Hawaii Conference President Ralph Watts III. “Brennon is extremely gifted and will be an

appreciated addition to the church and school in Kailua.”

Kirstein has been married to his wife Brandy for almost 12 years. They have the blessing of raising their 7-year-old son Jax and 5-year-old daughter Scarlett, and that is the unquestioned joy of their lives. As an avid Miami Dolphins fan, Kirstein loves Sunday afternoons from September through February. (Hope springs eternal!) He also enjoys playing basketball, football, piano, violin, and guitar—but playing with his kids is the best of all!

(Below) Students from La Sierra Academy rebuild horse pasture fences for La Vida Mission School in northern New Mexico. The students spent a week working at the school in November.



(Above) The mission team from La Sierra Academy poses for a photo. Over 40 students endured the cold of northern New Mexico to help a sister school, La Vida Mission School.

A Mission Trip Creates a Partnership *Between Two Schools*

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

No phone services. Freezing temperatures. Minimal internet. Such is the experience more than 40 La Sierra Academy (LSA) students chose to endure in November at La Vida Mission School (LVMS) in northern New Mexico. "This was far from what they're used to. It was a different world," said Walt Lancaster, La Sierra Academy principal and trip participant. "The kids very quickly learned that not everyone lives like they do."

With a total enrollment of 21 students, the self-supporting LVMS serves the local Navajo population. During the week-long mission trip, LSA students, staff, and some parents assisted in the classroom, rebuilt the school's horse corral, and began tearing down and rebuilding horse pasture fences. "The corral was in such bad shape they couldn't insure their equestrian program," explained Steve McClain, mission trip coordinator and

LSA science teacher. "They are now insured and can restart the program."

Interactions between the two schools' students were so positive, LVMS seniors plan to visit LSA on their senior trip.

McClain has coordinated mission trips for LSA since 2005 and has taken groups to various domestic and international locations. "Projects like this are immeasurably important," he said. "It gives us an opportunity to see needs inside and outside the U.S. and allows us to give not just money, but ourselves to serve others."

By the time they graduate, some LSA students have participated in three or four mission trips. "We could pay locals to do the work," McClain said. "But it's important to me what the work does for the students' mindset. If you don't give them these experiences when they're young, then when they're my age, they'll think the needs of the world are someone else's problems."

McClain paraphrased Matthew 24-25, where Jesus tells His disciples to take care of their fellow humans while they wait for His return. "These projects solidify for our students the service mindset Adventist education develops throughout their school years," he said. "And, as the Bible says, when they are old, they will not depart from it."

This summer, Lancaster and his wife will be taking donated solar panels to LVMS to help them begin their own solar farm, and LSA has begun preliminary plans for a future trip to build a barn.

"We've built a powerful and meaningful community interested in and supportive of mission service," McClain said. "It makes a huge difference to us and to the people we serve."

For information on how you can support missions at La Vida Mission School, e-mail smcclain@lsak12.com.

School Health Fairs

Serve Their Communities

BY CYNTHIA MENDOZA

In the fall of 2018, two schools hosted health fairs as a way of serving their respective communities and fostering in students a spirit of service and giving. While health fairs have traditionally been held at churches, Orangewood Academy (OA) and Calexico Mission School (CMS) opened their doors to host fairs that included free health screenings, basic medical and dental services, and other resources.

Orangewood Academy held its health fair on Sunday, Oct. 28, in partnership with Alas de Esperanza (Wings of Hope), a non-profit group from the Santa Ana Broadway Bilingual church's health ministry.

The fair served more than 200 people. Some of the services included dental and medical screenings, physical therapy, lab work, haircuts, legal consultations, family counseling,



Students from Orangewood Academy prepare and serve lunch at the health fair hosted by their school. Over 200 people from the community came to receive free medical and dental services and other resources.

and a prayer tent for spiritual care.

OA students were actively involved in the outreach. They promoted the event by passing out flyers in the community, and they prepared and served lunch at the fair.

"The students were able to see how their work brought many people from different backgrounds to this event," said Zaidy Olivarria, OA marketing director. "Events like this not only share the name of the church and school in the community, but we are also able to proclaim the gospel of Jesus in practical ways by attending to the physical and mental needs of people first, just as Jesus did."

Calexico Mission School hosted its community health fair in partnership with Loma Linda University (LLU) on Sunday, Nov. 11. The school has usually done its mission work in Mexicali, just across the border from Calexico, so hosting it on the campus was new.

The event included free health screenings such as blood pressure; preventive care including lifestyle, diet, and nutrition education; medical and dental services; pharmacy; flu shots; and medical consultations with volunteer professionals from LLU.

One of those professionals was Daniel Samano, a CMS alumnus.



Health professionals from Loma Linda University talk with a patient, while a student from Calexico Mission Schools helps with translation.

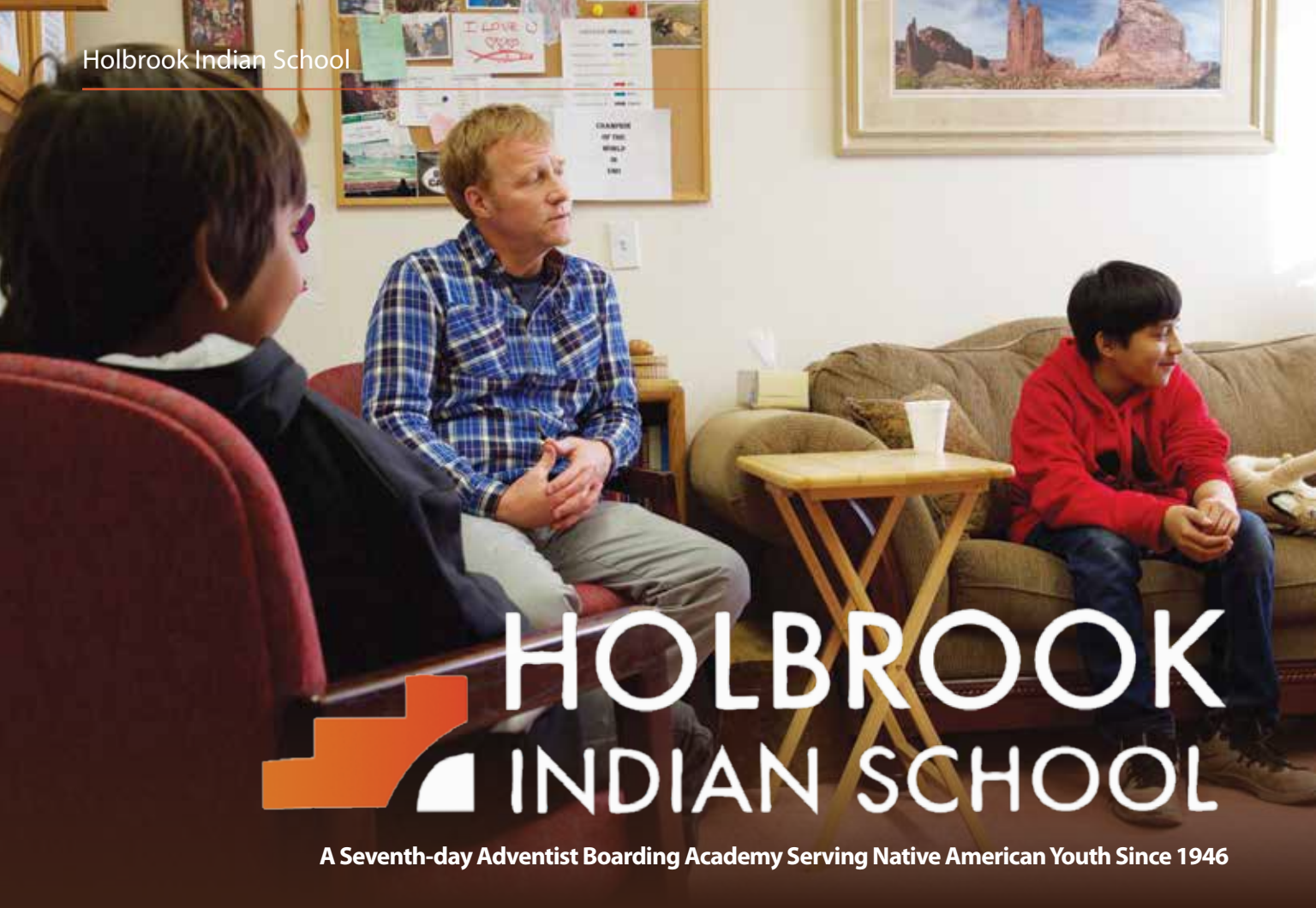
"A part of me has never fully left CMS. To come back as a health care professional is an honor," said Samano, who graduated from the school in 2008. "I know that I provided a bridge between my community and medical care, which is lacking here given the socioeconomic status of the community."

The event also provided attendees with free material resources such as diapers, non-perishable food items, and clothing.

Even though the school exists as a mission, its students provided services to others by helping to promote the health fair in the community and serving as interpreters during the event.

"Parents see us as an English school, but once they see our philosophy, they want their children to stay," said Oscar Olivarria, CMS principal. "These kinds of events help students apply and put into practice the things they learn in the classroom."

PHOTO BY KARLA SANCHEZ



HOLBROOK INDIAN SCHOOL

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

Mentoring Makes a Difference *at Holbrook Indian School*

BY GISELLE ORTIZ AND LOREN FISH

This school year God has been blessing the Holbrook Indian School (HIS) counseling department with many miracles of healing!

The HIS counseling program has grown exponentially throughout the past four years. The department has direct interaction with 63 of the 69 students on the HIS campus and at Chinle Adventist Elementary School (a day school campus of HIS). This year, 41 students are involved in individual counseling, 56 students are participating in group counseling, and 22 students

are involved in a one-on-one mentorship program.

Most HIS students do not have healthy, positive role models to lean on for guidance. In many cases, the students express bewilderment or confusion when asked to live according to a certain standard. Because HIS emphasizes holistic healing and success for its students, the counseling department teamed with the dean of

students and created a mentorship program. The counseling department or administrative committee recommends mentorship based on student behavior and needs. Students can also request a mentor for their own edification.

The goal for mentorship is to provide individual students with an intentional parental figure. Mentors meet consistently with the students

and help them accomplish personal goals. The school encourages mentors to hold weekly meetings with their mentees and to be intentional in each meeting by having a planned activity. The topics covered in mentorship include coping skills, social skills, creating effective goals, spiritual guidance, and any subject geared toward the mentee and his or her personal goals.

The counseling department and dean of students provide mentorship training to equip mentors with information and tools to ensure a successful partnership with their mentees. Mentors are taught to establish and maintain a healthy and safe relationship with the mentees.

The most beneficial type of mentorship is preventative—one that includes all students. The current faculty family program will be transforming into an intentional mentorship program. This spring HIS will initiate a mentoring

(Opposite page) Elementary boys' counseling is led by Loren Fish and (right) Giselle Ortiz works with the girls' leadership group.

program that will include every student, each at his or her level of need.

In addition to one-on-one mentoring, specific groups meet weekly. There are four groups for girls, including a girls' leadership group. Each group follows a curriculum created by HIS counselor Giselle Ortiz. The curriculum includes identity in Jesus, self-worth, fruits of the Spirit, conflict resolution, boundaries, and self-care. Each student in the girls' leadership group has chosen one or two girls in the other three groups to mentor and to meet with weekly.

HIS has four groups for young men, including two for elementary students, one for middle school students, and one for high school students. They are

labeled "young men's groups" with the intent that each participant will begin to see himself as growing toward manhood. The topics this year have focused on the fruits of the Spirit and how these are weapons given by God to combat the enemy's weapons. The young men are also studying the armor of God, described by Paul in Ephesians 6, and learning how God freely gives His children amazing advantages in the battle known as the Great Controversy.

The counselors see firsthand how much the students need support. HIS staff members believe that it is their role to do life together with their students. Please continue to pray for the students and the work at Holbrook Indian School.



Holbrook Indian School (HIS) is a first- through twelfth-grade boarding academy operated by the Pacific Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. HIS also manages a first- through eighth-grade day school on the Navajo reservation in Chinle, Arizona. 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.**



DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
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Holbrook, Arizona 86025-0910
(928) 524-6845 (Ext. 109)
Development@hissda.org
HolbrookIndianSchool.org



The NCC Organizes the Sacramento Tongan Church and the Sonoma Spanish Company

Sacramento Tongan Church

BY LINENI LATUHOI

On Aug. 18, 2018, the Sacramento Tongan church celebrated its official organization under the leadership of Pastor Sione Latuhoi. The congregation was the first Tongan church organized in the Northern California Conference and the second in the North American Division.

In 2000, Latuhoi and his wife, Lineni, started attending the Adventist WestPoint of Evangelism—an annual training event of the Pacific Union Conference—where the Holy Spirit later impressed upon their hearts to go into ministry. In 2005, together with their four children, they moved to the Sacramento area so that Latuhoi could attend the Amazing Facts College of Evangelism.

Oakland was always in Latuhoi's mind as a place to start the Tongan work in Northern California, since a large Tongan population lives there. But his focus was redirected to Sacramento when God spoke to him through a phone call from one of his colleagues.

In August 2006, the Latuhoi family and several other Tongan families—the Uikilifi, Finau, Likiliki, Lutu, and Peti families—began meeting together in homes for vespers. In September of that year, they started a Branch Sabbath

School at the Sacramento Southgate church, which became a group in 2008 under the leadership of Pastor Frank Hightower.

The group's first evangelistic meeting was held in the summer of 2007 by Pastor Sonatane Vunileva and Pastor Toa Fonua. The congregation has held an evangelistic meeting every year since then. "It's part of us. It's in our system to win souls to His kingdom," said Latuhoi.

On Sept. 12, 2012, the group became a company under the leadership of Pastor Willie Gemora at the All Nations church of Elk Grove, and six years later they became a church, praising God for how He has led.

Sonoma Spanish Company

BY JULIE LORENZ

On May 19, 2018, the Sonoma Spanish company was formally organized.

"The members had been waiting for a long time to be organized as a company, and they were very happy," said Ezequiel Osorio, pastor of the San Anselmo Spanish church/ Santa Rosa Spanish church/ Sonoma Spanish company district.

The Sonoma Spanish group began in 1996 as a daughter

group of the Sonoma church. For the past five years, the congregation of about 50 people has been meeting at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Sonoma.

Through the years, a number of pastors have led the congregation. "God has been good and has blessed us with each and every one of the leaders that He's sent to this group," said Belen Ruiz, church clerk. "We are very grateful to Him and everyone who made it possible for us to be able to continue to our next step of being a company!"

Last April, the group conducted an evangelistic program, and six young people were baptized. "We want to continue growing and be organized as a church soon," said Osorio.



Two NCC Churches *Celebrate Big Anniversaries*

Oakland Market Street Church



The Oakland Market Street church celebrated its 95th anniversary in mid-November with programs on Wednesday and Friday evenings and all day Sabbath. It was the first African-American Adventist church to be organized in California.

NCC President Marc Woodson spoke for the Sabbath morning

service. Pacific Union Conference representatives included Ricardo Graham, president, and Virgil Childs, director of African-American ministries. Willie Johnson, NCC African-American ministries coordinator, also attended the special event.

After church, members enjoyed a meal provided by the San Leandro

Spanish company and then participated in community service projects.

“The fundamental pillars of the Market Street church existence have been our unwavering faith in God, the love and fellowship we have for each other as a family, and embracing friends that come through our doors,” said Senior Pastor Edwin Brown.

El Sobrante Appian Way Church



Throughout November, the El Sobrante Appian Way church celebrated 110 years of ministry! The month-long celebration included sermons from Pacific Union Conference President Ricardo Graham, Northern California

Conference President Marc Woodson, and former NCC evangelist Jack Pefley. Other highlights included a concert presented by Christian Edition men's chorus and “A Taste of Appian Way” international food festival.

“Across the globe 7,000 churches

close their doors every year,” said Pastor Trevor Barnes Jr. “So we count it a blessing to have reached this amazing milestone. All glory goes to God and the dedicated people who have sacrificed to make Appian Way a vibrant community of faith.”

CALENDAR

Central California Conference

Couples Retreat (March 1-3) at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Fresno, Calif., featuring Pierre Steenberg and others. Info: Leticia at 559-347-3144. Registration required: <https://www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com/couplesretreat>.

Modesto Area Convocation (March 8-9) at the Central Valley Christian Academy in Ceres, Calif., featuring keynote speaker Pastor Debleaire Snell. E-mail: pastorb@modestosda.org with questions. Registration is not required.

With Great Power: Prayer Conference (March 15-16) at the Mountain View Central Church in Mountain View, Calif., featuring keynote speaker Pavel Goia. Registration required: <https://www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com/prayerretreat>.

La Sierra University Brandstater Gallery will host an exhibit of drawings by two female artists titled "Drawings from Coast to Coast: Ivana Quezada and Madeline Garner" (Jan. 13-Feb. 7). Free admission. Info: 951-785-2170 or visit <https://lasierra.edu/brandstater/>.

Northern California Conference

Vacation Bible School Training (Feb. 2) 3 p.m. Tracy church, 2025 Holly Drive, Tracy. "Jamaii Kingdom" Learn how to teach the new 2019 VBS program, how to get your whole church involved, how to use VBS for evangelism. Door prizes! Info: nccsda.com/childrens-ministries, alice.merrill@nccsda.com.

Turning Points Conference (Feb. 8-9) Friday, 5-9 p.m. Sabbath, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Lodi Academy, 1230 South Central

Avenue, Lodi. "A Ministry for Every Woman: Our Daily Walk." Speaker: Jennifer Woody, associate pastor, Auburn Adventist Academy church (Washington). Special youth track for young women. Info: www.nccsda.com/turningpoints.

NCC Retiro de Matrimonio (Feb. 8-10) Leoni Meadows. Hispanic Marriage Retreat. "Amor Perfecto en Relaciones Imperfectas." Speakers: Pastor Alfredo and Juanita Ruiz. Info: www.nccsda.com/RetirodeMatrimonio, roman.leal@nccsda.com.

Instituto Laico Adventista de California (Feb. 17) 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Pacific Union College. Training for Spanish-speaking laypeople. Speaker: Professor Pedro Morales, "El Arte de Hablar en Público." Info: www.nccsda.com/ilac.

NCC Junior High Band Festival (March 1) Antioch church, 2200 Country Hills Drive, Antioch. Clinician: Dr. Elsy Gallardo-Diaz. Festival coordinator: Ruth Wright. Info: rwright@hilltopcs.org.

Vacation Bible School Training (March 2) 3 p.m. Ukiah church, 1390 Laurel Avenue, Ukiah. "Jamaii Kingdom." Learn how to teach the new 2019 VBS program, how to get your whole church involved, how to use VBS for evangelism. Door prizes! Info: nccsda.com/childrens-ministries, alice.merrill@nccsda.com.

NCC Prayer Retreat (March 8-10) Leoni Meadows. Speakers: Ohio Conference President Ron Halvorsen Jr. and Buffy Halvorsen. Musician Ken Blundell. Info: nccsda.com/prayerretreat, naomi.parson@nccsda.com, 916-955-4583.

Vacation Bible School Training (March 16) 3 p.m. Vallejo Central church, 1111

Colusa Street, Vallejo. "Jamaii Kingdom." Learn how to teach the new 2019 VBS program, how to get your whole church involved, how to use VBS for evangelism. Door prizes! Info: nccsda.com/childrens-ministries, alice.merrill@nccsda.com.

Instituto Laico Adventista de California (March 17) 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Pacific Union College. Training for Spanish-speaking laypeople. Speaker: Pastor Roger Hernández, "Predicación Encarnacional/Como predicar a los jóvenes." Info: www.nccsda.com/ilac.

NCC Retiro de Damas (March 22-24) Leoni Meadows. Hispanic Women's Retreat. "¡Nada que Temer!" Speakers: Leticia De los Santos, Maria Belén Lohr. Speaker for ages 12-18: Marlene Rodriguez. Info: nccsda.com/ministerio-de-la-mujer, terinateresa@gmail.com, (916) 761-2802.

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Colloquy Speaker Series:

Senior Recognition (Feb. 7) 10 a.m. PUC Church. PUC honors the Class of 2019 in this very special annual celebration. Info: colloquy@puc.edu.

Mid-Quarter Break (Feb. 8). Classes will not be in session; however, service offices will be open for regular Friday business hours.

College Days (Feb. 10-12). Prospective students are invited to experience life at PUC. Includes meeting professors, sitting in on classes, and touring the campus. High school juniors encouraged to attend.

Registration required. Info: 707-965-6336.

PUC Visual Arts Faculty Show (Feb. 16) Opening Reception 7 p.m., Rasmussen Art Gallery. Runs through March 17. Info: 707-965-7362.

Colloquy Speaker Series:

Dr. Scott C. Nelson (Feb. 21) 10 a.m. PUC alum and '14 American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Humanitarian Award Winner, Dr. Nelson will inspire students on living a life of service. Info: colloquy@puc.edu.

Math/Science Workshop (Feb. 24) Annual college math and science experience for academy students. Registration required. For information, e-mail biology@puc.edu.

Heubach Lectureship Series (Feb. 28) 7 p.m., Pacific Union College. Dr. Jon Paulien, dean of the School of Religion at Loma Linda University, will be the featured speaker. Admission is free. Info: pr@puc.edu.

2019 Lecture of the Percy & John Christian Civil Rights Conference Center (March 7) 4 p.m., Paulin Hall, Pacific Union College. Historian Dr. Ronald D. Graybill presents the annual lecture. Info: 707-965-7500 or alumni@puc.edu.

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Southern California Conference

WellChurches Health & Spirituality Info & Training Session (Feb. 2) 3 p.m. Health ministry directors, teams, and pastors who plan to participate in the 2019-2020 WellChurches initiative should attend this kickoff training event. Olympic Korean Adventist church, 3300

W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 90018. RSVP by Jan. 28 to healthmin@scsda.org.

Second Saturday Series

Concert (Feb. 9) 5 p.m. Warren Hagerty, cello; Rosa Li, piano; and Micah Wright, clarinet. The concert will include works by Haydn, Debussy, and Franck. Admission is by free-will offering. Reception to follow. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave., Glendale 91206. Info: 818-244-7241.

WHOLE Conference (Feb. 17)

sponsored by Camarillo church. Learn about the power of a plant-based lifestyle from some of the nation's leading experts. Take charge of your life and take control of your health. Price: \$139/person. Rancho Campana High School, 4235 Mar Vista Dr., Camarillo 93010. Register/info: WholeConference.org, 805-377-2726.

Pastor & Educator Summit

(Feb. 19). Education summit for all SCC pastors and teachers. Glendale Adventist Academy Auditorium, 700 Kimlin Dr., Glendale 91206. Lunch is provided. Info: 818-546-8451.

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retirement facility for self-sufficient SDA senior citizens 60 and older, located on the property of English Oaks church

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Employment

AdventHealth University's Denver site seeks a Nursing faculty member to teach full time. Qualified person should have an MSN, DNP/PhD in Nursing preferred. Simulation experience and Med/Surg practice background

preferred. To apply, visit www.adventhealthcareers greaterorlando.com and search for job #274310. This position is located in Denver, CO, adjacent to Porter Adventist Hospital.

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The General Conference (GC) of SDA's Office of General Counsel

is seeking a law student for an 8- to 10-week paid summer clerkship. This position is not a full-time, hire-track position and is best suited for 1Ls. Duties include legal research and other projects; emphasis is on religious liberty and First Amendment work.

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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.

Payment in advance must accompany all classified advertisements or they will not be published. Display ads for known advertisers will be billed. To pay by credit card, please call 805-413-7280.

How to Submit Advertising

Classified ads must be sent with payment to the Recorder office (Sali.butler@adventistfaith.com). Display ads should be arranged with the editor (info@adventistfaith.com).

Classified Rates

\$70 for 50 words;
75 cents each additional word.

Display Rates (Full Color Only)

Back cover, \$4,200; full page, \$3,800; 1/2-pg., \$2,200; 1/4-pg., \$1,200; 1/8-pg., \$700; \$160 per column inch.

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, e-mail info@adventistfaith.com or call 805-413-7280.

2019 Deadlines

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

April: February 28

May: March 28

Contributions

The Recorder pages are assigned to the local conferences, colleges, and health care institutions, and all content comes through the communication departments in those organizations. If you have a news story/idea, calendar announcement, etc., please contact your local communication department.

See the masthead for contact information. Want tips for writing for us? See www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news.

Must be SDA church member. Interview and/or relocation expenses will be applicant's responsibility. Send resume, writing sample, and transcript to karnikd@gc.adventist.org.

Union College seeks Seventh-day Adventist, full-time nursing faculty member. Teaching and/or clinical experience in medical-surgical nursing and pathophysiology preferred. Additional information can be found at www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings. Send CV and references to Dr. Nicole Orian, nicole.orian@ucollege.edu.

Union College, Lincoln, NE, seeks applicants for Director of Records/Registrar. The Director will ensure the integrity, accuracy, and security of academic and educational records of students and ensure compliance with regulatory agencies. Contact Dr. Frankie

Rose at frankie.rose@ucollege.edu or call 402-486-2501 for more information.

Union College seeks applicants for the position of Swimming Pool, Custodial, and Facility Maintenance Manager. This is a full-time, exempt position. This individual is responsible for all the functions of the pool during business and closed hours each day of the week. Please see the full job description at <https://www.ucollege.edu/staff-openings> and submit requested materials to Ric Spaulding at ric.spaulding@ucollege.edu.

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Reunions

Fresno Academy

Homecoming (April 27-28).

Friday, golf tournament. Sabbath, registration 9:30 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m., Ricchiuti Auditorium. Honor classes: '58, '68, '78, '88, '93, '98 & '08. Speaker, Phil Vecchiarelli, class of '98. Potluck following; bring your favorite dish. Saturday, 8:30 p.m., Alumni basketball game. More info: www.faa.org; 559-251-5548.



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Homecoming Alumni Weekend (April 12-13.) Honor classes ending in '04 and '09. Friday dinner 5 p.m.; vespers 7 p.m.; registration, Sat., 10 a.m.; roll call, 11 a.m. Worship guest speaker, Rob Colon, senior pastor, Sunnyvale SDA Church.

Vacation Opportunities

Egypt Bible Tour (Dec. 12-22, 2019) with Dr. Carl Cosaert of Walla Walla University. Discover the land of the pyramids, the Pharaohs, Moses, the Exodus, including a Nile cruise and more. Wonderful weather, meals, and accommodations for only \$2,425 plus airfare. For more information, Contact Sharon Seanson at Sharons@uccsda.org.

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

AT REST

Andersen, Anton F. – b. Oct. 13, 1945, San Diego, Calif.; d. Dec. 25, 2018, San Diego, Calif. Survivors: sisters, Alicia Andersen-Cooley, Julia Marine; seven nieces and nephews.

Baerg, Lydia M. – b. July 30, 1912, Dinuba, Calif.; d. Oct. 2, 2018, Dinuba, Calif. Survivors: nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Basaraba, Dave – b. Oct. 7, 1933, Vernon, British Columbia, Canada; d. Dec. 5, 2018, Roseburg, Ore. Survivors: wife, B. Lyn Behrens-Basaraba; son, Mark; daughters, Shelly Perry, Sherie Diaz, Julie Matthews; 11 grandchildren; two sisters.

Chinn, Sharon R. – b. July 28, 1948, San Francisco, Calif.; d. July 17, 2018, Fairfield, Calif.

Coggin, Joan C. – b. Aug. 6, 1928, Washington D.C.; d. Nov. 29, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: cousins, David, Patrick Lawrence.

Elssmann, Mary F.E. – b. June 20, 1930, Morristown, N.J.; d. Dec. 9, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: sons, Kent, Steve, Glenn, Larry; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Served at the LLU School of Nursing and involved with LLUC's quilting and EXCEL ministries.

Fisher, Donald Emery – b. April 4, 1932, Chandler, Okla.; d. Oct. 20, 2018, Visalia, Calif. Survivors: wife, Nadine; daughters, Diane Halverson, Lori Galaviz; three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren.

Goodwin, Virginia Lee – b. Nov. 7, 1927, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; d. Oct. 28, 2018, Sonora, Calif. Survivors: husband, Leslie; son, Paul; daughter, Pamela Palmer; five grandchildren. Served as a teacher at Armona Union and Monterey Bay academies and Pacific Union College.

Grajales, Adolfo – b. May 24, 1940, Mexico City, Mexico; d. Oct. 24, 2018, Pico Rivera, Calif. Survivors: children, Ulises, Sergio Aristides, Christian.

Gray, Peggy R. (Stevenson)

– b. March 14, 1928, Ft. Worth, Texas; d. Oct. 24, 2018, Stockton, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Debra Wilmot; two grandsons, three great-granddaughters.

Hiday, Ida Darlene – b. April 17, 1936, Miss.; d. Dec. 2, 2018, Colton, Calif. Survivors: sons, Larry, Duane; daughters, Linda Deckard, Luncinda Lewis; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; brother, Gordon Wright; sister, Doris Jorgenson. Served as an elementary teacher in Adventist schools.

Lutz, Dale – b. May 17, 1931, Selma, Calif.; d. July 27, 2017, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: wife, Wanda; daughter, Diane Tremper; sons, Daniel, Michael; five grandchildren. Served the community as owner of Lutz Custom Upholstery.

Marnella, Donald James – b. Feb. 1928, National City, Calif.; d. Dec. 12, 2018, Escondido, Calif. Survivors: wife, Adele; sons, Michael, Ron, Steve; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

McGee, Judith "Judy" Annette (Lauterbach) – b. Dec. 22, 1944, Summer, Iowa; d. Dec. 9, 2018, Phoenix, Ariz. Survivors: husband, Dean; son, Bryan; daughter, Angie. Served as manager for ABC.

Miller, Penny Frances – b. April 7, 1940, Hinsdale, Ill.; d. Dec. 2, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Sherry Fay, Shelly Miller; four grandchildren. Served as a nursing professor at Loma Linda University and assisted SECC on the conference executive committee and with special initiatives.

Sunset Calendar February 2019

City	Feb. 1	Feb. 8	Feb. 15	Feb. 22
Alturas	5:19	5:28	5:36	5:45
Angwin	5:31	5:39	5:47	5:55
Bakersfield	5:24	5:31	5:38	5:44
Calexico	5:14	5:21	5:27	5:33
Chico	5:26	5:35	5:43	5:51
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	5:13	5:21	5:28	5:35
Eureka	5:34	5:42	5:51	5:59
Four Corners [E]	5:41	5:8	5:56	6:03
Fresno	5:24	5:32	5:39	5:46
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	6:01	6:09	6:16	6:23
Half Dome	5:21	5:29	5:37	5:44
Hilo	6:12	6:16	6:19	6:22
Holbrook	5:55	6:01	6:08	6:15
Honolulu	6:21	6:25	6:29	6:32
Joshua Tree	5:14	5:21	5:27	5:33
Lake Tahoe	5:20	5:28	5:36	5:44
Las Vegas	5:07	5:14	5:21	5:28
Lodi-Stockton	5:21	5:28	5:34	5:41
Loma Linda	5:19	5:26	5:32	5:39
Los Angeles	5:23	5:30	5:36	5:43
McDermitt [N]	5:05	5:14	5:23	5:32
Moab	5:40	5:48	5:56	6:03
Monterey Bay	5:32	5:40	5:47	5:54
Mt. Whitney	5:19	5:26	5:34	5:41
Nogales [S]	6:00	6:06	6:12	6:18
Oakland	5:32	5:40	5:48	5:55
Paradise, CA	5:26	5:34	5:42	5:50
Phoenix	5:59	6:06	6:12	6:19
Provo	5:45	5:54	6:02	6:10
Puuwai, Ni'ihau [W]	6:27	6:31	6:35	6:38
Reno	5:19	5:27	5:35	5:43
Riverside	5:20	5:26	5:33	5:39
Sacramento	5:27	5:35	5:43	5:51
Salt Lake City	5:44	5:53	6:02	6:10
San Diego	5:21	5:27	5:34	5:40
San Francisco	5:33	5:41	5:48	5:56
San Jose	5:31	5:39	5:47	5:54
Santa Rosa	5:33	5:41	5:48	5:56
Sunset Beach	5:32	5:40	5:47	5:54
Thousand Oaks	5:25	5:32	5:39	5:45
Tucson	5:57	6:03	6:09	6:15

[N]=Northernmost [S]=Southernmost [E]=Easternmost [W]=Westernmost point in the Pacific Union

"So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God." Hebrews 4:9

Mitchell, Norman – b. Nov. 21, 1928, Comfort Castle, Jamaica; d. Dec. 1, 2018, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: wife, Mavernie; son, Patrick; daughter, Lisa Walcker; six grandchildren. Served as a professor of biology and botany at La Sierra University.

Parisi, Judy (Crouch) – b. April 16, 1948, Fresno, Calif.; d. Oct. 2, 2018, Lehi, Utah. Survivors: daughters, Brenda Watson, Lynnette Stansfield, Mary Parisi; four grandchildren; sisters, Valorie Lambert, Tina Jones; mother, Mabel Crouch.

Purdy, C. Duane – b. Feb. 17, 1926, Auburn, Wash.; d. Oct. 13, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: sons Donald, Vernon; daughter Louise Holder; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; sister, Phyllis Nielsen. Served as business manager and teacher at Lodi Academy and as auditor for small churches and schools for Northern California Conference.

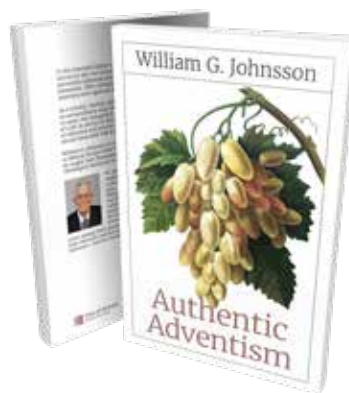
Talamantes, Joe G. - b. Oct. 18, 1922, El Paso, Texas. d. Nov. 13, 2018, Chico, Calif. Survivors, wife, Jean; son, Aaron; daughters, Edna Valdez, Valerie Lacey; 12 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren.

Todorovich, Norma-Jean (Lewis) – b. Oct., 1934, Weiser, Idaho; d. Dec. 17, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, John; daughters, Melodee Newbold, Debra-Jean Smith, Michelle Vanegas; stepchildren: Doraine Lehde, Randy; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Served as administrative secretary in the Treasury Department, Pacific Union Conference.

Walayat, Warris-Richard Sr. – b. Aug. 15, 1954, Sheikpura, Pakistan; d. Dec. 3, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Diana; son, Warris-Richard Jr.; daughter, DeeJay W. Dason.

Wareham, Ellsworth E. – b. Oct. 3, 1914, Avinger, Texas; d. Dec. 15, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Barbara; sons, Martin, Robert, John; daughter, Julie Wareham-Yegge; eight grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; sister, Goldie Thomas. Ellsworth cofounded LLU's overseas heart surgery team and became well known for practicing medicine well into his 70s and training medical students until his 90s.

Wesner, Ione Norma (Klinger) – b. July 9, 1930, Bowman, N.D.; d. Nov. 22, 2018, Durham, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Cora Lee Bue, Laray Goodwin; sister, Jeanine Cowper; two grandchildren. Served as assistant cook at Redwood and Pinecrest summer camps; elementary teacher for Vallejo and Napa schools.



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