

Recorder

Pathways of Purpose



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in Christ

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I HAVE COME THAT
THEY MAY HAVE

life

AND THAT THEY MAY
HAVE IT MORE

abundantly

JOHN 10:10



PACIFIC UNION
CONFERENCE

Love | Serve | Lead

Recorder

What's inside

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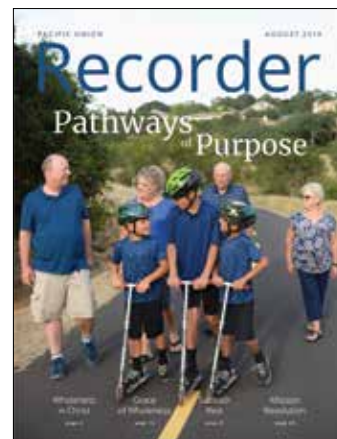
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The three generations of family on our cover this month have attended the Adventist church in Carmichael, Calif., for just over a year. The fellowship and encouragement the Fanselau and Cone families receive from their new church buoy them through challenges as they maneuver through the process of adopting their children. Faith community plays an integral role in their journey. This month's magazine explores the many facets of "wholeness" and how we contribute to each other's lives through the ministry of presence, wholistic healthcare, and helping each other experience God's transformative love.

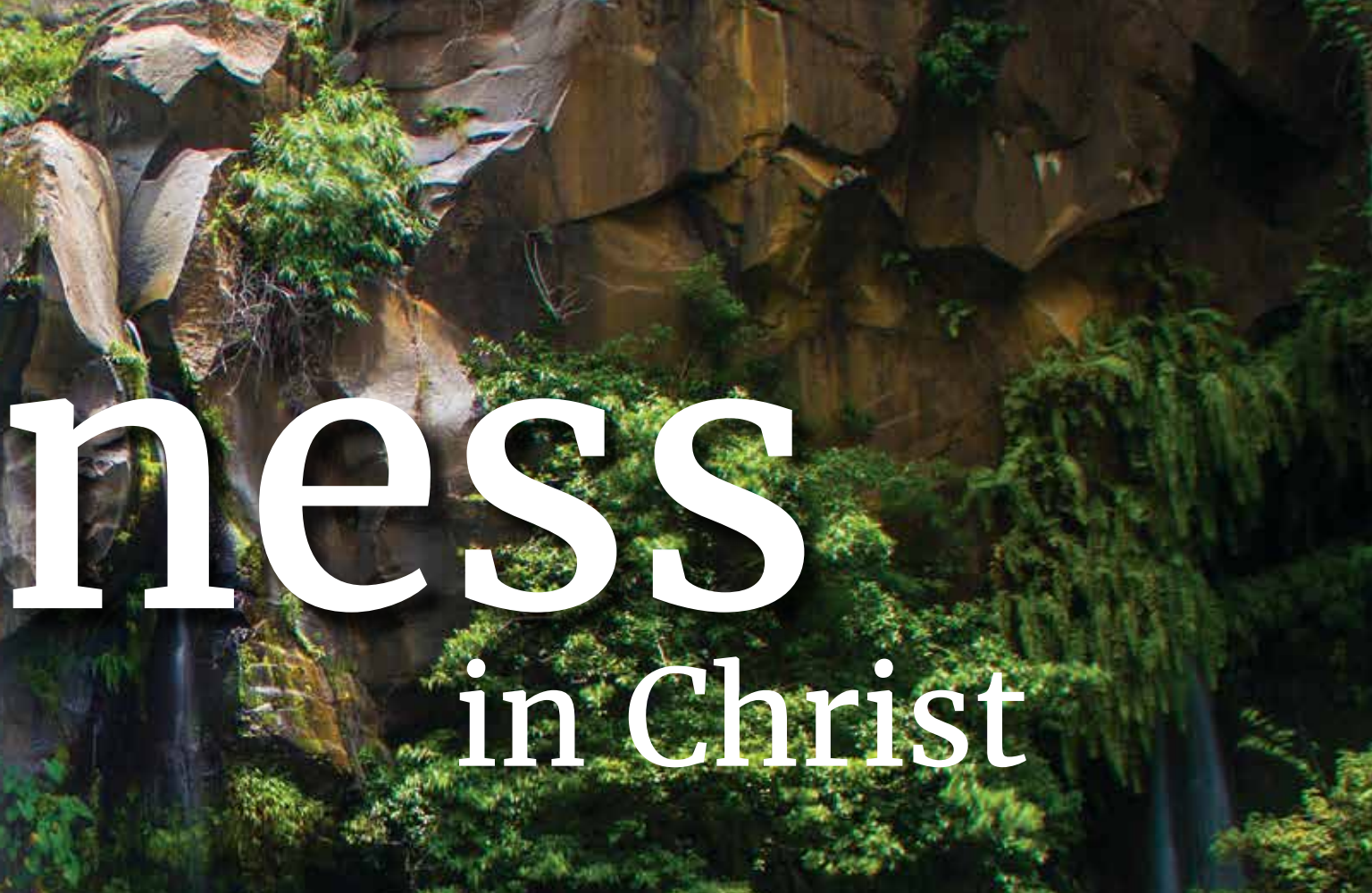




Our Whole

BY RICARDO GRAHAM

The book of Genesis presents God's creative work as one of completeness or wholeness. As the Bible presents it, God created the world and all of its contents and pronounced the resulted creation as good. That evaluation of the Creator of the Universe leads me to the belief that the world was perfect and whole at its creation. There was nothing lacking that the Creator had designed to be included; therefore, it was whole. The world was harmonious, with all systems working together in the synergistic manner the Creator had intended. The world was also whole in that it was undamaged and unbroken. It was undivided—in one piece.



ness in Christ

Needless to say, that is not the world we live in today. It hasn't been a whole and perfect world since Adam and Eve rejected God's commanded advice and yielded to Satan's temptation. Sin has disrupted the perfection of the world on all levels. The world that we occupy is imperfect and broken. It is sick with the diseases of sin, iniquity, and transgression. The world is no longer whole.

The prophet Isaiah's words are applicable to our spiritual situation: "The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints" (Isaiah 1:5, NKJV).

Isaiah also wrote, "For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee" (Isaiah 60:2, KJV). The prophet addressed the spiritual darkness that sinful brokenness brings, but he also spoke of the turning

point when the Lord's glory would rise. That glory came when Jesus arrived. He brought the Son-shine of God to humanity. He arose with "healing in his wings" (Malachi 4:2, KJV).

The life and teachings of Jesus the Messiah are all about the restoration of the wholeness that God designed humanity to enjoy. His message is one of "hope and wholeness,"¹ the principles of which form the body of truth that Adventists teach and practice.

Our belief in keeping Sabbath, blessed and sanctified at the end of the Creation week event and repeated in the Ten Commandments, is part of the restoration of wholeness. And so is the emphasis on a plant-based diet or a return to the original diet given in Genesis, and more. God wants us to be "whole" in our lifestyle, including worship.

But this wholeness is not our work. We cannot

Our only hope of wholeness is in Christ.

work ourselves into the glory of wholeness to which God calls us. As Paul states: "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27, NIV).

Our only hope of wholeness is in Christ. And what a hope it is!

Jesus came into a world broken by sin and gripped in hopelessness. The misrepresentation of the clerics of His day resulted in a continuum of brokenness, with spiritual chains binding the populace and the darkness that the enemy brings hovering over God's children.

When the time was right, when the world was ready, Jesus came. The Bible says, "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ" (Galatians 4:4-7, KJV).

Praise God for Jesus' rescue mission!

He came to bring wholeness. His miracles of healing, prophesied in the Old Testament and recorded in the Gospels of the New Testament, revealed the yearning, compassionate heart of God.

His miracles of restoration, bringing wholeness to broken bodies and those in the grip of mental illness and demonic possession, pointed to His mission of restoring the broken link to a whole relationship between God and humanity.

His interactions with Samaritans and other outsiders pointed to the goal of restoring social relationships between all people. He even taught that we should forgive our enemies! What an idea worthy of emulation today!

How do we get to the wholeness that God wants us to demonstrate? We must consciously and intentionally strive for the wholeness God has modeled in the life of Jesus. We don't achieve this by ourselves, of course, but by "looking unto Jesus" (Hebrews 12:2). We copy His lifestyle, incorporate His values, and move with all deliberate haste to follow in His footsteps.

Focused on Christ, the Great Center of our spiritual journey, we can approach the wholeness that God longs to replicate within us. I fully realize that the wholeness we long for, the completion of who we are in Christ, will only become a total reality in the day that Jesus Christ Himself returns and replaces our fallenness with His uprightness (1 Corinthians 15:50-57).

Broken people cannot produce unbrokenness. Fallen people cannot, in and of themselves, produce wholeness. But Jesus can! Our fallen state can only be changed by the interaction of God the Holy Spirit, for holiness and wholeness are synonymous.

"True holiness is wholeness in the service of God. This is the condition of true Christian living. Christ asks for an unreserved consecration, for undivided service. He demands the heart, the mind, the soul, the strength. Self is not to be cherished. He who lives to himself is not a Christian" (Ellen G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 48).

Could it be that the fractured relationships we

have in our church, families, and communities are a demonstration of the incompleteness that is among us? The brokenness? The “un-wholeness”?

The hub of a bicycle wheel draws the individual spokes to itself, and that is where they connect. The closer the spokes get to the center, the closer they are to each other. They even overlap and touch each other.

Jesus Christ is the Great Center who draws all to Himself. He states simply, “And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself” (John 12:32, NIV). As He draws us to Himself, if we do not resist, we also come closer to each other. The drawing together is part of the work of God to make humanity whole.

And when we lift up Christ, we are lifted up from the brokenness and reunited in Him. In the process of lifting up Jesus, we are lifted up towards the goal of spiritual wholeness, which precedes perfect physical wholeness. Both are gifts of God.

Christ alone can restore our wholeness. As we seek Him in prayer and soul surrender, focusing on His principles and practices, we actively submit to His directives, His commands. We are renewed and restored in the semblance of the wholeness that God alone can give.

The Bible starts and ends with wholeness. When Jesus comes and our long night of brokenness is ended, He will completely restore our wholeness. Until then, we choose to follow Jesus, our Savior and Example of wholeness, and in His Spirit, He will change us day by day. ■

¹“The North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s mission is: To REACH North America with the distinctive, Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness.” <https://www.nadadventist.org/hope-and-wholeness>

Ricardo Graham is the president of the Pacific Union Conference.



Portrait of Wholeness

The Veg Hub is a unique ministry operated by the Northern California Conference in Oakland. Even before The Veg Hub got started in late 2016, Sarah Bellot was on board to help. Sarah first heard about The Veg Hub—a vegan bistro in downtown Oakland that is committed to social good—from Chef GW Chew. She now helps teach after-school cooking classes for Oakland youth as a way of ministering to the community. Everyone who walks through The Veg Hub doors can expect to hear her happy greeting, “Hi family, where’re you from?” Sarah is passionate about living God’s love through her work at The Veg Hub. Follow Sarah’s posts on Instagram @thevegub.



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The Rest of the Sabbath:

T H E R E ' S A W H O L E L O T M O R E

BY JESSE SEIBEL

When we experience something great, we want more and we want to tell others about it. It brings joy that is easily shared. Psalm 34:8 urges us, "O taste and see that the Lord is good" (KJV). *Good.* Not merely ordinary.

Many of us have been served some ordinary spiritual dishes in the past. Maybe they were bland, lacking in substance. Maybe they were pungent, without regard for balance or quality. Maybe they left a bad taste in our mouths concerning the gospel, the Bible, the church, God's law, or the Sabbath. Some of us have served the same boring, bitter, not good dishes to others. Some of us have refused to ever taste and see again.

When we get only the words right, things can go horribly wrong.

When I was a student missionary on the Micronesian island of Kosrae, I saw an example of this. Two small children were playing on a swing when one of them began to push the other off. I could see the conflict escalate, and soon both of these 3-year-olds began swinging their arms wildly, with fists and eyes closed.

Jesus encountered people who misunderstood Sabbath. They had some of it right, but their understanding was incomplete.

Before I could break them up, I heard one of them scream, “Sabbath! Sabbath! Sabbath!” A chorus of laughter erupted from all those around, including his lightweight nemesis.

I was stunned. To this small child, *Sabbath* meant, “Stop! Don’t do that. This is not allowed.”

How could this have happened? Perhaps it was those times he wanted to have fun, but a parent told him, “Sabbath.” Perhaps it was those times he wanted to run and play, but a watchful elder warned him, “Sabbath.”

Sabbath has been misunderstood for a long time.

Jesus encountered people who misunderstood Sabbath. They had some of it right, but their understanding was incomplete. They knew what day it was. They knew it had been given by God. They knew it was a commandment. They grasped part of the Sabbath. They knew that it was good, but they didn’t know what it was good for.

Matthew 12 records two stories of Jesus on the Sabbath. These stories are often told separately; however, served together they complement each other.

From Burden to Rest

These stories are preceded by a Sabbath message from Jesus: “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. For my

yoke is easy and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30, NIV).

Jesus gives an invitation to come.

It is inclusive: *all*.

It is exclusive: *the weary and burdened*.

It is for a specific purpose: *to give rest*.

It is prescriptive: *take my yoke*.

It is descriptive: *easy and light*.

In Jesus’ day, everyone knew what a yoke was. It was what animals wore in obedience to their masters. It was the way to be in service, to be equipped, and to be in unity with those beside you.

Jesus’ listeners would have also had a symbolic understanding of a yoke. Every rabbi had a yoke that he gave to his disciples: his teachings and interpretations of God’s covenant—his understanding of truth.

Jesus taught that all who followed Him would have rest. Those who were listening to this teaching would be inclined to follow, to see how this Rabbi carried this yoke in the world.

From Talk to Walk

Jesus had given them a Sabbath message, so now He took them on a Sabbath journey.

“At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, ‘Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath.’”

He answered, 'Haven't you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God, and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread—which was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests. Or haven't you read in the Law that the priests on Sabbath duty in the temple desecrate the Sabbath and yet are innocent? I tell you that something greater than the temple is here. If you had known what these words mean, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice," you would not have condemned the innocent. For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath'" (Matthew 12:1-8, NIV).

Jesus was quoting Hosea 6:6 when He said, "I desire mercy not sacrifice." Those who were accusing the Maker of the Sabbath of breaking it didn't understand what God desired.

The book of Hosea is a record of people who have broken their covenant relationship with God. They want to return to Him, but the only way they know is by a system of sacrifices. There are at least two problems with this: First, a ritual performed without a relationship renewed is fraud. They are just going through the motions. Second, pagan religions around them taught that their gods demanded sacrifice to be appeased. The God of Israel is not like this. He is not hungry for the blood of goats. The God of Israel wants His repentant people to be merciful to others. "I desire mercy, not sacrifice."

From Field to Church

The Sabbath journey continued.

"Going on from that place, he went into their synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand

was there. Looking for a reason to bring charges against Jesus, they asked him, 'Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?' He said to them, 'If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a person than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.' Then he said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand.' So he stretched it out and it was completely restored, just as sound as the other" (Matthew 12:9-13, NIV).

It is lawful to heal on the Sabbath? A devout Sabbatarian would carefully reply, "That depends." The Lord of the Sabbath doesn't hesitate: "It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." These are the words of the Rabbi. This teaching is a yoke that some may find uncomfortable to wear because they have become conditioned to believe that the Sabbath must be heavy, hard, and weary. They serve this idea to others, especially the people they claim to love, often by force. They mistakenly call it Sabbath, when really they are demanding sacrifice.

But the Sabbath Jesus offers is different, because this Rabbi is different. He understands what mercy is and who needs it most. He tells the man, "Stretch out your hand." On the Sabbath. In the synagogue. In front of those who are seeking to accuse and kill him. The hand was completely restored, just as sound as the other.

Jesus is not just restoring a shriveled hand; He is restoring a person. This Rabbi is making a man whole—now he can work again, hug his children, serve others.

Jesus is not just restoring a shriveled hand; He is restoring a person. This Rabbi is making a man whole—now he can work again, hug his children, serve others.

Jesus is not just restoring a shriveled hand. The Rabbi is restoring a broken people, their shriveled idea of Sabbath, and their tattered picture of His Father.

From Right to Sound

He stretched out his hand—“just as sound as the other.” While we often use the word sound to describe things we hear, we also use it to describe something that is whole, healthy, and well, as in: “They were found safe and sound.” The word *sound* shows up a few more times in the New Testament to describe doctrine. For instance, Titus 2:1 tells us: “But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine” (ESV).

While we are often intent on making sure our doctrine, or teaching, is true, often we settle for doctrine that is right. Our Rabbi demands more. Our doctrine must be sound, whole, good, and even merciful.

Our Rabbi is calling us to come to Him. He wants us to understand that Sabbath is not a burden. Sabbath doesn't mean, “That is not allowed.” If you are weary, He will give you rest. If you have shackled yourself with a yoke of burden, His yoke will seem easy. He desires mercy, not sacrifice.

Our Rabbi is calling us to stretch out our hand. He will teach us how to enter our communities and feed those who are hungry. Out in the field there is a harvest that is ready. He will teach us how to enter into our churches and bring healing. Within the church there is healing that is waiting. ■

Jesse Seibel is the Director of Mission and Spiritual Care for Adventist Health Castle.



Portrait of Wholeness

The Veg Hub is a unique ministry operated by the Northern California Conference in Oakland. Aryn Flaig, an entrepreneur-in-training, joined The Veg Hub team in May. Aryn works as an apprentice to The Veg Hub's general manager Chef Chew—experience that helps her meet requirements for her culinary arts and business degree from Southern Adventist University. “My goal is to someday start my own vegan restaurant and use it as a ministry,” Aryn says. Not only is Aryn excited about the skills she is learning, she also enjoys the character of the restaurant. “I see Jesus in the atmosphere of this place,” she says. “The way we treat each other and the people who come in affects the customers. They relax when they come in and talk to us and their neighbors.” Follow The Veg Hub on Twitter @veghub.



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A row of bright stadium lights at the top of the page, creating a starburst effect against a dark background.

Health and Happiness in the 9th Inning

BY DAVID B. SMITH

Adventists love to discuss wholeness and the heavenly ideal. In our church boards we brainstorm ways to offer our communities healthy bodies, families, and souls bound for eternity. In other words, a well-rounded perfection.

Last night I was invited to a baseball game. So now let me address said perfection . . .


The Dodgers won.

Against the San Francisco Giants. (This fact alone makes it sweeter than most other kinds of victory.)

Our side scored nine runs, with several homers whistling over the outfield fence, near where we were sitting.

The Dodgers survived a chilling ninth-inning scare where the enemy team roared back with four runs—with the tying run on second, with nobody out.





The weather was perfect.
The seats were amazing.
Best of all, the tickets were my favorite kind: FREE!
So that's perfection.

Somebody once joked that the Bible references baseball right off the bat in Genesis 1: "In the big inning..." Many sportswriters describe a ballpark as a kind of cathedral, and I admit I've done my share of praying there. (Fans quickly learn that God often says no to such entreaties.)

So what does a night at a baseball game have to do with this Adventist ideal of wholeness? My brother Don is pastor of a nearby SDA church, and he and his wife asked me to share this magical evening with them. For three hours we watched the action together. Baseball is a nicely paced game where two brothers can simply converse about our kids and grandkids.

So consider this conversational turn with me. Don's two sons face their life challenges; my daughters have gone through trials too. And we dads occasionally put our graying heads together and talk about how we can help and what our shared prayer concerns are. Between us, there are five grandkids, so our hearts yearn for them to grow into vibrant adults who are whole and spiritually balanced. A baseball park is a sibling haven where you affirm loyalty, where I assure Don I will pray for his kids just as I know he prays for and supports my two girls. Whatever our hurdles, we are all part of the Smith family and we stick together; we choose constructive optimism.

A baseball team is a cohesive, loyal unit built on the sturdy framework of "I've always got your back." Last

night's game came within a literal inch of blowing up against us. A rookie pitcher came in to mop up an easy ninth inning and got torched, giving up a walk, single, and double. Whose fault was that? His and his alone. Nobody tripped him; no outfielders dropped anything. He just made lousy pitches, and suddenly the Giants were back in business. So our, ahem, wonderful, reliable closer, Kenley Jansen, was brought in. As far as I know he wasn't being blackmailed; nobody drugged his iced tea. All on his own, he stumbled around and served up an agonizing single-walk-single. Six straight batters reached base, and the whole stadium was in collective shock. (I was nearly in tears.)

But when you watch postgame interviews from a successful squad, players never, never, *never* light into one another. First, a team simply can't survive if they don't pull together. Second, every ballplayer is acutely aware of this: "Tomorrow night it might be me who kicks a grounder." So ballplayers thrive in a testosterone-drenched but cohesive culture of relentless forgiveness and "tomorrow's another game."

This adage from Rick Warren squarely addresses wholeness on both the ball diamond and in our churches: "As believers we share one Lord,...one hope, one faith, one baptism, and one love. We share the same salvation, the same life, and the same future—factors far more important than any differences we could enumerate."¹

There's a third reality on a tight-knit team. Those 25 men plus manager and coaches live by this healthy work ethic: *each one of us is doing the very best he can.*



A pitcher may groove a fastball. The most renowned slugger strikes out 70% of the time. A first baseman may fail to scoop up a throw from a

fill-in shortstop who's not used to the position. The body may flub and the eye-hand coordination might lapse. But the attitude . . . ah, the attitude . . .

See, every player adheres to the rigors of spring training. Every player does the mandated pre-game exercises and pays attention to the team nutritionist's tip sheet. In terms of effort, athletes hustle down the line to first base even on a routine grounder. They attend batting practice and take assiduous notes as scouts describe the opposing team.

Political commentator George Will, in his baseball book *Men at Work*, studies how all successful players are committed to a code of excellence, of striving to the utmost with a sound body and alert mind. In his follow-up volume, *Bunts*, Will makes a thoughtful observation we could take right into our churches every Sabbath morning and our workout sessions the following morning: "Too many Americans are not asking enough of themselves, not holding themselves to the kind of exacting standards that baseball enforces on its participants."² And the reason a championship team experiences such unity is because each man is assured his teammates are contributing that maximum effort for all nine innings and for 162 games. As we're advised in Ecclesiastes 9:10: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might" (NIV).

But I find one more healing reality from our shared evening at the ballpark. Life and fellowship and sport and pregame wind sprints are fun! Baseball is a game! The umpire signals the start by bellowing: "Play ball." Win or lose, it ought to be an experience of unfiltered joy. And the same needs to be true within our family units and among the Body of Christ. Healthy Christians are exuberant disciples of joy; worship to them is a celebration, never an exercise in anxiety.

Last night, radio jocks on the Dodger postgame



Portraits of Wholeness

The Veg Hub is a unique ministry operated by the Northern California Conference in Oakland. After graduating from SOULS WEST and serving as a Bible worker for a church in Modesto, Joseph Talavera transitioned into a new form of ministry in June: working for The Veg Hub. For Joseph, ministry means more than just preaching sermons—it can also mean cooking a healthy meal for someone and building a friendship. "Jesus was all about mingling with the people to seek out their good," he says. "My prayer is that The Veg Hub continues to imitate that." Follow The Veg Hub on Facebook @thevegclub.



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While here among us, Jesus shared a parable about a team manager, so to speak, who made up a batting order.

show were dissecting a key ninth-inning play where, with those two Giants on base and no outs and Tyler Austin attempting a bunt, first baseman Cody Bellinger snatched up the ball and took the risky play of throwing to third to get the lead runner. Which he did by, I swear to you, maybe half an inch. This was the proverbial eyelash play!

The umpire made his best call. But the play was appealed to a New York-based panel of experts with access to every conceivable digital slo-mo perspective. The Dodgers waited; the Giants waited; 45,000 fans waited—until the East Coast geek squad sent back confirmation of the original out call. And when New York gave its indication, the four umps, two managers, and 18 players all gave professional nods and went back to the game.

Here's how I unpack that cliffhanger moment. You and I are collectively involved in a thrilling evangelistic endeavor. It's World Series time! The last days! Together we are committed to rescuing a lost planet. Sometimes we succeed; other times we may fail. But really, the outcome is in the capable, generous hands of that Higher Power: our Redeemer Jesus. We can do our very best and then exchange grins: "This is awesome fun!"

While here among us, Jesus shared a parable about a team manager, so to speak, who made up a batting order. Back in that Galilean culture, He couched the biblical lesson in terms of talents: one servant getting five, another two, and a third man only one. But the comforting reality was that He, the Master, was ultimately in charge of the estate. The men worked for Him. When they took prudent risks

backed up by investment research, He affirmed them. If there had been losses, the owner would have borne them without complaint. Because the estate and the campaign were really His. "He entrusted his property to them" is how Jesus puts it in Matthew 25:14.

Don and I once shared a mission trip to the smallish Asian city of Chiang Rai. Our task: to spend a week sharing with a gaggle of teen-aged girls at a halfway house protecting them from Thailand's notorious sex industry. It was sweet joy watching as the local volunteers offered them wholeness on a primitive but nutritious level: three squares a day, bunk beds with clean sheets, a Christian education, group prayers. Fifteen or so young ladies joined us each evening for our translated devotionals.

Now, in terms of pomp and grandeur, this was not the big league! Our work there was, I hope, a well-executed bunt rather than a grand slam. Which is okay. And when we finished, packed our bags, and rode a jitney to the local airport, I didn't know how to measure the lasting impact. But outcomes and championships are God's business. We did our best, knowing God would take command of seeing those sweet treasures into His heavenly Hall of Fame.

That's wholeness. And that's sweet victory. Guaranteed. ■

¹Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth am I Here For?* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013), p. 162.

²George F. Will, *Bunts* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1999), p. 146.

David B. Smith is a math professor and author of "Love in a Distant Land," a book based on his missionary life in Bangkok.



The
Grace

BY GERALD R. WINSLOW

Some time ago, a top administrator from Loma Linda University gave a plenary address at the annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges. The title he gave his speech was bold: “Role of the medical school in the development of character....” Bold, too, were his main points: Health care professionals are called *professional* because they work in a special calling. Significant in what they profess are the central values that reveal their characters. Professors of medicine in medical schools should care for more than the technical knowledge of their students.

of Wholeness

By respecting their students and their patients, such professors model for students the virtues of a true professional. Central to the best medical education is the development of compassionate character in the lives of the students who aspire to enter the profession.

Carefully, our Loma Linda representative made the case for whole-person education, so that doctors, thus educated, could provide whole-person care. Without hesitating to name the source of such education, he said, “The most important qualifications the doctor should possess are not a knowledge of medicine at all.... They are character, sympathy, charity, patience, [and] the spirit of consecrated service—in a word, the art of medicine, as it was once understood—medicine inculcated by the Master.”¹

The year was 1931. The speaker was Percy T. Magan, M.D., then president of the College of Medical Evangelists. Dr. Magan’s message is evidence of the enduring heritage of Loma Linda University, a legacy of wholistic education for the purpose of wholistic service. His bold words to the leaders of American medical education should not surprise us; our university was founded on the educational principles of the Master. Nearly three decades before Dr. Magan’s speech, Ellen White stated these principles in *Education*:

“True education means more than the pursuit of a certain course of study. It means more than a preparation for the life that now is. It has to do

with the whole being, and with the whole period of existence possible to man. It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers. It prepares the student for the joy of service in this world and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come.”²

Echoes from this passage can be heard not only in Dr. Magan’s speech but also throughout the history of LLU. For example, in 1955 preparations were being made for the 50th anniversary of the institution. The planners decided to have a theme for the celebration. The chosen theme, “to make man whole,” became the motto, first of the medical school and then of the entire university.

“Throughout the Bible, such peace is preeminently a gift from God. This is indicated in one of Scripture’s most beautiful passages.”



Portrait of Wholeness

The Veg Hub is a unique ministry operated by the Northern California Conference in Oakland. GW Chew, aka Chef Chew, is the general manager of The Veg Hub and has been a vegan food inventor/restaurateur for over 10 years. He has traveled throughout America spreading life-changing information about health through fun and creative classes. He was a speaker at TEDxBentonville, and he recently filmed his first television program, titled “Chew’s Challenge: 28 Days to Well-ness” on the Dare2Dream Network. His mission is to share healthful vegan foods and the love of Jesus with the Oakland community. Learn more on Facebook @thevegub.



PACIFIC UNION
CONFERENCE

As the year’s passed, others contributed to the understanding of wholeness. For example, Jack Provonsha’s 1959 essay, “Wholeness: an idea whose time has come,” was a landmark in clarification of the philosophical and theological roots of wholeness.³ Rather than the mind/body dualism so common in Western thought, our understanding of human wholeness needs to be renewed by the vision of body/soul unity found in the Bible.

For more than four decades, the late Wil Alexander worked to make the practical message of whole-person education and care a reality in the clinical setting. As founding director of the University’s Center for Spiritual Life and Wholeness, his work constantly took the concept of wholeness out of the classroom to the bedside.

Some years ago I was teaching ethics to medical students in a state university. One of my fellow teachers was a Jewish internist whose practice included the care of many AIDS patients. We had worked together on a number of occasions before I happened to ask him where he did his residency. He told me it was at LLU. I could not resist asking him if he had received a good education. He said he did. Then he added that he might have gotten excellent training in the technical aspects of medicine at any number of institutions—but the most important added benefit of LLU was his encounter with Dr. Alexander’s approach to whole-person care. This had helped him the most in his care of dying patients.

This physician’s comments were both interesting and gratifying. But they also made me wonder. What is the message of wholeness to one who is dying? Put plainly, can a person die whole?

For us who lift up a message of wholeness, this is an unavoidable question. Here and now, no one’s wholeness is complete. So we could easily be

victimized by high ideals when confronted with the reality that all of us, both patients and caregivers, will face illness, disintegration, and death.

This is why the message of wholeness must always be offered in the context of grace. We are not now whole in our personal life, our family life, our faith community, our society, or our world. Wholeness remains a lifelong quest.

Among the most relevant biblical words for such wholeness are *shalom* (in Hebrew) and *eirene* (in Greek). Both of these words are usually translated in English as peace. This peace is far more than the absence of conflict. It is the harmonious interaction of the whole, and it has both personal and social dimensions. The definition supplied by the Webster's Dictionary of the Bible says, "The state of wholeness possessed by persons or groups, which may be health, prosperity, security, or spiritual completeness."

Throughout the Bible, such peace is preeminently a gift from God. This is indicated in one of Scripture's most beautiful passages: "The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace" (Numbers 6:24-26, NKJV).

The shalom of wholeness is within oneself, between self and others, among human communities, and, most of all, between ourselves and our God. In the midst of reassuring His disciples and promising the Holy Spirit, Jesus promised, "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you" (John 14:27, NKJV).

This peace, or wholeness, was achieved by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:19-20), and it is God's grace in Jesus that is the only guarantor of true wholeness.

Yes, with the assurance of this grace, it is possible to die in wholeness. God promised King Josiah, "I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace [shalom]" (2 Kings 22:20, NKJV).

My father taught me about the grace of wholeness at life's end during his last visit to our home. Nearing his 89th birthday, he made one final journey with my mother. We knew that his heart was failing and there was little to do medically. When I took him to the airplane for the return flight, he said, "This is my last trip."

We both know what he meant. I kissed his forehead for what I knew would be the last time on this earth. Two weeks later I received the call from my sister that I was expecting. My father had died at home in the loving care of my mother, sister, and brother-in-law. He had wanted nothing more than to rest in the arms of Jesus until He comes again.

My last, best memory of Dad is of him walking through our home, nearly blind but cheerful, whistling "Amazing Grace." This son of the Alberta prairie had become an Adventist as a young man, and he never lost the blessed hope of a restored universe. Dad died whole.

The incomparable hope we have is for wholeness completed in a world made new. It is hope expressed in the final lines of *The Great Controversy*:

"The entire universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love."⁴ ■

¹Percy T Magan, "The role of the medical school in the development of character in the medical student," read at the 42nd annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges in New Orleans, Nov. 30, 1931, and published in *The Medical Evangelist*, vol. 13, June 9, 1932, pp. 1-4.

²Ellen G. White, *Education* (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1903), p. 13.

³Jack Provonsa, "Wholeness: an idea whose time has come," *Journal of the College of Medical Evangelists*, vol. 13, 1959, pp. 54-67.

⁴Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy* (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1911), p. 687.

Gerald R. Winslow, PhD, is the Loma Linda University Health Director of the Center for Christian Bioethics and a professor for the LLU School of Public Health and School of Religion.

The Western



An Adventist Mission Revolution:

Lessons for Today

BY BRADFORD C. NEWTON

In December 1901, a group of Seventh-day Adventist workers gathered in San Francisco. They didn't depart until February the following year. What held the attention of pastors, college teachers, business managers, and conference administrators for such a long period? The *Pacific Union Recorder*, the brand-new paper of the newly formed Pacific Union Conference, carried a detailed report of this assembly. Alonzo T. Jones was present throughout the gathering. He explained, "The object of the convention was to carry forward the work of reorganization in the affairs of the conference proper."¹



This new entity called “Union” was fresh off the drawing board from the General Conference. In 1901 the growth of the church demanded change. Ellen White, along with others, recognized that decentralized decision-making was the path forward. Leaders and committees closest to the actual field of labor would bring on-the-ground relevance to the challenges of mission. The results were immediate and impressive. The newly elected Pacific Union leadership reported that enthusiasm for God’s work was pulsing again through local churches.

The San Francisco workers’ meeting of 1901 would likely not have happened without this strategic governance change. Fears that such a move towards decentralization might blunt the worldwide focus of the California membership proved to be unfounded. In fact, the opposite sentiment was building daily, and they proved it by doing some math. As they examined their own local success, they discovered that per capita there were more Adventists in California than in the British Isles or in the southern part of the United States. Then they retrieved a map and discovered that there was hardly a town in California that didn’t have an Adventist presence. Only one county was devoid of members, and it only had a population of 500.



The March 13, 1902, *Pacific Union Recorder* published their conclusion, “By these bristling truths it was demonstrated to everyone present that...there is no sort of equality, nor any sort of fair proportion, of Seventh-day Adventist people,

workers, or funds. Then it was *unanimously agreed* that, since the whole world field is but one; since the tithes are but one, for they all belong to God; and since we brethren are all one, we should immediately break up this too easy-going system of things in California, and *go or send the means to help* of the new and needy fields outside the California Conference.”²

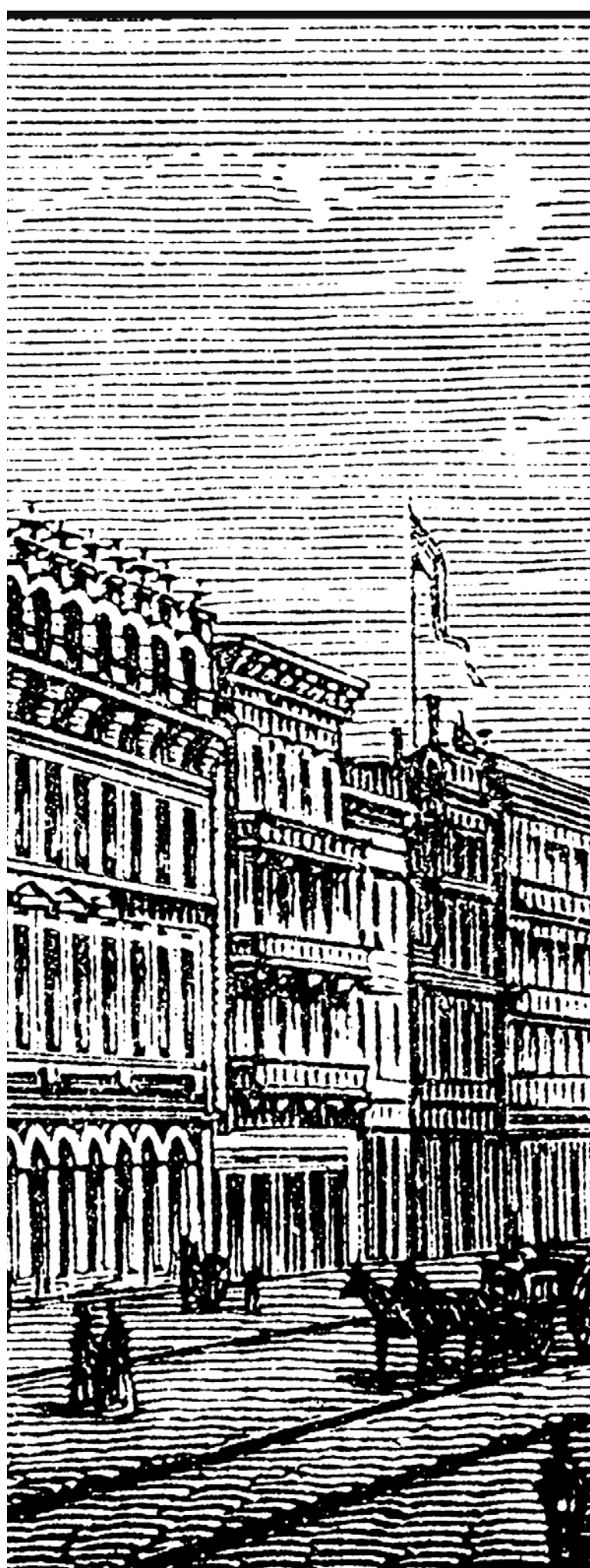
Later that year, correspondent A.T. Jones celebrated the mission-mindedness of another meeting. “The camp-meeting and conference at Fresno, September 30 to October 12, proved to be a missionary meeting throughout. From the president’s address at the beginning, until the second ordination service at the very close of the meeting, the keynote was ‘Foreign fields,’ ‘The gospel in all the world as a witness to all nations, that the end may come.’... Space will be taken here only to state that eighteen of the workers of the California Conference accepted the call to other fields. Five thousand dollars, and at least thirteen and one-third per cent of the income of the conference in

This new entity called “Union” was fresh off the drawing board from the General Conference.

the coming year, and the support of every worker of the conference sent by the conference to foreign fields, was unanimously voted by the whole congregation. About a hundred and ninety dollars was freely donated by those present from their own pockets to send a 40x60 tent to Elder Andross in England. More than a hundred dollars was donated in a Sunday afternoon collection for the work in the South; and nearly seven hundred dollars was given to the material fund of 'Object Lessons.' In other words, all calls and donations were for the general work, none for the local."³

The Western Adventist Mission Revolution was in full flower. While the financial donations were significant, more impressive still was the readiness of successful pastors and evangelists to share the truth of God beyond the borders of their conference. Sharing the truth of the Bible and Jesus' soon return was not limited to people of the West but was for all people everywhere. Remarkably, workers who were sent abroad were still listed as conference employees and received their salaries as if they were still working at home. The countries of Canada, England, Spain, South Africa, France, Ireland, and China were just some of the destinations of these intrepid California missionaries. This was an exciting time to be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the West.

Is it a mere coincidence that this amazing missionary movement paralleled the organizational restructuring adopted by the General Conference in 1901? Those who lived through this exciting time would say no. At the forefront was how people viewed their role as members of the church. Members and leaders felt empowered and released to act with innovation and speed to meet local



needs. The practical benefits were immediate.

The Western Adventist Mission Revolution of 1901 had its roots years earlier as the California work began. Elder John Norton Loughborough gives exciting details in his book, *The Great Second Advent Movement*. He recounts that before the first Adventist evangelists arrived in San Francisco in 1868, Ellen White had given clear instructions that they should not follow their usual approach. In vision she had seen that the methods of the East would not work in the West, particularly when it came to attitudes.

Loughborough was always keen to save money—he had already managed to get his fare out West at a discount. But Ellen White made it clear that this was not the mindset they should follow in California—quite the opposite. Loughborough wrote that “she delineated the liberal ways of the people of California, and what would be the effect of labor among them on a close, ‘pennywise’ plan. In preaching to the people of California, they must be approached in something of the liberal spirit in which they work, and yet not in a spendthrift manner.”⁴

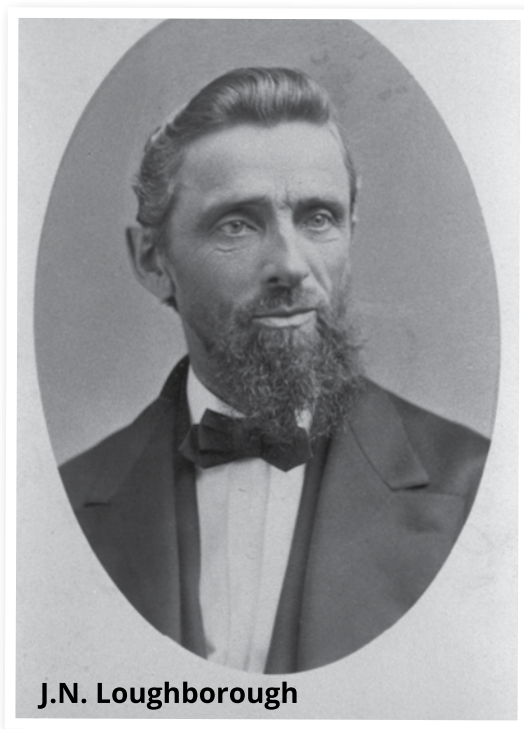
California society of the time was a heady mix of entrepreneurial enthusiasm and openness to new ideas, with a population that came from all over the world. New ideas needed to be developed for this new time and place. Most of all, the attitude of

mind needed to be adjusted to fit the thinking of the times—*present* truth indeed! Loughborough told the General Conference session on January 31, 1893, “This gave us instructions concerning the habits of the people, how to labor to reach them, holding it up in contrast with the New England field in which I had been laboring more or less, showing that what might be called economy in New England would be considered penny-wise dealing in California.”⁵

This was not a compromise of Bible truth for a new audience. It was rather the reinvention of the way of doing evangelism and sharing the message. This philosophy expressed through the pen of inspiration came from a person who was the product

of the culture of New Englander thrift, had never been to California, and was a strong supporter of church order and practice. Yet here she was suggesting that something new needed to be done before it had even begun in the West. Her visionary leadership was a faith-building sign for all who ventured forth to the Western work for God.

Loughborough recalls the results: “As I now look back over the last thirty-seven years since the work was first started in California, and take in the situation then, with the condition of the people, and the manner in which we would have conducted our work but for the testimony received, and as I witness the results of following the instruction given, I can say that our cause advanced more in three months than it would have done in one year had we not been helped ‘in the work of the



J.N. Loughborough

The Western Adventist Mission Revolution of 1901 and the California work that preceded it echo the mission philosophy first expressed by Paul as he labored in the first century Roman Empire.

ministry' by the instruction received through the gift of prophecy. Up to the spring of 1871, as the result of the efforts in Sonoma County, five churches of Sabbath-keepers had been raised up."⁶

In fact, the local California people declared that the Adventist workers weren't like the usual ministers from the East. Their approach of being positive, expansive, and of a generous spirit produced a similar response in those they sought to reach. An attitude of appreciation and trust was quickly developed that bore the fruit of converts. Loughborough declared that Ellen White could not have given better advice if she had already lived five years in California.

He reported, "We saw the result of heeding this admonition in our very first meeting. When the people were questioning how we would sell penny tracts and five cent books when there was no change made in the country less than a ten cent piece we were led to make calculations, and so commenced on this liberal plan, and gave them away by scores. The people shortly met us by saying, 'This isn't like the preachers that have been coming across the plains to this country.' They rushed up to buy our books, and favored us in every way they could, and in that one tent-meeting the people bought over three hundred dollars' worth of books, and a lumberman, who before we commenced the meeting, refused to trust us with a dollar's worth of lumber on the ground that he had no confidence whatever in preachers, said, 'Sir, I will lend you 36,000 feet of lumber, if you want

it, without any security whatever."⁷ In this way the Advent message grew rapidly as it was transplanted to a very different soil and climate.

The Western Adventist Mission Revolution of 1901 and the California work that preceded it echo the mission philosophy first expressed by Paul as he labored in the first century Roman Empire. "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings" (1 Corinthians 9:22-23, NIV).

The genius of the Seventh-day Adventist work has been our continued striving to speak relevantly to the people we wish to reach. Language, culture, and setting matter to how people listen to what we have to say. Our pioneers in the West understood this, and it blessed the work of God in the Pacific Union and around the world. Additionally, we've remained a practical people, recognizing that structures are designed and subject to ongoing evaluation in order to serve mission and not the reverse. These abiding lessons of our own history in the West will serve us well as we focus our prayerful gaze upon the millions to be reached in the Pacific Union Conference territory—the church in the West. ■

¹Alonzo T. Jones, *Pacific Union Recorder*, March 13, 1902, p. 3.

²*Ibid.*, p. 4, emphasis added.

³Alonzo T. Jones, *Pacific Union Recorder*, Oct. 23, 1902, p. 4.

⁴J.N. Loughborough, *The Great Second Advent Movement: Its Rise and Progress*, p. 385.

⁵*General Conference Daily Bulletin*, vol. 5, Jan. 31, 1893, p. 81.

⁶J.N. Loughborough, *The Great Second Advent Movement: Its Rise and Progress*, p. 385.

⁷*General Conference Daily Bulletin*, vol. 5, Jan. 31, 1893, p. 81.

Bradford C. Newton is the secretary and the ministerial director of the Pacific Union Conference.



La Sierra Enactus Jamaica eLibrary Project Lands Team in National Spotlight

BY DARLA MARTIN TUCKER

Following the multi-media presentations at Kansas City Convention Center on May 7, La Sierra University Enactus teammates Patrina Jamieson and Sherika Moulton watched the results of the Enactus national championship, a competition of college and university humanitarian entrepreneurial initiatives.

La Sierra's team nabbed third place in the United States after the final round presentation by Alex Tran, Brandon Singh, Minji Oh, Ariana Marquez, Teia Campbell, and David Ramirez. They bested 85 other schools around the country on the strength of one project—a revolutionary flash drive-based program called the eLibrary, which is significantly impacting the educational system of Jamieson and Moulton's home country, Jamaica. The team's win was a powerful moment.

"To see the project presentation on the national stage warmed my heart. It validates the work and thought that went into the project," said Jamieson, eLibrary project co-director for the La

Sierra Enactus team and a doctoral student with La Sierra's School of Education.

"I was very emotional because I know the capabilities of the project and how it can transform lives," said Moulton, a master's in accountancy student at the Zapara School of Business and the Enactus team's vice president of finance. "It was a very happy moment for our team."

"I was so proud to be a part of the Enactus team this year," said eLibrary team co-director Jonathan Thomas, who spearheaded the project three years ago along with Jamieson and two other teammates. He graduated June 16 with a Master of Business Administration and will attend Loma

Linda University School of Medicine this August. "Everything that [the presentation team] talked about, we did," Thomas said. "That integrity is the best part of this team."

The La Sierra University Enactus team has won seven national trophies and two world cups. Comprised of students from various majors, it was established in 1991 through the efforts of John Thomas, a business faculty member at the time who this year celebrates his 30th anniversary on the faculty and his 20th year as dean of the Zapara School of Business.

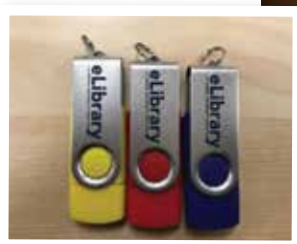
"It was a great experience to witness our students reach such heights based mostly on the merits of one significant and impactful project,



(Left) The La Sierra University presentation team, left to right, Alex Tran, Brandon Singh, Minji Oh, Ariana Marquez, Teia Campbell, David Ramirez, with team coach John Razzouk, who was inducted into the Enactus Sam Walton Hall of Fame, and Shawn Weerawardana, who developed the team presentation video. (Opposite page) The La Sierra University Enactus eLibrary project team, left to right, Mesaley Alemseged, Samuel Carvajal, Jonathan Thomas, Patrina Jamieson with trophy, Sherika Moulton, Ebubechi Idika, and Jodi Wilson.

which was something of a risk," Thomas said. "I am extremely proud of our students' focused dedication to building up the educational system in Jamaica. This is what Enactus is all about, and this is the embodiment of the mission of the Zapara School of Business."

The eLibrary project consists of 1,200 flash drives that can be pre-loaded with 40,000 textbooks from eight subject areas and more than 1,000 educational videos using micro compression technology developed by Enactus partners Ron Zane and Mark Gaspar through their organization, Global Education Ministries. The drives plug into any computer or tablet. The team also developed



(Above) The flash drives developed by La Sierra University Enactus are being used to deliver hundreds of digital textbooks and instructional videos to schools in Jamaica. (Right) Students in Jamaica learn to use the eLibrary flash drive provided to them by the La Sierra University Enactus team.

an eLibrary smart phone app for android phones in collaboration with La Sierra computer science student Mason Channer.

Following a pilot rollout at 21 schools in December 2017, the eLibrary project was officially launched in January 2019 to 171 public and private high schools around Jamaica through a partnership with Jamaica's Ministry of Education, Youth and Information. The eLibrary is now impacting more than 200,000 students at no cost to the schools. The project is partially funded by a grant from Versacare, Inc. and with funding from educators Steve and Carol Pawluk and

business school donors Tom and Vi Zapara.

As co-leader of the eLibrary project, Jamieson helped establish a partnership with Jamaica's Ministry of Education. Jamieson grew up in Kingston, Jamaica, and knows well the difficulties faced by teachers and students due to the lack of connectivity and limited availability of current textbooks.

"This project is a catalyst for developing countries," Jamieson said. "I know it is a winner in the lives of those who benefited from it. To see it in my high school was the proudest moment. I felt fulfilled."

For more on this story and a link to a La Sierra Enactus final round video, please visit www.lasierra.edu.



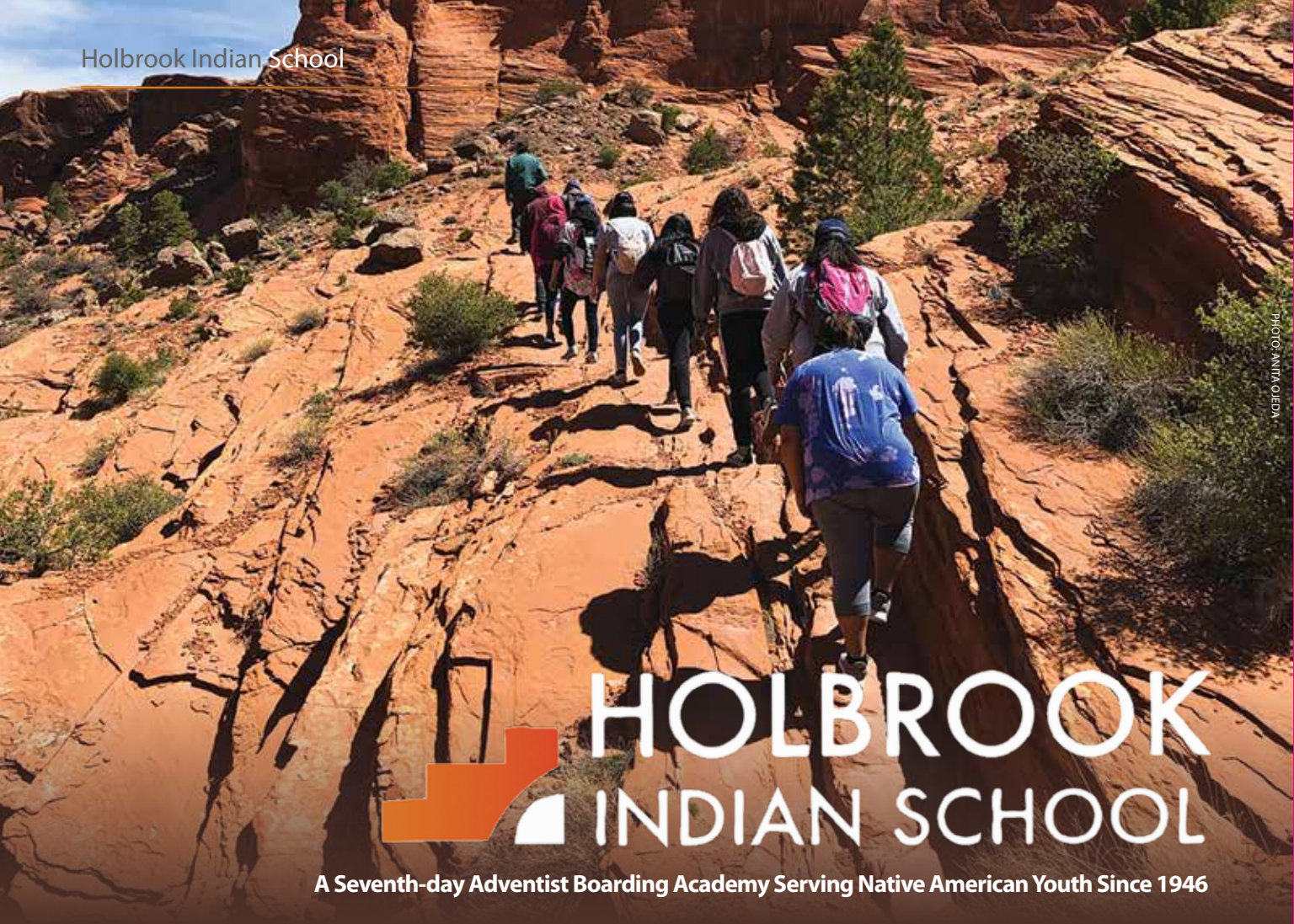


PHOTO: ANITA OJEDA

HOLBROOK INDIAN SCHOOL

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

Students Retrace Navajo Long Walk as Part of U.S. History Class

BY ANITA OJEDA

Rather than sit in a stuffy classroom and experience history as recorded by historians, I decided to teach my students how to be historians. For the first few weeks of fourth quarter, students researched and planned a trip that would retrace the Navajo Long Walk.

For many years, the Navajo have remained silent about the Long Walk. For some, the topic remains taboo. Others see it as an important part of the history of the Diné, or the Navajo people. "By hearing the stories of the past and realizing what our ancestors suffered, young people today will understand that

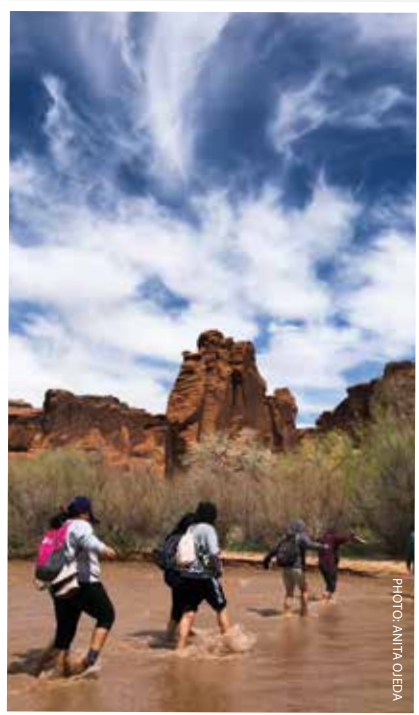
they have a long history of strength and survival against all odds," Martin Whitehair, one of the parents, told me.

In 1862 and 1863, General James H. Carlton ordered the Navajo people to surrender to Colonel Kit Carson. When no one showed up, Carson and his soldiers proceeded

to burn homes and crops and slaughter livestock belonging to the Navajo. By using this "scorched earth" technique, Carson and Carlton hoped to force the Navajo to come to the forts so that the army could force the Navajo to walk to a prison camp at Fort Sumner in the Bosque Redondo area of New Mexico.

Students planned the meals, budget, and places of interest along the route. In addition, they chose and researched topics about the Long Walk and framed questions to ask docents, tour guides, and librarians.

From a National Parks Service guide in Canyon de Chelly, students learned that almost 10,000 Diné were forced to move to Hwéeldi



(Fort Sumner). While the deportation was known as the “Long Walk,” the Navajo did not all travel at once. Rather, over the course of several years, large groups would make the journey as they were rounded up.

Because the United States government didn’t understand the Navajo, they failed to realize that each clan operated as an independent group, unbound by the treaties and decisions that other groups had made.

The guide led us across a river engorged with melting snow. We removed our shoes and socks and set off across the canyon. The cold water tugged at our legs, and the sand gripped at our feet if we stood still too long. On the other side of the river, we walked a quarter of a mile down a sand and dirt road—our feet still bare.

“This is what your ancestors experienced,” I told my students.

“But in the winter time, with snow on the ground,” the guide reminded us.

Next, we made our way to Fort Defiance. The road led through high elevations, and we imagined

the difficulties of traveling on foot with very little food or shelter. Water seemed scarce, and most of the landscape lacked trees.

The next day, as we traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico, we drove through the Malpais—a section of land scattered with lava. Many of the Navajo had traversed this route on foot—and not everyone had moccasins or shoes, either.

When we visited Old Town Albuquerque, we remembered what our guide had said the day before, “As each contingent of captured Navajos neared a city or town, the soldiers would march them through the main plaza so everyone could see them.”

“I felt bummed just imagining myself in that position while walking by shops and people who were selling things outside the shops. It would have been embarrassing!” Adrienna, a senior, said.

Our next stop seemed discordant with all of the suffering we had learned about. After all, what does a university campus have to do with thousands of impoverished Navajo walking hundreds of miles?

Read the complete story online at www.HolbrookIndianSchool.org



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.**



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Glendale City Church: Becoming the “Best Friend to Our City”

BY ARAYA MOSS

“Our congregation has been on a journey to become the best friend to our city by providing tangible expressions of love that bring about transformed lives,” said Todd Leonard, pastor at Glendale City church (GCC).

One of the most successful ways GCC has built this strong relationship with its community is through the Caesura Youth Orchestra (CYO), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and an El Sistema-based program that provides free instrumental music education to underserved elementary school-age children in its surrounding neighborhood. CYO launched five years ago, in collaboration with GCC, with the desire to enrich both the kids and the community in which they reside. GCC currently hosts CYO events, concerts, and board meetings.

“The name *caesura* is a musical term denoting a break in a passage of music,” said Dave Ferguson, member of GCC and president of CYO. “The Caesura Youth Orchestra is designed to give kids a ‘break’ from the risk of after-school involvement with gangs, drugs, and violence that is prevalent in low-income neighborhoods in the Los Angeles area.”

On May 17, CYO celebrated the completion of another successful year: 22 new students graduated from their first term, and the advanced students received a master class with world-renowned violinist Jaime Jorge. That



PHOTOS: DAVE FERGUSON

Micah Wright (left), teaching artist for recorder students, poses with students after they received their graduation certificates on May 17, the final day of classes for the year.

evening, CYO students and parents celebrated with a pizza party at the church, followed by a special concert performance by Jorge.

During the last five years, CYO has trained and inspired more than 150 students and now serves two different campuses in Glendale. Through donations from members of GCC and the community, the students receive free after-school music instruction from professional staff and choose a new or refurbished instrument to play: a violin, viola, cello, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, oboe, recorder, or French horn.

Rachel Lopez, four-year teaching artist for the woodwind students, has witnessed the impact the program has made in students’ lives, enabling them to develop new skills. “They get to experience a variety of values such as responsibility, discipline, professionalism, and commitment to music,” said Lopez.

In recent months, the students have performed at various locations: Glendale Taste Walk, Laemmle Live, a school assembly at Columbus Elementary School, a spring festival at Cerritos Elementary School, and Glendale Memorial Hospital, pictured here.





(Far left) Through dynamic presentations, attendees learn about the benefits of a whole-food, plant-based lifestyle. (Left) Lisa Rice, chef, health coach, and educator, demonstrates how to “elevate your plate” with nutritious and delicious meals.

The WHOLE Conference: *Spreading the Good News About Health*

BY KARISA LOWE

The WHOLE Conference (the Why and How Of Life-promoting Eating) was organized in 2013 by David Lowe, M.D., a member of the Camarillo church. Lowe created the conference from a simple desire to educate people about the benefits of a whole-food, plant-based (WFPB) diet.

“The first year, we couldn’t even give the tickets away,” said Lowe, laughing as he recalled the conference’s humble beginnings. “We had maybe 80 people attend, most of whom were church members we had to convince to come.”

Since then the conference has grown significantly, with more than 425 attendees last year—the majority of whom were not Adventist.

“The idea of changing your own health-related outcomes simply by changing what you eat is foreign to most people,” said Lowe. “We’re working to change that mindset by educating people and empowering them to take back their own health.”

Familiar with the positive effects of vegetarianism, Lowe began doing more research into the benefits of a WFPB diet after reading *The China Study*. In 2017, he became board certified in lifestyle medicine—the use of evidence-based lifestyle therapeutic approaches, such as

a plant-predominant diet, regular physical activity, adequate sleep, and stress management, to treat, reverse, and prevent chronic disease. He now travels throughout Southern California sharing his expertise.

“The knowledge about the ability to prevent and reverse disease through a whole-food, plant-based diet could have a tremendous impact on the way health is trending in America,” said Lowe. “We started the WHOLE Conference to spread the word—it’s great news, and everyone should have access to this valuable information!”

The WHOLE Conference typically features nationally and internationally known speakers throughout the day, as well as professional chef demos and much more. The annual one-day conference has selected its keynote speaker for 2020: Michael Greger, M.D., founder of NutritionFacts.org and author of *New York Times* bestseller *How Not to Die*. This fall, tickets will be on sale (\$99-\$159) for the 2020

WHOLE Conference, which will be held Sunday, Feb. 16, in Camarillo. For more information, visit wholeconference.org.

NOTICE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE REGULAR CONSTITUENCY SESSION

Please take notice that the 65th regular constituency session of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene as follows:

Place: White Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church
401 North State St., Los Angeles, CA

Date: Sunday, September 22, 2019

Time: 7:55 a.m.–1 p.m.,
or until business is completed

The purpose of this session is to receive reports; to elect conference officers, the superintendent of education, the executive committee, and the bylaws committee; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Delegates are invited to join the SCC Prayer Team for prayer from 7–7:50 a.m.

Velino A. Salazar, President
John H. Cress, Executive Secretary

In the July issue, the article recounting the story of the Altadena church knitting small group incorrectly identified Fedly Bonneau as a member of the Altadena church. He is a member of the Delaware Avenue church. We regret the error.

God's Natural Remedies: Clearview Church Conducts Health Seminar

BY SUSAN BECKMANN

Clearview church pastor Dennis Smith conducted a seminar entitled "Health and Experiencing God's Greatest Blessing" in Surprise, Arizona, from March 27 to May 29. It was based on the Bible and Smith's book, *40 Days Book 3: God's Health Principles for His Last-Day People*. The meetings drew an average attendance of 55.

"The subject of health is popular today," said Smith. "There seems to be an increasing awareness and understanding of the interaction of body, mind, and spirit upon each other and the impact upon the whole person."

The seminar focused on God's eight natural remedies for attaining physical, emotional, and spiritual health: Nutrition, Exercise, Water, Sunshine, Temperance, Air, Rest, and Trust in God (NEWSTART). A weekly health challenge was given to improve daily health.

Giveaways included healthy recipes, health-related handouts, and the book *The Ministry of Healing*. Other prizes included homemade granola, cookies, and bread. Three light meals and healthy refreshments were provided during the seminar.



Pastor Dennis Smith teaches from the Bible and his *40 Days Book 3*.

"This seminar has given me a desire to achieve victory over my health," said Ikey Ogden. "Now when my willpower is weak, I ask the Holy Spirit to give me His willpower, and He does."

Patte Dustman explained that several years ago she had slipped away from being a vegetarian. "As a result," she said, "my health began to decline. The health principles in Pastor Smith's seminar helped me get back to the basics of good health practices."

"The seminar provided such a wealth of information about God's principles for maintaining our temple bodies," said Linda Schellenger. "For me the major takeaway was the importance of prayer and fasting."

Sami Anderson

added, "The health seminar was a good review. It is easy to get off track, and if you don't review the facts and statistics often enough, a person forgets. When I eat properly, I feel much better."

Ellen G. White wrote, "Something better' is the watchword of education, the law of all true living. Whatever Christ asks us to renounce, He offers in its stead something better" (*Education*, p. 296).

Health Ministries Director Nancy Graf welcomed everyone to be part of Health Ministries. She said, "It is our desire that our experience will inspire you to take a step of faith and join us in medical missionary end-time work."

Seminar presentation lessons and videos can be found at the church website, www.clearviewsdachurch.org on the Media & Links, Health Series tab.



(Left) Pastor and author Dennis Smith lectures on *40 Days of Prayer*. (Above) About 55 people attended the nightly seminar.

Arizona Members Witness Outpouring of Holy Spirit in Philippines

BY PHIL DRAPER

Pastor Ed Anderson was beaming after returning from his first evangelistic campaign in a foreign land. “What if the Book of Acts was still being written today? What events would it record?” he asked. “I believe it would be recording the work of the Holy Spirit happening in unreached areas around the world such as the remote islands of the Philippines.”



(Left) The team: (back row) Pastor Roger Galicia, Pastor King Ruallo, Tom Fischer, Chuck Grayson, (front row) Pastor Edward Anderson, Linda Grayson, Pastor Glenn Sta. Ana. (Above) Over 250 souls from the provinces, mountain tribes, and prisons were baptized in the South China Sea.

During May and June 2019, a team of Arizona Conference pastors and laymen embarked on a special evangelistic mission to the people of San Jose, Mindoro, Calamba, and Laguna in the Philippines. The team consisted of Arizona Conference Director of Multilingual Ministries Glenn Sta. Ana, Pastor Edward Anderson, Jr., Elder Tom Fischer, and Elder Chuck Grayson and his wife Linda. They were privileged to witness the thrilling outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

For four weeks the evangelists spoke to more than a thousand Filipinos, who endured tropical heat and rain to hear the good news of Jesus.

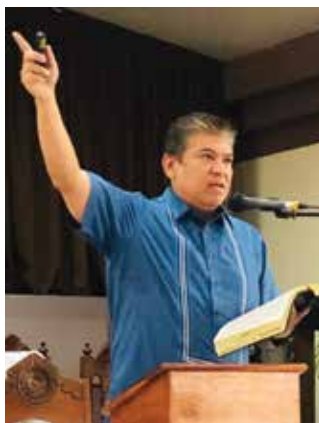
The final Sabbath, hundreds flocked to the

shores of the South China Sea, where over 250 souls from the provinces, mountain tribes, and prisons were baptized. An additional 250 baptisms were planned for the following weeks.

“Some of the mountain tribe people had never heard the name Jesus before, and the mentioning of His name was enough to light a spiritual fire in the hearts of entire villages. With such a small team we were able to accomplish a lot for the kingdom,” said Sta. Ana.

Anderson observed, “Our people may be blinded to the work of the Holy Spirit happening right now

Pastor Ed Anderson preaches from his heart in his first Philippines campaign.



because we are disconnected from the world. The gospel work happening around the globe is benefiting us at home. We are more connected than ever before through new technologies. What happens on the other side of the globe will impact us here at home. We are nearer to Jesus’ coming than we realize, and North America is headed for a reawakening.”

Jesus told us, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14, NIV). This is the final sign to be fulfilled.

“What is happening around the world is the beginning of the Holy Spirit’s work in the end times,” Anderson said. “It’s time to wake up, love one another, look to our own relationship with Jesus, and look up, because our redemption is near!”

Giving Back to the Community

BY JENNI GLASS

Adventist Health has rich history of giving back to the communities we serve. Here are two stories of how Adventist Health and its associates are making a difference.



Hope at New Roots

Live God's love. Inspire hope. These mission themes motivated associates from Adventist Health Roseville to serve in the community. Working with the International Rescue Committee—an organization dedicated to providing a safe haven for refugees—a team of 10 benefits administration associates assisted with the New Roots program. Based in West Sacramento, California, the New Roots program offers refugees access to farmland, nutrition education, and agricultural and business development training. The team of volunteers worked together to clear the weeds from a 2,500-square-foot

plot of land and prepared garden space for refugees to grow and sell their own produce.

Project Shower

"I just need a shower," he said. "I have a part-time job now, but my coworkers are going to notice I haven't showered and I will lose my job."

Hope Harbor Warming Center provides safe overnight accommodations in Lake County, California. This

past winter the shelter provided over 140 people (83 men, 55 women, 2 non-binary, and 5 children under the age of ten, as well as 17 veterans) with protection from the elements. Some guests stayed only one night, while others returned night after night. They provided a total of 1,822 meals. The group also helped with doctor appointments and family reconnections. What the center could not provide was showers.

The shower trailer project, which is sponsored by Adventist Health Clear Lake, offers far more than "just a shower." It offers whole person care, dignity, and community wellness. How can a shower do all of that? The Popup Care Shower Project enhances community wellness by connecting our neighbors to essential services with dignity and respect. When the shower trailer is in a neighborhood, guests may come and get a shower. They may also choose to receive a meal, a change of clothes, and referrals for other services.



Health, Wholeness, and Hope: Nursing Grads Serve with Confidence

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

It's no secret that Pacific Union College's largest program is nursing and that the department thrives on preparing medical professionals for successful, productive lives of service and care.

Whether they are working in the operating or emergency room, hospital or clinic, PUC nursing grads enter the workforce with confidence, experience, knowledge, and a heart both for the people they treat and for those they work alongside. Many often choose to stay local, having developed relationships with medical clinics, hospitals, and residents in the valley and having established local connections within their field during their time at PUC.

"These new grads embrace our mission of inspiring health, wholeness, and hope," said Susan Collins, talent advisor in talent acquisitions at Adventist Health St. Helena. "When we hire them, they continue expressing that kindness through their patient care. We are blessed they are now a part of our team."

One of those grads is Erica Tran, 2014 BSN alumna. After graduation, she transitioned to the medical/surgical unit at St. Helena Hospital just down the road from PUC. She worked in the unit for over two years before moving to her current position in 2016 as a Registered Nurse (RN) in the heart and vascular unit (HVVU). The wholistic nature of her work is an aspect for which Tran feels PUC prepared her well.

"It's my role to provide wholistic care to all the patients I encounter, and PUC's incorporation of spiritual



care into the curriculum really made a difference for me," she said. "My exposure to the concept of caring for the whole person has shaped how I do my job. It embeds a certain genuine and individualized characteristic in my interactions with patients and others I encounter."

Despite the difficulty and busyness of her work, Tran has enjoyed the opportunity to give back to her alma mater. She has worked as a clinical instructor to first-quarter nursing students at PUC and as a clinical

preceptor to sixth-quarter students.

"The work we do as nurses can be difficult, but it is also incredibly gratifying to know I've connected with patients in their most vulnerable time," said Tran. "It's rewarding to be able to establish a trusting relationship while also making strides to bring my patients closer to their baseline or even into a position where they're comfortable and thriving again."

For more information about nursing at PUC, visit puc.edu/nursing. Schedule a visit to see it for yourself at puc.edu/visit.



PHOTOS: MOREEN VARGAS

In May of this year, the Camino a Cristo congregation finalized the purchase of their own church building after 15 years of renting from other churches in the Las Vegas area.

Camino a Cristo Congregation Celebrates God's Blessings and Member Involvement with a Dedication Ceremony for their New Church Building

BY FAITH HOYT

A 15-year wait is finally over for the Camino a Cristo congregation in Las Vegas. After years of renting, this church gathered for a dedication ceremony on July 6, 2019, in the new facility they purchased this year.

"It all started when, after having been praying with the whole church for a week, a series of miraculous events occurred," shared Ricardo Vargas, pastor of the Camino a Cristo church. First, an anonymous Adventist family made a donation for a new building—motivating the congregation to increase their efforts to find a place to buy. A few weeks later, Vargas received a call from Carlos Hilasaca, a member of his church, regarding a building he had an appointment to tour. "The day after the call, we went to see the church with a group of brothers, and we have to confess that it was 'love at first sight,'" Vargas said.

The Camino a Cristo congregation has used the Mountain View church as their location of worship since late 2016. Prior to this, they rented from other churches in the Las Vegas area. In total, this congregation has spent 15 years working towards the dream of having their own place of worship.

A series of renovations were needed to prepare the new building to serve as a church facility—with members involved each step of the way. New chairs were bought for their new sanctuary, the interior and exterior of the building were painted, the electrical system and audio and video systems were replaced, the air conditioner was repaired, the carpet was changed, chairs

and equipment were bought for the classrooms for children, the platform was remodeled, and a roof was built over the main entrance. "There are still jobs that we want to continue doing, and in the coming months and years we will be finishing those," Vargas said.

Vargas shared that, well before the purchase date of May 13, and throughout the remodeling process, the congregation has fully engaged in this project. From members aiding in the search for a building, to patiently waiting through months of negotiations and meetings, to faithfully praying, this church family has demonstrated their support in significant ways.

The new Camino a Cristo church building is located at 4610 Patterson Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89104. Learn more online about this church at: caminoacristonv.adventistchurch.org

"Men, women, and children have been going on Sundays and weekdays to clean, paint, and make arrangements," shared Noreen Vargas, wife of Ricardo Vargas. "The whole congregation is very enthusiastic, and they have even involved friends and family members who are not yet from the church but who have also come to help us."

Among those who took part in the purchase and remodeling were church members Jesus Gomez, Giovanni Pacheco, and Eli Cortes. Gomez served as the project manager for purchasing and renovating the building, and he worked closely with Pacheco, who served as their real estate agent and helped manage purchasing procedures and remodeling. "In the renovation tasks, Brother Eli Cortes has been involved with his wife, children, and other relatives who are not yet members of our church but who have now begun to attend our services," Vargas shared.

On the Sabbath of the dedication ceremony, the church celebrated a baptism and hosted a luncheon for attendees. "We wanted to have a day of celebration and thanks to the Lord for the opportunity to see this dream come true," Vargas said.

Attendees at the dedication ceremony included pastors who have previously led the congregation, Nevada-Utah Conference and Pacific Union administrators, members of other Hispanic churches in the Las Vegas area, and neighbors who live near the new church.

As for their future, Camino a Cristo has hopes that their new house of worship is the beginning of new opportunities. "We want to be able to impact our new neighbors with the message of salvation," Vargas said. "We want to serve our community with all kinds of help in the areas of health, community basic needs, family orientation, etc. It is our goal that this place will become a light for all those around us."



(Above) The Camino a Cristo church gathers for a dedication ceremony in their new facility on Sabbath, July 6. (Right) According to Ricardo Vargas, pastor of the Camino a Cristo church, the congregation has fully engaged in this project throughout the remodeling process.



Teen Bible Academy: Solitude, Study, Service

BY DELORIS TRUJILLO

How soon do we want “the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior...carried to the whole world”? How soon do we want “the end of suffering and sorrow and sin?” Ellen White wrote that this could be achieved “with such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained” (*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 555).

In 2003, a few young adults in the Central California Conference (CCC) wished to equip such an army of youth and sought to create an experience for high school students (ages 13–17) that provided an environment allowing for spiritual growth, especially during the summer months. Under the direction of Steve Hamilton, the Teen Bible Academy (TBA) began with about 15 students, based out of the Oakhurst (Calif.) church. Sixteen years later, nearly a thousand high school students have gone through the TBA experience.

TBA is broken into three parts. The first week, students spend time in solitude with God. The second week,

they dig deep into the Bible. The third week, they go forth to serve others. Thanks to CCC evangelism funds, TBA has been able to keep the cost for this program at only \$375 for the three weeks. (Scholarships are also available for those who need help with the tuition.)

Now under the direction of Anil Kanda, CCC’s Senior Youth/Young Adult Ministries director, this year’s TBA ran from June 18 to July 7. More than 39 students in two groups were led through the three significant elements for balanced spiritual growth—solitude, study, and service.

Each group spends the first week on an outdoor backpacking trip, with

campfire worships, team-building activities, personal prayer, and time for reading the Bible and *The Desire of Ages*. This year’s participants began their week of solitude at Chilkoote Lake in the Sierra National Forest.

The second week, designated for study, is generally held at an Adventist church. This year’s group met at Oakhurst, where students were taught interactive spiritual lessons by pastors and teachers. The third week focused on service and was held at the Ceres church, where youth participated in door-to-door witnessing, a GLOW scavenger hunt, packing food for the homeless, and a free carwash that included prayer and passing out



(Left) Begun in 2003, Central California Conference's Teen Bible Academy is currently hosting more than 39 youth this summer. (Below) Anil Kanda, Central California Conference Senior Youth and Young Adult Ministries director and Teen Bible Academy leader, pauses with one of his students during Teen Bible Academy.



literature. Although TBA is highly structured, staff and students are also provided time to experience summer recreation.

The program results in changed lives for the students and staff alike. Comments from students this summer illustrate that prolonged exposure to these three spiritual elements, along with minimized distractions, has a great and lasting impact. "I really enjoyed the solitude time," said Maite Giroa, a TBA student. "It has really helped me connect with God."

Another student, Issac Abugan, said, "All the people I have met are so great. I would love to be with these people forever."

"I appreciate that the staff and the students get along with each other," said student Jared Kidwell. "And if the students have questions, the staff answer them to the best of their ability!"

Kanda pointed out, "One of the most amazing features of the disciple cycle that TBA produces is that students who finish TBA become staff when they graduate and are able to mentor the next generation." As an example, Savonna Greer, a teacher at Fresno Adventist Academy, attended

TBA in 2008. After her graduation from high school, she has worked as staff for TBA for almost nine years. Kanda also said that many students go on to other CCC programs, such as Youth Rush, Youth for Jesus, and camp counseling.

Comments from staff show that the TBA experience is just as valuable for them as it is for the students: "I appreciate the privilege of being part of an experience of seeing youth encounter Jesus. I love the opportunities of seeing kids grow," said Kendra Miranda. Sarai Mendoza, another staff member, said, "I especially love seeing students develop a love and a curiosity for the beautiful Savior that Jesus truly is."

"I get to experience spiritual growth opportunities even though I am one of the leaders," said Abhijeet Andrews. "It recharges me!" Many of the staff and students stay in touch and even have a Facebook community group for networking and prayer.

It is no wonder that Elder

Ramiro Cano, CCC president, could say, "TBA lives up to the vision statement of our conference, 'Reflecting Christ-Transforming Communities.'" He continued, "It is a blessing to hear the testimonies of parents seeing their young come back from the TBA experience changed, transformed as it were. If we are, by the grace of God, to transform communities by reflecting Christ, it needs to start with the community of one, each individual. TBA is a great investment to impact the tender lives of our young, one person at a time."

CCC has discovered that investing evangelism resources into their youth can result in young people being rightly trained to carry the gospel message into the world. TBA is one method doing just that.

(Right) Teen Bible Academy girls enjoy one by-product of the youth program: fellowship. (Far right) Central California Conference's three-week summer training program features solitude, study, and service. Here the group is at study.





People from around the Northern California Conference and beyond worship together at Urban Camp Meeting.

PHOTOS: JOYCE RICHARDSON

Urban Camp Meeting Encourages Attendees to Engage

BY RAVEN THREATT

The fourth annual Urban Camp Meeting, sponsored by the Northern California Conference (NCC) African-American Ministries Department, was held June 20-22. About 1,000 people attended the event, which took place on Thursday at the Stockton Mayfair church and on Friday and Sabbath at Christian Life Center.

The theme this year was "Time to Engage," which parallels the NCC's new strategic plan, "Engage." Speakers focused their presentations on engaging families, churches, and communities in the spirit of Christ.

This year's speakers were all from the NCC, including President Marc Woodson, who spoke on Thursday night. Grand Advent church pastor Melvyn Warfield Jr. gave the sermon for the divine service on Sabbath. Youth had



Youth from six NCC churches take part in Mission Trip Stockton, building homes with Habitat for Humanity.

their own meetings with speaker

Jonathan Henderson, pastor of the Vallejo Central church.

Music was provided by local church members, and the traditional camp



meeting mass choir, and recording artist Anthony Whigham. Other highlights of the event included

a kids' camp, free health screenings at the Better Living Center Mobile Medical Unit, and a basketball tournament on Saturday evening. In addition, from June 17-20, youth from six churches served the community by working with Habitat for Humanity to build three houses.



(Top left) NCC African-American Ministries Coordinator Willie Johnson; (Top right) Pacific Union Conference President Ricardo Graham; (Bottom left) Grand Advent church Pastor Melvyn Warfield Jr.; (Bottom right) and Sacramento Capitol City church Senior Pastor Damian Chandler, along with Capitol City church praise team, inspire attendees at Urban Camp Meeting. (Below) Young people participate in the Engage Youth Conference.

On Friday, adults could choose among four workshops. One of them, “Laity Training on Immigrants’ Rights and Resources,” was facilitated by Aaron Brieno, legislative director and California state senator, and Jason Mustard, immigration attorney. “It was super practical and valuable,” said Elliott Osborne, Richmond Beacon Light church interim pastor.

Other workshops included “Living Beyond Losses” by Valda Dounveor, health and wellness consultant and therapist; “Educating the Palate” by Chef GW Chew, director of The Veg Hub ministry; and “Engaging in Rest” by Kathy Batchelor, NCC human resources director.

Teens attended workshops of their own, conducted by Lydia Elle

of the Gardena Genesis Community church. Her goal was to create a safe environment for youth engagement. “I hope they learned that their human experience is a part of their spiritual experience—and to pray authentically,” she said.

On Sabbath afternoon, Garrett Anderson, pastor of the Pittsburg/Oakland Immanuel Temple district,

was ordained to the gospel ministry. (The ordination will be featured in a future article.)

People left camp meeting eager to put into practice what they had learned. “It was inspirational and soul filling—very timely” said Sable Hughes, a member of the Fairfield Community church. “It’s time to engage our communities.”



PHOTO: LONGTHATCHER



Children's Ministry Department Provides Certification Training in Spanish

BY MADONNA F. TAUEU

An amazing story in Genesis 11 explains how the confusion of language ended the building of the Tower of Babel. It is interesting how language is beautiful when we understand it and irrelevant when we

do not. It is beautiful because we can get things done when we understand each other. And it is annoying when it is irrelevant and nothing gets done.

With the multitude of ethnicities represented in Hawai'i, we want

to ensure that our *keiki* hear and understand in their own language the love of Jesus. Our Hispanic church family is thriving in Hawai'i, and although most of them are bilingual, the native language of any person is the sweetest.

Robin Galgon and Francini Reis of the North American Division (NAD) Children's Ministry Department were invited to provide certification training in Spanish so that our community of Hispanic families could recognize their value

(Left) HMA Ka Lama Iki keiki participate during chapel service.





(Opposite page) Trainers Robin Galgon and Francini Reis pose with Malama Adventist School *keiki* after chapel service. (Above) Kona Hispanic members gather after certification training at Namakanipaio campground.

to our conference. Even more importantly, this training empowered the attendees to connect with their children and those in the Hispanic community about Jesus.

Certification training went well

at Namakanipaio Campground with Kona Hispanic church members; they were well prepared to engage, receive, and enjoy the process. In between certification training at O’ahu Hispanic church, Robin and

Francini were given the opportunity to lead chapel services at some of our Adventist schools.

Our Savior connects with us by speaking to our hearts in the language we understand. We, too, need to connect with our *keiki*, whose language Jesus knows. The variety of languages does not have to mean the confusion of language. Rather than ending the completion of a project, language can fulfill it—through understanding and being understood.



(Above) O’ahu Hispanic church families participate in crafts with their children. (Right) O’ahu Hispanic SDA members unite in prayer for their children.



SECC Schools

Welcome New Principals

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

As a new school year kicks off, the Southeastern California Conference (SECC) is welcoming several new principals. Others are transitioning to different schools within the conference.

Perla Caraveo Vice Principal Redlands Adventist Academy

Ever since she was in kindergarten, Caraveo, who was previously at San Fernando Valley Academy, knew she wanted to



be a teacher. Through the years she has had a variety of assignments and served as an elementary vice principal. At Redlands Adventist Academy, she hopes to become an instructional coach—mentoring, tutoring, and target-teaching students in areas in which they're challenged. "I never lose sight of the fact that these children are their parents' greatest treasures," she said.

Bill Davis Head Principal Escondido Adventist Academy

A Californian at heart, Davis, who was serving as a teacher at Escondido Adventist Academy, has his degree in physical education and enjoys anything



sports related. As athletic director, teacher, and principal, he uses this interest to connect with teens through sports, paying forward the positive influence and impact imparted to him as a student. "The biggest tool I have is involvement—being in the trenches. And I intend to use it," he said.

Don Krpalek Interim Junior High Principal Loma Linda Academy

Though he doesn't know what lies beyond the interim, Krpalek, who has been serving as interim high school principal at Loma Linda Academy, intends to give his all to LLA. He admits he's "one of those strange guys" who likes administration, making sure that



the school is operating as efficiently as possible, that teachers are supported, and that students are equally challenged and encouraged. He said he lives for graduation day and seeing students take another step into their future.

Michelle Maddox Teaching Principal Laguna Niguel Junior Academy

Maddox spent a year as the school secretary at Laguna Niguel Junior Academy before a teaching



position opened. As a secretary, she said she appreciated the opportunity to learn how much the conference does for schools and how much the school does for teachers. "I'm looking forward to doing things I'm not always comfortable with—like speaking up, being direct and vulnerable, and speaking my mind," she said about her new role.

Winston Morgan Head Principal Orangewood Academy

A longtime Southern California resident, Morgan, who was previously serving at Emerald Christian Academy in Oregon,



attended La Sierra Academy, was camp director at Pine Springs Ranch for nine years, and taught at Murrieta Springs and San Diego academies. His goal is to be someone who is personable and who will work collaboratively. "I'm passionate about kids," he said, "and I want to use my skills to help young people find their connection with Christ."

Elizabeth Muñoz-Beard

**Head Principal
La Sierra Academy**

Muñoz-Beard said she is excited to return to her alma mater and the community where she grew up. With leadership and teaching experience under her belt, most recently at Orangewood Academy, she plans to dig in and get to know the people with whom she'll be working and building relationships. She looks forward to giving back: "I am who I am because of La Sierra Academy, and now I can use all of my abilities to give back to the community and the school I love."



Luis Ortiz

**Teaching Principal
Murrieta Springs Adventist Christian School**

Ortiz is a passionate musician. In college, he switched from music to education so he could teach music. After 25 years in the public school system, including the Poway School District in San Diego County where he most recently served, he said he is excited to serve



God in Adventist education. "Being a teacher is a calling, and it's the gift God gave me to make a difference in this world. It's an integral part of who we are as the body of Christ," he said.

Larry Rich

**Principal
Redlands Adventist Academy**

With experience in school leadership in various parts of the country, Rich, who most recently served at Escondido Adventist Academy, looks forward to helping RAA create a long-term vision and to leading a school that continues to be Christ-centered and focused on the mission of the Adventist Church. He says he is "hugely passionate about getting students excited about being part of the church and helping them develop their relationship with Jesus."



Connie Sunderland

**Teaching Principal
El Cajon Adventist Christian School**

After years of moving between the United States and South Korea, teaching and serving as principal at Adventist schools, Sunderland, who was most recently at Golden Valley Adventist Christian School in the Iowa-Missouri Conference, is happy to return to California. She looks forward to doing service days, going on field trips, and perhaps even starting a school garden. "I want to create an environment where it's like coming to school with Jesus," she



said. "One where children are treated as He would treat them."

Iveth Valenzuela

**High School Principal
Loma Linda Academy**

Becoming part of campus life is at the top of Valenzuela's to-do list as she begins her new role. With master's degrees in school counseling and leadership/administration, Valenzuela, who was most recently at Redlands Adventist Academy, looks forward to guiding students as they make decisions at an age where God is becoming their God and not just the God of their parents. She said she gets "really excited about curriculum—planning the best way to help students reach their potential."



Cecilia Wallace

**Teaching Principal
San Antonio Christian School**

Prior to joining San Antonio Christian School, Wallace spent 12 years in a combination classroom in Antelope Valley, then four years at Calexico Mission School. At SACS, where she also previously taught, she looks forward to collaborating with teachers to expand the school-wide mission of improving academic standards. "I hope to build up the quality of instruction, and I am happy to have the opportunity to do so from both an administrative and teaching perspective," she said.





Cold Parenting Linked to Premature Aging, Increased Disease Risk in Offspring

BY JANELLE RINGER

Researchers find unsupportive parenting may have several negative health implications for children.

New research out of Loma Linda University Health suggests that unsupportive parenting styles may have several negative health implications for children, even into their adult years.

The study found that the telomeres—protective caps on the ends of the strands of DNA—of study participants who considered their mothers' parenting style as "cold" were on average 25% smaller compared to those who reported having a mother whose parenting style they considered "warm."

Telomeres shorten with age, becoming less effective at protecting our DNA. Research has found that early-life stress is associated with shorter telomeres, a measurable biomarker of accelerated cellular aging and increased disease risk later in life.

"Telomeres have been called a genetic clock, but we now know that as early life stress increases, telomeres shorten and the risk of a host of diseases increases, as well as premature death," said Raymond Knutsen, MD, MPH, lead author of the study and associate professor at Loma Linda University School of Public Health. "We know that each time a cell divides, the telomeres shorten, which shortens its lifespan."

The study, "Cold parenting is associated with cellular aging in offspring: A retrospective study," used data from 200 subjects who participated in two prospective cohort studies of Seventh-day Adventist men and women: the Adventist Health Study-1 (AHS-1) with 34,000 Californians in 1976 and AHS-2 with 96,000 subjects from the United States and Canada in 2002-2007.

"The way someone is raised seems to tell a story that is intertwined with their genetics," Knutsen said.

The study also examined the impact education and body mass index (BMI) may have on the association between cold parenting and telomere length.

"The association with parenting style was greatest among those with less education, and those who stayed overweight/obese or put on weight during follow-up, suggesting both higher education and normal BMI may provide some resilience against cold parenting and cellular aging," the study stated.

See the latest news and Health & Wellness stories from Loma Linda University Health at news.llu.edu.

From Paint to Prosthetics

BY DONAJAYNE POTTS

Instructor Michael Moor leads bi-monthly mission trips to Mexico.

During a weekend student mission trip to paint an orphanage in Mexico's state of Baja California, Michael Moor couldn't have anticipated he would have the opportunity to dramatically change the life of one little girl.

Moor, instructor of orthotics and prosthetics at Loma Linda University School of Allied Health Professions, said the original plan was for the student mission group to paint playground equipment at the Door of Faith Orphanage, one of the largest orphanages in the state. But news of the group's arrival soon traveled to a local healthcare center, Siloé Wellness Center in La Mision—run by co-founder and medical director, Sarah Mayer, PA, a Loma Linda University alumna.

When Mayer learned the group included members from the Orthotics and Prosthetics, Physical Therapy, and Occupational Therapy departments, she asked if Moor and a small student team would be willing to see a few patients the next day. On its own, the healthcare center was unable to offer orthotics and prosthetic specialty services to patients.

"We assessed four patients in one day, fashioning molds and prostheses using supplies from the healthcare center and the local hardware store," Moor said. "But one case was significantly more complex."

Miranda had been injured in an equestrian accident at age six. While riding on horseback, a lasso rope lying across the saddle wrapped around her arm as the horse spooked. The wild

mare sprinted away and the noose tightened, burning Miranda's arm so severely that a doctor had to amputate her arm below her elbow.

After the accident, she was given a passive arm prosthetic designed to look like a natural arm, without active movement or functionality. Now nine years old, Miranda had not only outgrown the prosthetic arm, she was unable to do everyday tasks like tying her own shoes without the help of others.

"I knew that successful treatment would require multiple follow-up visits and a custom, body-powered hook prosthetic," Moor said.

Moor left Mexico with the promise of returning the following month with a new, functioning arm and hand for Miranda.

In May, Moor returned to Mexico with a group of orthotics and prosthetics students to fit Miranda with her new arm.

After the fitting, with her mother at her side, Miranda completed a first task using her body-powered prosthetic by picking up a specific

rubber band from a large bag of multi-colored bands. Miranda was able to choose a rubber band from the bag on the first attempt using a body-powered hook prosthetic device operated by a cable system that uses body movements, like shoulder shrugging, in order to open and close the hook-shaped device.

"Her mother burst into tears and embraced her daughter; together they celebrated with long hugs, smiles, and tears," Moor recalled. "It was a blessing to be part of that life-changing moment."

Because of the success of the multi-disciplinary student team, Moor has volunteered to lead rehabilitation-focused student mission trips to Mexico every other month.

"We can accomplish so much in just one short weekend of international service," Moor said.

Mission trips are organized by Students for International Mission Service, part of the Global Health Institute at Loma Linda University Health. For more information, visit the website ghi.llu.edu/sims.

Michael Moor, an instructor in the Department of Orthotics and Prosthetics, fits a body-powered prosthetic to a patient during a mission trip to La Mision in Baja California, Mexico.



Linda Vista Robotics Team Wins Top Awards at National Robotics Competition

By Faith Hoyt

A team of six students from Linda Vista Adventist Elementary School in Oxnard, Calif., won a series of top awards on May 5 at the National Robotics Competition.

The Astro Falcons, a team of students ranging from grades five to eight, traveled to the Adventist Robotics League (ARL) National Championship at Forest Lake Academy in Orlando, Florida, where they tested their skills alongside 29 other teams.

The Linda Vista Astro Falcons won first place in robot performance, first place in robot design, first place in project, and second place in core values. The team was then awarded the National Champions Award and received the ARL nomination for the Global Innovation Award—an award given based on a team's project comprising six documents and a video, which, for this team, focused on ways to protect astronauts from radiation in outer space. “The Astro Falcons chose to address the issue of radiation exposure in long-term space travel,” said Heidi



In early May, Linda Vista Adventist Elementary School's Astro Falcons team traveled to the Adventist Robotics League (ARL) National Championship, where they tested their skills alongside 29 other teams.

Pennock, a robotics coach at Linda Vista. “They came up with a new type of tile that covers a space craft with boron nitrate nanotubes to deflect 90% of solar radiation.”

Team captain for the Astro Falcons was Joseph Pennock, who graduated this June from Linda Vista Elementary. This was Joseph's third year as team captain and his fourth year in robotics.

The Astro Falcons team included six members ranging from 5th-8th grade.

“Being in robotics was fun! My co-captain and I were able to keep everyone focused on the main goal,” said Pennock. “I've learned about computer design, project management, keeping things organized, leading people, and public speaking.”

Linda Vista started their robotics program in 2015. According to Anne Blech, co-coach and faculty sponsor for the school's robotics teams, the program impacts students in significant ways.

“The students learn how to work together and listen to each other's opinions,” she said. “They learn how to solve problems, and they create attachments and plan displays for the judges, such as core values, project, and robotic design.”

Heidi Pennock added, “All of these





Linda Vista's Astro Falcons received first place in robot performance, first place in robot design, first place in their project, and second place in core values at the ARL National Championship. Additionally, the team won the National Champions Award and the ARL nomination for the Global Innovation Award.

students have learned how to present an idea and speak to a panel of judges. It takes a lot of guts to present a project your very first time. They did it, and they did so well."

Blech and Heidi Pennock watched the Astro Falcons team put in extra time each week into preparing for the competition. Though teams are only required to meet once a week, the Astro Falcons regularly chose to use free time and Sundays to practice and work on their project.

In addition to working hard on projects and practice, the team also worked on fundraisers in order to pay the airfare to participate in the ARL competition. They met their \$8,500 fundraising goal thanks to support from local churches.

Tamara Thomas Appointed Dean of School of Medicine

By Ansel Oliver

The Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees has appointed Tamara Thomas, MD, to serve as executive vice president for Medical Affairs and dean of the School of Medicine effective July 1. Thomas, an emergency medicine physician, has served as the school's vice dean for academic affairs since 2011.

Thomas will step into the position that was vacated by Roger Hadley, MD, who announced his resignation from the role in March after serving for 16 years.

Thomas, a native of Spokane, Washington, is a professor of the School of Medicine's Department of Emergency Medicine and the department's interim chair. She graduated from the school in 1987 and served a three-year emergency medicine residency at Loma Linda

University Medical Center. She is certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine, and she also holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Walla Walla University in Washington. She has authored or co-authored numerous journal articles and served as a consultant and trainer worldwide.

"Dr. Thomas is a proven academician and clinician who has provided strong leadership to our School of Medicine and medical enterprise," said Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health. "We look forward to working with her in this expanded role as executive vice president and dean."

Thomas said, "Loma Linda University School of Medicine has a special mission. I feel honored to step into this important role. I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to



healthcare and research, as well as educating the next generation of physicians."

Loma Linda University School of Medicine was founded in 1909 and graduates over 180 medical doctors and research scientists each year.



Bible Bowl teams from each conference participate at the Pacific Union FEJA Youth Congress.

Southeastern California Conference Hosts FEJA Youth Congress at La Sierra University

By Faith Hoyt, with Alberto Ingleton and Michel Aguinaga

Approximately 1,200 young people from across the Pacific Union Conference worshipped together and built community at the Federación de Jóvenes Adventistas (FEJA) Youth Congress held at La Sierra University in late June.

The event, hosted this year by the Southeastern California Conference, included a Bible Bowl focusing on Luke and Acts, several social events, and volleyball, basketball, and soccer games. Each aspect of a FEJA convention is designed to help young

people grow spiritually, form Christian friendships, and enjoy physical exercise.

“We are grateful to God for the response we’ve seen from our youth,” said Alberto Ingleton, director of Hispanic and Portuguese Ministries for the Pacific Union Conference. “Our objective is to encourage young people to keep walking with Christ, but beyond that we want them to become active disciples who witness to others— young people who have a story, who found Christ, and enjoy sharing that story with others in their communities.”

Guest speaker at the convocation was Andres Peralta, associate youth director at the General Conference. Peralta spoke in both English and Spanish, sharing the Word of God, testimonies from young people, and illustrations of God’s unfailing love and calling to all youth.

Over the weekend, Ismael Cruz, FEJA president for San Bernardino County, led worship with a team of young people from churches across the Pacific Union. During their time together on Friday and Saturday, attendees watched videos

summarizing FEJA activities from each respective conference and heard union and conference leaders share messages of encouragement and support.

On Sabbath morning, Manny Arteaga, pastor of the Kalēo church, encouraged young people to share their stories with others and step up as active disciples for the kingdom of God. At sundown, the gym was cleared to make way for a mini-Olympics event, and teams from all over the Pacific Union competed in soccer, basketball, and volleyball tournaments.

Many young people made new friends; others reunited with old friends that they had not seen for some time. According to many who attended, this congress was a spiritual blessing. One young person, when asked of his opinion of the event, simply responded: “When is the next one?”



The Pacific Union Conference FEJA Youth Congress was held at the La Sierra University gym in Riverside, Calif., on the weekend of June 28-30. On Sabbath, around 1,200 young people gathered to hear guest speaker Andres Peralta, associate youth director at the General Conference.



The Federación de Jóvenes Adventistas (FEJA) hosts Youth Congresses to support young people in developing their relationship with God through fellowship with Christian youth across the Pacific Union.

Youth, Pathfinder, and Camping Ministries Thrive

By Yara Enamorado

Pathfinder, camping, and youth ministries are thriving this summer, with successful programs reaching and engaging thousands of young people. Thanks to the collaboration of creative directors, each camp specializes in unique ministries and focal points. They are connecting with youth in and out of our church; 45 percent of attendees are non-Adventist!

The Northern California Conference's "Summer on the Run" is an especially fruitful program that brings all the enjoyment of camp without the overnight stay. This fun-filled traveling day camp is jam-packed with activities and games, including archery, crafts, a giant 32-foot waterside, a bouncy house, and more. "Summer on the Run" has already visited the Gracepoint and Mayfair churches. They will round out



the summer with stops in Redwood Creek Camp, Yuba City, Paradise, and Chico.

With one of the largest delegations in the North American Division, the Pacific Union has been focusing on preparing for Oshkosh this year. The team consists of Bob Wong (general security), Craig Heinrich (nighttime programming security), Wendy Eberhardt (nighttime events), and Eddie Heinrich (daytime activities). This year's theme is "Chosen," and a special pin was designed to represent all of our

union's conferences. Next year they'll be gearing up for the Pacific Union camporee.

The Pacific Union Conference's youth ministry is well established and effectively mentors thousands of young people. Each year, leaders brainstorm and strategize new and relevant methods to win youth for the kingdom. Next year the focus will be on young adult and youth ministry training. The hope is to ground our young people in faith and community, reminding them of their infinite value and purpose.

Family Life Ministries Celebrates Centennial Anniversary

By Edwin Mendoza, with Yara Enamorado

Family Life Ministries (FLM) seeks to fulfill a primal need within every human being—to be part of a family. Families are the center of society and the heart of the church.

The idea of family has evolved, and today's families are facing

numerous challenges. Families come in many different sizes, shapes, and colors. Dozens of seminars featuring experts on family relationships are held in churches across the Pacific Union each year with the purpose of strengthening the family in every aspect of daily living.

Family Life Ministries is celebrating their centennial anniversary. In honor of this milestone, FLM hopes to visit one church and conference every month to host a seminar on family. In addition, FLM aims to help each church within the Pacific Union hold



Family seminar in Hawaii.

at least one seminar or conference of its own.

So far, FLM has held seminars in Southeastern California Conference, Central California Conference, and Hawaii, with a combined total of over 300 in attendance. Additionally, FLM has supported North American Division (NAD) conferences in Arizona and Texas.

With eight future conferences planned from now through December, FLM is busy strengthening the family structure

of our church. FLM recognizes Glen Santana, Steve Horton, Alice Merrill, Manuel Vitug, and Royal Harrison alongside their staff for taking time to support FLM in their local conferences.

The second quarter of the 2019 Sabbath School lesson quarterly was titled “Family Seasons,” and the lessons centered on the family. FLM would like to recognize Dr. Claudio and Pamela Consuegra and their team for their tireless efforts to support and nurture families in the

NAD by producing the material used for these weekly lesson studies.

Jesus should be the center of all families and in the heart of each family member. It’s easy to see that our relationships with each other depend on how close we are to the Center. FLM wants to build families fully centered in Jesus. If your congregation needs the services of Family Life Ministries, contact your local conference or contact Edwin Mendoza at 951-288-4196 or edmeng053@yahoo.com.



SECC Riverside family life conference.

Pacific Union Education Department Presents Five Students with Scholarships—Future Teachers Committed to Living God’s Love

By Faith Hoyt

Earlier this year, leadership from the Pacific Union Department of Education attended the graduation weekend ceremonies of five students in order to present them with scholarship awards.

Every year since 2015, the Pacific Union has awarded four-year scholarships to five high school seniors pursuing education degrees at an Adventist university. The winners for this year’s scholarships are Alivia Lespinasse, Dannica Roberts, Lauren VandenHoven, Molly Gram, and Se Bin Bong, five students who share common goals: living God’s love in their classrooms and helping their future students

discover the joy of learning.

When Alivia Lespinasse graduated from Loma Linda Academy this June, she knew without a doubt that the career she wanted to pursue was elementary education. “My love for teaching and helping others is something I believe God gave me for a reason,” Lespinasse said. “Kids are the future of our church. I want to be able to teach them about the joy of Jesus so that they continue

down the path of wanting to know more about Him.” Lespinasse plans to pursue a degree in elementary education from Andrews University.

Dannica Roberts, who graduated this year from



Dannica Roberts, a member of the Aiea church and recent graduate of Hawaiian Mission Academy, looks forward to earning her education degree at Southern Adventist University. Her ultimate goal is to inspire her family and others to live and love like Jesus.

Hawaiian Mission Academy, wants to use her future role as a teacher to inspire others to love, serve, and live the way Jesus did. “My school has encouraged me to help those around me by assisting with their needs and teaching them about God’s love,” she said. Roberts believes her participation in several activities at the Aiea church contributed greatly to her desire to become a teacher. From volunteering as a crew leader for Vacation Bible School to working with young people on a mission trip to Peru, she learned how to teach others about Jesus. Roberts looks forward to earning her education degree at Southern Adventist University.

Alivia Lespinasse, a June graduate of Loma Linda Academy, plans to pursue a degree in elementary education from Andrews University. Her passion for teaching grew through her experiences leading children’s Sabbath School at the Kansas Avenue church and serving as a ministry director in high school—an opportunity that involved teaching elementary students about Christ. Lespinasse receives her scholarship from Martha Havens, associate director of elementary education for the Pacific Union Conference.





On her first day of Kindergarten, Lauren VandenHoven fell in love with school and met the first of many teachers who would inspire her decision to pursue a degree in education. “I have had a teacher who helped me wrestle with questions on spirituality, two who helped me find my passion for art, another who taught me how to make a good presentation and reflect questions in my answers, one who explained long division to me six different ways until I got it, and one who encouraged me to pursue teaching and has guided me along the way,” VandenHoven shared. She believes that teaching is the path towards infinite learning. “There will always be something new to find out and another perspective to discover,” she added. VandenHoven is a graduate of PUC Preparatory School and plans to attend Pacific

Molly Gram, an incoming education major at Pacific Union College this fall, discovered her passion for education while teaching gymnastics classes. At her graduation from Newbury Park Adventist Academy this June, Gram is presented with a scholarship towards an education degree by Berit von Pohle, director of education for the Pacific Union Conference.

To Lauren VandenHoven, teaching is a path towards infinite learning. “There will always be something new to find out and another perspective to discover.” VandenHoven will attend Pacific Union College this fall and plans on someday teaching high school English.

Union College this fall with the goal of someday teaching high school English.

Molly Gram, a graduate of Newbury Park Adventist Academy, discovered her love of teaching while leading gymnastics classes for children ranging in age from 1 to 14. Her hope is to not only inspire young people with the fun of learning, asking questions, and being curious but to also teach children

about God’s love. “I want to be able to show up to work every day and teach children about the love God has for us,” she shared.

Se Bin Bong, a graduate of Redlands Adventist Academy, attributes her passion for teaching to the mentorship and help from teachers in her life, as well as her love of children. “My teachers molded me into the person I am today and never failed to love and support me,” she shared. “They taught me about God and showed me who He really is through their actions. I want to make a ripple effect of God’s love.” Bong believes in the importance of mentorship and showing God’s love through actions. She will use her



Pacific Union Education scholarship to attend Andrews University this fall.

The scholarships provided to these five students are one of the ways that the Education Department of the Pacific Union Conference is planning for the continuation of a quality education system. “As we identify individuals with a passion for teaching, there is nothing more exciting than to be part of helping them reach their goal,” said Berit von Pohle, director of education for the Pacific Union Conference.

Redlands Adventist Academy graduate Se Bin Bong believes in the importance of mentorship and showing God’s love through actions. She will use her scholarship from the Pacific Union Department of Education to attend Andrews University this fall.



Capital Reversion Funds Give Facelifts to Inner-City Churches

By Sali Butler

“Is everyone warm this morning?” The meaningful smile on the head elder’s face implied, “You know why I’m asking.” The San Francisco Rainbow church received the lion’s share of the 2019 Capital Reversion funds for African-American churches in Central California Conference. Because of this grant, the Rainbow church was able to replace a furnace that had been inoperable for a few years. Pastor James Scarborough said, “The senior saints are not shivering anymore, and that is a blessing from the Lord.”

Capital Reversion funds come from a combination of tithe reversion and

union contribution that is disbursed annually to churches who submit applications for grants for repairs, refurbishing, renovations, and replacements (e.g., carpet, flooring, windows, doors, roofs, parking lots, etc.)

In 2018, the Altadena church in the Greater Los Angeles Region of Southern California Conference replaced the leaky roof, ceiling, and light fixtures of the multipurpose building. Antelope Valley church updated the restrooms and fellowship hall and painted its sanctuary.

The Smyrna church in Los Angeles has enhanced the lobby and fellowship hall, refitted the

kitchen with a new stove and freezer, converted a room into a children’s classroom—and they are working on other refurbishment projects. The Smyrna church, which has collaborated with a community farmer’s market for several years, has found that these renovations are being noticed. “It has been so nice to hear the community’s remarks about the upgrades of the facilities, including our fellowship hall and restrooms,” said Elder Marva Berry. “They can see that we care about God’s property and the community.”

Sometimes the repairs are a matter of safety, security, and training. The Pittsburg church in

Northern California Conference needed asbestos abatement, lighting, and security doors, as well as the installation of an elevator and restroom upgrades for the handicapped. The congregation was out of its building for more than a year while they gave sacrificially, fundraised, and stayed faithful to God until the work was completed.

“The capital reversion funds in 2018 were a great incentive and encouragement to the members; they have a beautiful church to worship

in and impact their community for Christ,” said Virgil Childs, director of Regional Ministries, Pacific Union Conference. “I am glad that a part of my responsibilities at the Union office is to support the churches in all aspects of their growth and development. The appearance of the house of worship reflects on God and His people. Sometimes, like in Nehemiah 1, it only takes a little motivation to get people in the mode to make a difference. Capital Reversion is a small percent of their

title being returned to the local church, and it shows that the larger body does care about its people.”

Capital reversion is disbursed once a year as voted by the Union Executive Committee. Regional churches submit their projects to the Union Regional Coordinating Committee in early January, and the process for funding is completed by April. More than \$1 million in the past 10 years has been reverted back to Regional Ministries to give facelifts to churches in the inner cities.

Long-time Northern California Conference Director Gordon Botting Passes Away

By Julie Lorenz and Stephanie Leal

It is with great sadness that we share the news that Gordon Botting, retired Northern California Conference pastor and department director, passed away July 11. He most recently served as director of NCC community services, health, and stewardship—three ministries he was very passionate about because they enabled church members to reach out to their communities. At the time of his death, he was serving as Pacific Union Conference stewardship director.

“Gordon helped countless people during his lifetime of service,” said NCC President Marc Woodson. “Only in heaven will we know how many lives he impacted. We are so thankful for the assurance that we will see our friend again—soon!”

In the mid-1990s, Gordon created *The Stewpot*, a monthly bulletin about stewardship. He wrote most of the issues in the decades since



then. In the most recent issue (July 2019), his topic was planning ahead for Christmas. He concluded with these words:

Above all, not only during the Christmas season but for the next six months, remember that our Heavenly

Father poured out all of heaven in one eternal gift—His Son, Jesus Christ. And through that blessing over 2,000 years ago, we benefit from numerous gifts, such as the gift of forgiveness, the gift of fellowship with Him, and the gift of eternal life through His Son's sacrifice on Calvary. Beginning this July, make it a point to share the most amazing gift of all—the good news about Jesus.

Gordon is survived by his wife Margaret, his daughter Angela Graf (and husband Ricardo), his son Tim (and wife Dusty), and five grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on August 3 at 4:00 p.m. at the Carmichael church.

On behalf of the NCC office family, we extend our deepest condolences to the entire Botting family. Gordon's legacy will live on in the many lives he touched through his years of ministry. We look forward to seeing our colleague and friend again in the Great Morning.

CALENDAR

Arizona Conference

Arizona SonShine – Mesa (Aug. 24-25) Mesa Convention Center, 263 N Center Street, Mesa. Info: 928-636-1884 (not relating to registration as a volunteer). Register to volunteer and help be the hands and feet of Jesus! We need volunteers that work in the dental, vision, medical, and therapies fields AND those who do not. There is something for everyone to do at Arizona SonShine - Mesa. Register at www.arizonasonshine.com.

Revelation Today

(Sept. 27- Oct. 26) Mesa Convention Center, 263 N Center Street, Mesa. Presented by It Is Written with speaker/director John Bradshaw.

31st Arizona Women's Retreat (Oct. 11-13) High Heels

and High Callings. Speaker Tamyra Horst, Columbia Union Women's Ministries Director. Register at www.azsdawomen.weebly.com.

Central California Conference

Summer Camp (now-Aug. 4) at Camp Wawona. Theme: "Chosen," based on the life of David. Everyone can enjoy weeklong summer camp: cubs, juniors, tweens, teens, and families of all ages. Find the camp that is right for you and your family at CampWawona.org.

Northern California Conference

FEJA Camp Meeting (Aug. 30-Sept. 2) Leoni Meadows. Hispanic youth federation. Info: NCC Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092.

Adventurer and Pathfinder Leadership Convention (Sept.

6-8) Leoni Meadows. Info: NCC Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

Church Treasurer Training

(Sept. 22) Anderson church, 2769 Balls Ferry Road, Anderson. Bring your laptop computer. Lunch provided. RSVP. Info: NCC Treasurer's Office, 888-434-4622, ext. 209.

Instituto Laico Adventista de California

(Sept. 22) 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Pacific Union College. Training for Spanish-speaking laypeople. First session of 2019-2020 course. Speaker: Eric Mendieta, "Introducción a la Escatología." Info: www.nccsda.com/ilac.

Pacific Union College

Fall 2019 Registration:

Incoming and returning students can register for the ideal fall quarter schedule as they prepare for career or graduate school. Applications still being accepted, and scholarships are available. Info: 707-965-6336 or puc.edu/admissions.

Fall 2019 Starts: PUC kicks off another exciting school year in September. New Student Orientation for freshmen begins Sept. 18 and school starts Sept. 23. Info: 707-965-7362.

Southeastern California Conference

The Great Health Controversy (Aug. 30-Aug. 31) Fri., 7 p.m.; Sab., 9:30 a.m. San Diego Academy, 2800 E. 4th St., National City, Calif. Facilitator, author, and speaker Rico Hill. Hosted by the El Cajon church. Info: 619-444-0763.

Southern California Conference

Second Saturday Series Concert (Aug. 3) 5 p.m. *1st Saturday. CSULA conducting students, featuring works by Brahms, Vaughn Williams, and Rorem. Admission is by free-will offering. Reception to follow. Glendale City church, 610 E.

California Ave., Glendale 91206. Info: 818-244-7241.

Back to Basics: The Fundamentals of Nutrition and Spirituality

(Aug.-Sept.) 6:30 p.m. Tuesday nights. Each night will include a plant-based meal and discussions on nutrition and spirituality. South Bay church, 401 S. Prospect Ave., Redondo Beach 90277. Info: www.southbaychurch.net/South_Bay_Church/Back_to_Basics.

Second Saturday Series

Concert (Sept. 14) 5 p.m. Featuring Trojan Brass Ensemble. Admission is by free-will offering. Reception to follow. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave., Glendale 91206. Info: 818-244-7241.

65th SCC Constituency

Session (Sept. 22) 7:55 a.m.-1 p.m. The purpose of this important meeting is to receive reports; to elect conference officers, the superintendent of education, the executive committee, and the bylaws committee; and to transact any other business. White Memorial church, 401 North State St., Los Angeles 90033.

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SDA Realtor: Let us help you

sell your property or buy the ideal home here in gorgeous northern California. Rural properties abound. Perfect for families and retirees. Jerry Kea, Realtor, 707-888-9613, email: thomaskea.tk@gmail.com, CA BRE Lic#02080864, TREG INC, dba The Real Estate Group.

Bulletin Board

Adventist Books: Looking for new Adventist titles to encourage and grow your daily walk? Visit us at www.TEACHServices.com. For used Adventist books visit www.LNFBooks.com. Authors: If you're interested in having your

book published, call 800-367-1844 for a free evaluation.

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ANNUAL CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2019

Trinity Life Center | Sacramento, CA



Join us in celebrating 50 years of service with a mission weekend in Sacramento, California.

Registration is free!
maranatha.org/missionmaranatha

September 19, Anniversary Dinner

Reminisce about your Maranatha adventures with friends. (Tickets required)

September 20-21, Program

Worship, celebrate, and learn about the work of Maranatha around the world.

September 20, Seminars

Join the conversation on how you can get involved in the mission field.

September 20-21, Musical Guest

Enjoy the music of Christian Edition as they perform throughout our weekend program.



Featuring musical guest Christian Edition

maranatha.org | 916.774.7700



Advertising

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

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).

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\$70 for 50 words;

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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, email 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.

September: August 5

October: September 5

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.

healing. 707-746-7828 or info@canvasback.org.

Employment

PSR Food Service Director.

Pine Springs Ranch Christian Youth Camp and Retreat Center in the San Jacinto mountains seeks a full-time food service director. This position manages hospitality through serving meals to our retreat guests and summer camp campers. The position is responsible for supervision, training, menu planning, budget management, product ordering, food preparation, and other food service related duties. Successful candidates will have the ability to function in a team environment and will work with diverse ethnic groups. A bachelor's degree in food service, cuisine, or similar major and three years of experience desired; equivalent combination of

education and experience may be considered for non-degree qualified individuals. For information, contact SECC Human Resources at 951-509-2351.

Physical Therapist/Assistant.

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AT REST

Anderson, Paul Wayne – b. April 17, 1930, Janesville, Wis.; d. May 9, 2019, Napa, Calif. Survivors: sister, Marilyn Jorgensen. Served as a physician.

Arnison, Nicholas – b. Dec. 6, 1981, Bakersfield, Calif.; d. March 4, 2019, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Maria Luisa; daughter, Naomi.

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Babb, Marian – b. Dec. 21, 1919, Tripoli, Wis.; d. Feb. 6, 2019, Porterville, Calif. Survivor: sister, Shirley Tiffin. Served as an elementary teacher in Central California Conference.

Bothwell, Stephanie Anne (Adams) – b. March 3, 1972, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. April 11, 2019, St. Helena, Calif. Survivors: husband, Michael; son, Barrett; daughters, Taylor, Megan. Worked as registrar at Pacific Union College Preparatory School.

Carr, Betty May (Offerback) – b. March 26, 1933, Peoria, Ill.; d. May 13, 2019, Napa, Calif. Survivors: husband, Glen; sons, Stephen, Gilman; two grandchildren.

Gonzales, Curtis Anthony – b. May 18, 1964, Albuquerque, N.M.; d. May 17, 2019, Yucaipa,

Calif. Survivors: wife, Kathee Vogel; father, Don; mother, Betty; brother, Kent; sister, Jacinda.

Keszler, Irene Tamara (Horst) – b. Sept. 4, 1919, Streeter, N. D.; d. May 29, 2019, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: son, Bruce; daughter, Sharon Blaufus; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild.

Knoefler, Iva Nette Tamara (Ruf) – b. April 7, 1926, Shattuck, Okla.; d. May 23, 2019, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: son, Lloyd; daughters, Evelyn Adams, Lucy, Lynette Adams; sisters, Lu Etta Sherman, Laura Lea Ruf, Bonita Jean Ruf Petree; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren. Worked at Loma Linda Foods factory.

Leeper, Richard Dean "Dick"

– b. May 28, 1935, Hot Springs, S.D.; d. June 21, 2019, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Earlene; sons, Don, Doug; daughters, Debbi Alexander, Melinda Price, Darla Johnson; 19 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

Manriquez, Garrion Jesse – b. Dec. 14, 1959, Pecos, Texas; d. June 14, 2019, Spiro, Okla. Survivors: daughters, Michelle, Crystal; sisters, Gilberta Piovesan, Wilma Harris, Christina Allen; three grandchildren; two great grandchildren.

Matar, Joaquin (Joe) – b. Nov. 26, 1925, Bethlehem, Palestine; d. June 5, 2019, Monterey Park, Calif. Survivors: wife, Dorothy; daughters, Michelle White, Marla Bliss; three granddaughters, Kristin, Lauren, and Megan White; nieces and nephews.

Orser, Melvin Arthur – b. July 8, 1923, La Plata, N.M.; d. June 21, 2019, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Jessie; sons John, David. He served as head deacon at the Loma Linda University church over 20 years.

Scroggs, Lorraine E. (Parker) – b. Feb. 23, 1948, Seattle, Wash.; d. Nov. 12, 2018, Portland, Tenn. Survivors: husband, Donald; daughters, Kelli Pellegrini, Missy Barsam; stepdaughters, LaVonne, LeAnne; one grandchild; sister, Patricia Parker. Served It Is Written and for The King's Herald.

Skadsheim, Amos – b. May 15, 1916, Winton, Calif.; d. March 18, 2019, Columbia, Calif. Survivors: husband, Richard; daughter, Judith Rowe.

Spinka, Raymond Francis (Ray) – b. March 2, 1929, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; d. June 12, 2019, Redlands, Calif.

Sunset Calendar

August 2019

City	Aug 2	Aug 9	Aug 16	Aug 23	Aug 30
Alturas	8:59	8:50	8:40	8:28	8:17
Angwin	8:19	8:11	8:02	7:53	7:42
Bakersfield	7:58	7:51	7:43	7:35	7:25
Calexico	7:39	7:33	7:25	7:17	7:09
Chico	8:19	8:11	8:02	7:52	7:41
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	8:29	8:20	8:10	8:00	7:49
Eureka	8:31	8:22	8:13	8:03	7:52
Four Corners [E]	8:22	8:14	8:06	7:57	7:47
Fresno	8:04	7:57	7:49	7:40	7:30
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	7:39	7:31	7:23	7:15	7:05
Half Dome	8:05	7:58	7:49	7:40	7:30
Hilo	6:56	6:52	6:47	6:42	6:37
Holbrook	7:22	7:15	7:07	6:58	6:49
Honolulu	7:09	7:05	7:00	6:55	6:49
Joshua Tree	7:45	7:38	7:31	7:22	7:13
Lake Tahoe	8:10	8:02	7:53	7:43	7:33
Las Vegas	7:44	7:37	7:29	7:20	7:11
Lodi-Stockton	7:51	7:44	7:37	7:28	7:19
Loma Linda	7:49	7:42	7:34	7:26	7:17
Los Angeles	7:53	7:46	7:38	7:30	7:21
McDermitt [N]	8:08	7:59	7:49	7:39	7:27
Moab	8:27	8:19	8:11	8:01	7:51
Monterey Bay	8:13	8:06	7:57	7:48	7:38
Mt. Whitney	7:46	7:40	7:33	7:25	7:16
Napa	8:17	8:10	8:01	7:52	7:42
Nogales [S]	7:38	7:35	7:31	7:27	7:22
Oakland	8:16	8:09	8:00	7:51	7:41
Paradise, CA	8:18	8:10	8:01	7:51	7:40
Phoenix	7:27	7:20	7:13	7:05	6:56
Puuwai, Ni'ihau [W]	7:17	7:13	7:08	7:02	6:56
Reno	8:10	8:02	7:53	7:43	7:33
Riverside	7:49	7:42	7:35	7:26	7:18
Sacramento	8:15	8:07	7:58	7:49	7:39
Salt Lake City	8:42	8:33	8:24	8:14	8:03
San Diego	7:46	7:39	7:32	7:24	7:15
San Francisco	8:17	8:09	8:01	7:51	7:41
San Jose	8:14	8:06	7:58	7:49	7:39
Santa Rosa	8:20	8:12	8:03	7:54	7:43
Sunset Beach	8:43	8:34	8:25	8:15	8:04
Thousand Oaks	7:55	7:48	7:40	7:32	7:23
Tucson	7:20	7:14	7:06	6:59	6:50

[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

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Survivors: wife, Zsuzsanna; son, David; daughters, Sharon, Karen, Roberta, Adeline; 11 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.

Stevens, Elisa G. (Gourian) – b. Dec. 28, 1922, Thessaloniki, Greece; d. March 22, 2019, Angwin, Calif. Survivors: son, Ron; daughters, Deb Leidig, Danna Stevens; six grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren. Served as a nurse, childbirth educator; served the Angwin community weekly at the Neighborhood Table.

Tiffin, Howard – b. Sept. 24, 1935, Lindsay, Calif.; d. Jan. 10, 2019, Porterville,

Calif. Survivors: wife, Shirley; sons, Daniel, Timothy; daughter, Shirlene Griffis; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

Ward, Barbara (Tooley) – b. Sept. 12, 1936, Oasis, Nev.; d. April 25, 2019, Yucaipa, Calif. Survivors: husband, Richard Ellsworth; sons, Richard, Chris; daughter, Tamara Schlotthauer; sisters, Patricia D'Angelo, Katie Sanford, Rebecca Boettger; seven grandchildren; one great-grandson.

Watson, Shirley Lynn (Sawyer) – b. May 19, 1936, Albuquerque, N.M.; d. June 30, 2019, Orem, Utah. Survivors: son, Ken; daughter-in-law,

Brenda; brothers, Warren, David; four grandchildren.

Willes, Kenneth Lawrence – b. Feb. 8, 1936, Burma (Myanmar); d. May 17, 2019, Keaau, Hawaii. Survivors: wife, Ruth Ann; son, Kenneth II; daughters, Helena, Elizabeth; stepsons, Robert Chadwick, Ronald Chadwick, Richard Chadwick; brothers, Edric, John; sisters, Kathleen Mundt, Elizabeth Lewin, Jean Washington; 10 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren. Served as president of Parkview Hospital in Riverside, worked at White Memorial Hospital and Bakersfield Adventist Hospital, served as assistant to the president at Weimar Institute.

Wright, Zelna Petulia – b. April 14, 1967, Johannesburg, South Africa; d. May 22, 2019, Pretoria, South Africa. Survivors: husband, Vigil; son, Kyle; daughter, Kyla Kai (David); grandson, Raphael Kai. Served in the treasury department, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division office, Pretoria, South Africa, and at Bethel and Helderberg colleges as a credentialed missionary.

Young, Joyce Isabell – b. Sept. 16, 1936, Albany, N.Y.; d. May 26, 2019, Poway, Calif. Survivors: sons, Arthur, Rick; daughters, Mary, Crystal; one grandson. She enjoyed singing in the Yucaipa church choir.

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