

PACIFIC UNION

JULY 2021

# Recorder



Incredible Reality:  
Infinite Love

## COME 'ASSOCIATE' WITH

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

Starting on an educational journey can be intimidating, which is why La Sierra University is proud to announce our new Associate Degree in Health Science. The A.S. in Health Science program offers students the opportunity to complete an Associate Degree together with their prerequisites for further study in healthcare professions. Students gain a thorough foundation and breadth of knowledge while also benefiting from La Sierra's excellent liberal art education, enabling them to excel both professionally and in their personal lives.

Learn more about our A.S. in Health Science at [lasierra.edu/as-health-science](http://lasierra.edu/as-health-science)

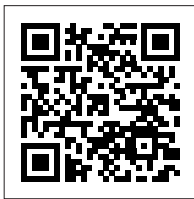




The July, August, and September issues of the *Recorder* will include materials related to the 2021 Constituency Session of the Pacific Union Conference that is slated for August 15-16, 2021, in Tucson, Arizona. The Newsdesk section this month contains summaries

of the specialized ministries in which our members are engaged each and every day. Reports from the Pacific Union administrative team, the various departments, and our institutions will be featured in the August and September issues.

Cover Art © Morgan Weistling



Download the *Recorder* to your mobile device! For iPad/iPhone: open your QR reader and scan the code. For Android: activate the QR scan extension in your Internet browser, then select "Scan QR Code."

PACIFIC UNION

# Recorder

The *Recorder* is a monthly publication reaching approximately 76,000 Seventh-day Adventist homes in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah. Our mission is to inform, educate, and inspire our readers to action in all areas of ministry.

## What's inside

- 4 "Do You Love Me?"
- 8 Incredible Reality: Infinite Love
- 12 Health Hazard
- 14 The New Guy
- 16 Merritt Gardner Kellogg (Part 2): West Beyond the Shores
- 20 Adventist Health
- 21 Arizona Conference
- 22 Central California Conference
- 26 Hawaii Conference
- 28 Holbrook Indian School
- 30 Loma Linda University Health
- 31 La Sierra University
- 32 Nevada-Utah Conference
- 34 Northern California Conference
- 38 Pacific Union College
- 40 Southeastern California Conference
- 44 Southern California Conference
- 48 Newsdesk
- 58 Community & Marketplace
- 62 Sunset Calendar
- 65 Pacific Union Conference Constituency Motions

### Publisher

Ray Tetz

### Editor

Alberto Valenzuela

### Assistant Editor

Faith Hoyt

### Assistant Editor

Connie Jeffery

### Design/Layout

Stephanie Leal • Alberto Valenzuela

### Printing

Pacific Press Publishing Association  
www.pacificpress.com

### Adventist Health

916-742-0429  
Kim Strobel  
strobeka@ah.org

### Arizona

480-991-6777 ext 114  
Kerysa Ford  
kford@azconference.org

### Central California

559-347-3194  
communication@cccsda.org

### Hawaii

808-595-7591  
Miki Akeo-Nelson  
mnelson@hawaiiisda.com

### Holbrook Indian School

505-399-2885  
Chevon Petgrave  
cpetgrave@hissda.org

### La Sierra University

951-785-2000  
Darla Tucker  
dmartint@lasierra.edu

### Loma Linda

909-651-5925  
Ansel Oliver  
anoliver@llu.edu

### Nevada-Utah

775-322-6929  
Michelle Ward  
mward@nevadautah.org

### Northern California

916-886-5600  
Laurie Trujillo  
Laurie.Trujillo@nccsda.com

### Pacific Union College

707-965-6303  
Haley Wesley  
pr@puc.edu

### Southeastern California

951-509-2287  
sandy.roberts@seccsda.org

### Southern California

818-546-8400  
Lauren Lacson  
Lacson@sccsda.org

## Editorial Correspondents

**Postal Regs:** The Pacific Union Recorder (ISSN 0744-6381), Volume 121, Number 7, is the official journal of the Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and is published monthly. Editorial office is at 2686 Townsgate Rd., Westlake Village, CA 91361; 805-497-9457. Periodical postage paid at Thousand Oaks, CA, and additional mailing offices. Subscription rate: No charge to Pacific Union Adventist church members; \$16 per year in U.S.; \$20 foreign (U.S. funds); single copy, \$2. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to: Circulation Department, Pacific Union Recorder, Box 5005, Westlake Village, CA 91359. Info@adventistfaith.com.



# “Do You Love Me?”

By Ricardo Graham

**T**o be sure, this question has been asked by multitudes throughout history. Wives have asked husbands and husbands have asked wives, “Do you love me?” Mothers, disappointed with embarrassing behavior, have asked their rebellious children. Children, fearful of rejection, have asked parents, teachers, friends. This question has probably been asked in more contexts than I can imagine.

Perhaps one of the most poignant occurrences of this query was when the Resurrected Lord asked Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” (John 21:15).<sup>\*</sup> Most commentators believe that Jesus was asking Peter if he loved Him more than the other disciples did; after all, Peter had proclaimed very publicly that while all the others might be offended by Him, he was willing to die for and with Jesus. “Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will” (Matthew 26:33).



And yet, true to the prophecy of Jesus, Peter had denied the Lord three times in public.

The same Being who shook the earth when He spoke from Mount Sinai, who patiently taught the disciples, who compassionately preached to the crowds, is now asking a fallen disciple, “Do you love me more than these, Peter?”

Jesus clearly demonstrated in both word and actions what God had been trying to teach through the centuries in the writings of the prophets. When an expert in the law tried to test Jesus by asking which was the greatest commandment, He answered by quoting the ancient law: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength” (Deuteronomy 6:5). Then He added, “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39). Simple, right? All that the God of heaven asks is that we love Him and love humanity.

And yet, we may understand love in the abstract, but love in the practical—that is another thing altogether.

It is complicated by the fact that there are different kinds of love. What kind

## Jesus knew of Peter's enormous potential, so after each question, after each of Peter's protestations of love, Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

---

of love is required of us? The Bible uses different words to describe love in its various aspects. In English the word *love* is rather generic and doesn't really make a distinction as to the type or variety of love.

The Koine Greek language had specific words for different types of love. *Storge* is the love of parents for their offspring. *Phileo* is the love between friends and describes the tight bond between BFFs. *Agape* is, as one of my professors described it years ago, the mountaintop love—standing above all others as Mount Everest stands out among all the mountains in the world. Thomas Aquinas explained it by saying *agape* meant "to will the good of another."

*Agape* is the self-sacrificing, principled love that goes beyond the family or the BFF. This is what Jesus asked Peter about. Jesus is putting Peter on the spot by asking, in the presence of the other disciples, if he loved Him with *agape* love. Furthermore, He asked him this question not once but three times.

Some biblical scholars believe that Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him, in front of the other disciples, to specifically counterbalance Peter's three public denials. In order for Peter to be restored, he had to be confronted with his rejection of Jesus.

Jesus is exercising godly accountability over Peter by asking him if he loved Him sacrificially, more than the other disciples did, as he had claimed.

Interestingly enough, the first two times Jesus

asked Peter if he loved Him *agape*, Peter responded that he loved Him *phileo*, as a best friend. It was as though Peter could only conceive of loving Jesus as a friend, not as someone for whom he would sacrificially give his life.

With the third repetition of the question, Jesus, recognizing the limits of Peter's love, asked him if he truly loved Him as a best friend, or *phileo*, to which Peter said yes. At that time, he was unable to love Jesus sacrificially. However, tradition tells us that when Peter was martyred for the sake of Jesus and the gospel, he requested that he be crucified upside down, not counting himself worthy to die in the same manner as his Lord.

Peter's love did grow for Jesus beyond the *phileo* variety. Jesus knew of Peter's enormous potential, so after each question, after each of Peter's protestations of love, Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." Jesus pointed Peter to the future, asking him to take care of the flock, the fledgling church—indicating not only forgiveness but restoration as the leader of the disciples.

Peter's denial of his Lord had been in shameful contrast to his former professions of loyalty. He had dishonored Christ and had incurred the distrust of his brethren. They thought he would not be allowed to take his former position among them, and he himself felt that he had forfeited his trust. Before being called to take up again his apostolic

work, he must before them all give evidence of his repentance. Without this, his sin, though repented of, might have destroyed his influence as a minister of Christ. The Savior gave him opportunity to regain the confidence of his brethren, and, so far as possible, to remove the reproach he had brought upon the gospel (Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 811).

I have heard the suggestion that when we read the Bible, especially the Gospels, we should imaginatively insert ourselves in the story, identifying with one of the characters being referenced. In this story, I must admit, I identify with Peter.

As a sinner saved by grace, I have missed the mark of loving all people, all the time. We are all a “work in progress,” a work that is being conducted by God.

A story is told of a pastor who came to a new assignment. In his inaugural sermon, he preached about love; in fact, he preached three successive sermons on the subject.

After the third sermon, some of the elders approached him and dialogued with him. While they stated appreciation for each of his first three presentations, they asked him if he had anything else to preach.

Allegedly, the pastor responded by saying, “You haven’t learned that one yet.” Evidently, he had observed that the members of his new congregation had not yet reached the mature demonstration of unselfish love.

The story may be apocryphal, but the point is clear: in spite of the many times we have heard or read about the awesome, amazing, continual love God for us, we have failed to consistently demonstrate it.

The Bible is clear: sacrificial love is the premier sign of discipleship. It certifies our true allegiance

to God and is the litmus test by which we are all measured. Loving God and loving each other *agape* constrains us; it limits us and also propels us forward into action. As I saw on the wall of the Market Street church a few years ago, “Love is an action word.”

We have received the love of God in His mercy and grace. In my opinion, our redemption and salvation are but tokens of His love for fallen humanity—based upon the sacrifice of Jesus and our faithful acceptance of Him. There’s more: God gives loving tokens all the time.

The fact that we can read the Bible is a sign of God’s love. The sun, the rain, the bounties of nature declare His love. The ability to learn a skill and then to go out and practice a profession is based on the

love and the power that God gives us.

Paul wrote of *agape* in 1 Corinthians 13, exhorting that if we do not have love, we have nothing. He comes to the assessment that the most powerful gift of God to be sought after and deployed in Christian life, internally and externally, is the gift of love. “The greatest of

these is love,” he proclaims in verse 13.

While I was attending the seminary at Andrews University, Elder T. Marshall Kelly gave a message during a chapel service. The essence of his message was that we should “do the loving thing.” I’ve never forgotten this charge, and it is my daily prayer. It is my belief that God is willing to reproduce this in every heart in the Pacific Union as we, like Peter, progressively yield our hearts to Him.

*\*All texts are taken from the New International Version of the Bible.*

---

*Ricardo Graham is the president of the Pacific Union Conference.*



# Incredible Reality: Infinite Love

By John Brunt



© Morgan Weistling



**C**an we really believe it or even get our minds around it? It seems unbelievable! Too farfetched to be true! Beyond credulity! Impossible! What am I talking about? The idea that God became human. The Creator of the universe became one of us!

Yet this is what the Gospel of John says:

“The Word was God” (John 1:1).

“The Word became flesh” (John 1:14).

In the ultimate act of love, God became human and lived among us and with us, experiencing all the joys, trials, and troubles we know in this world.

This was too much for many in the early church to believe. As early as the second century, we find spurious, apocryphal writings that deny this incredible reality. A work purporting to be from John called the *Acts of John* claims that Jesus only *appeared* to be human. This John impersonator says:

Sometimes when I meant to touch him I encountered a material, solid body; but at other times again when I felt him, his substance was immaterial and incorporeal, and as if it did not exist at all...

And I often wished, as I walked with him, to see his footprint in the earth, whether it appeared—for I saw him raising himself from the earth—and I never saw it.<sup>1</sup>

For this writer, Jesus only appeared to be human; He left no footprints because He was not truly human.

A whole group of early Christians known as Gnostics also denied the reality of the incarnation. In a work called *The Second Treatise of the Great Seth*, the divine Christ says, “I visited a bodily dwelling. I cast out the one who was in it first, and I went in.”<sup>2</sup> The same work has Christ leaving this body before

the crucifixion. He claims that as they struck Him with a reed and put a crown of thorns on His head, it was not really Him, for He had left this human body and was looking on, laughing at their ignorance.<sup>3</sup>

We, of course, hardly take this seriously. Yet I wonder if we do not also have difficulty accepting the reality of the incarnation. We are tempted to think of Jesus Christ as God, disguised as a human, walking around the earth in a temporary human costume, only to take it off at the end of His earthly ministry. That is not, however, the message of the New Testament. It consistently teaches that Jesus was fully and completely human. As incredible as it seems, the Creator became human—really human.

The Gospels picture Jesus experiencing the whole range of human emotions and experiences that are common to us humans. He could feel genuine hunger after His 40 days in the wilderness subsequent to His baptism. Matthew 4:2 says, “He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.” John tells us that on the cross Jesus said that He was thirsty (John 19:28). Jesus could cry at the loss of a friend (John 11:35). On multiple occasions, He was sad or troubled. For example, in John 12:27 Jesus says, “Now my soul is troubled,” and after He washed the disciples’ feet, “Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, ‘Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me’” (John 13:21).

Jesus could also get angry. We see it in Mark 10:14 when the disciples tried to keep the children away from Him. Mark says, “But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.’” And Jesus could even experience grief and anger at the same time, as we see in Mark 3:5, when He was being watched to see if He would heal the man with

the withered hand in the synagogue on Sabbath: “He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.””

Perhaps, however, the most amazing emotion of all was His total sense of abandonment by God the Father when He cried out on the cross, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34). Jesus suffered real pain and agony, physically, mentally, and emotionally. The Gospel witness is that the Creator did not *appear* to be human. He did not *disguise* Himself as a human. He did not *pretend* to be human. He *was* human. In an amazing and unfathomable act of self-sacrificing love, God became one of us.

So what? What difference does it make for us? Much—in every way. But let me mention three ways the incarnation makes a difference.

### **1. It means we can trust God completely.**

As God told Paul three times, His grace is sufficient for us (2 Corinthians 12:9). Perhaps the author of Hebrews says it best. Because Jesus Christ, although fully divine, also became fully human and lived our whole range of human experiences, He can empathize with us, understand us, and be our Savior. “Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested” (Hebrews 2:18).

He elaborates further in Hebrews 4:15-16: “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Jesus can be trusted to save us. We can have assurance, indeed boldness. Our salvation is not based on goodness but on His grace. We may not be able to understand all the intricacies of the incarnation, but we can trust Jesus with confidence. He is our all-sufficient Savior. I love how Ellen White puts it *Steps to Christ*.

We should not make self the center and indulge anxiety and fear as to whether we shall be saved. All this turns the soul away from the Source of our strength. Commit the keeping of your soul to God, and trust in Him. Talk and think of Jesus. Let self be lost in Him. Put away all doubt; dismiss your fears....

When Christ took human nature upon Him, He bound humanity to Himself by a tie of love that can never be broken by any power save the choice of man himself. Satan will constantly present allurements to induce us to break this tie—to choose to separate ourselves from Christ. Here is where we need to watch, to strive, to pray, that nothing may entice us to choose another master; for we are always free to do this. But let us keep our eyes fixed upon Christ, and He will preserve us. Looking unto Jesus, we are safe. Nothing can pluck us out of His hand.<sup>5</sup>

**2. The incarnation expresses God the Father’s love for us.** God the Son became human to show us what God the Father is like. It would be easy to misconstrue the idea that Jesus is High Priest in Hebrews. Unfortunately, it is so easy that too often Christians have done just that. This false idea sees Jesus as the one who somehow has to convince a harsh and reluctant Father to love us.

---

Jesus can be trusted to save us. We can have assurance, indeed boldness. Our salvation is not based on goodness but on His grace.

Just last week I asked my Sabbath School class how many had grown up with the idea that God the Father is more harsh and scary, while Jesus is the friendly figure who assuages the Father's wrath. Over 90% of those present raised their hands. But this is heresy! Jesus came because God so loved the world (John 3:16). In John 14:7-10, Jesus makes it clear to the disciples that there can be no difference between Him and the Father:

"If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works."

There can be no difference between the Father and the Son. We only know the Father through the Son. Both are infinite, self-sacrificial love. The incarnation is God's commitment of love to us.

**3. The incarnation gives us marching orders about how to live.** In Jesus' intercessory prayer for His disciples the night before the crucifixion, He prayed, "As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth" (John 17:18-19).

The self-sacrificial love that yielded the incarnation becomes a hallmark of Jesus' followers. Earlier in His ministry, when James and John asked to be on Jesus' right and left in His kingdom, Mark tells us:

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they

recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:41-45).

As Jesus gave Himself for us, we as His disciples give ourselves for others. We never do it perfectly as He did, but the more we grasp His grace, the more gracious we become.

Recently a mother told me that she never really understood God's love in the incarnation until she had a son. When he was about two, it hit her. God had let His son come into this world of suffering and death. She realized that she couldn't, for any reason, give up her son. At that moment, God's love became real to her.

God became human. He committed himself to us. Even if we cannot understand all the ramifications, we live in confidence and assurance, even boldness, because we know He became one of us, He understands our weaknesses and trials, and through Him we receive mercy and a grace that is all we need to find abundant, eternal life.

---

*John Brunt began his ministry as a youth pastor in 1965 and retired in 2015 as the senior pastor of the Azure Hills church in Grand Terrace, California. He is a graduate of La Sierra University and Andrews University, and he holds a Ph.D. in New Testament Studies from Emory University.*

<sup>1</sup>Edgar Hennecke, "Acts of John 93," in *New Testament Apocrypha*, Vol. 2, ed. Wilhelm Schneemelcher (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1964), p. 227.

<sup>2</sup>*The Second Treatise of the Great Seth* in James Robinson, ed., *The Nag Hammadi Library* (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1977) VII:51, p. 130.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, VII:56, p. 132.

<sup>4</sup>Unless otherwise specified, all Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version.

<sup>5</sup>Ellen G. White, *Steps to Christ* (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1892), p. 72.



# Health Hazard

ISTOCK.COM/PICTOCK.STUDIO

By Charles Mills

Charles Mills is the author of more than 50 published books and over 300 articles. Mills began his career at Faith for Today and the Adventist Media Center in Newbury Park, California. For the past 35 years, he has been an independent media producer, writer, and radio/television host.

**W**hen social justice is ignored, even the unborn suffer.

Kim Anderson went into labor with her first child two and a half months early. “I didn’t get to take my baby home,” she remembers. “Instead of gently laying my newborn in the soft bassinette in her own little bedroom, I had to travel back to the hospital each day to look down at my precious creation tethered to wires, monitored by machines, and sleeping fitfully in an environmentally-controlled incubator.”

What had happened? The answer uncovers a long-hidden danger when social justice is ignored.

According to a 2006 study by the National Center for Health Statistics at the Centers for Disease Control, infant mortality for children born to white college graduates is around 3.7 deaths per 1,000 births. For African American college graduates such as Kim Anderson, that number rises to 10.2 deaths per 1,000 births—almost three times higher.

Thankfully, little Danielle survived and eventually attended Emory University, studying public health. But the emotional scars of that event still linger in her mother these many years later. Some of those scars scientists are only now beginning to identify.

Research conducted by Chicago neonatologists Richard David and James Collins and reported in the documentary “Unnatural Causes” rules out genetics as a factor in the rise of infant mortality in minorities. They cite information gathered during the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s and 70s that showed a



marked improvement in healthy birth rates for African American women as society became more supportive and racial prejudices faded somewhat.

But, as social programs lost support during 1980s and 90s and overt racism once again flowed unchecked across American society, those healthy birth rates quickly fell. In contrast, the numbers have always remained on the positive side in countries other than the United States. Genetic adjustments take generations. Hate works quickly.

Bottom line? Social injustice in the form of racism not only disrupts the lives of those targeted by it, it can also be deadly to their unborn children.

### **Power to heal**

As Christians, when we in any way turn our backs on people or show little or no respect for what they believe or who they are, we've stopped reflecting the very God we're trying to represent.

Conversely, acceptance, respect, and social justice carry the power to heal. When we wave and smile at that new neighbor from another culture, when we strike down long-held ordinances in our community that discriminate on the basis of color or creed, when we support religious accommodation in the workplace, when we look

upon people as equal and insist that they enjoy the same rights, freedoms, and resources we demand, we're making a difference in their lives clear down to the cellular level.

Kim Anderson, former CEO of Families First, a non-profit organization in Atlanta, says there are three steps to healing racism, even the unrecognized brands. It begins with intent. "First," Kim says, "we need to be intentional about our desire to learn, intentional about broadening our horizons, intentional about our positive interactions with one another.

"Second, we have to model that for our children and grandchildren.

"And finally, we can use media to respond to inequalities when we see them. Speak up! If we don't lovingly challenge our friends or the people with whom we go to school, church, or work, ignorance and injustice perpetuate themselves."

We've all been given the opportunity to join in a heaven-ordained healing ministry by expressing—with our words and actions—the full meaning of Christ's powerful invitation to combat racism, discrimination, and injustice. "A new commandment I give you," He said. "Love one another" (John 13:34).



# The New Guy

By Charles Mills

“Little by little,  
many of the  
students who,  
at first, liked to  
hang out with  
the new guy,  
started staying  
away from him.”

Jared stood and stared at the new guy. This smiling stranger had arrived just last week and was already on the best baseball team. The teacher had called on him twice to read a poem in English class, and he'd made Jared's friend Tommy laugh so hard at lunch he'd squirted milk out of his nose.

So what if he was from another country? So what if he spoke with a strange accent? So what if he could run faster than a white-tailed deer? The fact was, Jared didn't like him because when the new guy was around, no one paid attention to him.

*Well, the boy thought with a frown, no one is coming into my school and taking over my spot as the most popular fifth-grader. Something has to be done!* But Jared didn't want to tell lies about the new guy. He was a Christian, and Christians don't lie.

So, instead, he had an idea. He'd tell the truth, but in a way that would make people think twice about being friends with the new guy.

“Sure, he runs fast,” Jared said after the new guy had stolen second base during a game later that week, “but I've never seen him hit a homerun.”

“I don't like his accent,” Jared whispered during English class. “Yes, he can speak English, but there are many words he says that I don't understand.”

“Some people think he's funny,” Jared sighed as he watched the new guy entertaining those seated at his lunch table in the cafeteria, “but I find his jokes childish. I like sophisticated jokes—you know, like on television.”



"Sure, the new guy got a good grade in science. But his dad is a janitor, so he can't be all that smart."

"Oh look. The new guy has a new pair of running shoes. Probably stole them."

"Did you see on the news that the country the new guy is from just invaded another country and they killed a bunch of people? No sir. I'm not going to trust the new guy. He might want to kill me!"

### **It worked**

And, it worked. Little by little, many of the students who, at first, liked to hang out with the new guy, started staying away from him. Whispered stories began to circulate about his family, his past, and even his love for America. Soon, the new guy became someone to shun, to shame, and to ridicule.

Finally, the new guy had no one left to sit with him at lunch. No one chose him to be on their baseball team, and when the teacher asked him to read a poem in English class, he spoke so quietly that no one could hear him. His confidence and his smile had vanished.

But Jared wasn't celebrating. He recognized what he had done, and the thought that he'd hurt the new guy so deeply bothered him, especially at night when he couldn't sleep. He hadn't told lies, but he hadn't

told the whole truth either. He realized that wasn't how a Christian was supposed to act.

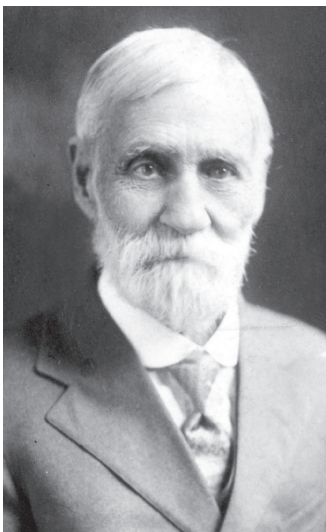
So, the very next day, Jared carried his tray to the lunch table where the new guy ate alone. He sat down, smiled, and told a funny joke. The new guy smiled and told another one. Jared laughed right out loud. "Tell the one about the dog and the goat," Jared invited. "I really like your jokes."

When the new guy told the story about the dog and the goat, Jared laughed, and so did the students sitting at the next table, and the next.



# Merritt Gardner Kellogg (Part 2): West Beyond the Shores

By Jim Wibberding



Dr. Kellogg  
was a man  
worthy of our  
admiration,  
but he was far  
from perfect.

## Man on a mission

"It is time to go west." That's how this story began. In last month's issue, we trudged alongside a 26-year-old Merritt G. Kellogg as he headed west from Michigan to California. We felt the flicker of warmth as he lit the missionary torch in the West; he was the first Seventh-day Adventist to preach in California.

M.G. Kellogg—the oldest brother of John Harvey of medical fame<sup>1</sup> and Will Keith, the "Cornflakes King"<sup>2</sup>—set the pace for his brothers in pioneering. He did not stay put for long; he liked starting things more than he liked to manage them. It was only a matter of time before he found a way to go west again (and south), beyond the shores of California.

## South Sea mission

At age 60, Merritt's missionary heart drew him to a fresh need. The missionary ship *Pitcairn* needed a new mission-minded doctor to sail the Pacific.<sup>3</sup> Kellogg answered the call, departing for the South Seas on January 17, 1893.<sup>4</sup> The venture found success but not without peril. Merritt "nearly drowned in Bounty Bay when going ashore from the mission schooner *Pitcairn* to visit the island of the mutineers. The longboat broke up on the rocks, and only the strength and agility of a good island lass saved the medico."<sup>5</sup> He survived to bring his missional tenacity to the work in the South Seas.

Back home in California, tragedy struck. Merritt's wife Louisa died on November 4, 1894, while he was away.<sup>6</sup> With less reason to go home, he worked in *Pitcairn*, Tahiti, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Tasmania, and mainland Australia for eight more years.<sup>7</sup> Not only was he an able doctor and



evangelist, he also built sanitariums in Tonga<sup>8</sup> and Sydney.<sup>9,10</sup> And, amidst the flurry of activity, he found romance again with the much younger<sup>11</sup> Eleanor Nolan of Australia. They married on July 29, 1895, and had two children together.<sup>12</sup>

### **Sage storyteller**

After a full decade of service in the global South, in 1904, Merritt and Ellie moved to the United States and settled on Brown Street in Healdsburg, California.<sup>13</sup> When he slowed down enough to count the years, he found that he had served the church unpaid<sup>14</sup> for well over half a century.

As he enjoyed the restful Healdsburg climate, sporadically ambling down the sidewalk to buy more paper and pencils, he shifted from protagonist to narrator. Instead of living each new

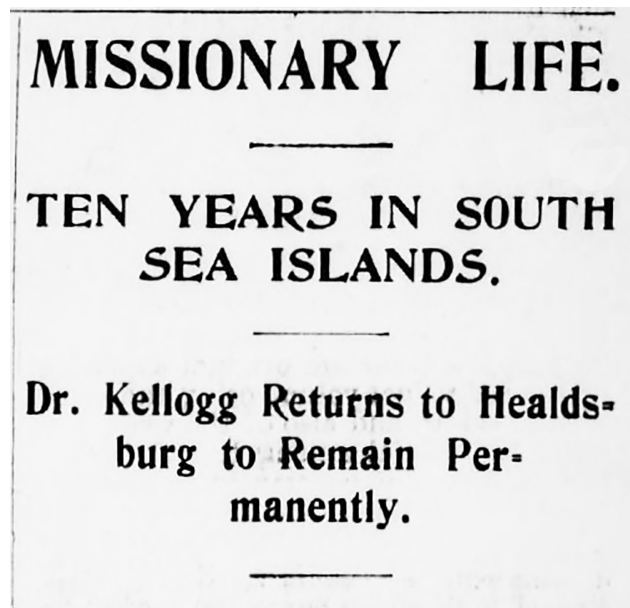
chapter of the Adventist mission, he contented himself with telling the story. He wrote letters about past advances in the mission and even took time to pen a bit of his own story.<sup>15</sup> Students at nearby Healdsburg College reveled in his firsthand accounts of the olden days.

In the final years of his life, Merritt went almost blind, but that didn't stop him from telling stories. As usual, he innovated, creating a tool for the blind author. He explained that because "I cannot see a single word of what I am writing...I have devised a frame in which I place my paper, to hold it in place. It has a movable crossbar with which I guide my fingers, to keep the lines straight. The frame is notched so as to enable me to space the lines at regular intervals."<sup>16</sup> Merritt Kellogg was a confirmed pioneer to the end.

### **Flawed hero**

Dr. Kellogg was a man worthy of our admiration, but he was far from perfect. After telling his stirring story, it might seem prudent—or, at least, more satisfying—to leave his shining example untarnished. However, heroes are made of real people, and it is that reality that will let his story inspire ordinary people like us. Knowing that he too was deeply flawed can leave breathing room for the hope that we also can be God's pioneers.

What were his flaws? He tangled with the equally stubborn James White over money, angering Ellen.<sup>17</sup> He also defended his brother John<sup>18</sup> when Ellen White criticized his business dealings, raising questions about his support of her prophetic gift.<sup>19</sup> Despite this, he kept up a friendship with the Whites into later life.<sup>20</sup> Another flaw was his creative restlessness, which swept



Front page of the *Healdsburg Tribune* on Feb. 11, 1904

When the last brick was laid, the last sermon preached, the last letter written, Merritt Gardner Kellogg had served the church for more than six decades.



**Merritt G. Kellogg's headstone**

him from task to task, leaving others to finish what he started.

Merritt Gardner Kellogg was a flawed hero. He made serious mistakes. The story—the inspiration—is in the fact that God used this flawed man profoundly. That truth is a ready source of hope for any human who stumbles through this earth.

### At rest

When the last brick was laid, the last sermon preached, the last letter written, Merritt Gardner Kellogg had served the church for more than six decades. He was the first to preach the Adventist message in California, built California Adventism into a hub of missional progress, strengthened the work in the South Seas, and more. He left his mark on all branches of Adventist mission—church, conference, publishing, healthcare, and education.

Merritt died with Christmas in full display throughout Healdsburg—streetlamps strung with garlands, bells suspended from doorknobs, candles in windows, carolers singing house to house, the fragrance of spiced treats in the air, and a tree lit in the town square. On December 20, 1921, Merritt G. Kellogg passed to his rest, firm in his Adventist faith.<sup>21</sup>

Ellie and the kids laid him to rest among the oaks of Oak Mound Cemetery, near his home in

Healdsburg, with the simplest eight-inch stone placed over his head. It reads, "M. G. K. 1833 – 1921." The casual passerby would likely never know how much that simple inscription means.

### Still pioneers

As amazing as his story is, Kellogg is a mostly forgotten pioneer. We rediscovered his grave on November 14, 2020. That rediscovery a century after his death is our opportunity to find inspiration in his life and reflect on our own place in the same mission. Dr. Merritt G. Kellogg was the consummate Adventist pioneer. We need his example, because it is our turn to carry the same torch and become a new generation of pioneers.

---

*James Wibberding is professor of Applied Theology and Biblical Studies at Pacific Union College.*

<sup>1</sup>Richard W. Schwartz, *John Harvey Kellogg: Pioneering Health Reformer*, Adventist Pioneer Series, George R. Knight, ed. (Hagerstown, MD: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 2006).

<sup>2</sup>"Corn Flakes King to Make Home in State," *Healdsburg Tribune* (July 2, 1925), p. 4.

<sup>3</sup>A.G. Stewart, "Memorial to a Missionary Mariner," *Australian Record*, vol. 65, no. 30 (July 24, 1961), pp. 1-2.

<sup>4</sup>Adelaide Bee Evans, "Early Seed Sowing in the South Pacific Islands," *The Youth's Instructor*, vol. 64, no. 12 (March 21, 1916), p. 5.

<sup>5</sup>"Sydney Adventist Hospital Delves into Its Past," *Australian Record*, vol. 88, no. 32 (Aug. 20, 1983), p. 8.

<sup>6</sup>W. T. Knox, "Obituary Notices," *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, vol. 71, no. 50 (Dec. 18, 1894), p. 799.

<sup>7</sup>"Missionary Returns," *The Press Democrat* (Feb. 12, 1904), p. 2.

<sup>8</sup>Joy Totenhofer, "Aunt Ellie's Husband Worked Very Hard," *Australian Record*, vol. 83, no. 44 (Oct. 30, 1978), p. 10.

<sup>9</sup>Merritt Gardner Kellogg, "The Rise of the Sydney Sanitarium," *The Australasian Good Health*, vol. 6, no. 2 (Feb. 1, 1903), pp. 39-40.

<sup>10</sup>James R. Nix, *Passion, Purpose, and Power: Recapturing the Spirit of the Adventist Pioneers Today* (Silver Spring, MD: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 2013), p. 132.

<sup>11</sup>Vital records show that she was 42 years his junior.

<sup>12</sup>Elsie P. Willoughby, "In Memoriam," *The Healdsburg Enterprise* (Dec. 29, 1921), p. 4.

<sup>13</sup>"Missionary Returns," *The Press Democrat* (Feb. 12, 1904), p. 2.

<sup>14</sup>Nix, p. 214.

<sup>15</sup>Merritt Gardner Kellogg, *Notes Concerning the Kelloggs* (Battle Creek, MI: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1927).

<sup>16</sup>Kellogg, *Notes Concerning the Kelloggs*, p. 53.

<sup>17</sup>E. G. White to J. E. White, Aug. 9, 1873.

<sup>18</sup>M. G. Kellogg to J. H. Kellogg, May 18, 1906.

<sup>19</sup>M. G. Kellogg to W. C. White, May 29, 1906.

<sup>20</sup>M. G. Kellogg to W. C. White, May 21, 1912.

<sup>21</sup>H. W. Reed, "Obituaries," *Pacific Union Recorder*, vol. 21, no. 23 (Feb. 19, 1922), pp. 6-7.

# \$2,000 Scholarship

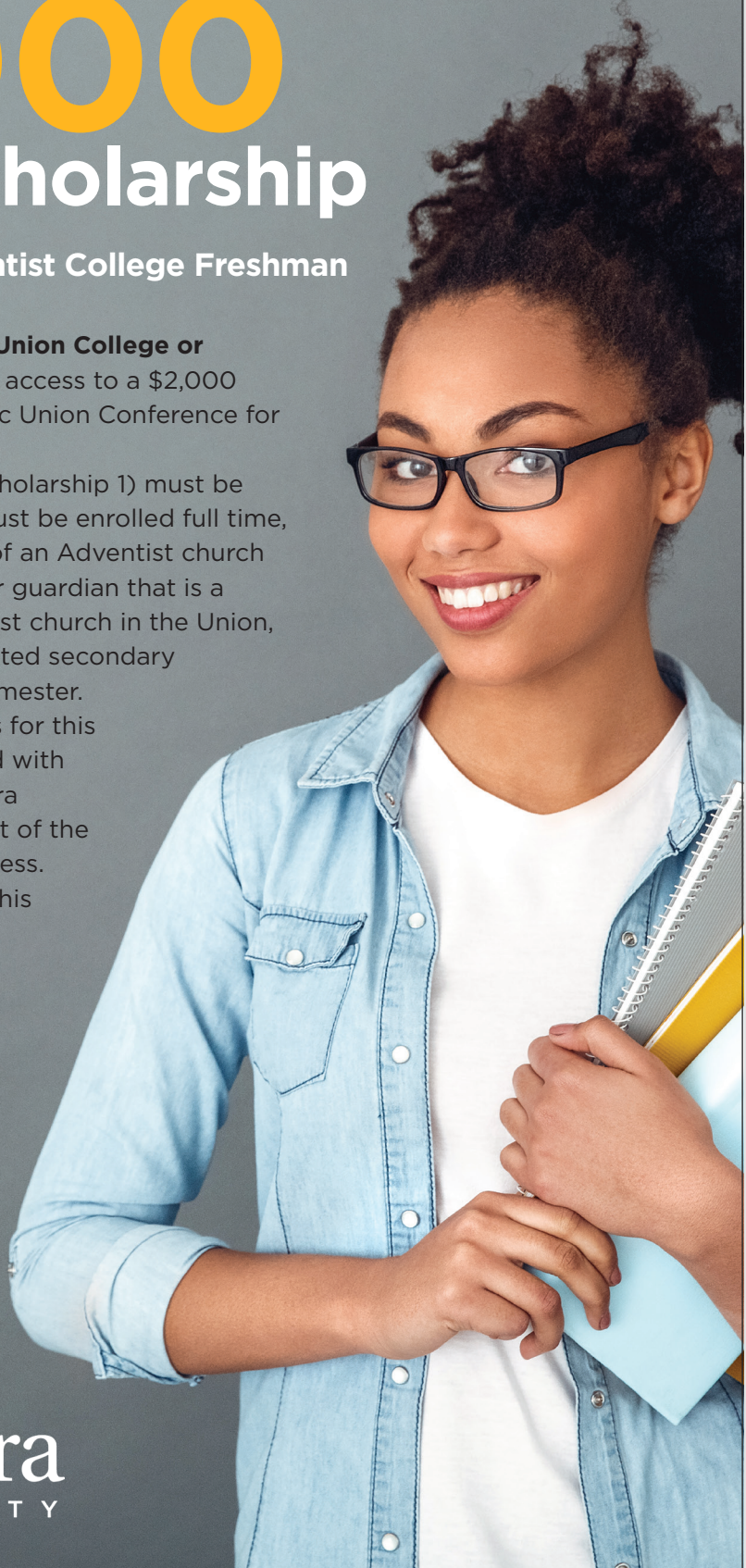
**Supports In-Union Adventist College Freshman**

**Incoming freshmen at Pacific Union College or La Sierra University** now have access to a \$2,000 scholarship provided by Pacific Union Conference for the 2021-2022 school year.

Freshmen applying for the scholarship 1) must be first-time undergraduates, 2) must be enrolled full time, 3) must be baptized members of an Adventist church in the Union, or have a parent or guardian that is a baptized member of an Adventist church in the Union, or have attended a Union-operated secondary school for a minimum of one semester.

Applications and verifications for this scholarship are to be completed with Pacific Union College or La Sierra University and submitted as part of the student financial clearance process.

For more information about this scholarship, email the student financial services department of Pacific Union College at [studentfinance@puc.edu](mailto:studentfinance@puc.edu) or La Sierra University at [sfs@lasierra.edu](mailto:sfs@lasierra.edu).



# COVID-19 Patient Receives 'The Best of Both Worlds' with Adventist Health Hospital@Home

**W**hen the pandemic began, Gabriela Padilla's first concern was for her parents, who live with her and her son. Their age put them at greater risk for complications, and Padilla's underlying health conditions were a danger to her as well. When her son got COVID-19, he recovered quickly, but when Padilla got sick, she headed to the Emergency Department at the Adventist Health hospital near her home.

"I must have felt something, because when I left and we were driving [to the hospital], I just broke down. I just started crying, because I had told my son I'd be right back," said Padilla.

Instead, she was admitted to the hospital and had to call her son to tell him that she wasn't coming home after all.

At the hospital, Padilla's focus was on getting well so she could get back home to her family. On day four, after her oxygen level had improved, one of the doctors offered her an option—the Adventist Health Hospital@Home program. Through this new service, she was able to go home, receive care from a team of doctors and nurses, have her vital signs monitored, and receive in-person visits from a member of her care team. Most importantly, she was back home with her son.

"I think that's the best part of [receiving care] virtually—it's like that idea that at least your brain can



**When Gabriela Padilla was in the hospital with COVID-19, her focus was on getting back home to her family.**

turn it off for a moment," said Padilla. "Even if physically you still have the bracelet, and you still have all of these different things that are 24/7 care, but then you get those moments when you get to turn it off, and my son masks up and he pokes his head in [the doorway]...and that moment of joy of seeing his face that you can't get at the hospital because you're so completely isolated."

The Adventist Health Hospital@Home program also provides patients with telehealth monitoring technology and other supplies. Patients receive reports from any laboratory work and have access to mobile imaging, all while staying connected to their care team through a mission control center app and in-home visits.

Through Adventist Health Hospital@Home, Padilla said she got to receive "the best of both worlds...this amazing care from people who genuinely make you feel like they want to provide this care for you—they're happy to do it—and my family. How could you not get better?"

Learn more about Hospital@Home at [adventisthealth.org/hospital-home](https://adventisthealth.org/hospital-home) and hear more patient stories like Padilla's at our Adventist Health Story and Experience website at [adventisthealth.org/story](https://adventisthealth.org/story).

*By Kim Strobel*

Through Adventist Health Hospital@Home, Padilla said she got to receive "the best of both worlds."



## Mothers and Daughters for Christ: Tina Othon's Testimony

God led Tina Othon through trauma and guilt to a reunion with church and family. She describes her childhood as a normal Catholic upbringing. Her mother took the two kids to Sunday school. Her dad was strict and sometimes forceful. When Tina was 15, her parents divorced; after that she rarely saw her father, and her mom often went "honky-tonking." Tina started experimenting with drugs at 16, and by 18, she had turned from a fun-loving tomboy into an addict.

She became a mother at age 17; the father was a drug dealer. Later she had two more kids with an abusive boyfriend. Tina feels guilty that she missed so much with her kids and that she failed to help her mother, who succumbed to cancer in 2006. "I feel awful that my mom, while she was on chemo, had to pick up my kids because they were neglected by their father."

In 2013, she and a new boyfriend left Arizona for New Jersey to get a clean, drug-free start. As surprising as this sounds, a homeless man's gift of tobacco, given to Tina through her boyfriend, led her back to Christ. Because tobacco was like currency on the streets, Tina wanted to repay the stranger. She could not find him, so she decided to donate to the first church she saw open. She found the Philipsburg Seventh-day Adventist Church, stayed for a service, and was hooked. God also helped her quit smoking. "Jesus is the ultimate high," Tina said.

Tina was baptized in 2015 at the Glendale church in Arizona. Church friends like Greg and Susan Robbins became family, standing beside Tina at

her granddaughters' dedications. She recently attended an "All About Jesus" seminar with Pastor Lee Venden, and when Pastor Gary Venden encouraged members to lead Bible studies, her friend Greg prompted Tina to volunteer. Tina is also involved in women's ministry.

In 2018, one of Tina's grandchildren was born to a daughter who succumbed to drug use. With Jesus' help, Tina was able to take care of her grandchild. "There were no issues. Jesus washed my past clean so I could have my girls." She adopted this granddaughter and is working toward adopting a second. She has six granddaughters.

She knows God can also reach her daughter. "I don't want my daughter to have the same regrets I had. Her daughters are my daughters now, but she can be with them again. Christ can bring families back together."

*By Tennille Feldbush*



# Adventist Education Sacrifice of Praise: “Feed My Lambs”

**A**lready? Yes, schools will start soon—and it is up to all of us to give every child the opportunity for an Adventist Education this fall. Just before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave a charge to Peter that also applies to us. Ellen G. White wrote, “In addressing the apostle, Christ says to all his servants, ‘Feed my lambs.’ When Jesus admonished his disciples not to despise the little ones, he addressed all disciples in all ages. His own love and care for children is a precious example for his followers” (*Gospel Workers*, p. 405).

We know from the CognitiveGenesis research study that the achievement scores of students in Adventist schools are higher than the national average and that they increase the longer they attend. However, the reason for the significant outlay of financial and instructional resources has more to do with Adventist Education’s spiritual, even evangelistic, aspect. When Ellen White was asked why we should have separate schools, her answer was, “As it has been presented to me, it is the purpose of our educational institutions to teach students how they may be partakers of the divine nature” (*Peter’s Counsel to Parents*, p. 10).

With that in mind, here are a few stories conveying how God has answered prayers in our schools—the “Sacrifice of Praise” found in Hebrews 13:15. The prayers of our teachers and students have power.

## **Virgil Hauselt Memorial Christian School – A miracle class**

Last August, Daniela Scarpino only had one student enrolled in her kindergarten classroom. In addition to praying, she did everything she could through word of mouth, social media, and putting up signs on the road near

The prayed-for miracle kindergarten class of 12 at Virgil Hauselt Memorial Christian School.



the school. She feels it was a miracle that God brought 11 more students—and they were all from the Santa Cruz community. Principal Deborah Joplin exclaimed, “Miss Scarpino now has a miracle class of 12!”

**Valley View Junior Academy – Many answers to prayer**

Principal Chris Perez could tell of many answers to prayer during this past school year. The biggest miracle was finding a teacher who was willing to come out of retirement after a teacher left in the middle of the school year. The school was also able to maintain their current enrollment, including more community families—which is definitely an answer to prayer.



The three Ellison children, who attended the Hollister Adventist Christian School, are finally able to be baptized.

**Hollister Adventist Christian School – Baptisms**

Even though baptisms were postponed for a while during the pandemic, Principal Chester Sears believes prayers were answered when the three Ellison children (Katherine, Alicia, and Nathaniel) were eventually baptized during the school year. Two other students also want to be baptized. May God bless each of these decisions for Jesus!

**Fresno Adventist Academy – A definite answer to prayer**

Principal Gayle Norton is grateful that God answers prayers. While the school was struggling to fill the office manager/registrar position in November, a former teacher, tired of working in the public schools, learned of the opening and applied. Not only were they able to get through the hiring requirements quickly, the new person was able to start right after the Christmas break.

**Bakersfield Adventist Academy – Two reasons for praise**

The first instance happened in the classroom of Keila Butler, kindergarten teacher. She believes divine intervention brought her one extra child who would not have been there otherwise. Wanting in-person instruction, the family enrolled their son at BAA rather than public school. Starting with no religious background and even declaring, “It’s fake,” at prayer time, the child now loves Bible stories and wants to pray. The family has registered their children for next school year.

The other example shows how God answered the prayers of a family who did not know where to send their two girls to school. They applied at several private schools, but BAA was the only one willing to give one of their daughters a chance. Little Rosie had a difficult time with most schoolwork during her three years in public school, and virtual learning was especially challenging. There have been remarkable changes in both girls. However, the biggest is in Rosie—she now loves school and is doing so much better. As her mother told Principal Mike Schwartz, “Thank you for believing in our children. Thank you for being our answered prayer!”



With big smiles, Rosie practices her motor skills at Bakersfield Adventist Academy. She now loves school!



Some of the parents of these lower grade students at Los Banos Adventist Christian Academy are attending church for the first time to hear their children sing. Let's pray they will want to continue.

**Los Banos Adventist Christian Academy – Prayers for families**

Principal Lea Gilbert will tell you it has been a “roller coaster year” that included a student body of mostly non-Adventists. In preparing for the lower grade classroom to sing at church, Gilbert called each family to explain the event. One family told her, “We’ve actually been thinking about coming to church. We’re looking forward to it!” Another mother shared, “I won’t be able to come, but her dad will bring her even though he has never been to church.” It was then that Gilbert realized, “God answered our prayers! We are touching our community, family by family.”

**Templeton Hills Adventist School – Opening doors**

After 18 years in the public school system, Carmen



Students at the Templeton Hills Adventist School are happy to help serve their community with their teacher.

Collins wanted the opportunity to teach where she could openly witness and serve children. God opened the doors, and she now serves as the principal/teacher at THAS. Beginning with seven students, prayers were answered as 27 students are now enrolled. She is also grateful for some unexpected financial help and for the community service opportunities for students. Wanting the privilege of giving Bible studies, Collins’ prayer was answered when five students met to study the Bible every Friday after school. Two of them will be baptized soon. In addition, a student’s caregiver now wants Bible studies. Gratefully, Collins said, “The Lord is at work and I am thankful for His presence and the blessings of answering our daily prayers.”

**Dinuba Junior Academy – Amazing choice**

Evan Hendrix, principal and teacher of the upper grades, prayed that God would reveal Himself during this unusual year. Hendrix soon realized that God was working both academically and spiritually for a seventh-grader who is now a high-achieving and musically talented student. Often serving as a volunteer, Daisy has a growing and personal love for her Lord and Savior. “I’m more than grateful for the people who have taught me about Jesus,” she said. “I have made the most amazing choice in my life, and I will be getting baptized.” God bless you, Daisy!



Daisy now volunteers to help others as a result of what she calls an “amazing choice” to serve Jesus while attending Dinuba Junior Academy.

**Mother Lode Adventist Junior Academy – After many days...**

What a disappointment it was when some schools had to cancel mission trips in the spring of 2020 because of pandemic travel restrictions. This was especially the case when significant monies expended in advance were unrecoverable. Airline tickets were the biggest outlay for those from MLAJA who had looked forward



to going to Peru to build a church. The airline had gone bankrupt and was only offering credit. Praying together, the leadership committee sent what funds they had to Maranatha to build at least the sanctuary part of the church. However, God provided a miracle. On May 14, 2021, nearly 14 months after the trip was canceled, a full refund was received from the airline! As Jennifer Trujillo, the coordinator, explained, "Now we see that God was faithful all through this project. The 'lost' money will now bless the people in Peru and fund the full construction by local workers as they complete not only the sanctuary but the classrooms and restrooms as well."

**Foothill Adventist Elementary –  
Be the hands and feet of Jesus**

In spite of the pandemic, FAE was committed to service activities on the first day of May. The kindergarten class handed out flowers and handwritten notes as they walked to a local store, and then they picked up trash at a local park. First- and second-graders filled "Jars of Joy" with treats for leaders in the community. Third- and fourth-graders pulled weeds, washed windows, and even gave a dog a bath at a church member's home. Fifth- and sixth-graders planted flowers at the Milpitas church and delivered handwritten cards with *GLOW* tracts to several of the school's neighbors. Seventh- and eighth-graders packed



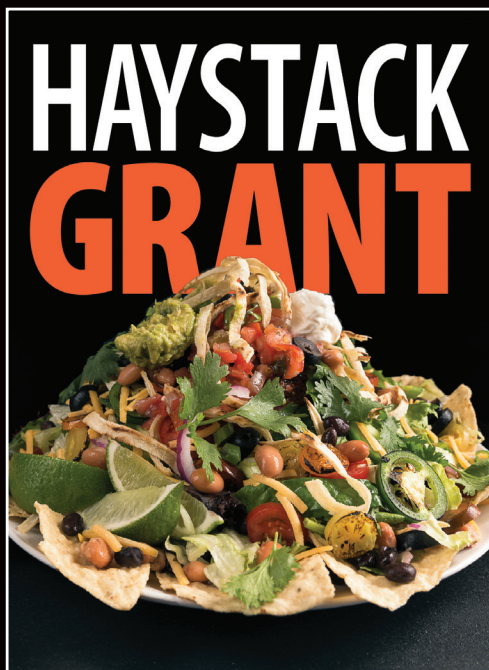
Fifth- and sixth-graders at Foothill Adventist Elementary enjoy being the hands and feet of Jesus by planting flowers at the Milpitas church on their community service day.

100 bags with items for the homeless. By being a blessing to the community, students and teachers had a very fulfilling day.

**"Feed My Lambs" - The greatest work**

As these stories show, God is eager to answer the prayers of parents, students, and teachers. "Teaching your students to be Christians is the greatest work before you. Go to God; he hears and answers prayers" (Ellen G. White, *Christian Education*, p. 248).

*By Deloris Trujillo*



**HAYSTACK  
GRANT**

**Sponsored by the Office of Education  
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE**

What a great opportunity for schools in the Central California Conference during the 2021-2022 school year! Up to 10 schools may apply for the "Haystack Grant," a method of building school growth layer upon layer and in a certain order. Upon completion of requirements, a \$1,000 grant will be awarded, along with a refund of the \$200 application fee. A commitment from the administration and each board member is required before the July 30 deadline.

Charlotte Henderson, a professional fundraiser and strategic planning instructor, will provide training in creating an effective board, funding the school, increasing student enrollment, and attracting active volunteers. Ken Bullington, CCC vice president for education, said, "I am a firm believer that this grant is an answer to prayer. Our goal is to create thriving schools that will lead students to God's kingdom."

**Contact the CCC Office of Education for more information.**



## Venturing Out Once Again



"I just *really* liked it. My favorite part was the whitetip reef shark. He actually looked at me."

**Laith, Kindergarten**

"I liked it because I saw the shark. The whole thing was fascinating, and I saw a fish hotel and a shipwreck and a floating *wana* (sea urchin). It was fun on the boat ride."

**Lani, Kindergarten**

"It was fun to do! My water bottle changed to yellow!"

**Darius, 6th grade**

"It was fun because I learned about all the different creatures in the ocean. The most surprising thing I learned was that colors change underneath the water."

**Owen, 8th grade**

To say this past year has been remarkable would be an understatement. It has provided a prime opportunity to lean on God as never before, and He has proved faithful. If you had told me at the start of the year that field trips might be possible for our school, I would have laughed at the ludicrous idea. I am so happy to have been proved wrong.

We were blessed to be able to take the Kohala Adventist School (KOA) students on an incredible underwater submarine adventure, in which they were able to appreciate the rich sea life of Hawaii up close. Parent drivers safely transported our KOA cohort, and the entire submarine was dedicated to use by our school.

Several students had never been on a boat before, and they went from being very wary to expressing pure delight in record time. The charismatic staff were passionate and knowledgeable about the beautiful creatures God created to live in the sea.

Of course, all the students hoped to see a shark more than anything else. I had told them not to get their hopes up, as it wasn't likely. I learned that one child wanted to spot a shark so much that they prayed about it. The simple faith of that kindergartner was rewarded! At 100 feet below the surface, we had a premium view of a decent-sized whitetip reef shark, lurking in a shipwreck. We were all elated—even the submarine crew, who hadn't seen a shark in several months.

Students were amazed by the bonus mini lesson we got on color absorption underwater, as we saw our clothes and belongings change colors before our eyes! We learned that the colors disappear underwater in the same order that they appear in the color



spectrum, with red disappearing first.

A field trip that we would have taken for granted in the past gave us the opportunity to see the wonders of the ocean and truly appreciate the chance to do so. Praise God for the ability to safely venture off campus and revel in the beauty of Hawaii's underwater treasures.

By Jackie Millar



### Notice of Constituency Meeting of the Hawaii Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the Regular Quinquennial Constituency Meeting of the Hawaii Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, September 26, 2021, at Honolulu Central Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2313 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive reports, to elect conference officers and the Executive Committee, and to transact other business as may properly come before the constituency meeting.

Each organized church shall be represented by one (1) delegate and one (1) additional delegate for each forty (40) members, or major fraction thereof.

*Ralph S. Watts, III President  
Jay Warren, Secretary*

## Hawaii Gets 'Mad About Marriage'



**T**he weekend of April 23-24 brought a tremendous blessing to couples around the Hawaii Conference. Mike Tucker, former speaker/director for Faith for Today, was on Oahu to

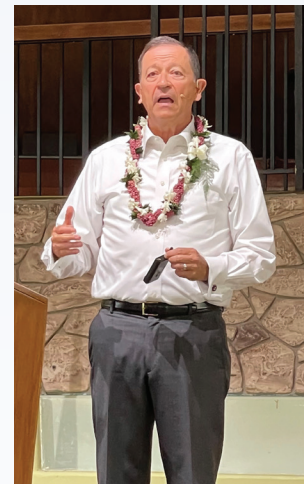
conduct a Mad About Marriage seminar at the Honolulu Central church. In addition to the in-person presentation, most of the seminar was livestreamed.

Pastor Tucker addressed topics ranging from good communication to the avoidance of communication killers. The presentations were straightforward and covered a number of situations that can affect marriages. In addition to the topics that are usually discussed in marriage seminars, Tucker talked about abuse, assault, and the dynamics around them.

Attendees were deeply touched by the

presentations shared by Pastor Tucker. "I wish every married couple and those considering marriage would have been here this weekend," said one attendee. Another commented, "I wish I had known this information 35 years ago! I learned more about communication this weekend than in my entire marriage."

Extra activities included Friday evening dinner and a wedding reception after the final session. The seminar, childcare, and all the extra activities were provided free of charge to all participants. The 37 households represented at the seminar were tremendously blessed, and efforts are already underway to bring the program back to Hawaii.



By Travis Sager



**HOLBROOK  
INDIAN SCHOOL**  
SERVING NATIVE YOUTH 1946-2021



At the finish line: One of our annual events is a cross-country race, in which teachers and students participate.



Arbee Tabo

## MAPS: Physical Education at HIS



For the past two months, we have been looking at MAPS, an acronym for the four pillars of the educational program at Holbrook Indian School (HIS).

These four pillars are:

- M**ental
- A**cademic/Artistic
- P**hysical
- S**piritual

In this month's issue, we are looking at the P pillar: Physical. There are many things that contribute to our focus on the physical growth of our students. Today we will talk about one of them—our physical education program.

At HIS, we have four objectives for our physical education program. We encourage students to be physically active, get outside, have fun, and build relationships. These



### Annual events

One of the annual events that involves physical activity is our Native American Heritage Day. In November, we honor Native American Heritage Month and dedicate a day to celebrating through various festivities. In one of the day's events, students participate in traditional Native American games. In doing so, not only do the students keep up their goal of being active, they also retain appreciation for their culture and heritage.

objectives hold for all levels, from elementary through junior high and high school. To accomplish this, we have schoolwide events and activities revolving around physical activity. These include intramural games, annual events, and a sports program.

### Sports program

The sports program is for junior high and high school students. The program involves participation in events like cross-country and volleyball with other schools. It provides students the opportunity to develop specific physical skills while accomplishing the other objectives of physical activity. Physical education teacher Arbee Tabo was instrumental in creating this program, which began in 2018.

### Intramurals

Intramural games have provided different physical activities around HIS for years. These schoolwide games involve students and staff playing together and are an effective means of building relationships. According to Tabo, "One of the purposes of intramurals is for students and staff to play together." He adds that the games develop mentorship opportunities. In addition, the games provide an opportunity for staff who are not teachers to spend quality time with students.

"A lot of them are quite challenging and relate to building skills," said Tabo about the Native American games. "It's surprising to see students who are not normally active really get into it when they play these native games."

All of these activities are great motivators for our students and even our staff to remain active. Although students are required to participate in many of these schoolwide events, their willingness to participate is significantly greater than on other occasions, where it can seem like a case of doing it just because they have to.

Since the spread of COVID-19, activities like the sports program are currently on pause. Other activities have taken on a modified form. Still, the objectives remain the same: stay physically active, get outside, have fun, and build relationships.

As mentioned before, our physical education program is only one aspect of our focus on physical development. You can find out more about the other aspects by visiting our website, [HolbrookIndianSchool.org/programs](http://HolbrookIndianSchool.org/programs), where you will find out about programs such as sustainable farming, outdoor school, and equestrian facilitated learning (horsemanship).

*By Chevon Petgrave*

*Holbrook Indian School (HIS) is a first- through twelfth-grade boarding academy operated by the Pacific Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. HIS also manages a first- through eighth-grade day school on the Navajo reservation in Chinle, Arizona. Eighty percent of funding comes from individuals who have a desire to support Native American ministries and Christian education. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of our students, their families, and the communities they serve.*

**Thank you for your support.**

### DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 910 | Holbrook, Arizona 86025-0910 | (928) 524-6845 (Ext. 109) | [Development@hisda.org](mailto:Development@hisda.org) | [HolbrookIndianSchool.org](http://HolbrookIndianSchool.org)



Albert Richards is the 1,001st patient to receive a liver transplant at Loma Linda University Health.

## 1,000 Liver Transplants Have Improved LLU Patients' and Families' Lives

Since becoming the first medical center in the Inland Empire to offer liver transplants to patients in 1993, Loma Linda University Health has gone on to complete hundreds of procedures—recently cumulating to 1,000 liver transplants.

“Surpassing 1,000 liver transplants is a huge milestone for the Transplant Institute, carrying out the mission of Loma Linda University to make man whole,” said Michael E. de Vera, MD, FACS, director of the Loma Linda University Transplant Institute. “The achievement is more than just a number—it represents the lives of patients touched by the generosity of organ donors and is also a reminder of the countless others on the waitlist who struggle with liver disease and are waiting patiently and desperately for precious, life-saving organs.”

Each year the Transplant Institute coordinates over 100 liver transplants, which are performed by transplant surgeons at the LLU Medical Center and enabled by liver donations from deceased individuals who had selflessly agreed to donate.

One of the many liver transplant recipients to benefit from the life-saving procedure offered at LLU is the 1,001st patient, who expressed his thankfulness and hopes that sharing his story will inspire some in similar situations to maintain hope and others to enroll as donors.

“I could be here all day talking about the goodness of what I went through,” said 56-year-old Albert Richards Jr., now enjoying his life extension to the fullest and spending time with loved ones who supported him throughout his health journey.

To read more about Albert Richards' story, go to: <https://news.llu.edu/patient-care/1000-liver-transplants-have-improved-llu-patients-and-families-lives>

By Lisa Aubry

“I could be here all day talking about the goodness of what I went through.”

See the latest news and Health & Wellness stories from Loma Linda University Health at [news.llu.edu](https://news.llu.edu).

For more on this story,  
please visit [www.lasierra.edu/news](http://www.lasierra.edu/news).

## A Heart for Others, a Drive to Succeed: 2021 Presidential Scholars Aim for Impact

**T**hey will arrive at La Sierra University to begin college this fall from locales that are 3,200 miles apart. And although they will be far from their homes, Domonique Douglas and Krista Dufala, this year's Presidential Scholarship award recipients, have faith that God is directing their journeys and their plans to continue serving others.

Douglas and Dufala respectively hail from Pembroke, Bermuda, and San Jose, Calif. While maintaining strong academic performances, they have acted on empathic impulses inspired

by circumstances, and both took steps to establish charitable organizations and pursue causes close to their hearts. At La Sierra, Douglas will major in health care management and pre-medicine toward becoming a cardiothoracic surgeon. Dufala will study neuroscience, aiming for a career in pediatrics or neurosurgery.

Dufala, whose parents adopted her from an orphanage in the Philippines when she was 22 months old, took those first steps toward purpose at the tender age of 6 when she inspired a fundraiser at her school to pay for a sweets party at her former orphanage. The school fundraiser was successful and led to others impacting orphanages in different countries. The project, "Sweets for the Holidays," also fueled the formation of a nonprofit called KRIS, Kids Rise Inspire Soar, which raises funds for orphanage playgrounds,



Domonique Douglas (left) and Krista Dufala (above) are Presidential Scholarship award recipients starting at La Sierra University in the fall.

new orphanage campuses, and biennial missions aid trips. It functions under a board of directors with Dufala as founder and her mother, Lirio Dufala, as co-founder, president, and chief executive officer.

The last two years of Douglas' high school experience brought stresses and trauma through the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the sudden loss of a close friend as the result of a vehicle accident. Two days after her friend's death, Douglas helped initiate the "Pain into Purpose" community activism group to bring focus on the importance of road safety in Bermuda. Through social media and a newspaper article, they launched the campaign with a call for people to dress in shades of blue on Jan. 17, 2020, "as a symbol of solidarity and a renewed commitment for road safety," she wrote.

A "blue wave" ensued around the country, Douglas said, and the enthusiastic response inspired the creation of a nonprofit that furthers awareness of the need to practice safe driving toward saving lives. "I was so glad to be a part of this organization that also helped heal my heart and the heart of others," said Douglas.

*By Darla Martin Tucker*



# 2021 Workathon at Summit Christian Academy

**If you would like to see the domino cereal box rally in action, you can watch it on Facebook using the following links:**

Full Rally: <https://fb.watch/5ygMPAQnbb/>



Last part of rally in slow motion: <https://fb.watch/5ygjPRVDAR/>



Every year, Summit Christian Academy (SCA) staff, students, parents, and friends of the Salt Lake City school participate in a workathon. The students send out letters to friends, family, and church members asking them to be their sponsors. The students typically do a day of community service away from the school campus; however, this year, due to the pandemic, things were done a little differently.

Everyone joined forces for a cleanup day at the school facility. Activities included cleaning up the school grounds, hallways, and gym walls. Classmates in grades TK-2 used their energy removing rocks prior to the first lawn mowing of the year. They did a terrific job!

As each of the income goals set by the teachers was achieved, a unique award incentive for the workathon participants took place. At the accomplishment of the \$6,000 goal, all of the students received a frozen fruit bar. When the \$7,000 goal was realized, the third- and fourth-grade teacher, Ms. McCaw, dyed her hair something wild and crazy. At \$7,500, SCA's fifth- and sixth-grade teacher, Mr. Roy, had his head shaved. At the accomplishment of the \$8,000 goal, Rith Dok, the seventh- and eighth-grade teacher, and his wife, Nicola Dok, who teaches TK-K, made root beer floats for the students. "I liked the root beer floats we got for reaching one of our goals the best!" exclaimed first-grader Cylan Ciulla. When the final goal of \$9,000 was reached, first-



“It was exciting to observe the students’ excitement grow as they did the countdown to the domino cereal box rally.”

and second-grade teacher Sara Willard made s’mores for everyone. As of this writing, \$9,040 in donations have been received.

The fun and excitement of watching Ms. McCaw and Mr. Roy on Dye and Shave Day was a reward looked forward to by all. Third-grader Caleb Ciulla said, “It was fun watching Mr. Roy have his head shaved and Ms. McCaw having her hair dyed purple and teal!” A big thanks to hairdresser Evon Webb for making the whole experience entertaining and memorable for one and all.

On top of the tremendous success with the cash donations, the school chose to collect boxes of cereal as a community service project. More than 200 boxes were donated to the local food bank as a result of the efforts of students and staff. The children got the chance to test their skills by lining up all 208 boxes of cereal, domino style, in the school hallway—starting at the top of the second-floor ramp and winding down the ramp to the main hallway on the first floor. Debbie Lawrence, a member of the SCA administrative assistant team, shared, “It was exciting to observe the students’ excitement grow as they did the countdown to the domino cereal box rally.” It was thrilling to watch the boxes fall. Even better, the cereal donation delivery to the Utah Food Bank weighed in at 272 pounds!

Cindy McCaw, SCA head teacher and third- and fourth-grade teacher, shared her satisfaction and delight with the outcome of the event. “Due to the restraints the COVID-19 pandemic brought upon us, this year’s workathon was a change from other years. We usually go and work in our community by cleaning up the parks and the neighborhoods around



the school. We also go to Wheeler Historic Farm to help them clean up and get ready for their summer programs,” she explained. “In spite of the constraints, we were able to come up with other work projects. One was sending cards to the care centers near the school. Another was the breakfast cereal drive for the food bank. COVID-19 guidelines encouraged distance and isolation; however, we felt it was important to reach out to others. Next year we hope to get back to our former service projects, while adding the care centers and food bank to our list of projects in reaching out to our community.”

It is inspiring to see what a school of exuberant youth are able to do when challenged with a worthy task. Keep up the good work!

*By Debbie Lawrence*



When the \$7,000 goal was realized, the third- and fourth-grade teacher, Ms. McCaw, dyed her hair something wild and crazy. At \$7,500, SCA’s fifth- and sixth-grade teacher, Mr. Roy, had his head shaved.



PHOTOS: PABLO HILARIO

## Rogelia Gayoba Engages Her Calling to Ministry

Over the course of her life, Rogelia Gayoba has been a passionate worker for God, serving Him in a variety of ways she never anticipated. “My philosophy in life is: ‘Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might,’” she said.

Currently, Gayoba serves as assistant head elder at the American Canyon Fil-Am church, and she regularly teaches a Filipino language Sabbath School class. She’s also involved in many aspects of church outreach and organization. “The pastor calls me the ‘backup speaker,’” she said. “I think my assignment is like that of Aaron and Hur, holding up Moses’ arms. I have to be ready to support the work of the Lord.”

Because she is the oldest member of the congregation, she is also called “the GM,” which stands for “the Grand Matriarch.”

Born and raised in the Philippines, Gayoba is a lifelong Adventist. Her mother was pregnant with her when she decided to join the Church. “I was first baptized in the womb!” said Gayoba.

When she was a very young girl, her father was killed during World War II. Gayoba had to work to pay for her tuition to Adventist schools—from elementary through

college. While in the Philippines, she graduated from Mountain View College with a degree in ministry and from other colleges with degrees in accounting and public health.

Over the decades, Gayoba enthusiastically responded to whatever the Lord called her to do. Although her various jobs are too numerous to list, they included district pastor, secretary to the union president, roles in hospital administration, dean of women, missionary to Pakistan, adoptive single mother, and much more! After she moved to the United States, she held several different positions at Glendale Adventist Hospital and Pacific Union College.

No matter the calling, Gayoba passionately took on the task. “I believe if you really put your heart into the work—just give all you’ve got—the Lord will grow you,” she said. “Mrs. White wrote: ‘All His biddings are enablings.’ Many people forget that because they are afraid. But when you put your feet on the water, the river will dry up like it did for the priests at the River Jordan. I have found this to be true in my life.”

---

By Julie Lorenz

*Each week “Northern Lights,” the Northern California Conference news source, features a person who is engaging his or her calling to ministry. Subscribe to Northern Lights at [nccsda.com](http://nccsda.com).*

# NCC Human Resources Provides Connections with a Purpose

**L**ike most organizations, the Northern California Conference has a human resources department that manages all matters related to employees. But the four members of the NCC HR team strive to provide more than the usual services. They view HR as a ministry!

“Our department’s motto is ‘Connections with a Purpose,’” said HR Director Kathy Batchelor. “People are at the core of what we do, and that is why we are committed to providing our employees and those we serve with the resources they need to do God’s work.”

NCC HR supports about 1,200 employees and numerous volunteers in churches, schools, and other ministries. The department explains its mission through five key words:

**Strategy** – HR collaborates with NCC entities and legal counsel to determine best practices to ensure the most efficient means of incorporating guidelines and laws to protect ministries.

**People** – HR connects with employees, their families, volunteers, and ministries to ensure they have the information they need to thrive. “We enable NCC entities to provide excellent service to their people, advocating for work/life balance, for health and wellness, and for the unheard voice,” said Lydia Paredes, benefits and employment administrator.

**Education** – HR offers numerous resources and trainings to help people do their jobs well. One popular training is Level 1 Boot Camp—a day-long orientation designed to thoroughly educate employees about their benefits. “We have a lot of great ideas for training and education that we are hoping to implement soon,” said Batchelor.



The NCC human resources team includes Alissa Sattelmayer, Director Kathy Batchelor, Raven Threatt, and Lydia Paredes.

**Compliance** – HR abides by laws and policies in order to ensure trust, communication, safety, health, fairness, equality, and protection. “Unless in conflict with the laws of God, we comply with the laws of the state and federal government, as well as conference and denominational policy,” said Alissa Sattelmayer, HR specialist.

**Spirituality** – HR has a missional side. “We want the service we provide to our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to be more than just an employment connection,” said Raven Threatt, HR specialist. “Our goal is to leave those we interact with feeling appreciated, encouraged, and cared for. We are committed to praying on behalf of those we serve.”

Each day, the HR team endeavors to be a blessing in the lives of employees, volunteers, and ministries. “Our ultimate goal is to help fulfill the mission of the NCC,” said Batchelor. “We are dedicated to ‘transforming people through the good news of Jesus Christ and preparing them for His soon return.’”

*By Julie Lorenz*

# NCC Schools Bring Students to Christ during 180 Days of Evangelism

**E**ach school day, Northern California Conference (NCC) educators help their students learn more about Jesus. For some children, He is already their Best Friend. Other students are meeting Him for the first time.

During the pandemic, numerous community families chose to send their children to NCC schools so they could receive in-person instruction, which they couldn't get at the large public schools. As a result, more kids are now learning about Christ and the abundant life that He offers. "Each school year is 180 days of evangelism!" said Albert Miller, NCC superintendent of schools.

Here are just a few examples from this past school year:



## **Vacaville Adventist Christian School**

Enrollment at this one-room school grew by 66 percent this school year, and it's expected that all the students will be returning in August. Nearly half of the children come from families that aren't Adventist church members. "This school has been our biggest blessing this year," said one parent who is new to the school. "I want my daughter to stay, and I'll send my son when he reaches school age."

Another parent praised Teaching Principal Nancy Matthews: "She's an amazing teacher who volunteers to drive my son to school so I can work from home as a single mom and pay tuition."



## **Middletown Adventist School**

Due to the pandemic, one couple enrolled their two young daughters at the one-room school, despite their desire not to provide religious education for their children. By spring, the first-grader frequently sang "Jesus Loves Me" to herself during the school day, and the third-grader decided she would like to take baptismal classes. "The girls have told Teaching Principal Cyndee Westenrider how sad they are not to be returning next year," said Miller. "They have shared their love of their school and their new love of Jesus with friends, so we hope that the seeds that have been planted will continue to grow."



## **Hilltop Christian School in Antioch**

Nearly 70 percent of the students at Hilltop Christian School come from families that are not members of the Adventist church. The parents appreciate the values the teachers are encouraging, such as a recent lesson for the first-graders.



After the class studied about “community,” their teacher, Jeanette Quiroz, talked with them about how they could be of service. “The class decided their ‘homework’ was to clean up trash around their neighborhoods,” she said. “They came back to school the next day saying they wanted to do it again!”



### Galt Adventist School

This year, Teaching Principal Jennifer Lalas (pictured far left) held Bible studies with three students—Ava Gifford, Julissa Perez, and Abigail Gifford—who made the decision to be baptized. “My favorite part of studying with the girls was the special connection we formed as we studied God’s Word together,” said Lalas. “This journey has been such a gift, and I know I will be filled with emotion as I witness these girls make their public declaration of faith in Christ.”

### Lodi SDA Elementary School

On the Friday before Easter, the seventh-graders participated in an agape feast as part of their study on the life of Jesus. They learned what items are shared in a typical Passover supper and the meaning behind



each symbol. They also talked about forgiveness, which made a powerful impression on them, according to their teacher, Lisa Nuss.

“When one of my seventh-grade girls came up to me at the end of the day, with tears in her eyes, and said this was the first time she really felt like Jesus loved her, my own eyes welled up immediately, and I just wrapped my arms around her and assured her that He really does!” said Nuss. “My greatest hope is that they would see a Jesus who loves them, desires to be friends with them, and who they would likewise desire to spend time with.”

*By Julie Lorenz*

## Pastor Larry Walks with Kids toward the Kingdom

**W**ith contagious kindness and enthusiasm, Pastor Larry Unterseher ministers to the students and teachers at the 16 small schools scattered throughout the conference. “Our small schools are bursting with people seeking the kingdom,” he said. “It’s just so exciting!”

Since 2014, Unterseher has served as pastor to the NCC schools with fewer than four teachers. During that time, he has driven many thousands of miles to present worship talks, weeks of prayer, lessons on endangered species, and fun activities designed to help him engage with the students. Known for loudly and enthusiastically celebrating birthdays, he also sends each student a \$2 bill enclosed in a birthday card, reminding the recipient that he or she is special to Jesus.

During the pandemic, Unterseher has increased his virtual presence. Many of the schools regularly participate in his weekly worship talks on Zoom. Recently, 10 schools joined a six-week online art class that he organized, taught by his daughter-in-law, Emily. Students and teachers responded so positively that Unterseher has been brainstorming ideas and surveying educators as he makes plans for future online classes.

Because many of the students come from families that are unfamiliar with any church, he speaks simply as he talks to the children about Jesus’ love and grace. “We are walking together toward the kingdom,” he said. “They won’t all become church members, but when they are 25 and making decisions, they will fall back on all the things they learned at their little school.”



# PUC Releases Vision for the Future

**P**acific Union College (PUC) has released a new Vision for the Future that details the college's extensive plans for the years to come. This vision will expand the college's reach, make higher education accessible to a wider range of students, and ensure PUC's future as a leader in the Christian college marketplace.

"It is critical that we look to the future with both optimism and realism," said Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing, and Communication Gene Edelbach. "Higher education is in a state of dramatic decline, and unfortunately that includes Seventh-day Adventist Christian education. Instead of following an old model of operation that will continue to show us diminishing results, we are choosing reinvention. We will expand, adapt, and innovate to reach more students, including those who require a less traditional path, while remaining true to our commitment to Christianity,

Adventism, and the quality of our PUC education."

The focus of PUC's Vision for the Future includes four main areas: academic offerings, the Angwin campus, education centers, and online offerings.

## **Academic offerings**

To meet the needs of today's college students, PUC is building on the strengths of its rich academic history to innovate liberal arts and shape a more career-focused education. A shift is being made within the school's academic offerings to better meet the current needs of students who are seeking efficient paths to the job market and career success.

"We are blessed to be building on such a solid foundation, with our history of excellence," said Vice President for Academic Administration and Academic Dean Milbert Mariano. "We want to



assure success for all of our students, and it's a natural shift for us to increase the emphasis on developing career paths for students."

Focused areas of study will allow for improved quality of academics, as well as increased opportunities. These focused areas of study will include:

- Nursing and Health Sciences
- Business
- Spiritual, Global, and Community Service
- Visual Arts and Communication
- Science and Technology
- Behavioral Sciences

### **Angwin campus**

While the school is looking to online programs and education centers to increase the school's footprint and to improve financial viability, PUC's heart remains atop Howell Mountain in Angwin. Nurturing that heart is vital to maintaining its status as an established and sustainable campus.

The physical campus will continue to be the center of spiritual, social, and support activities for PUC, so each activity and service is being evaluated. Students who value the on-campus experience will find a more enriching and more supportive environment. The cultural, spiritual, and learning center of PUC will be shared throughout the off-campus programs as well, so the Angwin campus must be strong and inspirational.

The campus must also be financially viable. Since the early 1900s, the population of PUC's campus has included a range from 20 students to 2,200 students. Research shows that a stable campus of around 1,200 students is the most viable avenue for moving forward. This takes into consideration the limitations the school faces with location and facilities.

### **Education centers**

If the Angwin campus is the heart and soul of Pacific Union College, education centers will be the arms and the legs that put the school in motion within communities.

More than half of the students in the United States who receive higher education today are non-traditional students. These students have families, jobs, or other commitments in life that make relocation and full-time education impossible. PUC wants to ensure that these students are able to access the same quality education and spiritual influence that the traditional student is able to access.

Earning a college degree for a specific career, and experiencing beneficial internships as part of the

process, has also become a driving force for education. Positioning education centers in local communities and establishing partnerships with local businesses, healthcare facilities, and other appropriate training centers creates a more effective outlet for networking.

### **Online campus**

Online learning is not a new concept within higher education and has seen exponential growth over the last several years. This is an operational area considered standard by most thriving institutions, with approximately 30% of all higher education students in the U.S. taking at least one online course and around 20% completing most of their education online.

PUC will retain the Angwin campus as its core and base of operations, but the emphasized areas of focus and support services of the Angwin campus can be exported to many more students, especially those who are considered non-traditional, by making these offerings available online.

Because some course and support resources are already in place, the college can soon begin offering programs that are fully developed, have been given appropriate approval, and have proven popular with large market potential. They will continue to make further offerings available as course and support resources are ready.

### **Timeline**

Work has already begun in the realignment of academic offerings, as well as modifications to PUC's Angwin campus, and they will continue steadily and thoughtfully over the next few years.

The education centers are an innovative new plan that will take time to implement. Valuable community and organizational partnerships are already in development, and a limited implementation will begin in the 2021/22 school year. PUC is also prepared to begin online programs in the 2021/22 school year, with continued growth over the next several years.

"We recognize we have set lofty goals for ourselves," said Vice President for Financial Administration Brandon Parker. "We must continuously be looking for better opportunities for our students, so we are looking at major expansion and we plan to put this Vision into action quickly with minimal financial input from our operational budget."

For full details on PUC's Vision for the Future, visit [puc.edu/vision](http://puc.edu/vision).

---

*By Ashley Eisele*



Campus Hill church youth enjoy an outdoor hike together.

## Reaching Beyond: Ministry Opportunities During a Global Pandemic

“These young people let me in more during our time in quarantine than they ever did before we went online.”

“Putting aside the horror of a contagious disease,” said Christopher Stanley, youth pastor at Loma Linda University church, “the pandemic had some uniquely positive features.”

While it may seem a bit “Pollyanna-ish” to find a silver lining in the global pandemic, as a youth pastor, Stanley saw real benefits to life moving online.

“In modern society, kids have very little time to reflect and process their own internal voices,” Stanley explained. “Technology has become ever more pervasive, and their schedules both in and out of school are packed, leaving no time for them to be awed and reflective.”

During the pandemic, however, this changed. Thirty youth regularly logged on to Stanley’s virtual Sabbath School on Instagram—and stayed fully engaged the entire time. In the live feed comments section, they shared things and became vulnerable in ways Stanley says they would never have done in person.

“These young people let me in more during our time in quarantine than they ever did before we went online,” he said.

Stanley built an interactive program from the very beginning. Each week, they chose a different Bible story and examined it in detail, using their imaginations to fill in the gaps. For example, when they read about Jesus celebrating at Simon’s house following the resurrection of Lazarus, the group concocted a party theme and menu for the celebration.



“They remember in detail every single story we studied during the pandemic,” Stanley said. “We have a collection of inside jokes and awesome stories because it was interactive and imaginative. We came close to each other and close to the Word, letting the text speak to us and making the Bible a living thing.”

They also made time to be in nature together. Masked and socially distanced, the group met at Joshua Tree National Park to spend time with God.

“Creation speaks to us in a unique way,” Stanley pointed out. “We are created to be in and a part of nature, and seeing these kids have transcendental moments watching the sun set over the desert was beautiful. They were blown away by the space, the beauty, and the experience. Being forced to take Sabbath School outside was healthy for us, and it’s something I’m grateful to the pandemic for reminding us.”

According to Ivan Ostrovsky, associate pastor at Fallbrook Church, creating a tight-knit and God-connected group is exactly the way to start preparing young people for a life of service.

“If you want to make a difference in the community, you have to start with your own house,” Ostrovsky said. “As a youth pastor, I absolutely want the youth involved in any outreach we do, but before we go into the community, I want to make sure our own church is a healthy environment.”

To this end, Ostrovsky has spent much of his three years at Fallbrook building a sense of community within



Fallbrook church youth put together food and gift baskets for a local community full of kids.

the youth group. When one of their members had a birthday but couldn’t come to church, he coordinated a caravan of cars to drive by the house to sing and drop off a cake.

They didn’t falter because of COVID-19; throughout the pandemic, the youth made videos of themselves offering inspirational and encouraging messages, which Ostrovsky shared on Instagram several times a week. He also gave them weekly challenges, such as doing jumping jacks, spending time reading their Bibles, or gazing at the stars.

“It’s not just about learning,” Ostrovsky emphasized. “It’s about living life together. It’s not a duty or a responsibility; it’s a family getting together.”

And as a family, they can more effectively make an impact on their community. During the holidays, Fallbrook youth put together food and gift baskets for a local community full of kids. Pre-pandemic they went regularly to sing and visit with residents of a local nursing home and put together care packages for college students in their church.

“Community is definitely a crucial precursor to outreach,” agreed Jessie López Abdul-Karim, associate pastor for Azure Hills church in Grand Terrace.

When the young adults of Azure Hills were looking for a way to connect socially, they asked López Abdul-Karim if there was something they could do together. “They didn’t want anything formal—they just wanted to relax and have fun together,” she recalled.

So they started a Sabbath birthday brunch at the church once a month. And it didn’t stop once the pandemic started; instead, it morphed into Collective Eats—a monthly online group cooking event on Fridays that generated much conversation and laughter. For



Campus Hill young adults coordinated a community art therapy night and enjoyed an outdoor banquet.

several weeks, one member bought and delivered ingredients for everyone who wanted to participate. Then they gathered on Zoom and cooked in their own homes together.

“While we cook, we talk about life,” López Abdul-Karim explained. “It’s an interactive hangout we all find incredibly meaningful.”

She also pointed out with a laugh that it is not a health ministry. Over the last several months they’ve made strawberry shortcake, tofu spring rolls, French toast crunch, lava cakes, pad see ew, egg tarts, and breakfast quesadillas, among other treats. It is, however, a ministry that follows in the footsteps of Jesus’ ministry.

“A lot of young adults find it difficult to enter a church just because they’re invited,” López Abdul-Karim said. “Collective Eats is an outreach designed to allow us to not only connect with each other but also to meet new people and bring them into our conversations, which we hope will eventually turn into seeing them attend our Sabbath School discussions and church.”

Creating opportunities to meet people and eat together is exactly what Jesus did, López Abdul-Karim pointed out. “The early church broke bread together,” she said. “Jesus had a food ministry. He fed the 5,000, He shared a meal at a meaningful time with His disciples—He understands people’s need for and love of food.”

Understanding all the needs of a community—spiritual, emotional, and physical—is what makes an outreach project effective. Crave, the young adult Sabbath School at Campus Hill church, has made it a point to do exactly that, starting from within.

“Crave is a deeply caring, creative, and multicultural hub for young adults,” explained Shiphrah Fepulea’i, associate pastor. “We are very intentional about

making our group a safe space for everyone—regardless of language or music preference, background, life stage, or any other factor.”

Two of Crave’s core values are to reflect our Creator and to authentically reflect who He created us to be. Even during the stress of COVID-19, the young adults found safe ways to spend time together to beat the isolation, such as hiking, biking, and lake trips.

As California began to emerge from the pandemic, Campus Hill young adults recognized the need for a healing event to commemorate the one-year anniversary of their community going into lockdown. So the idea of an art therapy night was born.

“Though some had been vaccinated, we kept the event outside because we wanted this night to be possible for all,” Fepulea’i said. “It was an event for those who needed healing, and we all needed to feel safe.”

The group provided easels, canvases, paintbrushes, and paint, and invited the community to attend. They capped the event at 25 in order to be able to maintain social distance, but the interest was much higher.

“The majority of participants weren’t regular, intimately plugged-in members of our church,” Fepulea’i shared. “It was really special to see who the Lord brought in.”

Every single participant asked them to do another art therapy night, and one is in the works for later this summer.

“My favorite thing about this young adult group is that it is a place where we can pour out our hearts and find healing for our souls through honesty, transparency, vulnerability, and respect for the pace and journey of each person,” Fepulea’i said.

Ultimately, this is the type of authentic Christian every youth group leader dreams of helping shape.

“The most desirable outcome of youth ministry is to create young people who are compassionate, thoughtful, careful citizens of this world who find purpose and direction through the life and teachings of Christ,” Stanley concluded. “The pandemic gave us a special opportunity to explore different effective paths to that outcome, because Christ and the Word became a greater focus in our ministry to each other and to our communities. And that’s truly all that matters.”



Azure Hills church youth join a monthly online group cooking event.

*By Becky St. Clair*

# Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Pathfinder Legend Connie Perez

The Southeastern California Conference recently lost Connie Perez, a Pathfinder pioneer who organized and promoted Spanish Pathfinder Club Ministries for over 40 years. Perez was a lifelong Adventist who dedicated her boundless energy and exceptional artistic talent to youth ministries. She will be greatly missed by all whose lives were enriched by her influence.

“Connie Perez was an unstoppable force,” said Pastor Rudy Carrillo. “I began working with her in 1982 when she was the Orange County Pathfinder coordinator, and she was always someone you could depend on.”

Perez was introduced to Pathfinding in the early 1950s as a boarding student at Sandia View Academy in New Mexico. She found that the Pathfinder experience strengthened her faith and taught her important lessons in leadership and resilience. After she and her husband, David, had their three children, Roger, Ken, and Karen, she started the first Spanish Pathfinder club at the Shelton Street church in Santa Ana.

Her son Ken remembers her dedication to promoting Pathfinder clubs in surrounding churches. “She would dress in her Master Guide uniform and visit churches throughout Orange County and Riverside to help them organize and grow their Pathfinder clubs,” he said. “Her uniform had two sashes completely full of Pathfinder honors. If she didn’t know how to do something, she would teach herself so she could pass that information on to others.”

Perez’s dedication to Pathfinders influenced her family members. Her sisters, Eva Vasquez and Rose Martinez, went on to become directors of Pathfinder clubs, her son Roger is Pathfinder coordinator for North San Diego County, and several nieces have served in Pathfinder leadership roles.

Her niece, Martha Sanchez, joined Perez as assistant coordinator for the Orange County Pathfinder clubs in 2001. “As long as I knew her, Connie loved Pathfinding with all of her heart,” said Sanchez. “When I was a Pathfinder in Santa Ana, she arranged for the drill and bugle corps to march in the city parade and made sure that we all had the right white gloves and socks. She



Connie Perez pictured next to an artwork that she created to commemorate her 40 years leadership in Pathfinders.

taught glass painting or leathercraft honors. She was always on the go.” When Perez retired in 2011, Sanchez became the Pathfinder coordinator for Orange County, but Perez held the title of honorary coordinator for the rest of her life as a tribute to her 25 years of service.

Throughout her life, Perez painted banners and murals for churches, the SECC office, and for camporees. Perez’s sister, Eva Vasquez, said that Perez’s artistry was always an asset to the Pathfinder clubs that she led. “On camping trips, Connie would tell the Pathfinders to collect stones, and then she would teach a rock painting class,” said Vasquez. “She designed a logo for the Pathfinder coordinator jackets. She was always creative.”

Her longtime friend Frances Raycup also remembers Perez’s talent. “I have seen Connie create beautiful paintings on any surface—recycled plastic, a piece of wood, even a tortilla!”

“Connie insisted that I complete the Master Guide program and then she insisted that I become the director of a Pathfinder club,” said Raycup. “Connie was a mentor to so many and was always raising the leadership bar.” Raycup now serves as the SECC coordinator for Pathfinder Club Master Guides.

Though Connie experienced poor health in her final years, those who knew her are looking forward to seeing her at the resurrection, when her formidable strength will be restored to her. “The Lord has promised that we will see Connie again,” said Raycup, “and I know that He keeps His promises.”

By Tricia Murdoch Zmaj

The week of prayer team takes a moment with the girls after their baptism. The girls are pictured in the front row, left to right: Samantha, Helynn, and Sophia.

PHOTOS: LAUREN LACSON



## Beach Baptisms Finish Off Virtual Week of Prayer for SCC Schools



**G**od works in mysterious ways, and some would say that has never been more apparent than during this COVID-19 pandemic. SCC's second-ever virtual week of prayer for all SCC students was evidence of this.

"We have an awesome teachers-pastors team here in SCC," said Velino A. Salazar, SCC president. "Thanks to COVID times, our educators and pastors took the opportunity to work together as never before. They joined efforts to impress our students' minds spiritually at the annual week of prayer our schools have."

This April, SCC's Senior Youth and Young Adult team worked with the SCC Office of Education and representatives from each school to bring the event to life. "The SCC K-12 spring week of prayer was an amazing accomplishment, as a result of when church and educational ministries collaborate together to bring Jesus to each and every one of our students," said Harold Crook, SCC vice president for education.

"What made this week of prayer so impactful were the efforts of the schools, teachers, pastors, and conference in chorus," noted Iki Taimi, director of SCC Senior Youth and Young Adult Ministries. "Each different layer played a role in



Helynn's baptism



Samantha's baptism



Sophia's baptism

impacting the kids, and when we all take an active role, it makes a major difference.”

The spring week of prayer followed the same virtual format as the first event in the fall: daily devotional messages, testimonies and fun games with the week of prayer planning team, songs, and prayers—with all schools contributing and submitting content. This time, the event was themed “Like & Follow,” reminding students that Christ likes and follows them, while also encouraging them to like and follow Him in return. The daily themes were: God knows you, God likes you, God calls you, God equips you, God wants you. The three versions of the event—for elementary, junior high, and high school—were each tailored to the students in unique ways.

One element added in the spring stood out: an appeal for baptism, service, or prayer to close out the final day of the event. Students responded with 43 requests for baptism, 54 who want to serve, 37 who want to get more involved in church or with local youth, and 82 prayer requests.

After the week of prayer concluded and the survey results were received, a baptismal class was held based on the six-part “Enter the Deep” baptismal curriculum, with pastors from the week of prayer planning team leading the students through study and discussion. “The most impactful part for me personally was watching the pastoral team work so diligently to care for the kids,” Taimi shared. “It’s especially hard during this time of social distancing and isolation, so one must really appreciate the intentionality and creativity the pastors employed to make a difference.”



Salazar offers a prayer of dedication over the girls before their baptism.

Following these classes, in May, three young girls from SCC schools were baptized at Dockweiler Beach, surrounded by family, friends, teachers, SCC leadership, and the week of prayer team.

Everyone has a part in this saving work for our young people. “We should all be working together around a single vision to love all our kids into the kingdom,” Taimi said. “Pastors, families, and teachers can make a mammoth impact on their kids’ lives when they orchestrate more together.”

To read about our first virtual week of prayer for all schools, to watch the spring week of prayer or livestreamed beach baptism, or to learn more, visit <https://scc.adventist.org/stories/week-of-prayer-2021>.

By Lauren Lacson



Before the girls were baptized, teachers and week of prayer leaders shared about their experience with the girls and each girl’s unique journey.



PHOTO: ANDREW FROEMMING

Guests can book showers up to 10 days in advance online or in person during hours of operation.

## Compassion Connection Provides Relief During the Pandemic

**W**hen gyms first closed in March 2020, Compassion Connection, a ministry arm of the Hollywood church that provides shower and personal care resources to unhoused individuals in Los Angeles, suddenly saw a surge in demand for these services.

Before the coronavirus pandemic, three days a week, guests were able to book showers at the Hollywood church. The addition of a mobile shower unit, brought in through a partnership with The Shower of Hope in 2018, had allowed Compassion Connection to provide 300 showers a month on average.

“When the stay-at-home orders went into effect,”

said Andrew Froemming, director of administration at Hollywood church and leader of Compassion Connection, “we thought there would be an increase, but we didn’t realize how much.”

The Compassion Connection team, however, was determined to serve amid the crisis. Due to increased demand, Froemming reached out to The Shower of Hope, and together they formed a collaborative partnership with The Kohler Company, Adventist Health, and World Vision to meet the growing needs of their unsheltered neighbors. The partnership currently includes staffing, personal care products, and a specially designed mobile shower unit with seven stalls, allowing Compassion Connection to expand their operations to four days a week and provide 1,000 showers a month. In 2020, they provided more than 7,600 showers.

“Many of our guests are thankful to us for providing a place for them to take a shower, especially during this pandemic,” said Branden Stoltz, pastor of Hollywood church. “I see God orchestrating all of us together into this amazing mechanism to meet the needs of the people in this city. That includes our unsheltered neighbors. God has been very good to us.”

Compassion Connection began providing shower services in 2013. “It all started with a conversation with people in the community,” said Froemming, who started to form relationships with unsheltered people he met on his daily walk to work. Froemming asked what they needed, and he soon discovered that shower access was harder to find than food.

“He saw a need and an opportunity, and he went for it,” Stoltz said. “It’s risky, but that’s what we’re called to do.”

Eight years later, the work continues. Froemming hopes to bring in additional partners, such as medical and laundry services.

“I’m so thankful that I can help people who don’t have access to these services,” Froemming said. “I just think, if I were in this place, I would hope that someone would do the same for me.”

By Araya Moss

### Notice of Southern California Conference Special Constituency Session

Please take notice that a Special 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 Street  
Los Angeles, California

**Date:** Sunday, September 19, 2021

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The purpose of this session is to receive a comprehensive report from the Ad Hoc Region Structure Evaluation Committee, with the committee’s assessment and analysis.

*Delegates are invited to join with the SCC Prayer Team for prayer from 8:00 – 8:50 a.m.*

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

PHOTOS: DELMY CALDERON



FAR LEFT: Calderon (top right) meets with her online class. Typically, seven to nine people meet each week, and the age range varies from two to 23 years.

LEFT: Calderon (left) participates in a socially distanced birthday for one of her students.

## My Friend's House Provides Hope in a Digital Space

**A**s COVID-19 significantly impacted the nature of ministry, navigating this new digital space while creating meaningful connection presented a learning curve for Delmy Calderon, who has been leading the special needs children's ministry My Friend's House at Santa Clarita church since her hiring in 2018.

Calderon, who has worked as a special needs educator in the Santa Clarita Valley for 27 years, was used to a more hands-on approach to the ministry. Before the pandemic, the Sabbath School program consisted of music, prayer, a Bible story, and sharing time. Each child was also responsible for a portion of the program.

With the pandemic, adjustments suddenly needed to be made to transition from meeting in person to online. Calderon initially used multiple platforms—FaceTime, Google Meet, Facebook Messenger, whatever was most available to the families—before finding consistency and ease of use on Zoom.

"It took six months to adjust to the new program," Calderon said. She spent most of last year figuring out what worked and what didn't—and exploring whether or not the children were benefiting in an online format. "I often have to remind myself that worship is not a performance; it's about giving everything to God," she added.

The church felt it was important to give the kids—and their parents—a sense of normalcy and maintain routine during this unprecedented time. "The parents were just grateful that someone was available to keep this going," Calderon said.

In 2019, the church applied for the Pacific Union

Conference Evangelism Endowment Fund to help push the ministry forward. "When I asked our church board what evangelistic focus they wanted to make, they immediately said My Friend's House—and the people it serves—was the group they wanted to expand ministry for," said Mike Stevenson, pastor of Santa Clarita church. "The goal of the ministry was and is to serve an underserved group in our church and the community. We as a church decided to continue paying Delmy during the pandemic."

Parents weren't shy about expressing the difference the ministry has made for their children. "My Friend's House ministry has helped Josiah and his siblings learn so much about Jesus's love for them," said Esmé, mom of Josiah.

Yonatan Moha, dad of Memen, is also appreciative of the ministry and has seen his son open up and apply what he's learned. "He has five days of Zoom class for school," Moha said, "but he doesn't get as much as he gets from this. He participates with you."

When Santa Clarita church reopens for in-person worship, Calderon plans to adopt a hybrid approach in which she can simultaneously teach in person and through Zoom so that children unable to join in person can still participate.

Though the methods have changed, Calderon said the overall goal "that they will come to an understanding of who their Creator is" has remained the same. "The next step is to work toward baptism, for the ones who are ready," Calderon added. "They are almost there."

*By Araya Moss*

Newsdesk this month is devoted to the five-year retrospectives from the specialized ministries through which Adventist members in the Pacific Union are nurturing discipleship and spiritual growth and reaching out to the communities of the Pacific Southwest.

## ASI Ministries



**T**he mission of Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) is to support the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its various outreach

programs, including health, education, evangelism, community services, family ministries, and special projects. This unique and diverse group is composed of business owners, professionals, and supporting ministry leaders. The ASI Pacific Union chapter (ASI PUC) serves members in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah.

ASI PUC, like all ASI ministries and chapters, encourages members from all walks of life and professions to use their God-given talents and skills as a means of sharing the gospel through service and in the workplace. ASI members seek to experience God's love personally and in their relationships with others, including those they encounter in their everyday work and activities, hence the motto, "Sharing Christ in the Marketplace."

Through their many programs, events, and service opportunities—such as mission trips and other projects—ASI opens doors for evangelism and ministry that may not happen otherwise. As a result, many people, especially young Adventists, have not only strengthened their relationship with Christ but found a calling and purpose for their lives.

Diversity of individuals, cultures, education, skills, and talents is truly one of ASI's greatest strengths, seeing that it offers opportunities to truly reach people from "every nation, tribe, and tongue" and in as many spaces as possible—from local coffee shops to hospitals, schools, construction sites, the corporate world, and everywhere in between.

Overall, ASI PUC is committed to supporting the Church and its various outreach programs, and its members are committed to adhering to the highest standards of honesty in business principles and practices, positive attitudes toward church leadership, and a commitment to providing for the needs of others as they serve Christ in the marketplace.

## Children's Ministries



**C**hildren's Ministries has continued to grow and thrive in the Pacific Union Conference over the last five years. Numerous events and

trainings have occurred in the seven conferences that comprise the union—both to support leaders

and for children and youth as well.

The following are some of the highlights from the last five years.

In the fall of 2018, the Children's Ministries directors and Family Ministry directors of the Pacific Union partnered with the North American Division to hold a leadership convention in San Jose, Calif., for Family and Children's Ministries leaders. It was a



blessed time for all attendees.

Hawai'i Conference Children's Ministries participated in training programs from the Pacific Union, North American Division, and the General Conference. Sabbath School trainings were provided on the islands of O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, and the Big Island (Hawai'i) to ensure that Children's Ministries personnel from each place received support and education. The trainings took place at camp, schools, churches, and the conference office. There was a training specifically for Spanish speakers as well. The Adventurer Family Retreat every year at Camp Waianae is an event many look forward to, and VBS participation continues to grow each year, resulting in baptisms by God's grace.

Arizona Conference launched its AZSDAKids Ministry in 2016 and includes annual Children's

Ministries leadership trainings, a Vacation Bible School Expo, Children's Sabbath School trainings, and the Junior Soccer League. By the grace of God, one family was baptized as a direct result of the kids' soccer ministry. Children's Ministries leaders in Arizona are excited about the North American Division's Children's Ministries certification that is being offered every year.

One great asset of Children's Ministries is that ministry leaders from various conferences share a spirit of collaboration amongst each other and are regularly partnering and collaborating on projects to help and strengthen each other.

Overall, Pacific Union Conference Children's Ministries is thankful for the hard work and dedication of all local church and conference ministry leaders who make this important work possible.

## Family Life Ministries



**F**amily Life Ministry (FLM) in the Pacific Union Conference is thriving and continuing on the path of doing the Lord's work through its various family-

building programs and resources.

Leading out Family Ministry is Edwin Mendoza, a retired pastor from the Southeastern California Conference, who has been serving as director since 2014.

Believing that the family unit is a special masterpiece of God's creation, the goal of Family Life Ministry is to strengthen and build up families, guiding them in developing a more Christ-like testimony in their communities. They accomplish this goal in several ways:

- Supporting family life ministry leaders at the local church level through training, including a North American Division Family Life Ministry certification program.

- Supporting conference-level family camps, retreats, and seminars on a regular basis. In 2017, a worldwide ministry event was held in Budapest, Hungary, to empower and equip all Adventist ministries in their respective work, including Family Life. In 2018, the Central California Conference and the Southeastern California Conference celebrated the Family and Children Ministry Encounter in San Jose, California.
  - Given the challenges of holding in-person events due to COVID, online programming is more widely used to continue offering support, fellowship, and resources for families. The pandemic has not put an end to all in-person events, though. The latest FLM event was conducted in January 2021 in the Central California Conference.
- Believing that marriage and parenting reveal God's

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from previous page*

character, FLM utilizes every resource available to equip husbands, wives, children, and even extended family members to empower them to tackle daily

challenges from a solid Biblical perspective.

Pacific Union Conference Family Life Ministry is thankful to all conferences and local church family life ministry leaders for all the work they did during the pandemic to provide for families in need.

## Health Ministries



**R**ecognizing the spiritual as well as physical importance of wellness, Health Ministries equips churches and conferences with resources and training to help

prepare members to use health ministry as a tool for evangelism.

Over the last five years, under the direction of Dr. Lorayne Barton, Health Ministries has collaborated with conferences and churches to support them in carrying out health programs in their respective communities.

Barton is a physician at the Los Angeles County + USC Medical Center and an adjunct professor in the School of Public Health at Loma Linda University. She has a deep interest in prevention and believes in the practical and spiritual benefits of the Seventh-day Adventist health message.

The following are some of the highlights of the events and programs supported by Health Ministries.

### 2017

Health Ministries supported Arizona Sonshine, Arizona Conference's large-scale health outreach, which included free medical and dental care to the public. They also participated in several Adventist Medical Evangelism Network (AMEN) health clinics. Health Ministries also supported the union-wide Adventist Recovery Ministry training at Soquel, during which trainees learned how to conduct the addiction recovery program "Journey to Wholeness."

### 2018

Health Ministries assisted the Southeastern California Conference in conference-wide health ministry training and planning sessions in Riverside and San Diego.

### 2019

Barton spoke at the NAD Health Ministry conference for the nationwide Health Ministry training for leaders. She also organized the first Children's Health Conference in Loma Linda. Health Ministries supported the South Bay church in Southern California in holding multiple community outreach programs.

### 2020

The COVID pandemic ignited even more passion for health ministry. In early 2020, Health Ministries held a union-wide training for health ministry leaders. Other events included a Diabetes Undone seminar in Glendale, California, and "The Whole Conference." In addition, Health Ministries promoted online health resources such as [lifeandhealth.org](http://lifeandhealth.org), [saludesvida.org](http://saludesvida.org), and various other online training events at local churches in the Southern California Conference.

### 2021

With the gradual reopening of indoor worship and events, some churches are taking innovative approaches to in-person events. The Mt. Shasta church in the Northern California Conference hosted health ministry events by replacing pews with tables. Other events and programs are currently in the works for the future.

## Jewish Ministries



**I**n the Los Angeles basin alone, there are over 800,000 Jews. Many are coming to accept the Messiah, due in part to Adventists who are answering the call to take Jesus “to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.” In the Pacific Union Conference, Jewish Ministries is active in fulfilling that mission.

Jewish Ministries is led by David Gardner. Gardner has worked for the church over 40 years and holds degrees in theology and education. He also holds a certificate in Jewish Ministries Leadership from Shalom Learning Center.

Pacific Union Jewish Ministries is first a place of friendship with the Jewish community, via a presence in senior centers, community centers, church facilities, and other community spaces that offer opportunities for interactions and socializing.

The Jewish Ministries team conducts outreach to the Jewish community in several ways:

While developing friendships, our contacts are encouraged to invite their Jewish friends to church.

Ministry leaders lovingly demonstrate connections

between the Old Testament and New Testament and how they relate to Jesus as Messiah. Through these efforts, many Jews have expressed joy at finding the Messiah in the New Testament.

Through these friendly interactions, Jewish friends and neighbors often accept invitations to church because they genuinely like the people who invite them. One particular gentleman even asked to visit church, and a year later he requested baptism. These efforts have resulted in a total 35 baptisms at an Adventist church in Glendale, California.

There is a vision underway to plant new Jewish congregations in the Los Angeles area.

Another pastor in the Pacific Union Conference has also built bridges between his church and the Jewish community by leading out in Jewish holidays—such as Passover Seders, the Feast of Tabernacles, and the Day of Atonement—and showing the deeper meaning of how these special days point to Jesus, the Messiah.

Please “pray for the peace of Jerusalem” (Psalm 122:6), which is ultimately found only in Jesus, the Messiah.

## Muslim Ministries



**M**uslim Ministry in the Pacific Union Conference is building bridges and sharing Jesus with the Muslim community in positive ways.

Leading Muslim Ministry is Gerald Babanezhad, who is the director and speaker of A Sure Harvest Ministries. He also serves on the board of advisors to NAD-AMR (Adventist-Muslim Relations). As coordinator for Muslim Ministries, Babanezhad’s

primary focus is to share Jesus with the Muslim community in contextually and culturally relevant ways.

Since 2008, A Sure Harvest Ministries has been producing and broadcasting the “A Better Tomorrow” telecast for Farsi-speaking Muslim viewers in the U.S. and in the 10/40 Window. The 10/40 Window refers to regions of the world located between 10 and 40 degrees north of the equator, a region generally known to have the highest levels of socioeconomic challenges and the least access to sharing the gospel. Through the

broadcast, many Muslims have accepted Jesus as their personal Savior.

The Pacific Union Conference Muslim Ministry itself was founded in 2015, when union officials reached out to Babanezhad specifically for this purpose.

The following are some of the ways the PUC Muslim Ministry conducts outreach through A Sure Harvest Ministry:

- Providing Adventist Christian study resources at the [asureharvest.com](http://asureharvest.com) website, including a study on “The People of the Book,” which is mentioned in the Qur’an, referring to Christians (people) and the Bible (the book).
- As an avid believer in digital and social media, Babanezhad conducts a weekly virtual Sabbath service with Muslims—studying the Bible and the Qur’an and seeking mutual respect and understanding.

- Conducting Islamic outreach seminars in many Adventist churches, which aim to build meaningful and sustainable relations with the Muslim community. At these events, organizers seek to provide a welcoming and comfortable environment for attendees, including ample accommodations for Muslim prayer times throughout the day.

Events such as these often include prayers from both Adventist and Muslim leaders, question-and-answer sessions, and panel discussions about shared Muslim and Adventist history, values, and goals.

Future plans include organizing sports activities for Adventist and Muslim schoolchildren, starting a home fellowship where Muslims and Adventists can learn from each other by sharing stories from the Bible and Qur’an, and planning future panel discussion events.

## Prayer Ministries



**B**elieving that there is power and unity in prayer, the Pacific Union Conference Prayer Ministry continues to grow and thrive through its

various teams of volunteers at the union level and in conferences and local churches.

The mission of Prayer Ministry is to develop resources, grow, educate the constituency, and promote the ministry of prayer as the very foundation and core of all ministries in the local church and conference.

Leading Prayer Ministry is Karen Martell, who oversees the conference prayer ministry leaders. Martell is also involved in the North American Division (NAD) Prayer Ministry to ensure that each conference in the Pacific Union is integrating prayer initiatives set forth by the General

Conference and the NAD into their plans.

Over the last five years, the union has seen tremendous growth in prayer ministry through prayer and immediate action, which has resulted in an increase of prayer ministry volunteers and fostering a prayer culture in churches.

The following are just some of the ways Prayer Ministry has accomplished goals and made Jesus the focus of their ministry:

- Recognizing that all ministries in the church are birthed, nurtured, and matured through the ministry of prayer and a passion for God—and that nothing happens without prayer.
- Recognizing that prayer and Bible study are the means by which one develops a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Providing seminars on how to develop a lifestyle of prayer, including training of local prayer leaders and pastors on creative ways to

grow and promote a healthy prayer life in their churches.

- Conducting prayer conferences in churches across the union.
- Creating and providing materials for people to use in ministry and personal prayer.
- Working with local conference leaders to plan and conduct various prayer-focused events.

- Praying for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit via online platforms such as Zoom.

The PUC Prayer Team recognizes the need to develop prayer resources to encourage, educate, and empower church members to deepen their prayer experiences and relationship with God in order to experience the revival necessary to finish the work of sharing the gospel in all the world.

## Prison Ministries



**P**rison Ministry in the Pacific Union Conference is focused on sharing the hope found in Jesus and offering fellowship for the incarcerated.

Leading the ministry is Byron West, who has many years of experience in prison ministry. Between 1984 and 2013, West volunteered at Folsom State Prison, near Sacramento.

In 1987, worship services began with four prisoners and one volunteer, increasing to 70 prisoners and four Adventist volunteers by 2013. In 2019, West was elected the vice president for growth and development of the Alliance of Prison Ministry Organizations and Affiliates (APMOA), an International Adventist organization whose mission it is to “equip and encourage Adventist prison and jail ministry volunteers throughout the world.”

Through the work of dedicated volunteers, Prison Ministry shares the gospel with the incarcerated in several ways, including literature distribution, Bible study, conducting Sabbath morning worship services in the prison chapel, and other programs.

Pacific Union Conference Prison Ministry also supports local conferences and churches in their own prison ministry efforts by providing training, materials, consultation, and other resources they can use as they reach out to the incarcerated in their respective communities.

Since March of 2020, due to COVID-19, volunteers have not been allowed inside most California State prisons, but that hasn't stopped the work of ministry. Through phone calls and other digital means, West and other volunteers have stayed in contact with former inmates, some of whom joined the Adventist church while they were incarcerated.

Pacific Union Conference Prison Ministry also supports local conferences and churches in their own prison ministry efforts by providing training, materials, consultation, and other resources they can use as they reach out to the incarcerated in their respective communities.

# Public Campus Ministries



The 2009 North American Division Congregations Study conducted by the Institute of Church Ministry estimated that there were

approximately 100,000 Adventist students from the North American Division attending non-Adventist colleges and universities. Of those, a conservative estimate puts approximately 12,000 as being from the Pacific Union territory.

Founded in 2005, Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) is the official association of Adventist students attending non-Adventist college and university campuses, a ministry dedicated to supporting Adventist college students in those institutions. The ACF Pacific Union Conference chapter (ACF PUC) helps support students in the Pacific Union territory.

Heading the ACF PUC chapter is Ronald Pickell, pastor of Life Adventist Church of Berkley. Pickell has been with ACF since it was founded in 2005, serving as ACF PUC coordinator since approximately 2016.

College campuses are the places where many students often find their faith tested for the first time. Adventist students attending public and non-Adventist private higher education institutions are often regarded as modern-day Josephs, Daniels, and Esthers, and they are both the mission focus and potential missionaries on the more than 300 public

and private college campuses across the Pacific Union.

There are 17 ACF chapters across the seven PUC conferences, with new chapters launched yearly.

Serving students in several ways, ACF PUC:

- was created by and for students.
- is a “home away from home” for Adventist students attending public universities, providing friendship, fellowship, and outreach opportunities.
- helps students, who might otherwise feel disconnected, find connection to their church community.
- is operated primarily by volunteers, including local church leaders, students, pastors, and local conferences.
- provides training to help launch new ACF chapters and grow and sustain established chapters.

Through the COVID pandemic, ACF PUC has stayed connected with many students and other ACF chapters via online platforms. In spite of the pandemic, students remain faithful, devoted to God, and committed to academic excellence.

With the support of ACF PUC, many Adventist students are embracing Jesus’ command to “go into all the world” during their college years. Many of these students have testified that their faith was ignited or strengthened through this ministry and their involvement on a public campus.

---

Through the COVID pandemic, ACF PUC has stayed connected with many students and other ACF chapters via online platforms. In spite of the pandemic, students remain faithful, devoted to God, and committed to academic excellence.

# Sabbath School/Personal Ministries



**F**or the past five years, Sabbath School/Personal Ministries in the Pacific Union has been active in several important areas of research and

ministry in order to enhance the mission of the local church.

Sabbath School/Personal Ministries is led by Pastor Jim Park, who has served in the position of coordinator for the last five years. Previously, he served as a seminary professor in Asia, and he also pastored in Los Angeles for 25 years. Currently, he teaches at Loma Linda University and does consulting work with the North American Division and General Conference.

Some of the projects and accomplishments for Sabbath School/Personal Ministries include:

- The inclusion of multiple ministries within the Pacific Union as case studies in a new book published by the Global Mission Urban Center at the General Conference. The ministries studied include Glow, Youth Rush, Souls West,

Thrive, the AMEN Dental Clinic, the Arizona Sonshine Health Ministry, and Manna Mesa.

- The creation of a pathway for students to obtain college credit for their study and work at Souls West. An Associate of Arts degree in Bible Work and Literature Ministry is also in the works in order to provide much needed help at the local church in order to fulfill its mission.
- Current field testing of the printed and online Discover Bible School lessons in English and Spanish from the Voice of Prophecy as an effective follow-up tool to be used by pastors and local churches. Church management software is also being evaluated as a key component of tracking local churches' members and interests.
- Current work on a transformation of the Sabbath School from a teaching model to a more wholistic vision of Bible discussion and the nurture of mission-oriented small groups.

Let us work while it is day for "the night comes, when no man can work" (John 9:4).

# Women's Ministries



**W**omen's Ministries continues to be as enthusiastic

as ever about serving God through their various programs and outreach. In spite of challenges and obstacles, particularly the COVID-19 pandemic, Women's Ministries has stayed focused on why they do what they do.

Pacific Union Conference Women's Ministries is led by Dorothy Means. She is a licensed social

worker who loves using creative solutions to empower others. She has been serving as PUC Women's Ministries Director for more than five years.

Using Titus 2:3-5 as their guiding principle, Women's Ministries serves women through mentorship, training, prayer, education, and nurturing for the salvation of others. The following are just a few of the projects and programs they have been involved in.

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from previous page*

- Nurturing and caring for women who are hurting because of abuse, by raising awareness and providing resources and support through the General Conference’s End It Now abuse awareness campaign.
- Supporting women in their educational endeavors with proceeds from the sale of Women’s Ministries devotional books.
- Serving on local church boards and working collaboratively with pastors, as well as staying involved in respective local communities, schools, and organizations. Women’s Ministries believes that the “work and presence are inevitable as we fulfill our mission and the purpose God has created us to be, do and share.”
- Hosting events such as Crucial Connections in January 2020, led by the Arizona Conference. Topics included the four stages of emotional intelligence. Over 110 women attended the event.

The Called and Anointed virtual conference was held on March 7, 2021. The seminar covered topics such as the concerns and questions of women in ministry. The event was also a safe place for mature women in ministry to mentor younger women. This event was organized and facilitated by the Southeastern California Conference.

- The Young Women’s Board in Northern California serves women and families, along with teens and young women. Northern California also has an international outreach that helps widows in Africa. Nevada-Utah Women’s Ministries spreads cheer at a local nursing facility through the distribution of bright yellow handmade emoji pillows, just one of their many other service and outreach projects.

Overall, Pacific Union Women’s Ministries wants “God’s love to be seen through our worship, fellowship, discipleship, and relationships as we model the love of Christ.”

## Youth Ministry/Pathfinder Ministries



The mission of Youth Ministry and Pathfinder Ministry in the Pacific Union

Conference (PUC) is to share the gospel of Jesus with young people, helping them to understand their

role in the larger church community, encouraging them to fulfill the gospel commission, and providing them with opportunities to make a difference in the world.

Youth Ministry is headed by Eddie Heinrich, who currently also serves as Youth Director for the Northern California Conference. He has also worked in the Minnesota Conference and Kansas-Nebraska Conference.

The following are some of the projects and

accomplishments of PUC Youth Ministry and Pathfinder Ministry:

### **Just Claim It (JCI): World Changers 2016**

JCI was a prayer conference designed to help young people understand the importance of prayer. The event trained attendees to lead small group Bible studies, provided connection opportunities with other young people, and led them into a deeper relationship with Jesus. At the JCI Prayer Conference in Ontario, California, over 100 young people helped train and lead during the weekend—and by the end, many more had been trained and their relationships with Christ were strengthened.

### **One Way Jesus—PUC Camporee 2017**

In October of 2017, over 5,000 Pathfinders



descended on Lake Skinner in California for the Pacific Union Camporee. During the four-day event, Pathfinders achieved many honors and engaged in many fun outdoor activities. The goal of the camporee was to challenge the Pathfinders to recognize Jesus as the one way to find truth and to assure them that His love is never ending. On Sabbath evening, over 100 Pathfinders were baptized.

**Pathfinder Bible Experience**

Each March, different conferences host the Pacific Union Level Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE), the

North American Division (NAD) Bible Study program. Teams of Pathfinders study in minute detail a particular book of the Bible that has been chosen by the NAD. In order to participate in the union PBE, teams must score at least 90 percent on the conference-level testing. It is amazing to watch as Pathfinders plant the Word of God in their hearts.

These events are a few highlights of what has taken place over the past five years. The youth directors of the Pacific Union volunteer their time in order to help youth connect with Christ, church, and community.



Try us for FREE  
for the first  
two weeks!

*50% off tuition for the first  
month of kindergarten*

One of the most exciting moments for every child is that very first day of school! A special scholarship allows families to experience firsthand the value of Seventh-day Adventist education.

From the very beginning, your student will start their school experience in a Christ-centered environment that is safe and secure. Small class sizes and developmentally appropriate education provides one-on-one attention for each student.

Character formation and lifelong friendships begin at an early age. Adventist Education supports the values being taught at home and at church.

Everyone is covered—some conferences/schools are matching to make it a full month of tuition.

***50% off tuition for the first month  
of kindergarten***

*Contact your Adventist school with a  
kindergarten program for  
more information.*



# Pacific Union Conference Constituency Session

The 31st session of the Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Hotel and Spa, Tucson, Arizona, August 15 and 16, 2021. The first meeting of the business session will be called at 6:00 p.m., August 15. Registration will begin at 2:00 p.m. Delegates are selected by the local conferences according to the terms of the Pacific Union Bylaws. This session is called to receive reports from the officers and various departments, to elect personnel for the ensuing term, to consider revisions in the Bylaws, and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates. This session is called as a special session under the Union's Bylaws. The business items addressed above are normally conducted in a

## 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 go to [recorder@adventistfaith.com](mailto:recorder@adventistfaith.com).

### How to Submit Advertising

Classified ads must be sent with payment to the *Recorder* office. Display ads should be arranged with the editor ([recorder@adventistfaith.com](mailto:recorder@adventistfaith.com)).

### Classified Rates

\$70 for 50 words; 75 cents each additional word. Display rates (full color only): back cover, \$4,200; full page, \$3,800; 1/2-pg., \$2,200; 1/4-pg., \$1,200; 1/8-pg., \$700; \$160 per column inch.

### Information

The Pacific Union *Recorder* is published 12 times per year with a circulation of approximately 75,000. For more information about advertising, please email to [recorder@adventistfaith.com](mailto:recorder@adventistfaith.com).

### Upcoming Deadlines

These are the advertising deadlines for the *Recorder*. Your local conference news deadlines will be earlier.  
August: July 6 • September: August 9

### 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](http://www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news).

regular session every five years, but a regular session cannot be held on the preplanned August 2021 dates because of a provision in Union Bylaws that ties the date of the Union's regular session to the calendar year after the General Conference regular session. As of the time of this publication, the General Conference regular session has been delayed at least two years, which would delay the Union's regular session to 2023 at the earliest. Believing it is in the interests of the Union and its constituents to conduct the above-referenced business in a timely manner, this meeting is called by the Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee as a special session, and appropriate Bylaws amendments are presented to ensure all necessary business can be properly accomplished at the meeting. Please review the materials provided with this notice describing proposed amendments to the Bylaws. (See pp. 65-67.) Motion number 1 provides amendments that allow all necessary business to be conducted at the upcoming special session. Motion number 2 provides other amendments the Bylaws Committee recommends to the Union.

## Calendar

### Central California Conference

Many events and outreaches are now being virtually presented or streamed online. Check the Events page



**STRENGTH  
IN YOUR CAREER**

**Many Strengths. One Mission.**  
Explore academic health system careers in our hospitals, clinics, university and shared services.

To learn more and apply, visit [jobs.lluh.org](http://jobs.lluh.org)







EEOC/M/F/D/V/AA



“SŌ  
SENDI  
YOU”

## Pacific Union Conference 2021 Ministerial Council

*For all Pacific Union Conference pastors,  
chaplains, administrators*

**August 16-18, 2021**



### **Keynote Speaker**

G. Alexander Bryant, NAD President

Registration FREE, and more details will be available soon. Don't miss this event, which only happens once every five years.

JW MARRIOTT TUCSON STARR PASS RESORT AND SPA  
TUCSON, ARIZONA



LOVE. SERVE. LEAD.

online at [www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com](http://www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com) for all the updates.

**Pre-Camp Meeting Revival Weekend** (July 9-10) Clovis church. “Prayer Changes the World,” featuring Anil Kanda and David Arrah Dean, plus an afternoon of testimonies. Friday from 7-9 p.m. and Sabbath from 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m., with lunch provided.

### **Soquel Virtual Camp Meeting: The Return—Longing For Home**

(July 14-24) That's right! We are bringing Soquel Camp Meeting to you in July. For all program information, visit [www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com/Camp-Meeting](http://www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com/Camp-Meeting).

- July 14-15 will feature John Bradshaw, plus youth and children's programs.
- July 16 will feature Henry Wright, plus young adult, youth, and children's programs.
- July 17 will feature Wesley Knight and Hyveth Williams, plus young adult, youth, and children's programs.
- July 18-20 will feature Homero Salazar for FeJA in Spanish.
- July 21-24 will feature Jose Esposito in Spanish.

**Zooming with Young Adults:** Join the daily Zoom meetings online with the young adults. For an up-to-date schedule and meeting id#s, visit <https://bit.ly/2x0jvDf> or email [tvang@cccsda.org](mailto:tvang@cccsda.org).

## Northern California Conference

### **Redwood Camp Meeting** (July 19-24, 26-31)

Choose between the sessions. Don't miss out on the blessings! Info and registration: [redwoodareacamp.com](http://redwoodareacamp.com).

**Get the News!** Engage with the Northern California Conference by subscribing to the NCC's weekly emailed news source, “Northern Lights.” Sign up: [nccsda.com](http://nccsda.com).

## Newsdesk Online



The regular section of Newsdesk in the *Recorder* is

available online at:  
**[sda.faith/pacificnewsdesk](http://sda.faith/pacificnewsdesk)**



**NOTICE OF ARIZONA CONFERENCE CORPORATION  
31<sup>ST</sup> REGULAR CONSTITUENCY MEETING  
2<sup>ND</sup> QUINQUENNIAL CONSTITUENCY MEETING**

The 31<sup>st</sup> Regular Constituency Meeting of the Arizona Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene as follows:

**Sunday, October 24, 2021  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. (or until business is completed)  
Mesa Convention Center  
263 N Center Street, Mesa, AZ 85201**

The purpose of this meeting is to receive departmental reports, to elect Conference Officers, Departmental Directors, Executive Committee, Bylaws Committee, and the Adventist Scholarship Committee; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates during this meeting.

*Ed Keyes, President  
Jorge A. Ramirez, Executive Secretary*

**NOTICE OF ARIZONA CONFERENCE CORPORATION  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
31<sup>ST</sup> REGULAR CONSTITUENCY MEETING  
2<sup>ND</sup> QUINQUENNIAL CONSTITUENCY MEETING**

The Nominating Committee for the 31<sup>st</sup> Regular Constituency Meeting of the Arizona Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene as follows:

**Sunday, October 10, 2021 • 9:00 a.m.  
Arizona Conference Corporation  
13405 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85254**

The purpose of this meeting is to submit the following recommendations for approval to the delegates during the Constituency Meeting:

1. Officers of the Conference
2. Directors of Departments and/or Services
3. Ethnic Coordinators
4. Arizona Conference Executive Committee
5. Standing Bylaws Committee
6. Arizona Adventist Scholarship Committee

*Ed Keyes, President  
Jorge A. Ramirez, Executive Secretary*

## Classified

### At Your Service

**New/Used Adventist Books:** TEACH Services helps authors publish their book, including editing, design, marketing, and worldwide distribution. Call 800-367-1844 for a free evaluation. Visit [www.LNFBOOKS.com](http://www.LNFBOOKS.com) for used books and your local ABC or [www.TEACHServices.com](http://www.TEACHServices.com) for new book releases.

**SDA Immigration Attorney:** We handle family and employment-based immigration cases for clients throughout the United States and around the globe. We also provide free immigration law seminars for churches and other groups. Please contact Jason Mustard at 831-249-9330 or [Jason@surowitz.com](mailto:Jason@surowitz.com).

**Feeling the call to get out of the city?** Husband and wife SDA REALTORS® can help you find your mountain home near Yosemite. [Darlene@HerrsRealEstate.com](mailto:Darlene@HerrsRealEstate.com) 559-760-8141. Darlene Herr CalDRE#02071769 & Johnny Herr CalDRE#02081978. We can also refer you to other agents within our networks across the country. [HerrsRealEstate.com](http://HerrsRealEstate.com). Broker: BassLakeRealty.

**Country Living:** Properties available in California. Call Soonyoung Park 707-312-3635 or email [soonyoungnapa@gmail.com](mailto:soonyoungnapa@gmail.com). Country properties and all real estate needs. CA BRE Lic #01421077.

**You can help the Lord's ministry of healing in Micronesia** by donating your car, boat, bike, RV, or truck. All proceeds go to provide free medical services to the island peoples of Micronesia. Canvasback Missions, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, has been serving since 1986. Visit our website for more info: [www.canvasback.org](http://www.canvasback.org) or call 707-746-7828 to arrange your donation.

**Do you like to read books that are rooted in the Three Angels' Messages** and written from the perspective that we are now living in the last days? Do you enjoy peeling back the layers of the words in the Bible to discover hidden meanings? Visit our website: [www.comingkingpublications.com](http://www.comingkingpublications.com).

### Employment

**Wanted: single person to manage and care for estate home** in Lake Las Vegas part time. Live-in with private room/bath. For a widow...lovely situation. Call Myrna at 702-568-7777 or 310-613-9549 (cell), or email me at [curtismyrna@verizon.net](mailto:curtismyrna@verizon.net).

**Stallant Health**, a rural health clinic in Weimar, Calif., is accepting applications for an optometrist to join the team. Interested individuals should contact Marva by email: [marva@stallanthhealth.com](mailto:marva@stallanthhealth.com).

# California Adventist Federal Credit Union

YOUR "ONE STOP FINANCE SHOP"

**Serving our Adventist Community** for over 68 years with financial products and services, along with wealth building education.

Please visit our website for updates on all that CAFCU has to offer. Call our office and speak to our friendly staff or manager for more information.



[www.SDACreditUnion.com](http://www.SDACreditUnion.com) | 818-246-7241



**Delta Eye Medical** group in Stockton, Calif., is looking for an ophthalmologist to join thriving practice. 209-334-5886.

**Seeking full-time Substance Use Navigator to join Stallant Health**, a rural health clinic in Weimar, Calif. This individual must have the unique background of substance abuse with at least one year of successful recovery and will serve to assist patients navigate aspects of their recovery using knowledge of available community resources, personal experience, and modeling successful recovery behaviors. Certification preferred, but assistance available to acquire certification after hire. Please contact the Associate Manager of Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program at 530-637-4025 x289 or by email: [jodi@stallanthealth.com](mailto:jodi@stallanthealth.com).

**Stallant Health**, a rural health clinic in Weimar, Calif., is accepting applications for a family practice physician and an NP or PA to join the team. Interested individuals should contact Marva by email: [marva@stallanthealth.com](mailto:marva@stallanthealth.com).

## Real Estate

**Choice mountain land** inside Cherokee National Forest in beautiful East Tennessee. Four tracts ranging in size from 10-50 acres. Large creek, cleared land, mixed forest, mature trees. On county-maintained road, utilities on site. 50 miles to Southern Adventist University. 60 miles to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Near scenic rivers, lakes, trails. Ideal retreat, country living, retirement. Call, text, email for info and pictures. 301-332-8237 or [Kathyrr777@gmail.com](mailto:Kathyrr777@gmail.com).

**Great opportunity in Idaho** for \$275K. Do you want to experience country living while operating an outpost/

ministry or operate your own business? Here is your opportunity to own an 8,000 sq. ft. 2-story building featuring: large open country-themed banquet area, renovated separate living space/office with bathroom/shower, 180-seat auditorium, stage, baby grand piano. SDA church 20 minutes away. 11 S. Main St., Kooskia, ID 83539. Price reduced to sell. For information: [bit.ly/3iiG47R](http://bit.ly/3iiG47R) or Theresa Reynold 208-798-7822.

**Settle into your own beautiful mountain cabin retreat.** In the heart of nature on 9 acres near the Salmon river in Siskiyou county. Awesome scenery, hiking, rafting, swimming. Supplies w/wood heat and hydroelectricity. Sleeps 8 comfortably (3 bdrm), shop building, orchard, and garden. Less than 1 hr drive to active SDA church. \$258,000. Wanda, 707-445-1156.

**Safe 80-acre retreat near La Sierra University.** Not in a flood or fire zone, with views of Lake Mathews/Gavilan Hills with deeded access to Wood Rd./Cajalco Rd. and zoned for agriculture/residential. Freedom with two drilled wells, septic, city water line, phone line/FAX, strong cell signal, and high solar score. Original 1977 family mobile home, wells, and tack buildings sold "as is." Used for farming, horses, animal husbandry, nursery, and gardening with serenity and privacy. \$1,250,000. Martin: 623-759-1737 (cell).

**Country living at its best!** This 5-acre property has it all for \$395,000. Located near Blue Ridge in North Georgia, it has a four-

**JERE WEBB**  
REAL ESTATE  
Associate Broker

208.861.2222  
[jw@jerewebb.com](mailto:jw@jerewebb.com)  
[JereWebb.com](http://JereWebb.com)

221 S. Eagle Rd.  
Eagle, ID 83616

EXPERIENCE • KNOWLEDGE • INTEGRITY

bdrm, three-bath house with a well, creek, barn, cabin, woodshed, greenhouse, tractor shed, and root cellar. Call Pierre @ Remax REC today for more information 423-987-0831.

**For Sale:** Amazing California land with water; Incredible Hawaii land; House in mainland; 36' Islander sailboat in Waikiki. Due to COVID and Paradise Camp Fire we are interested in exploring options. Facing tax foreclosures. Call us at 209-507-9686, email us at: health.by.choice.120@gmail.com, or text me at 530-353-5561.

## Vacation Opportunities

**Maui vacation condo in Kihei.** Relaxing and affordable. Only a 3-minute walk to the beach! 1-bdrm w/king bed. Clean, comfortable, well-maintained. Sleeps 4. Fully furnished kitchen, washer/dryer, and more! Free parking, Wi-Fi, and calls to U.S./Canada. Friendly Kihei SDA church nearby. Visit us at: <http://www.vrbo.com/62799>, email: mauivista1125@gmail.com, or call Mark 909-800-9841.

**Sunriver, Central Oregon.** Four-bedroom vacation home on the North Woodlands golf course. Two master king suites, two queens one bunk set, hot tub, loft, Jacuzzi bath, gas log fireplace, BBQ, W/D, bikes, all resort amenities, sleeps 10, no smoking, no pets. For rates,

photos, and reservations, call: 541-279-9553, or email: schultz@crestviewcable.com.

**Adventist Tours 2022.** Israel in Jesus' Steps, March 9-17 & June 12-21 (optional Jordan/Egypt); New Testament Alive/7 Churches, June 2-12; African Safari & Service, May 24-31; Germany-Austria: Luther to WW2, June 22-July 1 (includes Oberammergau Passion Play); Thailand, July 27-Aug. 7. All tours are Adventist-led, with excellent rates and beautiful experiences for all ages. \$1750+/person. For full details, contact tabghatours@gmail.com or facebook.com/TabghaTours or call 423-298-2169. "The best trip I've ever had! Nothing comes close." "Fabulous!" "The Bible comes alive." "An awesome experience!"

## At Rest

**Barton, Lynn Rush** – b. Nov. 13, 1934, Dallas, Texas; d. Dec. 23, 2020, Glendale, Calif. Survivors: wife, Lorayne; sons, Brent, Dean, Barry, David; 6 grandchildren; brother, Robert.

**Blackmun, Elizabeth (Hummel)** – b. Aug. 31, 1924, Nemah, Wash.; d. March 30, 2021, Soquel, Calif. Survivors: sons, Gene, Jay; daughter, Susan Negro; 10 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren.

**Chiesa, Ardith (Schneider)** – b. Sept. 7, 1919, Gillette, Wyo.; d. April 4, 2021, Santa Cruz, Calif. Survivors: son, Douglas Schneider; daughters, Shirley Schneider, Christine Schneider, Sara Schneider; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**Clark, Hugh Marvin** – b. Aug. 21, 1931, Corona, Calif.; d. April 27, 2021, Cody, Wyo.; Survivors: wife, Janet; son, Rodney; daughters, Sheryl Sage, Lori Tyson; three granddaughters. Taught church school in Southeastern California Conference.

**Fay, Sherry (Miller)** – b. Feb. 23, 1966, Rochester, Minn.; d. Mar. 28, 2021, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: husband, Bart; son, Drew; daughter, Emma. Loma Linda Academy graduate of 1984. Marriage, Family, and Child therapist in Redlands.

**Ferrari, Obed** – b. April 3, 1941, Minas Gerais, Brazil; d. April 29, 2021, Chula Vista, Calif. Survivors: wife, Lupita; daughters, Giani Leon, Klaudia, Laura; brother, Obadias; sisters, Ozelia, Onea; five grandchildren.

**Henderson, Cliff J.** – b. May 10, 1928, Monrovia, Calif.; d. March 21, 2021, Portland, Ore. Survivors: son, Scott; daughter, Susie Bailey; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren. Cliff served as an elder for the Hillcrest and Kern River Valley churches and in many other capacities for over 60 years.

## July 2021 Sunset Calendar

City/Location	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Alturas	8:39	8:37	8:33	8:28	8:21
Angwin	8:37	8:36	8:32	8:27	8:21
Bakersfield	8:14	8:13	8:10	8:06	8:00
Calexico	7:53	7:52	7:50	7:46	7:41
Chico	8:39	8:37	8:33	8:28	8:22
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	8:09	8:07	8:04	8:00	7:54
Eureka	8:51	8:49	8:45	8:40	8:33
Four Corners [E]	8:36	8:35	8:31	8:27	8:21
Fresno	8:21	8:20	8:17	8:12	8:06
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	7:56	7:55	7:52	7:48	7:42
Half Dome	8:23	8:21	8:18	8:14	8:08
Hilo	7:03	7:03	7:04	7:00	6:57
Holbrook	7:40	7:39	7:36	7:32	7:27
Honolulu	7:17	7:17	7:16	7:14	7:11
Joshua Tree	8:00	7:59	7:56	7:52	7:47
Lake Tahoe	8:28	8:27	8:23	8:18	8:12
Las Vegas	8:01	8:00	7:57	7:52	7:47
Lodi-Stockton	8:31	8:30	8:26	8:22	8:16
Loma Linda	8:04	8:02	8:00	7:56	7:51
Los Angeles	8:08	8:06	8:04	8:00	7:55
McDermitt [N]	8:30	8:27	8:23	8:18	8:11
Moab	8:46	8:44	8:41	8:36	8:30
Monterey Bay	8:30	8:29	8:25	8:21	8:15
Mt. Whitney	8:14	8:13	8:10	8:06	8:00
Napa	8:36	8:34	8:31	8:26	8:20
Nogales [S]	7:32	7:31	7:28	7:25	7:20
Oakland	8:34	8:33	8:29	8:25	8:19
Paradise, CA	8:38	8:36	8:32	8:27	8:21
Phoenix	7:41	7:40	7:38	7:34	7:29
Pu'uwaiau, Ni'ihau [W]	7:25	7:25	7:24	7:22	7:18
Reno	8:30	8:28	8:24	8:19	8:13
Riverside	8:04	8:03	8:00	7:56	7:51
Sacramento	8:34	8:32	8:28	8:24	8:17
Salt Lake City	9:02	9:00	8:56	8:51	8:44
San Diego	8:00	7:59	7:56	7:53	7:48
San Francisco	8:35	8:33	8:30	8:25	8:19
San Jose	8:31	8:30	8:27	8:22	8:16
Santa Rosa	8:38	8:36	8:33	8:28	8:22
Sunset Beach	7:19	7:18	7:17	7:15	7:12
Thousand Oaks	8:10	8:09	8:06	8:02	7:57
Tucson	7:34	7:33	7:30	7:27	7:22

[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

**Hershey, Dorothy Jeanne (McLennan)** – b. Aug. 27, 1938, Phoenix, Ariz.; d. April 12, 2020, Medford, Ore. Survivors: husband, John; daughters, DeAnne Lemons, Michele Gilley; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. Worked as a nurse in Oxnard, at Lodi Memorial Hospital, and at Feather River Hospital.

**Hershey, John Milton** – b. Aug. 9, 1935, Huntington Park, Calif.; d. Aug. 27, 2020, Medford, Ore. Survivors: daughters, DeAnne Lemons, Michele Gilley; sisters, Tricia Tinker, Suzanne Rose; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. He was a mortician and then a teacher at San Fernando Valley Academy.

**Kohltfarber, Julia Ann** – b. Nov. 16, 1951, Kailua Kona, Hawaii; d. Apr. 30, 2021, Fallon, Nev. Survivors: husband, Eugene; sons, Bobby, Shawn, Ricky; three grandchildren. She taught at Fallon SDA, Caldwell Elementary, Cave Junction Elementary, was principal of Reno Jr. Academy, and finished her career at Moana Loa SDA school in Hilo, retiring in 2019.

**Ludwig, Devon Frederick** – b. Aug. 17, 1945, Eau Claire, Wisc.; d. March 30, 2021, Live Oak, Calif. Survivors: wife, Joann; sons, Deron, William (Brad); daughters, Evonne Fals, Leslie; 13 grandchildren. Worked in the film department at the General Conference; principal at Orangevale, Feather River, White Memorial SDA schools; missionary in Palau and the Philippines; teacher at Pacific Union College.

**Maloney, Lyn** – b. Nov. 28, 1947, Waukegan, Ill.; d. May 27, 2021, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Kristine, Brandy Branstetter.

**Moor, Helen** – b. June 20, 1929, Long Beach, Calif.; d. May 4, 2021, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, John; daughters, Diane, Jeanine, Melinda Brooks; brothers, Harold Lance, Bruce Lance; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**Moss, Sandy** – b. Dec. 14, 1955, Bakersfield, Calif.; d. Sept. 1, 2020, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors:

daughter, Mindy Pena; son-in-law, Mike Pena; five grandchildren; two brothers. She worked in the Cradle Roll division for over 30 years.

**Palacio, Phillip (Marcaida)** – b. Dec. 22, 1970, Manila, Philippines; d. April 15, 2021, Hayward, Calif. Survivors: parents, Gabriel D. and Alice M. Palacio; son, Steven; siblings, William, Harvey, Dennis, Gabriel Jr., Grace, Alice; many aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

**Russo, Ward** – b. Sept. 16, 1922, San Francisco, Calif.; d. May 27, 2021, St. Helena, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Jeanine Keller, Renee Russo; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Helped build Yountville Signs Memorial church, where he was a charter member; served as elder, deacon, board member, Sabbath School superintendent and teacher, and food give-away program volunteer; volunteered at St. Helena Hospital well into his 90s. Memorial service: July 17, 4 p.m. at Yountville church.

**Sheldon, Betty Lois** – b. March 4, 1930, Portland, Ore.; d. April 8, 2021, St. Helena, Calif. Survivors: husband, Tom; son, Don; daughter, Jean; three grandchildren.

## Recorder Membership

The *Pacific Union Recorder* is provided as a free service to members of the conferences that are part of the Pacific Union Conference (Arizona, Hawaii, Northern California, Central California, Southern California, Southeastern California, and Nevada-Utah). Each conference maintains the list of members, based on the reports from their churches. If you would like to make a change to your subscription (name, address, cancellation), please contact your local conference. The staff of the *Recorder* does not have access to the circulation lists, other than the paid subscriptions.

## Welcome Home to... SILVERADO ORCHARDS RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Affordable, All-Inclusive Monthly Rent  
No Lease, Buy-ins or Add-ons

- Three Nutritious Meals Every Day
- Delicious, Fresh Salad Bar • Vegetarian or Clean Meat Options
- Activities & Excursions • Housekeeping • Transportation
- Health & Wellness Program • Hope Channel, LLBN and 3ABN
- Beauty Salon • Guest Rooms • And Much More...

“We’re  
all about  
Family!”



Family Owned Since 1978

(707) 963-3688

www.SilveradoOrchards.com

601 Pope Street, St. Helena, CA 94574



**Smith, Gale V.** – b. Dec. 30, 1930, Canton, Okla.; d. April 30, 2021, Forestville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Sarah M.; sons, Ronald, Wiley; stepson, Jeff Heath; stepdaughters, Bonnie Wheeler, Kim Hess; 10 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Head of the shipping department at Harris Pine in Healdsburg, Calif.

**Swanson, Betty June (Bradley)** – b. June 16, 1923, Oakland, Calif.; d. June 19, 2020, Dayton, Md. Survivors: sons, Gary, Kenneth, James; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

**Tabo, Romulo B.** – b. April 10, 1940, Philippines; d. Dec. 9, 2020, Fontana, Calif. Survivors: wife, Arlegie; son, Arbee; daughters, Adrienne, Arlette; three grandchildren.

**Tan, Randall** – b. June 23, 1958, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. May 7, 2021, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: wife, Karen; son, Jeffrey; daughters, Amy, Sarah, Emily; brother, Darryl; sister, Cheryl Tan-Jacobson.

**Teel, Marta (Pastor)** – b. Feb. 5, 1939, Madrid, Spain; d. May 8, 2021, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Alma, Melanie; sisters, Laura Pastor de Martorell, Silvia Pastor Finkelstein.

**Uniat, Virginia A. (Heinrich)** – b. Nov. 17, 1933, Portland, Ore.; d. April 7, 2021, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: sons, John, Mark; daughter, AnnMarie Miller; brother, Wesley Heinrich; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild. Attended Upper Columbia Academy; lived in San Jose prior to move to Loma Linda in the 80s.

**Weiss, Rene M.** – b. June 27, 1930, Reconquista, Santa Fe, Argentina; d. May 8, 2021, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Olga; son, Herlann; sister, Mirna Vigna.

**Wheaton, Gerald Eugene** – b. Oct. 8, 1932, Tulare, Calif.; d. April 28, 2021, Visalia, Calif. Survivors: wife, Stella; sons, Mike, Jeff, Ron; three grandchildren.

**Widmer, Eunice Mae** – b. April 10, 1931, Nevada, Iowa; d. May 12, 2020, Turlock, Calif. Survivors: son, O. Kris and his wife Debbie; daughter, Andrea L. Barker and her husband Lew; five grandchildren.

**Witzel, Everet W.** – b. Jan. 26, 1934, LaValle, Wis.; d. April 23, 2021, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, JoAn; sons, Eddy, Larry; daughters, Judy Harper, Lynda Ruud; 10 grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

**Woodruff, Melvin R.** – b. Nov. 29, 1942, Mountain Home, Idaho; d. Oct. 19, 2020, Yreka, Calif. Survivors: wife, Virginia; sons, Benjamin, Bradley; daughter, Bonnie Griffin; 10 grandchildren. Was an educator at Georgia-Cumberland Academy and Mountain View Academy.

**Yanez, Jose** – b. June 2, 1960, Santa Barbara, Chihuahua, Mexico; d. Jan. 15, 2021, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Maria Elena; sons, Andres Garcia, Aaron; daughter, Irene; parents, Daniel and Ignacia Solis de Yanez; brothers, Rafael, Daniel, Ruben, Manuel; sisters, Teresa, Cecilia, Margarita.

**Young, Alex W.** – b. Feb. 1, 1922, Beauvallon, Alberta, Canada; d. April 11, 2021, Angwin, Calif. Survivors: son, Richard; daughter, Patricia; one granddaughter. Served 30 years as a junior high woodshop teacher.


**Correction:**


**Cone, Ed** – b. Dec. 27, 1944, Hanford, Calif.; d. Dec. 1, 2020, Roseville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Fonda; son, Shane, daughter, Shelly Fanselau; eight grandchildren. Attended Monterey Bay Academy, graduated from Modesto Union Academy, attended Southwestern Adventist University, and Loma Linda University; served in the United States Army.

**BIBLE, HISTORY,  
THEOLOGY,  
PROPHECY...**

*A valuable collection for your summer reading*

OAK & ACORN IS A PUBLISHING MINISTRY  
OF THE PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

 **OAK & ACORN  
PUBLISHING**



**AVAILABLE THROUGH AMAZON**



**Motion #1 – To Be Presented to Delegates at Earliest Opportunity During Session**

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of the Pacific Union Conference currently state in relevant part in Article V, Section 2 that the Union “shall hold a Regular Constituency Session the calendar year following a Regular Constituency Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists...”, that a constituency meeting at any other time is a Special Constituency Session (see Article V, Section 3, A.), and that elections of officers and other designated Union officials may only occur at Regular Session and not at Special Session (see Article V, Section 3 E.);

WHEREAS, due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Regular Constituency Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists has already been delayed at least twice and will occur no earlier than the summer of 2022, which under current Union Bylaws would delay the Union’s Regular Session to at least 2023;

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Union Executive Committee, the Union President’s Council, and the executive officers of the Union, it is expected Union delegates would prefer to meet as originally planned in 2021 to carry out its scheduled business, hold elections, maintain a 5-year interval for Regular Sessions, and avoid potentially significant costs for cancellation of financial obligations already incurred for a 2021 session;

WHEREAS, the following amendments will allow a Special Session to occur in place of the originally scheduled Regular Session in 2021 and allow all Union business normally conducted at the Regular Session to take place at the Special Session, including elections, thereby satisfying the goals stated above;

IT IS MOVED that the following amendments to the Union Bylaws be adopted, taking effect immediately upon an affirmative vote by the Union delegates in session, and expiring immediately following adjournment of the Special Session called for August 15 and 16, 2021:

**Article V, Section 3, E., is amended as follows:**

“A Special Constituency Session may include any agenda item that could be included on the agenda of a Regular Constituency Session ~~except the election or removal of the officers, the Executive Committee, or the Ethnic Minority Coordinators.~~”

**Article V, Section 4, is amended as follows:**

The President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, the Asian Pacific, African American and Hispanic Coordinators and the Union Executive Committee members shall be elected by the delegates at a Regular or Special Union Constituency Session. They shall hold office until the next Regular or Special Union Constituency Session, unless they resign or are removed from office by the Union Executive Committee. The appointment of Departmental Directors, Associate Departmental Directors, Associate Secretaries, Under-Treasurers, or Associate Treasurers, shall be made by the Union Executive Committee.

**Article VIII, Section 2, A., is amended as follows:**

The Union Executive Committee is the board of directors of the Union, and the members of the Executive Committee are the directors. The Union Executive Committee shall be elected at a Regular or Special Constituency Session and shall consist of not more than forty-eight (48) members. The Union President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President; local conference presidents; Pacific Union College President; La Sierra University President; Pacific Press Publishing Association President; Adventist Health President; Union Asian Pacific, African American and Hispanic Coordinators, and the Union Director of Education shall be members *ex officio* of the Committee.

**Motion #2 – To Be Presented During Bylaws Amendment Portion of Agenda**

IT IS MOVED that the following amendments to the Union Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation be adopted; that the Union Executive Secretary be authorized to update the Bylaws Table of Contents, Table of Contents page numbers, and any spacing or formatting changes required upon adoption of the amendments; and that the Union Executive Committee and Union executive officers are authorized to prepare and file appropriate paperwork with the California Secretary of State to effectuate the proposed changes to the Articles of Incorporation:

**Article IV, Section 6:**

Each duly appointed delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each motion, and shall have voting rights only at the specific Union Constituency Session (or extension thereof) at which he or she has been specifically designated as a delegate. Voting for ~~executive Officers~~ and ~~Ethnic Coordinators Vice Presidents for Specialized Ministries~~ shall be by secret ballot. When requested by a majority of delegates present and voting, other votes may also be by secret ballot; otherwise, the mode of voting shall be at the discretion of the chair.

**Article V, Section 1:**

The [Officers executive officers](#) of the Pacific Union Conference shall recommend a general agenda to the Executive Committee, who in turn will then revise and recommend the agenda to the Constituency. The Constituency shall adopt an agenda by majority vote.

**Article V, Section 2:**

- A. This Union shall hold a Regular Constituency Session the [calendar fifth \(5<sup>th</sup>\) year following a Regular Constituency Session of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists after the last Constituency Session in which officers were elected](#), at such time and place as the Union Executive Committee shall designate. Notice of the time and place of the meeting of the delegates representing the members shall be given by a notice printed in the official publication of the Pacific Union Conference at least four (4) weeks before the date of the Union Constituency Session.
- B. [In cases where the Union Executive Committee determines emergency circumstances make a scheduled or expected Regular Constituency Session impossible or highly impractical \(e.g., war, disease, disaster, pandemic, civil disorder, government regulation, threats or acts of terrorism, or similar acts\), the Union Executive Committee may change venue and/or postpone the Regular Constituency Session for up to twelve \(12\) months. Notice of change of venue or postponement shall be given in the same timeframe and manner as notice of the Regular Constituency Session. Any such postponement shall extend the term of the current officers and other elected personnel until a Regular Constituency Session can be held.](#)

**Article V, Section 3, E:**

A Special Constituency Session may include any agenda item that could be included on the agenda of a Regular Constituency Session except the election or removal of the officers, the Executive Committee, or the [Ethnic-Minority Coordinators Vice Presidents for Specialized Ministries](#).

**Article V, Section 4:**

The President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, [the Asian-Pacific, African American and Hispanic Coordinators Vice Presidents for Specialized Ministries](#), and the Union Executive Committee members shall be elected by the delegates at a Regular Union Constituency Session. They shall hold office until the next Regular Union Constituency Session, unless they resign or are removed from office by the Union Executive Committee. The appointment of Departmental Directors, Associate Departmental Directors, Associate Secretaries, Under-Treasurers, or Associate Treasurers, shall be made by the Union Executive Committee.

**Article VII, Section 1, A:**

Nominations shall be made for the President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and the [Asian-Pacific, African American and Hispanic Coordinators Vice Presidents for Specialized Ministries](#).

**Article VIII, Section 2, A:**

The Union Executive Committee is the board of directors of the Union, and the members of the Executive Committee are the directors. The Union Executive Committee shall be elected at a Regular Constituency Session and shall consist of not more than forty-eight (48) members. The Union President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President; local conference presidents; Pacific Union College President; La Sierra University President; Pacific Press Publishing Association President; Adventist Health President; [Union Asian-Pacific, African American and Hispanic Coordinators, and the Union Director of Education and the Vice Presidents for Specialized Ministries](#) shall be members *ex officio* of the Committee.

**Article IX, Section 6:****SECTION 6: VICE PRESIDENTS FOR SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES****A. DUTIES OF VICE PRESIDENTS FOR SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES**

[The Vice Presidents for Specialized Ministries of this Union shall be a Vice President for Asian-Pacific Ministries, a Vice President for Education, a Vice President for Hispanic Ministries, and a Vice President for Regional Ministries. It is the duty of these officers to carry out the plans, policies, and programs voted by the Constituency Session or the Union Executive Committee and report to the President of the Pacific Union. While these officers are not designated as the executive officers of the Pacific Union, they assist the executive officers in their executive role as directed by the Executive Committee.](#)

- B. **VICE PRESIDENT FOR ASIAN-PACIFIC MINISTRIES**  
The Vice President for Asian-Pacific Ministries is part of the Union administration and shall serve under the direction of the Union Executive Committee and report to the President of the Pacific Union. The Vice President for Asian-Pacific Ministries serves both administratively and promotionally the Asian-Pacific churches of the Pacific Union and works cooperatively with local conference administration.
- C. **VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATION**  
The Vice President for Education is part of the Union administration and shall serve under the direction of the Union Executive Committee and report to the President of the Pacific Union. The Vice President for Education serves both administratively and promotionally the educational program of the Pacific Union and works cooperatively with local conference administration.
- D. **VICE PRESIDENT FOR HISPANIC MINISTRIES**  
The Vice President for Hispanic Ministries is part of the Union administration and shall serve under the direction of the Union Executive Committee and report to the President of the Pacific Union. The Vice President for Hispanic Ministries serves both administratively and promotionally the Hispanic churches of the Pacific Union and works cooperatively with local conference administration.
- E. **VICE PRESIDENT FOR REGIONAL MINISTRIES**  
The Vice President for Regional Ministries is part of the Union administration and shall serve under the direction of the Union Executive Committee and report to the President of the Pacific Union. The Vice President for Regional Ministries serves administratively and promotionally the predominately African American churches of the Pacific Union and works cooperatively with local conference administration.

**Article XVI – Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution of this Union, all assets remaining after all claims have been satisfied shall be transferred to the General Conference Corporation North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists headquartered in Columbia, Maryland, a division of the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, a non profit religious corporation organized pursuant to the laws of the District of Columbia, with headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. All such assets are to be utilized by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists for the benefit of the individual conferences comprising the Pacific Union at the time of the dissolution.

**Articles of Incorporation, Section VII – Distribution on Dissolution**

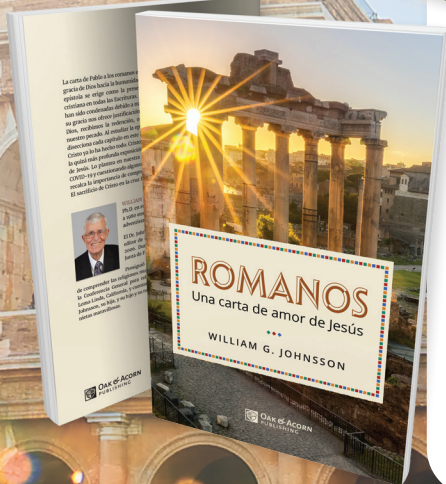
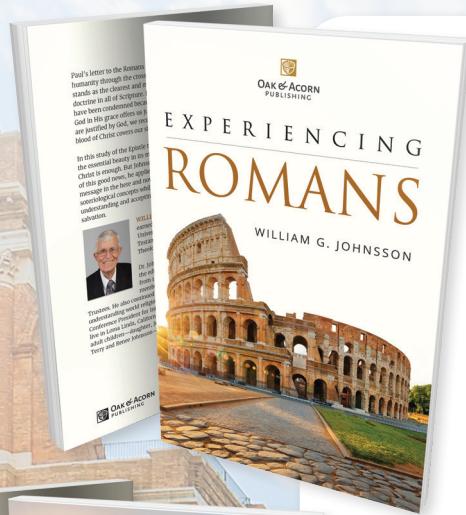
The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to religious, charitable, and educational purposes meeting the requirements for exemption provided by section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private persons. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Washington, D.C. North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists headquartered in Columbia, Maryland, a division of the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, a non profit religious corporation organized pursuant to the laws of the District of Columbia, with headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland, provided it has established a tax exempt status under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or, if not, to any other nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation, preferably of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which is organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, and educational purposes meeting the requirements for exemption provided by Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and which has established its tax exempt status under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All such assets are to be utilized by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, or any other organization receiving such funds as described above, for the benefit of the individual conferences comprising the Pacific Union at the time of the dissolution.

If this corporation holds any assets in trust, or the corporation is formed for charitable purposes, such assets shall be disposed of in such manner as may be directed by decree of the Superior Court of the County in which the corporation has its principal office, upon petition therefore by the Attorney General or by any person concerned in the liquidation, in a proceeding to which the Attorney General is a party.

PACIFIC UNION  
**Recorder**  
P.O. Box 5005  
Westlake Village  
CA 91359-5005

PERIODICALS

# EXPERIENCING ROMANS



Paul's letter to the Romans is known for his vision of God's grace toward humanity through the cross and the resurrection of Christ. The epistle stands as the clearest and most systematic presentation of Christian doctrine in all of Scripture. Paul begins by pointing out that all people have been condemned because of our rebellion against God. However, God in His grace offers us justification by faith in His Son Jesus. As we are justified by God, we receive redemption, or salvation, because the blood of Christ covers our sin.

In this study of the Epistle to the Romans, William Johnsson discloses the essential beauty in its message: Christ has already done everything. Christ is enough. But Johnsson not only analyzes and provides exposition of this good news, he applies it to Jesus' followers. He places the ancient message in the here and now, questioning some entrenched soteriological concepts while emphasizing the importance of understanding and accepting the message of the good news of our salvation.

AVAILABLE THROUGH AMAZON



**OAK & ACORN**  
PUBLISHING

OAK & ACORN IS A PUBLISHING MINISTRY OF THE PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE