

# Recorder

**Central Avenue Gospel Tent**

Another great service has been arranged for Sunday night, August 31 at the Gospel Tent, 49th Place, Los Angeles.



*Knox Invites You to Attend the Big Free*  
**CHAUTAUQUA**  
*To Be Held in the*  
**Civic Auditorium**  
 January 25 to February 2  
**Opening Saturday Night**  
 With  
**DR. P. G. RODGERS**  
 And His  
**FIFTY COLORED JUBILEE SINGERS**  
 Giving Riverside One of the Greatest Musical Treats in Its History

—OTHER NIGHTS—

**SUNDAY NIGHT**  
 Dr. Knox Lectures on  
 "Sun, Moon and Stars—Sun Spots and Rain Prediction"

**TUESDAY NIGHT**  
 Prof. Taylor G. Bunch Speaks on  
 "Trial and Execution of Christ"—A Masterpiece

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT**  
 Alonzo Baker, Noted Editor and Orator, Will Deliver One of His Popular Lectures with Which He Has Held Thousands Spell Bound.

**ADMISSION FREE**



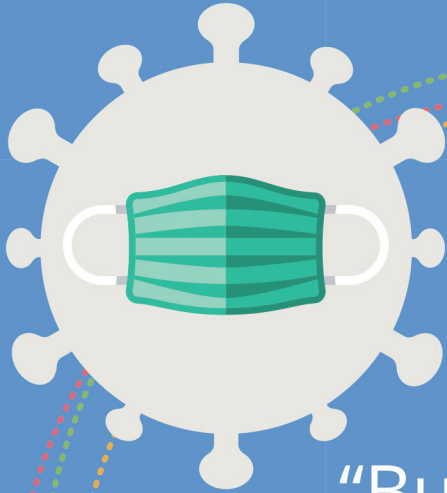
**P. Gustavus Rodgers, Pastor**  
 Special Sermon Sunday Night, Nov. 30, 8 p.m.  
 "Will Congress Ever Consent to the Peace Pact? If so, What Effect Will It Have on the Entire World?"  
 Seats Free—Come.



Black  
 Adventism  
 Pioneering  
 in California

# Love Your Neighbor

Wear a mask.



Get vaccinated.

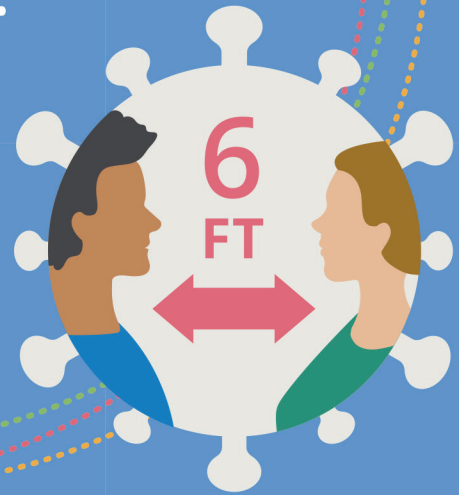


“But in humility  
consider others  
more important than  
yourselves.”

PHILIPPIANS 2:3, BSB



Use virtual tools to  
stay connected.



Practice physical  
distancing.



PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE

LOVE. SERVE. LEAD.



“We are God’s messengers, and He has sent us forth to work for both the white and the black race without partiality and without hypocrisy. We are to set forth the truth in warnings and entreaties. We are to point out the path of light in plain and simple language, easy to be understood by both white

and black. We have no time to build up walls of distinction between the white and the black race.... The walls of sectarianism and caste and race will fall down when the true missionary spirit enters the hearts of men. Prejudice is melted away by the love of God.... There is to be no special heaven for the white man and another heaven for the black man. We are all to be saved through the same grace, all to enter the same heaven at last. Then why not act like rational beings, and overcome our unlikeness to Christ? The same God that blesses us as His sons and daughters blesses the colored race.”

—Ellen White, *The Southern Work*, p. 55

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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.

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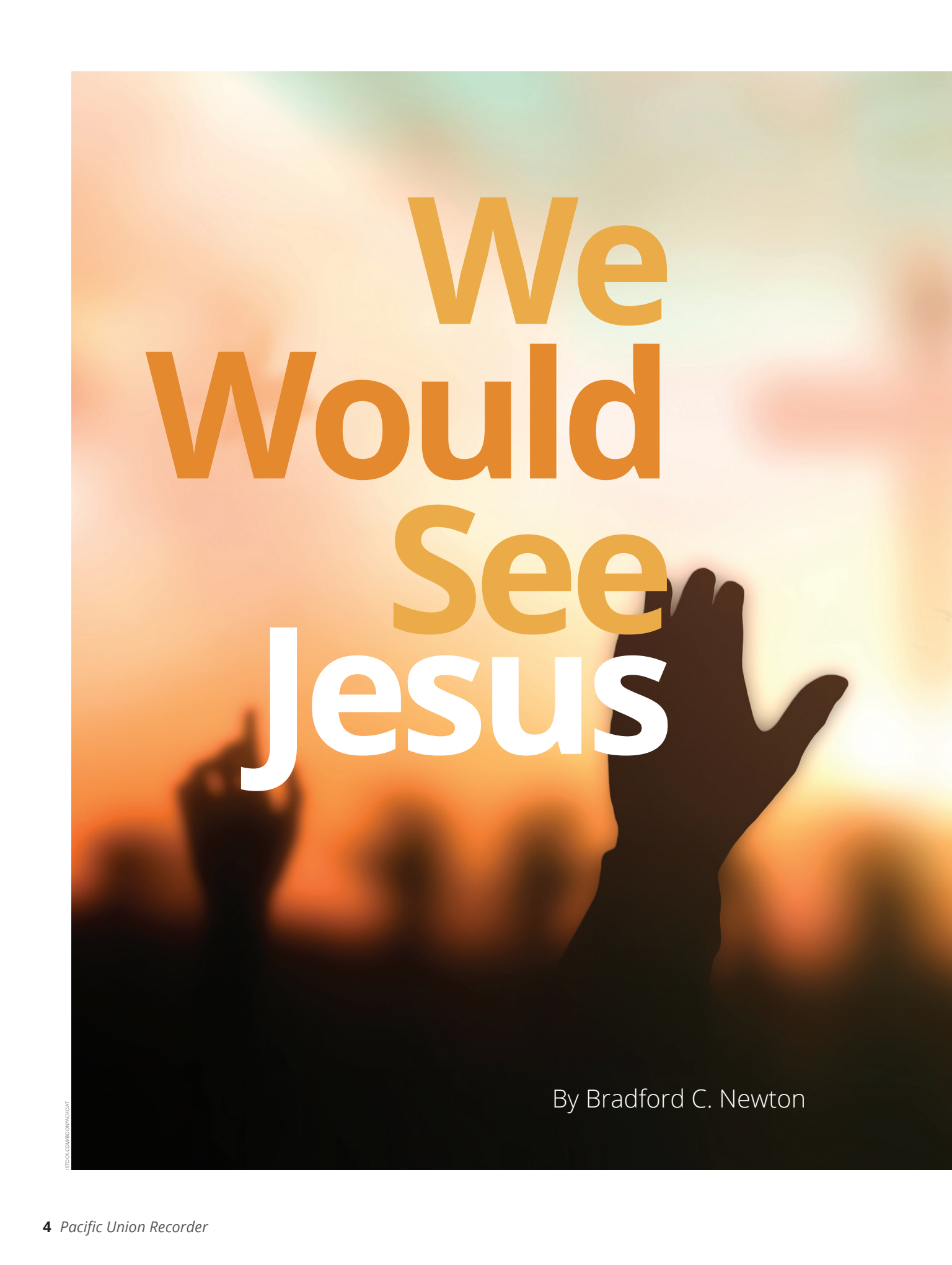
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# We Would See Jesus

By Bradford C. Newton



**A**s I opened my digital news, I scanned the expected dire headlines of the latest virulent variant of COVID-19, the political impasse in our national government, and the daily dose of sensational news stories. Arriving at the opinion section, I noticed David Brooks' column for January 14, 2022: "America is falling apart at the seams." He begins with a litany of statistics about increased unsafe driving and road deaths, a decline in charitable giving, the skyrocketing acquisition of guns, growing drug addiction, and the worsening behavior of Americans, to name but a few.

After conceding that some social trends have seen improvement, he writes, "But something darker and deeper seems to be happening as well—a long-term loss of solidarity, a long-term rise in estrangement and hostility. This is what it feels like to live in a society that is dissolving from the bottom up as much as from the top down." I expected Brooks to then give his final diagnosis and solution. But instead, he implores, "What...is going on? The short answer: I don't know." The column ends, "But there must also be some spiritual or moral problem at the core of this. Over the past several years, and over a wide range of different behaviors, Americans have been acting in fewer pro-social and relational ways and in more antisocial and self-destructive ways. But why? As a columnist, I'm supposed to have some answers. But I just don't right now. I just know the situation is dire."

As a Seventh-day Adventist minister, I read those words and am reminded of the high stakes we are living in as citizens of God's kingdom sojourning upon this

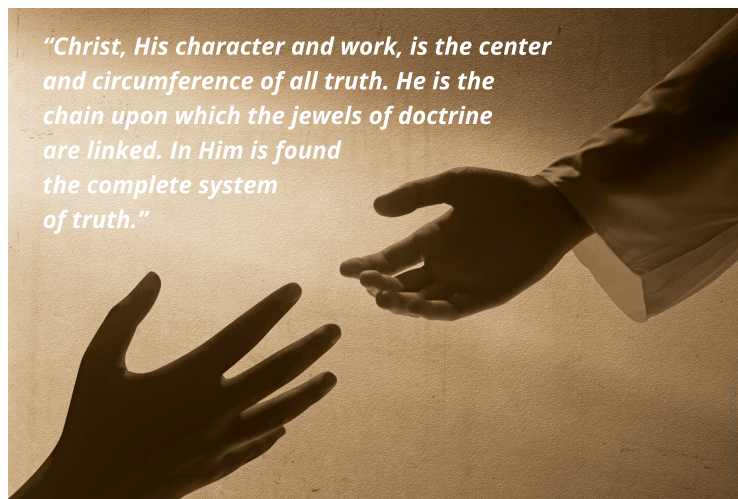
sinful and broken world. Yes, David Brooks, there is a “spiritual and moral problem at the core of this.”

The message we believe and then carry to our world is ever more crucial to the literal life and death of

communities and nation. It leads me to inquire of myself and our Pacific Union Conference family, “So, how are we doing?”

My Bible study over the past several months has me journeying with John’s Gospel. Scholars remind us that the fourth Gospel had a strong evangelistic purpose in telling the Christ saga, aimed squarely at answering the question, “Why Jesus?” John 12:20-23 is an important pivot point in the march of Jesus to the Cross: “Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus. But Jesus answered them, saying, ‘The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified’” (NKJV).

The request of these Greeks has appeared on pulpits throughout my ministry. The little sign was placed by someone in the congregation,



admonishing the speaker, “Sir, we would see Jesus.” It’s a great reminder that every sermon must exalt the theme of Christ from beginning to end. In Jesus’ day, it is the arrival of the Greeks and their desire to see

Him that serves as the signal to Him that His public ministry must now end and the path to Calvary now unfolds. “That the Son of Man should be glorified” is the language used in John’s Gospel for the revelation of God’s character in the self-surrendering sacrifice of Jesus for all of humanity—Jews and Gentiles. It confirms Jesus’ words just a few verses later, “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself” (John 12:32, NKJV).

Which brings me back to David Brooks’ column, which ends, “As a columnist, I’m supposed to have some answers. But I just don’t right now. I just know the situation is dire.” Seventh-day Adventists concur that this world is a mess. But Seventh-day Adventists also have the Answer. In the evening devotional book for 2022, *Our High Calling* by Ellen G. White, is this statement in the January 10 reading: “Christ, His character and work, is the center and circumference of all truth. He is the chain upon which the jewels of doctrine are linked. In Him is found the complete

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As we are imbibing first and foremost from the Water of Life, we in turn obtain that living testimony to share with family, friends, coworkers, and community.

system of truth.” This quotation gripped my thoughts as I read and reread these few words. The “center and circumference” and the “jewels of doctrine are linked” as “the complete system of truth.” I marveled and praised God yet again that it is Jesus’ “character and work” that provide the answer to every ill that faces us today.

Because we are merely human beings, Seventh-day Adventists in the Pacific Union are not immune from the divisive influences that pervade our society. Like most people, we see the news shows, listen to commentators, and are often very immersed in the social media that creates an echo chamber for our own viewpoints. The consequence is that we may slowly lose focus on what God values most from us today. There is a hurting, suffering, confused world around us that needs “the complete system of truth” that is found in Jesus’ “character and work.” And, more than this, you and I need a living experience daily with the Savior through Bible study, worship, and prayer. As we are imbibing first and foremost from the Water of Life, we in turn obtain that living testimony to share with family, friends, coworkers, and community.

This year there is a special emphasis on evangelism in our union territory. Additional funds

beyond the usual amounts are being distributed from the Pacific Union Conference to each local area. But, as important as funding can be to our efforts, we need something much more—the renewed conviction that we are called to make the difference in the lives of people in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah. Sharing our faith-building literature, engaging in practical community service, supporting our pastors and church leaders as they lead in evangelistic outreach, and being involved in our local church schools to support our teachers and students are some of the ways we are uplifting Jesus now.

In Isaiah 6, the prophet describes his calling to ministry, which should resonate with each of us in this time of crisis. After Isaiah saw the Lord “high and lifted up” and heard that his “iniquity is taken away,” the voice of God called, “Whom shall I send and who will go for Us?” The humbled and awestruck Isaiah responded, “Here am I! Send me.” Can we each answer as Isaiah did that day? I pray that God will impress you to seek His calling in your own heart. God needs us all for the work ahead.

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*Bradford C. Newton is the president of the Pacific Union Conference.*



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# A Worship that Works

By Andrea King

**M**y great-great-grandmother was married to a Methodist pastor. While studying her Bible, she discovered the Sabbath. She was excited about this new truth. She shared the blessing of the Sabbath with her Methodist church. They thought she was crazy and gave her a hard time. They didn't want their pastor's wife going against the traditions they had held for years.

She couldn't make them enjoy the blessing of the Sabbath, but she refused to miss out on it herself. From sunset Friday to sunset Saturday, my great-great-grandmother celebrated the Sabbath.

She told her daughter if she ever found a church that keeps the seventh-day Sabbath, she should join it. Her daughter—my great-grandmother, Nanese—waited to find such a church. If one existed then, my family didn't know about it. They had to wait until someone realized they weren't only supposed to go to church, they were also to go to the world! They had to wait until their paths crossed with someone whose Christianity did not stop in the sanctuary but pushed them to share in the streets. They were waiting for someone who had a worship that worked.





ISTOCK/COM/SHUTTERSTOCK

Eventually, a man came to town, and he shared the good news about the Sabbath. There were a few who didn't want to hear about it, but my great-grandmother was an easy sell. Our family had been waiting for two generations to hear that truth. While I am happy that man came to my family's town, God got there first.

God spoke to my great-great-grandmother. He also spoke to my great-grandmother. He prepared them. They were ready and excited. God did His part, but He and my family had to wait for a Christian to do theirs. Unfortunately, it took two generations of waiting to hear the truth.

One night, the Apostle Paul dreamt of a man asking him to come help the people in Macedonia. Paul and his team immediately set out to Macedonia.

Through a series of unfortunate events, Paul and Silas, his partner in ministry, ended up in prison. They could have been discouraged; instead, at midnight, they were singing praises to God. Their worship worked and shook the prison to its

core. The doors swung open, and the chains fell off. The prisoners were free.

The jailer was so distressed by this new development, he planned to end his life. Paul let his worship work. Paul shouted to the jailer to let him know that all the prisoners were accounted for and that the jailer did not have to harm himself. The jailer ran to the dungeon and brought Paul and Silas out. He quickly asked them, "What must I do to be saved?"

You might think that the jailer seemed too eager, too quickly. Paul and Silas could sing but not that well. However, this is evidence that God was in that prison, long before Paul and Silas were. God got there first.

He was not just in the prison but also in the jailer's house. That night the jailer's whole household was saved. John 6:44 reminds us that people don't come to Christ unless the Father draws them.

God had been working with the people in Macedonia, like He worked with my great-great-grandmother. They too were waiting for someone's worship to work. They were waiting for someone to understand that it's not enough just to go to church, one must be the church.

In Matthew 7:22, Jesus warns that there will be many who will come to Him saying, "Lord, Lord, didn't I prophesy well? Did you see me cast out devils? Did you see my miracles?" Meanwhile, Jesus will be looking for a worship that worked.

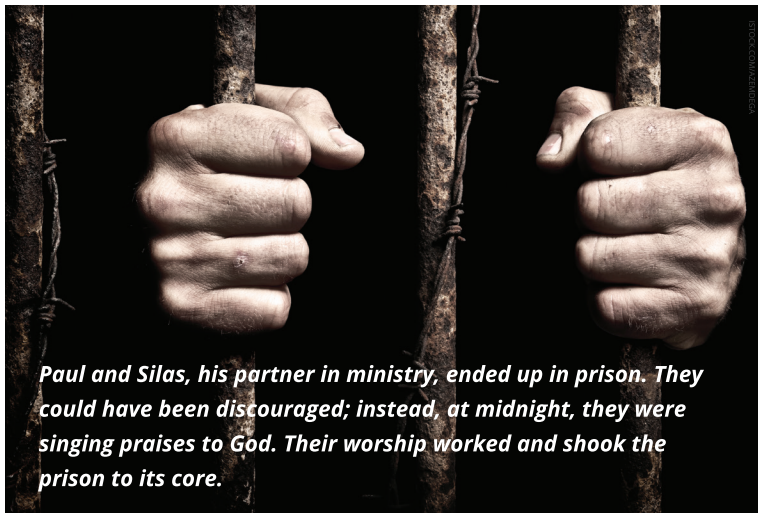
In Matthew 25, it appears He's not just looking for

us in the pews, but in the prisons. He's looking for the blessed to be in the byways. He's looking for His children to be full of compassion.

"Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones,

into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink. I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me'" (Matthew 25:41-43, NLT).

When I was sick, did you visit me? When I was hungry, did you feed me? When I was naked, did you clothe me? These are the judgment questions. At the end of time, God wants to know, did your worship work? Did your Sabbath School lesson lead to love? Did your singing lead to service? Did your holiness



***Paul and Silas, his partner in ministry, ended up in prison. They could have been discouraged; instead, at midnight, they were singing praises to God. Their worship worked and shook the prison to its core.***

lead to helping others?

We have families who have been waiting for generations to hear of the love and truth of our Savior. God is always at work. There are people God has been working with in your neighborhood. They are waiting for a Christian to whom they can ask their questions about God. They are waiting for someone to pray with them for their dying mother.

God has been working with people on your job.

They want to forgive and be forgiven. There are people at the grocery store who are buying bread and water but still hunger and thirst for something deeper. God has prepped them, and now they are waiting for us to show up, to speak to them, to love them. It's time for us to have a worship that works.

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*Andrea King is the communication director of the Southeastern California Conference.*



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God is always at work. There are people God has been working with in your neighborhood. They are waiting for a Christian to whom they can ask their questions about God.

# P. G. Rodgers:

## Builder of Black Adventism

By Douglas Morgan

**D**r. H. Claude Hudson, president of the Los Angeles chapter of the NAACP, and Charlotta A. Bass, publisher of the *California Eagle*, Southern California's leading Black newspaper, were among the guest speakers at Wadsworth Seventh-day Adventist Church in Los Angeles on January 7, 1931. They were there both to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of the church's pastor, P. G. Rodgers, and his wife, Alverta Durham Rodgers, and "to congratulate the church on the rapid strides it has made under the leadership of Elder Rodgers."<sup>1</sup>

The presence of these community leaders, reported on the front page of the *Eagle*, is one marker of the impact made by Rodgers' ministry. In Los Angeles, and before that in Baltimore and Washington, D.C., Peter Gustavus



P. Gustavus Rodgers

SOURCE: OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Rodgers (1885-1961) proved to be one of Adventism's most effective spokespersons in America's Black urban communities during the first four decades of the 20th century. He was likewise a leading voice in the struggle for Black equality within the church.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on August 10, 1885, Gustavus Rodgers was the sole convert resulting from evangelistic meetings conducted by Fred H. Seeney in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1908. Gustavus and Alverta, married in 1906, both had roots in the Delaware-based people of ambiguous racial heritage known as "the Moors."<sup>2</sup> The couple's light complexions sometimes confused people. When, for example, they arrived in Los Angeles in 1923, their congregants reacted with surprise, thinking that the conference had sent a white man to be their minister.<sup>3</sup> Yet there was nothing ambiguous about their identity as Black or about



SOURCE: DURHAM PARK SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, WASHINGTON, D.C.



SOURCE: DUPONT PARK SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, WASHINGTON, D.C.

**P. G. and Alverta Rodgers with unidentified couple.**

their dedication to racial advancement.

A carpenter by training, Rodgers quickly demonstrated exceptional gifts for ministry and was hired by the Chesapeake Conference in 1910, assigned to Baltimore in late 1911. He arrived to a congregation of 11, their building “in a half-wrecked condition.” When his pastorate at Baltimore Third church (later named Berea Temple) concluded six years later, the membership had grown from 11 to 300, a church building had been acquired and renovated with over 75% of the mortgage paid, and a thriving church school had been established.<sup>4</sup> It was the beginning of a pattern.

At the Ephesus church in Washington, D.C., Rodgers’ next assignment, he again placed a high priority on the quality of the house of worship as foundational to evangelism. After a major renovation completed in 1919, Rodgers claimed that the Ephesus structure now ranked “among the most modern and beautiful of our houses of worship.”<sup>5</sup>

At the outset of his ministry in Washington, D.C., Rodgers used a special lecture he had originated in Baltimore to show that he and the movement he

represented had something of importance to say about the dilemmas specific to the African American experience. He spoke on “The Black Man as God Sees Him, or the Inspired History of the Negro” at Black America’s leading cultural and intellectual forum, the Bethel Literary and Historical Society, on November 26, 1918. W.E.B. Du Bois and A. Philip Randolph were among the other lecturers during the society’s 1918-1919 season.

Such presentations helped stir interest in Rodgers’ expositions on the Bible delivered at the “Big Gospel Tent” on Sherman Avenue during the summers of 1918, 1919, and 1920. Rodgers baptized more than 200 new believers while at Ephesus, including three noteworthy individuals, all baptized on December 5, 1920: Willie Anna Dodson, on her way to a path-breaking career as a public school administrator; her husband, Joseph T. Dodson, an entrepreneur with an intellectual bent; and Eva Beatrice Dykes, about to become the first African American female to complete Ph.D. requirements. All three would become part of the lay committee that spearheaded denomination-wide change in race relations during the 1940s, a story told in the book *Change Agents*, published by Oak & Acorn in 2020.

In 1923, Rodgers was called to pastor the East

**GOD'S HISTORY OF THE COLORED MAN**

Will Be the Subject at the  
**Big Gospel Tent,**  
Sherman Ave. and  
Irving St.,  
**Sunday Night,**  
**August 31,**  
**8 P.M.**

Monday Night—  
“THE DWELLING OF GOD.”  
(Pictures.)

Tuesday—  
“THE PRIESTHOOD OF CHRIST.”

Wednesday—  
“THE TIME OF THE JUDG-  
MENT.”

Thursday—  
“COURT DAY IN HEAVEN.”

Friday—  
“THE WOMAN ON THE SCARLET  
BEAST.”

**Everybody Invited**  
**Seats Free \***

**P. GUSTAVUS RODGERS,**  
Colored Lecturer and Evangelist.

SOURCE: WASHINGTON EVENING STAR, AUGUST 30, 1919

36th Street church in Los Angeles. Organized in 1908 with the name Furlong Tract, it was the first Black Adventist church on the West Coast. Several of the young people who came of age in this fellowship would make notable contributions in both church and society. These included evangelist and church leader Owen A. Troy, pioneering public health advocate Dr. Ruth J.



SOURCE: WASHINGTON EVENING STAR, NOVEMBER 29, 1919.

**P. Gustavus Rodgers, Pastor**  
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Temple, and educator and author Arna Bontemps, prominent in the Harlem Renaissance. When the congregation moved to a new building on East 36th Street in 1922, it had a relatively strong membership of 99. But that was about the same as it had been a decade before. Adventism still was barely touching the booming Black population of Los Angeles.

In the summer of 1924, Rodgers set up the 1,000-seat Big Gospel Tent on Central Avenue in the heart of the Black community for three months of evangelistic meetings. This would become an annual, summer-long happening for most of the next 15 years. The 1924 campaign drew near-capacity crowds on Sunday nights and 400 to 600 on weeknights, including sizable contingents of white people. The church membership doubled to 200 as a result, making it clear already that a larger church building would be necessary.<sup>6</sup>



SOURCE: GENERAL CONFERENCE ARCHIVES

Rodgers in front row with Black delegates and guests at the 1926 General Conference Session, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

SOURCE: AMESIDE DAILY PRESS, JANUARY 25, 1930.

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**WEDNESDAY NIGHT**  
 Alonzo Baker, Noted Editor and Orator, Will  
 Deliver One of His Popular Lectures with Which  
 He Has Held Thousands Spell Bound.  
**ADMISSION FREE**

**2 MEETINGS ONLY**  
 WITH  
**P. G. RODGERS**  
 Nationally Known Evangelist  
 Sat., March 10, 11 A. M.  
 "THE BLESSED HOPE"  
 Sun., March 11, 7:30 P. M.  
 "THE FEAST OF  
 BELSHAZZER"  
 ALSO ONE HALF HOUR CONCERT  
 OF  
 SPIRITUALS, ANTHEMS, JUBILEES  
 BY THE CHOIR  
**PHILADELPHIAN**  
**SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST**  
 Stain Glass Auditorium  
 1359 GEARY STREET  
**J. E. COX, Pastor-Evangelist**  
 Worship & Sermon, Sat., 11 A. M.  
 Evangelistic, Sun. & Wed., 8 P. M.  
 Gospel Choir every Sunday Night

SOURCE: SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER, MARCH 10, 1931.

to Discuss Ethiopian Situation." That discussion apparently was to be part of a broader presentation under the title announced for the July 28 meeting, "Can Just Four Angels Hold in Check the Hatred of the Nations?" Rodgers now made heavy use of slides, and for this topic he promised that close to "four score marvelous and beautiful pictures will be thrown on the big screen."<sup>8</sup>

Rodgers' ministry was not restricted to the Black community. He served on the Southern California Conference executive committee from 1927-1937 and was frequently

The *California Eagle* described the new 800-seat church, completed in the summer of 1927 on the corner of 35th Street and Wadsworth Avenue, as "one of the finest churches in the city." With music also a top priority, a "beautiful alcove" behind the pulpit accommodated a Moller pipe organ along with the church's large choir that, according to the *Eagle*, was "known far and wide in the city for the artistic nature of its work."<sup>7</sup> Rodgers, along with other church members, joined in the construction work to help keep costs down. Less than two years later, on March 2, 1929, the 300-member church held a "note-burning service" to celebrate final payment on the debt.

Rodgers honed his method of drawing crowds with "thrilling sermons" that framed Adventism's end-time warning message in issues of current public interest. In July 1936, for example, with European dictators stirring widespread anxieties about another world war and Italian aggression in Ethiopia arousing particular concern among African Americans, a large headline in the *California Eagle* announced, "Elder Rogers

a featured speaker at camp meetings and other conference-wide gatherings. He also lent his preaching and the music of his renowned choir, for which he appropriated the name Jubilee Singers, in support of the efforts of leading white evangelists, such as H.M.S. Richards Sr. and Philip Knox.

As he had been in Baltimore and in Washington, D.C., Rodgers was a relentless and passionate activist for equal opportunity in Christian education in Southern California. Though delayed by the

## Central Avenue Gospel Tent

Another great service has been arranged for Sunday night, August 31 at the Big Gospel Tent, 49th Place and Central Avenue, Los Angeles, when Evangelist P. G. Rodgers will preach on "The Wonderful Love of the Mighty God," beginning this subject at 8 p. m., sharp. From 7:20 to 7:55 p. m., there will be Educational Motion pictures, song slide solos and congregational singing and everything to make an interesting prelude to the sermon to be presented.

To attend one service at the Big Tent simply causes anyone to understand what they have missed in the past seven weeks that the tent has been in operation, for the general expression of hundreds of those who have attended regularly, is, "Nothing like it ever held in Los Angeles." Hear the thrilling sermons, enjoy the soul stirring singing—feel the warm welcome and take all your friends and family with you both on Sunday night and each night during the week.

SOURCE: CALIFORNIA EAGLE, AUGUST 29, 1930.

## WADSWORTH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

37th and Wadsworth Streets  
Elder P. G. Rodgers, Pastor

Great audience heard the Pastor last Sunday night when he gave his special picture sermon on "What the Bible has to Say About Races of Color." It was clear, full of sensible information, spiritual and something that those who heard it will not soon forget. Another great service is scheduled for Sunday nite, Sept. 29 and all are invited to be present and enjoy it.

Sabbath (Saturday) Sept. 28th, Sabbath School at 9:30 a. m., this weeks' session will be a special one, being what is known in this church as the 13th Sabbath. The Sabbath School will take up its quarterly offering, which will amount to over \$50.00. Then at 11 a. m., the devotional service will be conducted. Always at this service you'll enjoy a real spiritual feast, and all are invited to be present.

SOURCE: CALIFORNIA EAGLE, SEPTEMBER 27, 1936.

# RODGERS TO DISCUSS ETHIOPIAN SITUATION

Stricklands To Sing Sunday Evening At Big Tent 49 & Central

**SIMPLE SERVICES MARK FUNERAL OF MRS. SUMMERS**

Eloquently simple were the last rites for Mrs. Myranda Woodsummers last Friday afternoon in the church chapel of the Angling Funeral Home, which was filled to overflowing with friends of the popular young woman and her family.

The beautiful service was read by Harzer Lelper, C. S. of the First Church of Christ, Scientist of Los Angeles, instead of by Mr. Harold Summers, husband of the deceased, as was first announced.

**Women's Day at Phillips' Temple to Be August 10**

Phillips Temple was sent out an SOS for five hundred women to observe Women's Day with them Sunday, August 10. The women will occupy the first floor of the auditorium and the men the balcony.

**MALE CHORUS VOICES ARNOLD BOYNTONS, PROP. BROADHEAD FIRST AME ZION CHURCH**

Men's Day is to be celebrated in a most elaborate way at the First AME Zion church, Pine and Palms streets, Sunday, July 28th, according to the announcement of the Men's Day committee: Prof. J. C. Banks, Floyd Grace and Perry C. Parks.

**BAPTIST UNION'S SEMINAR STILL ON AT 2ND BAPTIST**

The Baptist ministers in another seminar met at Second Baptist church last Tuesday morning. President R. B. Foster was very brief in his remarks following the devotionals but mentioned the faculty of the members in attending the seminar meetings.

**Announcement**

The committee appointed to investigate the D. E. R. A. movement headed by Rev. W. P. Banks made a report. A motion picture was shown and the report was endorsed by the Union.

**Higginbotham to Be Speaker At Congregational**

Dr. H. K. Higginbotham, in choir and congregation of the Wainwright Congregational church will be the guest of our church this Sunday evening, July 28th at 8 o'clock.

**Ministers' Alliance Meets At YMCA**

The Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance met at the YMCA 28th Street Branch, in regular monthly meeting.

**Male Chorus and Writers to Be At A.M.E.Z. Church**

CHICAGO, July 19.—The Chicago branch of the NAACP has written the Ambeuser-Busch Brewing Company of St. Louis, makers of Budweiser beer, asking that its employment policy be broadened so that colored workers would be on its payroll.

**SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH Griffith Avenue at 24th Street Rev. T. L. Griffith, D. D., Pastor**

A message of great import will be delivered this Sunday morning by the pastor, Dr. T. L. Griffith at Second Baptist church. Come out and hear him. Join the Sunday School class.

A most unusual subject will be presented Sunday night, July 28 when Evangelist Pastor Rodgers preaches on the subject, "Can Just Four Angels Hold in Check the Hatred of Nations?"

The Stickland sacred orchestra will be present at 7:15 p. m. and render many special musical numbers during the big song service and at 8 p. m. the sermon will be delivered.

No condolences were read, no comment made; the husband quietness of the large audience the elaborate floral tributes, testifying the high esteem in which the beautiful life of Mrs. Summers was held by all who knew her.

Although it was at first decided by the family not to open the magnificent, gold-trimmed, metal full-couch champagne-colored casket at the service, the wish of the hundreds of admirers of the young matron was granted and the assemblage viewed the remains at the conclusion of the funeral.

Rev. J. M. Riddle was presented by Rev. L. M. Curtis who discussed the subject, "Salvation for Grace Through Faith." Rev. W. D. Carter was again present and made encouraging remarks.

Rev. R. S. Johnson of Tulsa, Okla., also spoke briefly. Rev. E. F. Lightner was also present. A telegram was read to the Union calling attention to the passing of Dr. J. E. Brown of Little Rock, Ark.

The following brethren made splendid reports: Revs. Going, Godfield, Garrison, J. D. Gordon; Dr. Gordon spoke of his personal contact with the head of the D. E. R. A. movement; Davis, Mitchell, Venerable Arrington, Foster and Brewer and Dr. S. M. Beane, there were about 25 additional. B. J. Franklin also made report. Mrs. Cole representing the Pacific Exposition News Day at the Park, made a very touching request. Mr. S. W. Green was presented and in turn introduced the speaker of the morning W. L. Gross, representing the Federal National Economic Administration. He very fittingly demonstrated the means, charts of the New Deal.

In the evening the Rev. William Dixon of Vallejo, California brought a most remarkable message that was enjoyed by all. Many visitors were present among them the vice-president of the Delta.

The Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company held its annual anniversary on Tuesday, August 1. Covered by A. C. Bibber and daughters—Nul sed. You will be there.

**Second Baptist Church**  
Griffith Avenue and 24th Street

**Sunday, July 28th**  
11 A. M.—Sermon by pastor, Thomas L. Griffith

**Stricklands To Sing Sunday Evening At Big Tent 49 & Central**

A most unusual subject will be presented Sunday night, July 28 when Evangelist Pastor Rodgers preaches on the subject, "Can Just Four Angels Hold in Check the Hatred of Nations?"

The Stickland sacred orchestra will be present at 7:15 p. m. and render many special musical numbers during the big song service and at 8 p. m. the sermon will be delivered. A cordial welcome to everyone.

Great Depression, a major advance took place in 1936 when the Wadsworth School opened with 68 students in eight grades. Two years later, it had become a junior academy with an enrollment of 112.

In 1938, restrictions on placement opportunities for Black interns by the College of Medical Evangelists (CME) in nearby Loma Linda drew vigorous protest from Rodgers. The preacher thought he had mediated a solution that satisfied both the NAACP and the General Conference administration, but he was outraged when the CME board voted a change to the wording of the policy in a way that, he contended, changed nothing in actuality. He warned that the NAACP would not let the matter go and declared that the only reason he could imagine for such a "regrettable action" was that "the spirit of a doomed world is getting into the hearts of the leaders of Israel." Rodgers urged

a change so that nothing would be done to cause Black Adventists "to wonder if the entire set-up of pretended interest in them is not one grand colossal mockery."<sup>9</sup>

Rodgers' outspokenness on racial matters apparently made some church leaders feel uneasy about his loyalty to denominational organization. In fact, his very success as a pastor-evangelist made him suspect in an era when three of his contemporaries who were likewise effective became alienated from the denomination over racial issues: Lewis C. Sheafe (1916), John W. Manns (1916), and

James K. Humphrey (1930). As one General Conference administrator put it, the basic concern about Rodgers was that "he was a man who has drawn very strongly to himself."<sup>10</sup> In other words, he was perceived as exerting too much personal influence over his large congregation.

Rodgers urged a change so that nothing would be done to cause Black Adventists "to wonder if the entire set-up of pretended interest in them is not one grand colossal mockery."



Despite his persistent agitation against racial injustice in the church and the disappointment surrounding his early retirement, Rodgers testified in 1960, “I have loved every phase of the Message during these years and have never doubted one line of it.”

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In 1940, his pastorate in Los Angeles having extended to an unheard-of length of 17 years, the pressure grew on Rodgers to accept a call elsewhere. He resisted doing so in part because his wife Alverta suffered from a respiratory condition that the Southern California climate made more tolerable. Additionally, the 55-year-old preacher was beginning to show signs of serious health difficulties of his own. In the end, it seemed that the best solution was for Rodgers to accept a leave from full-time ministry due to disability.

Alverta’s health worsened in 1941 due to “heart trouble,” and she died on June 16, 1942. Though her role went almost completely unmentioned in public reports, she had been an active and indispensable partner in her husband’s ministry from the beginning more than 30 years before.

P. G. Rodgers never returned to full-time ministry, though he did preach occasionally until 1959, when he put up for sale his collection of “3,000 color stereopticon slides,” along with a “Bausch and Lomb dissolving lens machine” that he had used in leading 1,008 individuals to baptism during his time in California.<sup>11</sup> Despite his persistent agitation against racial injustice in the church and the disappointment surrounding his early retirement, Rodgers testified in 1960, “I have loved every phase of the Message during these years and have never doubted one line of it.”<sup>12</sup> He died in La Mesa, California, on September 24, 1961, at age 76.

P. Gustavus Rodgers was both a powerful evangelist and a personable congregation-builder, a visionary promoter and a pragmatic leader skilled in bringing dreams to reality, unreserved in his dedication to the mission of the church and unrelenting in urging it toward a more Christ-like pattern of race relations.

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*Adapted by permission from the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, [encyclopedia.adventist.org](https://encyclopedia.adventist.org). For full documentation and a more detailed treatment of Rodgers’ career, see “Rodgers, Peter Gustavus (1885–1961),” Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists, <https://encyclopedia.adventist.org/article?id=ACFJ>.*

<sup>1</sup>“Seventh Day Adventist Church Fetes Pastor and Wife on the Occasion of the Couple’s Silver Wedding Anniversary,” *California Eagle*, Jan. 9, 1931.

<sup>2</sup>C.H. Weslager, *Delaware’s Forgotten Folk: The Moors and the Nanticokes* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1943).

<sup>3</sup>Louis B. Reynolds, *We Have Tomorrow: The Story of American Seventh-day Adventists with an African Heritage* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1984), p. 177.

<sup>4</sup>Gustavus P. Rodgers, “The Work Among the Colored People in the Chesapeake Conference,” *Review and Herald*, Feb. 21, 1918, p. 17.

<sup>5</sup>Gustavus P. Rodgers, “Work for the Colored Believers in Washington, D.C.,” *Review and Herald*, July 17, 1919, p. 24.

<sup>6</sup>Mrs. A.H. Baker, “East Thirty-sixth Street Church,” *Pacific Union Recorder*, Sept. 11, 1924, p. 3.

<sup>7</sup>“Seventh Day Adventist Church Fetes Pastor and Wife,” pp. 1, 3.

<sup>8</sup>“Elder Rogers to Discuss Ethiopian Situation,” *California Eagle*, July 18, 1936, p. 10.

<sup>9</sup>P.G. Rodgers to W.E. Nelson, Jan. 6, 1939, General Conference Archives, RG 11, Box 3957.

<sup>10</sup>H.T. Elliott to W.G. Turner, June 9, 1940, GCA, Sustentation Files, RG 33, Box 9774, P. Gustavus Rodgers.

<sup>11</sup>Advertisements, *Pacific Union Recorder*, July 27, 1959, p. 14.

<sup>12</sup>P.G. Rodgers to R.H. Adair, Feb. 5, 1960, P. Gustavus Rodgers Sustentation File, GCA.

# Acting Out of Love: a Christian Responsibility



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**A**t the heart of God’s kingdom is the principle that others are just as important as yourself. In fact, the nature of sin is based on selfishness—the very opposite of this principle. God shows His true nature in His self-sacrificial love. Jesus put it very bluntly: “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (John 15:13, NIV).

So, when it comes to our behavior as followers of our loving Lord, who laid down His life for us, we need to be practicing what we preach. Take the COVID-19 vaccination debate. Much of it centers on “What is best for me?” Yet, as Christians, shouldn’t we be asking “What is best for my neighbor?”

## **How have Adventists considered vaccination in the past?**

Replying to a question regarding Ellen White’s attitude toward vaccinations, one of her secretaries wrote: “This question can be answered very briefly for so far as we have any record, she did not refer to them in any of her writings. You will be interested to know, however, that at a time when there was an epidemic of smallpox in the vicinity, she herself was vaccinated and urged her helpers, those connected with her, to be vaccinated. In taking this step Sister White recognized the fact that it has been proven that vaccination either renders one immune from smallpox or greatly lightens its effects if one does



come down with it. She also recognized the danger of their exposing others if they failed to take this precaution.”<sup>1</sup>

Consistently, Adventists have supported vaccination as a major health benefit, not just to the individual but to the wider community. For example: “Should we immunize? The question deserves serious and thoughtful study. Each person may answer the question for himself, except where his action may endanger the health of others. Then not only must the authority of the government be considered but, more important, the golden rule. Will a true Christian who loves his fellow

man follow any course of action that may cause his brother pain, disease—even death?”<sup>2</sup>

As to the question of “religious liberty,” again Adventists have always denied that vaccination is

anything to do with freedom of religion. In fact, the very opposite—we deny that anyone has the “liberty” to expose others to a deadly contagious disease, and we support state vaccination mandates: “Its [the state’s] authority is not nullified merely because the parent grounds his claim to control the child’s course of conduct on religion or conscience. Thus, he cannot claim freedom from compulsory vaccination for the child more than for himself on religious grounds. *The right to practice religion freely does not include liberty to expose the community or the child to communicable disease or the latter to ill health or death.*”<sup>3</sup>

So in conclusion: “Vaccination is in harmony with the health message of the church. Parents who refuse to vaccinate their children risk not only the lives of their children, but the health of their community as well.”<sup>4</sup> We need to think beyond ourselves and our own health and that of our families. We have a Christian responsibility to love our neighbors, to care for them, and to do all we can to prevent them being exposed to this deadly virus. It’s what Jesus would do.

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<sup>1</sup>Ellen White, *Selected Messages Book 2*, p. 303.

<sup>2</sup>Joyce W. Hopp, R.N., M.P.H. Assistant Secretary, GC Medical Department, “Should We Immunize?” *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, Aug. 23, 1962, pp. 4-5.

<sup>3</sup>Robert W. Nixon, “Faith Versus Medical Treatment,” *Liberty*, March 1, 1985, p. 8. Emphasis supplied. In addition: “There is no record in our historical track record of engagement with religious freedom issues of vaccine refusal being treated as a valid basis for religious freedom claim.” Bettina Krause, NAD PARL Webinar Vaccine Mandates 10/9/21. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mF5B88rj\\_Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mF5B88rj_Y)

<sup>4</sup>Carolyn W. Achata, “Should Children Be Immunized? The myths and the facts,” *Adventist Review*, July 23, 1992, pp. 12-13.

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Consistently, Adventists have supported vaccination as a major health benefit, not just to the individual but to the wider community.



Current and former pastors of the Reno-Sparks Hispanic church during the celebration of the burning of the mortgage. Elders Brown and Camacho, as well as other conference pastors, were present during the celebration.

## Reno-Sparks Hispanic Church Celebrates 30 Years of God's Provision

**F**rom a small group of believers without a church to call home to a thriving and engaged congregation, the Reno-Sparks Hispanic church in Reno, Nevada, has come a long way since its inception in 1991. The church recently celebrated a mortgage burning ceremony after making the final payment on the church they purchased in 1995.

The weekend of July 23 and 24 was marked as a joyful celebration as the church not only burned its mortgage but also celebrated the nearly 30 years of the church's beginnings. All the previous pastors were invited to the celebration, and they participated by making both historical and devotional presentations. Elders Leon B. Brown, Sr., then-president of the Nevada-Utah Conference, and Carlos Camacho, then-executive secretary of the conference, attended the Sabbath morning service and participated in the mortgage burning ceremony.

One of the founding members of the congregation, Amado Gomez, shared his perspective of the church's early days and how God led them to where they are.

Showing that God works in many ways, the members of this newly formed group all ended up in Reno looking for new work when the broom factory where they worked in another town closed down. Among them was Gomez, their supervisor at the factory. While some of the people from the factory were

“If we hadn’t moved to Reno, there wouldn’t be a Hispanic church there. We grew so fast, and we always had a place to worship.”

Adventist, not everyone was; however, several of them were soon attending Sabbath services with their Adventist friends.

Like many congregations, the Reno-Sparks Hispanic church started as a small group who worshiped together every Sabbath wherever they could find an available spot, including rooms or gyms in other churches who were kind enough to welcome them.

One of the first churches where they met was an African American church. The pastor of the church was very supportive of having them there, and the Spanish-speaking group even met someone who began translating the English services to Spanish. After a while, they were blessed to find their own Spanish-speaking pastor.

In order to grow their small congregation and share the gospel with others, the group began running a short weekly Spanish-language radio sermon called *La Verdad Presente* (The Present Truth). As a result of the radio program, more people started attending and Gomez began giving Bible studies to those who were interested in learning more.

As can happen with groups with no church building of their own, circumstances changed unexpectedly and the growing Spanish-speaking group had to move, this time renting from a Pentecostal church. Ministry didn’t stop though. Through a \$180 donation, the weekly radio sermon continued to run, bringing even more people to church—and Gomez kept giving more Bible studies.

By now, there had been approximately 19 baptisms, and there were more than 35 people in the group. Among those baptized were two young Brazilians from the Pentecostal congregation. The Pentecostal church was not too pleased, and the Adventist group was asked to leave.

After a few years of moving from building to building, what is now the Reno-Sparks Spanish church finally had the opportunity to purchase its own church building. Through effort, donations, and fundraisers, including food sales of Salvadoran pupusas, they purchased their current building.

“If we hadn’t moved to Reno, there wouldn’t be a Hispanic church there,” said Gomez, who now resides in California, as he reflected on how God led the group during their early days. “We grew so fast, and we always had a place to worship,” he said of God’s provision. “He finally allowed us to have our own church.”

*By Cynthia Mendoza and Alberto Valenzuela*



**The mortgage burning ceremony celebrated making the final payment on the Reno-Sparks Hispanic church.**



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## Ministry Spotlight

### Family Ministries

#### What is this ministry about?

"There is a silent tragedy that is unfolding today in our homes and concerns our most precious jewels: our children." —Luis Rojas Marcos, M.D.

We are aware that families are going through tough times. It is not surprising that the moral-spiritual-emotional defenses of our families are at risk. These two last years have not been of much help for our family relations for obvious reasons. Even so, Family Ministries has served hundreds through seminars, sermons, and classes.

#### Love

At the Pacific Union Conference, we are committed to our churches, communities, and families because there are magnificent opportunities to model God's love. As Ellen White stated, "Home is to be the center of the purest and most elevated affection. Peace, harmony, affection, and happiness should

be perseveringly cherished every day, until these precious things abide in the hearts of those who compose the family. The plant of love must be carefully nourished, else it will die. Every good principle must be cherished if we would have it thrive



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“Home is to be the center of the purest and most elevated affection. Peace, harmony, affection, and happiness should be perseveringly cherished every day, until these precious things abide in the hearts of those who compose the family.”

in the soul” (*The Adventist Home*, p. 195). We want to help families foster this atmosphere of God’s love!

### Serve

Strong and united families can serve! Serve their church and their communities! Family Ministries is here to serve families, to strengthen and unite them, resulting in their ability and willingness to serve.

### Lead

The Pacific Union Conference is cognizant of the responsibilities and challenges that we each have with the family we are responsible for. Hence, our mission for 2022 is to provide guidance and assistance to the Family Ministry leaders of each conference of the union to enhance family relations. Family Ministries Director Edwin Mendoza and his team can be reached at 951-288-4196 or [edmengo53@yahoo.com](mailto:edmengo53@yahoo.com) for additional information.

God has given us a “precious cargo” to be delivered at Jesus’ feet and finally to live eternally with Him.

### How can you get involved?

This year several Sabbaths are focused on the family. See the list below and speak to your church



leaders about how you can help during these special times.

## Important dates for 2022

### February focus for the month

- Christian Marriage Sabbath – February 12
- Christian Home and Family Week – February 12-19
- Christian Parenting Sabbath – February 19
- Family Togetherness Week – September 4-10
- Family Togetherness Sabbath – September 10

Once again, you can contact Edwin Mendoza and his team at 951-288-4196 or [edmengo53@yahoo.com](mailto:edmengo53@yahoo.com) for additional information.

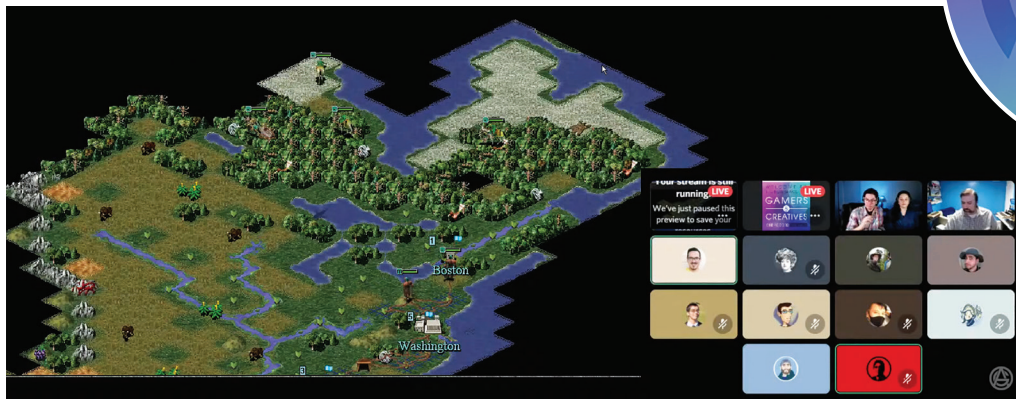


# Level Up Ministry

**ABOVE:** Pastor Soto along with a team of creators build a virtual Noah's Ark, which includes an embedded museum underneath the ark.

Since the early days of Atari, Commodore 64, and Sega, the gaming world has changed to become more interactive, engaging, and creative. "Gamer" is now a common way to describe someone who plays games either on a system or online. Games have moved steadily from a self-contained hardware-based system to an online community brought together by programming that encourages cooperative action. While this change has created challenges for churches and schools, a group of innovative church members are turning to online gaming as a way to reach their community.

"The church is not reaching the gamers, the



Members of One Accord: The Guild collaborate to build virtual worlds and societies.



## Team members place Bible texts throughout the virtual worlds.

gaming community,” said Pastor Mike Soto. “I had been thinking about that for a while.”

Then, during the throes of a worldwide pandemic, as the world locked itself down in the spring of 2020, a group of lay people and pastors gathered online for a seminar on how to use digital evangelism.

“While we were in the Zoom meeting, I created a Facebook group for Adventist gamers and invited others to join the group,” said Soto. And from that sprung a group of individuals who are now focused on using online gaming platforms for ministry outreach.

Along with Soto, a handful of other gamers formed the core of what is now called “One Accord: The Guild.” They began to reach out and invite others in their various regional areas to join their group. A YouTube video was created and broadcast, which drew more people, and then the General Conference social media team posted their information. Just recently the group had their 300th member join their group.

“Minecraft was the easiest to do at the beginning,” explained Soto. “But we have been looking into options like Animal Crossing, Super Smash, and other virtual board games.”

On Saturday nights, one of the leaders of the group serves as a moderator for Jackbox games. The leader serves as a facilitator for the games as well as a monitor for the activity in the rooms. The group has a list of criteria and guidelines for online behavior on their Discord group site.

“Our goal is to bring the gospel to the digital community and speak the language of gamers and creators,” said Soto. “We are not into traditional church service but are trying something different. This is not a traditional Adventist culture, and we speak a



language that a non-Adventist can understand.”

The community has built worlds online that contain Noah’s Ark, the Tower of Babel, Bethlehem, and the Garden of Eden. Whenever possible, the group has used biblical and historical specifications to create their worlds. The Tower of Babel was made according to Babylonian architecture and the Garden of Eden has identifiable elements like the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Wherever possible, Bible verses are posted around items that relate to a specific biblical reference. A virtual museum is located under Noah’s Ark, with information and links to Creation and Noah’s Flood websites.

“There are so many stories that we are working on, making it as biblically accurate as possible,” said Soto. “We are talking and hanging out, and that gives us an opportunity to chat about biblical principles as the community builds the world.”

To kick off 2022, One Accord: The Guild hosted a Content Creators Summit in Casa Grande, Arizona, at the beginning of February. It was a hybrid event with attendees both in person and online. It was targeted to anyone who wants to upload YouTube videos or create online content—and, of course, to gamers who want to participate in creating biblical worlds. Geared towards gamers and creators ages 15-35, the summit included a panel of Millennial and Gen Z creators who discussed topics and issues pertinent to the gaming community. The culmination of the summit was the Saturday night networking/gaming event, with Filibertos take-out and, of course, online gaming.

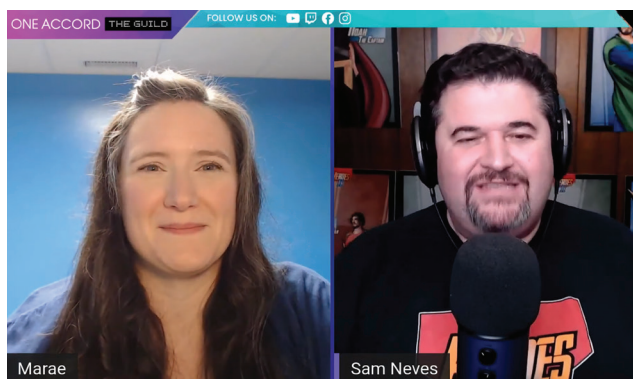
*By Jeff Rogers*

### Website

<https://oneaccordtheguild.com/>

### YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/OneAccordTheGuild>



Even during pandemic lockdowns and social distancing, members can interact and socialize online.



## “The Great Hope” Fills Baptistries



TOP: The San Francisco Korean company studied in small groups, resulting in one baptism. MIDDLE: Both evangelistic meetings and small groups resulted in one baptism at the San Jose Korean company. BOTTOM: Pictured are two of the 11 young people baptized at the San Francisco Samoan church on Dec. 11.

Praises were proclaimed during December 2021 when hundreds of new believers were baptized throughout the Central California Conference (CCC). As Dan Serns, CCC president, explained: “In early September, planning began for the ‘Fill Every Baptistry’ event on Dec. 11. In 88 of our churches (plus our young adults on Zoom), pastors and guest evangelists preached the Adventist message in its Christ-centered beauty and simplicity. Invitations were extended to the local community for the event, called ‘The Great Hope.’ People came because members had been praying for them. And decisions were made for Jesus! Everyone baptized had a story of how Jesus changed their life.”

*Here are just a few of the many testimonies:*

In San Francisco, a city with the lowest per capita of Adventists in the CCC, God is still working on hearts. Yes, it is slow, as Keunsoon Kim, pastor of the **San Francisco Korean** and Silicon Valley Korean companies, will tell you. Because of pandemic restrictions, it was almost impossible for the members to meet together. “Yet,” he said, “God’s gospel did not stop.” In San Francisco, small groups studied the Bible together, praying for others to join. It was because of special prayers that one lady decided to be baptized on Dec. 18.

The **Silicon Valley Korean** company held meetings both at the church site and online with guest speakers—Jounghan Kim, pastor from Fresno, on Nov. 19-20, and Sanghun Jun, pastor from Oklahoma, on Dec. 1-4. Church elders used small groups to give Bible studies, which resulted in one person being baptized on Dec. 8. Several more continue to study with Jaehyo Sa and Ray Oh. As Kim explained, “In both churches, it provided an opportunity for church members to share the gospel.”

The **San Francisco Samoan** church had a guest preacher, Meshach Maui’a, for the “The Great Hope” meetings from Dec. 7 to 11. Held at the church and live-streamed, the meetings resulted in 14 decisions for baptism. Eleven were young people under the age of 18, with six of them answering the call on Sabbath morning.

Not too far away, Serns was invited to baptize 15 new believers on Sabbath, Dec. 11, at the **Mountain View Hispanic** church. The church leaders remarked that

they had never had that many baptisms on one Sabbath before. Later that evening, Serns was privileged to baptize six at the **San Jose Hispanic** church, where one more joined by profession of faith.

On the coast, Sam Smith, pastor of the **Watsonville English** church, provided quite the testimony of what happened during “The Great Hope” series. In spite of Friday afternoon food giveaways, wrapping Christmas presents for free, and providing snacks, it was disappointing when no visitors came at first. After the conclusion of a special prayer, a large family arrived!

Smith is certain that God blessed these meetings. Two elders, Greig Rose and Shane Frances, also spoke. When Francis made an appeal for baptisms, two people came forward. One was a woman struggling with homelessness who had studied the Bible and loved Jesus. The second was a young man just released from prison who had studied the Bible with another inmate. He was so excited to be at the church so he could respond to the appeal. Both of them were baptized on Dec. 11 in the Watsonville baptistry!

In the valley, Daniel Gouveia, pastor of the **Fresno Central** church, saw the Holy Spirit working in the life of Joseph Osegueda. After only sporadic contact for several years, Osegueda had come to the evangelistic meetings held in November. One lady was baptized at the conclusion of those meetings, but Osegueda faced many challenges and held back. Nevertheless, he continued studying and even invited his family members. Gouveia decided to mention that the baptistry would be filled on Dec. 11 during a special program at the church. Osegueda considers the decision to be baptized as the

happiest day of his life.

Another extraordinary story occurred at the **Madera Hispanic** church. Victor Ortega, the senior pastor, said, “The evangelistic series, ‘The Great Hope,’ was a special gift from our Lord and Savior.” There were six baptisms on Dec. 11 and six more are to be baptized later. However, Ortega commented, “The biggest outcome was seeing the local congregation revitalized and engaged.” Just as exciting was the news that a new Adventist church group officially began on Dec. 11 in that city. The **Hope Madera Company**, planted by the Madera Hispanic church, is an English congregation targeting young adults

Additional testimonies will be shared later. In the meantime, please uphold these new believers in your prayers. As Serns would urge, “This was just the beginning. We will continue the harvest that Jesus promised, using our theme ‘Arise & Go!’ Every converted man, woman, and child is needed in this mission.” For now, CCC members should look for “Sharing Jesus” training in their area. Also, please participate in the “40 Days of Sharing Jesus” from March 1 to April 9 by saying something about Jesus to someone each day. The next “Fill the Baptistry” event will be on April 30, following gospel-centered meetings led by local evangelists. And we hope to get back together (with health protocols) for Soquel Camp Meeting from July 14 to 23. The plans are for great speakers, training seminars, and many activities for all ages. Check the CCC website for more information.

Let’s share Jesus with everyone while we “rejoice before the Lord your God” (Deuteronomy 16:11).

*By Deloris Trujillo*



TOP LEFT: New believers are honored at the Mountain View Hispanic church on the morning of Dec. 11. TOP MIDDLE: Dan Serns baptizes two young people in the filled baptistry at the Mountain View Hispanic church. TOP RIGHT: Two of the six new believers baptized by Dan Serns at the San Jose Hispanic church on Dec. 11. BOTTOM LEFT: With joy, Daniel Gouveia baptizes Joseph Osegueda on Dec. 11 at the Fresno Central church. MIDDLE LEFT: Six candidates declare their decision to be baptized at the Madera Hispanic church. MIDDLE RIGHT: The Hope Madera company, targeting young adults, was organized on Dec. 11.



## Aiea Pathfinders Learn to Scuba Dive



During these tough times, with COVID regulations and case counts fluctuating, many Pathfinder clubs across the world have had to scramble to find ways to keep things fun and exciting. The Aiea Ali'i Pathfinder club was definitely on that same boat; after a year of virtual meetings, the Pathfinders were itching to get back into the groove of earning awesome honors! But what could meet their craving for fun, fill them with excitement, and provide an educational activity at the same time? The Aiea Ali'i club found all of this and more in the form of scuba diving!

The Pathfinders found an amazing way to rejuvenate their joy as they took on the challenge of the NAUI Open Water Scuba Certification. This certification involved an array of different learning experiences for the Pathfinders, who conquered over 10 hours of studying and quizzes, the assembling and maintenance of scuba diving equipment, basic lifesaving techniques necessary for all divers, and, last but not least, the skills to safely and successfully dive in open water.

The Pathfinders and parents enjoyed multiple dives over the course of three days. First entering via the shore while lugging their heavy scuba gear, they made their way into the ocean and dove, for the first time, to 25 feet! The Pathfinders were also able to enjoy diving off a boat, where their dive reached depths of around 40 feet! With each dive, the

Pathfinders were able to experience the beauty of God's creation as they swam through beautiful blue water with schools of fish flowing around them, eels creeping out to say hello, and shells lying peacefully on the ocean floor. They even had the awesome opportunity of touching a live octopus!

Nevertheless, as fun as this experience was for the Pathfinders, it did not come without its fair share of challenges. The Pathfinders were put to the test during each dive as they refined their skills and persevered through some fear. Because of this, each and every Pathfinder who participated left feeling more confident in themselves and in the protection of their Heavenly Father.

All in all, Aiea Ali'i were able to accomplish their goal of boosting the morale of their kids and learning some awesome new skills while enjoying themselves amidst God's creation. From the beautiful sights of the ocean floor to the thrill of realizing they were 40 feet underwater, the Ali'i Pathfinders of the Aiea church had a blast every kick of the way!

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*By Brian Garcia*



## 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, April 24, 2022, 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



**75**  
HOLBROOK INDIAN SCHOOL  
SERVING NATIVE YOUTH SINCE 1946

## Building Stories of Faith

**I** had been praying and asking God to strengthen my faith." These were the words that led to the start of a two-and-a-half-year building project headed by a semi-retired surgeon who had a desire to help Native American children and grow in faith. Since then, God has led Randal Schafer to the near completion of two triplex apartments on behalf of a little school in the desert in northern Arizona. It's a school with a mission, and the project required a person on a mission. It's a project that has grown his faith while also building the ministry at Holbrook Indian School (HIS).

Randal Schafer, a semi-retired surgeon and supporter of Holbrook Indian School, has headed the HIS triplex building project since 2019. Back in 2019, Schafer had a desire to grow his faith but was not sure how. He had already been involved in various mission projects. As Schafer's focus turned toward the Native American people, he found himself in contact with HIS principal Pedro Ojeda, who told him about a need for

staff housing at the school. HIS needed funds and labor for the construction of two apartment buildings. It was one of the school's most pressing needs at the time, but it was a need it could least afford in terms of time, labor, and cost.

Heading this project would not only have to be a volunteer role, it meant efforts such as recruiting labor, budgeting, and fundraising. After visiting Holbrook to scout the land and speak with staff, Schafer decided to take on the challenge and accept the call.

*Here are a few of his stories of faith along the journey.*

### **A great foundation**

In late July 2020, we were getting ready to pour the concrete for the footings and floor of the second triplex. At that time a group of volunteers from the Newbury Park church in the Los Angeles area was helping. Concrete contractor Lyndol James asked me if there was



any chance we could get a concrete pump boom truck to make the job more efficient. I checked out multiple options and the only one was an hour and a half away.

In talking with the owner, Charles Goss, I told him about the school and the service it provides to the Native American children. I then asked him how much it would cost for his services, and he replied, "Nothing. I would like to help for free." The truck showed up about 5:30 a.m., and we were pouring concrete and finished in less than two and half hours. This free gift saved us many thousands of dollars and a lot of time.

### Raising "trusst"

When we were ready to put up the framing of the walls and roof trusses, we didn't have adequate funding. I had already arranged for four contractors to come, along with a group of volunteers, to do this job. These were people who were taking time off of work to come. However, when I was ready to order the trusses, I looked in the account and there was only \$3,000 available to use for this. We would need at least \$70,000. I prayed, "God, I need you to help out with this because I can't fix this." As I was thinking and praying, I received a phone call from the development director at HIS, Diana Fish. She asked if I was sitting down. Hoping for the best, I listened as she told me that we had just received \$250,000 from a friend of HIS.

Diana had also been praying and said she felt impressed to reach out to a specific friend of HIS by sending an email with a detailed update on the project and sharing how God was blessing our work. A few days later, the person reached out to her saying, "I normally don't read emails from organizations because I receive so many, but your email captured my attention and I'd like to help." Shortly after, we received the gift of \$250,000.

### We believe in what you're doing

Two young people sent a letter with an anonymous donation of close to \$400. They said that they had been saving for the summer and wanted it to go toward the

triplex. They mentioned they wanted to do the same thing next summer. When I read this, it brought tears to my eyes.

For me, this whole project has been a walk of faith. God has, again and again, supplied funding and volunteers, just when we need them. It's a beautiful thing. I have just been amazed many times.



In January, Holbrook Indian School held an appreciation ceremony and house blessing to honor the dedication and hard work of Schafer and all the volunteers and friends who contributed their time, skills, and resources.

For an up-to-date status of the triplex project and to see photos of the project's progress over the years, visit the HIS Triplex project page at [HolbrookIndianSchool.org/triplex](http://HolbrookIndianSchool.org/triplex).

*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-seven 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@hissda.org](mailto:Development@hissda.org)  
[HolbrookIndianSchool.org](http://HolbrookIndianSchool.org)

## Taking God's Lead: Student Association President's Unexpected Pathway

Unexpected opportunities can turn the best-laid plans around. For La Sierra University's student association president, a chance to speak at the California State Capitol last fall opened potential possibilities he'd never imagined and hung a question mark over the path he'd charted.

Lawrence Steven Dorsey III, who goes by Steve, is a senior psychology major and religious studies minor and the president of the Student Association of La Sierra University, or SALSU. The progeny of Southern California Conference pastors of the same name, his father and grandfather, leadership and service run in his DNA. Aspirations to advocate for his fellow students emerged while serving as a SALSU freshman senator and materialized with Dorsey's election to lead the student association during his senior year. From this platform, he unexpectedly found himself in a position to speak on behalf of students around the state of California.

Following an invitation from university President Joy Fehr, Dorsey provided testimony before the California State Assembly Higher Education Committee on Nov. 3, 2021. He delivered his talk, centered on the present equity gap in higher education, during an informational hearing on the post-pandemic future of the state's colleges and universities. The university is a member of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), and Dorsey appeared along with AICCU's vice president for government relations, who served on a committee panel discussing the pandemic's impact.

"When President Fehr extended me the opportunity, I did not comprehend the scope of what I would be doing," Dorsey said. "Testifying at the state capitol was one of the more formative experiences of my life. Testifying on behalf of La Sierra and students of California showed me the significance of using your voice, but more importantly, being ready to stride when God opens a door."

Following the hearing, several assembly members encouraged Dorsey to apply for the California State Fellows program, which involves serving full-time



PHOTO: NATAN VIGNA

**Lawrence Steven Dorsey III is president of the Student Association of La Sierra University.**

as a legislative staff member for 11 months. Dorsey submitted the application and will be interviewed in February. A decision is expected in March. In the meantime, he has applied to graduate programs for clinical psychology, the career path he had previously mapped out. "At its core, this fellowship could represent a monumental step in a possible political career, which I did not expect but am ready to embrace," Dorsey said. "It will be exciting to see which door God opens."

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*By Darla Martin Tucker*



## PUC Biology Students Partner with Elmshaven to Create Educational Arboretum Experience on Historical Property of Ellen G. White

Students in the Department of Biology at Pacific Union College recently partnered with Elmshaven to create an educational arboretum experience through identifying, measuring, and mapping the large collection of trees on the five-acre property.

Elmshaven, the historical home of Ellen G. White, is located near the Napa Valley city of St. Helena and hosts many tours and visitors annually. White named the property for the number of elm trees that once graced its landscape. Currently, an estimated 200 trees of around 50 varieties are growing at Elmshaven. According to Elmshaven manager Abner Castanon, at least two trees still on the grounds were alive when White lived there. Although he is familiar with the trees on the property, he hasn't been able to give the exact number, variety, or name to the many interested visitors.

"This is a wonderful project," Castanon said. "Having this information, I can be of better service to visitors who come and ask these questions; knowing the trees will make me a better caretaker and tour guide."

In early December 2021, initial field work had been completed, including mapping out the property via a GPS program and naming the trees and their locations. One of the project goals is to establish identifying markers by each tree, supplemented by an informational brochure for visitors. The project is set to be completed by spring or summer of this year.

Dave Yancey, who calls himself a passionate lover God's nature, was the catalyst behind the project after wondering about one of the Elmshaven trees. Several months ago, he contacted the Elmshaven managers,



including Castanon, and the chair of PUC's Biology Department, Aimee Wyrick, with the idea.

"I must say, the joy of working with the PUC students has been unequalled," Yancey said. "These young people are all stars in my book. It was really Aimee and her students who are the example of real-life learning and the joy of giving back to historical Elmshaven, where people from all over the world come to visit the home and property of one of the most honored figures in the Adventist church."

Wyrick said PUC's many departments, like the Biology Department, provide opportunities for students to expand their learning and skillsets beyond their major and minor studies.

"While the students in this project are predominantly pre-med, at PUC they get to do real-world projects that augment the traditional academic program and their preparations for medical school," Wyrick said.

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*By Staff Writer*



## Loma Linda University Health Leaders Celebrate Fifth Anniversary of San Bernardino Campus

**L**oma Linda University Health leaders and community members in December celebrated the fifth anniversary of its San Bernardino campus, home to a community clinic and a health professional college that serves healthcare and educational needs in the Inland Empire.

Administrators and supporters marked the anniversary with stories of some of the 700 patients served daily and 500 graduates of the college since the campus opened in 2016. The campus is part of Loma Linda University Health's commitment to serving those in need locally and is the latest step in the development of the SAC Health network, which was started by the university's medical students in the 1960s.

Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health, said the campus is more than a celebration of a building, but of people making a significant difference in the community.

"Loma Linda University Health believed that this new facility needed to be more than a clinic, because San Bernardino needs jobs and education just as much as healthcare," Hart said. "We designed this place in a way that provides healthcare to the region's underserved populations, while opening new educational opportunities for the many high school graduates who need new pathways to gain useful job skills."

The unique didactic environment at the San

Bernardino campus brings together San Manuel Gateway College entry-level learners with Loma Linda University graduate students and medical residents, all training together to gain clinical skills through the SAC Health clinic—thought to be the first model of its kind in the nation.

The college was established with the support of a \$10 million gift from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

Jacob Coin, executive adviser to the chairman at San Manuel, shared with attendees the unique history between the tribe and Loma Linda University Health. The longstanding relationship goes back more than 100 years, when doctors traveled on horseback to help the people of San Manuel deliver babies and provide other health care services.

"It is that kind of gesture, that kind of outreach, and that kind of service that the people at San Manuel have never forgotten," Coin said. "The tribe is going to continue to be a partner and continue to make commitments and become involved in the wonderful projects that you [Loma Linda] put together."

Testimonies by students such as Jimena Leon, shared at the five-year celebration, pay testament to the impact San Manuel Gateway College has had on people's lives. "God brought this program into my life at a time in need," she said. Leon has completed the Medical

Assistant program and is now certified to perform administrative and clinical duties.

*By Molly Smith and Ansel Oliver*

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

# Adventist Health Chaplains Meet Diverse Spiritual Needs of Patients and Caregivers

**C**haplains fill a unique professional role in the healthcare setting, especially at Adventist Health, where our mission is founded on the teachings of Jesus and is a contemporary expression of His healing ministry. Chaplains bear the torch of hope for patients and loved ones in their darkest and scariest times and offer a place for connection and care for a whole person—body, mind, and spirit.

“Traditional hospital chaplaincy was done by people who had some spiritual background,” said Leo Zakhariya, a clinical pastoral education supervisor for Adventist Health. “These caregivers were retired ministers, elders, deacons, or laypeople who believed in God, and they would come and pray with patients, read the Bible, sing, and support them.”

Today, chaplains do much more than provide religious rites, ceremonies, prayers, and wisdom. They are specially trained to bring together clinical considerations and pastoral conversations as part of the clinical care team. All chaplains at Adventist Health are required to complete rigorous Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) training.

“The mindset behind Clinical Pastoral Education is to develop a clinical identity alongside a pastoral identity,” Zakhariya said. “As a clinical chaplain, you analyze each interaction with patients until you develop a clinical mindset focused on best outcomes. This is what makes the difference between traditional chaplaincy and clinically informed chaplaincy.”

CPE encompasses competencies that include ethics, psychology and sociology, understanding and articulating research, facilitating family and group interactions following trauma, managing crises, and more. Each CPE unit involves 400 hours of classwork plus work in a clinical setting. CPE certification—which is required of all full-time chaplains within two years of being employed with Adventist Health—requires four units of CPE and 2,000 hours of clinical work.

Sandraneta Hall, a chaplain for Adventist Health, says the CPE program transformed how she relates to herself and then focused on improving how she connects with others.

“I love the mission of our hospital—living God’s love by inspiring health, wholeness, and hope—and CPE helped me to better fulfill that mission by developing the skill sets I need to connect with people very quickly,” Sandraneta said.

“I’m willing to take people wherever they come from,” said Sandraneta. “I’m here to be with them and walk beside them as they’re going through their challenges and their joys. My job is to love, and CPE has taught me—and is continuing to teach me—how to love in a way that I understand God loves me and wants me to love other people. He’s expanding my heart through this process. It is transformative.”

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*By Kirsten Cutler*



**Spiritual care for patients and family members provided by compassionate and highly trained chaplains is a vital component of whole-person care at Adventist Health.**

# Riverview Students Prepare for Baptism

The students in the Grades 2-4 class at Riverview Christian Academy (RCA) in Reno, Nevada, love studying their Bibles! Each morning the class reads together from the Scriptures, writing down questions and unfamiliar vocabulary in their Bible journals. Those questions that they are not able to get answered through class discussion and searching their Bibles are saved for Wednesday mornings. Each Wednesday morning, Damon Washington, associate pastor of the Riverview Adventist church, comes to provide answers to their questions through a lively, exciting discussion. It is one of the highlights of the week.

Last school year, several of the students from the Grades 2-4 class requested to be baptized. Pastor Washington came to the school regularly to prepare



**Dallan Lista, Dani Wyman, and Daniel Camacho declare their commitment to follow Jesus prior to their baptisms.**

those students for baptism. Three of the students—Dallan Lista, Daniel Camacho, and Dani Wyman—chose to be baptized at the end-of-the-year school program and graduation. It was an exciting event for all of the children in the school to witness, along with all of the families and friends in attendance!

Recalling this special event, Becky Phillips, parent of several RCA students, shared the following:

“This has to be one of the most beautiful, pure, and spiritual moments I have ever witnessed. At the year-end program, one of the students at Riverview Christian Academy was in the baptismal tank, ready to be baptized. The children, her classmates, were all sitting in the pews, but suddenly, they all rushed the stage and surrounded her as she gave her life to Christ. As she rose back above the water, they clapped and cheered for her. I got chills, and tears filled my eyes. It was completely spontaneous! What a precious sight. Thank you, Jesus, for these children and the hope they give us.”

Five additional RCA students have completed their baptismal preparation classes and are now awaiting their big day. Pastor Washington is currently studying with three others and many more are excitedly waiting for their turn.

It is such a joy to see the enthusiasm these students have for studying their Bibles and committing their lives to Jesus! The Holy Spirit is truly at work in Reno. Thank you for your prayers and support for Adventist education!

*By Mariann Beddoe*



PHOTO: SAMANTHA CAMACHO



**TOP LEFT: After their baptisms, Dani and Dallan exuberantly watch their friend Daniel Camacho make his public commitment. TOP RIGHT: Daniel Camacho is baptized by his father, Carlos Camacho, NUC president. BOTTOM LEFT: Pastor Damon Washington baptizes Dallan Lista. BOTTOM RIGHT: Daniel Camacho is baptized by his father, Elder Carlos Camacho, as his classmates, friends, and family look on.**

# The Least of These

Imagine having a friend that counts the number of hairs on your head every day of your life. *That's crazy, you think. Why bother?* You don't have to imagine such a friend, because Jesus is crazy about you! He tells us in Matthew 10:30, "The very hairs of your head are all numbered" (NKJV).

We lose hair every day from washing, combing, and brushing. As the number of hairs on our heads changes every day, Jesus has to do a daily recount, but He doesn't mind at all. In fact, He loves it!

However, Jesus does not love it when children lose their hair due to chemotherapy, radiation therapy, Alopecia (an autoimmune skin disease that attacks the hair follicles), Trichotillomania (an obsessive-compulsive and related disorder), burns, and other medical issues.

Wigs for Kids is a nonprofit organization with this mission statement: Helping children look themselves and live their lives. For 40 years, Wigs for Kids has been providing hair for children who've lost their own hair, at no cost to the children or their families.

For a young person, losing their hair is devastating because they desperately want to be accepted by their peers. Hair loss erodes a child's self-confidence. Wigs help the kids see themselves in the mirror as the children they were before their hair loss.

Meet Teeba and Nikki, two recipients of Wigs for Kids. Teeba, born in Iraq, survived a car bombing that killed her parents. Her scalp was so badly burned that there was no possibility of her hair ever growing back. Receiving new hair from Wigs for Kids transformed her world. Nine-year-old Nikki was a cancer patient who told her mom, "I can endure the pain of the disease and the treatment, but I can't endure the pain of losing my hair." The wig provided for Nikki gave her back her look and restored her self-esteem. With renewed confidence and hope, Nikki courageously underwent a



Nancy's waist-length hair before getting cut and after her haircut, getting ready to donate her ponytails.

bone marrow transplant and is cancer-free today.

Wasatch Hills church member Nancy Schafner wanted to share her blessing of a full head of healthy hair. Hearing about Wigs for Kids, she recently donated two 12-inch ponytails. When she asked if she could know who received her hair, she was told, "No. We're sorry. We aren't set up to track things that way. But you can write a note and put it with your hair."

That is exactly what Nancy did. She wrote, "I am so sorry you are sick. Remember Jesus loves you. He doesn't want anybody to be sick. He is coming back soon and wants to take you home to heaven where there will be no more pain or sickness. Pray to Him and He will give you strength and peace."

Jesus tells us in Matthew 25:40 that if you've done it to the least of these, you've done it to Him.

Please be encouraged to share what you can, when you can. You will be a blessing to others.

*By Nancy Meyer Schafner, as told to Michelle Ward*

## TAHOE CAMP MEETING

AUGUST 1ST - AUGUST 6TH, 2022



This year's Tahoe Camp Meeting theme is "Abiding in Christ"

Come spend the summer on the mountain top with Christ. Dedicate an undisturbed week to God and work for His Glory. Join us as we share His word and journey together in the footsteps of Christ. Fellowship with others as we experience the beauty of His creation, and be inspired to reflect on God's loving nature.

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION**  
530-541-2222

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1175 MELBA DR. SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA 96150  
CONTACT: TAHOECAMPMEETING@GMAIL.COM  
TAHOECAMPMEETING.COM  
FACEBOOK.COM/LTCMSDA



# Gym Night Engages East Bay Young People

**E**very Saturday night, about 80 teens and young adults from around the East Bay gather at Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy for gym night. After organizer Wayne Ogata offers an opening prayer, they play volleyball and socialize until midnight.

Ninety percent of those who attend are not connected to the Adventist church. They have heard about the gym night through friends and social media. Many play volleyball, but others come just to watch, chat, and play games such as ping pong and checkers.

A Pleasant Hill church member, Ogata works hard to ensure that everyone gets the opportunity to play in a positive environment. He began organizing gym nights because he loves volleyball, but he now realizes they make it easy to engage with young people on a consistent basis. “We want to make a place for them to hang out and enjoy each other’s company,” he said.

Ben Saechao, a young adult from Oakland, has been coming to the gym nights for years. “You go to a lot of other gyms, and it’s kind of intimidating for new players,” he said. “Wayne makes it clear that it’s all just

for fun—a way to socialize and meet new friends and have a good time.”

Ogata realizes that friendship is the best way to reach these young people. “One of them told me, ‘You don’t have to talk about church; the kids are going to ask you,’” he said. “We have kids showing up who haven’t been to church in years. You never know where it’s going to lead.”



# Online Convocations Provide Inspiration



**E**ngaging the Vision, Living the Dream,” the African American Ministries Virtual Convocation, took place during a weekend in October.

Wesley Knight, pastor of Revision church in Atlanta, served as the featured speaker. “Dr. Knight’s messages were awesome,” said Willie Johnson, then African American ministries coordinator/urban ministries director. “On Friday night, he spoke about our struggle to believe that Jesus can do the impossible in our lives. On Sabbath morning, he talked about the need for the church to focus on love. His sermons were timely and needed.”



# A Tribute to Yuli

*Yuliana Pandjaitan, K-12 math coordinator and high school math teacher at Napa Christian Campus of Education, passed away on Dec. 30, 2021. Pandjaitan earned a bachelor's degree from Walla Walla University in 2009 and a Master of Education from Pacific Union College in 2015. Before coming to Napa, she taught at Puget Sound Adventist Academy and Newbury Park Adventist Academy.*

**A**s Christian educators, we strive to instill wisdom, faith, and love—not only for God, but for all those around us. Few people, educators or otherwise, have had as significant an impact on those around them as Yuliana Pandjaitan, our dearly departed math teacher here at Napa Christian.

A walking, talking ball of luminosity, Yuli could improve your day just by being present, just by laughing or smiling or giving you one of her famous hugs. But in her short 34 years on this Earth, she did so much more than that. She was purposeful with her care, intentional with her love, and she went out of her way to make

sure that all those around her, especially her students, were successful in every aspect of their lives.

There will never be another Yuli, but that's OK. She did what she was put on this Earth to do. We here at Napa Christian were lucky enough to know her personally, but rest assured, you will feel the ripples of her influence for they are far reaching and eternal.

Rest easy, Yuli. We love you and will see you soon.

*By Justine Leonie, Principal  
Napa Christian Campus of Education*



NCC pastors, musical groups, and church members—as well as several special guests—contributed to a variety of relevant programs for adults, youth, and children. (Watch on YouTube: African American Ministries Virtual Convocation.)

**“Thrive in the New Normal with Christ,”** the ninth annual Asian/Pacific Convocation, took place on a Sabbath afternoon in November. Church members joined the event via Zoom or watched on YouTube.

The guest speaker was North American Division Executive Secretary Kyoshin Ahn. As with previous convocations, many church groups provided inspiring music. The program also featured messages from Asian/Pacific pastors, as well as reports from congregations.

“We received reports from the churches about how they have engaged their ministries and communities,” said Lim. “God has blessed the Asian/Pacific churches with increased tithes (45.5 percent) and numerous



baptisms in spite of the pandemic. We thanked God for these reports.” (Watch on YouTube: Asian Pacific Convocation Live Stream.)

*By Julie Lorenz*

# SECC Pastors Present at National Conference

Every December, pastors from all over the nation gather at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, for the annual Pastoral Leadership Evangelism Council (PELC). PELC is the oldest and largest continuous gathering of Seventh-day Adventist pastors in the world. This year, several voices from Southeastern California Conference (SECC) were featured.

The theme for this year's conference was "Embracing God's New, Discovering God's Next." An intentional effort was made to focus on fresh perspectives on the way the gospel is presented. Two voices that continue to share God's love in new and exciting ways are Kevin Wilson and Justin Khoe. Together, they did a virtual seminar on establishing an online presence.

Wilson, associate pastor at Oceanside church, has over 200,000 followers on TikTok (@crossculturechristian) where he's "bridging the gaps between your life and the good life, one cup of chai at a time." Wilson shared with attendees, "God has reminded me constantly that He is bigger than my theology, that He is also present outside of church walls. Maybe evangelism simply means showing up where God has already shown up."

God continues to show up on social media. With 4.5 billion users on social media, it is time for the church to show up too.

"From my perspective, it's imperative that churches learn how to engage faithfully on the internet or risk becoming extinct," said Khoe, a professional youtuber (@jkhoe), podcaster, and church consultant, who engages with over 100,000 subscribers on YouTube.



Wilson and Khoe presenting virtually at PELC.



Sovory, King and Brooks hosting online segment for PELC conference.

The seminar also featured collaborations with other Adventist social media influencers. "Those of us engaged in digital ministry are always looking for opportunities to collaborate because we recognize it's one of the most important things we could be doing," said Khoe.

Delroy Brooks, Baron Sovory, and Andrea King have also learned the value of collaboration. They have been collaborating for over a year. Together, they presented a seminar on collaborative ministry. Brooks pastors the Juniper Avenue church in Fontana. Sovory pastors the Valley Fellowship church in Rialto. Previously, King pastored the 16th Street church in San Bernardino. She is now the director for communications and media for SECC.

The three pastors collaborated in community service projects, youth and children's ministry initiatives, sermon series, and a weekly online prayer service called "Breakthrough Live." In their seminar, they shared ways to collaborate and showed how collaboration is a vital component needed to take ministry to the next level.

"We go further faster when we collaborate together," said Sovory. "Let's work together to accomplish greater good in our churches. We're all working towards the same goal, which is building the kingdom of God—not building *my* kingdom but building *the* kingdom."

By Andrea King





LEFT: School and conference officials cut ribbon at the Mesa Grande Academy Children's Center. TOP: La Sierra University president, SECC officers, Riverside city representatives, and La Sierra staff celebrate after ribbon cutting.

## Growth in the SECC: Conference Opens Two New Preschools

Despite the difficulties presented during the pandemic, this fall Southeastern California Conference (SECC) opened two new children's centers: one operated by Mesa Grande Academy (MGA) and the other on the campus of La Sierra Academy (LSA).

In late 2020, an MGA parent approached the principal about preschool facilities where she had been working, located just a mile down the road. The school was not going to be able to reopen following their closure during the pandemic, and MGA was welcome to any of the supplies there. They ended up renting the facility as-is, since it was already set up and ready for children.

"Creating a school this year had both its challenges and successes," admitted Kendra Woodcock, director of Mesa Grande Academy Children's Center (MGACC). "Ultimately though, being able to create a program that is determined to help students grow and develop through Christ has been an awesome experience."

When a local preschool closed, SECC and La Sierra University partnered with LSA to make La Sierra Academy Children's Center (LSACC) a reality. The hope is that LSACC will eventually become a lab school for the university.

"I love the families and the children we have here," said Maritza Arguello, LSACC director. "It is an absolute blessing to be able to be a part of their lives and build those relationships with the children and the parents."

Arguello's vision for LSACC is focused on growth,

including expansion of the center, eventually enabling them to accept infants and children through age five. Currently they have 30 students of the 60 for which they are licensed.

"Our goal is to create an environment where children can discover God's love," she said. "Not just through stories and songs but through the way we interact with them."

MGACC currently has 23 students and is licensed for 50. Woodcock said their goals also focus on growth, and this can take a variety of forms.

"We want everyone—from the youngest student to the most experienced teacher—at our center to grow in God's love," she said, "whether this be the growth and development of our students, of the size of our center, or personal growth."

Datha Tickner, superintendent of schools for SECC, points out that children's centers across SECC are not meant to serve only the Adventist population. With 80 percent of students being non-Adventist, these centers provide an opportunity to serve and witness to the greater communities in which they are located.

"These children's centers are a wonderful way to connect with our neighbors who are looking for faith-based Christian preschools where they trust the teachers to provide a safe environment," she said. "We want these centers to continue to serve their communities long into the future."

*By Becky St. Clair*

# Youth Pastor Uses Gaming Ministry for Relationship Building and Sharing the Gospel

**I**f I can't get the young people to come here, I want to go to them," said Kenneth Grimes, youth pastor at Hacienda Heights church.

In 2018, Grimes started an online video gaming ministry via Twitch, a video livestreaming service where people come together to chat and interact in real time. Grimes brought the idea to Brett Poynter, senior pastor of Hacienda Heights church at the time and current senior pastor of Temple City church. After prayer and consideration, this unique ministry began to take shape.

"The essence of this ministry is to reach people and share Christ," said Grimes. "I've learned how to share Christ in non-traditional spaces, and it's helped me better understand this quote from Ellen White: 'Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow me'" (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 143)."

Now, Jeff Rosenthal, senior pastor of Hacienda Heights, continues to support this ministry. "Pastor Rosenthal has encouraged and challenged me to continue to preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words," Grimes said. "He believes that good relationships with people may start with gaming but can blossom into a love relationship with Christ when they see how blessed we are."

This relationship-building ministry has brought the youth and young adults at Hacienda Heights closer to each other. "The gaming ministry has allowed me to fellowship with my brothers in Christ virtually," said Christian Ochoa, a young adult at Hacienda Heights. "During the pandemic, and even when I was on lockdown because I had gotten sick, I was still able to spend time with the youth of my church."

The ministry has also allowed Grimes to build relationships with people who otherwise may not have

stepped foot inside a church or opened their hearts to the gospel of Jesus Christ. When Grimes was testing new technology equipment to use for Hacienda Heights' livestream worship services, he shared a sermon on his own Twitch channel. He soon received comments from followers interested in learning more about Jesus and the Adventist faith, which resulted in occasional Friday night vespers held on his Twitch channel. "I started getting questions like, 'What is the Sabbath?' or 'What is vespers?' or 'I saw online you

have 28 fundamental beliefs. What does that mean?'" Grimes said. "I pray for questions like that. It allows me to stay in touch with people and allows them to grow in Christ with the time and space a physical church may not allow."

"I'm not introducing people to the games; these games are where God's people are at," Grimes added. "I believe it's our calling as God's people to sometimes go to a place where we feel uncomfortable in order to achieve His mission."

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By Araya Moss



**A championship belt the youth presented to Grimes commemorating his accomplishments as a youth leader and gamer.**



**Pastor Grimes' streaming set-up in his office at Hacienda Heights church.**

# Hawthorne Church Celebrates 100 Years of Faithful Ministry

Last December, Hawthorne church celebrated its milestone centennial with a weekend of reflection, reunion, and looking toward the future.

Friday evening's vespers was organized by Hawthorne's youth. The night was filled with music and testimonies, concluding

with a message from Benjamin Del Pozo, current senior pastor at White Memorial church and a former associate pastor of Hawthorne (1995-1998).

Sabbath's celebration welcomed former pastors and members, representatives from the Southern California Conference (SCC), and members from Los Angeles Tongan church, whose own ministry grew from Hawthorne church.

Velino A. Salazar, SCC president, congratulated the congregation on behalf of the SCC executive officers. "It's a very important milestone for the present generation and the future generation," acknowledged Salazar. He presented a letter to the congregation reflecting on their accomplishments and reaffirming their commitment to sharing the good news of salvation with the community.

Danny Chan, SCC Los Angeles Metro Region director, also in attendance, recognized the day's significance. "It's a symbol of all the hearts and lives that have been transformed as a result of the ministry that's happened inside and outside of these walls," said Chan, who presented the congregation with a gift of \$10,000 for ministry.

A special dedication video was created by Felicia Tonga Taimi, a former member of Hawthorne now living in Michigan. The presentation told of Hawthorne church's history, beginning with the four Sabbath-keeping families who founded the church in Lawndale in 1921.

Hawthorne church faced many trials in its history, such as multiple relocations, a potential closure in 1934 after a large group of its members moved, and a fire



Tonga (front center) is ordained as a deacon.

that destroyed the sanctuary in 1969—to name a few. Yet, the members' faithfulness has seen the church through challenges—and victories—during the last 100 years.

"Let us hasten the coming of the Lord by continuing the mission that was planted in the hearts of the few families that began the building of this

church," said Taimi at the video's conclusion.

Keith Hassinger, interim pastor who retired in 2016 after pastoring Hawthorne for 13 years, shared how the members' willingness to take their stand as servants has contributed to Hawthorne's longevity. "For this church to continue to grow," said Hassinger, "it will take servants for the next 100 years." Highlighting Hawthorne's spirit of servant leadership, Lasalo Tonga was ordained as a deacon during the divine service.

The celebratory weekend concluded with a message from Roger Beltran, pastor in the Oregon Conference and former senior pastor of Hawthorne (1992-1999), and a "singspiration" concert featuring music groups from different churches.

"Coming to these 100 years, we thank God for all the people who have built up Hawthorne," said Setaleki Fehoko, first elder. "The Lord has blessed us."

By Araya Moss



Del Pozo begins the celebratory weekend with a message at Friday night vespers.

PHOTOS: HAWTHORNE CHURCH FACEBOOK

# Calendar

## Central California Conference

**Sharing Jesus** is easier than you think. Training is coming to a church near you; come find out how you can share Jesus. Meetings are from 4-6 p.m. as follows: Feb. 5 at Arroyo Grande; Feb. 12 at Ceres; Feb. 19 at Bakersfield Central; Feb. 26 at Visalia; March 5 at Mountain View Central; March 12 at San Francisco; March 19 at Monterey Bay Academy; March 26 at Fresno Central. Go to [www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com](http://www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com) for church addresses and directions.

**Zooming with Young Adults:** Stay connected with the Central California Conference Young Adult Department

## Advertising

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

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### Classified Rates

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### 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.  
March: February 7 • April: March 7

### 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).

ministry and Zoomers via WhatsApp: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EQzirfkAtCt5zYqx6dW6No> via Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1394323847488372/> via Instagram: @cccyoungeadults\_

**Check the Events page** online at [www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com](http://www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com) for all the updates. Many events and outreaches are now being virtually presented or streamed online.

## La Sierra University

**Centennial Celebrations new launch date.** The launch for La Sierra University's centennial celebrations has been re-scheduled to Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, with the unveiling of a new campus sculpture. Homecoming 2022 on April 29 and 30 will focus on the university's 100th year, and a Centennial Gala is planned for October 3. Visit <https://lasierra.edu/centennial/>.

**La Sierra to present *Die Fledermaus* opera.** La Sierra University's opera program will present a production of *Die Fledermaus*, an operetta by Johann Strauss II. The performance will take place in Hole Memorial Auditorium on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 27 at 3 p.m. Tickets and protocol: <https://www.itickets.com>, email [music@lasierra.edu](mailto:music@lasierra.edu) or call 951-785-2036.

## Northern California Conference

**Freshman/Sophomore Retreat** (Feb. 4-6) Pacific Union



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**Online Marriage Retreat in Spanish** (Feb. 11-12) Friday, 7-9 p.m., Sabbath 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; 5-6:30 p.m. Watch on Facebook or YouTube: NCC Hispanic Ministries.

**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)

## Classified

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**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.

**Adventist realtor** serving North Georgia and Southeast Tennessee. If you want to buy land or a home in this beautiful area, call me. Pierre @ Remax REC 423-987-0831 (cell) or 423-664-6644 (office).

**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.

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### Employment

**Central California Conference is seeking a full-time Administrative Assistant in the president's office.** Responsibilities include strong computer (MS Office) skills; must be accurate, detailed, and efficient in data entry, processing requests, and setting up events. This person must also be courteous in dealing with

## Newsdesk Online



The regular section of Newsdesk in the *Recorder* is available online at: [sda.faith/pacificnewsdesk](http://sda.faith/pacificnewsdesk)

### Women's Retreat 2022 Nevada-Utah Conference





## You Are Enough

### March 4-6

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**Yaqueline Tello**  
Psychologist and Speaker in Ruta de Vida.



**Tamyra Horst**  
Pennsylvania Conference Women's and Family Ministries Director.

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external and internal customers. Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in regular standing and maintain consistent, active church attendance. Send cover letter, application, and résumé to Human Resources. By e-mail: lbarron@cccsda.org or mail 2820 Willow Ave., Clovis, CA 93612. Position open until filled. Link for application: <https://www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com/human-resources>.

**Central California Conference is seeking a year-round part-time Registration Specialist for the camp meeting registration office.** Responsibilities include keeping track of site registrants and deadline for same-site privileges, receiving payments and registrations, along with coordinating with phone calls and emails with customers. Must be courteous in dealing with external and internal customers. Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in regular standing and maintain consistent, active church attendance. Send cover letter, application, and résumé to Human Resources. By e-mail: lbarron@cccsda.org or mail 2820 Willow Ave., Clovis, CA 93612. Position open until filled. Link for application: <https://www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com/human-resources>.

**Looking for someone in love with Jesus to shepherd** a church of about 70 members in southern Nevada. You will ideally have some preaching experience and be comfortable fitting into a theologically conservative congregation. Being a “people person”—maintaining positive relationships with members of the church and community—is important. Hours, schedule, and salary to be negotiated. Please call Brissa Castillo at 775-525-2012 or email at [bcastillo@nevadautah.org](mailto:bcastillo@nevadautah.org).

**Sonora Community Estates is seeking a full-time Administrative Assistant.** Sonora Community Estates is an over-55 senior residential community in Sonora, Calif. Must have strong skills in computers, organization, customer service, and business writing. Must be able to multi-task in a very busy environment. There is some

flexibility of hours. Successful candidate participates in planning four social events per year. Bilingual Spanish/English preferred. A college degree or previous work experience in real estate and property management preferred. Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in regular standing and maintain consistent, active church attendance. Send cover letter, application, and résumé to Human Resources. By e-mail: lbarron@cccsda.org or mail 2820 Willow Ave., Clovis, CA 93612. Position open until filled. Link for application: <https://www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com/human-resources>.

**Sonora Community Estates is seeking a full-time Maintenance Staff.** Sonora Community Estates is an over-55 senior residential community in Sonora, Calif. The successful candidate will be proficient in grounds care, to include installation and maintenance of underground sprinkler systems; safe knowledge of power machines and tools; experience with carpentry, plumbing, electrical, painting, and practical maintenance skills. Must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in regular standing and maintain consistent, active church attendance. Send cover letter, application, and résumé to Human Resources. By e-mail: lbarron@cccsda.org or mail 2820 Willow Ave., Clovis, CA 93612. Position open until filled. Link for application: <https://www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com/human-resources>.

**Clinical Nurses at Loma Linda University Health –** Hiring on all units for all shifts – 20k sign-on bonus with 2 years of recent, relevant experience for all bedside RN positions! Join us as we continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ to make man whole! <https://bit.ly/32CM8Gt>

**Food Service Workers at Loma Linda University Health –** The Food Service Worker performs a variety of duties relating to food services and catering. Aids in overall cleanliness and sanitation of kitchen area. Maintains proper food handling, sanitation, and safety standards. Transports food and equipment to various sites around the campus. Requires a valid driver's license and a Food Handlers Certificate from the San Bernardino County Department of Environmental Health. Apply at <https://bit.ly/3zjw1JP>

**Faculty in Loma Linda University School of Public Health – Healthcare Finance and Economics –** Full-time faculty member for the Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA) program with experience in financial management, economics, and/or quantitative methods. Instructs 4-6 graduate level courses per year (e.g., Healthcare Economics, Finance, Quantitative Methods in Healthcare Management, and Accounting) using both face-to-face and online modalities. Produce research or practice activities that are industry-related and align with the school's strategic focus areas. Advise

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

**Pacific Union College is seeking a full-time Housing Coordinator.** Major duties include coordination of PUC faculty/staff housing, moving arrangements, and monitoring of commercial leases/master leases and utility charges for all College-managed leases. Must be customer-service oriented and able to multi-task with numerous projects. Must be able to maintain organization and be team player. Salary position. For more information or to apply, please call Human Resources at 707-965-6231 or visit our website at [www.PUC.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings](http://www.PUC.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings).

**Pacific Union College is seeking a full-time Associate Vice President of Finance for Financial Administration.** Major duties include provision of leadership and guidance for all financial aspects of PUC and Howell Mountain Enterprises, ability to develop and implement long- and short-term financial goals consistent with the mission of PUC, budget and balance analysis, and development of strategic tools and systems for critical financial and operational goals. Also must work in conjunction with the Vice President of Financial Administration in engaging the Board of Directors and other members of cabinet in matters of finance, auditing, and investment issues. For more information or to apply, please call Human Resources at 707-965-6231 or visit our website at [www.PUC.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings](http://www.PUC.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings).

**Looking for certified teachers to join us in Christian online education** (grades 1-12). Work part-time from home tutoring "live" in a Zoom environment. If interested, please call us at 817-645-0895.

**IMPACT HOPE is seeking an enthusiastic Development Director** with expertise in fundraising and major donor relationship-building, who can bring creativity and resourcefulness to the fundraising operations of a mission-driven nonprofit that supports refugee youth in Rwanda. Email [liz@impact-hope.org](mailto:liz@impact-hope.org). [Impact-hope.org](http://Impact-hope.org)

## Real Estate

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**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.

**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-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](mailto:health.by.choice.120@gmail.com), or text me at 530-353-5561.

**Southern Oregon, country setting,** 3 acres, easy I-5 access. Modified A-Frame, 3-bdrm, 3-bath, ample living areas, grapes, trees, pool, outbuildings, well, septic. SDA church and school, close to Milo Adventist Academy. 541-430-2710.

**Office building for lease in Nashville.** Kentucky-Tennessee Conference is leasing a free-standing building ideal for medical, dentistry, or counseling practices. The building was recently renovated and

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measures 3,000 square feet. It is located immediately off the interstate exit in a highly trafficked upscale commercial area, and it is only 30 minutes from Nashville—a growing city with a booming economy. For more information, contact Terri Jenks at 615-859-1391 ext.1006.

**Costa Rica country property with two homes on 16 acres.** Several water sources, including a year-round creek, spring, and a well. More than 100 fruit trees, 2 greenhouses, and many additional structures. \$595,000. 760-305-9929.

## For Sale

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**SDA Physical Therapist in western WA selling practice.** Small (1.5 FTE) but with growth potential, if motivated. Longstanding, solid reputation. Broad referral base. Consistently profitable (even through COVID). Turn-key business. Training provided. Local K-12 SDA school and active SDA church. Small town with mountains and ocean nearby. Inquire: [sdanwptclinic4sale@gmail.com](mailto:sdanwptclinic4sale@gmail.com).

**Piano for sale by owner:** \$29,999 or best offer. 1926 Steinway Model M 5'7" ebony with original ivory. Completely restored in 1990. 2005 appraisal for \$25,000. Looks brand new. Please call 209-931-9619. Email: [bhbmbm1959@gmail.com](mailto:bhbmbm1959@gmail.com).

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:schultz@crestviewcable.com).

**Angwin home:** Five-bedroom, three-bathroom vacation home 2 miles from PUC. Fully furnished, large kitchen, dining room, living room, family room, piano, vineyard views, WiFi, washer and dryer, BBQ, sleeps 10. Call for rates, photos, and reservations: 415-539 7980 or email [nroger1965@gmail.com](mailto:nroger1965@gmail.com).

**Israel and Jordan Jesus Tour** April 24-May 6, 2022, with Dr. Carl Cosaert of Walla Walla University. Rediscover the power of the life of Jesus as we visit Galilee, Capernaum, Caesarea, Petra, Jerusalem, and more. For more information on this and other upcoming tours to Egypt, Greece, Turkey, and China, visit [www.adventtours.org](http://www.adventtours.org) or email [info@adventtours.org](mailto:info@adventtours.org).

**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](mailto:tabghatours@gmail.com) or [facebook.com/TabghaTours](https://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!"

## Save the Date

**Mountain View Academy Alumni Weekend,** April 9, 2022. Join us to worship our amazing God and to celebrate our alumni. Call MVA office at 650-336-1650, visit our Facebook alumni group or check out our website for updates [www.mountainviewacademy.org](http://www.mountainviewacademy.org)

## At Rest

**Bradley, Walter H.** – b. Nov. 6, 1951, Glendale, Calif.; d. Sept. 25, 2021, Diamond Springs, Calif. Survivors: wife, Kristi; daughter, Shelli; sister, Karen Wallace.

He was very active in church work at Rancho Cordova and Shingle Springs churches. He loved to talk about the second coming of Jesus.

**Casey, Christine Ariola** – b. March 19, 1947, Santa Cruz, Calif.; d. Sept. 4, 2018, Idaho Falls, Idaho. Survivors:

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husband, Mike; son, Chuck; mother, Cristina Brackett; brothers, Mario Aguillon, Norman Aguillon; sisters, Aileen Heitz, Esther White, Selesa Webster. Christine was a secretary for the Central California Conference. She was also an administrator and instructor at Modesto Adventist Academy.

**Cendejas, Humberto Manuel** – b. March 26, 1935, Pittsburg, Calif.; d. Dec. 19, 2021, Lafayette, Calif. Survivors: wife, Roxana; son, Bert Edward; daughters, Sandra, Caroline; sister, Patricia; 10 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Bert was a deeply dedicated elder of the Antioch church. He was a decades-long volunteer with Prison Ministries.

**DeWitt, Eldon Franklin** – b. July 22, 1925, Salem, Mo.; d. Dec. 17, 2021, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: wife, Ila; daughter, Asenath Rice; one grandchild.

**Dunken, Raymond Neil** – b. Aug. 6, 1931, Exeter, Calif.; d. Nov. 6, 2021, Napa, Calif. Survivors: son, Dan; daughters, Rosetta Cramer, Jeanine Opp, Lynn Spencer-Smith; sister, Carol Manuel; 11 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren.

**Dunken, Violet Marie** – b. April 18, 1933, Arkansas; d. Sept. 23, 2021, Santa Rosa, Calif.; Survivors: son, Dan; daughters, Rosetta Cramer, Jeanine Opp, Lynn Spencer-Smith; 11 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren.

**Fox, Lloyd Paul** – b. Nov. 19, 1933, Paradise, Calif.; d. Dec. 31, 2021, Napa, Calif. Survivors: wife, Linda Sue; sons, Larry Fox, Barry Fox, Seth Walker, James Fox; daughters, Wanda Pobursky, Edith MacDonneil; 15 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Retired psychiatric technician, Napa State Hospital; journeyman painter, Mare Island Naval Shipyard; a loyal loving husband and father with a love for his pets; and a man with a love for God.

**Frank, Paulette** – b. July 9, 1943, Marlow, Okla.; d. Oct. 3, 2021, Ceres, Calif. Survivors: sons, Wayne Jr., James; daughters, Rhonda Mauro, Shelling Hudson, Kimberley Bejaran; 15 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren.

**Grover, JoAnn** – b. June 14, 1932, Kansas City, Mo.; d. July 31, 2021, Sugarland, Texas. Survivors: four children; 14 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Born on Flag Day and always considered it a special holiday. JoAnn was active in the real estate industry in Oroville. She passed in the home of her daughter in Texas.

**Hill, Esther Juarros** – b. Dec. 19, 1926, Hedley, Texas; d. Aug. 12, 2021, Grand Terrace, Calif. Survivors: son, Ron M. Hill; sister, Ruth Cortez.

**Jenkins, Walter W.** – b. Jan. 16, 1932, Ohio; d. Dec. 2, 2021, Oakhurst, Calif. Survivors: Ramona Jenkins-Guzman (Edward); two grandchildren.

**Krpalek, Anne** – b. Sept. 18, 1929, Navsi, Czechoslovakia; d. Dec. 31, 2021, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Donald; daughters, Cheryl Moushon, Datha Tickner; sister, Mary Jane Rasnic; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

**Morris, Mark Gerald** – b. Oct. 10, 1963, San Jose, Calif.; d. Sept. 23, 2021, Chico, Calif. Survivors: father, Marvin; mother, Anne; brother, David Hildebrandt; sister, Kim Hatten; foster son, Daniel Byington.

**Olsen, Francine** – b. June 23, 1921, Hot Springs, S.D.; d. Oct. 30, 2021, Plains, Mont. Survivors: son, Norman Olsen Jr.; daughter, Arlene Overbeck; eight grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren.

**Pfaff, Alice** – b. May 28, 1928, Sifton, Wash.; d. Nov. 21, 2021, Eureka, Calif. Survivors: son, Daryl; daughter, Darlene Lindberg; sister, Tony Pickelsimer.

**Powers, John Thomas** – b. May 3, 1943, Natchez, Miss.; d. Feb. 27, 2021, Redding, Calif. Survivors: wife, Verla; son, Michael; daughter, Kathy Winthrow; four grandchildren. John attended Walla Walla University and worked as mental health counselor. After retiring, he enjoyed traveling in his motorhome and reading.

**Proctor-Tweedy, Jeanie Marie** – b. Jan. 4, 1936, Tacoma, Wash.; d. Nov. 19, 2021, Oakdale, Calif. Survivors: husband,

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## Recorder Membership

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Joseph Tweedy; children, Shona Macomber, David Proctor, Shelley Sordo; 21 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren. Jeanie walked with God all her life. She loved the Adventist church, did many Maranatha projects all around the world, was a dedicated mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

**Rose, Ruth** – b. Oct. 26, 1927, San Bernardino, Calif.; d. Nov. 30, 2021, Forest Grove, Ore. Survivors: husband, Milton; son, Frederick; daughters, Laura Nelson, Margaret Roth; nine grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren. Volunteered with Mission Church Builders.

**Schultz, Anita Pearson** – b. Jan. 5, 1942, Portland, Ore.; d. Nov. 26, 2021, Vancouver, Wash. Survivors: husband, Mark; son, Monty; daughter, Angie Schultz Wan; two grandchildren.

**Shea, Doris** – b. Dec. 14, 1930, Altadena, Calif.; d. Oct. 28, 2021, Bellflower, Calif. Survivors: husband, James; sons, Craig, Perry; daughter, Colleen; six grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.

**Sheldon, Teddy Howard** – b. Jan. 20, 1924, Fresno, Calif.; d. Aug. 17, 2021, Clovis, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Debra Schwab; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**Shook, Jacqueline** – b. Feb. 13, 1978, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Nov. 12, 2021, Yucaipa, Calif. Survivors: husband, Tyler; son, Joel.

**Stewart, James** – b. Oct. 23, 1955, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Nov. 14, 2021, Roseville, Calif. Survivors: sister, Suzanne (Stewart) Carle; brother, Larry Stewart. He attended school in Loma Linda grades K-12, graduating in the class of 1974. He had many friends in the Loma Linda church area and also had friends and family in the Paradise church.

**Stokos, James** – b. Oct. 9, 1928, Lincoln, Neb.; d. Nov. 8, 2021, San Diego, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Julie, Teresa; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**Szumski, Edward** – b. Nov. 12, 1949, Bay Village, Ohio; d. Nov. 18, 2021, San Bernardino, Calif.; Survivors: wife, Bonnie; son, Eddie; daughter, Rebecca Kauffman.

**Wallace, G. Carleton** – b. June 19, 1930, Madison, Tenn.; d. Nov. 21, 2021, Murrieta, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Pique' Marsh, Pamela Bishop; sister, Lou Ann Wallace-Strachan; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. He graduated LLUMC in class of 1956, specializing in Orthopedic Surgery in Corona, Calif. From 1967-2015, he taught anatomy at LLUMC, active in Alumni Assn., the Centennial Building Project, and member of Councilors.

## February 2022 Sunset Calendar

City/Location	FEB 4	FEB 11	FEB 18	FEB 25
Alturas	5:22	5:31	5:39	5:48
Angwin	5:35	5:43	5:51	5:58
Bakersfield	5:27	5:34	5:41	5:47
Calexico	5:17	5:24	5:30	5:36
Chico	5:30	5:39	5:47	5:55
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	5:22	5:29	5:39	5:43
Eureka	5:38	5:46	5:55	6:03
Four Corners [E]	5:44	5:52	5:59	6:06
Fresno	5:28	5:35	5:42	5:49
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	5:58	6:05	6:13	6:19
Half Dome	5:25	5:33	5:40	5:47
Hilo	6:14	6:18	6:21	6:24
Holbrook	5:23	5:32	5:40	5:49
Honolulu	6:23	6:27	6:31	6:34
Joshua Tree	5:18	5:25	5:31	5:38
Lake Tahoe	5:24	5:32	5:40	5:48
Las Vegas	5:10	5:17	5:25	5:31
Lodi-Stockton	5:31	5:39	5:47	5:54
Loma Linda	5:22	5:29	5:35	5:42
Los Angeles	5:26	5:33	5:39	5:46
McDermitt [N]	5:09	5:18	5:27	5:36
Moab	5:43	5:51	5:59	6:07
Monterey Bay	5:36	5:44	5:51	5:58
Mt. Whitney	5:23	5:30	5:36	5:42
Napa	5:35	5:43	5:50	5:58
Nogales [S]	6:03	6:09	6:15	6:21
Oakland	5:36	5:43	5:51	5:58
Paradise, CA	5:29	5:38	5:46	5:54
Phoenix	6:02	6:09	6:15	6:21
Pu'uwaiaiu, Ni'ihau [W]	6:17	6:21	6:24	6:27
Reno	5:23	5:31	5:39	5:47
Riverside	5:23	5:30	5:36	5:42
Sacramento	5:31	5:39	5:47	5:54
Salt Lake City	5:49	5:57	6:06	6:14
San Diego	5:24	5:30	5:36	5:42
San Francisco	5:36	5:44	5:52	5:59
San Jose	5:35	5:43	5:50	5:57
Santa Rosa	5:36	5:44	5:52	5:59
Sunset Beach	5:36	5:42	5:50	5:57
Thousand Oaks	5:28	5:35	5:42	5:48
Tucson	6:00	6:06	6:12	6:18

[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

## March 2022 Sunset Calendar

City/Location	MAR 4	MAR 11	MAR 18	MAR 25
Alturas	5:56	6:04	7:12	7:20
Angwin	6:06	6:13	7:19	7:26
Bakersfield	5:54	6:00	7:06	7:12
Calexico	5:41	5:47	6:52	6:57
Chico	6:02	6:10	7:17	7:24
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	5:45	5:51	6:57	7:03
Eureka	6:11	6:19	7:26	7:34
Four Corners [E]	6:13	6:19	7:26	7:32
Fresno	5:56	6:03	7:09	7:15
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	6:26	6:32	6:38	6:44
Half Dome	5:54	6:01	7:08	7:14
Hilo	6:26	6:28	6:30	6:32
Holbrook	6:19	6:25	6:30	6:36
Honolulu	6:36	6:39	6:41	6:43
Joshua Tree	5:44	5:49	6:55	7:00
Lake Tahoe	5:55	6:02	7:09	7:16
Las Vegas	5:38	5:44	6:50	6:56
Lodi-Stockton	6:01	6:08	7:15	7:21
Loma Linda	5:48	5:53	6:59	7:04
Los Angeles	5:52	5:57	7:03	7:08
McDermitt [N]	5:44	5:53	7:01	7:08
Moab	6:14	6:21	7:28	7:35
Monterey Bay	6:05	6:11	7:17	7:23
Mt. Whitney	5:50	5:57	7:03	7:09
Napa	6:05	6:12	7:19	7:25
Nogales [S]	6:24	6:29	6:34	6:38
Oakland	6:05	6:12	7:19	7:25
Paradise, CA	6:01	6:09	7:16	7:23
Phoenix	6:27	6:33	6:38	6:43
Pu'uwaiaiu, Ni'ihau [W]	6:29	6:32	6:34	6:35
Reno	5:54	6:02	7:09	7:16
Riverside	5:48	5:54	6:59	7:05
Sacramento	6:02	6:09	7:16	7:22
Salt Lake City	6:22	6:30	7:37	7:45
San Diego	5:48	5:53	6:58	7:03
San Francisco	6:06	6:13	7:19	7:26
San Jose	6:04	6:11	7:17	7:24
Santa Rosa	6:07	6:14	7:21	7:27
Sunset Beach	6:04	6:11	7:17	7:23
Thousand Oaks	5:54	6:00	7:05	7:10
Tucson	6:23	6:28	6:33	6:38

[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

# Adventist Church Leaders on COVID-19 Vaccination

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in consultation with the Health Ministries and Public Affairs and Religious Liberty departments of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, is convinced that the vaccination programs that are generally being carried out are important for the safety and health of our members and the larger community. Therefore, claims of religious liberty are not used appropriately in objecting to government mandates or employer programs designed to protect the health and safety of their communities.

**Official church statement, "Reaffirming the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Response to COVID-19," October 25, 2021.** • <https://bit.ly/3qAbw8K>

We advocate all of these practices to maintain a healthy immune system, and in the pandemic, even more is needed. Ellen White was not only an inspired conduit of health information much ahead of her time, but she modeled practical prevention in the face of the lethal disease in her era, smallpox, and took the immunization herself, as did those close to her.

**"COVID-19 Vaccines: Addressing Concerns, Offering Counsel."** • <https://bit.ly/3rtfqQc>

As an old public health doctor who has worked in vaccination programs for 50 years, I have seen the incredible benefit of vaccines. We have eliminated smallpox, largely stamped out polio, and controlled measles, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis A and B, and many other infectious diseases.... While there has been controversy around each of these in years past, they are all accepted now by the vast majority of people and have become required in this country for our children to attend school and health professionals to work in health care settings. Everyone has benefited from these vaccines.... Some believe this virus will continue to circulate through our society until everyone has either received the vaccine or had the infection. That would be a tragedy when we have such an effective tool and can avoid many needless deaths.

**"On Vaccine Mandates," Dr. Richard Hart, president of Loma Linda University Health.** • <https://bit.ly/3FEnnXQ>

"Studies keep showing that the vaccines are significantly effective to prevent severe disease, hospitalizations, and death... Together, we can stop COVID-19 suffering and deaths! Let's continue saving lives!"

**Dr. Carlos Casiano, professor of Microbiology, Molecular Genetics, and Medicine at Loma Linda University.** • <https://bit.ly/3FGjFWG>

"This vaccine brings hope of a return to normalcy, and we are grateful for the support of state and local partners as we take this next step and continue responding to the needs of our community."

**Brenda Kuhn, chief clinical officer for Kettering Adventist HealthCare.** • <https://bit.ly/3A8knBO>

The CDC has reported that COVID-19 vaccines authorized for emergency use by the FDA are safe and highly effective in reducing the spread of the virus and in decreasing the possibility of serious illness and hospitalization. We encourage and will facilitate vaccination on campus.

**Southwestern Adventist University.** • <https://bit.ly/3GDDXs9>

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