

PACIFIC UNION

MARCH 2022

Recorder



**Women
Advancing the
Gospel in Early
Adventism**

Kate Lindsay

Health Ministries Pioneer

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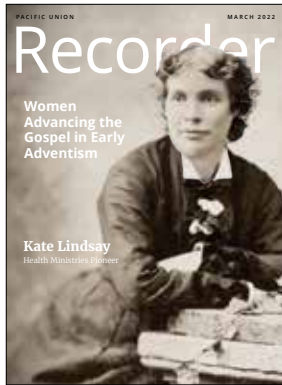
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Catharine “Kate” Lindsay was the first female Seventh-day Adventist physician and medical missionary. An educator, professor, and author, Lindsay was a leader in the development of the first Adventist school of nursing. Lindsay devoted nearly 50 years to working in Adventist sanitariums (Battle Creek, Claremont, Boulder) and nearly 40 years to teaching nursing

students at these institutions. In addition to her time and service to others, she also generously donated financially toward various needs. Lindsay was described as “a nurse as well as a physician [who] brought to this first school a richness of fundamental principles relative to both theory and the practical work needed by a nurse, so that as we view those early years we can but look upon Dr. Lindsay as a Florence Nightingale to this people. Indeed, she was inspired by the dynamic spirit of Florence Nightingale to devote her life to this work, and until the day of her death her heart was in the work of training medical missionary nurses.” During 1936, the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University) Board of Trustees, upon recommendation by their School of Nursing faculty, named the original girls’ dormitory built in Loma Linda in 1910 “Kate Lindsay Hall.”

What’s inside

- 4 Nurture for Spiritual Champions
- 8 Top Tier Leadership
- 12 The Joy of Acceptance
- 15 Women Advancing the Gospel in Early Adventism
- 18 Adventist Women Pioneers
- 20 Woman’s Place in the Gospel
- 24 Newsdesk
- 28 Arizona Conference
- 30 Central California Conference
- 34 Hawaii Conference
- 36 Holbrook Indian School
- 38 La Sierra University
- 39 Pacific Union College
- 40 Loma Linda University Health
- 41 Adventist Health
- 42 Nevada-Utah Conference
- 44 Northern California Conference
- 48 Southeastern California Conference
- 52 Southern California Conference
- 56 Community & Marketplace
- 62 Sunset Calendars

PACIFIC UNION

Recorder

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Publisher
Ray Tetz

Editor
Alberto Valenzuela

Assistant Editor
Connie Jeffery

Design/Layout
Stephanie Leal • Alberto Valenzuela

Printing
Pacific Press Publishing Association
www.pacificpress.com

Adventist Health
916-742-0429
Kim Strobel
strobelka@ah.org

Arizona
480-991-6777 ext 139
Jeff Rogers
jrogers@azconference.org

Central California
559-347-3194
Benjie Maxson
communication@cccsda.org

Hawaii
808-595-7591
Miki Akeo-Nelson
mnelson@hawaiiadsa.com

Holbrook Indian School
505-399-2885
Chevon Petgrave
cpetgrave@hissda.org

La Sierra University
951-785-2000
Darla Tucker
dmartint@lasierra.edu

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

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

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

Pacific Union College
707-965-6303
Haley Wesley
pr@puc.edu

Southeastern California
951-509-2258
Andrea King
andrea.king@seccsda.org

Southern California
818-546-8400
Lauren Lacson
Llacson@scsda.org

Editorial
Correspondents

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Nurture for Spiritual Cham





By Bradford C. Newton

“Papa, tell me a Freddy story.” So continues the breakfast tradition when our little granddaughter Macy comes to visit. Still in her pajamas and barely awake, she wiggles herself under a throw blanket next to me on the family room couch, and we begin the tale of Freddy the Squirrel. Our fictional friend, manufactured on a whim several years earlier, has adventures with a host of other buddies that live in the neighborhood. Other squirrels, of course, but also birds, raccoons, bats, and even a lizard. I’m amazed how she maintains the mental catalogue of all the character names between visits, along with their previous hijinks. It’s amazing how many adventures Freddy and friends find in the fruit trees, Italian Cypress, and backyard bushes along the freeway of wood fences around our block. But all’s well that ends well as Freddy learns about listening to his mom, being kind and honest with friends, and how to be a happy Simi Valley squirrel. Although Macy is getting older now, her younger sister, Chloe, is ready for more stories. Papa is happy to oblige.

What is it about little kids (and big kids, as well!) and good stories? The Creator has programmed our brains to respond to tales of uncertainty and adventure and to identify with heroes choosing the right path toward a satisfying ending. In fact, the greatest story ever told, which begins in Genesis and ends in Revelation, resonates with all these elements as the revelation of God’s actions in human history unfold. Here is a drama that never grows old in the telling and retelling.

Moses knew the power of story, and he reminded the nation of Israel in Deuteronomy chapters 10 and 11

Faith building comes from reading the Bible's stories, praying together about things that matter to children, and a dedicated time for family sharing about how God made a difference in the day.

about the power of their founding narrative. They received the command “to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul” (Deuteronomy 10:12, NKJV). In reminding them that their religion is not just on the surface, he said, “Circumcise...your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer” (verse 16). And then moving from the personal to the social, Moses speaks of a God that “administers justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing” (verse 18). Later in the Bible, these very words are taken up by the prophets and Jesus.

So, what does this have to do with telling stories? This is where I am so impressed by Moses' inspired wisdom. He looked at all those adult Israelites and said, “Know today that I do not speak with your children, who have not known and who have not seen” all that the Lord has done—I speak to you! You have been the eyewitness of God's works, so your loving response to Him with all your heart and souls is the right one (Deuteronomy 11). But Moses has a work for these parents and grandparents: “Lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up” (verses 18-19).

The powerful lesson of Moses for Israel is truly timeless. Parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles, along with adults everywhere in the church, are given a work from God to do. To grow the next generation of God's people of faith, and for that

faith to inhabit the hearts and minds of the next generation, we must work and plan for it.

Of course, we know that the work of changing the heart is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit. Genuine faith is not coerced, nor is love for God a matter of force. Many children feel compelled into conformity until they can escape the influence of parents and other external controls. Rebellion and rejection often result. Many a parent's heart breaks when children walk away from the family faith. Yet with God there is always hope! These precious children may appear to be “in a far country,” but they are not out of the sight of our loving Heavenly Father and His grace. The Holy Spirit still gently woos their consciences day by day, and only God knows the heart.

What can we do to fulfill the command of Moses in leading children to Jesus and nurturing them as grace-filled believers? Must it all be left to chance? Not at all, according to the excellent research done about faith development in children. In the compelling book by George Barna, *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*,¹ we read, “By age nine, most children have their spiritual moorings in place.” Throughout his book, Barna argues effectively for prioritizing the spiritual lives of children in home, church, and school as the path to anchor faith into their adult years. He makes the very persuasive case that doing this work also transforms the way we look at local church ministry. Rather than ministry to children being the last thing a nominating committee tries to fill (“Who will teach Cradle Roll Sabbath School?”), these churches are

integrating an intentional faith development ministry for children as a cornerstone of their ministry.

But we know it usually takes more than good church programs. The foundation of every child's faith is what happens at home. Faith building comes from reading the Bible's stories, praying together about things that matter to children, and a dedicated time for family sharing about how God made a difference in the day. It comes from seeing adults who live out an honest and growing faith at home. Being genuine, honest, and open to conversations creates a spiritual atmosphere of discipleship. And children like to do more than just talk. Doing a service project together and then returning home to talk about the spiritual meaning of the activity over a special meal links faith with action.

We are praying for young leaders in the Pacific Union Conference to be trained and prepared for service in God's church. It all starts with adults adopting God's ordained methods—teaching by word and deed what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We know from the research that children are wired by the Creator to be readily receptive to loving spiritual leadership. My brothers and sisters, let us take up the work before us and be prepared to praise God as we see our children and young people arise to be a generation of true spiritual champions for Jesus.

¹ George Barna, *Transforming Children in Spiritual Champions* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2014).

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



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TOP TIER Leadership



Things continually
change, but does
our leadership style
continue to be
the same?



By Alberto Valenzuela

I have been involved in church work all my adult life. I was a taskforce worker. As an intern in Southern California, I ran a VBS and day camp for an entire summer without having conducted either one before. I worked briefly as an associate pastor and as a pastor. I've worked in communication and public relations at all levels of the church.

And I've had the opportunity to work closely with many leaders, both inside and outside the church: GC presidents, division, union, and conference presidents, department directors, hospital presidents, school principals, teachers, pastors, Community Services directors, church elders, as well as community leaders. Through the years I have had the opportunity to observe many in leadership positions. I have also listened to my colleagues and church members as they shared their praise or frustrations regarding leadership attitudes and styles within the church.

I began working for the church in the late 1970s, and much has changed since. I have changed. But have our leadership styles changed? We've moved from the typewriter to the iPad, the desk phone to the smartphone, but are we still using the same strategies, the same methods, the same leadership style from last century? Are we changing continually as a church and yet somehow ignoring that and remaining the same in the way we lead?

I've noticed three things as I have worked for the church and interacted with leaders at various levels:

First: Having been placed in a leadership position, I need to be led by the Lord in order to be a more effective and worthy leader.

Second: Regardless of their leadership styles and attitudes, there is always something to learn by observing other leaders. This includes qualities worthy of emulation as well as behaviors to be avoided.

Third: We are God's hands and feet. My colleague likes to share the story of a man showing his garden to his friend. The friend remarked on how wonderfully God's creation was displayed in the garden, to which the man replied, "Yes, but you should have seen it when God was working on it by Himself!" Yes, we need God's guidance, but our study, preparation, and dedication in leadership will turn the wilderness into a garden!

John Maxwell was right when he pointed out, "There is a very large void in leadership that exists in the church." This blunt statement calls on all of us to examine ourselves regarding the quality of our leadership.

George Barna writes, "Leadership continues to be one of the greatest needs of the church. People are willing to follow the divine vision but too often have not been exposed to such a vision or true leadership." He then declares that, "having been researching for fifteen years in the world around me, I have come to several conclusions regarding the future of the Christian church in America. The main conclusion is that the American church is dying because of a lack of leadership."

Fortune and Time magazine have listed some remarkable modern leaders. Among my favorites:

Angela Merkel, former chancellor of Germany, considered by many to be the most successful national hero in the world; Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, native of Myanmar, chair of the National League for Democracy; Dr. John Nkengasong, director of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention; Luis Manuel Otero, performance artist and leader for democracy within modern Cuba; Attorney Ben Crump, who stands up to help the helpless and defend the oppressed during these trying times; Olimpia Coral Melo Cruz, the Mexican women's rights activist. And the list goes on and on.

I have always been fascinated by history and the great world leaders, particularly those who have led nations in times of war. Though he's not one of my favorites among the generals of the Second World War, I appreciate Great Britain's Montgomery's definition of leadership: "The ability and willingness to motivate men and women to a common target, and character that inspires confidence."

Other interesting definitions of leadership can be found in the writings of individuals such as John R. Mott (1865-1955) and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz (1885-1966). Mott was the founder of the World Council of Churches. He held that a leader is "a person who knows the way, who can move forward, and who carries others with him." Nimitz, commander of the Pacific Fleet during World War II, emphasized that leadership is that "quality that inspires sufficient confidence in subordinates to be willing to accept their views and carry out their orders."

Harry S. Truman became president of the U.S. at a time (1945-1953) when a leader among

Regardless of their leadership styles and attitudes, there is always something to learn by observing other leaders. This includes qualities worthy of emulation as well as behaviors to be avoided.

leaders was needed. He had to make some dramatic decisions that continue to affect us in a practical way even today. His was perhaps one of the clearest and most succinct definitions of leadership. For him, a leader was “a person who has the ability to make others do what they don't want to do and like it.”

Such definitions of leadership require you to ask yourself about the kind of leader you are as an individual and the type of leadership we have in the church. There are also the following questions:

- Do we live up to the definition of leadership? Are we “real leaders”—men and women who can truly influence others, both within and outside our church?

- Do we have the ability to project a spiritual picture of what needs to be done?

- Do we have the ability to make others passionate about the vision of the church and follow our leadership—without having to resort to dubious methods?

Kendra Cherry provides 10 Tips for Becoming a Better Leader:

- **Understand your leadership style.** What are your strengths? Which areas need some improvement?

- **Encourage creativity.** Offer new challenges, with ample support. Followers need to be encouraged to express their creativity.

- **Serve as a role model.** We need to exemplify the behavior and characteristics that we encourage in our followers.

- **Be passionate.** Great leaders have a genuine enthusiasm for the projects they work on.

- **Listen and communicate effectively.** Leaders communicate their vision to followers, who then feel inspired and motivated by this vision. They also listen.

- **Have a positive attitude.** Maintain a sense of optimism and hope in the face of challenges.

- **Encourage people to make contributions.** Be open to the ideas of others and encourage

group members to take an active role in coming up with plans.

- **Motivate your followers.** Encouraging others doesn't mean being preachy. Instead, help them feel included and offer praise for their accomplishments.

- **Offer rewards and recognition.** Offering the right recognition and rewards is a good way to help followers feel appreciated.

- **Keep trying new things.** Pay attention to the things that have been effective in the past and always be on the lookout for new ways to inspire, motivate, and reward group members.¹

And, may I add, don't take yourself too seriously. A. E. Norrish, a missionary in India, is credited with saying, “I have never met a leader without a sense of humor; this ability to place oneself outside of oneself and one's circumstances, to see things in perspective and laugh, is a great escape valve. You will never be able to lead others without having the joy of the Lord and his constant sense of humor.”

If we are to be relevant in today's world—if we are to be considered by those around us, in our community, in our society—we must show true leadership. We must show the leadership that goes beyond our beliefs and boundaries and offer the leadership that is appreciated and emulated by others. When we, as a church, are emulated by society, we will have certainly made an impact.

The God who called Abraham when He wanted to establish a nation calls us to be today's leaders. The God who called Moses when He wanted to deliver His people calls us to make a difference in our society. The God who called Joshua to lead His people to the Promised Land calls us to be true spiritual leaders.

¹<https://www.verywellmind.com/ways-to-become-a-better-leader-2795324>

Alberto Valenzuela is the associate director of communication and community engagement for the Pacific Union Conference and editor of the Recorder.

The Joy

By Dav



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of

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Acceptance

During one of the difficult times our church was going through, one of the members confessed, "This class is the reason I'm still here." My husband and I have been lay directors of a group of 40 people, so we know how important small groups are to most people.

Coordinating discussions requires a lot of planning and dedication, but when we ask others to help us, we promote trust and proximity. People may irritate each other, but the satisfaction and joy of living the principles of 1 Corinthians 13 makes this leadership achievable and enjoyable.

Let's see how to achieve it

Here are some of the ways we help spread love and care:

- Our instructors take our study very seriously. We are there to study God's Word. We start and finish on time. Although we share together before and after the study, lunch is the time when we enjoy each other's company the most.
- We hold monthly Sabbath School Council meetings. This allows my husband and me to relate to other teachers and church leaders. Our general director promotes these meetings. He also invites different Sabbath School principals to have lunch with

him several times a year. During these meetings we can discuss personal issues and issues that affect our class.

- Some of our members look for sunnier sites during the winter months. We make sure to provide an up-to-date address list to each of our group members so those who are absent can receive up-to-date news from different points of view.
- We provide a list of birthdays.
- We plan meals in the park, group attendance at drama performances at our local academies and schools, weekend outings, special dinners, and visits to Christmas events. A commission distributes letters detailing activities several times a year to inform people of the events.
- When the wife of one of our class members died, a group planned and coordinated lunch after the funeral. One of the members said, "Never before have I seen so much love. It has taught me much about what Christians should do for their fellowmen."

An important part of our group is ministry on behalf of the divorced, widowed, and single members. At least a quarter of our active members are single. Family camps, dinners, and parties for couples can make these members feel empty and out of place. Many of them have said, "We are grateful for this group." In addition to planning activities for them, we make sure that everyone has a means of transportation.

My husband and I are happy when single people, who would otherwise spend the festive season alone, accept our invitations. This helps us too. Instead of missing our children, who live far from home and can't visit us very often, we spend a pleasant afternoon and are happy to be able to help other people.

We try to make 1 Corinthians 13 the most important aspect of our class. The pastor has received positive feedback from other members of our church. One woman said, "When I hear about

your class and your activities, I wish I could have the same thing."

We all want to feel important and loved. No matter where we find this sustenance, we always wish to return.

Dawn Hamilton is the pseudonym of the author, who shares her real experience.

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-8, 13, NIV

Women Advancing the Gospel in Early Adventism

By Sasha A. Ross

Those familiar with the history of the Adventist church know that women worked extensively to advance the gospel even before our earliest 19th-century days as a fledgling denomination. A motion was made for the General Conference to discuss women's role in ministry in 1881.¹ Long before that, Adventist women were giving Bible readings, praying with families, conducting Sabbath School, preaching the Word, organizing camp meetings, training church workers, and ministering to students alongside their male counterparts.

Ellen White's lifelong service for the gospel

In 1878, Ellen G. White proclaimed, "Sisters, God calls you to work in the harvest-field and help gather in the sheaves."² In 1886 she wrote, "It was Mary who first preached a risen Jesus; and the refining, softening influence of Christian women is needed in the great work of preaching the truth now."³ And in 1898 she asserted, "There are women who should labor in the gospel ministry. In many respects they would do more good than the [male] ministers who neglect to visit the flock of God."⁴



In 1884, when the *SDA Yearbook* began publishing annual lists of credentialed ministers, White was recognized as an “ordained” minister, with credentials listed under the General Conference.

White began her 70-year public ministry in 1844 at age 17, sharing her personal testimony and using her prophetic gift to speak publicly. Alongside her husband, James, she promoted Sabbath keeping, exposed incorrect practices and beliefs, called listeners “back to the purity of Bible truth,” and traveled “seeking to bring souls into Christ’s kingdom.”⁵ In 1881, following her husband’s death, White moved to California and resided with her son Willie in Oakland. While there, she spoke at a camp meetings in Sacramento and helped establish Healdsburg Academy (now Pacific Union College) in 1882.⁶

In 1884, when the *SDA Yearbook* began publishing annual lists of credentialed ministers, White was recognized as an “ordained” minister, with credentials listed under the General Conference. Her distinction of serving as an ordained minister continued for many years, including under the California Conference (1888).⁷ She served alongside an increasing number of women evangelists who were given ministerial licenses, including Sarah A. Hallock Lindsey, Adelia Patten Van Horn, Ellen S. Edmonds Lane, and Julia A. Owen.

In 1890, after various travels, White moved again to California and purchased the Elmshaven estate in St. Helena that she used as a home base for the rest of her life. She continued preaching and writing about God’s grace and provenance throughout human history. White was, and remains, an incredible role model for both women and men who seek “to minister in His church and to evangelize among the unsaved” as she did despite many

challenges and constraints.⁸

While in Melbourne, Australia, White sent a letter to church leaders in 1898 to report on the work, wherein she pled the case of four ministers’ wives who were giving their whole time and yet were told they would receive nothing for their labors “because their husbands receive their wages.” White argued against this practice, saying that the ministers’ wives had to pay for childcare despite not themselves being paid, and she compared their treatment to the proofreaders and housekeepers who were paid fairly. White vowed to create a fund to pay women working in ministry from her own tithe money if the conference would not. She wrote, “I know that the faithful women should be paid wages as is considered proportionate to the pay received by ministers. They carry the burden of souls, and should not be treated unjustly.”⁹

Other licensed women ministers in early Adventism

Several founding church mothers, or “sheroes,” served in ministerial capacities alongside Ellen White in the early Adventist Church, including Lindsey, who received a license from a local conference in 1872, well before the 1878 General Conference Session that adopted the resolution “to issue a ministerial license to those competent and sound in doctrine.” Similarly, Lane and Owen were both licensed in 1878, with Owen serving in ministry for over two decades, including as a licensed minister in the California Conference from 1888 until her death in 1898.¹⁰

In 1884, Heady Hurd—then a public school teacher in Lemoore, California—attended a Seventh-day Adventist camp meeting in Oakland, where she was intrigued by the music as well as the sermons on prophecy and Bible truths. She enrolled in Bible studies and decided to join the Adventist church in her hometown, as well as a training program for Bible workers in San Francisco. She was so convicted that she left her teaching career and began preaching, giving Bible readings, and teaching others to evangelize. In 1901, she became a licensed minister for the Adventist Church and served in the California Conference from 1910-1911, continuing on behalf of the General Conference until 1919. She is known for training church workers in Africa as well as in Australia and England.¹¹

In 1901, Mrs. Carrie V. Hansen was listed as a licensed minister in the Utah Conference. Mrs. J.E. Bond served as a licensed minister in the Arizona Conference from 1904-1906. In 1908, Mrs. Lulu (J.S.) Wightman was called from New York State to Reno, Nevada, then a part of the California Conference, and was listed as an ordained minister similar to Mrs. White. She was a well-known Seventh-day Adventist evangelist and public speaker, especially passionate on the subject of religious liberty.¹² Mrs. Ella H. Osborne served as a licensed minister in the Northern California Conference for at least a decade, from 1920 to 1930.

In 1921, Mary E. Walsh began her work as an evangelist and licensed minister in New England. Born in 1892, she was a British subject, although being raised Catholic in the northern part of Ireland. She emigrated to New York City as a young woman to live with extended family and work as a nurse. After attending several evangelistic lectures by Professor C.T. Everson and studying carefully on her own, Walsh converted to Adventism and—despite being ostracized by her family—grew in faith and quickly joined an evangelistic team in the northeast in 1917.

Walsh published articles in denominational periodicals so often she was issued a press pass by the denomination in addition to her ministerial license. She was known for training many lay people and church employees for evangelism. In 1953, the Pacific Union called her to serve in the home missionary department, where she worked until applying for retirement a decade later, although she remained licensed in the Pacific Union through 1965. In total, Walsh devoted 60 years to the ministry. In 1981, the General Conference nullified her credential.¹³

Adventist women's evangelism and church leadership declined after Ellen White's death in 1915, and for many years Adventist women ministers remained poorly recognized and under-compensated.¹⁴ Their work nevertheless continued and laid the framework for the growing role that women in gospel ministry play in the Pacific Union today.

¹¹Bert Haloviak, "Route to the Ordination of Women in the Seventh-day Adventist Church: Two Paths," unpublished paper (March 18, 1985). The agenda and resolutions passed at the General Conference business proceedings held in Battle Creek, Michigan, on Dec. 5, 1881, are also reprinted in Appendix C of Josephine Benton's *Called by God: Stories of Seventh-day Adventist Women Ministers* (Smithsburg, MD: Blackberry Hill Publishers, 1990), p. 235. The motion proposed to ordain qualified women as pastors: "Resolved that females possessing the necessary qualifications to fill that position, may, with perfect propriety, be set apart by ordination to the work of the Christian ministry." The motion was not acted on.

¹²Ellen G. White, "Address and Appeal, Setting Forth the Importance of Missionary Work," *The Review and Herald* (Dec. 19, 1878), para. 14.

¹³White, "Women as Christian Laborers," *The Signs of the Times* (Sept. 16, 1886), para. 10.

¹⁴White, "The Laborer Is Worthy of His Hire," *Letters and Manuscripts*, vol. 13 (13LtMs), manuscript 43a (March 22, 1898), para. 9.

¹⁵*Called by God*, pp. 139, 140ff.

¹⁶*Called by God*, p. 47. Around the turn of the century, she also traveled by train through Southern California and found it so beautiful that she recommended the purchase of land and buildings to form the College of Medical Evangelists (established in 1905), which would later become Loma Linda University and Medical Center.

¹⁷The California Conference predated the Pacific Union, which was established in 1901. Its constitution was expanded in 1906 to include California, Nevada, Utah (which received statehood in 1896), and the territory of Arizona (which would not receive statehood until 1912). *Pacific Union Recorder* (March 8, 1906), as discussed online at <https://www-puonline-org.adventistfaith.org/our-history>.

¹⁸*Called by God*, p. 152.

¹⁹Excerpt from a letter from Ellen White to "Brethren Irwin, Evans, Smith and Jones" on behalf of four ministers' wives ("Sisters Starr, Haskell, Wilson and Robinson"), *Letters and Manuscripts*, vol. 13 (13LtMs), letter 137 (April 21, 1898), par. 24. Reprinted in *Called by God*, Appendix A (section 7.4), p. 228.

²⁰She is listed in the SDA Yearbook by her husband's initials (G.K.) from 1888-1891, and by her own initials (J.A.) from 1892-1898. *Called by God* (Appendix B), pp. 229-231.

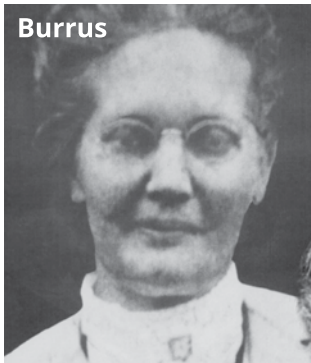
¹¹*Called by God*, pp. 154-155. N.B.: Hurd is listed by her husband's initials, Mrs. S.N. Haskell, in the SDA Yearbook.

¹²*Called by God*, p. 80.

¹³The GC changed the definition of licensed ministers relative to Internal Revenue Service requirements, thereby making women ineligible. This change is discussed in *Called by God*, p. 210 (fn. 2), as well as p. 135.

¹⁴Gary Chudleigh noted in 2014 that before Merikay Silver's lawsuits against the Pacific Press in the 1970s, "church policy enabled almost all Adventist Church entities in the United States...to balance their budgets by paying women a lot less than men, even for the same work." His research is reprinted as Appendix B in Martin Hanna and Cindy Tutsch's book, *Questions and Answers about Women's Ordination* (Nampa, ID: Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 2014), p. 144. See also Merikay Silver, *Betrayal: The Shattering Sex Discrimination Case of Silver v. Pacific Press Publishing Association* (Austin, TX: Mars Hill Publications, 1985).

Sasha A. Ross holds a double B.A. in history and French from La Sierra University and an M.A. in church-state studies from Baylor University. From 2013-2016, she served as director of the Women's Resource Center and taught in the global studies program at La Sierra University. She lives with her family in Riverside, California.



Adventist Women Pioneers

Caviness



Georgia Anna Burrus

Georgia Anna Burrus was born July 19, 1866.

Despite family opposition, she joined the Adventist church at age 16 and enrolled as a working student at Healdsburg College in California. She then taught in the Bible Training School in Oakland. While engaged as a Bible worker, she responded to a call by S.N. Haskell for women to work in India. In 1893, the General Conference voted to send her and Myrtle Griffis to India. Georgia enrolled for the nursing course at St. Helena and then a special class at Battle Creek that prepared workers for foreign mission service. Myrtle's poor health led her to drop out of her India plans. Georgia herself had some medical issues but recovered, and she took that as a sign of God's care and guidance.

Maria L. Huntley

Maria L. Huntley was born on August 9, 1848, in Lepster, New Hampshire, to Albert and Lucy Huntley, both pioneers of the "Sabbath cause" in connection with the Advent Movement. Albert and Lucy had wed in 1840 and had four children, three of whom did not reach adulthood. Maria was the second child born to the couple, after they lost an infant daughter in July of 1847. By the end of 1887, Maria moved to California to take charge of the missionary department at Healdsburg College for the ensuing year, thus fulfilling W.C. White's wish. After nearly a year



in California, successfully developing the missionary department at Healdsburg College and teaching two large missionary classes, Maria moved back to Battle Creek in November of 1888.

Agnes Elvira Lewis Caviness

Agnes Caviness was born October 31, 1889, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. After studying at Union College, Keene Industrial Academy, and Walla Walla College, she graduated from Pacific Union College (PUC) in 1912 as the first college graduate on the Angwin campus. (Caviness expressed her loyalty to PUC in her Founders' Day address in 1956.) After serving overseas for 12 years, the family moved to PUC, where she taught French and German and pioneered teaching classes on marriage and the family. She frequently wrote articles for denominational publications on family life. Those who knew the Caviness family considered their home a center of culture and hospitality. Her books included *The Way He Should Go* and *Letters from Mother Naomi*. The latter she based on letters she had written in response to requests for advice, which then appeared anonymously in the *Review and Herald* from 1933 to 1945.

Florence Muriel Howe

Florence Muriel Howe was born February 19, 1908, at Plattsburg, New South Wales, Australia. In 1931, Muriel enrolled at Australasian Missionary College (now Avondale University College), and for three years she paid her own fees as a full



"industrial student." During this time the conviction grew that the Lord was calling her to devote her life to China. Upon leaving China at the end of 1949, Muriel moved to the United States and upgraded her qualifications to a bachelor's degree in nursing education at Washington Missionary College. As

it was unlikely she could ever return to China, she accepted an invitation to mission service in Africa in 1951, remaining there until 1954. During that time she worked at Malamulo Hospital, where she had the responsibility for the general nursing and midwifery training programs. Muriel Howe retired in Loma Linda in 1976. She spent the last months of her life in a nursing home operated by two former students from her Taiwan years.

Hetty Hurd Haskell

Hetty Haskell was born January 23, 1857, in Jacksonville, Illinois. In 1885, she attended one of the first Adventist training schools for Bible instructors in San Francisco.



She served as a Bible instructor and trained others for the work, first in California and then in London, England. Hetty Haskell helped her husband conduct major urban evangelistic campaigns between 1901 and 1912 from New York City to California. She organized and oversaw the Bible instructors, visiting nurse programs, and magazine salespeople, and took care of finances and other logistics. As the College of Medical Evangelists struggled to gain accreditation, one of the greatest needs was for a clinical training facility in a large city. In 1915, a committee decided there was not enough money and concluded that they should shut down the Loma Linda medical program. Then a group of four women requested to speak to the council, including Hetty Haskell. The women offered to help raise \$61,000 to build and equip the vital clinical hospital, suggesting that the church name it after the recently deceased Ellen G. White, who had long urged that the denomination have a medical school.

The Signs

“Behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give unto every man according to his work.”

VOLUME 4.

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, 1908

WOMAN'S PLACE

BY J. H. WAGGONER

We find two questions upon our table which are so nearly related that we answer them together.

1. “Is there any evidence that women may not partake of the Lord’s supper?”

We give this as we received it. We should more naturally inquire, Is there any evidence that women may partake of the Lord’s supper?

There is no special or explicit statement to that effect. Nor is there any explicit statement that *minors* may partake of the Lord’s supper. But there is evidence that it was the duty of the apostles to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, and to teach them that believed the gospel to observe certain things that were commanded them. And there is direct evidence that whosoever believes in Christ, or is a Christian, may partake of the Lord’s supper. The conclusion is, then, evidence that women and minors may partake of the Lord’s supper, unless it can be shown that women and minors may not believe and obey the gospel. As no

one would affirm this, the question is settled beyond dispute.

There is another method of arriving at the same conclusion, and one which involves important considerations. The ordinance of circumcision was given to the patriarchs and to Israel which, from its very nature, must be confined to male children. By birth the male children of Jewish parents were entitled to the privileges of this rite, which was the seal of the covenant. Others might obtain it by complying with certain conditions. But no others were entitled to it by their birth.

Circumcision has its antitype. It is now of the heart; it is the Spirit of God in the heart. “Ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.” As their circumcision proved their relation to Abraham in that covenant, so does ours, the possession of the Spirit, prove our relation to Christ. “If any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of his.”

The promise made to Abraham is yet waiting for fulfillment. Stephen proved that it remains to

of the Times.

ve every man according as his work shall be.” Rev. 22 : 12.

FIFTH-DAY, DECEMBER 19, 1878.

NUMBER 48

IN THE GOSPEL

be fulfilled. Paul, both in Acts 27, and Heb. 6 and 11, showed that the promise made of God to the fathers was the foundation of his hope. “If ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” Gal. 3:29. Not by birth of national distinctions, not by a sign which the males only could receive, but *by faith*—by a rule where “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.” Gal. 3:28. This proves that the privileges of one class are the privileges of each and every class, unless there are specific restrictions. But no such exist in regard to the Lord’s supper. Hence, females, Gentiles, bondsmen, all who accept Christ and have his Spirit may alike partake of this privilege. And this leads to the next question, and to consider how far restrictions extend on another point.

2. “Is it right for women to speak in meeting?” Certain texts are quoted to prove the negative, and *apparently*, they do prove it. Do they *really*?

A text of scripture may not be taken in all its *possible* meanings, *but* only in its *actual* meaning. This is obvious; for it is often possible to draw from a text that which may be shown to be foreign to the actual intention of the writer. We are not at liberty to draw a meaning from any text which makes it conflict with any other text, and especially of the same writer. And, secondly, we may not draw a meaning from a text which puts it in contradiction with a known fact.

In 1 Cor. 11:5, Paul says: “But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered, dishonoreth her head.” Again in chapter 14:3 he says, “But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.” But if women were never to “speak unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort,” why did he say they should not speak thus or prophesy with uncovered heads? Why give a direction as to the manner in which they were to exhort, or comfort, or edify the brethren, if he meant to forbid it

altogether? Granted that it is quite possible to draw such a meaning from his words in chapter 14, and to Timothy, can that be the actual meaning, seeing it is entirely inconsistent with his directions in the text noticed? It cannot be that he intended to utterly forbid in one text that which he allows in another text.

We notice, then the connection of the two texts which seem to involve a difficulty.

1 Cor. 14:29-35. "Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home; for it is a shame for women to speak in the church."

It appears that *something*, or speaking of some kind, was herein permitted to the men which was not permitted to the women. But we have seen, and shall notice further, that they were allowed to pray and to prophesy, but under certain restrictions. We cannot allow that this text contradicts that. If this text is likewise restrictive—if it permits certain exercises, or, perhaps, disputations, to the men which it prohibits to the women, then there is no conflict between the two. Dr. Clarke gives us the following information: "It is evidence from the context that the apostle refers here to asking questions, and what we call dictating, in the

assemblies. It was permitted to any man to ask questions, to object, altercation, attempt to refute, &c., in the synagogue, but this liberty was not allowed to any woman."

Such being the custom of the times, the propriety of the order will at once be seen, for it would be unseemly for a women [*sic*] to engage in such a debate of words as was likely to occur. Paul was specially guarding against confusion. But this would not interfere with the permission to women to pray or to prophesy, if it were done to edification and comfort, and if the decorum which belongs to the place and occasion were preserved, and the women regarded that modest reserve which is such an adornment of the sex.

And this appears yet more evidence from the explanatory declaration in his words to Timothy, "But I suffer not a woman to teach, not to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." 1 Tim. 2:12. The divine arrangement, even from the beginning, is this, that the man is the head of the woman. Every relation is disregarded or abused in this lawless age. But the Scriptures always maintain this order in the family relation. "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church." Eph. 5:23. Man is entitled to certain privileges which are not given to woman; and he is subjected to some duties and burdens from which the woman is exempt. A woman may pray, prophesy, exhort, and comfort the church, but she cannot occupy the position of a pastor or a ruling elder. This would be looked upon as usurping authority over the man, which is here prohibited.

Thus it appears from a harmony of Paul's words

IF THIS IS NOT PROOF THAT PAUL DID NOT INTEND TO FORBID
WOMEN TAKING PART IN PUBLIC WORSHIP, THEN WE MUST
CONFESS THAT WE ARE SLOW TO COMPREHEND PROOF.

that his orders were *restrictive*, but not *prohibitory*. He certainly did not prohibit that which he plainly permitted.

More conclusive than this, if possible, is this, that to construe his language into a prohibition is to bring him in conflict with known and acknowledged facts. Woman's relation to the work of God has not materially changed throughout the dispensations. Miriam, the sister of Aaron and Moses was a prophetess. In all instances recorded in the Old Testament it appears that God called women to this important office when the condition of the people was especially trying, or in time of great declension or disaster. We should naturally suppose that individuals of the stronger sex would uniformly be chosen at such a time, but God does not see as man sees. Those women whom the Lord chose to occupy this important place, have shown themselves peculiarly fitted to fill it, and often even in striking contrast with public men of their own time.

The children of Israel were "mightily oppressed;" "they chose new gods;" war was in their gates, though there was not a shield or spear seen among forty thousands in Israel. Judges 4:34; 5:7, 8. Then Deborah was raised up, who was not only a prophetess, but a judge in Israel. Barak, whose name was handed down by Paul (Heb. 11), among those of the faithful worthies, refused to go out to meet the hosts of Sisera unless Deborah went with him; so strong was his confidence in the Lord's appointment.

When the house of God was in desolation, and the law had ceased in Israel, Huldah was found a prophetess. King Josiah sought unto her for instruction, to learn how they might avert the wrath of God which was kindled against Israel.

At the time of the birth of our Saviour Anna was a prophetess, and she "spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Israel." Luke 2:36-38.

Did the change of dispensation work any change in the divine plan in respect to this gift? Not to its withdrawal; but it insured that the bestowal of the gift should be still more general. The promise

was made thus:—"Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy." "And on my servants and on my handmaidens will I pour out in those days of my Spirit, and they shall prophesy."

The fulfillment was according to the promise. There were four prophetesses in one family—that of Philip. They had the gift, and they exercised it—they "did prophesy." Some would not put such a construction upon the words of Paul as to have closed the mouths of these handmaidens of the Lord, who were specially endowed by his Spirit. But Paul gave no sanction to such a construction; so far from forbidding the exercise of this gift by women, he pointed out how they should appear when they prophesied. Paul was not so presumptuous as to interfere with the fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel, or to frustrate the gifts and callings of God in the gospel.

If this is not proof that Paul did not intend to forbid women taking part in public worship, then we must confess that we are slow to comprehend proof.

Neither do the words of Paul confine the labors of women to the act of prophesying alone. He refers to the prayers, and also speaks of certain women who "labored in the Lord," an expression which could only refer to the work of the gospel. He also, in remarking on the work of the prophets, speaks of edification, exhortation, and comfort. This "labor in the Lord," with prayer, comprises all the duties of public worship. Not all the duties of business meetings, which were probably conducted by men, or all the duties of ruling elders, and pastors, compare 1 Tim. 5:17, with 2:12, but all that pertain to exercises purely religious. We sincerely believe that, according to the Scriptures, women, as a right may, and as a duty ought to, engage in these exercises.

Adventist pioneer J.H. Waggoner was an editor, theologian, author, and advocate for health reform and religious liberty.



LEFT: Arizona Conference hosts a Leadership Day, with the topic of grief and gratitude. RIGHT: Hawaii Conference holds an evangelism training.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Women's Ministries

What is this ministry about?

"The Lord has a work for women as well as for men. They may take their places in His work at this crisis, and He will work through them.... They can do in families a work that men cannot do, a work that reaches the inner life. They can come close to the hearts of those whom men cannot reach. Their labor is needed" (Ellen G. White, *Welfare Ministry*, p. 145).

God created us and gave us purpose. This ministry was designed by God to meet the needs of women, connect with them, and introduce them to Christ. We live the words of Titus 2:3-5 up and down the life spectrum as we nurture, encourage, and elevate women.

Love

We have been specifically designed to be effective in the work assigned to us by God when we are filled with the Holy Spirit. Christ is reflected in all that we do by our personal relationship with Him as we love, serve, and lead in families, ministries, churches, and wherever we go. We model the way He worked with people: with love.

"The Saviour 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'" (Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 143).

We are working to build the ministries, train our coordinators, and fulfill the Titus 2 command of supporting women up and down the life spectrum from childhood to seniors.

Serve

We are called to join our pastors and churches for effective outreach and evangelism. We are involved in almost every aspect of departmental work in our churches. We support the vision of the pastors, the mission statements, and their core commitments. There is a ministry for every woman who chooses to be active in the church, community outreach activities, and evangelism.

Lead

We are working to build the ministries, train our coordinators, and fulfill the Titus 2 command of supporting women up and down the life spectrum from childhood to seniors. We need that intergenerational connection to deal with the challenges of women in all passages of life. Our young women's ministries are thriving especially in the Northern California Conference (NCC) under



Southeastern California Conference takes a group photo at their women's ministries retreat.

the leadership of Maricia Ditigen, who is working alongside newly appointed NCC Women's Ministries Coordinator Angela Fusilier and her assistant Janice Nelson.

All our conferences are diligently working to support our young women in ministries. We have leadership training, "End It Now" abuse programs, Bible studies, retreats, and other creative activities that have added to the baptisms of our churches.

How do people find out about and get involved in this ministry?

You can reach out to be involved through various means: check your local church website, ask to receive newsletters, attend retreats, and more. If you want to learn more or need guidance on who to best connect with in your area, please reach out to Dorothy Means, our women's ministry director for the Pacific Union, at ddmns03@gmail.com. Make sure to put "Women's Ministries" in the subject line of the email.



Nevada-Utah Conference holds a women's ministries retreat.

By Yara Enamorado



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Health Ministries

What is this ministry about?

Health Ministries of the Pacific Union is a volunteer-led ministry that exists to equip churches and health ministry leaders with resources and provide training to help prepare members to use health ministry as a partner for evangelism.

Love

God has entrusted us with spreading His gospel of love. That gospel includes the wonderful health message, which will make a tremendous difference in the lives of our fellow man. What better way to care for and love someone than by giving them the tools to add 10+ years of life without the challenges of lifestyle diseases like heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, some cancers, Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and many others.

Because of this, community health classes continue to be a powerful ministry to reach the community in an area of genuine need and interest. We have found

many physicians and scientists from the Adventist church and the community around us who are more than willing to help us present the amazing benefits of a whole-food, plant-based diet and lifestyle medicine.

Serve

Since the very founding of our church, health ministry has been encouraging our members to live a longer and healthier life and be a service to others. We are the right arm of the gospel and work in partnership with evangelism, so we happily assist members, churches, and pastors. In 2019, more than 4,100 people participated in various programs, including nutrition and cooking classes, depression and anxiety recovery programs (DARP), as well as many health challenges and lectures.

Lead

Pacific Union Health Ministries has led out in training our church leaders to run a variety of classes such as addiction recovery, reversing diabetes, health coaching, and more. We evaluate

programs that churches can use, and we support and encourage our conferences and conference leaders. We also work with pastors by offering advice on programs or ideas. We have a list of health resources that are sent periodically to conference health ministry leaders.

How can you get involved?

Anyone interested in being involved in health ministries can reach out Lorayne Barton, the head of Health Ministries for the Pacific Union Conference, at loraynebarton@mac.com. This year our focus will be on mental health, and we are currently developing materials to share with our churches.

So many churches have continued to love, serve, and lead during these trying times of the pandemic, and we congratulate them and those who have reached out to their communities with food distribution and many other loving acts of kindness. We hope to continue to keep health ministries as a top priority within the church!



ISTOCK/COMPTONUSA

In 2019, more than 4,100 people participated in various programs, including nutrition and cooking classes, depression and anxiety recovery programs (DARP), as well as many health challenges and lectures.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Pastor Joel Mpabmaniwana and church treasurer Christian Rwamukwaya add names to the official church membership list. Executive Secretary Jorge A. Ramirez confirms church members' commitment to the tenants of the Adventist faith. Pastors Joel Mpabmaniwana and Gary Venden greet both members present and viewers online at the start of consecration service. President Ed Keyes signs the official Certificate of Church Organization on February 5, 2022.



Ubumwe Congregation Becomes a Church

In an atmosphere charged with energy and excitement, officers of the Arizona Conference officially recognized the Ubumwe Seventh-day Adventist Church on February 5, 2022. Equally exciting is that a number of years ago the church was no more than a couple of families meeting in a church Sabbath School room. Now, within the span of a few years, they have grown from a group to a company to a church.

Beginning at the Camelback church in 2009, the group moved to the Glendale church a year later to be more centrally located to where refugee families were living in the Phoenix metro area. Initially, a Sabbath School room fit the group nicely; however, the efforts of Pastor Joel Mpabmaniwana began producing an increasingly larger group.

"Pastor Joel came to us wanting space to meet with two or three families. But every week there was a new family, so we kept stretching our space," Gary Venden, pastor of the Glendale church, said to the congregation gathered for the consecration service.

To incorporate the group into the mainstream church service, the families would assemble in one section of the church, where translation into their native

tongue would take place. But it soon became apparent that this was not a long-term solution.

"We needed to change our philosophy," said Pastor Venden. "We realized there were people coming and sitting in our church that had raised up churches in the refugee camps that were bigger than Glendale," he continued. "Instead of trying to integrate you into the Glendale church, we needed to help you have your own space to worship in your own language."

The gym at Glenview Adventist Academy, sitting on the same property as the Glendale church, provided a larger space for the body of believers. This gave the group an opportunity to have a full church service in their own language and style of worship. However, the group kept growing through the years, and the facilities became inadequate to meet the needs of both the Glendale church and the Ubumwe group meeting at the same time.

Elder Villamor Meriales leads a prayer of blessing for the leadership team of the Ubumwe church.



"It was a bittersweet day when you found a place of your own," exclaimed Pastor Venden. "But it has been such a blessing to see you grow and a privilege to have a little part in this day."

For the first time, the Ubumwe leadership team knelt together as an official church and received a prayer of blessing. A final gift ceremony took place to conclude the consecration service, and in traditional African fashion, a hand-carved African walking cane was given to Pastor Mpabmaniwana as a symbol of leadership and prestige.

With an exuberant smile and a joyful ring in his voice, Pastor Mpabmaniwana celebrated with his church family. What had begun as a small ministry meeting in a Sabbath School room in a local church is a full-fledged church, brimming with exuberance. When Mrs. Mpabmaniwana embraced her husband at the close of the service, her smile, excitement, and pride in her husband were palpable and illustrated the mission mentality that exudes from this ministry team.

By Jeff Rogers

Many Cultures, One Message, One Savior

"**M**any Cultures, One Message, One Savior" is the motto of the Arizona Conference Multilingual Ministries

department. That outlook was on display at a recent convocation that brought together 12 congregations with African, Southeast Asian, Korean, Pacific Island, and Filipino heritages. The hybrid meeting was held in the auditorium on the campus of Thunderbird Adventist Academy.

The different sounds and languages were evident from the outset of the convocation as the El Shaddai Choir opened the meeting with a "Singspiration" in their native African tongue. Opening prayer was a joint effort from the Kenyan Fellowship and Phoenix Myanmar groups. With special musical numbers provided by the Ubumwe church, the Kenyan Fellowship group, and the Chandler Fil-Am church, the atmosphere of the auditorium portrayed the diversity of the Arizona Conference.

Pacific Union Conference Vice President for Asian/Pacific Ministries VicLouis Arreola was the keynote speaker for the convocation. His message was divided into three seminar-style sections based around the theme "The Doorways of Discipleship." Beginning with "Spiritual Values of a Leadership Team," Arreola explained how to be effective church leaders, followed



by ways to identify the health of your church with "Reality Check: Is Your Church Growing or Dying?" Finally, his session on "Effective Evangelistic Planning in the Local Church" provided the tools for a church to successfully begin the growth process.



A highlight of the convocation was ordaining and recognizing elders in the various churches of the ministry. Arizona Conference President Ed Keyes, Arreola, and Villamor Meriales, assistant to the president for Multilingual Ministries, took part in praying, blessing, and ordaining these individuals for their ministry in the local churches.

The opportunity for so many different cultures and styles of worship to come together in one place gives a small glimpse of what heaven might look like—people from all walks of life with one message of hope. The growth in Multilingual Ministries in the Arizona Conference is testament to the way many people of different cultures can worship together as one community.

By Jeff Rogers





Yes, It's Time to GO!

"Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, 'Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza'" (Acts 8:26, NKJV; emphasis added).

"We often pray that God will bring people into the store and that we can put in their hands just what they need to know Him better. That prayer God has answered many times, and we praise Him every time it happens."

"Today, as then, angels are leading and guiding those who will be led and guided. The angel sent to Philip could himself have done the work for the Ethiopian, but this was not God's way of working. As God's instruments, men must work for others" (Ellen G. White, The Youth's Instructor, Feb. 14, 1901.)

During 2022, the Central California Conference (CCC) is using the theme "Arise & Go: The Story Begins" to inspire both leadership and members to finish the harvest work in this generation.

While there are others, the Bible story that often comes to mind is that of Philip and the Ethiopian official in Acts 8. Whatever it was that Philip was doing in Samaria when directed by a heavenly messenger to go to the desert, Ellen White tells us that, "He did not question the call, nor did he hesitate to obey; for he had learned the lesson of conformity to God's will" (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 107). As she notes in her comments about the story, "Not upon the ordained minister only rests the responsibility of going forth to fulfill this commission. Everyone who has received Christ is called to work for the salvation of his fellow men" (p. 110). That "everyone" means you and me.

Because this theme will be used again and again to inspire us to action in conference events and in our stories and testimonies on these pages, you might find it beneficial to read the entire chapter, entitled "The Gospel in Samaria," in *The Acts of the Apostles*. Pages 107 to 111 are specifically a call to action regarding the story of Philip. Certainly, we cannot be idle when it comes to sharing the gospel.

With that in mind, here are just a few stories and testimonies that demonstrate what happens when people answer God's call to "Arise & Go."

Templeton Hills Adventist School

Children can also follow the command to “Arise & Go”—and what a joy it is when they do. Did you happen to see the Pacific Union’s “All God’s People” bulletin or video in January about the students at Templeton Hills Adventist Elementary School? Or maybe you saw it as a news item on KSBY, the local TV station for the California Central Coast in December of 2021. Their reporter, Claudia Buccio, shared how the students had been sewing special gifts for the homeless. Beginning in November, Carmen Collins, principal, and Peggy David, sewing instructor, decided that skills and service could be combined and taught to the students from ages seven to eleven. Their project was to sew 100 beanie hats for the homeless before Christmas vacation. As Gunner Giese, one of the students, would explain, “The homeless usually don’t get anything for Christmas, so it’s a very big treat for them.” Students kept those sewing machines stitching, and they even finished one week early.

On the KSBY news segment, students showed Buccio just what they do to create the hats. There is a whole lot of folding and stitching, and then Tristen Sorenson, another student, showed the reporter, “I go through all the threads to see if there are any hangouts and then I cut them off.” David explained, “By reinforcing their stitches and switching from a straight stitch to a zig zag, we were strengthening their skills.” The last step was to

wrap the gift. Student Elizabeth Bonilla demonstrated how to do that, “You grab one of these cards to write a Christmas message and, if you want, sign it with your name and grade. Then you put in the beanie.” The gift bag also included a GLOW tract.

It was a group effort as church members and parents donated the fleece for the hats. This was even more evident when it came time to distribute them at the 40 Prado Homeless Shelter in San Luis Obispo on December 14. Kids, parents, and teachers also decorated the cafeteria at the shelter for Christmas. As Collins said, “The season is about giving, and the joy of giving is priceless. We told the parents that this was a school assignment, and everybody signed up.” However, students commented that it really did not feel like one. As Tristen remarked, “It’s an amazing feeling just to know that someone can wear our beanies and be warm and feel more safe.”

If you would like to see the news segments, please scan the QR codes below for the KSBY station and/or the one for “All God’s People”.



KSBY
station



"All
God's
People"



PHOTOS: KSBY NEWS





TOP: A customer looks over the selection of spiritual materials with the help of an ABC assistant. **BOTTOM:** The Clovis ABC actively helps people find materials for their spiritual growth.

CCC Adventist Book Center

As you “Arise & Go,” you may wish to find some useful sharing materials as well as informative guides on how to give Bible studies. It is for that reason the CCC provides an important ministry, both locally and online, to its members. As Trevor Louw, manager of the Clovis Adventist Book Center (ABC), will tell you, “We seek to provide spiritually uplifting materials that will contribute to the spiritual growth and health of our members and our communities. We want to provide spiritual resources that enable every member to be a soul winner and thereby hasten the second coming of Jesus Christ.”

However, there is another interesting sidelight to this ministry that we may not often realize. “Many people, who might not even be members, come looking for something to answer their questions or wanting something spiritually encouraging,” Louw explained. “They may have discovered the ABC by doing a Google search (clovisabc.com), or when driving by, or even by word of mouth. They come seeking to know God better—and then God plants a seed in their hearts and minds.” He goes on to say, “We often pray that God will bring people into the store and that we

can put in their hands just what they need to know Him better. That prayer God has answered many times, and we praise Him every time it happens.”

Louw shared a number of examples to illustrate what God has done. Following are three short stories; look for others in the months to come.

Needing comfort: A woman came into the store and shared that her husband had been in the ICU for three months due to COVID. Although he was now off the ventilator, he was basically nonresponsive. We had the wonderful opportunity of praying with her. She expressed that it was so significant to her that we were there for her at this time.

Looking for answers: A woman in her forties came in for the first time. Although now a Christian, she shared that her religious background was in the Asian culture. We talked with her a long time. She had many questions and shared the thoughts and struggles that were on her mind. Toward the end of the conversation, she commented that she realized she needed to focus on God and that she was much encouraged by her time in the ABC. She accepted our recommendations and left with a *Steps to Christ* and *The Desire of Ages*. It was a happy surprise when, a little later that same day, she returned to pick up a Bible as well.

Searching for the way back: “Please, can you show me something to read that will help me find my way?” This searching and sincere request came from a man in his thirties. He shared that he was a Seventh-day Adventist who had drifted away and wanted to come back to God and the church again.

We give thanks to the Lord for bringing His people to the Clovis ABC store! Please continue to pray for this ministry.

First time Bible study

How exciting it is to “Arise & Go” and give your first Bible study! Dneiper Vega, pastor of the Tulare church, sent the following message to his members: “I’m excited to report to you that Roman gave his first Bible study today. He invited two of his friends, and I shadowed/instructed him. Please pray for his training and the Bible students.” And, Vega added, “If anyone else would like to learn how to give a Bible study, let me know.”



Pastor Vega (far left) coaches one of his members, Roman (second left), as he gives his first Bible study with two friends (both on the right).

Pastor Dan on Facebook

If you would like some ideas of what you could do to “Arise & Go,” you might like to ask our president, Dan Serns, if you could be his Facebook friend (already with almost 5,000, so ask quickly) or check his public post. He often posts how he interacts with people in day-to-day situations, and he shares stories that others send to him. As Ellen White shared in that story about Philip, “Long has God waited for the spirit of service to take possession of the whole church so that everyone shall be working for Him according to his ability” (*The Acts of Apostles*, p. 111). As Jesus would say, “Go ye also into the vineyard” (Matthew 20:4, KJV).

By Deloris Trujillo



Special Announcements . . . as we go to press . . .

On February 14, the CCC voted to **move forward** with an in-person Soquel Camp Meeting from July 14 to 23, 2022. Nevertheless, we are still in need of prayers for some significant miracles. Please continue to pray and watch for special announcements. Also, check the CCC website for additional information as it becomes available.

The CCC has announced some changes for office staff personnel and assignments to begin on February 1, 2022. Changes include: Benjie Maxson (former pastor of Modesto Central): Communication Director; Antonio Huerta: Vice President of Ministries and Evangelism; Ricardo Vilorio: Ministerial and Church Planting Director; Anil Kanda: Young Adult, Youth Discipleship, and Health Director; Nelson Ernst: Literature Ministries and Global Mission Director

CCC Prayer Conference 2022

FILLED BY THE SPIRIT

March 11 -12, 2022

Friday, March 11, 2022
7:00 – 9:00pm

Saturday, March 12, 2022
9:30am – 3:45pm

Sabbath lunch and child care will be provided

Watch live at:
www.cccprayerministries.com
www.sfcentral.org

Location:
San Francisco Central SDA Church
2889 California St.
San Francisco, CA 94115

Pastor Pavel Goia

Students Embrace Fellowship



Down by 2, with 11 seconds left on the clock, it seemed like the game was all over for the Hawaiian Mission Academy (HMA) Knights. After a missed free throw by the other team, HMA senior Micah Castillo was able to grab the rebound and toss the ball full court to fellow senior Kristoff Ramirez, who would make a layup to tie the game, sending it to overtime. The Knights would go on to eventually win the game, but once it was all over, they ran to embrace their opponents. When a team wins a close game, or any game, you don't typically see them running to celebrate with their opponents.

This was the norm for the Knights at the Pacific Union College Pioneer Invitational this past January. For the past two years, we at Hawaiian Mission Academy have been fighting to give our students a sense of normalcy. With the COVID pandemic lasting longer than initially hoped, sports have continually been affected. Fortunately, we have slowly and carefully been able to restore opportunities back to our students.

One opportunity that has been reestablished is the mainland trip to Pacific Union College for their annual basketball tournament. Before the COVID pandemic hit, HMA had traveled to PUC each year for their "Pioneer Invitational." This year we were blessed to have a chance to attend this tournament once again. We COVID-tested, masked up, and headed on a flight to California.

The unique opportunity with this trip is for our students to get the chance to meet students from other SDA academies. Being located in Hawaii, our students do not have many opportunities to meet other Adventist high school students or travel to the mainland in general. At PUC, the students have a chance to stay in the college dormitories with other Adventist high schoolers, go to vespers together, and go to church together. Our students took full advantage of the situation and made friendships with almost every team they met or played against.

Being the team from the farthest away, the students

knew they had a lot to prove. In previous years, they heard many different things like, "Do they even know how to play basketball in Hawaii?" While this didn't fuel our teams with anger, it inspired them to prove to everyone that they belonged there. Our boys' team was able to make the third place game, where they played against many of their newly made friends from Newbury Park Academy. While the game did not turn out in our favor, the actions after the buzzer remained the same—they ran to embrace their opponents.

It was now time for the championship. At center court, our girls faced off against Redlands Adventist Academy. Instead of sitting off in a corner by themselves, the boys mixed in with teams from many other schools to help gather support for our girls. Throughout much of the game you could hear most of the gym filled with the sound of chants for HMA. Even though we were so far from home, we felt like we belonged. With the support of our fans, our girls were able to win first place and bring home the championship.

After the final buzzer sounded, PUC handed out multiple tournament awards, which many of our students received. Senior Roczen Simeona won the overall "Champion of Character" sportsmanship award, and sophomore Shynastee Ahina won the "Most Valuable Player" award. Seniors Micah Castillo and Kristoff Ramirez and sophomores Shynastee Ahina and Ariyana Simeona were awarded with the "All Tournament Team" awards.

At PUC, our HMA students were able to prove that they belonged, and they made lifelong friendships along the way. While we were all ready to return home to the warm weather, the memories that we made during that trip will last a lifetime. As we move forward and out of the pandemic, we hope to provide more and more opportunities for our student athletes to grow to their fullest potential.

By Kyle Bullington



Students Show Appreciation and Responsibility

Each year, the nonprofit Kokua Foundation asks schools around the Hawaiian Islands to collect marine debris and transform it into art. This year, Hawaiian Mission Academy (HMA) Ka Lama Iki students are collecting single-use plastics, bottle caps, microplastics, and sea glass. The students have titled the mural “Pollution isn’t pretty...A’ole nani ka pollution.” This student-created mural will be covered in cut and shaped water bottles and disinfectant wipe containers to create coral textures, different sizes of jellyfish, turtles, local fish, and anemones. In the center of the mural are two humpback whales made of wire and filled with the single-use plastics students collected from local beaches. It’s meant to show that pollution

can damage the beauty of Hawaii.

It’s hard to believe that 15 to 20 tons of microplastics and marine debris wash up on Oahu’s shores each year. The Kokua Foundation also encourages students to start school gardens and recycling drives, but this contest seems to really bring the local schools together for the common good. It is very inspiring to see the students so invested in this mural!

At Ka Lama Iki, all students, in preparation for their May Day performance, spend the new year learning the Hawaiian language and celebrating creation through song and hula. In many ways, they are encouraged to form a deeper appreciation for the *‘āina*, or land.

HMA Ka Lama Iki hopes that the lessons learned and community service shared as a result of participation in this mural contest will inspire students to encourage family and community members to get involved by visiting local beaches and collecting these harmful pieces of debris. God shares with us that, with love and care, anything can transform into something beautiful. As stewards of God’s creation, it is our *kuleana*, or responsibility, to make sure Hawaii’s animals and beaches are healthy and protected.

By Sarah Traczyk

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 Years of Stories Like These

It says a lot for a deeply broken teenage girl to grow up in a cycle of poverty and abuse and still be able to build a stable family of her own. To be able to love again—to have hope and a future—when everything around you seems to suggest the opposite, this is the dream of storybook tales. As Jovannah Poor Bear-Adams would tell you: “Breaking the cycle isn’t a clean cut. It is a process.”

Jovannah’s process involved the help of others. Teachers and staff, who became like family, helped her find her healing and thus her potential. Now she is doing the helping—sharing her story of dark to light with students so they too can rewrite their story. Thanks to divine intervention through the faithful support of one little school in the Arizona desert, Jovannah can celebrate a life healed with the school that helped in her healing.

Jovannah’s story is one of many. For 75 years, Holbrook Indian School (HIS) has had stories like this. On March 6, 2022, Jovannah joined other alumni and past staff in celebration of the school’s 75 years of service.

Holbrook Indian School, like many ministries, started with humble beginnings. Marvin Walter was

a missionary working for the Arizona Conference when he set out to learn about the needs of the Diné (Navajo people). As Marvin talked with the people, he discovered their desire for their children to receive an education. With funding from the Pacific Union Conference, he and his wife, Gwendolyn, set out to start a school. In 1945, the missionary couple moved to Holbrook, Arizona, where a new school was built.

The first mission school term started in 1946, with 320 acres of land in Holbrook. That fall, 30 children sat on sheepskin rugs, reciting their first lessons in a foreign language—English. This became the first class of students of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission School, now known as Holbrook Indian School.

Through the years, many people have come to work at HIS. The school has grown to serve more than 100 children and youth who annually enroll at HIS. Much of what our school does today continues from our past, celebrating and uplifting Native American heritage as well as practical whole-person learning.

Navigating spiritual beliefs at HIS is both a fragile and fertile area. With the history of forced exposure to “less than Christian” Christianity, we are very aware of the historical wounds that preceded our school’s

existence. Today, our student's spiritual heritage is respected—and in areas of common beliefs, this has been a bridge. To get a good representation of this, we can look back to our 1982 original poetry and prose publication “Hieroglyphs.” In one piece from this original compilation, past student Sandra Flye created a poem based on Psalm 23 in the expression of her own Native imagery. (You can read the poem at HolbrookIndianSchool.org/hisnation/75-years.)

Like the apostle Paul's method in his sermon about the Greeks' “unknown god,” appealing to common beliefs is a way to connect with the students' spiritual journeys. Most Native traditions center on a belief in a Creator. By pointing students to object lessons in nature, they can more easily understand who their Creator is and that He loves them. It has proven beneficial to meet our students where they are.

Throughout the past 75 years, students from many Nations have come to Holbrook. One student, Charlotte Beyal, became the first woman and Navajo judge magistrate in Flagstaff, Arizona. Charlotte says, “My father had a dream for his children to receive an education. That is why he brought us to the SDA Mission School.”

Today we are happy and humbled as we see a

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
HolbrookIndianSchool.org

number of our students fulfilling their potential. Not only are they choosing to break the cycle, but they have also gone on to help others learn how to do so.

By Chevon Petgrave



Charlotte Beyal



Jovannah Poor Bear-Adams



December Campaign Raises More Than \$500k for Education Programs, Projects

The announcement arrived in late January and it was good news—La Sierra University had exceeded its December Giving Day and end-of-year fundraising goal by more than half and surpassed the previous year's inaugural Giving Day tally by more than \$100,000.

The annual event in early December is organized through the Office of Advancement and offers campus departments the opportunity to promote programs and projects for donor support during a day-long campaign. Donations are accepted online

via MobileCause, with contributions taken any time following the announcement of the campaign and through the end of December.

This year's second Giving Day campaign aimed for \$250,000 to support initiatives in 13 departments and facilities. But by the end of December, \$559,571 had been contributed by approximately 440 donors, who submitted 499 donations.

"We are so grateful to all who donated, who came through at a level we did not expect—and during a relentless COVID-19 pandemic that has made life harder for everyone," said Vice President for Advancement Norman Yergen. "We are deeply honored and blessed and thank God for his provision through all those who contributed. Their gifts will greatly benefit our students, our campus, and our community and will produce positive impacts that will be experienced for years to come. We express our deepest thanks to you all."

The departments of art and design, athletics, music, health and exercise science, psychology, and social work as well as the Zapara School of Business, the School of Education, the H.M.S. Richards Divinity School, the Sciences Advisory Board, the university museum, and the Center for Near Eastern Archaeology sought donor consideration during the campaign. The archaeology center garnered the highest level of support with more than \$52,000 raised for its programming. The Sciences Advisory Board raised nearly \$44,000 for renovations to the Barnard Observatory, allowing them to achieve their overall goal of \$130,000 and begin planning updates to the aging astronomical research structure.

Annual Fund and Advancement Communications Director Kristine Barker, who leads the Giving Day initiative, was surprised by the campaign's final tally. "I am not going to lie; I was pretty shocked. I placed the goal down lower this [second] year since sometimes there is a lot of hype for the first year of anything new," she said. "But wow, I am so thankful for everyone who was a part of this and donors who love and support La Sierra."

By Darla Martin Tucker



The white-domed Barnard Observatory is situated behind the Visual Art Center on the slope of Mount Two Bit.

Dr. Ryan Smith to Join PUC as VP for Student Life

Pacific Union College President Ralph Trecartin recently announced that Ryan Smith will be joining the college's administrative team this spring as the new vice president for student life.

"His experience and depth of knowledge make him an outstanding addition to our leadership team," said Trecartin.

With a wealth of experience across student life and academia, Smith's career has spanned both the Seventh-day Adventist education system and the state university system. He received his bachelor's degree at Oakwood University, master's from Alabama A&M University, and a doctorate from Morgan State University.

"PUC has had a long history of producing alumni who are contributing in significant ways to both the church and communities all over the world," said Smith. "Our family feels blessed and privileged to serve at PUC."

The vice president for student life is responsible for student support departments and activities, including residential life, PUC Pioneers athletics, campus ministries, student association, health services, counseling services, career services, and more. At the heart of it, the role helps define the whole experience of every PUC student, an experience that reaches far beyond the classroom.

"I look forward to making connections with students, and I am a firm believer that students are the reason why we are in the 'business' of higher education," said Smith. "I also look forward to working with the student life team, learning about the community and culture, and the impact they are having on students' ability to thrive academically, socially, and spiritually."

Smith is stepping into the role at a critical and exciting time as the college moves forward with its new Vision for the Future, which provides a framework for PUC's next several years in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The pandemic has shown us that we have to adjust to meet the ever-changing needs of both student and parent," said Smith. "One of my priorities is to collaboratively focus on spiritual life by identifying and eliminating any barriers that might get in the way of students having a personal relationship with God. In addition, I want to assess how we intentionally engage students to be instruments in God's hands, to relieve the suffering of humanity, all in the context of our biblical commission to 'go ye therefore.'"

PUC welcomes Dr. Smith and his family.

By Ashley Eisele



"I look forward to making connections with students, and I am a firm believer that students are the reason why we are in the 'business' of higher education."

Ryan Smith

Loma Linda University Faculty Awarded for COVID-19 Vaccine Work in Community



Loma Linda University faculty are recipients of the Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches (IECAAC) Dorothy Ingram Trailblazer award for their efforts to ensure COVID-19 vaccine equity in the local community.

Seven faculty members from across five Loma Linda University schools were awarded during a ceremony in January.

- Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH, president, Loma Linda University
- Ricardo Peverini, MD, president, Faculty Medical Group
- Juan Carlos Belliard, PhD, MPH, School of Public Health
- Jacinda Abdul-Mutakabbir, PharmD, MPH, School of Pharmacy
- Michael Hogue, PharmD, FAPhA, FNAP, School of Pharmacy
- Bridgette Peteet, PhD, School of Behavioral Health
- Jennifer Veltman, MD, School of Medicine
- Kiema Jones, process improvement specialist, Faculty Medical Group

Loma Linda University Health has led COVID-19 vaccine efforts in San Bernardino County and university faculty-organized student-based mobile vaccine clinics in vulnerable communities throughout Southern California.

“The Dorothy Ingram Trailblazer award is presented to those whose tenacity in the face of opposition allowed them to blaze new paths in areas that impact the community in a positive matter,” said Bishop Kelvin Simmons, president of IECAAC. “We selected this brilliant team of Loma Linda University great minds because their efforts to ensure vaccination equity was a trailblazing move for our community, with gratitude from the bottom of our hearts!”

The IECAAC was formed in 2000 by a group of 22 local pastors from churches in the Inland Empire as a first step to address systematic patterns of abuse and violence to and in the community. The organization has been in demand by many groups as the voice of the African American community. Local politicians continue to seek an audience with the organization for presentations and support.

The award was named after Dorothy Ingram, a school teacher who, in 1953, became the first African American superintendent of schools in the state of California. Ingram was a trailblazer who endeavored to exemplify excellence in our community at a time of significant racial inequity. She lived to be 106 years old, and her passion was to mentor students and teachers in the Inland Empire, according to the IECAAC.

Jacinda Abdul-Mutakabbir, assistant professor at Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy, said the award was immensely significant to her. “It has been an honor to work with our faith leaders to show the balance between faith and science,” she said.

By Donajayne Potts

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

Bicycles Boost School Retention and Physical Activity in Mexico

Adventist Health has partnered with World Vision International to provide dozens of bicycles for middle school and high school students in Northern Mexico. The Bicycles That Change Lives project aims to reduce school dropout rates by providing bicycles for students to use for commuting to and from school.

Delivery of 111 bicycles took place in December 2021 in coordination with leaders from Montemorelos University and the districts of General Terán, Allende, and Montemorelos in Nuevo Leon, Mexico. An additional 250 bicycles will be delivered in February, with five more deliveries planned throughout the year.

To qualify for a bicycle, students must be enrolled in the current school year, have limited resources, have no other means of transportation, have a history of good school behavior, and meet a specified grade point average during the last school period.

The donation from Adventist Health included a 26-foot cargo truck provided by Adventist Health Rideout that will facilitate delivery of the bicycles as well as medical supplies for Adventist Health clinic partners throughout Northern Mexico.

Distribution of the bicycles took place at community events attended by representatives of Montemorelos University, municipal mayors in the three regions of Nuevo Leon, representatives of the health and education sectors of the Mexican state government and the North Mexican Union Conference, and John Schroer, Global Mission System Lead for Adventist Health.

“Our goal is to build strong and healthy communities. It is very exciting for us to see the beginning of this program and look to the future to bring other programs to these



Allende Mayor Patricia Salazar (center) and John Schroer (on her left) attend a community event to distribute bicycles to students.



Montemorelos Mayor Miguel Salazar (shaking hands) and John Schroer (on his right) present a bicycle to a high school student from Montemorelos.

“Our goal is to build strong and healthy communities.”

**John Schroer, Adventist Health
Global Mission System Lead**

communities,” said Schroer. “It is also very rewarding to see these bicycles get in the hands of students who really need them.”

A meeting with regional church, community, and government leaders was held in December to consolidate the social impact of the project, which includes promoting healthy communities.

Roel Cea, director of health promoting ministries for the North Mexican Union Conference, said that each of the three regions in Northern Mexico has an invested interest in the logistics of the project, from the donation of the bicycles to the selection of bicycle recipients. “Each of the sectors has a specific responsibility so that the social impact of the project can be effectively accomplished in each region,” he said.

Schroer said that partnering with Montemorelos University has been a win-win experience. “Students at the university who are distributing the bicycles get to interact with younger students in the community and get to know them, while community members have the opportunity to explore the world of higher education at Montemorelos,” said Schroer.

By Kim Strobel



LEFT: The missionary fire truck was Moab church's entry in the Moab 2021 Christmas Electric Light Parade. RIGHT: Pastor Nathan James prays with members from the Moab and Castle Valley churches, as well as DayStar Adventist Academy students, in preparation for their gospel outreach to the community of Moab.

Missionary Fire Truck Witnesses to Community

Christmas in March? This may seem like an odd time to be publishing a story on a past Christmas event. However, the members of the Castle Valley and Moab churches don't think so. To them, the story is not about a past event but a future one. The success of their missionary fire truck has sparked within them the desire to repeat this again next December, hoping that early planning will bring even greater results from this outreach.

The old fire truck sits beside the road, still wrapped in garland and strung with lights. Across its side panel, the banner declares, "Jesus, Light of the World." Though tired and worn out, not running as it used to, the fire truck now has a new purpose. Instead of fighting fire, it is now being used to ignite the spark of the gospel in the community of Moab, Utah.

Right on the heels of the Moab Manna potato harvest, the annual community Christmas Electric Light Parade was scheduled to take place. While some church members and volunteers were out harvesting in the potato field, others were decorating the missionary fire truck and preparing give-away bags to be stowed in the compartments of the truck. Inside these bags were age-specific sharing books, activities, and treats. The youth bags included copies of *Young Disciple Magazine*, and the

adult bags held a gift copy of *The Great Controversy*.

Excitement ran high the evening of December 4, 2021. Students and staff from DayStar Adventist Academy joined the Moab and Castle Valley church members in the pre-parade lineup. Pastor Nathan James gave final instructions and led in a group prayer. Then participants choosing to walk on the street donned blinking-light wreaths, the younger children hopped aboard the fire truck, and the prepared witnessing bags were staged in hand.

As the parade rolled slowly down the streets of Moab, the townspeople lined the route in droves. It was heartwarming to see the community come together and the crowd smiling and waving. It was the perfect time to share about Jesus and the solution to the real spiritual controversy that rages around the globe. The hundreds of gift bags were received with eagerness, and supplies ran out too quickly.

Afterward, as the participants mingled at the church over cookies and hot drinks, plans for next year were already being cooked up. Castle Valley church member Felicia Mayer said, "We need thousands of bags, not hundreds." The spark of the gospel needs to be ignited in the hearts of the people. Where the people are, that is where God's workers must go.

Because of the tremendous response from the community, the members of the two churches, along with the academy, are already in preparation for this year's evangelism. They are determined to be able to provide the Living Bread to everyone willing to receive it. Plans are being made to direct a portion of their evangelism funds to the missionary fire truck outreach, as well other creative evangelism projects.

Nathan James, pastor of the churches, hopes that by hearing this story, you may be encouraged to search for creative ways to reach your community. "It's time for us to find more ways to meet the needs of the communities around us, not losing sight of the fact that finding Jesus is the greatest of those needs."

By Charolet James

Mario Alvarado Ordained to the Gospel Ministry

Mario Alvarado's long-awaited ordination ceremony planned for October 2021 had to be postponed due to COVID protocols, but that disappointment was replaced with joy on the first Sabbath in February 2022. Plans were renewed and a beautiful ordination ceremony was carried out.

Pastor Mario met his wife, Natali, while they were students at Montemorelos University in Mexico. Both he and Natali have pastored several churches in the Nevada-Utah Conference. They are delighted daily by the antics of their son, Silas.

Pastor Mario shares that "God inspired my grandmother, Tita, to share the gospel with my parents, and they continued that teaching to my entire



NUC Treasurer Karen Schneider and NUC President Carlos Camacho join Mario Alvarado's wife, Natali, and their son, Silas, as Pastor Mario speaks.

family." This resulted in his deep love for God and a desire to serve Him.

He obtained a bachelor's degree in theology at Montemorelos University and went on to obtain his master's degree at Andrews University. Testifying to the church, Pastor Mario said, "Today I am privileged and blessed to pastor the Ogden/Sunset District. I love my King Jesus for all that He is, and I love His church, for which he gave His life. I thank God that all the achievements are by His grace, mercy, and love. To Him be all the honor and glory, forever."

The Nevada-Utah Conference is blessed to have such a fine young pastor serving God's people in Utah. Mario is energetic, talented, and creative, but most of all you cannot help but be influenced by his love for Jesus. Congratulations, Pastor Mario!

By Michelle Ward



Pastors Mario and Natali Alvarado listen to Jose Muniz.

“We Have Come This Far by Faith”

By Marc Woodson, interviewed by Laurie Trujillo

Last year was pivotal for the Northern California Conference (NCC) because of its focus on organizational health. During the recorded state of the conference address, Laurie Trujillo, director of communication and development, interviewed NCC President Marc Woodson. This article is based on the recorded presidential address, now available on the NCC YouTube Channel, where Woodson shares how the Holy Spirit moved through the conference in amazing and wonderful ways.

Although the answer seems obvious, who is “the conference”?

The conference is our network of 165 churches and companies, 35 schools, various support ministries, like Napa Valley Adventist Retirement Estates and Leoni Meadows Conference Center, as well as the 40,581 members. Many times, when members say “the conference,” they are referring to the administrative office and headquarters in Roseville. We, the people, are the conference, and together we connect people in our region to Jesus Christ.

What blessings did God pour out on the conference in 2021?

The pandemic temporarily closed our buildings, but our network continued to connect people to an

abundant life in Jesus Christ and prepare them for the Second Coming. Our pastors preached the gospel. As a result, there were 464 baptisms, 17 rebaptisms, and 63 professions of faith in 2021. We also organized the Sacramento Fijian church, the Sacramento Ukrainian church, and Richmond Spanish company.

Our educators successfully adapted to ever-changing state guidelines, and we experienced a 14 percent growth in enrollment conference-wide, with a 20 percent growth in our early learners. As you can see, we experienced growth in very measurable ways.

At the start of your 2018 term, the conference adopted three strategic initiatives. One of those is engaging your community with compassion. How did churches, schools, and members do that in 2021?

The majority of our entities have been serving their community in meaningful ways. Some served as a temporary vaccination clinic, took action to help with the influx of Afghan refugees, or filled the gap in terms of food security—like the Carmichael, Orangevale, Paradise, and Lincoln Amazing Grace churches. Sacramento Capitol City church transformed into a warming center in the winter and a cooling center in the summer for hundreds of unhoused people. Our Pathfinder clubs have also been busy cleaning and feeding their communities. There are so many examples





of our churches, schools, and members becoming relevant to their community.

What does it mean to be community relevant, and why is it important?

A community-relevant church or school will ask, “What does my community need and how can we address those specific needs?” The answer to these questions will then drive the development of projects. Many entities fall into the trap of providing the services they feel most comfortable with and thus remain a hidden feature in the community. It is only when the community sees the church or school serving needs that they will be ready to hear the gospel. It is like Jesus, who addressed the physical need first and then worked on the spiritual hunger.

Another initiative is to engage your calling to ministry. How did members accomplish that in 2021 when things were still in transition?

This initiative is based on the premise that God created each individual with a unique set of gifts, talents, skills, and passion. Sometimes we think of pastors when we talk about ministry—and pastoral ministry is a type of ministry. However, I believe everyone is called to minister. The focus of this initiative is to be involved in a meaningful way at the local church or school level that taps your special gifts

to effectively connect people with Jesus Christ.

It has been amazing to watch people in our conference stepping up to meet the pandemic challenges. I recall a story in which a principal went to the home of a child with materials to teach outside the window of the home. I recall a tech-savvy member stepping in so that the church could be livestreamed to homes.

How does being community relevant and using your gifts for ministry link to church planting and growth in the Northern California Conference?

It was important for all three initiatives to complement and build on one another. In our conference, there have been two church plants. One is in Marin county, sponsored by the Novato church. The church began by engaging their community with compassion, which led to being community relevant. The young members engaged their calling to ministry, and as a result, a church was planted in 2021 and



people are connecting to Jesus and being transformed. The other church plant was Buena Tierra, which was sponsored by the Oakland Spanish church, and it was accomplished in the same way. This is how the three initiatives work together to further our mission.

Giving is another way to tell the story of how God has blessed our conference. How is the financial health of this conference?

Giving has been a tangible testament to how the Holy Spirit has worked in our conference. Our members are faithful and generous givers. The conference is not a business where we make money from a product or service. It is simply the faithfulness and giving of our people that brought over \$46 million of tithe in 2021—a historic amount for the cause of connecting people

to a transformative relationship with Jesus Christ. To God be the glory for the great things He has done! And this giving is on top of what members gave to their local churches and to other special conference projects like the Disaster Relief and the Kindergarten funds.

These financial blessings allowed us to take better care of our pastors, teachers, and other conference workers. It allowed us to expand ministry and provide more resources to our churches, schools, and other ministries.



How were the Disaster Relief and Kindergarten funds used?

The donated funds for disaster relief allowed us to help every identified member and those connected to the local church or school with cash assistance. Additionally, in partnership with the Pacific Union Conference, we were able to cover one month of tuition for 218 new kindergarteners at our schools, which is an increase of enrollment by 20 percent. Generosity is the hallmark of our members in the Northern California Conference, and their giving makes a difference!

Our conference faced a long fire season that impacted both Leoni Meadows in Grizzly Flats and Foothills Elementary School in Deer Park. Can you update us on the current status of both entities?

As you have read in previous publications, the fire destroyed buildings and most of the infrastructure.





for the office headquarters. We envision healthy churches, schools, and other ministries— as a whole—where our members and employees are engaged and enthusiastic about spreading the gospel, where each entity is mission driven and relevant to their communities. It is very exciting to envision a healthy conference!

Can you share with us one change you made on this journey and why it was so important?

Pastor Craig Heinrich and his team have been working hard to get the camp ready to accept visitors this summer. Insurance, donors, and funds from the conference have supported all the work, and the camp is recovering. Moreover, new plans are being drawn up to improve the camp in many ways, and I look forward to its grand opening.

Foothills Elementary School, which was damaged by the Glass fire, opened its doors over Christmas break. There are also plans in place to expand the main building, which burned in the fire.

Vision casting and building on the momentum of 2021, what does the future look like in 2022?

In early 2021, the conference started a journey toward organizational health. We believe being a healthy organization will help us carry out our mission in a more effective way. And this journey is not just

The first discipline to organizational health is building a cohesive leadership team. Historically the administrative counsel consisted of four male members: the president, the executive secretary, the treasurer, and the assistant to the president. It was clear we needed a diversity of perspective and more eyes on the issues. We are now a Leadership Team of eight members, and two of our members are women. We added the ministerial director, the superintendent of schools, the human resource director, and the communication and development director.

Together, over the last year, we worked on our clarity: Why do we exist as a conference? What are our core values? How will we succeed? What is most important right now?

Because of the hard work, discipline, and dedication of the team members, we are now cascading this clarity to other leaders in the conference.



Conclusion

At the end of this interview (which can be seen in its entirety on the NCC YouTube channel and in Northern Lights) Woodson shared a song that clearly defines why the Northern California Conference was so blessed in 2021. It is an old gospel hymn called “We Have Come This Far by Faith.”

We have come this far by faith,
Leaning on the Lord,
Trusting in His Holy Word.
He’s never failed us yet...
We’ve come this far by faith.



LEFT: Pastor Jerrold Thompson holds baptism. TOP MIDDLE: Evangelist Pedro Rascon congratulates new members. BOTTOM MIDDLE: Mt. Rubidoux baptismal candidates prepare for baptism. RIGHT: Pastor Carlos Acosta baptizes new member.

End-of-Year Membership Numbers Cause Concern

Last fall, the North American Division (NAD) issued the 2021 annual year-end report, which provided a summary of the membership and growth of this division.

The devastating effects of COVID-19 presented major disruptions in our ability to congregate and do life together as communities of faith. The natural results were overall decreased baptisms and a tragic increase in deaths due to the pandemic. The cascading effects of this global crisis continue to challenge our churches as we face a growing decline in attendance.

In spite of the multiple challenges presented by COVID-related changes and shifts that took place in congregations throughout our conference and division, there is no doubt God has been at work in amazing ways. Throughout the pandemic, churches have been working arduously to provide spiritual care and support to their members and communities. While everyone was holding their collective breath, expecting financially disastrous years, tithe numbers have actually been healthier than anyone thought possible. However, church growth numbers have experienced a painful drop, a trend that predates the pandemic.

Although this is concerning, it presents exciting opportunities to explore creative and innovative ways of approaching outreach and evangelism. Many of our congregations in Southeastern California Conference (SECC) immediately became engaged in serving, caring,

and sharing the love of Jesus in their communities in the midst of these challenging times. SECC statistics indicate that we are experiencing a slowdown in membership growth rates, commensurate to the overall NAD growth rate. The rate of growth in SECC in 2021 was one of the lowest in our history. Just ten years ago, we had a baptism for every 31 members, but now we have one baptism for every 86 members. On the bright side, our baptism numbers are up from 2020 by over 40%. We praise God for the 835 people who joined our churches last year.

One of the things the pandemic underscored for many of our churches is the need to be adaptable and flexible. Congregations that adapted to online and hybrid services were able to remain connected to each other in the midst of the pandemic. Seeking innovative ways to remain connected and minister to the felt needs of the community seems to be a necessary lifeline that will help forge a collective way forward to church growth in uncertain times.

Jerrold Thompson, pastor of San Bernardino Community church, made several adjustments to continue to evangelize during these difficult times. "Doing evangelism in a pandemic was important. It allowed people to see that even though there may be a shift in lifestyle, there is not a shift in the power of Christ to penetrate the heart," said Thompson.

By Patricia Marruffo



SECC Joins Union 10 Days of Prayer Event

Pacific Union Conference Prayer Ministries held a “10 Days of Prayer” event via Zoom with its seven conferences from January 5 to 14, concluding with a Day of Celebration on January 15.

“We wanted to provide an opportunity for people to be a part of something bigger than praying alone at home or in small groups,” said Karen Martell, event organizer and prayer leader for Pacific Union and SECC. “Our goal was to deliver messages of hope and healing. Given the events around the world, many people are desperately looking for love and connection to anyone, especially those who can pray and praise God with them.”

The event drew over 6,000 virtual attendees throughout the 10 days, including entire church congregations tuning in across SECC, as well as participants from North America, Canada, and the Philippines.

Dylan Santoyo, a teenager who attends Los Alamitos church, shared what prayer has meant to him and his family. During his testimony, Dylan explained how God had answered many prayers for his father, who has been dealing with chronic leukemia. For Dylan, the key was seeing how God was present even in the midst of a crisis and how the prayers of his church family impacted him.

“I was just thrilled to hear how Dylan felt that God was personally taking care of him and his family,” said Martell. “Everyone was deeply moved by what he shared with us.”

Following the nightly meetings, attendees joined small group discussions through Zoom breakout rooms to share prayer requests and pray for themselves and others.

“Those smaller breakout rooms were a very holy place,” shared Anita Roberts, event organizer and member of the SECC and Pacific Union prayer

team. “It was a deeply moving experience. I witnessed people from all walks of life—that I’ve never seen and likely will never see again—interceding on behalf of one another and praying for those who shared their burdens openly.”

On Saturday, January 15, the 10-day event concluded with a Day of Celebration. Jonathan Park, SECC president, spoke and reflected on the event. As the celebration drew to a close, organizers sensed that attendees were eager for more, and they invited everyone on the Zoom call to participate in praise to God for all He had done.

Given the overwhelmingly positive feedback and high attendance throughout the event, the SECC and Pacific Union prayer teams are looking to organize another event in the coming months.

“It was Spirit-led and Spirit-filled. God used this time to listen to the prayers of His people and bring them together,” said Martell. “We are grateful to every single person and church who attended.”

For archived videos of the event, visit the SECC Facebook page.

By Danni Thaw



ABOVE: Loma Linda University Church shares special music during 10 days of prayer. **TOP:** SECC President Jonathan Park preaches at the 10 Days of Prayer Celebration.



LEFT: Manna Mesa volunteers share cups of love. RIGHT: Gabby Estrada paints faces at the festival.

San Marcos Church Hosts Fun Festival

San Marcos church hosted a Fun Festival for local church and community members last fall. The event was coordinated by Manna Mesa, the church community outreach ministry, in partnership with the Hispanic Ministry and Family Ministry Departments.

At least 150 families and more than 200 children attended the outdoor event, which featured lawn games, children's arts and crafts, and face painting and served international vegetarian dishes from Mexico and the Philippines, as well as traditional American food.

The festival was organized to illustrate to San Marcos community members that community service, relationship building, and evangelistic outreach are not separate activities from the church.

"Community and church are inextricably intertwined," said Vadim Dementyev, pastor of the San Marcos church and festival planner. "After the harsh months of social distancing, we wanted everyone to gather safely outdoors to have some fun—hence Fun Festival!"

After partnering to brainstorm ways to get involved in the community, church and Manna Mesa ministry members had the idea to host an event specifically designed to build local connections. With the support of the entire San Marcos church, the idea of an outdoor event was born.

The Manna Mesa outreach ministry has provided vital support to the surrounding community by organizing food distribution. Manna Mesa is a major partner of Feeding America in North San Diego County and has been awarded "super pantry status" for its outstanding service and sizable program.

The ministry provides food for more than 400 households in addition to serving as a hub for community services with Escondido Spanish and Valley Center Seventh-day Adventist churches, bringing the weekly total for families served to more than 800.

During the most challenging months of the COVID-19 pandemic, Manna Mesa continued to serve the community and helped build close relationships with the surrounding church neighbors. The Fun Festival created an opportunity for Manna Mesa members to interact more closely with the community with whom they had already built ties.

"The best feedback we received about our event was in the form of the many smiles and words of gratitude by community members," said Dementyev. "We also recruited a few volunteers from the community to join the Manna Mesa ministry."

Plans for another Fun Festival are underway. For San Marcos church members, the goal is to inspire others to seek avenues for community experiences in their own zip codes—no matter how small or large their churches might be.

"This wasn't an isolated occurrence but rather an activity that organically emerged from the life and ministry of the church," said Dementyev. "We see our future as developing and fostering relationships with our neighbors, with an emphasis on embodying the kingdom of God and proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ."

By Danni Thaw

The First Ghanaian Adventist Church is Organized on the West Coast

The Riverside Ghanaian company was duly formed as a new church of Southeastern California Conference (SECC) on January 8 in the La Sierra Academy gym. The new Riverside Ghanaian church is the first Ghanaian Seventh-day Adventist church on the Pacific Coast.

The words *Mo gye tum* (a Ghanaian phrase meaning "Do you agree?") and *Ye gye tum* (meaning "We agree") resounded from the congregation, responding to the call and challenge of becoming a new church body. This celebratory milestone can be attributed to a lay-driven effort of dedicated members who started with a mindset of ministry.

The beginning of this journey started in 2002, when nine Ghanaian students were admitted into La Sierra University. By June 2003, the number increased to 16. Fortunately, they were shown hospitality from four Ghanaian families and the All Nations African church in a nearby community.

Fellowship dinners were always provided. These fellowship dinners often led to deliberations on life in America. Because of language and cultural differences, some Ghanaians attended non-Adventist church



SECC President Jonathan Park acknowledges the flag presentation.

services or did not attend at all. From those deliberations, the idea of coming together to form an association that would cater to the needs of Ghanaian students and their families was born. A committee was set up, and a constitution was developed for the Ghanaian Adventist Association of Southern California.

The new association decided to start a Ghanaian branch Sabbath School at La

Sierra University church, initially meeting once a month. Eventually, a decision was made for the association to meet once a week instead of monthly. In addition, they did not want to meet just for Sabbath School but to also add a church worship service. Many Ghanaian Adventists in the local area started joining the students in weekly Sabbath School study and began actively participating in the church programs.

In 2007, the association requested to become an official organized group of SECC. Through the support of La Sierra University church, the group moved to its current location in 2005 and the branch Sabbath School was organized as an official company.

Over the years, the group has baptized 13 individuals. At the church organization celebration, three young people from the original branch Sabbath

School were baptized. The faithful members of this newly formed church have also contributed a total of \$1,201,365 in tithe and offerings during this period.

On January 8, 2022, the officers of SECC were proud to say, "*Ye gye tum*," meaning "We too agree!"

By Robert Edwards



Church members celebrate churchhood.

Compton Community Church: “In the Absence of Normal, You Can Be Creative”

When the pandemic began, churches faced uncharted waters: What would virtual church, member care, and outreach look like in this new environment?

As the Compton Community church navigated these challenges, they joined the online ministry sphere. Yet, they felt that wasn't enough for their demographic—virtual church had to be part of a larger strategy.

“We had to choose which audience we wanted to have as our primary focus,” shared Gamal Alexander, senior pastor. “Our focus was impacting the community where we live and serve while staying safe. Working back from that, we asked, ‘How can we fulfill that statement? How can we take everything we do internally and flip it so we can do it external?’”

One expression of this mission was in-person, in-car outdoor services, with each attendee receiving a free pre-packaged meal. This set-up brought positive returns: increased tithes and attendance, deeper member involvement, and greater interest from visitors.

While in-car worship may seem isolating, member participation didn't stop. Pre-COVID church culture “says when you are in church and there's a portion of the sermon you agree with, say amen,” Alexander said. “In a Black church, you may clap your hands. All that changes when you're in your car. You create new norms.” So they did—responding by honking their horns.

One big part of the story is the invaluable



Alexander preaches the Word during a recent online service. Visit the church website at www.comptonsdachurch.org.



PHOTO: GAMAL ALEXANDER

The church is active in community outreach, hosting a quarterly concert, preparing 1,000 grocery bags for Thanksgiving, distributing 500 toys for Christmas, and giving away clothing in the summer.

participation of volunteers. “We've discovered the true meaning of church as a community during the pandemic,” Alexander shared. From A/V to music, food prep, children's ministry, parking, and more, all members get involved. “Everybody has a part to play.”

“Going outside has been about more than changing our location,” Alexander said. “It's been changing our mindset to where we have been forced to become more community friendly and externally focused, and we've been forced to think of others first rather than looking for ways to continue doing what we've been doing or being preoccupied with getting back to normal.”

Many testimonies have emerged. One gentleman who hangs out at a local liquor store recently approached the pastor. “Are you a pastor?” he asked. “I want to thank you.” The pastor wasn't sure to what he was referring. “He came to me with a bottle of beer in his hand and told me what he had gotten from the sermon last week and what he took away from the sermon this week,” Alexander recalled.

“We found a principle we want to continue to employ,” Alexander said. “Keep finding creative ways to effectively take the gospel beyond our walls.”

For a longer version of this story, visit <https://scc.adventist.org/cocosda2022>.

By Lauren Lacson



PHOTO: MARIO MELENDEZ



PHOTOS: ARAYA MOSS

LEFT: Attendees line up to meet with a veterinarian at Career Day in November. MIDDLE: Two women are pictured after receiving their COVID rapid self-test kits and hand sanitizer. RIGHT: Melendez (right) shares COVID rapid self-test kits and hand sanitizer with a neighbor from the community.

Spanish-American Church Offers a Rainbow of Community Services

In January, when people struggled to find COVID rapid self-test kits in pharmacies or endured long lines at testing sites, Spanish-American church received 1,000 self-test kits from the Los Angeles Food Bank to distribute to its community and members.

In the week leading up to the distribution day, the community services team knocked on doors to invite their neighbors to come to the church on Sabbath, where the parking lot was marked off for people to easily walk up and pick up the free rapid tests and a bottle of hand sanitizer. Four hundred rapid test kits were distributed that day, and the remaining tests have been given out as the need arises.

"It was an opportunity for us to reach people in a different way than ever before," said Mario Melendez, Spanish-American church community service director. "When you think about church community services, you usually only think about a food bank." Spanish-American church recognizes that community services can encompass so much more.

In addition to its food bank, which has been serving its community for more than 20 years, Spanish-American church offers a multitude of services aimed to let their community know that the church wants to be a good neighbor.

"The way I describe community services is a rainbow of services where you can do anything under the sun," Melendez said, "and you're not limited to just one thing."

Some of these programs include Spanish-American church's fourth annual Career Day last November, which

welcomed 100 people. Professionals and students in nursing, social work, public health administration, teaching, and engineering were in attendance.

"It was a great turnout; kids from our church, community, and their parents asked questions," said Melendez, who specifically invited Christian professionals to share. "It's been a way to bring back young adult members to the church and reconnect them with the current youth at their church—and the community."

During the Christmas holiday, community services gave out 150 food bags to families in need, invited members of the community attending weekly Bible classes to a Christmas dinner on campus, and hosted a toy giveaway.

Because the ongoing pandemic has brought about a rise in mental health issues, the church has held twice-monthly classes since last August as a support group for members and community participants. A graduation for the course is set for June.

These are just a few of the ways that Spanish-American church has poured into its community. Passionate about this work, Melendez has visited a number of churches to help members discover their gifts that can be used for service in their communities.

"It just depends on the talents for each church," Melendez said. "What are the strengths and talents that your church members have?"

By Araya Moss

Pacific Union Conference Bible Instructors' Guild Hosts 46th Annual Rally at Tamarind Church

For the first time in two years, the Pacific Union Conference Bible Instructors' Guild (BIG) held its annual rally in person at Tamarind church, centering on the theme "It Won't Be Long."

Jerrold Thompson, senior pastor of San Bernardino Community church, opened the celebration weekend with a message on Friday night, and Norman Knight, pastor of Valley Crossroads church, spoke during the divine service on Sabbath.

The purpose of this rally, as with rallies in the past, is for the members to get to know each other, to encourage each other, and to emphasize the importance of a Bible instructor's role at a given church. Personal invitations, flyers, and word of mouth were just some of the ways news of the rally was shared. People in attendance were encouraged by the dynamic messages, uplifting music, and fellowship.

"One lady just heard about us online and started coming to our church," said Esther King, BIG Southern California chapter president and member of Tamarind church. "After the rally, she said, 'God sent me here. I want to be a Bible worker.' She's going to be at our next meeting."

Loreen Mason was invited to attend by King, from whom she receives weekly Bible studies. "I learned how important it is to have Bible instructors teach us to seek knowledge and grow a closer relationship with God," Mason shared. "I truly enjoyed the service and was blessed by the word I received from Pastor Knight. I will



King (right) presents Glen (left) with an award in appreciation of eight years of dedicated service and leadership.



Royal Harrison, SCC GLAR director, encourages attendees to keep their faith as they share the gospel. "Our prayer is that there may be a great harvest, that there will be lives and souls saved because of the work of these Bible instructors," he said.

definitely be back to visit Tamarind church."

Several churches in the Greater Los Angeles Region (GLAR) of the Southern California Conference (SCC) that are a part of BIG were in attendance, such as Smyrna, Normandie Avenue, Fifty-Fourth Street, University, Ephesus, Maranatha, Altadena, and Antelope Valley. In addition to these local churches, representatives from beyond the Pacific Union were also present. Following the rally, those interested passed out tracts in the community.

"One highlight was seeing Bible instructors from Alabama to Tennessee, from Nevada to Central and Northern California," said Jean Pierre Kouadio Thomas, an attendee and friend of King. "Another big highlight was to be able to witness in the neighborhood in Compton. What a blessing!"

BIG was formed 46 years ago when founder Vivian Boyce sought to unite the Bible instructors in the Pacific Union. The organization has grown to recruit and train Bible instructors who have a passion for evangelism to win souls for Christ in their communities, with Betty Glenn as the current president.

"My hope for the ministry is to have Bible instructors in every church in the Southern California Conference who are constantly doing the work of God and have the spirit of evangelism in them," reflected King. "My purpose is to find those people, because I believe every church has them."

If you would like to learn more about BIG or get involved, visit <https://bibleinstructorsguild.org/>.

By Araya Moss



PHOTOS: NORA FABRIGAR



PHOTO: CARISSA TOTALCA

LEFT: Volunteers deliver blankets as gifts to Ascencia's homeless clients in the new year. **MIDDLE:** Before COVID, volunteers cooked in Ascencia's kitchen and served clients directly. A family from CFC is pictured serving in ministry together. **RIGHT:** Carissa and Constantino Totalca help prepare sandwiches at CFC for the weekly sandwich feeding ministry.

Central Filipino Church Expands Community Outreach Efforts

For more than 10 years, Central Filipino church (CFC) has participated in the guest chef program at Ascencia, a homeless service agency and emergency shelter in Glendale, whose mission is to “lift people out of homelessness, one person, one family at a time” by providing services, resources, and safe, affordable housing.

Nora Fabrigar, CFC Ascencia feeding program director, has worked with this ministry since the partnership began in 2008, when a group met together to discuss opportunities for outreach. “I just wanted to serve the Lord,” Fabrigar recalled, “and I was willing to join any ministry.”

Through Ascencia's guest chef program, volunteers prepare and serve breakfast or dinner for clients in their emergency housing. Since the dinner service time slot is always full, and volunteers from CFC preferred weekends, the team committed to cook breakfast for 45 people every fourth Sabbath of the month—at 6 a.m. sharp.

Before COVID, volunteers would prepare the food in Ascencia's kitchen and were able to meet with the individuals and families who came in for a hot meal. Now, abiding by COVID protocols, food is prepared offsite and dropped off at Ascencia, where clients can pick up their meals. Though interaction is now limited, the team remains faithful in service.

“The purpose of this ministry is to show how God

serves and loves His people,” Fabrigar said. The challenge is the time, especially now that we have to be up earlier to cook at home. It's been a sacrifice, but it is a blessing to serve.”

From this ongoing ministry, another feeding ministry has emerged, led by Manny Ulanday, CFC community service director. Every Wednesday, volunteers meet at the church to make 150-200 sandwiches to distribute in Glendale, Eagle Rock, and downtown Los Angeles. Ulanday, who was previously in charge of CFC's food bank, started this ministry last March after he was unable to continue leading the food bank due to his health.

Although the food bank is currently on hiatus, the new sandwich ministry fulfills the need of sharing the goodness of salvation with others. “Connections have been made,” Ulanday said. “We've been having Bible studies with a family every Sabbath after lunch, and they've invited their relatives in the Philippines to join through Zoom. We hope to grow the ministry by renting a space in downtown L.A. to offer Bible studies for people who cannot come to the church.”

“It's amazing to see how much we can do with our little resources,” Fabrigar added. “All we need is a willing heart to serve. If Jesus is in us, this is a way we can show it. We hope we are planting the seeds.”

By Araya Moss

Calendar

Central California Conference

Filled by the Spirit Prayer Conference (March 11-12) at San Francisco Central church. Plan to attend (or watch) Pastor Pavel Goia's presentations Friday evening at 7 p.m. and Sabbath beginning at 9:30 a.m. In-person address: 2889 California St., San Francisco, Calif., or watch at www.cccprayerministries.com or www.sfcentral.org.

Jasper Canyon VBS Training (March 13) at Clovis church, 2370 Hel Ave, Clovis, Calif. Get ready to dig deep and uncover the love of Jesus this summer through this year's theme, "Jasper Canyon: Where Every Kid is Treasured by God." Email childmindirector@cccsda.org to find out to

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Upcoming Deadlines

These are the advertising deadlines for the *Recorder*. Your local conference news deadlines will be earlier.
April: March 7 • May: April 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.

how to register and get your VBS kit for free.

Sharing Jesus is easier than you think. Mobilizing Members in Mission 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: 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 for church addresses and directions.

Zooming with Young Adults: Stay connected with the Central California Conference Young Adult Department ministry and Zoomers via WhatsApp: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EQzirfkAtCt5zYqx6dW6No> via Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1394323847488372/> via Instagram: @cccyoungadults_

Check the events page online at www.CentralCaliforniaAdventist.com for all the updates. Many events and outreaches are virtually presented or streamed online.

La Sierra University

Homecoming 2022 and centennial celebrations.

After two years of being unable to hold an in-person alumni gathering, La Sierra University will welcome its former students and their families to Homecoming 2022 on campus April 29 and 30. For the university's 100th-year celebrations, centennial events and activities will



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be included. Schedule and registration: lasierra.edu/homecoming

ACA Study Abroad Fest. Adventist Colleges Abroad will hold a virtual festival Sunday, March 13 at 10 a.m. for college and high school students to learn about study programs at Adventist colleges in nine countries. Grand prize drawing: 10 roundtrip airline tickets for students attending an ACA program. Registration: <https://acastudyabroad.convene.com/>. Info: <https://www.acastudyabroad.com>, aca@nadadventist.org.

Notice: La Sierra University Constituency Meeting. La Sierra University will convene its biennial Constituency Meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at La Sierra University, which is located at 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, Calif., 92505.

Classified

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The regular section of Newsdesk in the *Recorder* is available online at: sda.faith/pacificnewsdesk

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SDA realtor at your service: Let us help you sell your property or buy the ideal home here in gorgeous northern California. Rural properties abound. Perfect for families and retirees. Contact: Jerry Kea, 707-888-9613, thomaskea.tk@gmail.com, CA DRE Lic# 02080864, The Real Estate Group.

Employment

Indonesian-American church in Azusa, Calif., is seeking a full-time associate/youth pastor who is spiritual, mission-minded, friendly, and passionate about working with children, youth and young adults, and young families to guide them in developing a personal relationship with Jesus. A team player with excellent communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to maintain strict confidentiality. Bachelor's degree in theology/religion from an SDA college/university is required; a master's in divinity is preferred. Minimum of 2 years' experience as a youth or associate pastor. Detailed job description available upon request. Please submit a cover letter and resume to iasdacazusa@gmail.com.

Camp Cedar Falls positions available immediately. Assistant cook, general kitchen worker—full time. Cafeteria, weekend staff—part time. Please visit the Southern California Conference website (www.scc.adventist.org) and click on Human Resources (under the "Departments" tab) for information and job descriptions. Please contact Jim Oliver, camp manager, at campcedarfalls@sbcglobal.net or 909-844-5728 for more information.

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

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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 handler's certificate from the San Bernardino County Department of Environmental Health. Apply at <https://bit.ly/3zjw1JP>

Physician assistant in the Loma Linda University School of Allied Health. Assistant assists with organizing and structuring the academic program in accordance with established educational standards and practices. Coordinates the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the professional Physician Assistant course. Provides lectures, supervises and instructs students in clinical settings, and performs administrative duties. Performs other duties as needed. Requires a bachelor's degree, one year of previous teaching experience, and a current certification through the NCCPA and license to practice as a Physician Assistant. <https://bit.ly/35OSiod>

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 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.

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.

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Position open until filled. Link for application: <https://www.centralcaliforniaadventist.com/human-resources>.

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.

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.

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. Impact-hope.org

Real Estate

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

301-332-8237 or Kathyr777@gmail.com.

Great opportunity in Idaho for \$275K. Do you want to experience country living while operating an outpost/ministry or operate your own business? Here is your opportunity to own an 8,000 sq. ft. 2-story building featuring: large open country-themed banquet area, renovated separate living space/office with bathroom/shower, 180-seat auditorium, stage, baby grand piano. SDA church 20 minutes away. 11 S. Main St., Kooskia, ID 83539. Price reduced to sell. For information: bit.ly/3iiG47R 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, 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 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

Houseboat at Lake Don Pedro, Fleming Meadows, 35 minutes east of Modesto, Calif. Master bedroom with bathroom and shower, guest bathroom, living room with hide-a-bed and two recliners, TV, gas fireplace, full kitchen with two refrigerators/freezers covered upper deck for family, Pathfinder events, etc. Can sleep 20 in sleeping bags. Twin engine power and Sea-Doo personal watercraft. \$110,000 for 1/3 ownership, plus monthly dues of \$375 to cover slip rental, insurances, taxes, and routine repairs and maintenance. Call: Dan García 209-968-7979. Leave a message and I will return your call.

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.

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: bhbm1959@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, 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.

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.

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 or email 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 or facebook.com/TabghaTours or call 423-298-2169. "The best trip I've ever had! Nothing comes close." "Fabulous!" "The Bible comes alive." "An awesome experience!"

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.

At Rest

Burgess, Robert George – b. Sept. 30, 1927, Pembroke, Ontario, Canada; d. Jan. 1, 2022, Deer Park, Calif. Survivors: son, Marlowe; daughter, Beth Miracle; five grandchildren. He had a 40-year career in local and mission Adventist church service; author of the book *The Bright Side of China*, regarding his work as ADRA's first director in that country.

Cantos, Robert Gardner – b. Sept. 25, 1931, Laguna, Philippines; d. July 8, 2021, Anaheim, Calif. Survivors: wife, Rosario; sons, Robert Jr., Kenneth, Lance; daughter, Kimi Cantos Malit; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. After a 23-year career in the U.S. Air Force, Robert served the Fullerton SDA community as a dedicated member, greeter, and deacon for 45 years.

Crumb, Karmen (Kitty) – b. Nov. 29, 1963, Park Rapids, Minn.; d. Jan. 22, 2022, Woodland, Calif. Survivors: brother, Ken; sisters, Barbara, Ann; two nieces, three grandnieces; one grandnephew.

Dobias, Robert – b. Jan. 27, 1944, Los Angeles, Calif.; d. Aug. 9, 2021, Forest Falls, Calif. Survivors: wife, Shirley; son, Jim; daughter, Shirlyn; three grandchildren. Bob was a tour manager for the Heritage Singers, a general contractor, and a beloved member of the Forest Falls church.

Farjardo, Eliezer Altovar – b. Oct. 16, 1933; d. Jan.

8, 2022, Bakersfield, Calif. Survivors: children and grandchildren in Ontario, Canada, and Bakersfield, Calif. He was a faithful and generous member who supported many church missions and endeavors.

Fishell, Kathryn Loretta – b. May 31, 1940, Monterey Park, Calif.; d. Dec. 29, 2021, Yuba City, Calif. Survivors: husband, Gerald; son, Brian; daughter, Linda; three grandchildren.

Maguire, Della Miles – b. Apr. 28, 1920, Clinton, Mo.; d. Dec. 29, 2021, Calimesa, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Bonnie Miles Parker (Richard); three grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren. Della worked as an administrative secretary for Loma Linda Food Company both in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and La Sierra, Calif. She was secretary for three Southeastern California Conference presidents.

Nielson, Phyllis Charlene (Purdey) – b. March 27, 1928, Auburn, Wash.; d. Dec. 15, 2021, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: husband, Paul; son, Doyle; adopted son, Richard Otto; daughter, Edith Stewart; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Penner, William George – b. Aug. 30, 1946, Lodi, Calif.; d. Dec. 15, 2021, Carson City, Nev. Survivors: sisters, Ellene Lovin, Louise Moon; many cousins, nieces, and nephew. He worked as a CPA in Stockton and in finance in Lodi and did accounting for the Air Force in Colorado.

Ragsdale, Donald – b. June 6, 1935, Dallas, Texas; d. Nov. 23, 2021, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: wife, Dorothea; son, Larry Ragsdale; brother, Max Ragsdale; sister Elayne Prescott; stepchildren, Cheryl Wilkins, Ronald Wilson; 28 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. Don served in the U.S. Air Force 1952 to 1961. He was the crew chief on the B-36 Bomber.

Rich, Juanita L. – b. July 12, 1924, Auburn, Calif.; d. Jan. 12, 2022, Hanford, Calif. Survivors: sons, Jerry, Myron, Dennis; 11 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren. She and her husband were Pathfinder Area 6 Coordinators of Central California Conference for many years.

Rowe, Judith Ann (Skadsheim) – b. Aug. 28, 1944, San Francisco, Calif.; d. Nov. 15, 2021, Oakdale, Calif. Survivor: husband, Ron. An active member of the Oakdale church, Judy held the position of church clerk for over 30 years.

Ruffcorn, Carol Jean – b. Dec. 22, 1930, Brainerd, Minn.; d. Jan. 11, 2022, Grand Terrace, Calif. Survivors: husband, John; daughter, Sharon Dolinsky; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. A Loma Linda University church member since 1976, she was a church volunteer and ran a medical transcriptionist business.

Scheideman, Kathleen Louise (Harrigan) – b. Nov. 14, 1926, Battle Creek, Mich.; d. Jan. 3, 2022, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: son, George III; daughter, Candace Hadley; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Tan, Maisie – b. Sept. 17, 1928, Singapore; d. Dec. 15, 2021, El Sobrante, Calif. Survivors: husband, Marden; son, Frank; daughter, Karen Sugihara; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren. Active member of Balestier Road church (Singapore), El Sobrante Appian Way church, and Pleasant Hill church.

Tilstra, Margaret

Leoma (Beckner) – b. Aug. 15, 1930, Taunggyi, Burma/Myanmar; d. Jan. 2, 2022, College Place, Wash. Survivors: sons, Daniel, Douglas; daughter, Marie Tilstra Aldinger; brother, Harry Beckner; sister, Clara Beckner Adams; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Margaret volunteered at church in the children's divisions, telling stories and playing the piano; she served as Arcata church treasurer for several years; she prepared food for potlucks and Maranatha teams.

Todorovich, John – b. Dec. 31, 1928, Walla Walla, Wash.; d. Nov. 4, 2021, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: five children; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. "Elder T," as he was known to many, graduated from Walla Walla College in 1955 and began his ministry in Oregon. He spent most of his career pastoring in the Southern California and Oregon conferences. He also worked in administration as vice president of the Oregon Conference and as ministerial secretary of the Southern California Conference. In his spare time, he enjoyed

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landscaping his yard wherever he lived—roses were his specialty.

Vance, Brenda – b. Aug. 24, 1954; d. Nov. 16, 2021, Oakdale, Calif. Survivors: husband, Carl; daughters, Joanna and Lisa; four grandchildren.

Wesner, Michael S. – b. Dec. 20, 1943, Sacramento, Calif.; d. Feb. 2, 2021, Fallon, Nev. Survivors: wife, Lana; children, Jeff, Scott, Sara; brother, Don; sister, Gaylene Edwards. He attended Milo Academy and Monterey Bay Academy class of 1962. Baptized at Sutter Hill. Worked at Leoni Meadows and Weimar. Served as an elder and teacher in the Fallon, Nev., church for many years.

West, Edward (Eddie) I. – b. Aug. 13, 1944, Chicago, Ill.; d. Aug. 23, 2021, Beaumont, Calif. Survivors: wife, Barbara; daughter, Tammy Mathis; stepson, Rick Gurney; stepdaughter, Lori Gurney; two grandchildren; four step-grandchildren.

Willey, Richard “Dick” Sr. – b. July 27, 1931, Tracy, Calif.; d. Jan. 8, 2022, Camino, Calif. Survivors: wife, Donna; sons, Richard “Dick” Jr., Rodney; daughter, Donnelle Summitt; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Served as dean of boys at Gem State Academy in Idaho, Broadview Academy in Illinois, and Rio Lindo Academy in California.

Wood, Linda Gale – b. Sept. 14, 1945, Takoma Park, Md.; d. Dec. 10, 2021, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: husband, James; daughters, Tamara Heinrich, Karen; brother, Mike Becraft; sisters, Judy Simcoe, Barbara Frazee; two grandsons.

Wurangian, Olga – b. July 17, 1927, Manado, Indonesia; d. Dec. 12, 2021, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: sons, Willy Wurangian-Caan, Henry Wurangian, Samuel Wurangian; daughter, Yvonne Borzini; sisters, Paula, Judy; nine grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren.

Wyman, Lloyd, C. – b. Dec. 26, 1928, Rangoon, Burma; d. Jan. 16, 2022, Chico, Calif. Survivors: wife, Donna; son, Scott; daughter, Sandy. Lloyd was 60 years in pastoral ministry, beginning in the North Pacific Union, followed by pastoring many churches in Southern California and Hawaii. At retirement, he had been ministerial secretary for the Pacific Union Conference for many years.

Correction: Dalgleish, Ruth Rose – 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.

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'uwaiaua, 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

April 2022 Sunset Calendar

City/Location	APR 1	APR 8	APR 15	APR 22	APR 29
Alturas	8:04	8:13	8:21	8:29	8:38
Angwin	7:33	7:40	7:46	7:53	8:00
Bakersfield	7:17	7:25	7:29	7:34	7:40
Calexico	7:02	7:07	7:12	7:17	7:22
Chico	7:31	7:38	7:45	7:52	7:59
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	7:09	7:15	7:21	7:27	7:33
Eureka	7:41	7:49	7:56	8:03	8:11
Four Corners [E]	7:38	7:44	7:51	7:57	8:03
Fresno	7:21	7:27	7:33	7:39	7:46
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	6:50	6:56	7:02	7:08	7:14
Half Dome	7:21	7:27	7:33	7:40	7:46
Hilo	6:34	6:36	6:38	6:40	6:42
Holbrook	7:27	7:35	7:42	7:50	7:57
Honolulu	6:46	6:48	6:50	6:53	6:56
Joshua Tree	7:06	7:13	7:16	7:22	7:27
Lake Tahoe	7:23	7:30	7:37	7:44	7:50
Las Vegas	7:02	7:08	7:14	7:20	7:26
Lodi-Stockton	7:28	7:34	7:41	7:47	7:54
Loma Linda	7:09	7:15	7:20	7:26	7:31
Los Angeles	7:13	7:19	7:24	7:30	7:35
McDermitt [N]	7:16	7:24	7:32	7:39	7:47
Moab	7:41	7:48	7:55	8:01	8:08
Monterey Bay	7:29	7:36	7:42	7:48	7:54
Mt. Whitney	7:09	7:14	7:19	7:24	7:29
Napa	7:32	7:39	7:45	7:52	7:58
Nogales [S]	7:12	7:17	7:22	7:28	7:33
Oakland	7:32	7:38	7:45	7:51	7:57
Paradise, CA	7:30	7:37	7:44	7:51	7:58
Phoenix	6:48	6:54	6:59	7:04	7:09
Pu'uwaiaua, Ni'ihau [W]	6:37	6:39	6:41	6:43	6:46
Reno	7:23	7:30	7:37	7:44	7:51
Riverside	7:10	7:15	7:21	7:26	7:31
Sacramento	7:29	7:36	7:42	7:49	7:56
Salt Lake City	7:52	7:59	8:07	8:14	8:21
San Diego	7:08	7:13	7:18	7:23	7:28
San Francisco	7:32	7:39	7:45	7:51	7:58
San Jose	7:30	7:36	7:42	7:49	7:55
Santa Rosa	7:34	7:40	7:47	7:54	8:00
Sunset Beach	7:29	7:36	7:42	7:48	7:54
Thousand Oaks	7:16	7:21	7:27	7:32	7:37
Tucson	6:43	6:48	6:53	6:58	7:03

[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

CELEBRATING A CENTURY

HOMECOMING 2022

Calling all alumni of La Sierra University! Make plans to come home this April for a special weekend celebrating you, your family, and all things La Sierra. After two years of not being able to gather together, we're excited for a weekend of in-person activities, ranging from familiar favorites like the Recognition Banquet to new additions like the Campus Walk. Ring in La Sierra's centennial year as you renew friendships, share memories, and so much more. Register today!

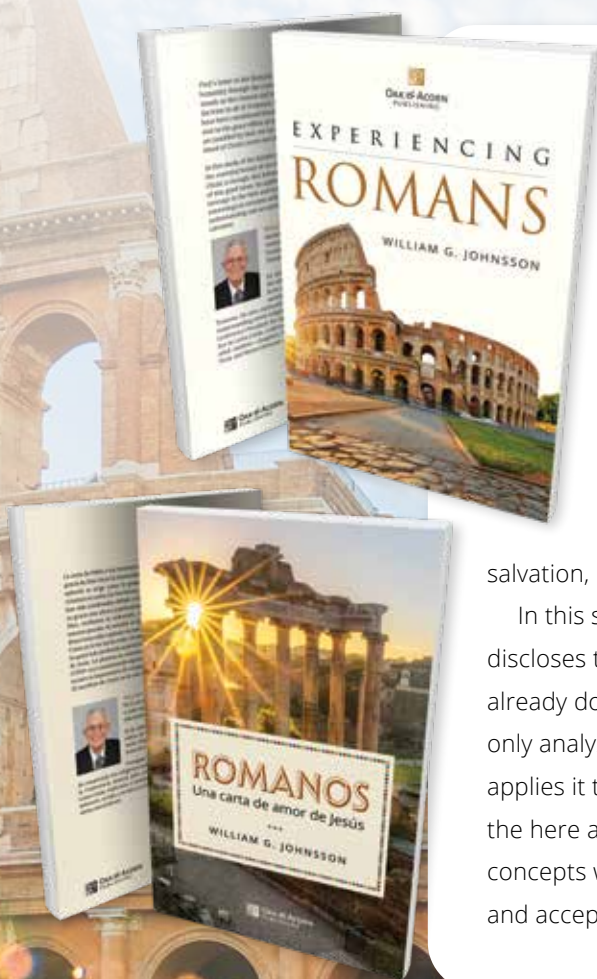
Learn more about Homecoming and centennial celebrations at

lasierra.edu/homecoming
lasierra.edu/centennial



La Sierra
UNIVERSITY

EXPERIENCING ROMANS



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

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

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