

PACIFIC UNION

AUGUST 2022

# Recorder



## A Heavenly Prescription

The Right Arm of the Gospel

Unwelcome Abundance

An Apple a Day Turns 55

Vista de La Sierra



# FINDING JOY IN THE GOSPEL

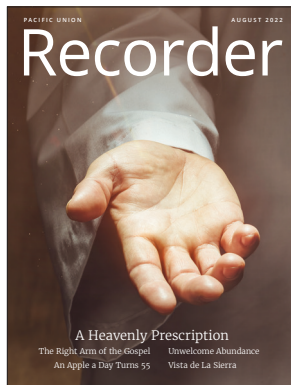
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Those who, so far as it is possible, engage in the work of doing good to others, by giving practical demonstration of their interest in them, are not only relieving the ills of life in helping them to bear burdens, but are at the same time contributing largely to

their own health of soul and body. Doing good is a work that benefits both giver and receiver. If you forget self in your interest for others, you gain a victory over your own infirmities. The pleasure of doing good animates the mind, and vibrates through the whole body. If thou clothe the naked, and “bring the poor that are cast out to thy house,” and “deal thy bread to the hungry,” “then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily.”

Ellen G. White, *Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene*, pp. 102-103

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PACIFIC UNION

# Recorder

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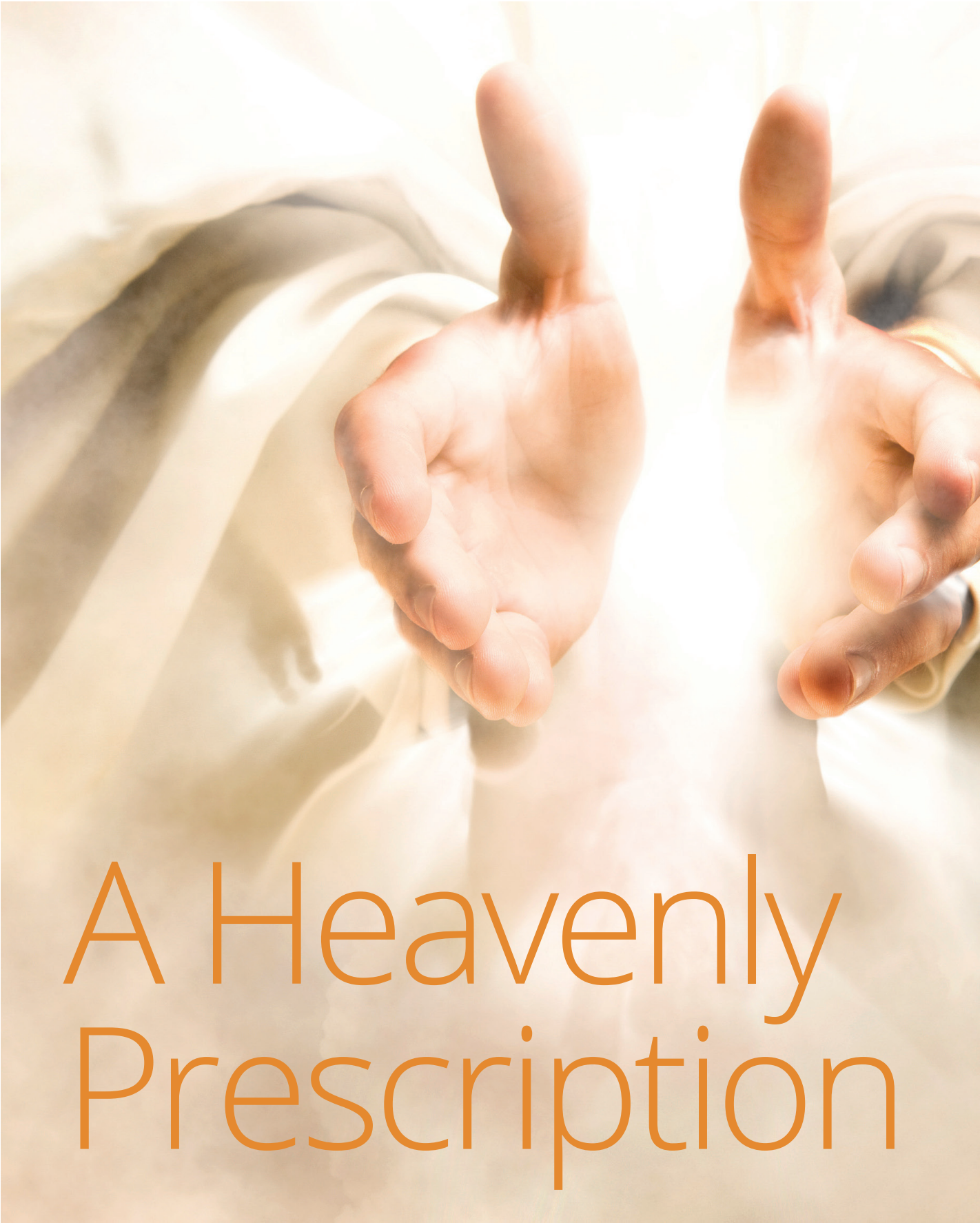
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# A Heavenly Prescription

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By Bradford C. Newton

**H**ow would you define true success? In the Olympics, it is having a gold medal draped around your neck. For a student, it includes getting an A on the final exam and graduation day. Many hard-working people see career advancement as the obvious marker of worth and success. The church has common gauges for success as well. None is more powerful than “We want to finish the work and go home.” The “finished work” rings in Adventist ears as the completion of the Great Commission of Jesus given in Matthew 28:19, which says, “Go therefore and baptize.”

Jesus declares that the final sign before His return is “This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world..., and then the end will come” (Matthew 24:14, NIV). Adventists have interpreted this prophesy in different ways throughout our history. The pioneer generation thought for a time that preaching to new immigrant groups in America meant “the world had been warned.” Later it involved sending at least one missionary to every country on earth. Today some believe that a billboard in town or mailing books to every address in a zip code might fulfill this command of Christ.

As the planet’s population has grown, we see challenge growing daily. Our current membership as a church is around 20 million, facing a world population of 7.9 billion. Humanly

speaking, we could naturally puzzle at how the mission can be accomplished. Undaunted in the face of these odds, we prayerfully and boldly have a denominational objective of prioritizing the megacities of the world for evangelism. Additionally, we utilize the technology of television, radio, internet, social media, print, billboards, and direct mail. All these build on the foundation of health and wellness programs, education, and weekly worship services. Each of these are motivated by the deep desire to reach the hearts and minds of people to come to know Christ and His saving message for our time.

But progress seems slow. The world's population grows faster than our church membership. The slow progress we face today is not because the gospel message is more unpopular (*Jesus' audience was tough, too*), not because people are more resistant to truth (*every age of history from pagan Rome to today has had a culture at opposition with God*), not because we are less holy than people

2,000 years ago (*Christian have always struggled with living up to God's calling—just read Paul's letters to the Corinthians*). Even the theological question of the apparent delay was on the minds of first-century believers. Peter reminded them that God is longsuffering and not wishing any to be lost.

So what are we to do today in response to the mission challenge before us? Is it possible in these last days to have the same success as Jesus in reaching this generation? Without a doubt, I declare a resounding "Yes." But only if we do it Jesus' way. And what is the "Jesus way," you ask. I have the definitive answer! It's the heavenly prescription for us.

In 1905, a visionary Christian leader published a book that begins with these words: "Our Lord Jesus Christ came to this world as the unwearied servant of man's necessity" (p. 17). What follows is over 500 pages of commentary and application on how Jesus did this work. The book is *The Ministry of Healing*, and the writer is Ellen White. It thrills

Even the theological question of the apparent delay was on the minds of first-century believers.



# I believe that when we embrace this divine prescription for a finished work, the final sign of the end will come to pass.

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me to be reminded that she penned this amazing book right in the Pacific Union territory at her home in Elmshaven, California. Nestled in Chapter 9 of this masterpiece of mission, a treasure is laid bare. It is the thesis of the entire book: "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. 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).

There are many methods that can be tried to reach people, but herein lies the answer that is prophetically designed for the mission challenge of the Adventist church in the Pacific Union Conference for the 21st century. Its simplicity and directness can mask the real power behind the words. Ultimately, what is revealed in these inspired words is a call to unselfish service to others—laying down our preconceived ideas, prejudices, and sinful lives before the cross of Jesus and then taking up our own cross to follow Him.

Perhaps this quotation from Ellen White is already familiar to you. In fact, I have heard it quoted many times, but never have I heard the rest of the quotation shared with equal passion and call to action. Let us read the words she penned that describe what it means to "mingle" and "minister," which wins "confidence." Watch out, because Ellen White is coming directly after our methodology of mission! "The poor are to be

relieved, the sick cared for, the sorrowing and the bereaved comforted, the ignorant instructed, the inexperienced counseled. We are to weep with those that weep and rejoice with those that rejoice. Accompanied by the power of persuasion, the power of prayer, the power of the love of God, this work will not, cannot, be without fruit" (*The Ministry of Healing*, pp. 143-144).

Usually, all these things are what we do for people in the church. But she declares that true success requires moving out into a neighborhood, a city, a community. Activity in the social settings of our communities are the heart of this directive from God. In so doing, we win the confidence of people to meet Jesus. Ellen White makes a bright line connecting Jesus' personal work—His method—and what we must be doing to have a genuine impact on our world today. And as we minister, we are also changed to be more like our Master in love and service.

I believe that when we embrace this divine prescription for a finished work, the final sign of the end will come to pass. "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14, NIV). What should the top agenda item at your next church board meeting be? Where do you need to go? Who needs your love, your sympathy, your kindness?

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



# Opening Doors to God's Love With the 'Right Arm' of the Gospel





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## By Lorayne Barton

**T**hough I did not have any direct medical influences within my Adventist family, living in Loma Linda from the time I was 12 exposed me to medicine and healthcare as a profession. My father ran the service station in the center of Loma Linda, and many of my dad's customers were in the medical profession. Many of my classmates' parents were medical students or teachers. In high school I worked in the old Loma Linda sanitarium as a nurse's aide helping with patients, and it was there that I developed a strong interest in becoming involved in the medical work.

After graduating from San Pasqual Academy (though I consider myself an alumna of Loma Linda Academy and Thunderbird Academy in Arizona because I attended those schools too), I completed four years of pre-med at what was then La Sierra College. The summer after graduation, I married my husband, Lynn Barton, an electronic engineer. He worked for the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, and we settled in Glendale, California.

He was not an Adventist when we first met, but he studied and was baptized before we were married and became a faithful Adventist. Unfortunately, he passed to his rest in Jesus in December 2020 with complications from severe Parkinson's disease. Together we raised four sons and have six grandchildren.

In my medical career I interned at Glendale Adventist Hospital, did a pediatric residency at Los Angeles County Hospital, and then went into private practice for a few years before deciding to train in the new (at that time) field of neonatology, the care of newborn and premature infants requiring intensive care. During my years of practice in this area, we have seen amazing improvement and increased survival of premature babies as well as infants with severe respiratory diseases.

As I continued in my work, I became more interested in prevention rather than just treating diseases after they developed, for both children and adults. Because of this interest, I once again went back to school at Loma Linda for a Master of Public Health in maternal child health, health administration, and health promotion. I also did a preventive medicine residency at Loma Linda and became board certified in this field.

Because of my interest in these areas, I joined Adventist Medical Evangelism Network (AMEN), which holds a yearly conference to encourage healthcare and dental professionals and students to use their field of influence as a witness for God. AMEN hosts outreach medical events in churches and mission areas, including our most recent outreach in June in Romania with a group of doctors and dentists to provide dental and medical care for Ukrainian refugees and local Romanians.

Approximately six years ago, I was asked to lead the volunteer Health Ministries for the Pacific Union. Throughout the last few years, we have held numerous health training sessions for the churches in our five states and seven conferences. These have included training for addiction recovery, holding a children's health conference, and guidance in how to conduct a "Diabetes Undone" seminar.

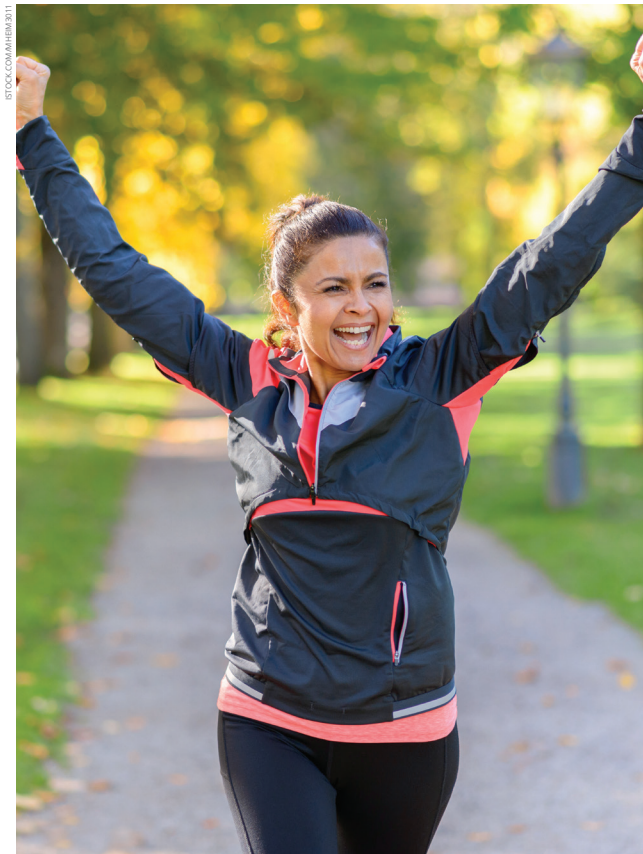
During the COVID-19 pandemic, many churches did more food distribution outreach in their communities, but we now are slowly shifting to a more targeted approach again as far as community health outreach and ministry.

Our goals for Pacific Union Health Ministries over the next few months include:

- Encouraging a careful restart of in-person outreach in our communities, using many proven methods and materials;

One of the goals of Pacific Union Conference Health Ministries is a stronger focus on mental health.





- Encouraging each church member to take small but consistent steps to improve their own personal health so they can share with others in their family and churches;
- A stronger focus on mental health;
- Continuing to encourage churches to use proven resources to help people reverse or

Churches should continue to use proven resources to help people reverse or improve chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes, as well as many conditions caused by inflammation.

It is important for each church member to take small but consistent steps to improve their own personal health so they can share with others in their family and churches.

improve chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes, as well as many conditions caused by inflammation;

- Helping pastors improve their own health and encouraging them to advocate for health ministries in their churches.

We are also developing a resource list that will soon be posted on the Pacific Union Health portal for churches to access reliable and useful resources for their own health ministries.

We strongly encourage churches to remember that while the Adventist health message is the “right arm” of the gospel message and not the primary message, health ministries can be a meaningful opening wedge to reach people’s hearts for the message of God’s love for them.

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*Lorayne Barton is the volunteer Health Ministries leader for the Pacific Union Conference.*





## Georgia Hodgkin Reflects on the Iconic 'An Apple A Day' Cookbooks

By Cynthia  
Mendoza

“Tell me you’re Adventist without telling me you’re Adventist!” A fond mention of Special K Loaf (mixed with sudden pangs of hunger and a twinge of nostalgia) might be one of many possible answers. Not the deepest answer, but certainly the tastiest.

Meet Georgia Hodgkin, the dietician extraordinaire and editor of volumes two and three of the iconic An Apple A Day cookbook series that has significantly influenced multiple generations of Adventist food culture—of which Special K Loaf, or Cottage Cheese Loaf as it is sometimes referred to, is a prominent fixture.

Though the editors of volume one, where the original Special K loaf recipe first appeared, were Marguerite Smith and Marcella Griggs, Hodgkin was instrumental not just in editing volumes two and three but through her involvement in the series. Apart from her work as a professor of nutrition and dietetics at the School of Allied Health Professions at Loma Linda University, she became a prominent voice in the vegetarian nutrition space during a time when vegetarianism was not just thought to be insufficient for good health, but outright quackery.

"Apple A Day started in 1967 when people used to say, 'Vegetarian diets are crazy. You can't possibly be healthy on a vegetarian diet,'" recalled Hodgkin, who retired in 2020 after 42 years. "But history, science, and the Adventist Health Study have shown that we are healthy on those 'crazy diets,'" she laughed. "Marguerite and Marcella produced a cookbook of tasty, healthful, delicious recipes, and it has grown into a whole series."

Indeed, it was the recipes of these "crazy vegetarian diets" that skyrocketed in popularity in the Adventist world at church potlucks, institutional cafeterias, and Sabbath lunches from the 70s forward. Just ask almost any Adventist Baby Boomer or their Generation X child, and they may well have a fond food memory to share that originated somewhere deep in the now yellowing pages of a treasured *An Apple A Day* cookbook (looking at you, volume one).

The fact that the books were vegetarian during a time when vegetarianism was unheard of, oddly enough, also contributed to their popularity. "It wasn't until Mervyn Hardinge [founding dean of the School of Public Health at Loma Linda University] got his Ph.D. at Harvard and did his dissertation comparing meat diets to vegetarian diets that it became clear vegetarian diets could provide complete nutrition," Hodgkin said. "These cookbooks are good because they speak to many of the principles that Ellen White spoke to that other cookbooks are completely oblivious of. And the recipes are simple, easy to make, with readily available ingredients."

Hodgkin shared some of her memories of working on the cookbooks. "I was asked to be president of the Loma Linda Chapter of the Auxiliary [that publishes the Apple A Day cookbooks]," she said. "We would meet in the Alumni Building around this huge conference table with a huge mound of scraps of paper with recipes on them, and we'd pull one out, somebody would read it, and say 'yeah, I think, that looks good.'"

Hodgkin recalled one recipe in particular that didn't quite make the cut. The recipe called for hiding a one-inch cube of pork in the middle of the otherwise vegetarian casserole. "Needless to say, that recipe went in the circular file," she laughed, referring to the recipe's immediate one-way trip to the wastebasket.

Each of the three volumes in the Apple A Day series had its own unique theme. Volume one was published in 1967 during a time when vegetarian diets were not common, and though it was purchased mostly by Adventists, it made vegetarian "cooking," as it was called, available to a wider audience.

Volume two was published in 1983, when the American Dietetic Association was emphasizing less salt, sugar, and fat. "The desserts in volume two have two teaspoons of sugar per serving, which is phenomenal," Hodgkin said. "A piece of pie has many more than that."

Volume three, which was published in 2009, looks at the history of the School of Medicine, the Auxiliary, and the country. It is divided into decades and includes historic photos of the original Loma Linda hospital and the surrounding orange groves. Volume three was a celebration of the School of Medicine's centennial anniversary, "the Auxiliary's contribution to the celebration," said Hodgkin.

Does the dietician herself have any personal favorites in all the recipes?

"I really enjoy the banana bread recipe from volume one," Hodgkin said. "In volume three, the chocolate chip recipe is a 'health cookie'. It's full of walnuts and oatmeal."



We'll forget that it has chocolate chips, which are mostly sugar, and just focus on the walnuts and the oatmeal. People really seem to enjoy it," she laughed. "And there's a broccoli cheese casserole in volume two that's really quite tasty."

And though she did not work on volume one, Hodgkin confirms what has been generally known for decades about its most famous recipe.

"The favorite recipe of all three cookbooks is Special K Loaf," she said, to no one's surprise, also citing the creator behind the recipe. "That is Betty Jutzky's recipe. I envision that on Sabbath throughout North America there are cottage cheese loaves sitting on everybody's buffet table thanks to Betty."

But apart from its cultural significance and popular recipes, the Apple A Day series was also part of a wider worldwide health promotion ministry.

"A healthy diet is very helpful in our spiritual lives. I believe nutrition is the very foundation of health," Hodgkin said. "Being healthy puts you in a frame of mind where spiritual things are of greater interest, and you can focus on them much better. Apple A Day cookbooks are popular because they follow the nutrition guidelines that were laid down in 1863 by Ellen G. White."



Unbeknownst to many, the Apple A Day cookbooks also play an important role in supporting medical missions, as all the sales benefit mission programs, which is a key function of the Loma Linda University Medical Auxiliary. According to Hodgkin, volume one alone has sold 200,000 copies, all of which benefited mission projects.

Part of the reason for the books' soaring



**About Georgia Hodgkin:** Georgia Hodgkin earned her bachelor's degree in Foods and Nutrition from Walla Walla College in 1961, and over a period of 30 years she continued her formal education, culminating in 1991 with an EdD in Administration and Leadership from La Sierra University, then Loma Linda University. Professionally, she began her career in 1963 as a clinical dietician at Glendale Adventist Medical Center in Southern California. In 1964 she transitioned to Loma Linda University, where she has served since, primarily in the School of Allied Health Professions from where she retired in 2020 as a professor in the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics. Over the course of her professional journey, Hodgkin has been published numerous times, including countless articles in *Vibrant Life*, and she has been involved in many other health- and nutrition-related projects.



popularity, and the way they became a staple in many Adventist kitchens, was that they were popular gifts for many years, such as birthday, housewarming, and particularly wedding gifts.

Hodgkin's dedication and work across multiple generations has made an indelible impact on the very health and lives of countless people, not just through the vegetarian recipes themselves but through the fellowship and happy memories they have fostered. That counts too. And on and around the Loma Linda University campus, Hodgkin is known for her compassion, kindness, and dedication to students.

"Georgia is the kind of person that is someone you'd like to emulate professionally and personally,"

said Kent Chow, assistant dean, finance, School of Allied Health Professions, in a video interview for the scholarship set up in Hodgkin's name.

"She has a way of letting you know that she cares about you and that she wants the best for your future," said Cindy Kosch, a former student and now assistant professor in the School of Allied Health Professions in that same video.

Georgia Hodgkin may have formally retired, but her life continues to be one of service. Only in heaven will the full impact of that love-driven service be fully seen.

"I'm not sure if my dad said this, or where I heard it, but you cannot outgive the Lord," Hodgkin said in the video interview.

For more information on the Loma Linda University Medical Auxiliary or to purchase *An Apple A Day* cookbooks, visit <https://llumedaux.org/>.

Loma Linda University Health video on Georgia Hodgkin: <https://youtu.be/Ci8X6UM4ghE>

Georgia Hodgkin speaking on the importance of fruits and vegetables: <https://vimeo.com/723470903>

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*Cynthia Mendoza is a freelance writer from Southern California.*



# Unwelcome

# Abundance



By Alberto Valenzuela



Those words, *unwelcome abundance*, had been percolating in my head for some time. I tried to shake them off, but somehow they kept coming back. I wondered where they were from—a book, a poem, a movie? Two other words also came along: *perspective* and *availability*. Sometimes my mind makes connections that baffle me. Along with being intriguing, these words made me consider my relationship with God.

First, they made me consider the number of occasions when I felt resolutely that the Lord expected something from me. Those occasions had as much to do with my personal life, my spiritual life, as my life as a member of a religious organization.

If I am to be frank, on more than one occasion the impression was so firm and clear that I let myself be carried away by it, and the Lord blessed my efforts. But on more than one occasion, although the impression was

clear, my opinions led me to other conclusions. My religious convictions and my biblical and theological knowledge argued that what was presented to me could not be the right perspective. After all, the Lord could only lead me on a path that is according to His Word. Well, at least from the perspective *I had* of His Word. I had the impression that the Lord had decided to manifest Himself in such an obscure way that I would remain unarmed, and I resignedly accepted His manifestation. In those cases, He did not disappoint me.

One writer has pointed out, in my opinion wisely, that

All too frequently, in our commendable search for truth, we reject any perspective that differs from our own without understanding it or seriously considering its merit. Sometimes we resort to discrediting the integrity of those who hold opposing views in order to resolve internal confusion and bolster our confidence.<sup>1</sup>

As servants of Christ, our calling is to discover the message that God has for us and those around us. In creating a perfect world in which He placed humans, God made provision for their edification, first through His direct contact with them—giving them precise instructions that were sadly not obeyed—and then through His Word. God still speaks to us

They made me consider the number of occasions when I felt resolutely that the Lord expected something from me.

through that source of inspiration and direction. His precepts find application in every aspect of our existence—if our mind is open to the perspective He wants to present to us. That perspective can have a particular application for each of us. That's right: *particular*—because God considers us individually, not en masse. He does not regard us as a group of believers. He considers each one of us as His children. For a father, every child is special. Each child is unique. Each child is considered individually. He sees you, He sees me, as His son, as His daughter. Individually.

Our individuality qualifies us in a special way as children of the Most High. It means that God comes down from on high and establishes His "tabernacle among us" (John 1:14, literal translation). Not taking advantage of the circumstances, not promoting a new campaign, not demanding a new commitment from us. He comes and sits at the table with us. Reads our newspaper. Watches the same show on TV with us. He spreads his blanket on the ground next to our blanket and rests with us. His presence is integrated into our life. He is real. He is palpable. And this has a special message for you and me. That message can sometimes only be understood by you. For it is like that "white stone" spoken of in Revelation 2:17—a stone with your new name written on it. Sometimes that message can only be understood by you, and it is difficult for you to put it into words.

That's in relation to *perspective*. The other word is *availability*.

Once God has manifested Himself through His Word, what should my reaction be? It is at that point, it seems to me, that we fail. We fail because we may not have been sufficiently available to understand the meaning of a call. A call can be as simple as the impression that we must pray for something or someone. Or it can be as complicated as the need to bring together the church board to discuss a larger plan. We fail because we are not available enough to accept that God is speaking to us in

such a direct way. After all, God no longer calls men and women to be modern prophets. Or is He still doing so?

I was struck by the words of these writers:

Hearing the voice of God and receiving revelations is not as difficult as some might think. Many of God's people hear Him, but have not learned to perceive His voice... To perceive means to take hold of, feel, comprehend, grasp mentally, recognize, observe or discern. Learning to perceive God's voice and act upon it is the key to successful Christian living.<sup>2</sup>

In my experience, recognizing God's voice is the key to building my spiritual life. "Doing something about it" is just as important as recognizing His voice—or even more important. It is not simply a matter of discerning the times and signs, it is what we do with that discernment that has the most

**We fail because we may not have been sufficiently available to understand the meaning of a call. A call can be as simple as the impression that we must pray for something or someone.**

value. It is the availability you place in the hands of the Creator that causes the greatest impact on your spirituality. It's what others notice.

When the Lord manifests Himself, it is not to entertain or impress us. Unless He wants you to do something special with His message, God is not in the entertainment business. When He makes a special appeal to you—through nature, a vivid impression, a sermon that reaches you to the depths of your being because you recognize it as His Word—He expects the proper reaction. He expects your availability. He expects that you pay attention to His message and act appropriately.

For some that may mean leaving family and homeland to go to the mission field. For others it may mean accepting a career that was never in their plans. Some are called upon to make serious financial commitments. For many, it means putting aside old preconceptions and acknowledging that they've been wrong—that can be the hardest thing. Above all, it means putting the self aside.

Every soul should now be distrustful of self. Our own ways, our own plans and ideas, may not be such as God can approve. We must keep the way of the Lord to do his will, making him our counselor, and then in faith work away from self.<sup>3</sup>

If you are willing to accept the challenge of perspective and availability that *unwelcome abundance* presents to you, you can rest assured that the Lord has spoken to you.

---

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

<sup>1</sup>Harold Faw, *Psychology in Christian Perspective: An Analysis of Key Issues* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 1995), p. 16.

<sup>2</sup>Chuck D. Pierce and Rebecca Wagner Sytsema, *When God Speaks* (Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2005), p. 60.

<sup>3</sup>Ellen G. White, "An Address in Regard to the Sunday Movement," *Review and Herald* (Dec. 24, 1889), par. 8.





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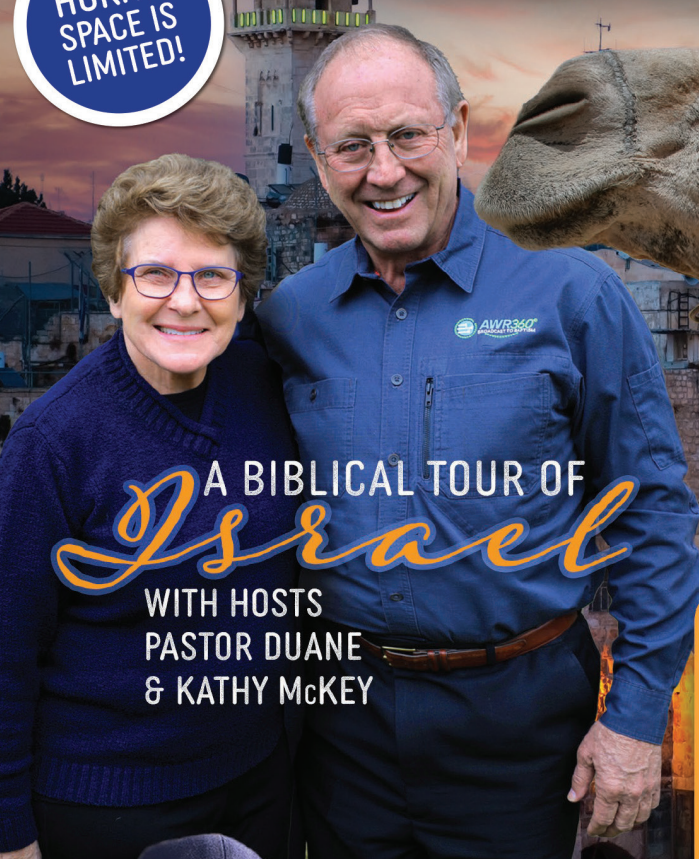


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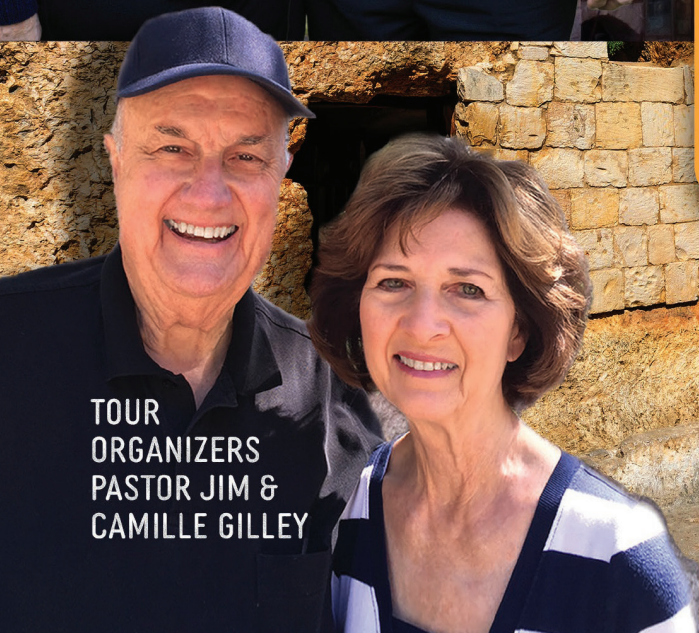
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## Pacific Union Partners with City, Community Organizations to Provide Sustainable Housing

By Cynthia Mendoza

On Wednesday, June 15, National CORE (National Community Renaissance) and Mercy House, in partnership with the Pacific Union Conference, broke ground on land that will provide 79 sustainable and affordable housing units in the La Sierra neighborhood of Riverside, California. The high-quality, sustainable apartments will be built on underutilized church land made available through a ground lease by the Pacific Union Conference.

“Providing support for our neighbors is an important part of our values as a church,” said Stephen V. Mayer, treasurer of the Pacific Union. “Vista de La Sierra will do exactly that, creating new hope for families and strengthening our community through affordable housing.”

As a point of geographical reference, Vista de La Sierra is a short walk down the street from La Sierra University and the La Sierra University church. It will enjoy several Adventist neighbors, such as the Southeastern California Conference, La Sierra Academy, La Voz de La Esperanza, and the Adventist Media Center, all of which are located on corners of the same intersection.

## “Vista de La Sierra will do exactly that, creating new hope for families and strengthening our community through affordable housing.”

The 79 apartment homes will be reserved for families earning under 60% of the area median income, and 39 of the homes will serve as permanent supportive housing for individuals and families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. The housing development's amenities include a multipurpose community room and stunning courtyards with a playground, barbeque patio, activity lawn, and more.

The Hope through Housing Foundation will provide onsite programs and services, providing residents with resources and support to help them gain stability and thrive. Mercy House, an organization that provides housing and comprehensive supportive services for a variety of homeless populations, will provide comprehensive supportive services for residents who were previously unhoused, focusing on economic mobility and overall well-being.

No Place Like Home funding for the 39 units of permanent supportive housing will be provided

by the California Department of Housing and Community Development and coordinated through the Riverside University Health System Behavioral Health department. In addition, RUHS-Behavioral Health will provide a variety of resources, including case management, peer support services, mental health care, and substance use support.

The apartments feature Spanish contemporary architecture that complements the surrounding neighborhood. Vista de La Sierra will also be zero net energy, generating 100% of its energy needs onsite through 257 kilowatts of rooftop solar panels. The building will exceed California's Title 24 building energy efficiency standards and is expected to achieve LEED for Homes Gold certification.

Solar energy will power not only all units but also the onsite community room, lighting fixtures, high efficiency heat pump water heaters for each unit, and washers and dryers. The energy-efficient design will significantly lower the price of residents' energy bills, while drought tolerant landscaping and water-





conserving plumbing will further conserve electricity and water.

According to Steven Hemenway, director of finance for the La Sierra University church—and also (as of 2019)

the councilmember for Ward 7, the neighborhood where the new apartments will be—the underpinnings for this project began about five years ago when Rusty Bailey, Riverside mayor at the time, was looking to partner with faith organizations to help address community needs such as homelessness and housing issues.

The La Sierra University church and the city had already partnered on other community service projects. As the city explored options, they noticed the empty land behind the Adventist Media Center and inquired about it. Chris Oberg, senior pastor of the La Sierra University church at the time, facilitated a connection between the city of Riverside and the Pacific Union Conference, and a partnership was born shortly thereafter.

“I am grateful for what this means to Ward 7 and the benefits it will bring to the community,” Hemenway said of the project. “This would not have been possible without the collective work of so many community partners.”

Hemenway added that though the La Sierra University church will not be partnering formally



with other organizations to provide direct services to the new Vista de La Sierra residents, the church remains committed to serving their local community as a whole as they’ve always done through their own outreach and programs. The fact that the new housing is close to La Sierra University and La Sierra Academy will also provide residents with educational opportunities.

“We look forward to welcoming new residents to our community,” Hemenway said.

“It has been a pleasure to work collaboratively with our partners to build affordable, sustainable housing in Riverside,” said Riverside Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson. “As a city that has continued to use innovative measures to protect our environment, it was a pleasure to work with National CORE, who went above and beyond to make Vista de La Sierra as sustainable as possible.”

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*Cynthia Mendoza is a freelance writer from Southern California.*



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# Burn Safety Tips for Summertime Fun

**A**dventist Health emergency room healthcare providers have some pointers to keep you and your family safe from burns this season when damage to skin from the sun, grilling accidents, fireworks, and campfires is all too common. By making safety a top priority and taking a few key steps, burn accidents can be prevented.

## Guidelines for a safe barbecue

During summer parties, it's easy to take your eyes off the grill, which could put you, a family member, or a pet in danger. Remember these barbecuing safety tips before you put the veggie kebabs on:

- If you're using a propane barbecue, check the tank hose for potential leaks.
- Only grill on stable ground a safe distance away from the house or other structures.
- Keep the grill clean to avoid grease buildup that can lead to flare-ups and fires.
- Never leave a barbecue unattended.
- Keep kids and pets at a distance.



STOCK.COM/ALAMY

## Avoiding campfire catastrophes

Camping trips just don't feel complete without a campfire, but with fire comes risk. Keep these tips in mind around your next campfire:

- Contain your campfire in a stone or metal fire pit away from grass, bushes, and trees with low-hanging limbs.
- Keep flammable items away from the fire.
- Keep water nearby in case a gust of wind or other trigger causes the fire to suddenly grow.
- Check for campfire restrictions before starting your fire. Illegal campfires can lead to dangerous forest fires.
- Avoid inhaling dangerous campfire smoke.

## Sunburn safety for summer and beyond

The sun reaches peak intensity between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and can be dangerous if you don't take precautions. These simple steps can protect you and your family:

- Avoid staying in the sun for hours on end.
- Look for shade or bring a beach umbrella.



STOCK.COM/ISTOCKPHOTO



- If you must go into the sun, regularly apply sunscreen with at least SPF 15. It takes 20 to 30 minutes for sunscreen to activate once applied. Don't forget to coat your lips, ears, and the top of your head. And protect your eyes with sunglasses.
- If you do get sunburned, apply fresh aloe vera to ease the pain.

### Categorizing burns

If the worst happens and you do get burned, it's important to know how to evaluate the burn to get the treatment needed.

- *First-degree burn:* As is the case with a mild sunburn, the burn site is red, painful, dry, and free of blisters. It usually takes seven to 10 days to heal.
- *Second-degree burn:* The burn extends beyond the top layer of skin, causing blisters that can become infected if popped. Second-degree burns usually take two to three weeks to heal.
- *Third-degree burn:* Symptoms vary but include a waxy/white color, char, and/or a dark brown color. These burns also have undeveloped blisters and raised, leathery skin. There is no set timeline for healing, and scarring often occurs.

### Urgent care vs. ER: Where to get burn treatment

Depending on the severity of the burn, you may be able to treat it on your own with over-the-counter medicines and burn creams. More serious burns could mean a trip to urgent care or the emergency room.

Burns that are more than 2 inches wide should be seen by an urgent care provider. That includes painful sunburns and burns from flames or a hot pan that can lead to blistering.

For more serious burns that can be debilitating—particularly burns to the face, eyes, ears, hands, feet, or genitals—go to the emergency room immediately for treatment.

All burns aren't created equal, and it may be hard to decide what type you have. If in doubt, get it checked out by a medical provider. Burns that get infected and go untreated can be dangerous, even life-threatening.

If a burn or any other accident is potentially life-threatening, call 911 immediately.

### Common burn mistakes to avoid

*Running the burn under cold water for too short of a time:* A minute or two under cold water is not enough. To help heal the wound and ease the pain, run a burn under cold water for 10 to 15 minutes and then apply a damp/cool towel over the area.

*Popping blisters:* While it can be tempting, popping blisters on your own can expose you to infection. It's better to let them heal on their own and by using medicine. If you believe a blister must be popped, visit your medical care provider for treatment.

*Relying on a "base suntan" to prevent burning:* Spending time in a tanning bed to get a base tan is a bad idea. The human body cannot protect itself effectively from UV rays in tanning beds. Estimates show that tanning beds lead to 419,000 cases of skin cancer in the U.S. each year. According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, more people develop skin cancer because of tanning than develop lung cancer because of smoking.

*Skipping sunscreen:* Just because it's cloudy doesn't mean you shouldn't wear sunscreen. UV rays still penetrate clouds and can lead to a sunburn. Keep in mind that even in cool temperatures you can catch a lot of rays at high elevation.

*Relying on old-fashioned home remedies:* Home remedies are often ineffective and can actually prevent burns and other wounds from healing. Butter is best left to corn on the cob and Vaseline left in the cupboard. Grease will actually contain the heat and slow the healing process. Vinegar, bleach, and cold meat should also be avoided.

*Letting your tetanus shots get out of date:* Minor and major burns can lead to tetanus, so talk with your provider now to see if you should get a booster shot to protect yourself. Take the steps necessary to protect yourself before a burn happens.

Now that you're ready, start up that grill and get out the marshmallows!

By Kim Strobel





TOP FAR LEFT: Elder Abimael Escalante introduces each Hispanic pastor to the audience at the Hispanic Ministries Camp Meeting. BOTTOM FAR LEFT: Dennis Marsollier leads the Camp Meeting Anthem Choir and Orchestra during the worship service on Sabbath, June 18. LEFT: Lee Venden shares his message from the Gospel of John.

## Arizona Camp Meetings

Camp Yavapines is a beautiful respite from the heat of the lower valleys of Arizona during the summer months. With temperatures that average 20 degrees lower than the Phoenix valley, the soothing sounds of wind in the pines, stars that shine brightly at night, and the songs of birds in the cool early mornings, the camp provides the perfect atmosphere to recharge and reconnect with God. Throughout the first half of June, two large groups of people came to Yavapines for this recharge and renewal.

The Arizona Conference Hispanic Ministries Camp Meeting focused on the three traditional aspects of life: the mind, the body, and the soul. Cooking classes, daily devotionals, family Olympics, mental health seminars, and daily soccer games were all a part of ministering to the whole person. Each morning started off early with retired Pacific Union Conference Hispanic Ministries Coordinator Elder Jorge Soria leading out in a special prayer session at 6:45 a.m. Pastor Carlos Martin had the evening devotionals, while Drs. Andres Ramírez and Blanca Nelly Guerra Zambrano held separate seminars on keeping strong mentally. Teresita Beltrán Castro led each afternoon's cooking class.

The following week, the Arizona Conference Camp Meeting kicked off with the Venden family beginning their study of the Gospel of John. Cousins Lee and Gary Venden, along with Gary's wife Marilyn, presented a powerful series of messages each morning and evening.

Pacific Union Conference Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Alan J. Reinach presented his series focusing on how patriotism, religious liberty, faith, and religion all intersect in our society. Pediatrician Ugonna Woods gave insight into healthy living in her daily health seminar. Each morning Pastor Paul Blake started the day with his devotional series on "Truth Matters."

Music played a key part in the ministry on the weekends. During Hispanic Ministries Camp Meeting, Cuarteto Legado were the featured musical guests. Marilyn Venden's singing was an integral part in each of the devotional meetings during the second week of camp meeting. 3ABN Praise Him Music Network Director Tim Parton was the guest musician for the weekend of the Arizona Conference Camp Meeting. The Camp Meeting Anthem Choir and Orchestra, directed by Dennis Marsollier, was another highlight.

Baptisms punctuated the Sabbath program each week. These baptisms demonstrate that the Year of Evangelism is going strong in the Arizona Conference. Two separate pastor ordinations took place, one on each Sabbath, and a teacher commissioning service was held during Sabbath School of the second weekend.

President Ed Keyes echoed the sentiment of many attendees at the conclusion of the camp meetings, "I was blessed by the music and the wonderful messages during camp meeting."

*By Jeff Rogers*

## Pastors Ordained at Arizona Camp Meetings

**P**astor Adino Salazar Cienfuegos was ordained as a minister in the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, June 11, at the Hispanic Ministries Camp Meeting at Camp Yavapines. Elder Jorge A. Ramírez, North American Division Undersecretary, returned to Arizona, where he was most recently the Executive Secretary and Ministerial Director, to be a part of the service. Elder Ramírez, along with Arizona Conference Hispanic Ministries Director Abimael Escalante and Arizona Conference Treasurer Reggie Leach, presented Pastor Salazar with his credentials and gifts from the conference.

The following Sabbath, June 18, Pastor Eddie A. Turner III was ordained by the Arizona Conference administration. Surrounded by friends and family on stage, Pastor Turner recounted his journey to the ministry. Currently Pastor Turner serves as the associate



**LEFT:** Elder Jorge A. Ramírez (right) gives Pastor Adino Salazar Cienfuegos and his wife, Dianni, the official ordination certificate. **RIGHT:** Arizona Conference pastors lay their hands on Pastor Eddie A. Turner III (center) as part of the ordination service.

pastor at Glendale Adventist church and pastor at Maricopa Village church.

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*By Jeff Rogers*

## Teacher Commissioning: Thank You for Answering the Call

**T**he Arizona Conference Education Department celebrated five educators during a special Teacher Commissioning Service that took place June 18 during Sabbath School at the Arizona Conference Camp Meeting. The candidates had to meet very specific criteria, such as a minimum of six years of successful teaching in Adventist schools, holding current denominational certification, and showing a commitment to the tenants of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. They also had to be referred by those who work closely with them and interviewed by the Arizona Conference administration.

The service included special music selections by Glenview Adventist Academy and Thunderbird Adventist Academy alumna Aerille Salamat, a Biblical connection



Newly commissioned educators with the administration of the Arizona Conference.

to the Sabbath School lesson on Joseph by Pastor Van Bledsoe, introductions and a brief description of each candidate by Education Superintendent Nicole Mattson, a spiritual charge by Elder Ed Keyes, a prayer of dedication by Pastor Ray Navarro, and a special gift of appreciation by Elder Reggie Leach.

Several who attended the program commented that they had never seen a commissioning service before and were blessed to hear about each candidate and be reminded of the dedication, commitment, and sacrifice that it takes to carry out the ministry of Adventist education.

Those commissioned were:

- Brian Allison, principal: Glenview Adventist Academy
- Teresa Greene, teacher: Thunderbird Christian Elementary
- Jennifer Montalban, head teacher: Prescott Adventist Christian School
- Starr Schwinn, head teacher: Saguaro Hills Adventist Christian School
- Michael Tomas, principal: Thunderbird Adventist Academy

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*By Nicole Mattson*



## Fill Every Baptistry Program Takes a Step Toward Advancing Local Outreach



**M**ekhi Bramucci decided to leave Christianity when he was a teen, but he did not leave religion. He began a spiritual search, and when he graduated, he announced he would be leaving Adventism. Shortly after, he started practicing New Age theology.

But his mother, Nicole Harvey-Williams, the Seaside Community Adventist Church pastor in Seaside, California, never gave up praying for him. She continued to beg God to help her son. While praying, she finally pleaded with God, "I did everything I can. What more do you want me to do?" The response she felt from God was *Leave him alone*. "For me, that meant, 'I've got him. I'll take care of him.' That gave me some comfort. I knew God would take care of him," said Williams.

God did not leave Bramucci alone. Bramucci continued to struggle with his religious views, wanting to find more out of religion but not knowing where to turn. Bramucci lived in New York City while Williams lived in California,

but they would communicate often. Williams would send her son messages of comfort through texts or phone calls. She mentioned to her son once that God is following him. He could not get away from God. God loves him and has a plan for him.



## Dig deeper

The belief that God wouldn't leave him alone continued to be evidenced in Bramucci's life. Once when he was on the subway in New York City, Bramucci was feeling depressed, crying to himself. He called his mother and told her, "Mom, I'm not doing too well."

"While I was listening on the phone," Williams explained, "I heard a lady come out of nowhere who said to him, 'Dig deeper. Dig deeper. You're looking on the surface. Dig deeper.' I knew that was God. I asked him who she was, and he said, 'Oh. A homeless lady.'"

Bramucci dug deeper. He began reading the Bible and asking questions. He gave up some of the habits and practices that were holding him back. He would have hours of studying on the phone with his mother. "Then one day he said, 'Hey, Mom. I want to get baptized, and I want you to do it.'" Williams was shocked and relieved.

## Fill Every Baptistry

Conference-wide baptisms are one more item that has been affected by the difficult pandemic. This is due to the fact that outreach programs decreased during the pandemic, there have been fewer people attending church, and there has been more focus on immediate problems.

But addressing a complicated problem like COVID's effect on outreach requires multiple steps, and the Central California Conference took one of those steps recently. The Fill Every Baptistry program encouraged the churches to simply fill their baptismal tanks on a specific date twice a year so they were ready for a baptism, regardless of whether or not they had a baptismal candidate.

The program was launched last December, and the conference provided financial assistance and training programs to the churches to encourage them. Antonio Huerta, vice president for Mission and Ministries for the Central California Conference, explained, "In October of last year, we launched the idea of setting up a specific day to have every baptistry throughout our conference territory filled with water. Whether we have baptisms or not is up to the congregation, the pastor, and the work of the Holy Spirit—but the idea is: Let's have every baptistry filled on a particular date."



They scheduled training seminars, preaching seminars, and evangelistic programs to encourage churches and help members and leaders with the program. There are approximately 150 churches in the conference, and about 90-95 churches were involved. This resulted in over 200 baptisms last December, and the program was held again this April.

One of the baptisms on April 30 was Mekhi Bramucci, and his mother baptized him. "When you're controlled by God, nothing can ever stop you from being who you're supposed to be," Bramucci said. "Out of all my years searching, I never felt such love in my life before. I no longer live my life for myself; I live it for God. I'd rather be a servant to the Most High than a slave to things I can't even see."

The Fill Every Baptistry program will be held again this fall. It is planned to be conducted twice a year and will include preaching and evangelism to prepare for the event. The next Fill Every Baptistry event will be at the end of this coming October.

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*By Brennon Hallock*



## Waianae Adventist Young Adults Visit Hilo Church



About 20 Adventist young adults from Waianae on Oahu visited the Hilo Adventist church on the Big Island for a weekend ministry/mission trip from April 28 to May 2. For some of these young adults, it was the first ministry/mission trip that they've ever taken to help a sister church. During this trip, the group helped in repairing the playground fence of the Mauna Loa School at Hilo church. The young adults had a great time bonding while digging up and destroying the old cement, mixing new cement, and pouring it in the ground to hold the poles of the fence.

Pastor Andre Weston, the pastor of Hilo church, arranged all the lodging and meals for the guests at the school gymnasium. He also gave them the opportunity to lead out in the weekend worship services. So, from Friday night vespers to Sabbath morning worship services, the Waianae young adults led out and fellowshiped with the Hilo members. Pastor Puia Fana'i of Waianae church preached on Sabbath morning and

thanked the Hilo church members for their hospitality. He commented on how wonderful it is to be a part of the worldwide family of Seventh-day Adventists, where you can feel right at home even if you didn't know anyone there ahead of time.

"We came to Hilo to serve and bless the church family, but we were actually the ones that received blessings in return" said Ivori Toluta'u, a young adult from Waianae church. The Hilo church young adults hosted their guests on Sunday afternoon with a wonderful meal and fun time at the beach. In seeing how effective a mission trip is for building relationships among the young adults, Pastor Puia has plans to organize at least one inter-island mission trip per year within the Hawaii Conference.

*By Erik VanDenburgh*



## Mauna Loa School Student's Doodle Connects to Nature



**L**ewis Cameron, a second-grader from Mauna Loa School in Hilo, entered this year's Doodle for Google contest. In this competition, which was open to students from kindergarten to high school, participants created their own version of the Google logo.

The theme was "I care for myself by...." Lewis called his entry "Connect to Nature." In his logo design, he drew flowers and other plants, drawing inspiration from creation—especially his family's garden.

Lewis was one of the 54 state and U.S. territory winners. His doodle was selected from thousands of entries. A television news crew was present to film the announcement of the winner from Hawaii. The surprise on Lewis' face when he hears his name is priceless! You can watch it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQpR42aXvP8>.

Congratulations to Lewis and Mauna Loa School! Well done!

*By Staff Writer*



HOLBROOK INDIAN SCHOOL  
SERVING NATIVE YOUTH SINCE 1946



## Summer Growth at Holbrook Indian School

*\*Name changed for confidentiality.*

**S**honda\* was excelling in her classes. She had overcome many obstacles and was looking forward to the coming school year. Unfortunately, over the summer she experienced a life-altering trauma that set her back emotionally—further than when she first arrived at Holbrook Indian School (HIS). The worst part of this story is that this was not an isolated incident.

Many students at HIS need positive guidance and direction over the summer months, which is the reason the school offers a Summer Experience for students.

In 2017, Holbrook Indian School stepped out in faith and began providing year-round services to students through the HIS Summer Experience and Leadership program. Throughout the summer months, this program aims to continue to provide the safe haven that many of our students depend on during the school year.

Starting at the beginning of June through the middle of July, HIS students participated in a six-week summer program that offered a different camp each week.





The first week of Summer Experience brought students a fresh perspective on horses and relationships. Experienced horse trainer Jaylin spent her summer at HIS instructing and guiding HIS students in connecting with horses. Jaylin used her background in training and rehabilitating horses to help students develop emotional connections. Her approach was to start from the ground up in a very literal sense. “We teach the students a variety of groundwork techniques,” said Jaylin. “Groundwork is anything you do with a horse that is not mounted.” These techniques included leading, lunging, and join-up. The goal is to build trust with the horses.

After the groundwork, students were prepared to ride. Mastering this connection not only enhances the horse-rider experience for our students but is also a springboard for understanding their relationships with teachers and staff, family, and God.

The second week, our students camped at Camp Yavapines in Prescott, Arizona, to attend the Arizona camp meeting. Our students had a great time meeting new people and participating in various youth activities. On Friday evening of that week, there was a call for baptism and one of our students chose to be baptized the following day. Dalariyn gave her heart to God.

One of the focuses of Summer Experience this year was community service. During the third week, students spent time participating in community service activities on campus. One of those activities involved dorm upgrades, working alongside the Support Our Scholars group that visited our campus.

During the final three weeks, students participated in three more camp-style programs—a health-focused camp from Wildwood Health Institute, a music camp

*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  
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[HolbrookIndianSchool.org](http://HolbrookIndianSchool.org)

with the Institute of Young Musicians for Christ, and, during the final week, an outdoor adventure-focused camp with the F5 group.

The support we receive from friends of HIS makes it possible for our students to participate in Summer Experience.

*By Chevon Petgrave*



# Nearly 450 Graduate as La Sierra Returns to Traditional Commencement

**T**he meaning of it all was just beginning to dawn on Martin Jimenez Gonzalez as he waited in line the morning of June 19—the moment was getting real.

At 8 a.m., he and several hundred other La Sierra University graduates, robed in their billowing dark blue gowns and wearing their tasseled and sometimes elaborately decorated caps, would walk down the hill to their seating area under a white canopy on Founders' Green. From there he would wait for his name to be called to walk on stage and receive his Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice. It would be an emotional moment.

"I'm really grateful to be able to dedicate this achievement to my dad; he passed away, unfortunately," said Jimenez Gonzalez before the graduates began moving down to the commencement area. "So I'm grateful to give him that, and I'm grateful to be here with my family."

Jimenez Gonzalez was among 449 members of La Sierra University's Class of 2022 who graduated on a day that also celebrated Father's Day and Juneteenth. It was a return to the university's traditional outdoor commencement on Founders' Green that capped two days of events. Graduations in 2020 and 2021 consisted

of single drive-through celebrations in which graduates decorated their cars and drove through campus, receiving gifts and cheered on by faculty and staff. Last year's graduation included a Conferring of Degrees ceremony.

La Sierra University President Joy Fehr, in a commencement address on June 19, urged the Class of 2022 to live for others. She recounted her experience receiving the sacrificial service of others after suffering a traumatic hiking injury. "When we realize that life is not about us, that it's about others, when we shift from egotism to altruism, when we do that, we find lasting, life-altering...moral joy," she said.

After the ceremony, Sephora Alvarez wiped tears of happiness from her eyes as she gathered with her family members to take photos. She celebrated receiving her master's degree from the School of Education and looked forward to teaching first grade at Loma Linda Academy this fall.

"She finally made it," said her father, Roberto Alvarez. "It means a lot as a family. [She's] the first one out of six [to graduate from college]. We are so happy; she worked so hard every day, and couldn't sleep for a few nights, but here it is."

By Darla Martin Tucker

Joshua Young, vice president of the La Sierra University Class of 2022 celebrates as he receives his degree on June 19.

Watching are (left to right) Pastor Lawrence Dorsey II; Chang-ho Ji, dean of the School of Education; Bradford Newton, chairman of the board of trustees; and Friedbert Ninow, dean of the H.M.S. Richards Divinity School.





The new initiative will be based out of the Jardín de la Salud community garden in San Bernardino.

## Grant Will Support State Outdoor Equity Program for Area Youth

**L**oma Linda University Health (LLUH) has received a California State Parks grant of \$685,000 to expose local youth and their families to outdoor experiences as part of California's new outdoor equity efforts.

The three-year grant will enable the university and its partners to implement the Healthy in Nature Equity Program for surrounding residents of the Jardín de la Salud (Garden of Health) in San Bernardino, a community garden sponsored by LLUH and its Institute for Community Partnerships.

The effort is one of 125 local California programs to receive funding from the state Department of Parks and Recreation's new "Outdoors for All" initiative to bring outdoor activities to people in under-resourced communities. Residents of low-income urban and rural areas will be able to participate and expand their access to outdoor experiences at state parks and other public lands.

Healthy in Nature will partner with the local school district to bring students to the garden and hold weekly workshops and educational projects led by LLU staff and faculty. The project will also include monthly family hikes in natural areas each week in places such as the Loma Linda hills, San Bernardino mountains, Palm Springs, and the coast. The program will

also hold quarterly camping trips for teens and offer leadership, career exploration, and mentoring opportunities.

"This is really exciting for us because it leverages existing relationships we have in our community and adds an additional element of nature in how we can support families in our region," said Juan Carlos Belliard, PhD, MPH, director of LLUH's Institute for Community Partnerships. "This is an opportunity to share the proven mental and spiritual health benefits of nature with the broader community."

The initiative will serve approximately 1,900 participants and conduct 82 trips to natural areas for approximately 1,500 participants during three years of programming.

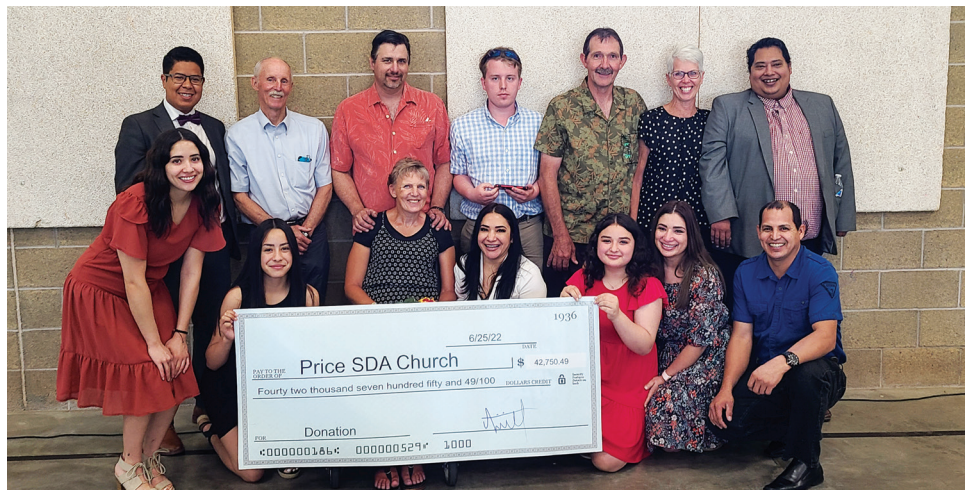
The program will also include teaching sessions on careers and occupations in nature, animals in nature, wellness and sustainability classes, as well as San Bernardino environmental history, composting, aquaponics, and wellness.

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*By Ansel Oliver*

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

In a wonderful display of brotherly love, members of the Provo, Utah, church present the check gifted to the Price congregation to cover the cost of water damage repairs to the parsonage.



# We Care!

**T**he Nevada-Utah Conference (NUC) has a tag line: “We Care.” It describes how the conference administrative team makes decisions using a Christ-like model of caring. During the last few years, as they’ve observed NUC churches and members deal with a life-altered world of pandemonium, they’ve been privileged to see “We Care” in action on the local level. Here’s just one example.

In Utah, the Provo/Price district saw individual needs increase during the pandemic. In this church district, over 60 members contracted COVID, and many lost their jobs and their source of income. The church boards of the Provo and Price churches committed to giving all they could. They knew the meager resources they had wouldn’t last forever, but they committed to helping everyone they could. The churches contributed to individual needs as they arose by paying mortgages, rent, and utilities and by purchasing medications and food. God blessed their giving hearts! Instead of their bank balances decreasing to all-time lows, the bank balances increased!

In January 2022, disaster struck the Price church parsonage. A water line froze and subsequently burst, due to deferred maintenance. The small congregation took immediate action to mitigate and repair the damage. After the project was completed, and a \$42,000+ bill was paid by NUC, the insurance company determined that the cause was excluded from coverage and there would be no financial assistance provided for the claim. Striving to repay the debt, the Price church board came up with a plan of repayment that would take years.

When learning of the loss at Price, the church board at Provo said, “We want to help. Let’s give \$5,000.” Further prayer and discussion occurred, and it was determined that they could do more.

During a joint church service on June 25, 2022, the pastor preached on Acts 2:44-47. “All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved” (NIV).

After the potluck fellowship meal, Provo church members presented the Price church a check for \$42,750.49. Not only did this cover the cost of mitigating and repairing the water damage, but the amount also covered the insurance premium payment for three months. All in the room were brought to tears. Harold Rosales, pastor of both the Provo and Price churches, told the members, “You are a living example of the New Testament church. What you are doing to support each other makes me proud!”

NUC Treasurer Karen Schneider voiced her praise. “Thank you for reminding your NUC treasurer that love is not about the numbers but that love is about meeting the needs of the people.”

*By Karen Schneider*

# Rudy Alvir Becomes NUC Youth Director

**W**e have been blessed to have Pastor Rodolfo Alvir Abraham join the staff of the Nevada-Utah Conference (NUC) as the new youth/young adult director. Preferring to go by Pastor Rudy, he began his ministry here on May 1 by participating in the NUC Town Hall weekend in Reno.

Pastor Alvir completed his undergraduate degree in theology at Montemorelos University in Mexico and his Master of Divinity degree at Andrews University in Michigan. He has served in Mexico, the United States, and, most recently, in Canada. Prior service includes district pastor, conference youth director, and ministerial secretary. He is married to Alexandra Hichez, and together they have two children, Juan Jose (J.J.) and Sarai. The family is in this together, Pastor Alvir shared. "As a family we enjoy and are committed to ministry."

Being young at heart, he likes preaching and learning more about it. One of the things he loves



most is making new friends and spending long hours with old ones. He feels very relaxed and comfortable when helping young people, guiding them in spiritual matters, discipleship, and everyday life. "I love to see young people enjoy their Christian walk," he said.

When asked about his plans for the NUC Youth Department, he said, "I envision a movement of young people who are advancing the kingdom of heaven in the Nevada-Utah territory. I see them not only witnessing to their friends but also planting churches and owning this mission."

Welcome aboard, Pastor Rudy!

*By Michelle Ward*



Pastor Rudy with wife, Alexandra, son, J.J., and daughter, Sarai.

## Notice of 35th Constituency Session for the Nevada-Utah Conference

Notice is hereby given that the 35th Constituency Session of the Nevada-Utah Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene with registration at 9:00 a.m. PDT and the meeting at 10:00 a.m. PDT on Sunday, October 2, 2022, at the Hampton Inn Tropicana, 4975 Dean Martin Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive the quadrennial reports; to elect conference officers, ethnic coordinators, and the Executive Committee; and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the session.

According to the constitutional provision, each organized church is entitled to two delegates and one additional delegate for each seventy-five (75) church members or fractional majority thereof.

### **35th NUC Constituency Session**

Hampton Inn Tropicana | 4975 Dean Martin Drive  
Las Vegas, NV 89118-1656

**Carlos A. Camacho** | NUC President

**Chanda M. Nunes** | NUC Executive Secretary



# HEAVEN ON EARTH: Leoni Meadows Opens

**J**une 26 was a momentous day for the staff at Leoni Meadows. It was the first day of Family Camp and a soft opening for a camp significantly scarred by the Caldor wildfire a year ago.

“From day one following the fire we have battled challenge after challenge to get the camp ready for this week,” said Craig Heinrich, camp director. Heinrich continued, “God has provided, time and again, the resources, materials, permits, employees, contractors, and volunteers to rebuild, refurbish, and restore our camp.”

The 2021 Caldor Fire, which started near the camp, burned nearly 220,000 acres during its rampage. Nearly 1,100 structures in its path were destroyed or damaged. Structures lost at the camp were also significant. Ten buildings key to the camp, including two staff houses, were total losses. Most of the camp favorites, like Frontier and Wilderness Camp, burned; even the pool did not come through unscathed.

What the fire didn’t burn, water and smoke made up for in damage. But work

on the camp started immediately—clearing trees, demolishing structures, and lining up volunteers. According to Debbie Alexander, office manager, “During the project, over 100 people gave a week or weekend to help get us to this point. The jobs they accomplished ranged from construction to painting, scrubbing walls, and installing new mattresses. There was so much to do.”

And so now the first camp of the summer has commenced. In January, camp director



Craig Heinrich purposely moved the family camp schedule to early summer so that some of the venues could be worked on before the young campers arrive later in July. This move has paid dividends.

Syndi from Placerville, and her granddaughter, River, said, "The drive to the camp was sad; the amount of damage a forest fire creates is unbelievable. But we are so blessed to be here. The camp staff has done an excellent job." That sentiment was echoed by Jeremy Pierson, a longtime camper from Visalia, who explained, "Leoni and its Family Camp is a tradition for my family. It is sad to see the devastation all around, but in the main part of the camp, it looks beautiful as if nothing happened. But what makes this camp a tradition for our family is the people."

According to Heinrich, "So far, the Family Camp has gone smoothly, but not without incident. Some minor plumbing issues have cropped up as families populate the newly remodeled lodges. But we've made it! God is



good, and Leoni is back from the ashes."

Lori Cholmondelay, a 45-year family-camper from St. Helena, said it best, "Leoni has always been a piece of heaven on earth. Although the fires destroyed some of the trees and buildings, I've realized that it's the loving people that make it heavenly."

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*By Ken Miller*

## Living With Jesus and the Tigers

One of the most exciting moments for every child is that very first day of school!

In the 2021-22 school year, a special "Try us for Free" grant was offered by the Pacific Union Conference in which kindergartners would receive 50% off the first month's tuition to attend an Adventist school. The Northern California Conference (NCC) started the New Beginners Fund to match, and thanks to NCC Compassionate Givers, 218 kindergartners received one full month of tuition.

This powerful partnership program gave principals and teachers a valuable tool to recruit new students. God blessed this partnership, and overall NCC schools reported an increase of 20% in kindergartners as compared to previous school years. Moreover, 100% of these new beginners stayed in our schools for the entire year.

One success story is of a family that chose our NCC school because of the New Beginners Fund. Through discipleship and grace, a parent was baptized. Another kindergartner exclaimed, "I think it's worth it to be a Christian. I will get to live in heaven with Jesus and the tigers."

Many of these new beginners, such as Katie, are now heading into first grade. As Katie explained, "Well, I love God and want to be Jesus' disciple, and I learned how

to be a good one at my school. Of course, I go back to school!"

Because of its success, the Pacific Union Conference is repeating the Try us for Free program for the 2022-23 school year. Our goal is to supplement the union's grant by raising \$41,000 for the New Beginners Fund.

If you would like to learn more, please visit our website at [www.nccsda.com](http://www.nccsda.com).

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*By Ken Miller*





# ESCAPE FROM HOME: PUC Alum and Family Flee Ukraine

**T**he night before his country was invaded, Andrey Gulko went to bed early. He and his family had returned from a business trip to the Netherlands. Back to their house with their own dishes, towels, and comfortable beds. Back to the daily routine. Back to their normal life.

With three children under 10, normal life for the Gulkos was busy. They barely had time to recoup after their trip. Two days went by. It was a Wednesday, and they still hadn't unpacked.

The first time he awoke was to the phone ringing. It was his neighbor, anxious and worried about the tense situation with Russia.

Still groggy, Andrey put his neighbor off until the morning. There had been rumors for months, but nothing had happened yet. Andrey hung up. He closed his eyes and once again let the waves of weariness pull him back into sleep.

The second time he was jolted awake by the sound of loud blasts and rattling windows. It was 4 a.m. Andrey and his wife looked at each other. It was actually happening.

It was happening now.

## **In the midst of an international crisis**

Andrey and his family, along with millions of other Ukrainians, suddenly found themselves at the center of a crisis that had been escalating for years.

Eight years before, in February 2014, Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered unmarked troops to invade and annex Crimea, a southern peninsula of Ukraine, in a hostile response to the country's recent flex of power. A wave of protests and demonstrations broke out across Ukraine. That movement culminated in the Revolution of Dignity. Ukrainians ousted their pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovich, and set up a pro-Western government.

Putin used similar tactics in the Ukrainian region of Donbas. But that effort devolved into a simmering conflict between Ukrainians and Russian-backed separatists. Twenty-nine ceasefires failed to hold. For years, the situation remained a stalemate.



As early as spring 2021, Russia began amassing thousands of military personnel and equipment in Crimea and on the border with Ukraine.

Andrey grew up in a village not too far from Kyiv. His father was a Seventh-day Adventist pastor. Thanks to a relative in California, at 15 Andrey attended Thunderbird Adventist Academy in Arizona. He spoke no English. No one there spoke Ukrainian—he learned through immersion.

He then went to Pacific Union College (PUC). While there, Andrey worked at the bike shop in nearby Calistoga, and one of his fondest memories of life at PUC is mountain biking. He even finished in the top three of the Napa Valley Dirt Classic—an annual mountain bike race—on a BMX.

At PUC, Andrey majored in manufacturing and engineering. After graduating in 2004, he decided to return to his homeland. “I felt like it was my patriotic duty to go back to Ukraine and teach Ukrainian farmers to farm better,” he said.

For a year, Andrey worked for one of the big tractor suppliers in Kyiv as a technical instructor. There he met Natalie, an HR manager, who would later become his wife.

The couple has three children: Frosya, 9, Polina, 8, and Grisha, 5. They live in Voron’kiv, a village southeast of Kyiv.

Andrey works for Raven Industries, an American company with its European headquarters in the Netherlands. It designs and manufactures products for precision farming. With its vast arable plains, agriculture plays a vital role in the Ukrainian economy—as reflected even in the colors of the nation’s flag. Considered “the breadbasket of Europe,” Ukraine is a major producer of wheat, corn, and sunflower products.

In January, news reports about an impending Russian invasion mounted. Raven Industries sounded the alarm. Andrey readied his team in Ukraine for the worst-case

scenario.

Have extra fuel on hand. Keep your car’s gas tank full. Gather together important documents. Pack a suitcase with bare necessities. Be ready for an emergency.

They all did it.

But nobody believed it.

“I myself didn’t believe it,” Andrey said during a recent conversation over Zoom. “I didn’t think it could happen.”

### A decision to flee

Even the government assured its people that there was no possibility of war.

But in the wee hours of February 24, war arrived. In a full-scale invasion, Russians moved into Ukraine on the ground from multiple directions. Missiles and airstrikes hit targets across the country.

Andrey’s young son, Grisha, looked out his bedroom window and screamed that the sky was on fire.

Orange lights blazed trails across the sky, their arcs ending in explosions. The missiles Grisha saw and heard were part of Ukraine’s own defense system. But for Grisha, at 5 years old, it was simply terrifying.

Andrey and Natalie quickly dressed their children in warm clothes and tried to keep them calm as they took shelter in their root cellar.

The Gulkos were fortunate to have one—a cool, dry space beneath their garage used to store carrots, potatoes, and other vegetables they grew in their nearby field.

Soon, neighbors, with no place of their own to shelter, joined them. For a few days, they managed to fit six adults and five children in the little room.

Food was scarce for many in the wake of the invasion, but the Gulkos had plenty. “It’s kind of funny. We didn’t understand why our parents preserved food and stored staples,” Andrey said. “But they had lived through shortages.”

Indeed, the Holodomor, a manmade famine of the Stalinist era, killed millions of Ukrainians in 1932 and 1933. The psychological effects of that tragedy were far-

Andrey and his family, along with millions of other Ukrainians, suddenly found themselves at the center of a crisis that had been escalating for years.





Andrey and Natalie quickly dressed their children in warm clothes and tried to keep them calm as they took shelter in their root cellar.

reaching. Generations of families ever since have made substantial food storage a priority.

Andrey said he and Natalie carried on the tradition of preserving and having a surplus of food.

Built to preserve food, the cellar now served to protect people.

Temperatures at night were near freezing. It was impossible to keep the cellar either heated or properly ventilated. They made room on the floor for the children to sleep. Adults slept sitting up. Or they didn't. At most, Andrey slept two hours a night—sometimes only 45 minutes.

"For six days, it was a non-stop adrenaline rush trying to keep everyone safe," he said.

Daylight marked a temporary lull from the nighttime air raids. They surfaced from the cellar and ventured into the house to cook. Children played outside in the fresh air, reveling in the warm sunlight. Still, the adults kept a wary eye turned toward the sky, on the lookout for warplanes.

But by day six, the kids were sick. They were cold and had runny noses and coughs. Meanwhile, in the north, a 40-mile-long convoy of Russian soldiers inched toward Kyiv. Increasingly, civilians were targets.

That's when Andrey and Natalie made the choice. They had to leave Ukraine.

### The journey west

Andrey and his family were fortunate. Raven

colleagues in Bulgaria reached out and offered a place to stay.

So Andrey and his wife piled their three kids, a neighbor's daughter, and their chocolate lab, Sunny, in a mid-size truck, similar to a Toyota Tacoma. They took along just the essentials and began the journey west.

The Gulkos had to take long routes to avoid areas being bombed or attacked. Many bridges were shut down. The alternate routes took them through small towns and villages. Each one had checkpoints.

After three days of driving, they finally reached the Romanian border. But crossing wasn't easy. From noon that day until 7:00 the next morning they waited in line.

Many Ukrainian men were being conscripted to stay and fight. But according to Ukrainian law, having three underage children was an exemption. Still, they were nervous. They had a plan B.

Two Raven employees volunteered to make the 14-hour trek to the Romanian border and help Andrey's family across should he be detained. "The law is one thing," Andrey said, "people at the border are another."

Andrey's family was resolute. They would remain with him if he couldn't cross.

Finally, they crossed into Romania. ADRA was the very first large support tent to meet fleeing Ukrainians. The second, right behind it, was the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Romania.

The Gulkos didn't stop, because they had a destination and a vehicle, but many others did, not

knowing what their future held.

When they reached their destination in Bulgaria, nine days after the Russian invasion began, Andrey could finally sleep. And he did—off and on for a full two days.

They convinced Natalie's parents to leave Odessa and stay with them. But after three weeks, they decided to go back. "They are still in Ukraine," Andrey said. He sighs. Maybe in sadness or frustration. Maybe some envy.

From Bulgaria, the Gulkos drove northwest to the Netherlands. Raven's HR department began planning for their arrival. They knew what documents were needed and where to register with the EU. They had recommendations for schools. They even met with principals and aided in enrolling their children.

Natalie took a job with an international school, teaching students English.

Their children face a language barrier in the Netherlands. A number of Syrian refugees, as well as immigrants from Poland and Romania, live there. Polina and Frosya go to an international school with 22 students from 16 different countries, including Ukraine.

The Gulkos are grateful for the kindness and generosity of his Raven colleagues and the others who helped them on their journey to the Netherlands.

But it is not home.

### **An unwavering hope**

Russia's war with Ukraine is a freezing conflict, Andrey says. There won't be a clear point of victory—with a winner and a loser. He and his wife ask themselves if they really want to go back to Ukraine and risk putting their children through all of it again.

They are blessed and are not in need. They have housing and essentials. They have jobs and the kids are in school.

Still, it's hard to settle in and make decisions while yearning to return to your homeland. "We try to tell ourselves convincing stories about what it would take, but it's hard to feed yourself illusions that it will end soon," Andrey said.

Ukraine's national flower is the sunflower. Since the invasion, it has symbolized to the world the unwavering spirit and hope of the Ukrainian people.

Sunflowers by day fix their bright yellow faces toward the sun, mirroring its movement until nightfall. In the darkness, sunflowers turn back toward the east and wait expectantly for the first light. The sun will rise again.

It's a hope the Gulkos have—a hope that one day they can return.

"What's the best place for kids?" Andrey asked. "There's no better place than home."

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*By Laura Gang*





LEFT: The Taimi family are presented with welcome gifts. RIGHT: Taimi preaches his first sermon at La Sierra University church.

## Looking Forward: New Senior Pastor at La Sierra University Church

On May 21, 2022, Iki Taimi was installed as senior pastor at La Sierra University church. He is serving with his wife, Melanie, and their two children, Mikayla (9) and Lio (7), by his side. For the Taimis, family is everything, and most Friday nights they can be found having worship together with Pastor Iki's brother, sisters, parents, and all their children.

Growing up in a very spiritual and religious home, worship and prayer with his family felt as natural as breathing.

"We have always been a family that prays together," he recalled. "No matter how much stress was pressing on us, we got together and prayed, worshiped, and sang. We confessed to each other, forgave each other, walked through life's ups and downs together. It was in those worship-filled moments that I grew the most."

It was this model of family support, inclusiveness, community, and connecting with God that has guided Taimi's pastoral career.

"The church offers this great place where different generations, people groups, and families can come together to support, learn from, and grow with each other," Taimi said.

Engaging across generations is something Taimi feels very strongly about, especially in a church like La

Sierra University church, where the segmentation of various ages is much more obvious than in many other churches, simply due to the nature of being a university campus-based congregation.

"Often we focus on trying to pull in more of one single group," Taimi pointed out. "But it's a huge table, and we all belong here, so let's come feast together."

In his new role, Taimi hopes to draw from his experience of eight years directing youth and young adult ministries for the Southern California Conference, as well as 16 years of pastoral work. Specifically, his aim is to continue inspiring, educating, and training the church to lean forward into the future.

As the first person of color to serve as senior pastor for La Sierra University church, Taimi said he is honored to be taking that step forward with them, and he eagerly anticipates seeing where they can go together.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know the congregation better and doing ministry together," Taimi said. "I love building relationships, and God always seems to bring around me really fantastic groups of human beings who care for God and the world. I don't know what that looks like yet here in my new role, but I'm excited about the possibilities."

By Becky St. Clair

# San Diego Pathfinders Earn Autism Honor

In April, 107 Pathfinders gathered in San Diego at the South Bay church to earn the Rady Children's Hospital Kristen Gist honor for autism awareness.

The Kristen Gist autism honor provides Pathfinders with a glimpse into the life of someone on the autism spectrum and explores that unique perspective.

The program was hosted by the South San Diego County Division and involved Pathfinders from six churches across the Southeastern California Conference (SECC): South Bay, Maranatha, Paradise Valley, La Mesa, 31st Street, and Broadway Spanish. The two-and-a-half-hour event was planned and facilitated by Rhonda Williams, a member from Maranatha church, and Rosanna Flores, a South Bay church member. They are also both employees of Rady Children's Hospital.

"Rosanna and I wanted to teach Pathfinders to communicate, interact, accept, and embrace others with learning disabilities and differences, such as autism," explained Williams.

At the event, organizers divided Pathfinders by classification level: Friends, Companions, Explorers, Rangers, Voyagers, Guides, and Master Guides. Five educators from various school districts taught learners the importance of understanding autism. The instructors included three special education teachers, a San Diego State University professor, and a San Diego County Office of Education teacher.

"Our goal was to emphasize God's love for everyone while providing insight on developing empathy and building relationships with people on the autism spectrum," said Williams.

Each classification group watched informational videos and

completed various activities designed to demonstrate the perspective of someone on the autism spectrum. Activities involved sensory, hands-on tools such as bubbles, texture bags, sandpaper, and parachutes. Throughout the program, educators also tasked Pathfinders with learning and defining key terms related to autism.

At the end, all the Pathfinders gathered to share and discuss what they learned about autism. Participants were excited, engaged, and eager to share.

"As Pathfinder directors, my husband and I have always desired to collaborate with other clubs," said Flores. "We loved fostering a sense of community, sharing ideas, supporting, and creating close friendships with directors and Pathfinders from other churches. Organizing and hosting this event was just another way of working toward this goal."

Plans are underway to host another Pathfinder autism honor event. Pastor Meshach Soli, SECC associate youth director for club ministries, has expressed interest in seeing this honor taught on a larger scale across the conference.

For more information about Pathfinders, visit the SECC Youth Ministries website: <https://seccyouth.com/club-ministries/>.

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*By Danni Thaw*





PHOTOS: BRANDEN STOLTZ

Water damage prompted repair work such as replacing wood, treating mold, and a roof redesign. Although renovations are not yet complete, the church community continues to trust God through the process.

## Renovations at Burbank Church Demonstrate God’s Expert Care

“At Burbank church, I wish we could say we’re putting all this work, energy, and funding into renovating something flashy like our sanctuary,” said Branden Stoltz, Burbank church senior pastor. “Sometimes it’s the hidden things that need our serious attention.”

When the congregation detected water leakage in parts of the church building’s interior this year, they initially thought the leak was significant but manageable. Members were ready to repair any resulting damage to the building themselves; however, after realizing the issue required more attention, they called in a professional to assess the situation. To their surprise, what originally appeared to be superficial damage was confirmed as a bigger problem. Contractors revealed the entire two-story section behind the plaster where the leak was found had rotted due to many years of storms. Ultimately, the roof above the fellowship hall and upstairs classrooms needed replacing.

Soon after, a general contractor was hired to guide the church through replacing the wood, treating the mold, making plans for the redesign of the flat roof, and bringing in the right experts needed to ensure the work done was sufficient—not only to address present concerns but for the longevity of the building.

As of this summer, the interior walls are scheduled for repainting and a temporary roof is in place over

the concerning areas. Funds for this project were secured by a loan from the Pacific Union Conference. Additionally, people have donated to the renovation fund in person and through Adventist Giving online.

“I am thankful to God that those in our community, including the other congregations that worship in our church building, have truly trusted in God through this process and supported the work we have in front of us,” Stoltz said.

Burbank church has experienced many changes this year so far. In addition to this renovation project, worship service has been moved to 2 p.m. With this change, Stoltz noted members are “experiencing Sabbath differently, with late breakfasts together, morning nature hikes, and extended personal worship time.” Attendance, which previously remained steady, has begun to increase.

“We’ve seen God’s hand in guiding our church through this less-than-glamorous project, but God leads us in stages,” Stoltz shared. “I think the parallel to our own personal journey with faith is not too different. Sometimes we think the problem we’re experiencing is manageable or that we can fix it by ourselves, but it turns out the damage goes far beyond what we can see and needs God’s expert care to do a complete restoration.”

By Araya Moss

# High Desert Church Hosts Three-Week Revelation Seminar

This spring, High Desert church hosted the first Revelation evangelistic series in its history. The theme “Everything Is About to Change!” was chosen by the church board from the desire to share Revelation’s end-time message of hope with Mojave and the surrounding community.

With experience in evangelism and assistance from church members, Jose Gutierrez, district senior pastor of High Desert, Tehachapi, and Lake of the Woods churches and seminar speaker, put together the materials for the seminar within four months.

“I had two goals,” Gutierrez said. “The first was to gain souls for Christ; the second was for people in the community to get to know our church.”

Meetings began on May 17, were held on Tuesday through Saturday evenings, and lasted for three weeks. Topics included One World Order, The Not-So-Secret Rapture, A New Life in Christ, The Final Judgment, The Mark of the Beast, and more.

During the first week, an average of 26 people attended each night, of which 50% were church members. The second week brought a reduction in attendance with a nightly average of 23 people. However, by the end of that week, two attendees made decisions for baptism. Presentations were added during the divine service on the first and second Sabbath of the seminar, in hopes of increasing attendance. During the third week, an average of 19 people attended each night.

Presentations concluded with the addition of five new members through baptism and profession of faith and High Desert church establishing a presence in the city with an awareness that the church preaches Bible prophecy. “I feel I’m in the place God wanted me to be,” an attendee shared with Gutierrez at the seminar’s conclusion. “Truly the truth can set you free.”

“Overall, we feel this was a worthwhile event,” Gutierrez said. “All of the current church members participated and assisted in many areas of need. This event has introduced our church to the community, and we are excited to welcome five new converts into God’s family.”

Plans for the next end-times seminar in Spanish are



PHOTO: JOSE GUTIERREZ

Five attendees make decisions for baptism during the three-week Revelation seminar at High Desert church.

underway for later this year. Moving forward, Gutierrez hopes to host two seminars a year—one in English and one in Spanish.

Gutierrez is eager to share his experience with others. “I encourage other pastors and churches to get in touch with me if they would like to start a prophecy seminar in their area,” he offered.

*By Jose Gutierrez and Araya Moss*

# Calendar

## La Sierra University

**Fall quarter begins.** La Sierra University fall quarter classes for the 2022-2023 school year begin Sept. 26. For information on La Sierra University degree programs, admissions, and other information, visit <https://lasierra.edu>.

**The La Sierra Report.** Stay in the know and sign up to receive The La Sierra Report, a monthly e-newsletter of the interesting news and events of La Sierra University. To subscribe, send your email address and subscription request to [pr@lasierra.edu](mailto:pr@lasierra.edu).

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### Information

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### Upcoming Deadlines

These are the advertising deadlines for the *Recorder*. Your local conference news deadlines will be earlier.  
September: *August 4* • October: *September 6*

### Contributions

The *Recorder* pages are assigned to the local conferences, colleges, and health care institutions, and all content comes through the communication departments in those organizations. If you have a news story/idea, calendar announcement, etc., please contact your local communication department. See the masthead for contact information. Want tips for writing for us? See [www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news](http://www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news).

## Southeastern California Conference

**Wedgwood Trio and Friends** in concert on Saturday, Sept. 17, 5:00 p.m., at Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus Street, Loma Linda, California. For more information, email Darold Retzer at [dretzer@verizon.net](mailto:dretzer@verizon.net).

## Southern California Conference

**Eagle Rock Church 100th Anniversary Weekend** (Aug. 5-7). Join Eagle Rock church for a special weekend celebrating a century of sharing God's love with vespers, an afternoon concert, guest speaker Pacific Union Conference President Bradford Newton, and a Pathfinder international food fair fundraiser. Eagle Rock church, 2322 Merton Ave., Los Angeles, 90041. Fundraiser tickets: [n.mature@gmail.com](mailto:n.mature@gmail.com).

**San Fernando Valley Academy 120th Anniversary Weekend** (Sept. 23-24). Calling all SFVA alumni, students, families, and friends together for a commemoration of 120 years. Special guests: Pacific Union Conference President Bradford Newton, Southern California Conference President Velino A. Salazar, Pastor Tony Anobile, and Christian Edition. San Fernando Valley Academy, 17601 Lassen St., Northridge, 91325.

## Classified

### At Your Service

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

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

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

**You can help the Lord's ministry of healing in Micronesia** by donating your car, boat, bike, RV, or



truck. All proceeds go to provide free medical services to the island peoples of Micronesia. Canvasback Missions, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, has been serving since 1986. Visit our website for more info: [www.canvasback.org](http://www.canvasback.org) or call 707-746-7828 to arrange your donation.

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

## Employment

**Adventist Media Ministries is seeking a full-time Human Resources Director** to develop, update, administrate, and communicate human resources policies and programs. For more information, you may email Maurice Valentine at [mauricevalentine@nadadventist.org](mailto:mauricevalentine@nadadventist.org) or apply at <https://www.adventistmediaministries.com/available-positions/>

**Caregiver needed, as soon as possible:** We are asking the Lord to send us a kind, healthy, strong woman with a good sense of humor who has experience caregiving for the very feeble elderly requiring 24/7 care; who knows proper body mechanics to prevent self-injury;

who is looking for a place to live out of the city; who is interested in working for room & board plus \$2,500 a month, with 10 days off a month; who feels called to provide spiritual care along with caregiving for an elderly Adventist couple so they may have their wish to die in their own home. If this is you, please call Lalita Brinckhaus at 707-671-5086 or email: [amanecer.rl@gmail.com](mailto:amanecer.rl@gmail.com).

### **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@cccda.org](mailto:lbarron@cccda.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 full-time Auditor.** Responsibilities include all aspects of accounting and bookkeeping. Prefer a bachelor's or associate degree in accounting. Must be able to



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communicate comfortably and interact well with people. Benefits include healthcare, retirement, life insurance, long-term disability insurance, tuition assistance, vacation, sick time, holidays, workers' compensation insurance, free stay at camps, continued education, among others. 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 full-time Administrative Assistant in the Hispanic Ministries/Religious Liberty Department.** The Conference's vision priorities expect that the Administrative Assistant maintain a spiritual environment, contribute in loving fellowship and unity not only with co-workers but also with constituents and/or visitors. Responsibilities include strong computer (MS Office) skills; must be accurate, detailed, and efficient in data entry, processing paperwork, and setting up events. This person must also be courteous in dealing with external and internal customers. Must have personal management and motivation skills to work toward goals. Must be bilingual in Spanish and English. Benefits include healthcare, life insurance, long-term disability insurance, sick, vacation, and holiday pay, 403b. Schedule: Mon.–Thur. 7:30–5:30 (38 hours). 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>

**The Voice of Prophecy at Adventist Media Ministries is seeking a full-time Manager/Treasurer.** The Manager/Treasurer is responsible for managing all hands-on operational aspects of the ministry, which also includes developing and managing its financial wellbeing. Being a fellow administrator, he assists the Speaker/Director in achieving the goals and objectives set for the organization. For more information, you may email Victor Pires at [victor@vop.com](mailto:victor@vop.com) or apply at <https://www.adventistmediaministries.com/available-positions/>.

**Holbrook Indian School is currently in need** of an Agriculture Assistant and an Agriculture/Cafeteria Assistant. These are paid positions. If you or someone you know are mission-minded and would like to serve Native American children, please see or share our jobs page at [HolbrookIndianSchool.org/jobs](http://HolbrookIndianSchool.org/jobs).

**Stallant Health Rural Health Clinic is accepting applications for full-time NPs, PAs, or physicians** at our Weimar and Crescent City, Calif., locations. Competitive pay, benefits, and ministry opportunity. Send CV to Marva at: [marva@stallanthhealth.com](mailto:marva@stallanthhealth.com) or call 530-637-4025, ext. 263.

**Southeastern California Conference is seeking on-call videographers.** Videographer helps shoot and edit videos for various events, interviews, and social media content. Must be able to execute video projects from start to finish: pre-production, production, and post-production. Should be proficient in Adobe Creative Suite applications, including Premiere Pro, After Effects, and Photoshop. Please be prepared to submit a portfolio showcasing videography samples. For more information, please email: [communications@seccsda.org](mailto:communications@seccsda.org).

**Loma Linda Academy Children's Center is looking to recruit teachers for their center.** Candidates must have completed 12 core units in Early Childhood Education. Teaching experience or a degree in Early Childhood Education a plus. If interested, please send résumé to [jbergvall@lla.org](mailto:jbergvall@lla.org).

**Azure Hills Children's Center is looking for a part-time preschool teacher.** Candidate must have 12 core units in Early Childhood Education (ECE), AA or BA in ECE preferred. Experience in ECE classroom required. Please send résumé to [azurehillschildrenscenter@yahoo.com](mailto:azurehillschildrenscenter@yahoo.com).

**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

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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 two years' experience as a youth or associate pastor. Detailed job description available upon request. Please submit a cover letter and résumé to [iasdacazusa@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.scc.adventist.org)) and click on Human Resources (under the "Departments" tab) for information and job descriptions. Please contact Jesse Guardado, interim camp manager at [campcedarfalls@sbcglobal.net](mailto:campcedarfalls@sbcglobal.net) or call 360-823-3932 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 healing ministry of Jesus Christ to make man whole! <https://bit.ly/32CM8Gt>

**Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) at Loma Linda University Health.**

Also called a Patient Care Assistant (PCA). Hiring on all units for all shifts. Performs designated direct and indirect age-specific and developmentally appropriate patient care under the direct supervision of the Registered Nurse (RN). Utilizes interpersonal skills to maximize customer service in a manner that supports excellence in safe patient care and professionalism. Contributes to a work environment of caring and cooperation among a culturally diverse workforce and patient population. Requires a high school diploma or GED, successful completion of an approved Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program or completion of School of Nursing Fundamentals, and a Basic Life Support (BLS) certification from American Heart Association.

**Assistant Professor Nurse Practitioner at Loma Linda University School of Nursing.**

Responsibility encompasses education, research, and/or service. Demonstrates loyalty to the mission, policies, standards, and regulations of his/her department, school, and the University, and follows the administrative policies set up by the University and the individual school. Requires a Nurse Practitioner degree from an accredited institution, two years post-master's teaching experience or closely related professional experience, and a nationally certified Acute Care Pediatric NP.

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

**Pacific Union College is seeking a full-time Housing Coordinator.**

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

**Pacific Union College is seeking a full-time Associate Vice President of Finance for Financial Administration.**

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

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

**IMPACT HOPE is seeking an enthusiastic**

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

**The General Conference of SDA is looking for individuals with work experience at all levels in Human Resources, software development and technology, and TV and social media.**

Must be an SDA church member in good standing. For additional information on current openings go to <https://tinyurl.com/gcjobpostings> or contact Johanna Prestol-Dominguez at [prestoljd@gc.adventist.org](mailto:prestoljd@gc.adventist.org).

**Real Estate**

**Northern California, Manton, country living:** 10-acre property, 3-bdrm, 3-bath, 2,100 sq. ft., solar, well and gravity mountain spring ditch water, big garden area, good soil, grape and fruit trees, barn, chicken coop,

greenhouse, woodshed, quiet Adventist neighborhood, ideal place for county living or retirement. Call 530-474-3162 email nhutor@yahoo.com

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

**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.

**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.

**4-bdrm, 3-bath home in the foothills of Central California,** in Coarsegold, 60 miles south of Yosemite. Almost 20 acres. Greenhouse, chicken coop, canning/craft room. 74 GPM well. Established fruit trees (apricot, apple, pear, peach, nectarine, plum, pomegranate, olive & lemon) and various types of berries. Second residence on the property 2 bdrm, 1 bath—needs TLC. Horse friendly. \$498,000. Johnny & Darlene Herr, REALTOR®-Associates 559-760 8141, darlene@herrerealestate.com. CalBRE#02081978 & CalBRE#02071769. Broker: Bass Lake Realty.

## 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.

**Baldwin 7' ebony concert grand** with adjustable artist bench. Exquisite condition. Meticulously maintained by professional technician. Looking for a loving home—church, academy, etc. Retailled new 5 years ago for \$68,400. Asking \$32,900. Contact Andre van Niekerk @ 949-338-8865 or email docandrevan@gmail.com. Serious inquiries only please.

**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: bhmbm1959@gmail.com.

**For Sale** 2 plots at Rose Hill Memorial Park, Skyrose Terrace Lawn, Whittier, CA. \$15,000 for each. Contact 559-347-3129.

## Vacation Opportunities

**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.

**Steps of Paul and Egypt Bible Tours** with Dr. Carl Cosaert, New Testament Professor at Walla Walla University. Follow Paul's journey in beautiful Greece and Turkey, April 18-May 5, 2023, or experience an Egypt Bible Tour Dec 11-23, 2022. For more information email Carl at info@adventtours.org or visit www.adventtours.org

## At Rest

**Barnhart, Margaret N. (Roos)** – b. Aug. 17, 1929, Lincoln, Neb.; d. June 4, 2022, Elk Grove, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Mary Skinner, Christine Tua, Phyllis Hernandez; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Margaret worked at Pacific Union College's Food Service in charge of purchasing.

**Bennett, Lester Levi** – b. Jan. 7, 1925, Red Top, Minn.; d. June 8, 2022, Napa, Calif. Survivors: wife, Eloise; sons, Larry, Lyle; daughter, Lynette Kinsey; eight grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren. He pastored in Hawaii Mission from 1946-1958 on the Big Island, Kauai, Maui, and Oahu; then in Northern California Conference from 1958-1987 at Eureka, Vallejo, Marin, Sacramento, Galt, Oroville, Concord; served as NCC Sabbath School secretary. In retirement, he pastored in Stockton, Greeley Hill, Oakland, as well as professor of ministry at Lakeview Seminary in Malawi.

**Bivens, Darryl A.** – b. Nov. 15, 1929, Lodi, Calif; d. May 31, 2022, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: wife, Stella; son, Randy; daughters, Jessica, Janice Young; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

**Frykman, Gary** – b. July 3, 1939, Spokane, Wash.; d. July 13, 2021, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: wife, Annette; sons, Greg, Philip, Eric; sister, Marilyn; 10 grandchildren.

**Goodrich, Suzanne** – b. Dec. 26, 1952, Nebraska City, Neb.; d. May 21, 2022, Los Angeles, Calif. Survivors: husband, Jerry; son, Christoffer; daughter, Rachele Kong. Suzanne was a loyal wife, loving mother, and talented writer who devoted her talents to the Lord.

**Greek, Pamela** – b. March 15, 1952, Sacramento, Calif.; d. Jan. 23, 2022, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: husband, Jim; son, Jeff Bivens; daughter, Jennifer Douglass; siblings, Scott Heiser, Debra Murphy; five grandchildren.

**Hamberger, Karen Ruth** – b. Dec. 16, 1959, Glendale, Calif.; d. June 26, 2022, Madison, Tenn. Survivors: husband, David; son, Jeffrey; mother, Gloria Leggett; sister, Susan Padilla; brother, Leroy Leggett. She served students as dean of girls at Wisconsin Academy, associate dean of women at Andrews University, registrar at Broadview Academy, and academic dean at Madison Academy.

**Harding IV, George T.** – b. Jan. 13, 1929, Columbus, Ohio; d. June 3, 2022, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Joan; daughters, Pamela Libby, Mary Ann Schaepper, Carolyn Harding, Julia King, Elizabeth Harrington; siblings, Anne Hoxie, Warren Harding, Richard Harding; 12 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.

**McAuley, Virginia** – b. Oct. 29, 1964, Awo-Omamma, Imo State, Nigeria; d. June 6, 2022, Loma Linda, Calif.

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Survivors: husband, Grant McAuley; sibling, Donatus Okolie. Virginia is a beloved wife, sister, cousin, mentor, and friend who is resting in Jesus.

**McDonald, Jim** – b. June 19, 1950, Dallas, Texas; d. Jan. 16, 2022, Normandy, France.

**Meyer, Patricia Maxine** – b. April 22, 1926, San Bernardino, Calif; d. June 23, 2022, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: husband, Norman Meyer; sons, Michael Zenft, Karl Zenft; stepdaughters, Bonnie Meyer, Barbara Ninan; multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Perez, Maria J.** – b. March 9, 1938, Cascas, Peru; d. June 10, 2022, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Melva Tucker, Cynthia Condon; two grandchildren.

**Rieker, Larry** – b. Dec. 8, 1947, Portland, Ore; d. June 5, 2022. Survivors: son, David; daughter, Suzanne Kingston; three grandchildren.

**Taru, Violeta Mihaela** – b. Feb. 14, 1981, Constanta, Romania; d. April 28, 2022, Forest Falls, Calif. Survivors: son, JR Oajdea; daughter, Eliza Hernandez; mother, Mihaela Ghejan; sister, Adriana Bidaki; brothers, Florin, Lucian. Violet was a beautiful Romanian-American who loved the Lord and family above all else and was often

the first to help others in need. Her loved ones are utterly heartbroken at the loss of their beloved mother, daughter, sister, granddaughter, niece, sister in Christ and friend.

**Walling, James L.** – b. May 16, 1934, Huntington Park, Calif.; d. May 17, 2022, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Paul Walling; daughters, Janice Lemann, Kathleen Johnson; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

**Wat, Margaret** – b. Aug. 28, 1926, Kauai, Hawaii; d. June 22, 2022, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Michael; daughters, Karen Nielsen, Linda Jacobson, Pamela Caster; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

## August 2022 Sunset Calendar

City/Location	AUG 5	AUG 12	AUG 19	AUG 26
Alturas	8:17	8:07	7:57	7:46
Angwin	8:17	8:09	8:00	7:50
Bakersfield	7:57	7:49	7:41	7:32
Calexico	7:38	7:31	7:23	7:15
Chico	8:17	8:09	7:59	7:49
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	7:36	7:28	7:20	7:10
Eureka	8:29	8:20	8:10	8:00
Four Corners [E]	8:20	8:12	8:04	7:54
Fresno	8:03	7:55	7:46	7:37
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	7:31	7:23	7:15	7:05
Half Dome	8:04	7:56	7:47	7:37
Hilo	6:55	6:51	6:46	6:41
Holbrook	7:21	7:13	7:05	6:56
Honolulu	7:08	7:04	6:59	6:53
Joshua Tree	7:44	7:37	7:29	7:20
Lake Tahoe	8:09	8:00	7:51	7:41
Las Vegas	7:43	7:35	7:27	7:18
Lodi-Stockton	8:12	8:04	7:55	7:45
Loma Linda	7:47	7:40	7:32	7:24
Los Angeles	7:51	7:44	7:36	7:28
McDermitt [N]	9:05	8:56	8:46	8:35
Moab	8:25	8:17	8:08	7:58
Monterey Bay	8:09	8:01	7:53	7:43
Mt. Whitney	7:56	7:49	7:40	7:31
Napa	8:16	8:08	7:59	7:49
Nogales [S]	7:46	7:39	7:31	7:22
Oakland	8:15	8:07	7:58	7:48
Paradise, CA	8:16	8:08	7:58	7:48
Phoenix	7:25	7:19	7:11	7:02
Pu'uwaiaiu, Ni'ihau [W]	6:57	6:53	6:48	6:43
Reno	8:09	8:00	7:51	7:40
Riverside	7:42	7:35	7:27	7:18
Sacramento	8:13	8:05	7:56	7:46
Salt Lake City	8:40	8:31	8:21	8:10
San Diego	7:44	7:38	7:30	7:22
San Francisco	8:15	8:07	7:58	7:49
San Jose	8:12	8:04	7:56	7:46
Santa Rosa	8:18	8:10	8:01	7:51
Sunset Beach	8:09	8:02	7:53	7:43
Thousand Oaks	7:54	7:47	7:39	7:30
Tucson	7:19	7:12	7:05	6:57

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

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—James J. Londis, Ph.D., evangelist, pastor, professor, college president (retired)

"In *Ostriches and Canaries, Coping with Change in Adventism 1966-1979*, Gilbert Valentine turns his spotlight on the Pierson presidency of the Adventist church. The years 1966-1978 were tumultuous in American society and also for the church, as ingrained fundamentalism faced the progressive ideas that came with the recently established universities in Loma Linda and Berrien Springs. Pierson could only react to the changes all around by attempting to return to a comfortable past. Suspicion and witch hunts became the order of the day; many of Adventism's finest minds were purged. It was not the church's finest hour. I highly recommend this book: in important respects the struggles of the Pierson years are still with us."

—William G. Johnsson, editor, *Adventist Review* (1982-2006)

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# LEARN WITH PURPOSE



**Explore the tide pools and follow the estuaries. Watch the migrating whales and study the local wildlife. Escape everyday life and embrace your calling.**

Tucked away in the forested hills of Northern California's majestic Mendocino coast, Albion Field Station brings the study of the natural world to life for PUC biology students.

This is what we mean when we say *Learn with Purpose*. Your college experience means more than what you can learn in a classroom and goes beyond what's required to fill a resume. This is your time to find what moves you, what motivates you, what fulfills you, and what makes you happy to roll out of bed every day!

## HOW CAN BIOLOGY STUDENTS LEARN WITH PURPOSE AT PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE?

- Study with experienced faculty who will support you on your path.
- Hike, bike, and horseback ride on our 35 miles of recreation trails, or study the unique wildlife and plant species in our protected forest.
- Connect with students who have been in your shoes and build a community with our BIOneer mentorship program.
- Put your study experience into action on global trips with a biology focus.
- Help solve some of the world's biggest problems with our recently added Conservation Technology degree, the first undergraduate program of its kind.



*"Being able to take students into nature to study different species and ecosystems and get hands-on experience is invaluable. It's also a beautiful place to worship and fellowship together. The memories made at Albion are memories our students hold on to long after graduation. We are truly blessed to have Albion as part of the PUC campus."*

*- Aimee Wyrick, associate professor of biology*



PACIFIC UNION

Recorder

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PERIODICALS

# MISSION: MARANATHA

## Annual Convention

September 17, 2022

Trinity Life Center  
5225 Hillsdale Blvd.  
Sacramento, California



You're invited to an inspiring missions event, celebrating the power of service and its impact around the world, **featuring music by the Heritage Singers.** Lunch provided with free registration.

### Schedule

MORNING PROGRAM	<b>10 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.</b>
LUNCH	<b>WITH FREE REGISTRATION</b>
AFTERNOON PROGRAM	<b>2 - 4 P.M., MINI CONCERT</b>

Children's Program included in the morning.

Register at [maranatha.org/convention](http://maranatha.org/convention)

Also, watch online on The Maranatha Channel, 3ABN, and Hope Channel. Check our website for details.



[maranatha.org](http://maranatha.org) | 916.774.7700

