

PACIFIC UNION

MAY 2018

Recorder

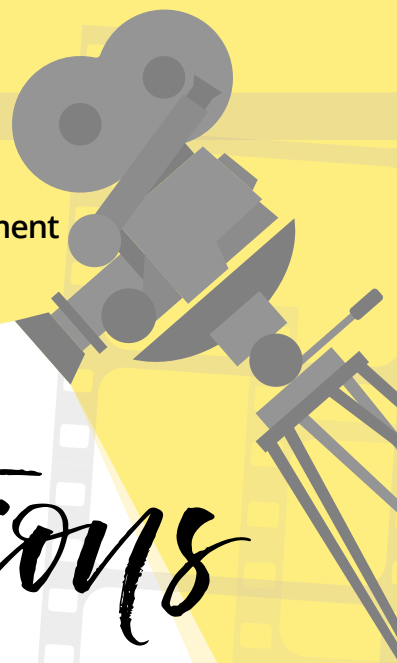


Generations!

Why Mothers and Families are so Important
Adventist West Point Photo Essay
In the Word: Rachel's Children on the Sea of Glass



Pacific Union Conference
Department of Communication & Community Engagement
All God's People Broadcast Creative Team
adventistfaith.com



Congratulations

to all of the young filmmakers from the Pacific Union
who competed in the 2018 Sonscreen Film Festival

Best High School Short

"Ha'awi Aloha" | Kayli Pascal-Martinez, Hawaiian Mission Academy

Best Screenplay

"The Chocolate Shop" | Vester Banner III, La Sierra University

Jury Selection Award

"Genesis" | Julian Ybarra, Pacific Union College

Best Dramatic Short

"She Isn't Here" | Michelle Noland, La Sierra University

Honorable Mention Dramatic Short

"The Chocolate Shop" | Vester Banner III, La Sierra University

Sonscreen is an annual gathering for Christian filmmakers, artists, and all those who have a passion for film for the purpose of creating timely and relevant productions. The 47 official selections were divided into six categories: animated short, art/experimental short (new category), dramatic short, documentary short, comedy short, and high school short.

Since its debut in 2002, the festival has become the destination for up-and-coming Christian filmmakers to share their creative work, gain exposure, network with media and film students, and be nurtured by film professionals. The 2018 Sonscreen Film Festival was held April 5-7, 2018, in Columbia, Maryland.



Sonscreen
Film Festival

Recorder What's inside

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Our mission is to inform, educate, and inspire our readers to action in all areas of ministry.

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Blessed to live close to each other, four generations of Cuban Americans—all members in the Northern California Conference—enjoy being a part of each other's lives. "I love my family," said Teresa Leal (left), who is pictured along with her 89-year-old mother Fidelina Marrero (both members of the Tracy Spanish church), daughter Liss Poiret (a member of the Hayward Spanish church), and 4-year-old granddaughter Gisel Poiret. Photo Credit: PoiretCreations.com

New Vice President



Elder Jorge Soria was elected Vice President of the Pacific Union on March 22, 2018. He replaces Elder Tony Anobile, who has joined the North

American Division as Vice President for Multilingual Ministries. Elder Soria took up his new responsibilities immediately.

Elder Soria has served as director of Hispanic and Portuguese Ministries at the Pacific Union Conference since 1991. Previously he served as the Hispanic Coordinator for the Southeastern California Conference, as a pastor in California, and as a youth director in Brazil. He is a graduate

of Pacific Union College and Andrews University. He is a native of Mexico.

The vice president works closely with the president, sharing in designated administrative activities and responsibilities. In his new role, Elder Soria will be active in planning and promoting evangelism and discipleship, as well as the ministries that are coordinated by volunteers appointed by the Pacific Union Executive Committee.



Thoughts on MOTHER'S DAY

By Ricardo Graham

Mother. The mere mention of the word brings instant memories to us all. The word evokes emotions from everyone—some positive and some not so positive.

Obviously, everyone has or had a mother. We can create classifications of them—biological or birth mother, adoptive mother, stepmother, absentee mother, single mother—but everyone enters into this world by the birth process of a mother.

Mothers bring their children into the world through a mixture of pain and joy: the pain of morning sickness; the pain of carrying the baby for up to nine months;

and the pain of watching their bodies being changed by the baby's developmental stages.

Then there is what has been described as the excruciating pain of the birth process itself. It has been said that a mother approaches the very threshold of death in the process of bringing a child into this world.

No man will ever be able to understand it because men have never experienced it. And it has been said that if men could get pregnant and give birth, there would be far fewer babies born!

God invented mothers and the first one, according to the Bible, was Eve.

A poem or saying that I once heard stated: "God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers." Well, we would question the theological implications of that statement, but we can understand the sentiment behind it.

On May 9, 1914, by an act of Congress, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day, a national day for public expression and remembrance of mothers.

But 3,500 years earlier God said, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee" (Exodus 20:12, KJV.) This has aptly been called the



“Thank God for mothers. And may your Mother’s Day be blessed!”

Photos by iStock

first commandment with promise. God commands us to honor our parents.

We honor our mothers because God commands it and because the role of mothers cannot be diminished. After all, mothers occupy the first and often favorite spot in children’s lives.

Mothers are the first to feed their children. Mothers are our first healers, kissing away the hurt of a scraped knee or elbow and putting a bandage on it.

They are our first teachers, ideally teaching us life lessons and leading us to our Heavenly Father. They are our first counselors and advisors, sharing with us the wisdom they have gleaned in their lives before us.

They are our first ambassadors, always attempting to pave the way before us. They are our first, and sometimes loudest, cheerleaders.

They watch over us as we sleep. They dream of what we may become as we grow through the stages of life, from children to teenagers then into adulthood.

They inspire us, encourage us, and push us to do our best in school and in other pursuits.

Compassionate and loving. Industrious. Sacrificial and unselfish, Strength with dignity. A font of wisdom. These are just some of the words that describe the attributes of our mothers.

Many great achievers give their mothers credit for their accomplishments.

Abraham Lincoln once said, “All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.”

The great artist Pablo Picasso stated, “When I was a child my mother said to me, ‘If you become a soldier, you’ll be a general. If you become a monk, you’ll be the pope.’ Instead I became a painter and wound up as Picasso.”

William Ross Wallace (1819-1881) wrote a poem titled “The Hand that Rocks the Cradle Rules the World.” The first stanza states:

“Blessings on the hand of women!
Angels guard its strength and grace.
In the palace, cottage, hovel,
Oh, no matter where the place;
Would that never storms assailed it,
Rainbows ever gently curled,
For the hand that rocks the cradle,
Is the hand that rules the world.”

It seems that Wallace was on to something that has been verified over and over again. The influence of a mother, especially a godly one, cannot be minimized and is probably not emphasized enough.

But the most important job of a Christian mother is to point her children to God. Certainly a father’s influence is great on his children, but the mother potentially occupies the most tender spot in the lives of her children.

“The sphere of the mother may be humble; but her influence, united with the father’s, is as abiding as eternity. Next to God, the mother’s power for good is the strongest known on earth” (Ellen G. White, *The Adventist Home*, p. 240).

A mother’s influence is the greatest human factor in the development of her children.

I thank God that my mother is alive. And I praise God for her influence in my life. She is a classic mother in many regards, continuing to share her wisdom with me even though I am an adult and have been for quite some time!

Not only should we thank God for our mothers, we should treasure them while we still have them and thank them for doing their appointed job well.

I realize that there are some who have not had the ideal mother, who for whatever reasons didn’t reach the pinnacle of motherhood. However, we are reminded that God didn’t command us to respect and honor our mothers because of her performance—it is due her because she is God’s creation.

Thank God for mothers. And may your Mother’s Day be blessed! ■



Ricardo Graham is president of the Pacific Union Conference

Perhaps you've seen it: that special intensity and focus when a mother and her child are discovering something together. It can be the smallest thing—like playing peek-a-boo or watching an ant cross the sidewalk. Or it can be something everyday and routine—like learning to use scissors or make a sandwich. Or it can be something important like reading a book together or learning to say thank you. Or memorizing a Bible verse, learning how to pray, learning about the love of Jesus.

Can there be any more sacred and important task? And can there be any greater reason for our collective gratitude and appreciation?

In mothers whose love for Christ is rooted in their lives with integrity and commitment, the potential for nurturing and empowering truly healthy children is unsurpassed. Ellen G. White wrote, "It is impossible to estimate the power of a praying mother's influence. She acknowledges God in all her ways. She takes her children before the throne of grace and presents them to Jesus, pleading for His blessing upon them. The influence of those prayers is to those children as 'a wellspring of life.' These prayers, offered in faith, are the support and strength of the Christian mother. To neglect the duty of praying with our children is to lose one of the greatest blessings within our reach, one of the greatest helps amid the perplexities, cares, and burdens of our lifework (*The Adventist Home*, p. 266).

In her book, *The Power of a Positive Mom*, Karol Ladd puts this responsibility in the most relevant framework. "As godly parents we have been specially empowered by God to pass on His commandments from generation to generation" (p. 7). Ladd goes on to say, "God has given each of us the responsibility to train, nurture, develop, prepare, and teach the precious children He has put in our care. Through us—and with His constant guiding presence—He is raising up the next generation" (pp. 14-15).



Photos by iStock

Generations

By Ray Tetz and Alfonso Valenzuela

The Lord announces the word, and the women who proclaim it are a mighty throng."
—Psalm 68:11 (NIV)

Imagine this scene in a busy hospital cafeteria (a true story). A group of six women—two older, two younger adults, two teenagers—are busily laying out a beautiful tablecloth and table runner, flower centerpieces, and tea settings. Soon enough the reason for their activity can be seen. A uniformed staff member appears, pushing a wheelchair and conveying to the table an older woman who

could be the mother (or perhaps grandmother) of one of the women in the group.

But if you listen to their conversation you discover she is a friend to one of the younger adult women—a mother figure, but not her actual mother. She is a patient on the mend, and while she is ready to get her freedom back, she is not yet ready to be discharged. Her Mother's Day is going

to be in the hospital—far from her own children. She's been feeling more than a little blue about it.

So to cheer her up, and to celebrate Mother's Day and say thank you, this younger woman, along with her own mother, mother-in-law, two daughters, and a friend, are hosting a Friday evening Mother's Day Tea. Amidst the cake and teacups it is hard to say what is in the greatest supply—the laughter, the hugging, the selfies, and eventually, the quiet conversation. Certainly, the quality that are in the greatest supply are love and grace.

This intergenerational group has turned a hospital cafeteria into a chapel. They have provided a wonderful demonstration of why Mother's Day is such a celebrated holiday. They remind us that the mothers in our lives make such an important difference in who we are and how we experience our families, work, communities, and world.

It is estimated that 96% of Americans will participate in a Mother's Day celebration in some

way. These are celebrations that are, by their very nature, intergenerational. There will be little hands offering up big bouquets, greeting cards filled with ridiculously sweet sentiments, tables loaded with special treats, families gathered in restaurants or around the screens of cameras and tablets. There will be lots of hugging and kissing, selfies texted, and old-school telephone calls. For the mothers, mamas, moms, mommies, mas, and mums—both young and old—there will be joy.

At the heart of the Mother's Day celebrations are these amazing women whose faces were the first we learned to recognize and respond to. Their voices are those that reassure us. Often the first word we learn to say is her name, and with that utterance we express our first recognition of the immensely important role they have in our development and happiness.

And surrounding these special mothers are the generations of children, now often mothers themselves,

who have learned from them and still lean on them. And around this second tier of mothers are more children who themselves will someday be mothers—and so on and so on until the third and fourth generation.

Dr. A. Allan Martin, who has focused on intergenerational ministry, is spearheading the "Growing Young Adventists" movement that is helping to develop stronger links between the different generations in local church life. He immediately references his own experience in affirming the role of mothers, "For me, mother and grandmothers were the fabric that held us together as family. Their emphasis was always on the young and growing them in grace. Warm community exudes from the heart of a Godly mother."

Mother's Day provides an opportunity for community-wide celebration. We are blessed by these women of character and influence every single day, in innumerable ways, for our immediate benefit and our ultimate good.



Hope to see
you there!

NOTE LOCATION
CHANGE -
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Stockton

URBAN CAMP MEETING
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Thursday, 1:00-9:00 p.m.
Friday and Sabbath,
8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

For more information,
call (925) 603-5097.

**GUEST
SPEAKERS**

Dr. Kathy Batchelor - Elder Marvin Clarke
Dr. Ricardo Graham - Brother Curtis Hall
Dr. Abraham Jules - Pastor Edwin McBride
Sister Imelda Mitchell - Elder Edward Woods



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SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY 7:15 P.M.

Mt. Rubidoux SDA Church
5320 Victoria Avenue
Riverside, CA 92506

SABBATH

Riverside Convention Center
3637 5th St.
Riverside, CA 92501
Afternoon Concert 5 p.m.

CAMP MEETING
JUNE 27-30, 2018

Health Expo
Wednesday-Friday
at Mt. Rubidoux
SDA Church
see website
for more details

Homecoming



Eldeen King
Wednesday Evening
& Sabbath Morning 9:30 a.m.



Rebecca Davis
Thursday
Evening



Abraham Jules
Friday Evening
& Sabbath 11:00 a.m.



Kyle Crawford
Youth Speaker
11:00 a.m.



Samuel Green
Children's Speaker
Friday Evening
& Sabbath 11:00 a.m.

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For updates, visit
www.seccblackmin.adventistfaith.org
or contact Brianna Hill at (951) 509-2298.

Adventist West Point

Long Beach, California, hosts ministry training and networking event



Photo by Jessica Anzai

The ninth annual Adventist West Point, sponsored by the Pacific Union Conference Ministerial Department, took place on April 8-10. Adventist West Point is the premier training event for pastors, chaplains, evangelists, departmental leaders and administrators, students, local church lay leaders, and all church members.

This special training event brought together an impromptu community of ministry professionals who focused on innovative strategies and training for church growth. Through seminars and workshops, sponsor exhibits, uplifting worship, and challenging messages from Scripture, participants were strengthened in their ministry and calling. New friendships were made and others were renewed. Innovative ideas were discussed for implementation in local churches. From across the Pacific Union and North America, people with a heart for the gospel and growing churches gathered to listen, learn, share, and grow.

We caught up with several of the participants to learn why they came and what they learned.

I came basically just to be re-kindled. Sometimes in ministry you lose your passion and you just kind of go with ministerial life as normal; so I came to get back that fire and that passion in order to bring it back to my church and get us active in reaching our community.

—Kevin Solomon
Pastor, All Nations SDA Church

I came to Adventist West Point because it was a unique way to come together as a family. Sometimes we get out of tune with each other and think that we're in a little island by ourselves, but we are a part of a worldwide

Photos by Jessica Anzal



church. It's exciting to come together and to be able to learn how we can innovate new things.

John Strehle
Pastor, Norwalk SDA Church

Last year I came for the first time and I was so blessed. I learned things that I could take back to our churches—because we have five churches—and implement them to win more souls for God.

Coral Parrish
Personal Ministries, Northern California

My background is in marketing, and I learned here that the things that we know outside of this work can actually be applied in ministry.

Neat Randriamialison
Pastor, Las Vegas Church Plant

[The seminar] that I just came out of was about our church's assets and about how much of what we do well is not talked about. I really appreciated that outlet because it's something that I definitely need to take back to my

church board and make it more of an uplifting environment for them.

Lauren Lim
Pastoral Intern, Thousand Oaks SDA Church

The best thing about coming to Adventist West Point is a toss-up between the seminars and the networking that you get to do with other pastors and lay people who are interested in doing ministry in a local context. Because if we are not interested in our local context I believe we are doing some-





thing incredibly wrong. If the church is not relevant and if the church is not invested in the communities around them, the church will die.

Adam Hicks,
Pastor, Journey SDA Church

It was exciting to be there—in part because everyone was so obviously completely engaged in all the things that are happening. But also because all this excitement will become a source of energy and renewal for our

churches and our members as they seek new ways to grow as believers. The participants took home so many innovations for their outreach and evangelism.

Please pray for our pastors and leaders in our churches across the Pacific Union. Join us in asking God that all His people be blessed by His Spirit, with His grace and love and saving power.

Adventist WestPoint in 2019 will be in Reno, Nev., April 21-24.



“Empower” Youth Conference Makes an Impact on Young Lives

By Sali Butler

The 2018 “Empower” West Coast Youth Conference (WCYC) engaged nearly 1,000 participants from across the North Pacific Union and Pacific Union conferences. From March 21-24, the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, Calif., was filled with praise, worship, devotions, workshops, seminars, and social activities. More than 590 teen delegates were registered, while pastoral families and lay Bible instructors from the two unions also joined the event.

At first glance, some might think the WCYC was all about entertainment. “Yes, we incorporated fun in every aspect of the agenda, from the ‘rock, paper, scissors’ ice breaker contests to scooter races. The intention was to keep the youth highly engaged and thinking on their feet,” said Michael Jenkins, associate pastor at Kansas Avenue church, Riverside, and team leader for the conference. Jenkins said his team of youth ministry leaders responsible for the planning bought creative, innovative, and dynamic ideas to the table. “We incorporated almost every idea that would make it a spiritual and memorable experience for the youth,” said Edwin McBride, youth pastor at Kansas Avenue church and social coordinator for WCYC.

Service projects were one of the highlights of the four-day conference. “We have a biblical obligation to love and serve our neighbors,” said Darriel Hoy, Children, Youth & Young Adult director for the Nevada-Utah Conference. Hoy coordinated WCYC service projects that took place Friday afternoon. “Our goal was to empower the generations to work together and spread the love of Christ through tangible acts of compassion,” said Hoy.

The WCYC contacted regional organizations like Harvest Pack and the



Inland Empire United Way to engage the youth. "You just packaged over 50,000 bags of oatmeal to feed hungry kids here in California!" Trevor Barnes, pastor at Sacramento's Capital City church, cheered in encouragement to participants. The Provo church group wrote encouraging messages on cards and assembled blessing bags for the homeless. Other groups made scarves for minors in foster care, created inspirational cards for terminally ill children, packaged weekend meals for low-income adolescents, and sorted school supplies. "The service projects were meaningful and inspired us to do more for our own communities," said youth team leader Elijah Webb. "My youth really enjoy serving together and helping others," agreed Dan Hilaraca, pastor of the Maranatha church in Las Vegas. "We minister and serve because God ministers and serves. We follow His example of compassion."

Another important feature of the conference was the music. Hasani Tate, pastor at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship in Seattle, Wash., wrote the theme song for WCYC, "Power," which is available on Apple iTunes. A mass

choir for Sabbath worship, directed by Halecia Griffith from Bethel Pomona church, commanded a standing ovation with the song, "Oh Lord How Excellent is Thy Name." Bijan Slack & The Dew from the Inland Empire drew the youth into the auditorium with their dynamic worship music each morning and evening, and Dale Brown & Truth from Atlanta, Ga., were featured in the Sabbath evening concert.

needs of urban youth," said Brooks. Asia Benjamin, a senior at Los Angeles Adventist Academy, said, "I thought I was close to God, but the speakers showed me that I needed to be even closer." "Before the conference, I always thought I could just lead by example, but I learned that I need to lead by speaking out sometimes, too," said Marquise Dove, high school senior from Los Angeles.

"Our goal was to empower the generations to work together and spread the love of Christ through tangible acts of compassion"—Darriel Hoy

Every aspect of the conference was intended to empower teens to stand up for their convictions. Speakers Delroy Brooks, Beverly Maravilla, Rahshan Wall, Chanda Nunes, and Michael Jenkins drove home the point that God's love transcends our weaknesses and draws us into a relationship with Him that is powerful and everlasting. Workshops covered relevant topics such as learning from failure, knowing your purpose, choosing a college major, money, and fatherlessness. "Every topic was designed to meet

Finally, the Night Congress was designed for all the delegates, not just the highly athletic. "We were deliberate about inclusiveness. We had scooters, rip sticks, dodge ball, jump ropes, hula hoops, volleyball," described McBride. "There were competitions and gift card prizes from Chipotle, iTunes, Starbucks, and Coldstone. We effectively got all the generations involved and everyone had a lot of fun. Everybody needs to be empowered to serve God with conviction and passion."



Adventist Health

\$20 Challenge reaches Yuba City

BY SHELBY OLIVERIO

During the Adventist Health \$20 Challenge, leadership from across the system were given the opportunity to impact their community by investing \$20 into something or someone that inspires them. Rideout Health joined the Mission Summit, an event intended to inspire, educate, and celebrate Adventist Health's mission, as the newest member of Adventist Health. (Rideout Health, located in Yuba City, Calif., and Adventist Health affiliation was official as of April 1.) Steve Hammarstrom, vice president of outpatient clinics at Rideout Health, shared how his \$20 first turned into \$240 and then \$1,000 and went on to impact his entire community:

Although our organization had not officially affiliated with Adventist Health when I took the challenge, a few of us from Rideout Health were invited to attend the 2018 Mission Summit in Roseville, California. As I left the event, I was given a \$20 bill with a very specific challenge: Invest the money in someone or something that inspires me.

Before I was in my car to drive back home to Yuba City, I knew what I was going to do with my \$20. I thought of the parable of the talents found in Matthew 25, and knew that I would invest the talents—or money—I was provided into an idea.

I have a small team, and we manage our medical group and outpatient clinics. I sent a group text and told them about the \$20 challenge and even sent a photo of the \$20 bill to the group. I asked if anyone would like to participate with me—and then added my own \$20 to the total.

My idea was to use these invested funds and purchase desperately needed commodities for a local charity called Hands of Hope. Within minutes, all 10 of my team members were in, bringing our total to \$240. After such a quick responses from my team, I decided to email the whole medical group. I sent the email before I went to bed on Wednesday night, and I woke up to commitments for hundreds more—truly seeing the power of being “together inspired.”

Meanwhile, I reached out to Hands of Hope to find out what supplies they needed most. Thursday, the day after the summit, our team purchased many items needed for women and children in our community. The items were received with sincere gratitude.

We provided a second load of goods the following week, since the money keeps coming in from the investment of an idea. Our project has continued to grow, earning



Back row (left to right) Tammy Pierce (holding money), Michelle Martinez, Megan Stevens, Donna Belleque, Erika Collazo, Lis Cummings, and Helen Rickertsen. Front row: Joan Harmon, Kal Bhullar, Julie Buck, Steve Hammarstrom

more than \$1,000.

I know that one loves that which she or he serves. If you want to love your spouse, community, etc., then serve without thought of anything in return. My team made the comment, “We really needed this.” We were thankful to Adventist Health for leading with mission. We are following that lead to serve and have been blessed and inspired for doing so.

What can \$20 do in your community? Visit togetherinspired.ah.org to share your story with us or use the hashtag #20DollarChallenge to show us how your investment is impacting your community.



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8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

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Dental Assistants
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Register and find out more at LifeHopeCentersCentral.com



HOLBROOK INDIAN SCHOOL

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How Does HIS Garden Grow?

HIS Students learn to grow their own food.

By Jim Hunt and Diana Fish

Josiah enjoys a tasty carrot from HIS garden while Tessa washes the day's harvest.

“The working of the soil is a lesson book, which if read will be of the greatest benefit to every student in our school.” E.G. White

As a farmer and a teacher, one of my favorite Bible passages is the parable of the mustard seed. The tiny seed doesn't look like much, but when planted and nourished properly it will exceed all expectations of growth.

As the farm manager, I came to Holbrook Indian School (HIS) in 2016 to help grow plants; however, what keeps me here is the growth and development of our young people. They, like the humble mustard seed, are not

always able to see beyond their origins, but with love and care they can flourish the way God intended them to.

As Ellen White wrote, “The working of the soil is a lesson book which, if read, will be of the greatest benefit to every student in our school” (Ms 187, 1897).

I am blessed that Holbrook shares my mission to include agriculture as part of the students' educational efforts.



After prayerful consideration, I decided to give a garden plot to any student who wanted it. It would be something they could call their own—a place where God could teach them through His second book, nature.

Last fall we converted our largest protected growing space—a 20 x 100 ft. hoop house—into student garden plots for the school year. Each of the 41 gardening students now has a 7 ft. x 30 in. plot where they can learn the joy of digging in the dirt and coaxing healthy produce from the ground.

The students planted cool weather crops (mainly leafy green vegetables) because those crops would do well through the winter. And although it's

historically challenging to get children (and some adults) to eat those types of vegetables, I was pleasantly surprised when we harvested some greens and had a “cook-in.” Some of the junior high boys came back for seconds and thirds! I have faith that this shows we have the ability to influence their eating choices—and ultimately their life choices.

In addition to the student gardens, we also have five passive solar greenhouses that we fully utilized this winter to provide produce for our staff, cafeteria, a nearby health food store, and several members of the community. We were even able to keep alive many of our prolific cherry tomato plants, despite several single-digit degree nights.

There is still much work to be done.

Our plans for 2018 include building a second hoop house, opening a section of HIS Farm for a staff community garden, and developing a 10-acre pasture to feed our school's 13 horses. We also look forward to expanding our summer produce operation to sell more to the members of our community, who have told us they are hungry to support our farm.

I am amazed when I look at pictures of the barren desert that my predecessor, Jim Whitaker, started with in 2015. Through God's transformative power, we have been able to turn rocks and dirt into a very productive outdoor classroom, giving our students roots for their future. 🌱

The Four Pillars of School Gardens

Environmental Stewardship

A school garden is a powerful environmental education tool. Through gardening, students become responsible caretakers. They have an opportunity to engage in agricultural practices on a small scale, learning about the responsibilities and impacts of land cultivation. They explore the web of interactions among the living and non-living players that sustain life.

A Healthy Lifestyle

Beyond academics, the garden provides broader life lessons, including contributing to students' knowledge of how to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

The Navajo Nation is experiencing a major health crisis as the number of overweight and obese youth is growing at an epidemic rate.




Left: Mr. Hunt helps Tessa, Kallie, and Katelynn care for their gardens. Above: Mya watering her garden. Mr. Hunt instructing Tessa on how to harvest her garden. Josiah sampling a radish he grew himself. Mr. Hunt helping Rayshawna weed her garden.

Community and Social Development

Community and social development lessons do not receive the attention of academic achievement, but they are as crucial to the development of our students as reading and writing. Children benefit from learning how to take responsibility for their environment and develop a strong sense of community.

Academic Achievement

Academic achievement is the primary goal of Holbrook Indian School. Emphasis is placed on ensuring students perform at satisfactory levels guided by local, state, and national academic standards. All lessons and activities complement mandatory standards to merit the use of valuable classroom time. 

Research Shows Educational Benefits of School Gardening for Students

In an online article for Michigan State University Extension, Kristine Hahn writes that research has shown improved academic achievement when a school garden is integrated into students' curriculum.


Students who participated in school garden activities scored significantly higher on science achievement tests compared to students at the same grade level who did not.

Hahn quotes a 2013 article analyzing 12 different studies on school gardens performed between 1990 and 2010. It showed "overwhelmingly that garden-based learning had a positive impact on students' grades, knowledge, attitudes, and behavior." Moreover, garden-based learning addresses all eight of the National Science Education Standards.

Long-term low scores on American student math and science achievement tests illustrate a vital need for novel and inventive teaching methods. The research of McCormick et al. (1989) showed that students learn more and better when they are actively involved in the learning process. This is exactly the kind of experiential, hands-on learning that school garden activities provide.

Studies of teaching methods have shown that "learning is most effective when the subject matter is 'demystified,' that is, when it is immediate and familiar to the learner." When school gardens are incorporated into different subjects, the garden can be very familiar and real, providing real life

applications of the concepts they are learning in class, such as perimeter, area, spacing, planning, design, and yield.

The blueprint can be traced back to Adventist Church co-founder Ellen G. White, who in the mid-19th century introduced the concept of holistic education: mental, physical, social, and spiritual health coupled with intellectual growth and service to humanity. 



Kallie, Katelyn, Audrianna, Rayshawna, Mya, and Josiah welcome visitors to HIS Garden.



Holbrook Indian School (HIS) is a 1st through 12th-grade boarding academy operated by the Pacific Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist church. HIS also manages a 1st through 8th-grade day school on the Navajo reservation in Chinle, Arizona. Eighty percent of funding comes from individuals who have a desire to support Native American ministries and Christian education. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of our students, their families, and the communities they serve. Thank you for your support!



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H.M.S. Richards Divinity School

BY DARLA MARTIN TUCKER

Receives 10-year Re-accreditation



Maury Jackson, associate professor of practical theology at La Sierra University's H.M.S. Richards Divinity School, leads a class.



**Friedbert Ninow,
Dean of the H.M.S.
Richards Divinity
School at La Sierra
University.**

La Sierra University's H.M.S. Richards Divinity School in February received notification that it has been awarded a reaffirmation of its accreditation through March 31, 2028.

The Commission on Accrediting of The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, or ATS, in a board vote extended by 10 years the school's accreditation, which was first voted in February 2013. The action re-approves the Master of Divinity and the Master of Theological Studies degrees, and adds under the accreditation umbrella the Master of Arts: Religion as well as a Master of Arts: Near Eastern Archaeology, previously a concentration in the Master of Arts: Religion.

The school also received approval to offer the full Master of Theological Studies degree through a satellite program at the offices of the Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Clovis, Calif. The cohort program was launched in Central California in June 2016 with a class of 25 pastors, Bible teachers, and chaplains. Currently 23 students are enrolled.

"The Divinity School congratulates its faculty, staff, students, administrators, alumni, and everybody else who contributed in numerous ways to the improvement and success of this institution," said Dean Friedbert Ninow. "The ATS accreditation reaffirmation letter highlights as 'distinctive strengths' the Divinity School's 'clarity and consensus regarding institutional identity and purpose as a significant voice within the Adventist tradition,' and its 'compelling image of and commitment to racial, ethnic and theological diversity.' This 10-year accreditation is a significant step forward in the development of the Divinity School and an inducement to improve those areas that require further development."

Sandra Roberts, president of the Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists headquartered near La Sierra's campus, expressed gratitude for its ministry partnership with La Sierra's Divinity School. "The Divinity School educates many of our

future pastors and we jointly mentor them in preparation for service to our churches and communities," she said. "They are a rich resource for theological expertise, continuing education, and visioning for the future of our churches in this territory. They have worked diligently to become an accredited Divinity School and we are all benefiting from the excellence they have achieved."

The Divinity School, previously La Sierra's School of Religion, officially reorganized in February 2012 and was renamed after Seventh-day Adventist pioneering radio evangelist H.M.S. Richards, Sr., whose son, H.M.S. Richards, Jr., graduated from La Sierra and was awarded the university's first alumnus of the year award in 1990. Four graduate programs were approved by the initial ATS accreditation granted the school in 2013, including the only Master of Divinity (MDiv) offered in the

western United States within the Seventh-day Adventist school system and the new Master of Theological Studies degree. Two former master's programs were phased out.

The Divinity School and its programs are accredited by ATS and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The only other ATS-accredited theological school within the Adventist school system is the Theological Seminary at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich.

The Association of Theological Schools is a membership organization of more than 270 graduate schools that conduct post-baccalaureate professional and academic degree programs to educate persons for the practice of ministry and for teaching and research in the theological disciplines.

Service-Minded PUC Students

BY LARISSA CHURCH

Give Back



PUC is blessed with a campus full of service-minded students who actively participate in the college's service-learning program. The goal of the program is to deepen students' understanding of the academic material they learn in the classroom by applying their learning to real life. Students develop collaborative relationships with community groups such as the Veterans Home of California-Yountville, the Napa County Land Trust, the Lake County Continuum of Care, the Berryessa Bureau of Reclamation, and the Boys and Girls Club in St. Helena. Students' critical thinking skills are enhanced through the practical application of skills and theories learned in the classroom. Though their values and beliefs may be challenged by engagement in their community, PUC's faculty and staff remain committed to supporting students' spiritual development and encourage students

to process their learning experiences through creative assignments such as group presentations, journaling questions, and classroom discussions.

Here are just a few of the community outreach projects in which PUC students have participated over the last several months (counter clockwise, from the left above).

Berryessa Bureau of Reclamation

Students work at Lake Berryessa to plant native blue oak trees around the visitor's center.

MLK Monday

Each year, Napa's MLK Monday Coalition puts together activities, volunteer options, and discussion groups for a day of "action and compassion" throughout the Napa Valley. Students from a variety of courses dialogue about Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Letter from Birmingham Jail, view documen-

taries relevant to coursework and participate in discussions, and help clean up the Martha Walker Native Habitat Garden.

Point in Time Count

Students from the Statistical Methods course learn about the faces behind the numbers when they administer the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) survey to people experiencing homelessness in Lake County. They learn about causes and effects of homelessness while they practice administering an assessment to clients.

Napa Co. Land Trust: Pope Valley

Students from Conservation Biology courses put their knowledge to use clearing invasive species from around valley oak saplings, enabling them to thrive in beautiful Pope Valley.



LLU Children's Health

BY GENESIS GONZALEZ

Indio Celebrates Grand Opening

The Coachella Valley community is officially home to Loma Linda University Children's Health – Indio, Jill and Barry Golden Pavilion, the largest pediatric clinic in the region. The grand opening was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and the All about Kids Health Expo, Sunday, March 11.

Richard H. Hart MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health, shared his excitement as Loma Linda University Health expanded its service area into the Coachella Valley to provide healthcare that is accessible and available to those who need it most.

"We are committed to this valley. We are committed to you," Hart said. "We are committed to your children and the leaders they will become for this region."

Nearly 400 people attended the private ribbon-cutting

ceremony, including Michael Wilson, mayor of Indio, and Congressman Raul Ruiz, MD, who emphasized how proud he was to work with Loma Linda University Health to get the Indio project off the ground and see it through to fruition.

"Families will now have access to critical pediatric services right here in the east valley, strengthening the health of our entire community," Ruiz said.

In the coming months the clinic will roll out additional services, including urgent care, telemedicine, dentistry, and other specialties. The nearly 13,000-square-foot building houses 20 patient exam rooms, three dental chairs, and an X-ray room.

To make an appointment or for more information about LLUCH – Indio, call 760-477-0733 or visit them on the web at lomalindakids.org/indio.

LLU Nursing Faculty Member Selected as American Academy of Nursing Fellow

Loma Linda University School of Nursing Professor Jan Nick, PhD, RNC-OB, CNE, ANEF, is one of six nurse leaders from California inducted as fellows by the American Academy of Nursing. The ACA fellowship is highly selective and considered one of the highest honors in the nursing profession.

It was her body of work spanning almost two decades of international work that supported Nick's candidacy into the academy. Nick's main activities included building capacity of nursing education internationally, participating in the committee that developed the first certification exam for nurse educators, assisting a hospital in developing a new nursing program in South America as a Fulbright Scholar, and developing policy with the International Council of Nursing in Geneva.

Nick has served at the School of Nursing since 1997, teaching a variety of classes such as Obstetrical and

Neonatal Nursing, Research, as well as Informatics and Evidence-based Practice.

"Being inducted into the Academy is one of external validation of my career activities but also provides me internal validation that my professional activities are in alignment with greater goals in nursing," Nick said.

In addition to the fellowship, Nick has been appointed as a member of the Informatics, Technology, and Evidence-based Practice expert panel because of her expertise in evidence-based practice, something she has been teaching to nurses around the world since 2005. Elizabeth Bossert, PhD, RN, dean of the LLU School of Nursing, said the induction was no surprise. "I am so glad for her that her work has been recognized by this distinctive honor," Bossert said. "Her achievement of the fellowship indicates the level of professionalism that LLU School of Nursing believes in and offers."

The Benefits of Earning a Chaplaincy Degree at Loma Linda University

Loma Linda University School of Religion has enhanced its Master of Science in Chaplaincy degree to 108 quarter units (72 semester hours) to prepare students for full board certification as professional chaplains. The program is now accepting applicants for fall semester 2018.

This degree is a theological- and clinical-based master's program incorporating into its curriculum the 31 best clinical practice competencies of the Association of Professional Chaplains and the Adventist Chaplaincy Institute.

"Chaplaincy is a special calling," said program director Angela H. Li, PhD, MBA, BCC. That was the case for her as a former small business owner and accountant who was considering the next phase of her life. After experiencing a strong impression to consider chaplaincy, she enrolled in Loma Linda University's MA in Clinical Ministry program (forerunner of the Chaplaincy MS).

"Every single class, every single discussion strengthened, equipped, and grew me," she said.

Chaplains bring spiritual care and



healing in hospital and other settings, such as schools, corporations, and sports teams. LLU's program prepares students to serve in any such diverse setting but also has the particular strength of sharing a campus with a world-recognized health system.

"Loma Linda is one of the best places to get your training as a clinical chaplain," said Ivan H. Omana, MDiv, BCC, BCPC, assistant director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries for the Seventh-day Adventist Church's North American Division.

Thanks to his advocacy, graduates of the Chaplaincy MS will be eligible to serve as chaplains in the U.S. Air Force and Navy (the latter also

provides chaplaincy for the Marine Corps).

As a new path in the Adventist denomination to full board certification in chaplaincy, the MS in Chaplaincy creates greater visibility and opportunity.

"Two significant impacts of this program," Omana said, "will be the greater awareness it brings to Adventist young people of chaplaincy as a specialty of pastoral ministry, while also preparing them for ecclesiastical endorsement and full board certification as professional chaplains."

Learn more by visiting religion.llu.edu/academics/degrees/ms-chaplaincy or calling 909-558-7478.

Seventh and Eight Graders

Gather for Junior High Bible Camp

BY BECKY ST. CLAIR

The Southeastern California Conference youth department hosted its annual Junior High Bible Camp for more than 350 seventh- and eighth-grade students at Pine Springs Ranch, Jan. 19-21. It was a weekend of fellowship, worship, and discovering Jesus together.

The theme was "Identity," presented by Andrea King, senior pastor at San Bernardino 16th Street church, and Kurt King, district pastor at Moreno Valley church, and Imani Praise Fellowship company. The husband-wife duo split the topic into two sections: "What is Your Identity in Christ?" and "Why is it Important to Know Your Identity in Christ?"

"On the first night, we issued ID cards to each student, identifying them as children of God and citizens of heaven," explained Kurt King. "People will try to put labels on them, but we want them to know what the Bible says about their identity."

In addition to the main sessions, breakout small groups, and worships, Kurt King led a few men-only sessions, while Andrea King led women-only sessions. Student leaders from different academies led the small group sessions.

"We wanted to instill in the students that their identity doesn't come from how they feel, what grades they get, what people call them, or what they do," Andrea King said. "Their identity comes from what God says they are."

It was also important to the speakers that the students know they do not have to earn their identity.

"When God says who you are—believe it!" Kurt King said. "Jesus didn't do anything miraculous before His baptism, but God still sent the dove and a voice saying 'I am well pleased.' God still loved Him, just as God loves these junior high students and all the rest of us."

At the end of the second evening, an appeal was made for Bible studies and baptism. More than 100 students went forward.

"Seeing young people pouring down to the front to give their lives to Jesus flooded my heart with joy," Andrea King said with a smile.

"I consider anything a success when young people's lives are changed," Kurt King said. "I hope these young men and women went home knowing they are citizens of heaven and children of God. I hope they know they are loved."



Teammates help each other through the maze during one of their group sessions at their weekend of Junior High Bible Camp, Jan. 19-21.



Students enjoy the fresh snow at Pine Springs Ranch during the Bible camp..



Student leaders from different academies lead the small group sessions.

Photos by Glenn Valenzuela

Kansas Avenue Members Celebrate

BY JULIETTE LEE

Black History Month



Photos by Ainsworth Keith Morris

(Left) Nicceta Davis, church elder and evangelism coordinator, gives a report on a survey that was done the previous week during the African Emphasis Sabbath on Feb. 17. (Above) Flag carriers representing Costa Rica introduce the Caribbean Emphasis Sabbath on Feb. 24.

Members from the Riverside Kansas Avenue church gathered each Saturday in February as part of an ongoing tradition of celebrating Black History month. The focus is not only to recognize the important achievements of African-Americans throughout U.S. history but also to give a spiritual emphasis on unity amid national and cultural diversity.

Nigel David, chaplain at Kaiser Permanente in northern California, was the first of four guest speakers. He gave members an overview of the month. His sermon, "We Have Come This Far by Faith," called the congregation to remember the progress that has been made toward freedom and to lead a life worthy of the struggle.

As a way to highlight the specific backgrounds represented within the congregation, the last three Sabbaths in February focused on the four main

cultures present in the church. There was an African-American emphasis, an African emphasis, and a jointly celebrated Caribbean and Latin American emphasis. The guest speakers included Bernard Penn, senior pastor at Hanson Place church in Brooklyn, N.Y.; Baraka Muganda, vice president of ministry at Washington Adventist University; and George King, SECC vice president for Black ministries, respectively. Along with the speakers were special guest performers.

Sithelwesihle Idah Matshazi-Seremwe, who goes by Sithelo, is one of five singers who make up FOCUS, a musical group specializing in Christian songs with an African influence. FOCUS has been performing during Kansas Avenue's African emphasis week for several years, singing songs in English and African languages, including Zulu and Ndebele.

"I think it's a beautiful sort of platform just to unite everybody

during the month of Black history. It's a time to say, 'Hey, we're all one, we're all together,' and that's mainly because we all worship the same God," Matshazi-Seremwe said.

Members were also encouraged to come together by dressing in solidarity with the cultural group being highlighted for the week, whether by wearing a black-colored garment, traditional African outfits, or bright Caribbean colors.

"Black History month is not really about celebrating our diversity; it is more about working together," said Ainsworth Morris, senior pastor at Kansas Avenue church. "Hence, we have sought to promote the appreciation of what each one brings to the table of unity. I want every member of the congregation to sit in solidarity with the different religions, cultures, and ethnicities. Yes, we may be different in tendencies and practices, but together we are all one in Christ."



LLBN Latino Channel Celebrates Five Years

BY CYNTHIA MENDOZA

of Life-Changing Ministry

Launched by a small group of volunteers in 2013, the Loma Linda Broadcasting Network Latino channel (LLBN Latino) recently celebrated its fifth anniversary of transmitting Spanish online television programming. Its mission is to enrich the lives of viewers and encourage them to seek a saving relationship with Jesus Christ in preparation for His second coming.

The network features programming on education, family, health, science, and Bible study, as well as music. When the network was launched, there was a period of waiting to see how it would do, but five years later there is no question that LLBN Latino has been richly blessed and, in turn, is thriving in its mission to enrich lives for the kingdom of God.

"God continues to add dimension to our mission," said Humberto M. Rasi, retired education director at the General Conference and now LLBN Latino coordinator, of the new programming and new methods of technology being used to reach even

more people with the gospel. "In my old age I am learning new things too," he said.

Through the power of technology, LLBN Latino reaches thousands of viewers in the United States and Mexico and continues to expand its reach to more than 60 countries in Latin America, Europe, and beyond.

"We believe this is the way God is reaching the world, without discarding older methods like radio," Rasi said about the use of technology. LLBN Latino also impacts lives and ministries locally in the Southeastern California Conference in various ways, such as inviting pastors to share the Sabbath school lesson for broadcast and recruiting and training local young people in media production and technology.

In the same way that many lives around the world are touched by the programming, so are local lives impacted.

"I enjoy LLBN Latino because of the wide variety of programs they offer, like the Sabbath school lesson and the wonderful music," said Lupe

(Above) The Women's Choir of Southern California sings at the La Sierra Spanish church for the fifth anniversary of LLBN Latino. (Inset) Soloist Alessandra Sorace performs during the special LLBN Latino five-year celebration program.

Urrutia, a member of the La Sierra Spanish church. "But most of all," she added, "I value the evangelism opportunities it provides. It has helped me in my spiritual life in knowing how to reach others who don't know Christ."

On November 18, 2017, LLBN Latino held its five-year celebration—a concert and program at the La Sierra Spanish church. The celebration featured performances by musicians that included pianist Sam Ocampo, soloist Alessandra Sorace, and the Women's Choir of Southern California.

Moving into the future and driven by winning souls, LLBN Latino will continue to expand by adding new programming and reaching an even wider audience.

"We celebrate five years of God's guidance," Rasi concluded, acknowledging the source of LLBN Latino's success.

Fundraising Gala Supports Church's

BY JORDAN SHELTON-GREENE

Refugee Ministry



Will James, senior pastor of Paradise Valley church, shared that the refugee members of his church have faced hardships difficult for Americans to understand. He explained that the difference between an immigrant and a refugee is that an immigrant has the ability to choose to move to another country. Refugees, on the other hand, are forced to flee their homeland because of war or violence. James encourages those with whom he speaks to accept and be helpful to their refugee brothers and sisters by loving them and by caring for them. As James said, "This will make them feel accepted and motivated to learn."

The Paradise Valley church held a fundraising gala in February to help support the church's Friendships for Hope refugee assistance and job training program. Three months of planning preceded the gala, including soliciting many small businesses for sponsorship.

Some 250 community members and dignitaries from National City were in attendance, including the mayor, Ron Morrison. The evening began with a program at the church, during which current and former refugees performed musical numbers and shared their testimonies about the struggles and culture shock of coming to America.

After the program a meal was served in the church's fellowship hall. It was prepared by Chef Amilcar Marrima, a war refugee from Mozambique, who now cooks for residents of Paradise Village retirement community.

Marrima has specialized in putting together fundraisers for schools and orphanages, hoping to

bring people together at the table to understand one another better. "God gave me a talent to bring ordinary people together to do extraordinary things," Marrima said.

Paradise Valley Pathfinders also participated in the event, helping in the kitchen, serving food, and assisting with tables and decorations.

Fundraising opportunities were offered to gala attendees, such as participating in a silent art auction and giving directly to the program through an offering. By the end of the evening, \$12,000 had been donated to Friendships for Hope. Many businesses and sponsors who could not attend sent charitable donations in support of the ministry.

Friendships for Hope has helped more than 250 refugee families achieve full independence through job training and ESL programs. During the past six years many refugees have joined the Paradise Valley church, which averages 30-50 baptisms a year without traditional public evangelism.



Free Medical Clinic Displays Gardena Church's

BY LAUREN ARMSTRONG

"Mega-Heart"

One of the biggest things for a strong community is when we get together," said Gardena Police Chief Tom Kang.

The truth of this statement was demonstrated to the 288 people who received free medical care at the Gardena church on March 11 and 12. Services provided at the two-day clinic included dental, vision, chiropractics, chaplaincy, legal counsel, foodbank distribution, medical triage, nutrition counsel, behavioral health services, and more.

The Adventist Medical Evangelism Network helped make this event happen, as did the Southern California Conference L.A. Metro Region and six of its churches—Hawthorne, Long Beach, New Life, Norwalk, Rolling Hills, and South Bay. Iki Taimi, Gardena church pastor, shared "a special word of thanks for supporting our constant outreach ideas" to Gardena Japanese church and East-West Language School.

The church also tapped into existing city relationships. According to Taimi, the church has been fostering relationships with the city for quite some time. "We are engaged with the city on a lot of levels," he explained. "It varies from partnerships to participation, and we have grown a strong connection with the city offices."

City organizations supporting the clinic included Gardena Human



Gardena Mayor Tasha Cerda enthusiastically toured the clinic on Monday afternoon. Here, she spends a moment with the Gardena church pastoral staff, Iki Taimi, pastor, and Derrick Cruz, associate pastor.

Services, Mayor's Office, Police Department, Memorial Hospital of Gardena, and Behavioral Health Services, a Gardena city partner.

"The test of whether or not a church is truly doing what it's supposed to do is not found in its membership or coffers but in whether or not the community will miss it when it's gone," Taimi said.

Kang shared a few words with the patients who were waiting in the sanctuary to be seen for dental or vision care as the clinic kicked off on Sunday morning. "This is truly a blessing," he said, "not only for

myself and those who work in this community but to provide the service for those who need help. This is amazing—everything is here for you."

Kang and Gardena Mayor Tasha Cerda both live-streamed their visits to the clinic on their official Facebook pages. Cerda took a 15-minute walking tour through the entire venue on Monday afternoon. She expressed great support for what was the church's first clinic, as well as for the possibility of partnering for future events like this one.

This event was one of many ways the church is reaching out and making itself available to the community. As Derrick Cruz, associate pastor, put it, "We're not a mega-church, but we have a mega-heart."

The dental department offered cleanings, fillings, and more, with the assistance of volunteer dentists and hygienists.



Gardena Police Chief Tom Kang shares his support during a photo op as he meets with volunteers.



"Light Above" Shines the Light of God's Love in Pasadena

BY CONNIE JEFFERY

On Sabbath afternoon, March 17, the Light Above group became a company of the Southern California Conference (SCC). The recognition and certification ceremony was held at the Foothills Community church, the congregation's rented facility in Pasadena.

In October 2006, 21 believers started a Visayan (Filipino dialect) group, which met in a room in Eagle Rock. They were sponsored by the Hollydale Community church in Southgate. As they grew, they moved two more times—to the second floor of the American Red Cross building in Glendale, and then to their current location.

In his challenge to the church,



Salazar presents a certificate of company status to Alabat-Evasco, Alabat, and Sisona.

Orville Ortiz, SCC treasurer, greeted the congregation with "Malipayong Adlaw'ng igpapahulay" ("Happy Sabbath") and "Aduna Ko'y checke" ("I have a check") as he presented Alabat with a \$2,500 check to be used for evangelism. Elder Samuel Lee, SCC Asian-Pacific Region director, recommended the induction of the officers of

the church, and Salazar accepted the officers.

Elder Velino A. Salazar, SCC president, read Ephesians 1:15-23. "The true church is marked by double love," he said, "love for Christ and love for others. Light Above, Jesus is counting on you! His plan is that you and I live forever with Him. Let's go out and tell everyone that Jesus is coming soon."

Dimie Sisona, Light Above associate pastor, recognized each of the 107 current members. The Light Above Singers provided several special musical numbers during the service. Elder John H. Cress, SCC executive secretary, outlined the steps the group has taken to achieve the certification of company status. "We, the officers of the Southern California Conference, are happy and ready to recognize what the Lord has done and is doing in this place," he said.

Following a prayer of dedication by Elder James G. Lee, SCC vice president, Salazar presented the certificate to Pastor Rodrigo Alabat, Light Above senior pastor; Joy Alabat-Evasco, church auditor; and Sisona.

Ortiz presents a \$2,500 check to Ricardo Gabriza, Jr., treasurer.

Photos by Rhendson Taton



Elder Samuel Lee recommends induction of the Light Above officers.

In closing, Salazar said, "Today, Saturday, March 17, 2018, at 4:26 p.m., I declare that this congregation now has the status of 'company.' To God be the glory!"

The Light Above company will continue its mission of "strengthening faith in the Savior to prepare a people for the soon coming of Jesus Christ."



From Cage Fighter to Evangelist:

BY CONNIE JEFFERY

Nico Hill Lives Up to His Promise

Photos provided by Holly Anderson



(Far left) Hill is pictured with a banner for his "Journey of Restoration" evangelistic series in 2017. (Left above) Hill speaks to a crowd at College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita. (Left below) Hill prays with a homeless man in Skid Row in Los Angeles. (Above) Hill visits Skid Row in Los Angeles in 2017.

With a fourth degree black belt in karate and as one of the original pioneers of cage fighting, Nico Hill fought in Russia, Brazil, and the United States. As a martial arts expert, he was known as "Nico the Dragon" and starred in a TV series and many action feature films. Onscreen he played the tough guy who always came out on top. Off-screen he was sinking in a seemingly bottomless pit of despair. He lived life fast and hard—custom Harleys, expensive cars, women, money, alcohol, and drugs. At rock bottom, he decided to end his life by overdosing on crystal meth.

But then the "Voice" that had spoken to him as a child returned, calling him to make a promise. Just days away from his death wish becoming reality, Hill cried out to God, "Lord, if you save me and give me peace of mind, I will cease and desist from this darkness and try to be your soldier." Today, he lives by that promise, devoting his

life to saving others from making the wrong choices that nearly robbed him of his life and telling them about the love of God.

After being rescued from the brink of despair, Hill founded God's Soldier Ministries, an independent ministry meant to reach the dark underworld of hardened prisoners and broken drug addicts. In five years, the ministry grew beyond his expectations. His personal testimony was published in the book "Called From the Abyss," co-authored by Ken Wade.

Debra Brill, North American Division vice president for ministries, said, "Nico's message is as close to presenting the Great Controversy in its most horrific and unglamorous reality of good versus evil as I've ever heard." From California to Illinois to Texas, Ohio, and Kansas, Hill speaks at prisons, churches, schools, rehab facilities, and juvenile detention centers, as well as ministering to the homeless and

conducting Celebrate Recovery classes for men every Monday night at Eagle Rock church.

"Monday nights are such a blessing," Hill said. "They are a perfect illustration of the power of the Holy Spirit in our community. These people are broken, lost, addicted, and homeless. When I first started this, they wouldn't listen to the Word of God in any shape or form. Now, they listen to the Word, share testimonies, and ask for personal prayer."

The L.A. Metro Region committee has endorsed God's Soldier Ministries as one of the outreach ministries of the Region. "Nico's testimony speaks to the heart," said Elder Gerard Kiemeney, L.A. Metro Region director. "As you listen to his story, you can sense the universal appeal of the Holy Spirit. Give Nico a listen, and you will hear God speaking through this humble servant of Jesus."

To learn more about God's Soldier Ministries, visit NicoHill.com.

BY LAUREN ARMSTRONG

Lives Are Changed

at Two SCC Evangelistic Series

This March, Canoga Park Community church and Whittier church hosted month-long evangelistic series. In preparing for the series, the churches hosted healthy cooking classes. Whittier church also held a 24-hour prayer vigil. Topics presented during the series included salvation, the blessing of the Sabbath, what happens when we die, and hope after death. Before and during both series, church members worked together with Bible workers from SOULS West who were completing a 10-week practicum.

"The Big Picture: Seeing Jesus Christ in the Details" at Canoga Park Community church was presented by Jason Whitley, Camarillo church associate pastor. Taylor Ligan, SCC CROSS Trainer, and Meena Chong and Pamela Vanegas, SOULS West students, studied the Bible with community members and invited them to the series.

Chong was visiting an attendee from the church's cooking class when she met a woman named Anusche. A social outing to go running and get pizza together led Anusche to attend

the evangelistic series. "I'm so grateful for the powerful experience of God's special appointments that awaited me," Chong said, "and how I had the chance to witness her come to church and share the experience with her."

During the series, Bible workers built relationships and gave Bible studies to community members. As a result of each series, souls were added to the Kingdom. The relationships and Bible studies are today being fostered by church members.

Whittier church

8 decisions for baptism
11 ongoing Bible studies

Canoga Park Community church

1 decision for baptism
9 ongoing Bible studies

Marco Topete, SCC Literature Ministries assistant coordinator, presented the "Discover Hope in a World of Uncertainty" series at Whittier church. "It's important for us to have events like this because, even more than what it does in the community,

it really unites the church as they tackle a mission together," Topete said. "It also really excites the church members to see people come in from their backyard who, if it wasn't for events like this, they wouldn't know are there."

Ryan Lacson and Aidan Wu, SOULS West students, partnered with the Whittier church evangelism team. When Lacson and Wu knocked on Pegah's door during their first week at the church, she thought they were social workers coming to take her son away. She was interested in Bible studies, and after attending the series, decided to be baptized.

"It is always a blessing to be part of a series because it reminds me how much Jesus can be found in our doctrines," Lacson said. "It revives my faith and really solidifies me as a Seventh-day Adventist. Seeing people give their life to Christ is a feeling like no other, and giving Bible studies to people, seeing their eyes widen to truth, makes it all worth it."

To read Pegah's and Anusche's full stories, visit scc.adventist.org/testimony.

Wu, Pegah, and Lacson are pictured at the series, which Pegah attended all nights but one. Photo provided by Audan Wu.



Photo provided by Pamela Vanegas

Through this series, Chong, Vanegas, and Ligan worked together with Canoga Park church members to cultivate relationships and offer Bible studies to members of the community

Hispanic Churches See Changes

BY BENJAMIN CARBALLO



Alex Ramirez has moved to Salt Lake City to pastor the Nueva Esperanza church.

Photo by LifeTouch



Ricardo Vargas has returned to Las Vegas to pastor the Camino a Cristo (Steps to Christ) district.

Photo by LifeTouch



Calixto Ruiz is the new pastor of the New Jerusalem district in Salt Lake City.

Photo by Calixto Ruiz



Elías Juárez has moved west to pastor the Reno-Sparks Spanish Church.

Photo by Michelle Ward

There has been movement in recent months among Hispanic pastors in the Nevada-Utah Conference that is specific to the needs of the work. Four changes among the pastoral staff, as well as the opening of a new district, have meant much transition for both the pastors and the churches in the first months of this year. After meetings, consultations, and votes from the Executive Committee of the conference, the map of changes and movements was finally completed and are as follows:

Ricardo Vargas, pastor at the Reno-Sparks Spanish Church, moved to Las Vegas to pastor the Camino a Cristo (Steps to Christ) district. Alex Ramirez, who pastored Camino a Cristo, is now pastor of the Nueva Esperanza (New Hope) church in Salt Lake City. The Nueva Esperanza church was formerly pastored by Calixto Ruiz, who now serves in the New Jerusalem district in Salt Lake City. Finally, Elías Juárez, who was the pastor of New Jerusalem district, has moved west to pastor the Reno-Sparks Spanish Church. All these changes happened in the first three months of this year.

In the first days of March, the Executive Committee voted to open a new district in Las Vegas. The Torre Fuerte (Strong Tower), Paraíso (Paradise), and Sión (Zion) companies now make up this district, effective April 1st. For this, the Conference has employed Pedro Pozo, a pastor with vast experience in the planting and development of churches and districts, who joins us from Seattle, Wash. The future of the churches in this new district is encouraging. Lay pastors Arturo Gonzalez and Iván Cuxeva, who have volunteered in the Torre Fuerte and Paraíso churches respectively, will continue to support the churches and Pastor Pozo with their ministry.

In addition to these recent movements and changes, Ángel Cuenca, pastor of the Ogden Spanish district, has accepted a pastoral position offered by the Oregon Conference. In the coming weeks, conference officers will finalize interviews for a new pastor for the Ogden Spanish district. For the time being, the Ogden District will be served by Abel Alvarado, an interim pastor. We pray that the Lord will bless all these pastors in their new fields of service.

“The preachers of the truth must encourage faith and hope, as did Christ, your living head. Keep humble and contrite in heart before God. Maintain an unwavering faith in the promises of God.”

—*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 7, pp. 34, 35

For just one week a year, camp meeting tents are set up among the tall pine trees and in the fresh alpine air of South Lake Tahoe. Friends from all across the Pacific Union and beyond gather at this premier mountain vacation destination for this camp meeting experience. This year's Tahoe Camp Meeting is just around the corner, and from July 30 to August 4, families will be able to gather for both spiritual retreat and fun recreational opportunities in one of the most beautiful places in the West.

respond to the invitation of Jesus to 'come apart and rest a while.'"

This camp meeting has a long history of bringing Adventists together. "This year marks the 18th year of this lay-led camp meeting," said Darlene Spratt, chair of the Tahoe Camp Meeting Committee. "These last 18 years have been a journey of faith and trust. God is good, and we are looking forward to another successful camp meeting at South Lake Tahoe."

The planning committee has prepared a full schedule for attendees. In addition to the morning and evening

Tahoe Campmeeting Offers a True Mountaintop Experience

BY JANE POYNTER, WITH FAITH HOYT

During the week several guest speakers will speak on the theme "Building on the Rock," including Dr. Greg King, dean and professor of Biblical Studies at Southern Adventist University, and Brian Bilbrey, pastor of the Riverview Adventist Church in Reno. Bilbrey has participated in this camp meeting for over 20 years and says that each trip has left him refreshed, renewed, and with many new friends.

"Experiencing camp meeting in an environment that is so free from all our regular distractions makes the time much richer," Bilbrey said. "This year's theme reminds me of Psalm 61:2, which says, 'From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I.' It is during this mountaintop experience that we can leave our cares behind and realign ourselves with our Cornerstone."

Both of this year's speakers find Tahoe Camp Meeting a tremendous opportunity for spiritual and physical renewal. According to King, this camp meeting is "a wonderful way to

adult programs, they've planned nature walks with Larry Siemens, children and youth programs, and a luau at the lake on Friday for teens and young adults. A Sabbath afternoon concert and vegetarian food service on the campground round out this year's offerings. Along with favorite veggie foods and books, the ABC will offer samples of some of their products.

The planning committee has strived to maintain the best of traditional Adventist camp meetings in today's modern world. "Our campers appreciate the Biblically-based programs and the overall spiritual atmosphere of the camp meeting," said Spratt. "We believe we have stayed true to our Adventist heritage in the messages we present."

This year's camp meeting promises a week of spiritually uplifting programs, a time for solitude and prayer, and the opportunity to reconnect with old friends. For more information about Tahoe Camp Meeting, contact Virginia Rose at 916-967-5932 or visit www.tahoecampmeeting.com.



Tahoe Camp Meeting's theme this year is "Building on the Rock." It will be held at Tahoe Valley Campground from July 30 to Aug. 4. Photo by Tahoe Camp Meeting Committee



Experiencing camp meeting in an environment that is so free from all our regular distractions makes the time much richer. Photo by Craig Wilcox



The spiritual enrichment at Tahoe Camp Meeting pairs well with the wide variety of outdoor activities available.

Photo by Michael Niessl on Unsplash



This camp meeting has a long history of bringing Adventists together. This year marks the 18th year of a lay-led camp meeting. Photo by cassiohabib | iStock

Build and Restore Soquel Campgrounds Mission Trip May 20-27, 2018

Build and Restore International invites you to join us for our Soquel Camp Mission Trip! We are going to partner with the Central California Conference to build and restore the camp facilities, as well as offer community outreach. Prayerfully consider joining us on this exciting journey to Soquel, California.

NEEDED: We need electricians, contractors, handymen, and general volunteers to help with painting, landscaping, tree trimming, clean-up, and small repairs. Needed: Mentors to work with teens and youth; pastors to lead out in spiritual devotions and outreach; youth and young adults; Pathfinder and Adventure clubs; men's and women's groups. Anyone who is willing to lend a hand to help build and restore is encouraged to join us!

WHAT: An internal mission trip. We will build and restore schools, churches, and camps near home. Our goal is to learn together and grow spiritually, mentally, and physically as we go in faith to rebuild and restore our communities and places of faith. Each project has a spiritual, educational, and recreational component for each volunteer, regardless of age, education, or skill level.

HOW: We train and equip each volunteer to perform the tasks that are needed for us to complete each project. Tools, materials, and work supplies will be provided. Training and mentoring will be part of each project.

For more information go to www.buildandrestore.org

When May 20-27, 2018 **Where** Soquel, California

You can make a lasting impact today. If you can hold a hammer, you can be a missionary. To attend this mission trip, call Ostap Dzyndra, Build and Restore International president, at 916-316-8972 or go to www.buildandrestore.org.

Soquel Work Bee, May 6-9

Come one, come all. There is something for everyone to do. Projects include: remodeling women's bathroom, creating a Dutch door, painting, replacing the stage carpet, painting lines in the auditorium, and much more.

No out-of-pocket cost to you as all meals and lodging will be provided.

Please RSVP to Todd at tgallemore@cccsda.org.



Hands-on Cooking School Offers Confidence and

BY MARILYN WILCOX

Better Health

When the members of the Groveland Adventist Church decided to continue the cooking schools they had been offering their neighbors for over 12 years, they tried a different approach. According to health ministry leader Marilyn Wilcox, the Groveland, Calif., church first began offering cooking schools when forerunner Dena Guthrie held the first Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP) designed for churches in 1996. Over the years, members had learned how difficult it was for those who had attended the schools to repeat what they had learned when they went home to make the recipes for their families. To solve the problem, the leaders decided to let the would-be healthy cooks actually make the dishes themselves.

So in January of 2016, they began The Hands-on Cooking School. Instead of having the leaders demonstrate the dishes and then letting participants taste, the attendees themselves would make the recipes. After several classes, ladies who had taken earlier classes reported that by doing the preparation themselves they had a new confidence and determination to cook this way at home.

The new approach became a successful bridge between the desire of the community to improve their health by eating more whole foods and their ability to learn how to do it. "I do not have a lot of experience cooking this way," Judy, a previous CHIP student, remarked as she put together a healthy salad dressing. "Actually doing it is helping me reach my goal of using more plant-based foods, which are tasty and healthy without meat and other less healthy ingredients."

As of January 2018, eight Hands-

on Cooking sessions have been offered. Whole foods are emphasized, with a variety of vegetables, beans, fruits, and greens. Recipes cover roasts and patties, pastas, salads, and desserts, and also include Chinese, Mediterranean, and Mexican dishes. The church has planned the ninth class this Spring. Using Jeff Novick's ideas, it will focus on how to make fast food that is both tasty and healthy.

"Preparation for a Hands-on Cooking School is different from the classes we did before," the members say. Most of the work is done before the class. They work together to advertise the class in hometown newspapers and in flyers, to choose and print the recipes, and to purchase all the ingredients for each recipe.

Each class has signed up 12 to 15 learners. When they arrive they find four or five round tables in the multipurpose room. Each table holds one or two recipes, along with the ingredients needed for that recipe. The students are invited to scan the recipes and choose a table. Three or four will sit down at each table. Before they begin making their recipe, the instructor goes through all the recipes that will be made (a print-out of all recipes is given to each participant) describing how it is made, pointing

out how it uses healthy ingredients, and answering any questions.

Using the church kitchen designed for potlucks and the multipurpose room, the church members have become facilitators. They are nearby to answer questions and help when the novice cooks need encouragement. The church has purchased the needed utensils and machines needed for the recipes, such as a blender, a food processor, a small nut or spice grinder, and nonstick skillets.

Working together, both those who instruct and those who are doing the blending, slicing, and mixing develop friendships, share their cooking skills, help each other, and have fun.

The class usually begins at 10 a.m. As some of the dishes are cooking or baking, a short video is often shown. The food is finished by 12 or 12:30 p.m. and everyone sits down to taste what they cannot believe they have made.

For more information and recipes, visit the church's website, groveland.adventistfaith.org.

The leaders of the Groveland church's Hands-on Cooking School found that attendees remembered how to cook the new recipes better when they were involved in the cooking process.



Annual Women's Retreat

BY JAMES MONTAGUE

Nourishes Participants to Their Roots



Beautifully Rooted," the Central California Conference's (CCC) annual Women's Retreat, took place January 26 to 28 and benchmarked another year of prayer and spiritual healing. Held at Tenaya Lodge, near Yosemite National Park, it was coordinated by Joyce Mulligan, CCC's Prayer Ministries director. Mulligan's group of volunteers helped facilitate the retreat for the more than 500 in attendance. Participants came from across the conference and state, while others traveled from as far away as Washington.

The weekend was packed full of music, time in nature, and opportunities to enjoy the company of friends and family. "Beautifully Rooted" focused on spiritual and emotional activities, including writing positive things about one another, hugging, and rubbing one another's hands with lotion. These exercises fostered an environment of acceptance and vul-

(Clockwise from left) Dr. Janice J. Browne, keynote speaker for the event, shows women how they may be "Beautifully Rooted" daily to the Word of God. | Debbie Mulligan Pierce, from Vancouver, Wash., helps lead praise songs during the CCC Women's Retreat at Tenaya Lodge, near Yosemite National Park, Jan. 26 through 28. | Joyce Mulligan, CCC Prayer Ministries director and Women's Retreat coordinator (on right), speaks with Lisa Ekels, retreat decorator. | Women converse with each other and pray together in pairs during Bible study sessions at the Women's Retreat. | Flora Group, a praise team comprised of four musicians from Vancouver, Wash., helps lead robust worship during the CCC Women's Retreat.

nerability, which can lead to a deeper spiritual experience.

Keynote speakers were Dr. Janice J. Browne and Carolann De León. Browne is a resource speaker for the Women's Ministry Department of the General Conference. De León recently began working within the North Pacific Union Conference and is a public speaker who enjoys witnessing to women. During the retreat, De León led three sessions based in Psalms and written about praise, sorrow, and personal attachments.

Each day the retreat staff, speakers, and musicians would gather for

prayer, asking for God's blessings and guidance. Mulligan emphasized the power of prayer: "The success of the retreat was a direct result of many people praying for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to be present at the retreat and for lives to be changed."

The goal of the retreat was to create an environment that cultivates lifelong spiritual change. One way this was achieved was through the music performed by the Flora Group. There was a conscious effort to blend a mix of traditional and contemporary praise music to enrich everyone's

worship experience. Combining this with inspirational group discussions led by De León and reflective sermons from Browne created a perfect environment for spiritual cultivation.

Another important aspect for spiritual restoration is a focus on the body. Every year the retreat offers a wide variety of healthy vegetarian and vegan dishes to promote the church's health message that the body and soul need to be nourished equally. Alongside the nutritious food, physical activities were offered as well. Some of those activities included swimming, spa treatments, ice skating, nature walks, and fellowship time.

An attendee named Jewel spoke about her positive experience while attending Women's Retreat this year. When she had gone to similar conferences in her hometown, she felt discriminated against and judged by those who regularly attended the retreat. Jewel felt a difference between the retreat at Tenaya and those she had experienced before, and it touched her heart. "I was sitting with women I didn't know who were kind and loving toward me," she said, noting that Browne "spoke of brokenness, loneliness, and hurt," which are real problems people face every day.

The Women's Retreat was a great way for women across the Conference and beyond to start 2018 off with praise and reflection. With an emphasis on community, health, and dealing with the harsh realities of our sinful world, the women in attendance, and those who made the retreat happen, will hopefully be able to take what they have learned and utilize it in their lives. As Browne pointed out, "We can be beautifully rooted when we are established in Christ with thanksgiving for all that He has done for us." It is easy to forget in this fast and ever-changing world that "a complaint-free life helps to keep our roots nourished and beautifully rooted no matter the location, circumstances, or situation" and will allow us to grow with, and trust in, Christ.

Fishers of Men

Fishbowl Challenge: "Get Out of the Fishbowl and Start Fishing!" DREAM IT—Come up with an idea for ministry in your church or local community. FILM IT—Make a 3- to 5-minute promo video featuring your ministry. PITCH IT—Present your ministry idea to a panel of "judges" and "jurors" this year at Soquel Camp Meeting. Three finalists will win money to fund their ministries during a very special camp meeting segment. DO IT—Launch your ministry with the support and resources needed for it to succeed and flourish in your community. For more information, call the Central California Conference Communication Department at 559-347-3031 or email communication@cccsda.org.

Memorabilia Wanted

We're looking for memorabilia from 1948 for a commemorative camp meeting experience. If you have home, clothing, and church periodicals circa 1948, call the Central California Conference Office of Communication at 559-347-3031 or email communication@cccsda.org.



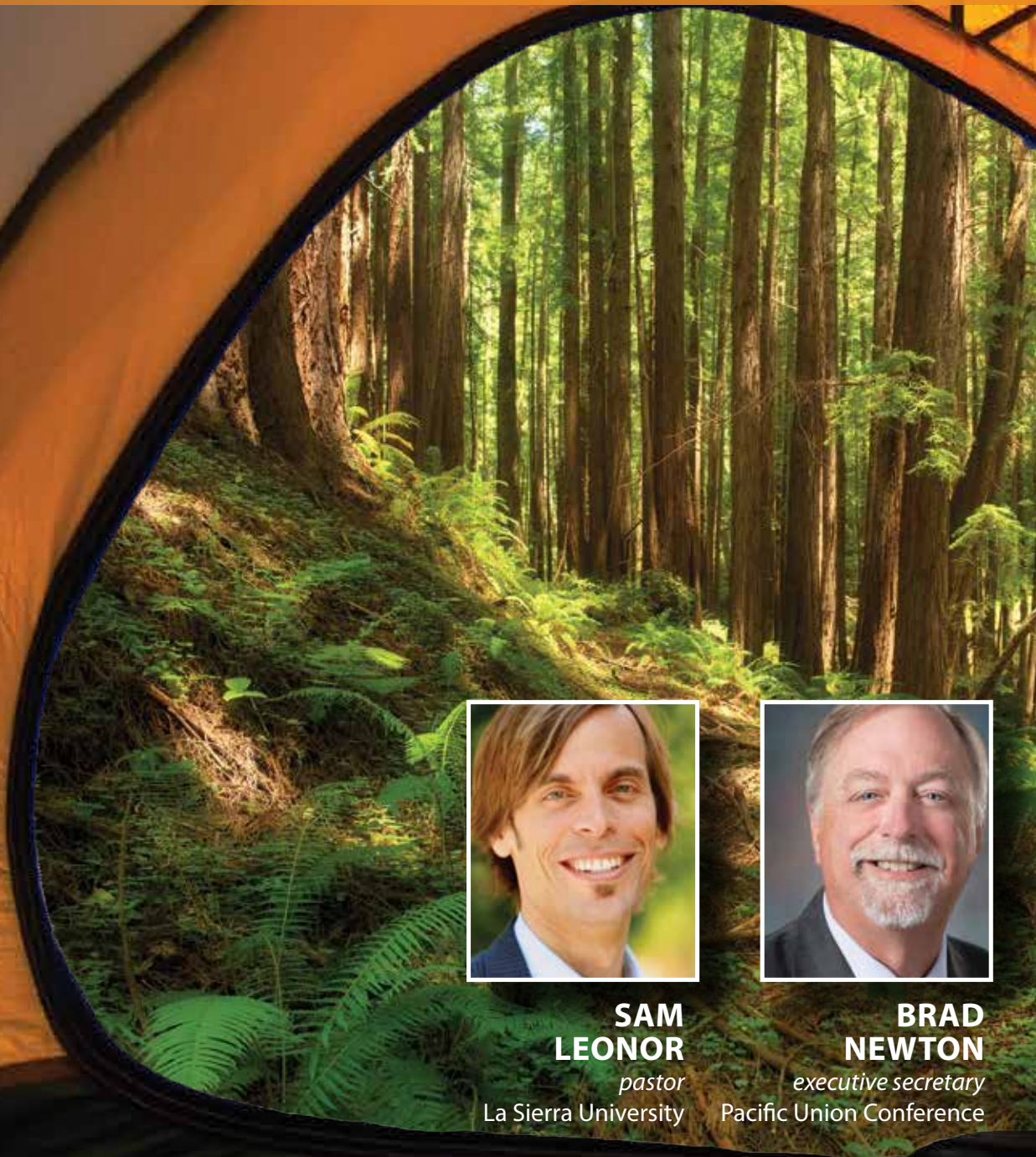
Soquel Workers

Do you know a family member or friend who may have worked on the Soquel Campgrounds in the late '40s? We are looking for these dear volunteers. Please get us in touch with the Central California Conference Communication Department at 559-347-3031 or email communication@cccsda.org.



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*"Come to Me, all you who labor and are
heavy laden, and I will give you rest,"
Matthew 11:28 (NKJV).*

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Smoothie Night

Blends Adventists with the Community

BY SEAN WYCLIFFE



Delon Lawrence (right) speaks at Smoothie Night, while Sean Wycliffe stands to the left. The men are founders of an Adventist green smoothie startup, The Fruit Tree. Photo: Maharani Lumban-Gaol

able way, using our skills and resources,” said Lawrence. “At some point, the idea of selling organic green smoothies came up, and after some discussion we knew it’d be a winner.”

Lawrence had spent most of the past eight-plus years as a colporteur. Within a week of the original idea, he was out in the Alameda streets with a cooler, knocking on doors once again. Once people started to buy the smoothies—and provide amazing feedback—Lawrence and Wycliffe knew they had something. Currently, The Fruit Tree sells in numerous farmers’

markets in the Bay Area, and it has a number of regular subscribers for home delivery.

Although they are pleased with the startup’s success, Lawrence and Wycliffe are most excited about the potential to reach people with the gospel, using smoothies as the opening wedge. At events like Smoothie Night, church members can invite people at the right time to the right place and let God do the rest. “It’s essentially Christ’s Method Alone in practice,” said Chau Wycliffe, co-founder of Christ’s Method Alone, an Adventist campus ministry on the UC Berkeley campus. “We are mingling with people from all types of backgrounds, meeting their needs (health, in the case of green smoothies), and then bidding them to follow Christ at the right time.”

Everyone at Smoothie Night was invited to attend The Revelation of Love, a prophecy seminar at the church. “We’re excited to see folks from the community coming to our church, socially connecting with our members, and having a genuine interest in returning for our prophecy series,” said Gutierrez.

The Fruit Tree is in a number of Bay Area markets, and its founders are interested in plugging their customers into local Adventist churches through events such as Smoothie Night. To learn more, email help@thefruittree.org.



A team prepares a smoothie for the competition. Photo: Maharani Lumban-Gaol



Participants gather ingredients for the “blend-off” during Smoothie Night.

Photo: Maharani Lumban-Gaol

Livermore Youth Reach Out to Their Community with Kids' Literature

BY JULIE LORENZ

During the past three years, Livermore church youth Sabbath school members have distributed more than 2,800 Adventist kids' magazines in their neighborhoods.

In 2015, youth leader Jeanne Masterson noticed stacks of Adventist magazines for kids—*Guide*, *Primary Treasure*, and *Little Friend*—piling up at the church. It's not that the children were uninterested in them. In fact, they liked them so much that they read them as soon as they received them. "The kids are all avid readers and would finish their reading materials before leaving church each Sabbath!" said Masterson. "It seemed such a shame to just throw them in the recycling bin."

The Livermore church has a small ministry distributing *Signs of*

the Times magazine, and Masterson was inspired to ask the youth if they would be interested in starting a ministry of their own. They agreed—and amazed her with their ongoing commitment. Last year alone, the group of about a dozen teenagers gave away 1,058 magazines. "I never expected the kids to be interested in this beyond a week or two," she said. "But, much to my surprise, they have enjoyed it and kept at it!"

Masterson tells the kids not to hand out literature alone, and she counsels them to pray before they go. They leave the magazines in doctors' offices, hair salons, car repair shops, and more. "Literature evangelism is fun because it's so easy," said Derek Masterson, 17. "All I have to do is grab a few *Guides* and put them on neighbors' doorsteps or distribute them around the

hospital waiting rooms."

Some parents have joined their teens and made the ministry a family activity. "You've got to find your own way to enjoy the process. For me it was a chance to enjoy this peaceful family walk at night," said Liah Patricio, 16. "I always made it a goal to pass out 60 to 80 at a time to make the most of it."

The Sabbath school members and their leader hope that other teens will be inspired to start a similar outreach in their neighborhoods. "This is a great ministry for those who aren't comfortable yet with witnessing by speaking, but who still want to plant seeds for God's Kingdom," said Masterson.

Her youth class agrees. "My favorite part of literature evangelism is knowing that I'm spreading God's Word," said Joneal Ongiil, 17. "And that I am helping people who might need it."



Working for the Harvest
MATTHEW 9:38

Notice of 2018 Constituency Meeting of the Northern California Conference

Notice is hereby given that a regular session of the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene at the Lodi Fairmont church in Lodi, California, on Sunday, September 30, 2018, at 9 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to receive from the officers and department directors of the Conference reports pertaining to the work carried on within its territory since the last conference session; to elect for the ensuing session officers, department directors, the Bylaws Committee, and the Conference Executive Committee; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session. Each church is entitled to one delegate for the organization and one additional delegate for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof.

James E. Pedersen, President
Marc K. Woodson, Executive Secretary



Livermore church youth Sabbath school members regularly distribute kids' literature to their community. Left to right: Noel Zambrano, Evan Farley, Carlo Aqui, Christian Aqui, James Patricio, Liah Patricio (center, holding magazines), Laen Ongiil, Joneal Ongiil, Cathy Gikbay, Derek Masterson, Cyrus Aqui. Not pictured: Daniel Daligcon, Jr., Mufarro Mufuka.

(Photo: Jeanne Masterson)

Aiea Global Youth Day 2018

BY TANIA MANGUM

Since 2013, the third Sabbath of March has been designated as Global Youth Day by the General Conference Youth Department. This is the day when we focus on what it means to become the feet and hands of Jesus.

The Aiea Youth Group, led by Pastors Erik VanDenburgh and Puia Fanai, joined millions of Adventist youth around the world to "Be the Sermon" as they shared the love of Jesus with everyone they came in contact with.

Youth spread out around the Aiea community, offering prayers and GLOW tracks. In the afternoon they participated in a food drive made possible by the partnership between the Hawaiian Food Bank and the Aiea church. They went to one of the larger homeless encampments on Oahu at Waianae Boat Harbor, otherwise known as Tent City.

Food bags were distributed to families in need. Dog treats were even given to homeless people who own pets. The residents of Tent City were very welcoming.

"The idea is not to just listen to sermons but to live out sermons," said Fanai.

"In Hawaii, we are all 'ohana. Everybody you meet is family, and we want to help family," said Saje Meaole. "Throughout the day the residents were thanking us for the assistance. We were doing whatever we could, and it was very rewarding to see their happiness afterward."

"This is my second year helping at Tent City," said Allie Clapp. "It touches my heart that I can come here again and again and get to know the people better, forgetting all the things in my life, reaching to someone else's heart, and sharing this gratifying spiritual experience."

"I am so happy that our youth

participated in the GYD 2018. Seeing our young people out in the community serving and praying is such a blessing," said Pastor James Mangum. "Our prayers have been answered as they went out to 'Be the Sermon.' Listening to their testimonies on how they were able to touch lives by

passing out GLOW tracts and praying for and delivering food to those in need has encouraged and motivated our whole church to be a part of the church outreach. Indeed, God's Spirit has moved our youth and church. We are excited for next year to see what God has in store for us."



Kauai Welcomes New Pastor



The Davis family joins the pastor team in Hawaii.



Conference President Ralph Watts III welcomes Pastor Davis.

Pastor Shane Davis was welcomed as the new pastor of the Kapaa and Lawai Valley churches on the island of Kauai on February 24, 2018.

Davis was born and raised in Chicago, Ill. He excelled in sports throughout high school and college. Upon graduating from college, Davis began a career in law enforcement with the Cook County Sheriff's Office. After one year, Davis moved to Iowa where he continued working in law enforcement as an Iowa State Trooper. Davis felt a definite call to the gospel ministry five

years later and eagerly responded to this call. He left law enforcement to begin working full time for Jesus.

Davis completed his seminary training at Andrews University, where he received both a Master of Divinity and a Doctor of Ministry degree. After seminary, Davis became the assistant pastor of the Des Moines church in Iowa, where he served for a year before receiving an invitation to transition to Arizona. He then pastored in Arizona for ten years in a multiple church district.

"It was a tremendous privilege to welcome Shane Davis to the Kapaa and Lawai Valley churches on the beautiful island of Kauai," said Hawaii Conference President Ralph Watts III. "Shane is immensely gifted and skilled in ministry and leadership. The Hawaii Conference is excited and grateful to have the Davis family become part of our team."

Shane is a devoted husband and father. He and his wife, Hayli, are blessed with two beautiful children, Hope and Noble.

ENGLISH CAMP MEETING – June 8-16

Arizona Camp Meetings

“Jesus Wonderful Sa



Ed Keyes

Arizona Camp Meetings at beautiful Camp Yavapines in the tall pine mountains of Prescott, Arizona promise a spiritual feast for all who attend.

Arizona Conference President Ed Keyes gives the invitation, “Please join us for spiritual renewal, inspiring preaching and seminars, plus a time of relaxation. Visitors from throughout the Pacific Union Conference and beyond are welcome!”

- **Special programs** for Cradle Roll, Kindergarten, Primary, Juniors, and Earliteens
- **Youth programs** in the chapel
- **Young Adults** under the big tent
- **Adult programs** feature morning devotions, seminars throughout the day, and evening meetings under the giant pavilion dome
- **Special programs** for Adults2 in the Alaska Annex
- **Adventist Book Center** features books, literature, music and food
- **Televised live** on Good News TV


Arizona Sonshine

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Fourth Annual Arizona Sonshine will provide free healthcare to the underserved residents of Prescott Valley, AZ. June 14 and 15.

Visit **www.arizonasonshine.com**

**NEW: Arizona Sonshine Mission Trip to
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For additional information call 480-9

SPANISH CAMP MEETING – June 18-23

Something for Everyone

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English Camp Meeting Speakers



David Livermore



Curt Dolinsky



Don Mackintosh



Julian Archer

English Camp Meeting Speakers



Richie Halversen



Terry Johnsson

Music



Gale Jones Murphy



Christine Wollmann

Campestre Familiar Hispano – **“INVOLUCRADOS”**

Oradores Hispanos



José Esposito



Adán Dyck



Dr. Eddy Ramírez

Música



Felipe Garibo

91-6777 or info@azconference.org

Rachel's Children on the Sea of Glass

by Kendra Haloviak Valentine

A Woman and a Turbaned Man in Despair with Young Child Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City



Prayer

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
God of Sarah, Rebecca, and

Rachel,
God of Jesus, who is the Christ,
We invite your presence into this
study.

Thank you for your promise to be
in our hearts and minds.
Amen.

The prophet Jeremiah proclaims: “Thus says the Lord:
“A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more” (Jeremiah 31:15, NRSV).

Rachel is weeping for her children.

What do you think of when you first hear the name of
the biblical character Rachel?

What comes to your mind?

If you're anything like me, you have to first remind
yourself where she falls in Abraham's line of descendants:
Now, there's Abraham and Sarah—who had Isaac; Isaac and
Rebecca—who had the twins Esau and Jacob; Jacob first was
tricked into marrying Leah, and then Jacob married Rachel;

Jacob was the father of 12 sons and at least one daughter....

In doing this study, I have learned several new things
about Rachel:

Aside from the poetry of the Song of Solomon, Rachel
is the only woman in Scripture who explicitly receives a kiss
from a man within the story (Genesis 29:10-11). When Jacob
saw Rachel he kissed her and wept aloud—weeping seems
to surround this woman. From the first time we meet her in
Genesis until the last reference to her, which is in the New
Testament, there is weeping.

When God opens Rachel's womb and she is finally able
to have a child (Genesis 30:22), she gives birth to Joseph
and immediately wants another baby. She names her first
boy Joseph, which means “He adds.” The narrative quotes
Rachel as saying: “May the Lord add to me another son!”
At the birth of Joseph, Rachel asks God for another baby!
How many women do you know who, at the very moment
of giving birth, just can't wait to get pregnant again? That
was Rachel. She wanted to be a mom so badly. This woman,
Rachel, was born to be a mother.

I have an aunt who was single until her early 40s. As a
kid, I thought Aunt Carolyn's singleness was great because

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She preached this sermon at Sligo, her home church in Takoma Park,
Maryland, after graduate school in 1998.

it resulted in more attention from her than I received from my other, married aunts.

But as I got older I realized that Aunt Carolyn longed to be a mother. She even had a name for her first child, if her first child was a girl—Meghan Nicole. At the age of 42, Aunt Carolyn got married. But for the next few years she was unable to carry a baby full term. Then, in 1995, she gave birth to a healthy little girl.

Aunt Carolyn and Uncle Eric asked me to have the dedication service for their daughter. I was OK until they handed little Meghan Nicole to me. Suddenly I was overwhelmed by emotions as I held in my arms the little one for whom Aunt Carolyn had waited for 46 years.

Imagine Rachel's joy at Joseph's birth! Imagine her joy when she found out she was pregnant a second time! The woman born to be a mother would soon have two children to love.

But, tragically, Rachel died while giving birth to Benjamin (Genesis 35:16-18). A second baby boy was born to her healthy and crying as only a newborn can cry—but, surrounded by those cries, Rachel died.

Centuries later, Rachel's descendants are warned by a prophet named Jeremiah that the Babylonians are coming and that they will force Rachel's children into exile. Who does Jeremiah invoke in his warning? Rachel—the wife of Jacob, the Mother of Israel:

A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.

Jeremiah goes back into his tradition, into his line of faith, and pulls from it the voice of a mother—the Mother of Israel: Rachel.

Rachel:

- the woman whose future husband had greeted with a kiss.
- the woman born to be a mother.
- the woman whose children are the children of God.

As the Babylonian army gets closer and closer to Israel, Jeremiah invokes Rachel's tears:

Rachel and Jeremiah weep:

- for their future is uncertain.
- their temple and city will be demolished.
- people will die.
- illness will follow hunger and fear, depression and despair.

Rachel and Jeremiah weep:

"O that my head were a spring of water,
and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night

for the slain of my poor people!" (Jeremiah 9:1).
Rachel and Jeremiah weep, but few join them:

- Others are too busy to see what is happening.
- They are too confident in life to question the ways things have always been.
- They are too content to see all that is so terribly wrong.

Jeremiah's neighbors did not believe his words of prophecy.

They ignored the seriousness of their situation.

Other prophets, priests, and government leaders proclaim: "All is well! All is well!"

Trading is up! Our nation is secure on all sides! All is well! All is well!

Only Jeremiah proclaims the word from God: "You say, 'peace, peace,' when there is no peace."

Then the Babylonians arrived. At a place called Ramah (a name meaning "height" or "high place"), the captain of the Babylonian army gathered up

Rachel's descendants. He bound them and forced them into exile. And Rachel is heard weeping in Ramah.

The sons and daughters of Israel are taken away in chains, and the official analysis is: "All is well, all is well." No need to panic.

Oh Lord, teach us to weep when all is *not* well.

Rachel's tears refuse to accept the deception of the day: the attempts by leadership to calm the people. Rachel's tears refuse to accept the fake world of "business as usual." Rachel's tears cut through the numbness with the language of grief (Walter Brueggemann, *Prophetic Imagination*).

Throughout the centuries Rachel weeps; she cries out in agony.

Babies are murdered along the streets of Bethlehem, and Matthew, recording the terror of that night, reminds us in chapter 2 that Rachel weeps.

Rachel weeps today:

- Bombs explode in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, and Rachel weeps.
- Women are raped by their husbands and boyfriends, and Rachel weeps.
- Gluttony by part of the world wastes the earth's resources for others, and Rachel weeps.
- Tobacco companies target children in order to make money and our senators support them, and Rachel weeps.
- The homeless despair on the streets of downtown D.C. and I drive by them on my way to teach classes on Scripture, and Rachel weeps.

The biblical tradition doesn't shrug its shoulders at all that is wrong with our world; it contains the sobs of a mother who loved her children.

From the first time we meet Rachel in Genesis until the last reference to her, which is in the New Testament, there is weeping.

And it is that image of a mother weeping that begins to transform the story of the exile. Wonder of wonders, somehow the words about weeping begin the healing process.

A friend of mine recently recommended a book, *Fugitive Pieces*, by Anne Michaels. It is the story of a Greek geologist, Athos, who is on a dig in Poland in 1942. While at work one day, suddenly a boy emerges from the earth nearby. It is a Jewish boy, Jakob, from a neighboring village who, after watching his family slaughtered, hid in riverbanks—digging into the earth. Athos hides the boy, takes care of him, holds him when he wakes in the night from horrifying nightmares, and gives the boy stability. He also shares with Jakob two precious things: a love of the land and the power of words.

As Athos would dig into the earth for meaning, for understanding, Jakob began to dig for meaning in language. Through words, he found a way to hope. “I already knew,” says Jakob, “the power of language to destroy...to obliterate. But poetry, the power of language to restore, this was what... Athos... [was] trying to teach me” (p. 79).

The power of language to restore, words that give hope: That is the mission of this prophet-poet named Jeremiah, who goes into his tradition and pulls into his own situation the tears of a mother. She sees things as they really are, and she weeps. And it is her weeping that makes healing possible. For her weeping mirrors a weeping God who cannot abandon His children.

A weeping God in the midst of such sorrow makes newness possible.

Notice the placement of Rachel’s tears within Jeremiah’s poetry. What amazes me about this section of Jeremiah, this mention of Rachel weeping, is that it comes in the middle of Jeremiah, chapters 30-31, what some commentators call the “Book of Comfort.” Why? I encourage you to notice in your Bible how some versions give subtitles to chapter 30 (“Restoration of Israel” or “Restoration Promised for Israel and Judah”) and for chapter 31 (“The Joyful Return of the Exiles”). These are chapters of hope!

If we took the time to read all of Jeremiah 30-31, we would notice that section after section gives comfort and hope to the exiles. This section of Jeremiah is full of God’s promises for a return from exiles: a renewing of the land, a new covenant, a new beginning.

Why does this image of the mother of Israel weeping come in the middle of chapters of comfort?

The more I read the Bible, the more I am convinced that Rachel’s weeping is placed in the midst of celebrating the joyful return of the exiles, right in the middle of the Book of Comfort, because for believers, weeping is surrounded by hope—the very real weeping that we experi-

ence is also surrounded by hope.

That’s what makes it hope! Hope doesn’t dismiss or ignore or belittle weeping. Hope acknowledges and participates in the tears. Hope surrounds the heartbreak.

Weeping acknowledges our present circumstances, and hope refuses to believe that the present circumstances have the final word.

Rachel wept because her children were no more, but her weeping was surrounded by hope.

Wonder of wonders! After weeping there is remembering. Scripture says, “God remembered Rachel,” and just as God remembered Rachel, God remembered Israel.

In the poetry of Jeremiah, weeping and singing go together. Jeremiah, a book called by some a “meditation on grief” is also full of hope.

After grief, there is great joy. Because God is unable to walk away. Abandonment ends in embrace. Exile ends in homecoming. With God there is the possibility of newness.

Jeremiah 31:9 says: “With weeping they shall come, and

with consolations I will lead them back.... For I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.” God is the father of Ephraim, the grandson Rachel never knew.

Jeremiah 31:11-12 says: “For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord.” Instead of the height (Ramah) where weeping

is heard, the children of Rachel and Jacob, the children of God, will be heard singing on Zion’s hill.

In the poetry of Jeremiah, weeping and singing go together. Those who refuse to weep never learn how to sing. But those who weep at the terrible loss end up singing and shouting and laughing with joy!

Have you ever seen someone start laughing and end in tears? Crying, who ends up laughing?

In the poetry of Jeremiah, weeping and singing go together.

It is a truth that humans could never have thought up themselves. It is surprising, something we would never expect. Something that underscores that God’s ways are not our ways: tears and singing go together; hope surrounds tears.

- God says: “I will turn their mourning [weeping] into joy” (Jeremiah 31:13).
- Jesus said: “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted” (Matthew 5:4).
- Jesus wept before Lazarus’ tomb, and His weeping set the stage for a brand new beginning (John 11:35).

I am convinced that Rachel’s weeping is placed in the midst of celebrating the joyful return of the exiles, right in the middle of the Book of Comfort, because for believers, weeping is surrounded by hope—the very real weeping that we experience is also surrounded by hope.

Rachel weeps as her children are taken away. Yet, at that very moment there is the promise of a return from exile. Children *will fill* the streets of Jerusalem. Rachel *will see* her children again.

Of all our doctrines and precious beliefs, my most favorite of all to share is our hope in the Second Advent of Jesus—a belief that motivates us to live on this earth like we will live in the earth made new.

He had tears in his eyes. He thanked me. I remember saying, “They are *your* words!” He said, “No, no, God knew I needed to be reminded that my *present* weeping is also surrounded by hope.”

Because of God, weeping is not the final word.

Because of God, exile is not the end of the story.

Because of God, even places of misery become places of hope.

- Egypt is not only the city of slavery; it is the place of the Exodus!
- Babylon is not only the house of exiles; it is the place where one begins the journey home!
- Bethlehem is not only the town of a terrible massacre; it is the birthplace of the Savior!

Hope transforms places of weeping into places of singing!

This past year, I had the privilege of teaching a class at the American Baptist Seminary in Berkeley. None of my students had ever studied with a Seventh-day Adventist teacher before, and they were eager to see what I saw in the book of Revelation. When we actually began to read the book together, my students were stunned to discover how much singing fills the book of Revelation—there is singing in chapters 4-5, 7, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19. They had expected scenes of judgment and warning, but they did not know that in Revelation there are more scenes of singing than of judgment. In fact, the redeemed are almost always pictured either singing or engaged in other activities of worship before the Lamb.

One day as I was preparing to go onto the platform and speak for chapel at the Baptist Seminary, I saw Dr. Allan Boesak enter the sanctuary. I was planning to quote from his commentary on the book of Revelation, a quote I have shared here at Sligo before.

It was strange to be able to look down and see the face of the writer I was quoting. I told the group about reading Dr. Boesak's commentary on Revelation—a commentary he wrote while he was in prison in South Africa during the mid-80s for his work as a minister fighting a system of racism.

Then I quoted these words: “In prison we sing...songs of defiance and faith and freedom... [even in that place of violence] we sing because we believe, we sing because we hope. We sing because we know that it is only a little while, and the tyrant shall cease to exist” (*Comfort and Protest*, p. 61).

I then read Revelation 21 and invited the group of seminary students and faculty to stand together and to sing a hymn of hope.

Dr. Boesak came up to the platform after the service.

During the past four years, I have had dozens of people in Berkeley ask me what Seventh-day Adventists believe.

Of all our doctrines and precious beliefs, my most favorite of all to share is our hope in the Second Advent of Jesus—a belief that motivates us to live on this earth like we will live in the earth made new.

The Second Advent proclaims: since some day humanity will fall before the Lord in awe and gratitude, we should *now* give praise to our Creator and Redeemer.

The Second Advent proclaims: since some day the redeemed will stand in unity, we should *now* embrace people from all nations, tribes, peoples, and languages.

The Second Advent proclaims: since some day righteousness and justice will fill the earth, we should *now* work for righteousness and justice in the earth.

The Second Advent proclaims: since some day all children, women, and men will stand on Zion as equal before God—equal in robes washed in the blood of the Lamb—we should *now* embrace equality before each other.

The Second Advent proclaims: since some day God will live with us, we should *now* live in the presence of God.

In the Seventh-day Adventist heritage there is weeping and there is hope. There is a Great Disappointment and there is the great hope of the Second Advent.

I am amazed at how eager people are to embrace hope in an earth made new. Jesus is coming again! There will be a final homecoming for all of Rachel's children!

Adventists weep with Rachel, and at the same time, Adventists sing! We embrace the hope that someday:

There will be “a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said,

‘See, I am making all things new” (Revelation 21:1-5a).

CALENDAR

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

Life Hope Centers for the Visalia community (May 6) and Bakersfield (May 20). Volunteers are needed for these free, one-day events. The more dentists, medical professionals, and optometrists that volunteer, the more community members can be served. Sign up at LifeHopeCentersCentral.com.

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

La Sierra University's 2018 commencement weekend (June 15-17). Graduation, June 17, 8 a.m. on Founders' Green. Dr. Marilene B. Wang, MD, Professor-in-Residence, Department of Head and Neck Surgery, UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, will serve as commencement speaker. For further information visit <https://lasierra.edu/graduation/>.

Academy Art Show: View the talent of So Cal academy students whose artwork will be on display May 14-17 at La Sierra University's Brandstater Gallery. For further information visit <https://lasierra.edu/brandstater/> or contact Gallery Director Tim Musso at tmusso@lasierra.edu.

Senior Art Exhibit: La Sierra University's Art+Design seniors will exhibit their work in a senior show at Brandstater Gallery May 29-June 14. Receptions will be held June 3 and June 17. For further information visit <https://lasierra.edu/brandstater/> or contact Gallery Director Tim Musso at tmusso@lasierra.edu.

La Sierra University's Robotics Summer Camp for ages nine and up returns in two 1-week camps, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Camp One, June 18-22; Camp Two, July 9-13. Learn robotics,

analytical thinking, computer programming. Concludes with a robot competition. Registration and information: lasierra.edu/robocamp or email summercamp@robots-forfun.com.

La Sierra University's CSI Summer Camp will be held July 23-26, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. For ages 14-18. Participants will learn skills required in forensics and criminal justice. Information and registration: <https://lasierra.edu/csicamp/>, 909-458-0039, or feslao@lasierra.edu. Location: LSU Ontario Criminal Justice campus, 3491 Conours St., Ontario, CA, 91764.

Music Summer Camp: La Sierra University's Academy of Visual and Performing Arts is offering music camps and academy programs for students in grades K-12, June 18-29 at La Sierra's Hole Memorial Auditorium. Registration is \$35; tuition is \$360. For more information, email avpa@lasierra.edu or call 951-785-2086.

NEVADA-UTAH

Lake Tahoe Camp Meeting (July 30-Aug. 4) Tahoe Valley Campground, 1175 Melba Drive, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150. Info: Darlene Spratt, 775-786-5725, or Virginia Rose, 916-967-5932. Event website: tahoe-campmeeting.com.

Reno Young Adult Vespers (Bi-monthly). Join us for fellowship, music, and Bible study, ages 16+. Riverview Church "Stonehouse," 7125 W 4th St., Reno, NV 89523. Info: Becca Singleton, 775-720-3687.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

May Month of Praise (Sabbaths) Fairfield Community church, 1101 East Tabor Avenue, Fairfield. Info: church

office, 707-426-6720.

Christian Men's Retreat (May 4-6) Leoni Meadows. Speaker: Dick Duerksen, "Wearing God's Clothes: Colossians 3." Two-mile run. Check your local church for registration forms or find a registration form online. Info and registration: www.nccsda.com/cmr.

Pathfinder Fair (May 6) Napa Christian Campus of Education, 2201 Pine Street, Napa. Info: NCC Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

Fortuna Church 60th Anniversary Celebration (May 19). All former/current members and pastors invited! Bring your favorite memories

and stories. Worship service at 11:15 a.m. followed by a luncheon. Watch for details at www.fortunaca.adventistchurch.org, click "Coming Events." Info: Fortuna church office, 707-725-6164, fsdaoffice@suddenlinkmail.com.

Filipino Camp Meeting (May 25-27) Leoni Meadows. "Behold, I Come Quickly. How Quickly?" Guest speaker: Ernest Castillo. Info: Adolfo Portades, dwalkernight@yahoo.com or 510-710-1384. **Instituto Laico Adventista de California (ILAC)** (May 27) 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Pacific Union College. Training for Spanish-speaking laypeople. "Christian Persuasion." Speaker: Ezequiel Osorio, pastor

May 2018

Sunset Calendar

City/Location	5/5	5/12	5/19	5/26
Alturas	8:02	8:09	8:17	8:23
Angwin	8:04	8:10	8:17	8:22
Bakersfield	7:44	7:50	7:55	8:00
Calexico	7:25	7:30	7:35	7:40
Chico	8:03	8:10	8:17	8:23
Death Valley (Furnace Ck)	7:37	7:43	7:49	7:55
Eureka	8:15	8:22	8:29	8:35
Four Corners [E]	8:07	8:13	8:19	8:25
Fresno	7:50	7:56	8:02	8:07
Grand Canyon (South Rim)	7:17	7:23	7:29	7:34
Half Dome	7:51	7:57	8:03	8:09
Hilo	6:44	6:47	6:50	6:52
Holbrook	7:08	7:13	7:19	7:24
Honolulu	6:57	7:00	7:03	7:06
Joshua Tree	7:31	7:36	7:42	7:47
Lake Tahoe	7:55	8:01	8:08	8:14
Las Vegas	7:30	7:36	7:41	7:47
Lodi-Stockton	7:58	8:05	8:11	8:17
Loma Linda	7:34	7:40	7:45	7:50
Los Angeles	7:38	7:44	7:49	7:54
McDermitt [N]	7:51	7:59	8:06	8:13
Moab	8:12	8:19	8:25	8:31
Monterey Bay	7:58	8:04	8:10	8:15
Monument Valley	8:14	8:20	8:26	8:32
Mt. Lassen	8:05	8:12	8:19	8:25
Mt. Whitney	7:42	7:48	7:54	8:00
Nogales [S]	7:05	7:09	7:14	7:19
Oakland	8:01	8:08	8:14	8:19
Paradise, CA	8:03	8:10	8:16	8:22
Phoenix	7:13	7:18	7:23	7:28
Provo	8:24	8:31	8:38	8:44
Puuwai, Ni'ihau [W]	7:06	7:09	7:12	7:15
Reno	7:55	8:02	8:08	8:15
Riverside	8:35	8:40	8:46	8:50
Sacramento	8:00	8:06	8:13	8:18
Salt Lake City	8:26	8:33	8:40	8:47
San Diego	7:32	7:37	7:42	7:47
San Francisco	8:02	8:08	8:14	8:20
San Jose	7:59	8:05	8:11	8:17
Santa Rosa	8:04	8:11	8:17	8:23
Sunset Beach	7:37	7:43	7:48	7:53
Thousand Oaks	7:41	7:47	7:52	7:57
Tucson	7:06	7:11	7:16	7:20

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

"So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God." Hebrews 4:9

San Anselmo Spanish/Santa Rosa Spanish district. This class is the last of the current cycle. Info: NCC Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092.

Hispanic Young Adults Retreat (June 1-3) Albion Field Station. Info: NCC Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092.

Urban Camp Meeting (June 21-23) Stockton Christian Life Center, 9025 West Lane, Stockton. "F. I. T. (Fellowship, Inspiration, Training) to Ignite." Guest speakers, seminars, programs for youth and children, basketball camp. Info: NCC African American Ministries Department, 925-603-5047 or www.nccsda.com/FITtoIgnite.

Hispanic Convocation (June 23) Rio Lindo Adventist Academy, 3200 Rio Lindo Avenue, Healdsburg. Info: NCC Hispanic Ministries Department 925-603-5092.

Placerville Church 125th Anniversary (June 22-23) Placerville church, 6831 Mother Lode Drive. Former pastors, members, friends invited. Friday night vespers; Sabbath School; worship service with Pastor John Cress; lunch provided; activities for children; Heritage Singers concert at 4 p.m. Send your current address for more information. Info: office@placervillesda.org or 530-622-2446.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE Longo Lecture Series (May 3) 10:00 a.m., PUC Church. Dr. Niels-Erik Andreasen speaks for Colloquy in honor of this biennial lectureship dedicated to topics of faith, knowledge, and human values. Free. Info: 707-965-6303.

Angwin to Angwish (May 6). Trail run offering Family 4K Fun Run, 10K, and half marathon courses on PUC trails. Registration is open. Info: www.angwintoangwish.com.

PUC Visual Arts Student Show (May 19) Rasmussen Art Gallery. Open Thursday, Friday, Sabbath, and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Opening reception, May 19 at 7:00 p.m. Info: 707-954-6303.

Maxwell Cup Golf Tournament (May 18). PUC hosts 25th annual Maxwell Cup honoring the legacy of Malcolm Maxwell, Ph.D., PUC's longest-serving president, and supporting student scholarships. Info: 707-965-7500 or www.maxwellcup.com.

Visual Arts Majors Thesis Exhibition (May 20) Opening Reception 7 p.m., Rasmussen Art Gallery. Graduating seniors from PUC's Department of Visual Arts display their thesis work in this art exhibition. The show runs through June 12. Info: 707-965-7362.

Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert (May 20) 4 p.m., Paulin Hall. PUC's Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform a concert under the direction of Asher Raboy. Info: 707-965-6201 or music@puc.edu.

Fall 2018 Registration (Ongoing). Incoming and returning students can register for the ideal Fall quarter schedule as they prepare for career or graduate school. Applications still being accepted, and scholarships are available. Info: 707-965-6336 or puc.edu/admissions.

PUC Now (Online) Stay connected with Pacific Union College by signing up for our email newsletter. Info: www.puc.edu/puc-now.

SOUTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA

Loma Linda University Church Prayer Conference (May 3-5) May 3 and 4, 7 p.m.; May 5, 9 and 11:45 a.m.; Sabbath school, 10:30 a.m.; afternoon 4:30 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda. This year's prayer conference is titled "Father, Hear Your Children" with speaker Derek Morris. Info: 909-558-4570, www.lluc.org.

Adventurer Campout (May 4, 3 p.m.; May 6, 10 a.m.) Hurkey Creek Park, 56375 Mountain Center. The conference-wide Adventurer campout is held in the Southeastern California Conference territory and provides opportunity for Adventurer families to broaden their experience and friendships. Info and registration: Judi Jeffreys, 951-509-2265 or www.seccyouth.com.

Adult Sabbath School Seminar (May 5) 4-6 p.m. SECC, 11330 Pierce St., Riverside. The conference-wide adult Sabbath school seminar will be presented by J. Alfred Johnson II, adult ministries director of the North American Division. Spanish translation available. Info: Janelle Muthiah, 951-509-2330 or jmuthiah@seccsda.org.

Showers of Blessing Retirees Retreat 2018 (May 14-16) Pine Springs Ranch, 58000 Apple Canyon Rd., Mountain Center. Speakers include Roger Seheult, Elden Ramirez, and Peter Seheult, covering topics such as the sanctuary, the power of prayer, and sleep apnea and insomnia. Info: Ashley Peterson, 951-509-2287 or apeterson@seccsda.org.

Pathfinder Fair (May 20) 8 a.m.-2 p.m., SECC, 11330 Pierce St., Riverside. The fair is a time for parents and friends to see what the Pathfinders have done throughout the year. The day begins with a parade marching the streets of La Sierra, and then different events take place throughout the day. Info: Judi Jeffreys, 951-509-2265, www.seccyouth.com.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

NHS Worthy Student Fund Concert (May 4) 7 p.m. Glendale Adventist Academy, 700 Kimlin Dr., Glendale 91206. Concert will take place in the auditorium. Info: 818-244-8671.

Rise: A Senior Youth & Young Adult Gathering (May 5) all day. Lunch provided. Speakers: Manny Arteaga & Shantel Smith. Alhambra church, 220 S. Chapel Ave., Alhambra, 91801. Info: www.onehousesocal.com, 818-546-8437, or on Facebook @onehousesocal.

GAA Alumni Reunion (May 5) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Lunch provided 12-2 p.m. All classes welcome. Honor classes: 1958, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2008. Glendale Adventist Academy, 700 Kimlin Dr., Glendale 91206. Event will be in the auditorium. Info: 818-244-8671.

ONE House Gathering (May 5) Save the date! Details, time, and location TBA. Info: www.onehousesocal.com, 818-546-8437, or on Facebook @onehousesocal.

May Festival (May 6) 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Come for a day of games, food, prizes, and fun! Glendale Adventist Academy, 700 Kimlin Dr., Glendale 91206. Info: 818-244-8671.

Second Saturday Series

Concert (May 12) 5 p.m. Featuring Emily Iliev, organ. Admission is by freewill offering; a reception follows. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave., Glendale 91206. Info: 818-244-7241.

Can U Hear Me Now Youth Conference

(May 25-28) Camp Cedar Falls, 39850 CA-38, Angelus Oaks 92305. Registration: canuhearmentnowconference.org, 818-549-4147.

Second Saturday Series Concert

(June 16) 5 p.m. Featuring Sunset ChamberFest Strings. Admission is by free-will offering, a reception follows. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave., Glendale 91206. Info: 818-244-7241.

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BULLETIN BOARD

Adventist Books: Looking for NEW Adventist titles to encourage and grow your daily walk? Visit us at www.TEACHServices.com. For USED Adventist books visit www.LNFBooks.com. AUTHORS: If you are interested in having your book published, call 800-367-1844 for a free evaluation.

Canvasback Missions needs three vehicles to transport volunteers and supplies as well as pull a food trailer delivering healthy produce and meals on the island of Majuro. Your tax-deductible donation of a running or non-running vehicle can help us share the love of God through health and healing. 800-793-7245, info@canvasback.org.

EMPLOYMENT

Southern Adventist University

seeks School of Visual Art and Design Productions/Equipment and Facilities Manager. Full-time position combines two operational roles that impact the use/scheduling of production equipment. Prefer two years' experience or college degree in video, film, audio, lighting, and maintenance. To apply and see full description visit: www.southern.edu/jobs.

Southern Adventist University

seeks professor for History/Political Studies teaching American History. Must be able to teach Atlantic history, African history/African-American/Latin American. PhD in History preferred. Two openings available (one part-time and one full-time). When applying, please indicate preference. Contact Dr. Mark Peach, peach@southern.edu & Dr. Robert Young, ryoung@southern.edu. www.southern.edu/jobs.

Andrews University

seeks an Instructor of Architecture. The Instructor of Architecture holds a faculty appointment and has academic, service, and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of the School of Architecture & Interior Design. This individual demonstrates competence in design studio education, teaching of construction technology, and curriculum development at the graduate and undergraduate levels. <https://www.andrews.edu/admsvs/jobs/manage/positions/1608>.

Andrews University seeks Curriculum and Learning Design Specialist. This full-time staff position has half-time teaching responsibilities in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum. The

Curriculum and Instructional Design Specialist for the Department of Digital Learning and Instructional Technology (DLIT) provides highly skilled professional service to meet the instructional design needs of online faculty by providing a) online teaching training and support; b) instructional and curriculum design for online and blended courses; c) oversight of the learning design process. The Curriculum and Instructional Design Specialist will report to the online Course Manager in DLIT and to the Chair in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary.

Andrews University

seeks a Director of Human Resources. The Director of Human Resources is the chief human resources officer of the university and serves as an advocate regarding benefits, policies, and practices that would have a positive impact on employees and as an advisor and strategic partner to university administration. Provides leadership through the management of a comprehensive human resources department, ensuring that all HR programs and initiatives are integrated and effective in supporting the overall mission, goals, and objectives of the institution. https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job_6.

Child Impact International,

previously Asian Aid USA, is seeking a CEO with senior management and organizational skills to lead the organization based in Collegedale, Tenn. Applicants must have a passion for education, orphans, and underprivileged children, a proven track record in nonprofit or similar business experience, and the capacity to motivate staff and

lead this growing ministry in its mission. Applicant must have marketing and/or fundraising experience. Application deadline: April 30, 2018. Contact support@childimpact.org for detailed job description.

Caregiver wanted for young ladies' foster home. Live-in position plus salary, furnished in beautiful Brookings, Ore. Call Bob at 541-660-9313.

OB-GYN, Pediatrician, Psychiatrist, and Psychologist needed for Adventist owned/operated Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, Calif. Competitive pay. Call Dr. Randall Steffens at: 615-604-0142.

Richardson, Texas family is looking for an Adventist live-in house manager/nanny who shares our beliefs, values, and dietary preferences. If interested, contact, Tiffany Capeles at tiffany.capeles@gmail.com or 301-525-7892. Valid driver's license required. (English/Spanish-speaking.)

Secrets Unsealed is seeking a F/T Accounting Manager to join our 501C3 ministry in Fresno, Calif. See position details at <http://www.secretsunsealed.org/employment/>.

The Education and Psychology Department at Southwestern Adventist University invites applications for a full-time faculty position. Preferred candidates will hold a doctorate in Educational Psychology or Secondary Education and have university teaching experience. Master's degree considered. Must have or be able to obtain a Texas teaching credential. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Donna Berkner (dberkner@swau.edu).

Southwestern Adventist University's Nursing Department seeks a full-time nurse educator. Doctorate desired; MSN considered. Experience in medical/surgical or critical care nursing required. Must enjoy working with young people who are excited about service. Must have, or be able to obtain, an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal, arosenthal@swau.edu.

The Office of the Provost at La Sierra University invites applications for a half-time position as the Dean of the Division of General Education to begin in July 2018. For more information, please visit: goo.gl/JmSuQX.

EVENTS

Northern California Christian Women's Retreat at Leoni Meadows this October 5-7 and 12-14, 2018. The guest speaker will be Adventist Review columnist Dixie Rodriguez. Visit <https://www.ourchristianladies.com> for more information. Registration applications are accepted online or via mail beginning August 15, 2018 until 2 weeks before the retreat.

"Women of the Promise" Southgate Women's Ministry 3rd annual Women's Retreat (June 1-3) Leoni Meadows. Guest speakers: Dr. Wendy Wray and Dawn Jenkins. Info/RSVP: Kubi Siulapwa, 530-301-6332, kubisiulapwa@gmail.com; Devaney Hall, 916-517-2134, dev@balministries.org; Rose Briley, 916-256-5422, brileyrose537@yahoo.com.

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com, MLS No. 33802. Call 509-675-4447.

Sale by Owner: Large brick 4-bedroom Collegedale, Tenn., home with mountain views. SECLUDED, private-gate; 6000+ sq. ft.; rental apartment w/outside entrance. Surrounded by SAU wooded property. 5 1/2-baths; 18' vaulted ceiling/sunken living-room; 2-BIG rock fireplaces; large recreation room. (Was listed: \$545,000); QUICK SALE: \$395,000. 423-400-6369.

Log home on 42 wooded private acres with panoramic view of lake and mountains in Republic, Wash. Five bedrooms, 3-1/4 baths, 4,864sf, daylight basement, 30x40 garage, 50gpm well, gardens, 30x60 heated shop with one-bedroom modern/rentable apartment and 10x60 carport, detached 3-bay carport. \$680,000. Call 509-775-3037, e-mail macnbnb@rcabletv.com.

REUNIONS

40th Weimar Institute Homecoming. We're celebrating 40 years of God's blessings at Weimar Institute this year. If you attended academy or pursued higher education here, join us November 2-4, 2018. Honor classes: '83, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, '13. For more information: 530-422-7964 or <http://weimar.edu/alumni/>.

VACATION OPPORTUNITIES

Israel Tour with Pastor Jim Gilley, 3ABNs Pastor C.A. Murray and friends. Two trips this fall (Nov. 11-19) \$3,095 and (Nov. 18-27) \$3,395. Includes all tips, taxes, air, and breakfast and dinner buffets daily. From New York, Chicago, or Los Angeles; other departure cities available. Call Jennifer, 602-788-8864.

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AT REST

Baker, Patrick Anthony—b. July 22, 1946, Kingston, Jamaica; d. Jan. 18, 2018, Watsonville, Calif. Survivors: wife, Kathie; daughters, Sherry, Tarsha, Coretta; stepson, David Anderson; step-daughter, Katie Vaughn; two step-grandchildren; seven step-great-grandchildren.

Bochat, Tom—b. May 8, 1943, Prescott, Ariz.; d. Nov. 25, 2017, Dayton, Nev. Survivors: wife, Carol; sons, Jeff, Greg; two grandchildren.

Calkins, Florence—b. Aug. 19, 1920, Sunnyvale, Calif.; d. Jan. 12, 2018, Squaw Valley, Calif. Survivors: son, Robert; daughters, Pat Hunt, Beverly Ann Blackmun; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Cardoza, Sheila—b. Feb. 29, 1920, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada; d. Jan. 27, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: sons, Ron Anderson, George Anderson; one grandson; two great-grandchildren.

Clark, Millie (Moore)—b. Sept. 22, 1920, Pamlico, N.C.; d. Jan. 23, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: sons, Lawrence, Robert; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Cruz, Maria Esther—b. Dec. 15, 1979, Mexico; d. March 24, 2018, Bakersfield, Calif. Survivors: husband, Severiano; sons, Jorge, Daniel, Enoc, Adam; daughter, Esther.

Davenport, Glenn—b. March 15, 1917, Ringgold County, Iowa; d. Dec. 6, 2017, Centerville, Ohio. Survivors: grandson, David Mark Kelley; granddaughter, Kim Kelley Lunde; four great-grandchildren.

Elmendorf, Marijane—b. April 7, 1925, Muskegon, Mich.; d. March 15, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Mary K. Becker, Bobbie Sue Wohlers; one grandchild.

Endeno, Teddy—b. Oct. 28, 1938, Sorsogon, Bicol, Philippines; d. Feb. 9, 2018, Fontana, Calif. Survivors: wife, Evangeline; daughter, Elizabeth Endeno Galima; three grandchildren.

Fauni, Luisa (Banaag)—b. Aug. 27, 1917, Siniloan, Philippines; d. Sept. 20, 2017, Clovis, Calif. Survivors: son, Jose Esoso, Jr.; daughters, Marilyn Cook, Imelda Delgado; 26 grandchildren; 50 great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren.

Figgins, Lola M. (Hagerman)—b. July 29, 1923, Palisades, Colo.; d. March 21, 2018, Fall River Mills, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Carolyn Mayo, Nancy McDowell; stepdaughter, Birdie Figgins; 10 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; brothers, Charles Hogarty, Jack Hagerman. Served as a nurse and volunteered with Native American missions, medical van ministry, and the Red Cross.

Grismore, Rodman—b. Dec. 30, 1927, Oakland, Calif.; d. Dec. 13, 2017, Oceanside, Calif. Survivors: wife, E. Glyn (Nelson); son, Kenneth; daughters, Dorothy Maxwell, Rose Buchanan; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brother, Myron. Served in Risk Management at the GC.

Harder, Ellen (Mattheis)—b. May 17, 1915, Ellendale, N.D.; d. Jan. 29, 2018, Coronado, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Marilyn Foster, Juanita Subriar, Renee Harder; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. She worked as a nurse for most of her career but also worked in the Arlington ABC.

Henry, Robert Louis, Jr.—b. Aug. 30, 1948, Savannah, Ga.; d. Dec. 29, 2017, California City, Calif. Survivors: wife, Doreen Marie; son, Robert Louis III; daughter, Evelyn Marie Wood.

Herron, Norman Lester—b. July 4, 1937, St. Louis, Mo.; d. Feb. 16, 2018, Auburn, Calif. Survivors: wife, Marilyn; daughter, Sandee Crane; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Kern, Charles—b. May 29, 1929, Fairview, N.J.; d. Sept. 2, 2017, Rancho Mirage, Calif. Survivors: wife, Shirlee; two grandchildren.

Kildare, Thomas—b. Feb. 28, 1923, Pittsburgh, Penn.; d. Feb. 10, 2018, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: wife, Genie; son, Thomas; daughter, Karen Strauss; stepson, Jon Kingsbury; stepdaughter, Linda Halverson; four grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren.

Koval, Catherine M. (Royak)—b. Aug. 25, 1936, Stamford, Conn.; d. Jan. 17, 2018, Ukiah, Calif. Survivors: husband, Stephen; son, John; daughters, Sandy Wirth, Nancy Hunt; six grandchildren.

Larsen, Janet Rae (Davis)–b.

July 17, 1943, Santa Maria, Calif.; d. Oct. 20, 2017, Santa Maria, Calif. Survivors: son, Brett; daughter, Stephanie Schoening; three grandchildren.

Logan, Dolores F. (Goerlitz)

–b. March 4, 1931, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; d. March 22, 2017, Fair Oaks, Calif. Survivors: husband, Merritt; sons, Douglas, Donald, Robert, Brent; 14 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brothers, Garnet, Sherwin; sisters, Alice, Rose. A nurse, she managed her husband's dental practice.

Logan, Kenneth Ellery–b.

July 8, 1925, Winton, Calif.; d. Jan. 16, 2018, Dinuba, Calif. Survivors: wife, Ruth; sons, Bruce, Bill; daughter, Lori Baerg; three grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Lucich, Bertie Mae–b.

March 18, 1926, San Antonio, Texas; d. Jan. 1, 2018, Placerville, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Suzette; one grandchild; one great-grandchild.

McClanahan, Dave–b.

May 8, 1929, Fresno, Calif.; d. Feb. 2, 2018, Los Altos, Calif. Survivors: wife, Terri; sons, Shawn, Jeff; daughter, Tamara Pederson; two grandchildren.

McCutcheon, Robert H.–b.

Sept. 13, 1924, Cleveland, Ohio; d. Feb. 5, 2018, Davis, Calif. Survivors: sons, Jim, Bruce; daughter, Deborah; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

Pratt, Olive Inez–b.

Aug. 4, 1932, Arbuckle, Calif.; d. Jan. 24, 2018, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: brother, James Pratt; sister, Lois Hicks.

Schmunk, Beverly Ann

(Hayden)–b. Jan. 17, 1939, Martinez, Calif.; d. Feb. 2, 2018, Ukiah, Calif. Survi-

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

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vors: husband, Roy; son, Kevin; daughters, Katherine Knox-Evans, Susan Graham; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Seibert, B. Stanley–b. Feb. 11, 1918, Dickey County, N.D.; d. March 21, 2018, Calistoga, Calif. Survivors: wife, Elsie; brother, Gerald.

Stuart, Amy C. (Hegle)–b. April 24, 1928, Lisbon, N.D.; d. Feb. 23, 2018, Sandy, Utah. Survivors: sons, Bob, Dave; daughter, Pam Mertz; 12 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren.

Taleporos, Johanna–b. Oct. 13, 1923, Germany; d. March 6, 2018, Los Altos, Calif. Survivors: two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

Tuazon, James–b. Nov. 14,

How to Submit Advertising

Classified ads must be sent with payment to the Recorder office (commdept@puconline.org). Display ads should be arranged with the editor (ads@puconline.org).

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Information

Circulation is approximately 76,000 homes, and magazines are scheduled to arrive in homes by the last Thursday of the previous month. For more information about advertising, please click on the Advertising tab at www.PACIFIC UNION

RECORDER, email commdept@puconline.org or call 805-413-7280.

2018 Deadlines

These are the advertising deadlines for the Recorder. Your local conference news deadlines will be earlier.

June: April 27

July: May 29

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 page 4 for contact information. Want tips for writing for us? See www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news.

1954, Manila, Philippines; d. Jan. 7, 2018, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: son, Michael; daughter, Sheryl; brother, Jerry; sister, Janet Leung.

Tym, Berna–b. Aug. 18, 1954, Two Hills, Alberta, Canada; d. Feb. 6, 2018, Turlock, Calif. Survivor: sons, Kevin Tym, Larry Esparza; daughter, Sabrina Haesche; sisters, Sharon Foley, Bonnie Corson.

VandenHoven, Pieter–b.

Sept. 9, 1931, The Hague, the Netherlands; d. Jan. 14, 2018, Deer Park, Calif. Survivors: wife, Sarah; sons, Tom, Peter; daughters, Sharon Beall, Michele Davis; four grandchildren. Practiced cardiology with the heart team at St. Helena Hospital.

Weeks, Douglas–b. Sept. 11, 1952, Takoma Park, Md.; d. Oct. 16, 2017, Portland,

Ore. Survivors: wife, Richelle Malott; daughters, Elizabeth, Kate.

Williams, Brad–b. Jan. 27, 1950, Berkeley, Calif.; d. Feb. 28, 2018, Chula Vista, Calif. Survivors: wife, Becky; son, Timothy; daughters, Heather Williams-Suani, Loraine Williams, Sara Smith; four grandchildren. Served as pastor in Southeastern California Conference.

CORRECTION: Wright Cummings, Melva Lorraine (Baldwin)–b. Dec. 10, 1928, St. Helena, Calif.; d. Jan. 23, 2018, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: son, Ed Wright; daughter, Linda Becker; stepsons, John Cummings, Scott Cummings; stepdaughters, Anne Torfasen, Sharon Streifling, Pam Bietz; 21 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren.



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Camp Yavapines
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Prescott, Arizona 86301
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480-991-6777 (off season)
Summer Camp: July 1-July 31
Dir: Scott Blake

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

Camp Wawona
P.O. Box 2055
Wawona, California 95389
Summer Camp Main Office:
(559) 347-3174 (summer)
Season Camp Office:
(209) 375-6330
Year around Rentals/
Reservations: (209) 375-6231
Summer Camp: June 24-Aug. 5
Dir: Norma Villarreal

HAWAII CONFERENCE

Camp Waianae (Oahu)
P.O. Box 928
85-1570 Haleahi Road
Waianae, Hawaii 96792
Phone: (808) 595-7591
Summer Camp: June 24-July 13
Dir: Erik VanDenburgh

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

Leoni Meadows Christian
Retreat Center
P.O. Box 400
Grizzly Flats, CA 95636
UPS: 6100 Leoni Road
Phone: (530) 626-3610
Conference phone:
(925) 685-4300
Leoni Meadows Summer Camp: July 15-August 5
Dir: Craig Heinrich

SOUTHEASTERN

CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

Pine Springs Ranch Christian Youth Camp
and Retreat Center
58000 Apple Canyon Road
(P.O. Box 37)
Mountain Center, CA 92561
Office Phone:
(951) 509-2267 (off season)
(951) 659-3173 (summer)
Summer Camp: June 27-Aug. 5
Dir: Pastor Carmen Ibanez

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

Camp Cedar Falls
39850 State Hwy 38
Angelus Oaks, California 92305
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Dir: Bob Wong



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