Vista Church Baptisms
Pastor Oscar Valles, Riverside, CA

On a cloudy Sabbath morning, the brethren of the Vista church gathered with some visiting members of the Huntington Park church to witness the baptism of three persons. Brothers Jerry Pamintuan and Marcelo Garcia and Sister Mauri Garcia entered the watery grave with great joy. We believe all Heaven was present and praising God with us here on earth as these souls outwardly expressed their desire to serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Oscar Valles read from Romans 6:3-5, which states that “we are buried with Him [Jesus] by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

After the baptisms, we all went to the church to accept the new brethren into fellowship. The Vista church has now increased to a membership of 12.

May the Lord bless us with more souls who have a desire to submit themselves to the Lifegiver and be a shining light to those in darkness.

Important Payment Deadline and Cancellation Policy for the AU Conference

The dates for the next American Union Conference are drawing closer. Many reservations have come in. However, not all reservations have been accompanied by a payment. For your reservation to be honored, your payment must be received by July 1, 2011. If you have not already done so, please send in your full payment by this deadline.

If a cancellation must be made, it must be done before July 15, 2011. Any cancellations after that date will not receive a full refund.
Take a Child Along
Evelyn Holmstroem, Fiddletown, CA

Are you too shy to go canvassing? (I was.) Do you put off going out because you just can’t get up the courage to do so? (I used to.)

Here’s one way to pass out literature that may work for you. Take a child or two along—your own son and/or daughter, a niece or nephew, your grandchildren, or a child of someone else in the church. Those children may well supply the courage that you lack.

Recently I went from door to door with three of my young granddaughters—eight-year-old Nikki, six-year-old Ally, and four-year-old Maya. They brought along a doll stroller with a dolly in it, and all of us tramped from house to house, taking turns ringing doorbells and/or knocking.

Maya insisted on carrying the pamphlets, “Loud, Fast and Shiny” by Elder Henry Dering (she dropped them only once); Ally chose to carry the magazines, El Camino a Cristo, Prophets Speak Out, and Steps to Christ (after she dropped them four or five times, I let her carry only one of each); and Nikki tucked the Dial-a-Bible-Story magnets* into the doll stroller with the Spanish version of Loud, Fast and Shiny (she dropped the magnets a few times too; and the money we collected fell out of her pocket once but was noticed in time). We worked for an hour and twenty minutes. Yes, Maya did want to stop after about an hour, but she was willing to continue to a stop sign so we could remember where we’d finished for the day. We did walk back to the car once for water.

Most people gladly took a pamphlet; only one woman bought magazines—Steps to Christ in both English and Spanish. Almost everyone related well to my friendly grandchildren, and no one complained about having to stoop to accept a pamphlet from Maya or when the magazines were upside down (“Here, Ally, turn them this way”). We gave a magnet to one young lady whose sister or cousin tried to grab it. We solved that problem by giving the second girl her own magnet.

I have another reason for taking along a child. Recently I have become so stiff that I can hardly bend down to tuck a pamphlet or two under a doormat. The children have no problem.

When we got home, Nikki asked me to read “Loud, Fast and Shiny” to her. After I did, and all the children had looked closely at the pictures on the pamphlet, Nikki asked to keep it.

Our total distribution: Pamphlets, 37 English, 1 Spanish; magazines, 2; magnets, 6. Intake: $2. Result? Only God knows. “Cast thy bread [the bread of life] upon the waters…. Sow thy seed, and … withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good.” Ecclesiastes 11:1, 6.

Just in case no child will go with you—go by yourself! “He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” Psalm 126:6.

* The message on these almost 2 inch x about 3.5 inch magnets is short and simple:

Dial a Bible Story
Free!
Anytime!
1-888-628-4716

This ministry was started by Sandy Schendel Nelson over 20 years ago and is supported by the Sacramento church. The program continues to delight children and adults alike. Although Sandy has had to conquer a few hurdles, she has also had her encouragements. One night, due to changing circumstances, there was no story on the telephone answering machine. The phone rang, however, and Sandy answered it. A lady said, “Oh, there’s no story? My son likes to listen to it every night before he goes to bed.” That was just what Sandy needed to hear, and she immediately made plans to record the stories yet again.

Stories are currently being read from Egermeier’s ABC Bible Stories and The Bible Story by Arthur S. Maxwell. Sandy, while twins Jonathan and Jeremiah nap and Stephen listens VERY quietly, records new stories and uploads them on the first and the fifteenth of each month.

You may also leave a message after listening to the stories. If you wish to purchase magnets for your door-to-door work, contact Sandy at Sandra.Nelson@Juno.com.
In Memoriam…

MARINA JOVANOVIC

1925-2010

“The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!” Job 1:21.

Marina Jovanovic was born in Jasenovo, Yugoslavia, in the republic of Serbia. Her father was Ziva Rankov; her mother, Draga Jovanovic. Marina had two brothers and five sisters. All but an older sister, Desa, preceded Marina in death.

Marina’s life was full of struggle and toil. During World War II she lived with her family in the city of Belgrade. In hard times, such as those were, people usually seek the Lord for help. This is just what Marina and her family did. They joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Reform Movement, and remained faithful to the Lord until their lives ended.

At the age of 25, Marina married a Croatian man named Ivan Brajdic, who took her to Rijeka, Croatia, to make their home there. The marriage lasted for about five years and was dissolved after her husband decided to marry another woman. Marina and Ivan had only one daughter, Nevenka. After the divorce, Marina, as a single mother, raised her daughter under the difficult circumstances of post-war Yugoslavia.

Marina lived with her daughter, mother, and two sisters in an agricultural commune near Belgrade and worked in the fields with younger sister Ivanka for about 20 years. The harsh conditions and poverty they lived in negatively impacted their health. After a number of years of illness, Ivanka died at the age of 49; and Marina became chronically debilitated. Through all the hardships, Marina and her family remained faithful to the Lord.

Marina would often sing the hymn “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded,” finding in it some similarity between her difficult life and the life of Jesus.

Marina’s daughter, Nevenka, came to the United States in 1985. Here she finished nursing school and found a job at a hospital in Madera, California. Marina visited her daughter twice while she lived in California. After Nevenka married Frank Doemland, Marina moved to Colorado and made her home in Loveland with them.

Marina spoke only her native Serbo-Croatian language. In spite of not understanding English, she was still able to enjoy fellowshipping with believers at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Reform Movement, in Denver. She diligently studied her Sabbath School lessons and was often two to three lessons ahead. Her prayers to the Lord were always eloquent and inspiring, even when her ability to speak about other things was diminished because of a severe stroke.

To the end of her life, Marina prepared to meet the Lord. Every day she studied her Bible, believing that Jesus died for her sins and pardoned them. She believed that Jesus covered her with the white robe of His righteousness and that He is coming soon to take all His faithful home to dwell with Him throughout eternity.

On December 5, 2010, at the age of 85, Marina passed away at home in Loveland, Colorado. Then, in the presence of a small group of family and church friends from Denver and California, she was laid to rest at the Estes Valley Memorial Garden in the small mountain town of Estes Park, which borders the Rocky Mountain National Park. The memorial service was officiated by Pastor Henry Dering.

As the wise man Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes 9:5-6, “the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun.” For certain, the dead are sleeping, but will soon be awakened by the trumpet of the Lord to receive their reward. The wicked will reap eternal death, and the saints will receive everlasting life with the Lord on the new earth.

We look forward to seeing Marina again on the resurrection day when Jesus comes to take His faithful children home, those who have “kept the commandments of God, and had the faith of Jesus Christ.” Revelation 14:12.

–Nevenka Doemland
An Invitation from Small Cloud Christian School
Margie Seely, Ione, CA

On January 22, 1996, Small Cloud opened its doors to share the love of Jesus with children from every ethnicity and background. Over the past fifteen years students have read the Bible and learned how to pray, some for the first time ever. Others have asked Jesus to come into their hearts. We’ve even been privileged to give Bible studies to a few others. We continue to maintain contact with the nearly one hundred students who have walked through these doors. It has been challenging, faith-building, exciting, and humbling to work with these precious lambs of God’s kingdom.

When Small Cloud began, Sandy and I were fresh out of college, single, and free to do whatever God asked of us. Over time, we have each married and begun families of our own. Trying to keep up with the ever-present challenges of caring for our families, teaching, and running a school has grown increasingly difficult. We need help.

Presently, we are looking for someone who has a strong faith in God and a desire to minister to children. Applicants do not need to be college-educated, as there are a variety of responsibilities here in which help is needed. What about you? Could God be calling you to help with this ministry? Please feel free to contact us at 916-687-8329 or smallcloud@juno.com. We’d be happy to discuss it with you.

For those who wish to help, but are unable to commit to working at the school, we have begun a teacher sponsorship program to help pay regular salaries to those who will be working here. Go to www.smallcloud.org for more information. However, your prayers are our greatest need. God can do miracles when His people kneel before His throne. We solicit your continual and fervent prayers!

2011-2012 Calendar

- August 9-18, 2011: International Youth Conference in Athens, Greece
- August 19-24, 2011: American Union Youth Outing*
  Contact Br. Christian Nelson at 916-212-6468 or imapilgrim_cn@msn.com for more information
- August 24-27, 2011: American Union Conference at Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, GA
  See Registration Form at the end of this newsletter. If you have not yet registered, please do so NOW!
- September 20, 2011: First Quarter of the General Conference Missionary Seminar begins
- January 10, 2012: Second Quarter of the General Conference Missionary Seminar begins
- April 10, 2012: General Conference Missionary Seminar Field Training begins
- July 26-28, 2012: General Conference Missionary Seminar Graduation and Evangelistic Event

*Editor’s Note: The dates for the Youth Outing were incorrect in the last newsletter. Please make a note of the change.
When completed, return this form with payment to: Evelyn Arevalo  
10700 Harkwood Blvd., Orlando, FL 32817-3834  
Phone: 407-678-3165  Email: au1914treasure@yahoo.com

Personal Information: Submit one Reservation Form per family, chalet, room, cabin, or campsite

Last ____________________________________ First_____________________ Phone # (___) ___________________

Family Attendance: How many people are in your family group?  
_____ # Adults (ages 13+)  _____ # Children (ages 6-12)  _____ # Infants (ages 0-5)

LODGING Order: Please check your choice of lodging.

Check the nights you will be staying:  Monday, August 22  Tuesday, August 23  Wednesday, August 24  
Thursday, August 25  Friday, August 26  Sabbath, August 27

MOTEL ROOMS (All 82 rooms include linens, microwave, refrigerator, iron/ironing board, and free wireless internet, plus a fantastic view of the lake and surrounding mountains.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard (two queen beds)</td>
<td>$105.00/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balcony king room</td>
<td>$115.00/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balcony queen room with two beds</td>
<td>$115.00/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suite (2 available)</td>
<td>$150.00/night</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

We prefer: 1st Floor  Handicap Accessible (4 available)

CHALETS (All come equipped with outfitted kitchens, gas or log fireplaces, multiple bedrooms, baths, balconies, and/or patios. Free wireless internet and a fantastic view are also included. A minimum of a two-night stay is required.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chalet Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chalet 1 (4 bedrooms, sleeps 12)</td>
<td>$259.00/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chalet 2 (5 bedrooms, sleeps 14)</td>
<td>$289.00/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chalet 3 (6 bedrooms, sleeps 16)</td>
<td>$349.00/night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CABINS (All 4 cabins include bunk beds, two private restrooms, two private showers, central heat and air conditioning. NO linens are provided.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cabin Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cabin (sleeps up to 24)</td>
<td>$150.00/cabin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAMP LODGE ROOMS (All 8 rooms feature bunk beds, private restrooms, in-room heat and air conditioning. Linens ARE provided. Please note: These rooms are directly below the meeting hall and as such, may be noisier than other rooms.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Camp Lodge Room (Sleeps 4, possibly 5 if two share a double bed)</td>
<td>$75.00/night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camp Lodge Room (Sleeps 8)</td>
<td>the rate for either of these rooms is $75.00/night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TENT SITES  $5.00 per person per night

RV SITES (All 8 sites provide 30 amp breakers and water access. A bathhouse, with restroom and shower accommodations, is nearby.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RV Site with sewer hook up (6 sites available)</td>
<td>$25.00/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RV Site without sewer hook up (2 sites available)</td>
<td>$25.00/night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Pet Room Option

$75.00 per stay

| Lodging Total | $___________ |

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**MEAL Order: Please check your meal preferences.**

### Adult Meals (ages 13+):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th># of Adult Breakfast ($6)</th>
<th># of Adult Lunch ($8)</th>
<th># of Adult Dinner ($6)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Aug. 22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues., Aug. 23</td>
<td>#</td>
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<td>Wed., Aug. 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs., Aug. 25</td>
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<td>Fri., Aug. 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sab., Aug. 27</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun., Aug. 28</td>
<td>#</td>
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</table>

**Adult Meals Total $___________**

### Child Meals (ages 6-12; ages 0-5 are free):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th># of Child Breakfast ($4)</th>
<th># of Child Lunch ($6)</th>
<th># of Child Dinner ($4)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Aug. 22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Sun., Aug. 28</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Child Meals Total $___________**

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**TOTAL FEES:** Lodging + 5% lodging tax + all meals $  
*(Please include payment with reservation form. Make checks/money orders payable to SDA Church Reform Movement, IMS, earmarked AU Conference.)*

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**SHUTTLE:** There are tentative plans to have a daily shuttle from the Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport to the conference grounds. If you are in need of this service, kindly provide us your travel information in the space below. More information regarding the shuttle service will be included in upcoming newsletters.

- **Airline:** ______________________________  
- **Flight #:** ____________________________  
- **Arrival Date:** ________________________  
- **Arrival Time:** ________________________  
- **Departure Date:** ______________________  
- **Departure Time:** ______________________