Sunrise Christian Preschool, located on the Orangewood Adventist Academy campus, was fortunate this summer to have Vacation Bible School, sponsored by the neighboring Garden Grove Adventist Church. Conducted on the Academy’s campus, the students at the preschool were very excited to attend the VBS program.

Jerusalem Marketplace was the theme and part of the school’s playing field was set up with tents and pop-ups which were part of the props. Each tent depicted an aspect of life in Bible-times and volunteer teachers dressed in period costume.

The children learned about the community culture and were aesthetically transported back to the time when Jesus walked on earth.

They had basket-weaving, made clay pots, strung beads, made harps, ground spices with a bowl and mortar and made bread. In one tent, the students could attend synagogue where the Rabbi told them wonderful stories about Jesus. On the sidewalk, the children learned about games played by those children who lived in Bible-times.

Every morning the day began with up-beat singing and praise to Jesus and ended with eating home-baked bread with their “tribe” (i.e. Benjamin, Ruben, Naphtali) leader and friends.

It was a great change of pace for the preschoolers and a wonderful learning experience for all!
Attitude Corner

Charles Schultz Philosophy—creator of “Peanuts” comic strip

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

The lesson:
The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care.

Pass this on to those people who have made a difference in your life.

"Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia"
(Charles Schultz)

"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”
Philippians 2:4

Philosophy Quiz
1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America Pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners!

How did you do?
The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Another Quiz
See how you do on this one:

Easier?
The Pacific Union Conference has two new Early Childhood Liaisons

On July 1, Coreen Hicks became an associate superintendent for elementary and early childhood in the Northern California Conference Department of Education. Hicks filled the vacancy created when Mark Blue became the NCC executive secretary in February 2006. “I am very excited about this opportunity,” said Hicks. “It is an awesome blessing to work in this capacity.” She came to the NCC from central California, where she served for 16 years at Foothill Adventist Elementary School as a teacher and later as principal. (Edited from article by Tyler Kraft.)

Also in July, Teri Boyatt became the Associate Superintendent for elementary and early childhood education in the Southeastern California Conference Office of Education. She has stepped into the shoes of Dr. Marilyn Beach and, most recently, Beverly MacLaughlin. “I have wonderful people to learn from” she said in reference to the four directors in her conference. Boyatt has wasted no time in the learning process! She is currently on the Early Childhood Permit and Certification Ad-hoc Committee appointed by the Union Early Childhood Advisory last July and we plan to keep her busy for a long, long time.

Jason’s Roundup a Success...

... and Farewell

“Isn’t it nice to know this is a safe place?” My gaze fell upon a young mother smiling as she talked with another parent. I turned away, thanking God, and walked toward the professional face-painter.

On Tuesday evening, September 19, 2006 from 4-7, the Children’s Discovery Center in Riverside hosted a party in honor of their 4-year-old friend and classmate, Jason Hughes. “Jason’s Roundup” drew over two hundred parents and young children. Attendees included current clientele, recent graduates and former clients. Amazingly, even former clients who were not acquainted with Little Cowboy Hughes arrived to show their love and support as well!

Every classroom and teacher was decorated in a Western theme and the Southeastern California Conference Office of Education donated cowboy hats for the event. “It’s like a great big reunion,” director Laura Parker-Gervais remarked. She stood beside her husband, surveying the activities, smiling and chatting with everyone who walked by.

In addition to face-painting, there were three different jumpers, popcorn, sandwiches, cookies, juice, paper bag cowboy vests, beaded necklaces, lasso practicing, leather picture frame decorating and sifting for gold nuggets! The petting zoo was a hit, but I’m sure the animals were completely exhausted after three hours of running in circles from enthralled children. All the events were free because individuals had donated items, cash, food and prizes. The most exciting though, was the real live horse who “talked” all evening. Pastor Eric Brown of the Riverside Community Church brought his horse for show and tell! Naturally, Jason was the first to take a ride.

Even though we were smiling and laughing, our hearts were aching for the precious boy we’ve come to love. You’ve touched a lot of lives, little Cowboy. Be strong and of a good courage (Joshua 1:9) and we’ll meet you in Heaven. (Jason died November 11.)
On October 28-29, 2007 something very special and unique will be happening in the Pacific Union Conference. For the first time in the history of the Adventist Church, the Pacific Union Conference Early Childhood Education and Care Division will be hosting a union-wide Director’s workshop – with shared funding from both the union office and local conference offices of education.

In an effort to promote communication and collegial support, the Elementary Education Associate, Martha Havens, has invited PUC early childhood directors to collaborate in a joint workshop. The multi-grade workshop planned for Fall of 2007 specifically targets K-2 teachers and ECEC center directors.

The break-out sessions for center directors will focus on the business side of ECEC centers and how to effectively work with a governing board.

The best part: The union has approved our budget request to cover costs for travel, hotel, parking, tips, and per diem for each center director! The only cost not covered is the cost of a substitute for teaching directors.

We want to see each center director next October, so save the dates in your calendar and start planning now! You will meet other directors, hear knowledgeable speakers on topics relevant to the business administration of an effective early childhood program, and receive professional development credit for attendance.

More details will follow, but for now, here are the basics:

K-2 teacher and ECEC Director’s Workshop
Date: Oct. 28 (Sunday) and Oct. 29 (Monday)

2006 Dates to Remember . . .

2006
Nov 8-11 NAEYC/ACCN Annual Conference (Atlanta, GA)
Nov 13 SECC ECE Teacher In-service (Riverside, CA)
Dec 5-7 NAD ECE Task Force (Myrtle Beach, SC)
Dec 12 PUC ECE Permit & Certification Ad-hoc (Riverside, CA)

2007
Feb 4, 5 Education days at Pacific Union College (Angwin, CA)
Feb 9 PUC ECE Curriculum Committee (Angwin, CA)
March 9, 10 CAEYC (San Jose, CA)
March 27-29 NAD ECE Task Force (Atlanta, GA)
April 6 CCC ECE Teacher In-service (Milpitas, CA)
June 15 Closing Reports due to Union ECEC Division office
July 10-12 NAD ECE Task Force (?)
TBA PUC ECEC Advisory (Westlake Village, CA)
Sep. 30 Opening Reports due to Union ECEC Division office
Oct 2-4 NAD ECE Task Force (?)
Oct 18 PUC ECEC Board (Westlake Village, CA)
Oct 28-29 PUC ECEC and “K” Teacher Workshop (Sacramento, CA)
Nov 14-17 NAEYC/ACCN Annual Conference (Chicago, IL)
Dec 4-6 NAD ECEC Task Force (?)