Greetings to you in the name of our wonderful Lord.

Back in 1979, I sent word out to the pastors in our Pacific Union Conference that I was going to assemble a compilation of children's stories. The idea was that any pastor who sent me a children's story would receive a copy of the compilation when it was finished. That booklet became known as FEEDING TIME, with a picture on the front of a mother bird feeding her baby birds. We went through several printings of this booklet that contained stories from 25-pastors. Alas, it is long out of print.

Perhaps it is time for another such compilation which we will call FEEDING TIME--II. So if you are one who tells stories to the children in your church and would like to have such a packet of stories, send me a story. Whenever the compilation is complete, you will be eligible for a free copy.

The Ground Rules:

1. An original story (not one out of a book or from the internet).
2. Each story must be no more than one and one-half (8.5 x 11) pages long, single spaced.
3. The story should be appropriate for cradle roll-kindergarten-primary-junior kids.
4. It cannot be a copyrighted story.
5. It should teach a moral or character-building lesson: nature stories are ideal.
6. It should be a true story or contain a worthy parable.
7. Private information must not be published without permission.

As you send your story, give a clear title, then the body of the story, and finally the moral lesson that it teaches. You may send in more than one story. We will assume, when you do, that we will have the right to use it in FEEDING TIME II.

This compilation could become an outstanding resource for you and your classroom. Please try to get to this in the next 30-days. Please send story by mail to the Pacific Union Conference or e-mail to the attention of my secretary, Julie Masterson at julie@puconline.org.

We await your stories, and we thank you in advance.

C. Lloyd Wyman
Ministerial Association Director
Pacific Union Conference

Christine Gillan-Byrne, Coordinator
Early Childhood Education and Care Division
P. O. Box 5005
Westlake Village, Ca 91359
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One of the privileges of being the coordinator for early childhood education and care is the opportunity I have to travel throughout the union visiting our different centers and visiting with directors, teachers and often clientele. Every Adventists program has the same mission: to be an outreach to the community. Each center is realizing this mission on a daily basis in a myriad of ways.

Recently, I visited the Valley View Children’s Center (VVCC) in Arroyo Grande located along the California coastline within the Central California Conference territory. In 1985, two friends shared a vision for a daily program where young children could develop and grow at their own pace and know they were valued and loved. Since then, VVCC has continued to grow operating on an annual school year calendar and providing preschool education for children ages three- to five-years.

The director for the past 10 years has been Jamie Sanbonmatsu. During any given conversation, Sanbonmatsu cannot help but share stories of miracles on the behalf of VVCC. Sometimes the miracles are for minute details pertaining to daily operations. Other times, the miracles are more profound; such as when a new teacher is needed and the perfect person arrives at just the right moment. Everyone on the VVCC campus believes the center’s annual enrollment is a direct result of continual prayer.

During my visit, I looked into each classroom and spent a few moments watching the children and teachers interact. Something very unique caught my attention in one of the classrooms. Something so exceptional, I want to share it.

Two years ago, teacher Ruth Goodman, a 17 year veteran at VVCC, was given the opportunity to attend some intensive training courses. These training sessions were offered by Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes specializing in sensory-cognitive development using specific programs and techniques to stimulate basic sensory functions related to the development of literacy skills. Goodman learned how to recognize the signs and symptoms of common learning problems and how to provide support and intervention.

This year, director Sanbonmatsu reports that nearly 50% of the children in their preschool program demonstrate specific learning and behavior needs. For some early childhood programs, this would cause the teachers to feel uncomfortable. However, in each VVCC classroom, all the children were busy working, “reading”, “writing”, cleaning, communicating and learning. Goodman’s training has obviously infiltrated the entire school.

To learn more, visit: http://www.lblp.com/index.html
## Craft Corner

Easy Valentine crafts your children can **MAKE WITH LOVE** and give to family and friends.

![Tissue-paper cards](image)

Your preschoolers can easily make these **COLOSSAL CRUNCH-ART** greetings.

### WHAT YOU’LL NEED

- Cardstock
- Tissue paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue
- Yarn
- Ribbon

### MAKE IT

Fold a piece of cardstock in half. Use a pencil to draw a large heart on the front of the card. Cut out 30 to 40 squares of colored tissue paper. Have your child scrunch the squares into balls and glue onto the heart. Continue until heart is covered; let dry. For the bouquet, draw flower shapes onto card and repeat steps above. For stems, glue pieces of green yarn to the cardstock, extending from underneath the bottom of the bouquet. Finish by gluing on a bow.

*PARENTS*, February 2007, p. 124

## CA 2007 Wage Change

### I. Effect on non-exempt/hourly workers:

As you probably know, the minimum wage in California will increase January 1, 2007, to $7.50 per hour, and again on January 1, 2008, to $8.00 per hour. If your church has any non-exempt (read that hourly) workers, you will need to review the workers’ compensation to ensure that their hourly rates meet the minimum wage requirements.

Our Payroll Department is required to adjust any non-exempt worker's wage to $7.50 per hour if on January 1, 2007, the worker's wage is not at least the minimum wage. For example, if you pay a worker $7.00 per hour, and do not provide the payroll department with a new wage rate, it will automatically be adjusted to $7.50 per hour. Of course, no one’s hourly rate will be reduced without specific instructions to do so.

### II. Effect on exempt (usually but inaccurately called "salaried") workers:

The increase in the minimum wage may also affect our exempt (or salaried) workers. The first ("threshold") criteria to determine whether a worker is exempt from overtime and hourly rate rules is whether the worker makes more than twice the minimum wage. Until December 31, 2006, an exempt worker had to make at least $2,340 per month.

Starting January 1, 2007, an exempt worker must make at least $2,600 per month ($31,200 per year). If the worker's salary is less than $2,600 per month, the worker must be paid on an hourly basis. Remember this minimum standard for exempt workers is just the **first requirement**.

A **second equally important REQUIREMENT** is that they must also fit into one of the exemption classes, i.e., executive, administrative or professional.

To help you budget for 2008, on January 1, 2008, the minimum salary requirement for exempt workers will increase to $2,773.22 per month ($33,280 per year).
Looking for Adventist teachers, directors and administrators? In order to broaden the search, early childhood programs can post upcoming job openings on the North American Division website.

Job postings will remain on the website for eight weeks. After which, the posting will be deleted, unless an extension request is made by the “School Contact”.

This is a free service of the North American Division and participation is voluntary. What a blessing this posting option can be for our early childhood programs! Use this option for your employment searches in addition to current practices and provide ACCN with feedback. The more we use this service, the more useful it will become for all of us across the NAD.

Job posting site:

NAD Education home page:

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**Adventist Directory Website**

*Try out the new Adventist Directory website (under development)*

http://www.adventistdirectory.org/default.asp

*Search for up to date information on Adventist churches, schools, preschools, hospitals, book stores, libraries, universities, divisions, unions, conferences, missions, ADRA, orphanages, radio stations, ...*

On the General Conference website, the **Adventist Organizational Directory** provides an organizational locator and standard reference for Adventist organizations and entities worldwide. This database can list the name, address, phone, fax, email, and website link to your particular entity along with maps and driving directions. This is a **free** service of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Organizations within the NAD are created and managed by eAdventist. All conference clerks have accounts so they can enter your center's data at your request.

This is one more avenue for free advertising!

GC Adventist Directory:
http://www.adventistdirectory.org/default.asp

Need help? Call us at 805-490-6055 – we’re here to serve!

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**Cook needed at Discoveryland Preschool in St. Helena, CA.**

This is a fulltime position with benefits (part-time cook; part-time teachers aid). Wages depends on education & experience.

Pacific Union College HR @
Tel. 707-965-6231 or
Goldea Halvorson, Director @
Tel. 707-963-4705

The beautiful Napa Valley is calling to you!

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**2007 Dates to Remember . . .**

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