In response to the record-breaking fires in Washington State, Adventist Community Services (ACS) is running a warehouse in Okanogan, Wash., to supply emergency needs. More than 250,000 acres have burned so far this month. Hundreds of homes have been destroyed and scores of people have lost everything.

Washington State Emergency Management asked ACS Director Lola Worth from Brewster, Wash., to provide a clothing bank and linens for fire victims. Soon the tremendous amount of clothing was too great for the ACS and church facilities. ACS is now working with Habitat for Humanity and dozens of volunteers in providing a large clothing bank located at the Brewster High School Bus Barn.

Some Adventist members are assisting the Southern Baptists in Chelan to prepare 1,500 lunches for people in shelters. The Cascade Christian (Adventist) Academy gym was used until Monday evening as a designated American Red Cross collection site.

Financial donations are the most helpful and enable ACS to make large bulk purchases of most-needed items from companies that give wide discounts for humanitarian relief. Donate here.

Loma Linda University Medical Center has been ranked the No. 1 hospital in both Riverside and San Bernardino counties for the fifth year in a row, and its urology program among the top 50 in the nation, by U.S. News & World Report. The annual U.S. News Best Hospitals rankings, now in its 25th year, recognizes hospitals that excel in treating the most challenging patients. MORE

Former president Eric Anderson named ‘president emeritus’ at Southwestern Adventist Health System Again Honored Among ‘Most Wired’

Nursing manager's influence leads to Hinsdale Hospital improvements

Elder Debleaire Snell named 2014 Pastor of Year for regional Seventh-day Adventist Conference

July 23, 2014

Special Days

July Focus: Adventist Lifestyle
August Focus: Spiritual Gifts

August 23 - EndItnow Emphasis Day (formerly “Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day”)

Helpful Special Day Websites and Resources

Offerings

August 9, Oakwood University/Andrews University/ Loma Linda University

Sample Offertory Readings

July 24-27, Adventist Muslim Relations Exchange 2014
July 27-28, Spiritual Leadership Conference at Andrews University
Aug. 6-9, ASI International Convention
Aug. 11-16, Pathfinder Camporee
Sept. 5-8, Religious Liberty Summit
Sept. 8-10, Risk Management Conference
Pathfinder Camporee (FFIC) Volunteer Staff Tickets will no longer be sold after 5:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Sunday July 27. Email questions about this Volunteer Staff ticket deadline to Volunteer Staff Coordinator Karacan Thomas, or call 269-471-8388. If you have not received your FICC tickets or if you have any questions contact Yonny Jimenez.

Enditnow Day (formerly "Abuse Prevention Emphasis Day") will be Sabbath, August 23. Join the NAD's campaign to break the cycle of abuse by launching an enditnow campaign in your church and community on enditnow Day. A FREE enditnow implementation kit (in English, Spanish and French) themed "Freedom in Relationships," is available from AdventSource (402-486-8800). You can also download the entire enditnow Emphasis Day kit in either MS Word or Adobe Acrobat at the NAD Women's Ministries website. Included with the kit is a suggested order of service, children's story, sermon, and a PowerPoint seminar entitled "Becoming Powerful by Empowering" MORE

Hope Channel (HC) has moved to a high-definition (HD) satellite on DIRECTV, and will be available on DIRECTV all across the U.S. without limitations and without the need for an additional antenna.

While HC will continue to be available on Channel 368 on DIRECTV, as of July 16, all DIRECTV customers who didn't have HD equipment and the subscription package, need to have an upgrade. Call 800-531-5000 for information about upgrading your equipment and subscription package.

HC can be watched online, with the HC app; through a Roku box or stick available from stores such as Target or Walmart (requires high speed internet but with no monthly fees to use Roku); via Glorystar satellite, a one-time purchase with no monthly fees (Information: 866-597-0728); and via Hope Channel's free-to-air broadcast channel in New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, and Tampa. Other free-to-air and cable channels are available across the country.

HC regrets the inconvenience this change may cause some viewers, yet are glad for the providential opportunities that allow them to reach more people in the U.S. and around the world. MORE: 301-680-6689.

A new children's interactive app, Noah and the Flood, has just been released. It is a spin-off from the My Bible Friends set of books and features hidden animations that children can discover as they explore the story. The paintings that helped build the reputation of the books come across in brilliant detail on iPad Retina displays. The app will read the story to preschoolers, allowing them to follow the highlighted words, or children can turn off the narration and read to themselves. The introductory price of $1.99 is available until August 31 at the iTunes store.
LOGOS is offering the 12-volume Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary digital set for $119 through July 25 (regularly $149). Use coupon code SDABLECOM to get the $30.00 off at www.LOGOS.com.

To enditnow: Break the Silence
"Ministering Hope to the Healing Heart, Part 1," presented by Roberta Fish at the 2014 Summit on Abuse

In this presentation of Part 1, Roberta Fish addresses various responses to abuse such as denial, The Metaphor of a Wound, Effects of Abuse, and the first two stages of the aftermath of experiencing abuse which include choice, memories, PTSD, truth, beliefs, grief and feelings.

"I know this is part of 'Revival and Reformation' in the Church because we have some repenting to do, and we have some confession to do, and we have some healing to do, said Fish."

"Through the Holy Spirit and through the healing power of Jesus Christ, we [survivors of abuse] can be thrivers." Watch the video.

REACH: Community Outreach and Evangelism
Every member an active and enthusiastic witness for God

The Truckee, Calif. Adventist church is using English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for outreach to its Spanish-speaking community. The ESL class met each Wednesday night, after which Pastor Harold Barcelo taught a half-hour Bible class followed by refreshments, allowing for a get-acquainted period.

During the classes the children were also able to participate in a program especially for them. The ten weeks of classes ended with the presentation of awards for attendance.

Pastor Barcelo and his wife, Dr. Judy Barcelo, have utilized ESL classes as an effective evangelistic tool at three other churches in Mass. and S. Calif. in the past. Results have included baptisms, increased attendance at local VBS and evangelistic programs, the development of additional immigrant group outreach programs such as citizenship classes, and expanded community services ministries.

This type of program falls in line with one of the NAD’s Building Blocks, that of ministering to emerging immigrant groups.

For more information on how to start an "English as Evangelism" program in your local church, contact Dr. Judy Barcelo through the Nevada-Utah Conference. MORE: Pacific Union Recorder, July 2014, p. 19
WASHINGTON, DC – July 22, 2014 – For the fifth year in a row, Loma Linda University Medical Center has been ranked the Number 1 hospital in both Riverside and San Bernardino counties, and its urology program among the top 50 in the nation, by U.S. News & World Report. The annual U.S. News Best Hospitals rankings, now in its 25th year, recognize hospitals that excel in treating the most challenging patients.

“We are heartened to be recognized as the best hospital in the region for five years in a row, and for our urology department to be ranked among the best in the United States,” said Kerry Heinrich, interim CEO of Loma Linda University Medical Center.

“This recognition is testament to the commitment, hard work, and caring of all the doctors and staff at Loma Linda University Medical Center to provide the best possible whole-person care for our patients, and upholds our mission of continuing the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ,” he said.

Loma Linda University Medical Center also was ranked 14th best in California, and recognized for 11 “high performing” specialties: cancer; cardiology and heart surgery; diabetes and endocrinology; ear, nose and throat; gastroenterology and GI surgery; geriatrics; gynecology; nephrology; neurology and neurosurgery; orthopedics; and pulmonology.

Dr. Herbert Ruckle, chief of the urology department, said “we are pleased that this recognition reflects positively on the commitment of the urology department, and the institution as a whole, to delivering excellent, whole person, patient centered care. Our department combines the delivery of comprehensive and cutting edge urology care with research and medical education. As a department we have grown to where we have urology faculty in all of the urology sub-specialties and are a valuable resource for the people in our region suffering from both simple and complex urologic disease.”

“The focus of Loma Linda University Medical Center and the Department of Urology on providing compassionate, evidence based care and on healing the whole person is something we are proud of and is very appreciated by our patients,” he said.

For 2014-15, U.S. News evaluated hospitals in 16 adult specialties and ranked the top 50 in most of the specialties. Just 3 percent of the nearly 5,000 hospitals that were analyzed for Best Hospitals 2014-15 earned national ranking in even one specialty.

U.S. News also recognizes hospitals that perform nearly at the level of their nationally ranked peers and represent valuable regional sources of quality care.

“The data tell the story – a hospital that emerged from our analysis as one of the best has much to be proud of,” says U.S. News Health Rankings Editor Avery Comarow. “A Best Hospital has demonstrated its expertise in treating the most challenging patients.”

U.S. News publishes Best Hospitals to help guide patients who need a high level of care because they face particularly difficult surgery, a challenging condition or extra risk because of age or multiple health problems. Objective measures such as patient survival and safety data, adequacy of nurse staffing levels and other data largely determined the rankings in most specialties.

The specialty rankings and data were produced for U.S. News by RTI International, a leading research organization based in Research Triangle Park, N.C. Using the same data, U.S. News produced the state and metro rankings.


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About Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC)
Loma Linda University Medical Center's comprehensive health system includes: Loma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, Loma Linda University Medical Center - San Bernardino.
Medical Center East Campus, Loma Linda University Behavioral Medicine Center, Loma Linda University Heart & Surgical Hospital, Loma Linda University Medical Center - Murrieta, and physician clinics. LLUMC is widely respected as a health care leader and is known for its pioneering and cutting-edge work in such areas as organ transplants, proton treatment for cancers, cardiac care, physical rehabilitation, acute pediatric and adult care, as well as treatments for chemical dependence and other behavioral disorders. LLUMC is the only Level 1 trauma Center in the San Bernardino, Riverside, Inyo, and Mono counties, which covers over 40,000 square miles in Southern California. With a total of 1,076 beds, the Loma Linda University Medical Center includes the only children’s hospital in the region. Loma Linda University Medical Center sees over 40,000 inpatients and more than 750,000 outpatient visits a year.

About Loma Linda University Health (LLUH)
Loma Linda University Health includes Loma Linda University's eight professional schools, Loma Linda University Medical Center's six hospitals and more than 800 faculty physicians located in the Inland Empire of Southern California. Established in 1905, LLUH is a global leader in education, research and clinical care. It offers over 100 academic programs and provides quality health care to 40,000 inpatients and 1.5 million outpatients each year. A Seventh-day Adventist organization, LLUH is a faith-based health system with a mission "to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ."
Dr. Kenneth Shaw, left, new president of Southwestern Adventist University, visits Monday with former Southwestern president Dr. Eric Anderson after Anderson was named "president emeritus" by the board of trustees. (COURTESY ADRIENNE ELLE CREATIVE)

Former Southwestern Adventist University president Eric Anderson was conferred with the title of "president emeritus" by the board of trustees at a farewell gathering Monday.

Anderson retired June 30 after serving at Southwestern's helm for the last nine years.

The rank of emeritus is an honor that recognizes sustained excellence in performance, character, and meritorious service to the university, Southwestern board of trustees president Larry Moore said.

"We want to take this opportunity to recognize your leadership and dedication to Southwestern," Moore said, as he presented the honor. "You and your wife, Loretta, will be greatly missed. Thank you for your commitment and friendship."

The Andersons, married 43 years, plan to retire in Napa County, California, next door to their oldest son and his family. They are looking forward to spending time with their two grandsons, Eric Anderson said.

"We will always have a special place in our hearts for Texas and this university," Anderson says. "I hope to do volunteer work for the Southwestern in my retirement."

Anderson's tenure equals that of former Southwestern presidents H. H. Hamilton and Donald McAdams and is second only to the 17 years served by Keene resident Marvin Anderson (no relation).

On May 12, trustees named Dr. Kenneth Shaw, associate dean of academic programs at the Panama City campus of Florida State University, to be president at Southwestern.
Adventist Health System Again Honored Among 'Most Wired'

Posted: Thursday, July 17, 2014 11:04 am

Adventist Health System, which manages Takoma Regional Hospital, has again made Hospitals & Health Networks' list of "Most Wired Hospitals and Health Systems."

"Takoma is proud to be part of a health system that encourages the use of the latest information technology (IT) to improve the quality of care we deliver," Daniel Wolcott, the hospital's president and CEO, said in a news release.

"We are honored to be recognized for IT initiatives and technology adoption that ultimately benefit our patients in the Greeneville and Greene County area."

This is the second year in a row that Adventist Health System, which is comprised of 45 hospital campuses across the country including Takoma, has made the "Most Wired" list, the release says.

Takoma's clinical and administrative leaders daily utilize information technology systems to improve performance.

"We review data with the goal of reducing errors and increasing patient safety," Wolcott said. "This information comes in the form of reports and scorecards that we use to improve processes, which directly benefits patients who chose us for their care."

Takoma first implemented a fully-integrated electronic medical record (EMR) system in 2007. An EMR has been proven to improve patient safety, speed up care, and provide patients with easier access to their healthcare information, the release says.

Takoma drew attention in 2009 when it became the first private hospital in East Tennessee to implement computerized provider order entry (CPOE).

The new technology allowed providers to enter their orders directly into a computer instead of hand-writing them onto a piece of paper, which was the standard until then.

Studies show that CPOE reduces medication errors by more than 80 percent, according to the release.

Takoma also was the first hospital in this area to receive partial federal reimbursement totaling $1.3 million for achieving "Meaningful Use" -- or using EHR technology to meet specific objectives that qualify for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' incentive programs.
Nursing manager’s influence leads to Hinsdale Hospital improvements

As a nurse manager, Lisa Pittman has achieved every goal that she has set for her team.

Pittman was recently promoted and serves as director of medical services of the medical oncology unit, dialysis services and the GI Lab at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. She displays 24-hour leadership, overseeing the duties of her 90-plus employees.

Her duties as a nurse manager require her to raise and maintain high patient and staff satisfaction scores, create her department’s budget and maintain productivity, as well as create policies and procedures to ensure high quality care.

In 2011, the unit scored in the second percentile for Quarter 1 on their satisfaction scores. This score increased to the 90th percentile during Quarter 1 under Pittman’s management in 2014.

Not only did patient satisfaction scores increase under her watch, but staff satisfaction scores increased as well. When Pittman had just joined the oncology unit in 2011, their staff satisfaction was in the ninth percentile. This score increased to the 49th percentile in 2012, and even increased to the 63rd percentile in 2013.

Pittman was named Adventist Hinsdale Hospital’s Distinguished Leader for Innovative thinking at a recent leadership institute run by Adventist Midwest Health. A video about Pittman’s innovative thinking can be found at www.keepingyouwell.com/ahh in the video spotlight section.

Pittman continues to set goals for herself to achieve as well. After starting with an associate degree in nursing she went on to earn a bachelor of science in health arts, a master’s of science in health administration, and a master’s of science in nursing administration. She also has achieved a nurse executive advanced-board certification and an oncology certified nurse certification.

Though she has achieved much success, Pittman said she was humbled by receiving the leadership award.

“I feel so appreciated for receiving this award by my peers and executives.” Pittman said.

She also recognizes that all of her success must not be credited to her alone.

“It was the support from administration and the great team of nurses, techs and assistants that go above and beyond every day that deserve the true credit. I didn’t do this by myself.”

Tags:
Debleaire Snell - Keith Rush foto

Elder Debleaire Snell, at left, preaches to those from around the Southeast U.S. attending worship during the final Sabbath of camp meeting on June 21, 2014, in the sanctuary at Oakwood University Seventh-day Adventist Church. For the second time, Snell, senior pastor of First Seventh-day Adventists Church in Huntsville, Ala., has been named Pastor of the Year for the 36,000-member South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. (Courtesy Keith Rush) (Keith Rush)

The pastoral staff for Huntsville's First Seventh-day Adventist Church are, from left, senior Pastor Debleaire Snell, executive Pastor Alfonzo Greene III and visiting Pastor Alfred Hill. The congregation will celebrate one year of services in their location at 1303 Evangel Drive in Huntsville on Saturday, July 19, 2014. (Kay Campbell / KCampbell@al.com)

Elder Snell was praised for his leadership and vision as he and other ministers at the church, now located at 1303 Evangel Drive N.W. in Huntsville, have integrated service to the community with deep Bible study. The congregation has also added an average of three new members by baptism each of the weeks that Snell has been pastor, since July 17, 2010.

On Saturday, July 19, 2014, during the 11 a.m. worship service, the congregation of First Seventh-day Adventist will celebrate Snell's fourth pastoral anniversary and also the first anniversary of occupying the Evangel Drive building, formerly the West Huntsville Church of Christ.

Click here for a 2013 article in the Southern Tidings, a magazine of denominational news for Seventh-day Adventists in the Southeast U.S., featuring the First Seventh-day Adventist congregation.
The Truckee church recently hosted an innovative evangelistic outreach program for its Spanish-speaking community — a free English as a Second Language class for adults at the beginning level. It ran for 10 weeks, from February through mid-April.

Attendees met in the church’s multi-purpose room. Participants became familiar with the church facility and got to make friends with church members who were helping with the class.

The ESL class, taught by Judy Barcela, met for an hour and a half each Wednesday night, after which Pastor Harold Barcelo taught a 30-minute Bible study. Then they had refreshments and a chance to talk informally with the Barcelos and each other. While parents were studying English and Bible topics, their children participated in a program which included word games, coloring activities, and an assortment of children’s videos borrowed from the local library. “Thank you for this class,” said one participant. “Please let us know when you will be offering it again.”

Attendance averaged about 10 adults and five children per class session, with five participants receiving awards on the final night for excellent attendance. One person who attended all 10 classes received a Spanish Bible as a prize, and on the last night everyone received a “Final Events” DVD, which included an interactive Bible study program in Spanish. In addition, several participants asked the pastor to continue with Bible Studies once a week in their homes.

A total of 20 different adults attended at least one ESL class. The church collected their contact information, and they will be invited to follow-up activities, including Bible studies, ESL classes and evangelism events.

Judy Barcelo