We are pleased to announce a new doctor in the house. Katia Reinert was awarded a PhD on May 21, from Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing in Baltimore, Md. The title of her dissertation was "The Role of Religious involvement in the Relationship between Early Traumatic Stress and Health Outcomes among Adventist Adults." It focused on the influence of forgiveness, gratitude, religious coping and spirituality as resilience/protective factors for mental and physical health among Seventh-day Adventist child abuse survivors. [Photo: Dr. Reinert in hooding ceremony with her PhD advisor, Dr Jacquelyn Campbell.]

U.S. Supreme Court voted 8-1 this week, in favor of a case that examined whether an employer could refuse to hire an applicant based on their religious practices and observances. The Seventh-day Adventist Church filed an amicus brief, or friend of the court brief with other faith groups, in the case of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) v. Abercrombie and Fitch Stores, Inc. MORE

Two Denver-area residents and Centura Health's Porter Adventist Hospital are part of the longest multi-center "kidney chain" ever accomplished. When the chain is complete – a single recipient and single donor are still waiting for their surgeries – the chain will include a total of 35 kidney recipients and 35 donors. Twenty-six hospitals across the country are involved in the chain. MORE

According to Niche.com, Pacific Union College was listed as number seven in Niche’s list of “50 colleges where you're most likely to meet your future spouse.” MORE
Vegetarianism Linked to Lower Risk of Colorectal Cancers
Snap! Crackle! Pop! How Kellogg's Crushed The Cereal Competition (video)
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GMH expects increased revenue
Umatilla church teams with Waterman to host health expo
Staving above water - Community gardens flourish during drought
The changing face of urban churches
Seventh-day Adventists start construction on church

A Major Gift Fund Raising Webinar with Erik J. Daubert will be offered by PSI, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., on Monday, June 8.

Learn MORE about specific topics, registration information, links for information about the speaker.

The Annual Women's Ministries Emphasis Day is June 13. The theme this year is "Spiritual Strength for Such a Time as This." This is a day when churches can learn more about what women in their congregation or others across the division have been doing in community outreach and in nurturing and helping people in need. The Women's Ministries Department furnishes assistance for this day through a complete "packet" of program helps. It includes a suggested program, a children's story, a PowerPoint program for use with the sermon, another for use with a separate seminar. This year's packet also includes a History of Women's Ministries. All downloadable free from the NAD Women's Ministries website. These helpful resources are available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French.

The GC Session Offering to be collected in NAD on June 13, will be used for young Adventists to plan and implement their own mission outreach projects will be taken up in local churches across North America. You can also make your

http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=84ac041b8b705798057dab6f2&id=e9543f000d&e=3075540be8[6/4/2015 11:13:12 AM]
The Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) Convention will be held October 15-17, in Chantilly, Va. Hotel registration at the Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles, where the 2015 convention will be held, is now open. Convention details are coming together and will be online soon at the SAC website.

Remember Prayer Call, Thursday, June 4, starting at 10:00 p.m. going through the night to 5:00 a.m. EDT Friday. Call 404-891-6338; access code is Prayer# (772937#). Get bulletin inserts and MORE

The Celebration of Life service for Warren Judd will be held at Loma Linda University Church on Monday, June 8, at 6:30 p.m. PST. If unable to join the actual service in Loma Linda, you can join online through live streaming. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations in honor of Warren be sent to Loma Linda University-Media... MORE

Untrue rumor – Contrary to a post on a satirical website which gave some people the impression that the flooding in Texas was creating a need to cancel GC Session, the 2015 General Conference Session is still scheduled to take place as planned, July 2-11, in San Antonio, Texas. Help spread the word.

For sharing with your constituents: The NAD Executive Committee last November unanimously adopted a Statement that encourages “respectful, Christ-like dialogue” between Christians. It might be helpful to share occasionally, in part or the whole, on your conference or church website or social media pages, or to link to in church bulletins, especially when there is a flurry of discussion of controversial issues. Share it from the NAD website or the NAD Facebook page.

Also, pray for the Southern Union, following the suggestions of the 10 Weeks.
Maybe you should resign from one of your jobs... During this season of many graduations, weddings, and just everyday life, is the stress getting to you? Watch this short video from Kettering Health Network, featuring Pastor Karl Haffner:

...

Did you know you are awesomely created?

Watch the 90: second video

Each topic on the My Way to Jesus website links to a video, an invitation to study the Bible, the Find-a-Church Directory, a link for kids to My Place with Jesus, a place to send prayer requests, and more.

You can easily post the videos and information on your church website. Share the updates from the My Way to Jesus Facebook page. Learn more.
6-3-15 U.S. Supreme Court rules Abercrombie discriminated against applicant in workplace religious discrimination case

The highest court in the U.S. ruled in favor of applicant in an 8-1 decision

June 01, 2015 | ANN Staff

The U.S. Supreme Court voted 8-1 this week, in favor of a case that examined whether an employer could refuse to hire an applicant based on their religious practices and observances. The Seventh-day Adventist Church filed an amicus brief, or friend of the court brief with other faith groups, in the case of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) v. Abercrombie and Fitch Stores, Inc.

“We are extremely pleased with today’s opinion. It was a good decision for religious liberty, not just for Samantha Elauf, but for people of all faiths,” said Todd McFarland, associate general counsel for the Adventist world church. “We are also pleased that the Court, in its opinion, relied upon arguments the Adventist Church raised in our amicus brief.”

Church leaders are encouraged that the Supreme Court reinforced the importance of religious liberty and hope the decision will lead to additional protections for employees and job applicants.
“As this is the first religious accommodation case to be heard by the Supreme Court in nearly three decades, we were hopeful that this ruling would protect the rights of people of faith in the workplace,” said Dwayne Leslie, director of legislative affairs for the Adventist world church. “Therefore, we were pleased to see the Court strongly state in the issued opinion that “An employer may not make an applicant’s religious practice, confirmed or otherwise, a factor in employment decisions.”

The case involved seventeen-year-old Samantha Elauf, who was denied a job because her hijab, a head covering, violated corporate policy. Adventist feared that a ruling against Elauf could erode workplace religious freedom rights, including those of Adventists who choose not to work on Saturday, the biblical Sabbath.

Church legal counselors were also concerned with a violation of the Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, which obligates employers to take steps to “reasonably accommodate” a prospective employee’s “religious observance or practice.”

The case stems from a 2008 incident in which Elauf wore a hijab when applying for a sales position at an Abercrombie & Fitch store in Tulsa, Oklahoma. After a manager confirmed with a supervisor that Elauf’s headwear violated store policy, she was deemed ineligible for hire without discussion of religious accommodation.

The U.S. EEOC, which filed a lawsuit on Elauf’s behalf, said the move defied Title VII. While a federal judge sided with the EEOC in 2011, the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver overturned that decision last year, claiming Elauf never told Abercrombie she needed a religious accommodation, even though she was wearing a hijab in the interview.

And that, Adventist legal counselors said, places undue responsibility on the applicant to determine whether her religious beliefs or practices conflict with company policy.

The Church’s amicus brief pointed out that “Frequently, an applicant will be unaware of a work-religion conflict simply because of her inferior knowledge of the employer’s work requirements.”

Also, a hiring process can be technologically structured so that an employee can’t raise the issue of potential conflict, such as online applications asking applicants which days of the week they are available to work, McFarland said in a previous statement to Adventist News Network.

Religious clothing and the observance of Sabbath and other holy days are the most common areas of conflict in the workplace, McFarland said. Hijabs, turbans, yarmulkes and other head coverings frequently conflict with a company’s “look” policy, while Sabbath observance can clash with scheduling.

Adventist News Network
6-3-16 Longest Multi-Center "Kidney Chain" on Record for Two Transplant Patients from Porter Adventist Hospital

Denver, CO, 4/23/2015 [RMCNews] Two Denver-area residents and Centura Health's Porter Adventist Hospital are part of the longest multi-center "kidney chain" ever accomplished. When the chain is complete – a single recipient and single donor are still waiting for their surgeries – the chain will include a total of 35 kidney recipients and 35 donors. Twenty-six hospitals across the country are involved in the chain.

A kidney chain starts with an individual who wants to donate their kidney, most often to a friend or family member who is not a compatible match. Through the National Kidney Registry, that individual is then paired to another candidate with an incompatible donor. From this point, both donors give their kidneys to viable recipients, and the chain keeps growing by pairing donors with compatible matches.

The Denver participants in the most recent chain are Littleton resident Jerome Peralta, 45, who needed a kidney, and Michele Martin, 25, a longtime family friend of Peralta's who offered to donate a kidney so he could get the life-saving organ he needs.

The chain that allowed Peralta to get a new kidney started with a donor in San Francisco and went through transplants at hospitals in California, Wisconsin, Virginia, Colorado, Tennessee, Connecticut, Washington, Oregon, Minnesota, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.

Peralta received his kidney from a donor in Virginia on January 8. “You can feel the poisons being cleaned out by the new kidney. You literally start to feel better and better by the day,” Peralta said after the surgery.

A week later, Martin had her kidney removed at Porter by surgeon Mark Jones, MD. The kidney was flown to a recipient at the California Pacific Medical Center. “I feel like it never happened. If I had it to do over again, I would,” Martin said at her follow-up visit after her three-day hospital stay.

Peralta was only 30 years old when his kidneys failed, and he had to start dialysis. Seemingly overnight he went from being a healthy, active young man to having chronic illness.

Martin, a firefighter and army reservist from Henderson, has known Peralta nearly all her life. Their families have been camping and off-roading together for years. When she found out Peralta needed a kidney, she didn’t hesitate to offer one of hers.

The Porter Adventist Hospital Transplant Program is one of the premier kidney, liver and pancreas transplant...
centers in the country. Patients at Porter see only board-certified physicians, and their entire transplant team is
dedicated exclusively to helping patients in every aspect of their treatment from medical care to dietary guidance,
from social and psychological support to assistance with financial and insurance matters. [Chrissy Nicholson;
Rajmund Dabrowski]
Vegetarianism Linked to Lower Risk of Colorectal Cancers

Lower incidence of colorectal cancer was found in Seventh Day Adventist patients eating a vegetarian diet, according to evidence published in *JAMA Internal Medicine*.

Michael J. Orlich, MD, PhD and researchers from Loma Linda University in California observed the diets of more than 77,000 Seventh Day Adventist men and women in order to evaluate the link between vegetarian dietary patterns and incident colorectal cancers. The participants were recruited between January 1, 2002 and December 31, 2007, and their follow up varied by state and was indicated by the cancer registry linkage dates. The analysis was conducted between June 1, 2014 and October 20, 2014. The researchers also factored in important demographic and lifestyles confounders.

After an average follow up period of 7.3 years, the researchers identified 380 cases of colon cancer and 110 cases of rectal cancer among the participants. The vegetarians were broken down into 4 categories: vegan, lacto/ ovo vegetarian, pescovegetarian, and semivegetarian. The researchers found that black participants were underrepresented among all groups, except pescovegetarians. The vegetarians were more likely to have higher educational levels, to exercise, and use calcium supplements (except the vegan participants). The group overall was less likely to have ever smoked, drink alcohol, have had a colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy (particularly the vegans, the researchers noted), to use aspirin or statins, to have diabetes treatment in the past year, or to have a history of peptic ulcers. The vegetarians were found to have lower body mass indexes (BMI) and lower intakes of total fat, saturated fat, total meat, red meat, and processed meat, though they had a higher intake of fiber.

The researchers also noted the vegans and semivegetarians had a lower dietary calcium intake. The semivegetarians notably had lower energy intake than the other groups, but were similar among the other 3 categories.

Colorectal cancer risk was reduced when linked to a vegetarian diet, the researchers found. This was also true when the analysis was conducted strictly for colon cancer. The analysis was conducted specifically for rectal cancer as well, but was limited by power and, thus, inconclusive, the researchers implied.

“Vegetarian dietary patterns in a large North American cohort, particularly the pescovegetarian dietary pattern, were associated with lower risk of all colorectal cancer as well as colon cancer separately,” concluded the authors. “The evidence that vegetarian diets similar to those of our study participants may be associated with a reduced risk of colorectal cancer, along with prior evidence of the potential reduced risk of obesity, hypertension, diabetes, and mortality, should be considered carefully in making dietary choices and in giving dietary guidance.”

The researchers also commented that this study was consistent with prior studies, which linked red meat and processed meats to increased risk of colorectal cancers. The researchers believed the results of this study were similar to other results because of the reduction in meat intake, but also as a result of the increase in whole plant foods consumption.
It's official: Lodi Health joins Adventist Health network

By Jennifer Bonnett/News-Sentinel Staff Writer

Lodi Health officially became part of Adventist Health Tuesday. The purchase price was $98 million.

The announcement comes after close to two years of negotiations and recent approval by California Attorney General Kamala Harris. Lodi Health announced last year that it was looking into merging with another healthcare system due to its finances.

While Lodi Health’s existing leadership remains in place at this time, Lodi Health president and chief executive officer Joe Harrington said Adventist is currently searching for a candidate to replace him with their own CEO.

At minimum, that process will take three months and up to eight or nine months, according to Harrington.

“As soon as they get through the process or have candidates to announce, we’ll let (the public) know,” he said.

Meanwhile, Lodi Health employees and patients have already begun seeing small changes as the Adventist Health logo has been added to select signage and information is appearing on both organizations’ websites.

On Tuesday, Lodi Health employees also began participating in orientation forums to learn more about Adventist Health’s mission, purpose and history.

Although Harris approved the affiliation last month, Lodi Health board member Liz Haglund said the transition period will last awhile. However, she doesn’t see any layoffs.

Harrington, too, said there are no plans for layoffs as the hospital has been busier than in past years and open positions remain.

“I think Adventist will be relying on our current employees,” Haglund said. “We know the community, we know the people and the inner workings of the hospital.”

Lodi Health’s local governing board will remain, although Adventist will add its own members, according to Haglund.

“It’s an exciting time,” she said. “Adventist is a really good fit for the community. That was the board’s goal when we started this process.

“They really care about compassionate care.”

The hospital, formerly known as Lodi Memorial Hospital, has served the community as a nonprofit organization for 62 years. Both Lodi Health and Adventist Health are committed to preserving the health care services provided by 191-bed hospital, its 15 clinics, several outpatient centers, an adult day care center and a child care center.

Under the affiliation agreement approved by Harris, Adventist Health donated $2 million to the Lodi Memorial Hospital Foundation and will invest at least $98 million in Lodi Health to make significant additional capital improvements.

In addition, Adventist Health will install a new, state-of-the-art electronic medical records system.

“As part of Adventist Health, we look forward to using new tools and resources to continue providing strong, high quality healthcare to our community,” Harrington said in a joint press release.
Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health delivery system serving communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Its workforce of 31,000 includes more than 22,350 employees; 4,800 medical staff physicians; and 3,850 volunteers.

Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 20 hospitals, more than 275 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 15 home care agencies, seven hospice agencies and four joint-venture retirement centers.

Lodi Health is in the process of planning an open house for employees and the public for later this month.

Contact reporter Jennifer Bonnett at jenniferb@lodinews.com.
One hundred percent of Adventist University of Health Sciences' (ADU) Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia (MSNA) graduates of April 2015 have passed the national certification examination (NCE) on their first attempt. The graduating class was composed of 20 students who completed the program on April 20, 2015.

The NCE is required of every graduate in order to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, and graduates of the MSNA program are eligible for state licensure as Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), upon successful completion of the national certification examination.

"We are extremely proud of our graduates who worked hard to achieve these results," said Dr. Alescia DeVasher Bethea, Chair of the Nurse Anesthesia program. "We take immense pride in selecting exceptional students and faculty, and these results help to demonstrate the high quality of graduates that our program produces."

DeVasher Bethea believes that in addition to God's blessings and having exceptional students, this success is attributed to the program's curriculum, high-fidelity simulation labs, world-class clinical experiences including specialty rotations within the Florida Hospital system, and hands-on learning from top-quality clinical professionals.

"ADU students are immersed in a real-world environment from their first year in the MSNA program," adds DeVasher. "We provide them with the tools they need to not only pass their certification examination, but go on to become some of the best CRNAs in healthcare."

The Nurse Anesthesia program at ADU consists of 80 semester hours over 28 consecutive months, leading to the Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia (MSNA) degree. The curriculum integrates health sciences with nursing sciences to prepare students as advanced practitioners in nurse anesthesia who can integrate research findings into their practice. Students are prepared to provide anesthesia care to patients in a variety of settings including medically underserved areas.

The MSNA program has already selected its next annual cohort to begin in January 2016, and is currently accepting applications for the cohort to begin in January 2017.

**About ADU** – Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) is a Seventh-day Adventist institution that specializes in healthcare education. ADU offers undergraduate and graduate programs including: Biomedical Sciences, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Health Sciences, Radiography, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Nursing, Nurse Anesthesia, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Healthcare Administration, Occupational Therapy, and Physician Assistant. The University is associated with Florida Hospital and the Adventist Health System.

SOURCE Adventist University of Health Sciences
SAFD firefighters filled baptismal pool at request of mayor staffer

Dillon Collier, KENS 5 9:43 p.m. CDT June 1, 2015

On-duty firefighters from Fire Station 30 used a truck to fill the 5,000 gallon pool

(Photograph: KENS 5)

SAN ANTONIO -- San Antonio firefighters were directed to fill a pool used for
baptisms outside an east-side church Saturday following a request from the mayor's
head of special projects, city officials confirmed Monday.

The above ground pool, located outside Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church in
the 4100 block of E. Houston St., was used to baptize at least 100 people over the
weekend.

A spokeswoman for the church organizing the event, Breath of Life Ministries, said the church has received similar
assistance from fire departments in Houston, Buffalo, New York and other cities.

On-duty firefighters from Fire Station 30 used a fire truck to fill the 5,000 gallon pool sometime before noon
Saturday.

Mayor Ivy Taylor’s spokesman said Monday the pool was not filled at the mayor’s request.

An above ground pool outside Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church (Photo: Jason Eggleston)
Emails obtained by KENS 5 show Rebeca Baquero, Mayor Taylor’s special projects manager, reached out to the fire department to "coordinate" filling the pool. The spokesman said Mayor Taylor was not at the event and likely did not even know about it. He added that Baquero made the request because she is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and that she consulted Assistant City Manager Erik Walsh before approaching SAFD.

Firefighters directed to fill baptismal pool KENS

Walsh was not available for comment Monday.

Chief Charles Hood said via telephone Monday he was aware of the request and said the department has fulfilled similar requests in the past.

"We're a department that deals in tens of thousands of gallons of water," SAFD Deputy Chief Carl Wedige said Monday. Deputy Chief Wedige and a SAWS spokeswoman both confirmed it took about $5 worth of water to fill the 5,000 gallon pool.

When questioned about using on-duty firefighters for a non-city event, Deputy Chief Wedige said: "Its a portion of the time factored into what we do, which includes training, demos, public education. It kind of falls under that category."

"If a unit is involved in something like this that we have looked at or agreed to do, any call that would come in is covered by other stations in the nearby area," added Wedige.

Incident reports given to KENS 5 by SAFD Monday show the fire truck responded to a crash in the 300 block of Roland Avenue around 11 a.m., but was cleared less than six minutes later to move on to the church. A separate call for a crash near Interstate 10 and Graytown happened while the truck and firefighters were at the church. However, an SAFD incident report showed all three emergency units that responded were canceled since no one was injured.
Wedige said SAFD does not comply with all requests to fill pools. He said the department complied with the request Saturday because it came from a non-profit organization.
San Gorgonio Memorial Hospital board votes to enter exclusive negotiations with Loma Linda University Health and Adventist Health - Highland Community News: Top Stories

LLUMC

LOMA LINDA, CA., June 2, 2015 – Loma Linda University Health and Adventist Health have officially entered into exclusive negotiations with San Gorgonio Memorial Hospital (SGMH). The SGMH board voted unanimously to begin negotiations during its meeting Thursday, May 28.

"Loma Linda University Health has been serving the Pass communities for many years," said Kerry Heinrich, chief executive officer, Loma Linda University Medical Center. “We are thrilled at this new opportunity to expand our services to this community."

Under the proposed affiliation, Loma Linda University Health and Adventist Health will provide resources to SGMH to enhance medical and hospital services to the San Gorgonio Pass communities.

"After a lengthy and thorough evaluation of our options, the board made this decision to unify efforts," said Dr. Jerilynn Kaibel, board chair, SGMH. “Combining our current strengths with the longstanding history of Loma Linda University Health and Adventist Health was the best option for the community we serve."

This proposed affiliation will improve the quality of care and patient safety in the Pass communities by expanding the range of services provided while retaining and recruiting talented personnel and staff. Additionally, this relationship will provide resources to complete the last phase of construction for the patient care building at SGMH, which will add an additional 41 rooms to the current 91.

Over the coming months, representatives from SGMH, Loma Linda University Health and Adventist Health will be working to finalize an affiliation agreement.

The hospital district will remain public, with a local public board managing district operations.

“San Gorgonio Memorial Hospital's mission has always been ‘to provide safe, high quality, personalized health care services,'” Kaibel stated, “and this new affiliation will allow us to keep that focus, continuing our dedication to care for our community."

“We want to promote wholeness and health for people in the Pass communities,” stated Loma Linda University Health president, Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH, “and we intend to integrate our commitment ‘to make man whole' with San Gorgonio's mission and dedication to the community.”

“Adventist Health is very pleased to have the opportunity to bring our successful experience in community hospitals to this partnership with Loma Linda University Health and San Gorgonio Memorial Hospital,” said Bob Beehler, vice president for market development/mergers and acquisitions, Adventist Health. “Together we will work tirelessly to provide high quality health care to the Pass communities.”

About Loma Linda University Health

Loma Linda University Health includes Loma Linda University's eight professional schools, Loma Linda University Medical Center's six hospitals and more than 900 faculty physicians located in the Inland Empire of Southern California. Established in 1905, Loma Linda University Health 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, Loma Linda University Health is a faith-based health system with a mission "to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ."

About Adventist Health

Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health delivery system serving communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. The health system provides compassionate care in 20 hospitals, more than 275 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 15 home care agencies, seven hospice agencies and four joint-venture retirement centers. Visit AdventistHealth.org for more information.
Canyon Country man has lived, made aviation history

A ways down a rutted road beaten out of the dust and dry brush in Canyon Country sits a piece of aviation history.

It’s the home of longtime Baker Canyon resident Henry Combs.

Now 98 years old, Combs worked at Lockheed as a structural engineer in the renowned Skunk Works advanced development group.

During his time at Lockheed, Combs helped design some of the most storied aircraft in United States history, including the U-2 and the SR-71 Blackbird.

His son, Steve Combs, said Saturday he could remember seeing a picture of a plane hanging up on the wall of the family home when he was a child.

“I asked my mother what plane was that, and she said, ‘That’s a plane your daddy helped build: the U-2,’” he recalled.

“He’s had an interesting career and has really enjoyed himself,” Steve Combs added.

Combs married his wife, Edna, in 1948 and the family eventually settled into a house in the Baker Canyon area of Canyon Country — where Combs still lives.

Following his wife’s death in 2013, Combs took a renewed interest in studying scripture, according to Becky Combs, his daughter-in-law and caregiver.

“He decided this is it, that he really wants to see his wife again, that if he doesn’t change his life he might not make it to heaven,” she said.

On Saturday, Combs, blind and wheelchair-bound, was decked in a white robe and baptized by immersion into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Following the baptism, the pastor leaned in close to Combs.

“Welcome to the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” the pastor said.

“We’re going to have a good time,” Combs responded with a strong, clear voice.

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On Twitter @LukeMMoney
GMH expects increased revenue

Despite the anticipated opening of a new private hospital, Guam Memorial Hospital may see an increase in revenue in fiscal 2016.

The hospitals' chief financial officer, Benita Mangloña presented a draft of the proposed fiscal year 2016 budget at a GMH Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday. The total projected revenue for the coming fiscal year is $97.1 million, a $7.6 million increase over fiscal year 2015's $89.5 million.

According to Ted Lewis, GMH chief executive officer, administrators foresee an increase in revenue from Medicaid. However, Lewis said business from other sources are projected to decline.

"Because of the new hospital opening up, we anticipate a 30-percent loss in commercial revenue," Lewis said. "At the same time, we think we're going to see more Medicaid business."

Commercial revenue comes from private insurance companies such as Calvo's SelectCare, TakeCare Insurance and StayWell Guam.

In addition to an increase in Medicaid patients, Mangloña also pointed to an increase in Medicaid rates next year.

"We increased our fees in April and will increase next year by another 5 percent," Mangloña said.

According to the draft budget, the proposed commercial revenue comes out to $32.8 million. The draft budget also projects a $9.9 million increase in patient self-pay revenue, part of which is due to the possibility of a dedicated call center, which may be established in months to come.

"What we want to do is set up an arrangement for patients that don't have insurance or Medicaid," Lewis explained. "It's much more effective to call them quickly after the patient has been serviced."

Lewis said fiscal 2015 has been "strange" because of technical issues with the hospital's financial systems.

"We went a few months without getting a lot of bills out, so there wasn't much cash coming in," he said. "Now that the system's up, we're getting current bills and everything that's been back-logged, which also adds to the increase in next year's revenue."

Frances Mantanona, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, said the current year's budget was formed with the presumption that the new private hospital, Guam Regional Medical City, would have opened sooner.

"They still haven't opened yet, so we're still getting the commercial patients we anticipated being seen there," Mantanoña said. "We're going to complete our 2015 budget year in full rather than patients going to the new hospital."

A revised draft of the hospital's budget is expected sometime next week.
GMH expects increased revenue
UMATILLA — Is your body a sickly, poor performing vessel on its way to an early grave?

Or is it a well-maintained temple capable of reaching octogenarian status?

If you aren't sure and want to know the answer, the Umatilla Seventh Day Adventist Church and Florida Hospital Waterman have an upcoming free health expo just for you.

The Hilltop Community Center, a community outreach of the church, along with members of the hospital's CREATION Health Team and other medical professionals, teamed to host the Umatilla NEWSTART Health Expo from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday in the church fellowship hall at 1400 N. Central Ave.

"Our hope is that people will take us up on it, especially those that are having health issues," said the Rev. Robert Putt, pastor of the church since December, coming from a church in Ontario, Canada. "We want to help them identify the problem and get them the help they need."

The expo will feature a comprehensive health assessment, which includes a lifestyle evaluation with biometrics — blood pressure, pulse, blood glucose and lipids, body-fat percentage, height, weight and BMI — so participants can learn their "true health age."

Along with educational stations and health lectures, tests and screenings for lung capacity, balance, dental and oral cancer will be available as well as eye exams and the Harvard Step Test, said Putt, who has five sons with his wife, Denise.

"It's a stress test for the heart and its five minutes long," he said. Pediatric and geriatric screenings will be conducted as well.

NEWSTART is an acronym that highlights eight key ingredients in a healthy lifestyle. It stands for Nutrition, Exercise, Water, Sunlight, Temperance, Air, Rest and Trust in Divine Power, which highlights the Adventist church's belief in the healing ministry of Christ.

"Jesus' message was one of both spiritual and physical healing," Putt said. "As a church, we believe people are suffering from unhealthy lifestyles — people are dying today from preventable diseases that are mostly self-induced by poor choices and lack of knowledge."

Various medical professionals including pediatric and geriatric specialists, a pediatrician, dentists, radiologist, an OB/GYN and nurses will participate. A healthy lunch will be available at minimal cost and gifts will be given away hourly, too.

Putt said the church collaborated with Waterman because they share common philosophy on spiritual and physical whole-person wellness. Seventh Day Adventist Churches are adopting increasingly popular NEWSTART programs worldwide.

Candace Huber, Waterman's director of mission development, which includes Creation Health, said a major benefit of the expo is providing direct, same-day access to health information.
"It's great because it will give them immediate reports on their health," she said. "Medical professionals will be there to discuss the results so they can become proactive about their health, extend their life and enjoy life."

CREATION Health and the Hilltop Community Center will provide follow-up classes in natural food cooking and more, said Putt, and if the expo proves to be popular the church likely will make it an annual event.

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Staying above water

By Mike Eiman Staff Reporter

As the drought forces residents to let their yards dry out, members of local community gardens are getting smarter about their water use.

Hanford retiree Lee Yarbrough said he knew very little about gardening or irrigation when he began tending a plot at the Greenfield Community Garden three years ago. Today, he uses micro spray sprinklers to grow potatoes, squash and other crops.

Yarbrough said many of his fellow gardeners have also recently switched to more efficient irrigation systems.

“When I first started, there was one or two,” Yarbrough said. “Now almost everyone does it. You get more crops that way.”

Adventist Health built the Greenfield Community Garden in 2012 to promote healthy eating and physical activity. Many of the garden’s current members have maintained one or more of the facility’s 30 plots since it debuted.

Mark McClelland, who maintains his own plot as well as several that have been abandoned, said water conservation has become commonplace as the drought persists.

“Everyone has been a lot more conscientious about it,” McClelland said.

Ray O’Dell said he follows the rules at home, watering just twice per week, but his yard isn’t big enough for his gardening needs. He maintains a plot full of tomatoes and peppers watered with a timer and a drip line.

“We try to be efficient,” O’Dell said.

Yarbrough said the drought has prompted him to change his planting habits. Many of his crops have relatively low water needs.

“One thing that I’ve learned is that potatoes don’t take as much water as you’d think,” he said.

Adventist Health spokeswoman Amanda Jaurigui said the garden will remain open during the drought and follow all city regulations.

“We posted signs to remind gardeners of these regulations and drought gardening tips,” Jaurigui said.

Jaurigui said the Adventist Health Central Valley Network has cut its water use at all of its hospitals and offices. That has included fewer watering days, converting sprinklers to drip irrigation, closing drip emitters where there are no plants and discontinuing new planting during the drought.

Lilian Koenig, who lives near the garden and maintains a plot there, said that she was concerned that the garden may suffer as the city works to cut potable water use by 28 percent compared with 2013.

Some of the members, Koenig said, are on fixed incomes and grow food to supplement their groceries.

“The people who are using the garden are using it for what I call ‘nourishment of the soul,’” Koenig said.

The city-owned community garden at the corner of South Douty and Second streets has cut back to watering two
days per week.

“What we’re doing is just following the rules like everybody else,” Parks and Recreation Director Craig Miller said.

Because the garden is located at an even address, watering is only allowed on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Miller said the city will put up signs in the next few weeks to remind members which days they can water.

The facility doesn’t currently include any micro spray or drip irrigation. Miller said that there haven’t been any reports of water running off the property or otherwise being wasted.

“We have some hoses out there that they use to water,” Miller said. “It’s not a very big area.”

Miller said about seven of the garden’s 30 plots are still available. He said that if the drought increases the demand plots, the city would start a waiting list and possibly look at building additional plots.
THE CHANGING FACE OF URBAN CHURCHES - LancasterOnline: Faith Values

By EARLE CORNELIUS | Staff Writer

For urban churches, silver linings are rare. Earlier this month, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York announced plans to close seven more churches, leaving it 20 percent smaller than it was just one year ago.

In Philadelphia, the archdiocese is looking at ways to stabilize and sustain parishes in the face of shifting demographics and finances.

The pending sale of St. Luke’s United Church of Christ at 719 Marietta Avenue in the city is a blow for mainline churches. Tomorrow’s final service at St. Luke’s, which begins at 3 p.m., ends an era that began when Ulysses S. Grant was president of the United States.

But the fact that the Lancaster Hispanic Seventh-Day Adventist Church is buying St. Luke’s suggests that churches do, indeed, have a place in the city.

In fact, they are a sought-after commodity.

Kimberly Lutz, of Compass Real Estate LLC, the listing agent for St. Luke’s, said there is a market for churches in the city.

The problem?

“Not many churches are available,” she said.

It’s not that churches are being repurposed to commercial or residential dwellings. In fact, Paula Jackson, the city’s chief planner, could only think of two churches that have been repurposed in the past 35-plus years. One, on Lancaster Avenue, was turned into a home. The other is the dry cleaning operation at the corner of Orange and Prince streets.

The city also is reluctant to allow churches to convert commercial buildings into churches because it would remove those buildings from the tax rolls.

Jackson said parking requirements also can impact church plans.

Most churches were grandfathered in the early 1970s to accommodate parking arrangements based on seating capacity. The city uses a ratio of one parking space for every four seats or eight linear feet.

“We want buildings to be used,” Jackson said. If the structures conformed to ordinances in 1973, they were grandfathered in. Had the city not taken that approach, Jackson said, “We’d have a lot of empty buildings.”

Ada Rivera, the Life Changes Realty agent representing the Seventh-Day Adventist congregation, said she spent time searching for a church in the city.

Church plans outreach

When St. Luke’s went on the market at a price of $325,000, the Lancaster Hispanic Seventh-Day Adventist Church...
came calling.

“It’s our attempt to reach out to that end of the city,” said the Rev. Feleidi Garcias through his interpreter, Victor Montañez.

The largely Puerto Rican/Dominican congregation of 113 adults will continue to meet at the former Mount Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church at 346 E. Clay St. in the city, which it bought in 1993.

The purchase of St. Luke’s, which is expected to be completed by June 30, is intended to expand the church’s outreach.

“Our mission as a church,” Garcias said, “is to reach others. We can’t do that if we stay in one place.”

Garcias, a native of Camaguey, Cuba, said that while they intend to retain the memorial garden at St. Luke’s, other changes to the structure are planned. That includes the installation of a baptismal pool in the sanctuary (Seventh-Day Adventist have full-immersion baptisms) and rearranging rooms for youth classes.

The church will look to aid the poor, Garcias said, and the congregation plans an evangelistic push in the west end of Lancaster city.

Financing for the purchase has been arranged through the Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists in Columbia, Maryland.

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church is experiencing rapid growth nationally as well as globally. It counts more than 18 million members worldwide, including 1.1 million in the United States. Many members in this country are immigrants who were members of the church in their native lands.

The religion stands apart from other religions in several ways. They worship on Saturday — the Jewish sabbath — and focus on the end of days and the second coming of Jesus — hence the term “Adventist.” They also shun alcohol and have a largely meatless diet.

Other options

One way mainline churches have counteracted the urban shift has been to invite other congregations to use the building or to join the congregation.

Earlier this year, Maranatha Fellowship’s largely Spanish-speaking congregation joined the Lancaster Church of the Brethren. Holy Spirit Lutheran Church on Columbia Avenue hosts an Ethiopian prayer group at its church.
Seventh Day Adventists start construction on church

By Amanda Hinds Doyle
@SDNHindsDoyle

Posted May 27, 2015 at 10:40 AM

YREKA – After 29 years, the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Yreka is building a sanctuary for worship.

Years ago, the church thought it more important to build a church school first, said church elder Dr. Darrell Wheeler.

For years, church members have been contributing for the sanctuary extension, and finally, the church will be able to honor their generosity.

“We’re finally able to fulfill dreams that members have had for a long time,” said Wheeler.

Currently, the church is in the beginning stages with the foundation for the extension being laid.

A building crew called Marantha, known for building churches around the U.S., will be assisting in the construction, in addition to the many church members already helping, said Wheeler.

The sanctuary is a downsized version of the original concept for affordability purposes, and it is expected to be well-suited for the active members, explained Wheeler.

The sanctuary will consist of nearly 18 pews and has a finish date scheduled for November 2015.

“It is something that will be beautiful, well enjoyed and that the Lord will be proud of,” said Wheeler.
5-26-15 NAD Mourns Passing of Adventist Media Innovator

by Julio Muñoz

Warren Judd Passes Away

It is with deep sorrow that the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists announces the passing of Warren Judd earlier today. Judd, a visionary media professional who led the Adventist Media Center in California, died surrounded by his family. In addition to running the denominationally owned media center, Judd was responsible for the audiovisual operations of the last five General Conference Sessions including San Antonio 2015, for which planning has been several years in the making.

“We offer our deepest condolences to the Judd family in this time of such great sorrow,” said Daniel R. Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. “Warren was an accomplished media authority and talented musician. But most importantly, he was a devoted husband, father and a committed Christian. Warren helped significantly advance the use of audiovisual technology in the Adventist Church. He will be missed.”

Memorial information:

Celebration of Life service for Warren will be held at Loma Linda University Church on Monday, June 8, at 6:30 p.m. PST. If unable to join the actual service in Loma Linda, you can join live at: http://www.lluc.org/article/40/media/worship-live

For those who have been asking where to send cards, you may send them to the following address:

Loma Linda University Church
Attn: Judd Family
11125 Campus St
Loma Linda, CA 92354

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that instead send a donation in honor of Warren to Loma Linda University-Media. If you would like to send your donation via check, make check payable to LLUC and be sure to put "Media" in the memo section of the check. Checks may then be mailed to the following address:

Loma Linda University Church
Attn: Media Dept
11125 Campus St
Loma Linda, CA 92354

If you would prefer to donate via credit card, you may do so by going to http://www.lluc.org/article/5/giving. Again, be
sure to designate "Media".

We would like to share the following post written today by Warren Judd’s daughter-in-law, Andrea:

"Our friend [Warren] has fallen asleep" (John 11:11)
By Andrea Judd

"Dad went so peacefully at about 9:45 a.m. this morning, at home, family by his side. He must have been waiting for a clean shave, which precious Yonni was in the midst of doing when she noticed a sudden color change and a change in breathing. Mum & Marc were each holding a hand of his as he breathed his last breath. We cried and we thanked God for His mercy in allowing Dad to breathe his last so peacefully. We praised God that Dad's breath is with Him. Only Dad's earthly body has died, and with that, the cancer is defeated & forever destroyed! Praise God!!

"Mum has been a rock through all of this. Certainly not without tears and great heartache, but with a greater faith! On top of it all, today is her 70th birthday. And she said, "I know many might feel differently and not understand, but I'm actually glad he died on my birthday. It makes it a very special and sacred day." God is good.

"Marc read God's Word to us all - the beautiful promises we cling to. I'll simply close by sharing just a few of those. Our love and thanks to all of you for such wonderful love and support!! We truly do not even have the words to express what it has meant and continues to mean to us."

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will awarded to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing." 2 Timothy 4:7-8

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand." John 10:27-28

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." John 11:25-26

"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever." 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: 'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:35-39

AMEN!