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About The Cover
Paradise Adventist Academy teacher Dave Vixie researched and then dramatically recreated stories from Jesus’ life and ministry during Paradise church’s four-weekend evangelistic outreach series titled “The Storyteller.”

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George Barna, researcher of American Christianity, declared in his 2003 book, *Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions*, that his long-held assumptions and the common practice of Christian churches to focus on adults as the primary target audience for evangelistic efforts was in error. Notice his statements on page 12: “Strategically, isn’t it more important for us to equip adults so that they can use their gifts and resources to advance the Kingdom?”

He answers this question, “No, no, no, and no. In retrospect, my view was so far off the mark that I didn’t miss the boat — I missed the entire ocean!”

Have we also missed not only the boat, but also the entire ocean by not making our children our number one evangelistic priority? After that amazing confession, Barna devotes the rest of his book to report on his research that argues most persuasively that children should be the primary target audience of our evangelistic efforts. His research showed that the probability of children embracing Jesus as their Savior was five to eight times greater between the ages of 5 and 12 than at any other time in their lives, and that a child’s moral development is set by the age of nine. He then challenges the church to equip parents to evangelize and disciple their children.

We now must step back to 2002, a year before Barna’s book was published. Don MacLafferty, a Seventh-day Adventist minister of a Collegedale, Tenn., church, launched a pioneering ministry, Kids In Discipleship. This ministry equips congregations, parents and mentors to evangelize and disciple children. When he read Barna’s book, he was thrilled and encouraged that such a respected researcher and writer echoed his convictions and passion.

This ministry offers training and a curriculum for congregations around the world. To date, members from 24 churches in the Pacific Union have gone for training. Beginning this year, K.I.D. University will be offered in our local conferences, thereby increasing access and reducing expenses for local church teams.

Churches wishing to receive training can send up to four individuals as their church team. One of the four must be a pastor. Each team must register by calling Cheryl Martin at The KID Ministry Center (423-893-3266) and paying the registration fee of $1,400 (Kid-Center@KidsInDiscipleship.org). This fee includes three days of training, materials and curriculum to implement this initiative in the local church, and three meals. More information is available from the website: www.KidsInDiscipleship.org.

I am very excited about this ministry because it is Bible-based and well-researched. We now have a strategy to empower parents so that they can win and disciple their children. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has historically provided two institutions charged with evangelizing our children—the church and the school. This ministry adds a third institution—the home.

It is my hope and prayer that all of the parents of children ages of 5 to 12 in the Pacific Union will be trained to mentor their children to be disciples of Jesus. It is also my prayer that when Jesus returns, all of us parents will be able to personally present each of our precious children to Him. What a glorious day that that will be!
Southeastern California Conference closed 2009 with 68,373 members — a net increase of 770 members during the year.

“A total of 1,885 people joined our congregations by baptism or profession of faith,” said Sandra Roberts, conference executive secretary. “The remainder of our growth came from Adventists transferring their membership here from other conferences.”

When asked to name a few church growth highlights for 2009, Emil Peeler, director of church growth and discipleship, immediately mentioned the coordinated outreach of the Hispanic churches in Orange County.

“The baptism of 73 new members in October at the Crystal Cathedral was the largest single baptism of the year,” Peeler said, “but that’s only one piece of the larger picture. Working together all year, the pastors and members of Orange County’s Hispanic Adventist churches increased their membership by 277.” (For more of the story, see the January Recorder, page 6.)

The San Bernardino 16th Street church reported baptizing 75 people in 2009. “That’s the highest number of baptisms for any church in the conference,” Peeler said. The second highest was 73 at the Loma Linda University church.

“According to our records, 106 churches conducted some form of public evangelism last year, in comparison with 83 in 2008,” Peeler said.

Evangelistic methods differed widely, Peeler continued. An example of a traditional series of meetings was the one conducted at the Fontana-Juniper Avenue church in which 43 persons were baptized. But a number of other churches, such as San Diego Point Loma, La Mesa, and Riverside Indonesian, are engaged in ongoing outreach activities specifically tailored to their communities.

While happy to see the church in SECC grow, Roberts has a continuing concern: the conference’s loss of members: “Not just those who transferred somewhere else,” she says, “but those who asked that their membership be dropped from our records or those we refer to as ‘missing,’ who can’t be located.”

“Member retention needs to be an important focus in all our churches,” Roberts said. “We’re encouraging our churches to keep updating their membership lists as well as to maintain an active ministry of reaching out for missing members.”

“The Corona church is one of several I know of that have made locating and ministering to missing members a focus of prayer ministry,” Roberts said. “I’d like to see us do more of this.”

SECC ended last year with a total of 68,373 members. A total of 1,885 joined local congregations by baptism or profession of faith during the year.
A dozen Calimesa church members have adopted a “Prayers and Squares” theme to start a new local church ministry.

Alice Soderblom and a group of dedicated women have joined an interfaith outreach that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of lap-sized quilts that are machine quilted and then finished with hand ties.

Unlike other quilt groups that make quilts for charitable causes, this new ministry promotes prayer as well as providing comfort.

Since this ministry started in May 2009, the women have made 21 quilts, each a special gift of love. The list of recipients includes the new senior pastor of the church, sick babies, people with cancer, and adults and children facing surgery or personal crisis. Each person has a special need for prayer.

According to Soderblom, the leader of the local ministry, the Calimesa church is number 870 of the many Prayers and Squares chapters around the world. The interfaith organization began in 1992 in Rancho Bernardo, Calif., and has spread across America and overseas.

Soderblom says that the idea behind these quilts is quite simple. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the quilt layers, and the ends are left free to be tied with a square knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is said for someone in special need. That person then receives the finished quilt.

At Calimesa, the prayers are usually said in the lobby of the church before, between and after services. Members of the quilting group are there to help with the knot tying as needed. Each person who ties a knot and prays is provided with a bookmark with the name and special request of the person who will receive the quilt, so they can continue to lift up the person in prayer.

Each quilt also has a label stitched on the back that gives the recipient’s name, the month and year, and the name of the Calimesa church as a member of “Prayers and Squares, the Prayer Quilt Ministry.”

The Calimesa group meets each Tuesday morning in the church’s Community Services Center. Supplies are donated, but some items, such as batting, need to be purchased, and for this the church has set up a special fund. Recipients of the quilts are not expected to pay for them but to take them home for their own use and spiritual encouragement.

One of the group members called the project a “unique opportunity to be of help to members and non-members alike.”

A four-page brochure prepared by the group invites members to donate cotton fabrics, quilt tops that have already been partially prepared, quilt batting, sewing machines, and other quilting supplies. The quilters also appreciate monetary donations from members of the church to expand the ministry. Members of the group have spent several hundred hours helping cut fabric, sew, iron, hand-stitch the binding, put ties in the quilts, and many other parts of the procedure.

Assisting Soderblom in the leadership of the group are Rosalie Maddalene, Vandal Shattuck, and Cordy Deffner.

Louise Holder, left, and Marian Chrispen, upper center, are shown working on quilts with their sewing machines during one of their Tuesday sessions at the Calimesa church.
A half dozen Chinese members came together about 10 years ago with a vision of planting a church to minister to the Chinese population of more than 150,000 living east of the 605 freeway. Beginning with Bible study groups in members’ homes, the church planters soon met with Hacienda Heights church leadership, obtaining permission to hold Sabbath afternoon services and seminars in the church fellowship hall.

With the blessing of Los Angeles, Loma Linda and San Gabriel Chinese congregations, the Hacienda Heights Chinese Adventist Fellowship was born Jan. 14, 2006. July 1 of that year, the fellowship invited Paul Cho, Ph.D., then president of Taiwan Adventist College and Griggs University Asia, to serve as pastor. Arriving with a five-year plan to establish a church, Cho led members in prayerfully and energetically implementing the plan, with health seminars, evangelistic series, Bible studies, fundraising concerts involving the T.O.F.U. (Training Our Faith in Unity) youth choir, and other outreach. The group organized as a company in 2008.

Jan. 9, 2010, nearly a year before the congregation’s five-year plan concluded, the Hacienda Heights Chinese Adventist Fellowship was officially organized as a church, with 152 charter members. The organization service recounted the congregation’s history, thanked God for enabling them to fulfill their vision and welcomed more than 400 guests from Chinese congregations in the area. A gala dinner at a local restaurant capped the day.

“Don’t go ahead of God, go along with Him,” Cho said of the path members had taken. “All glory for what we are celebrating today goes to God; we just do the work. 2010 marks the 50th anniversary of Chinese Adventist work in Southern California; today we are the third organized Chinese church in the area. We have a strong spiritual foundation in the six people who began our mission.”

“Evangelism outreach to the Chinese community is challenging, due to its diverse cultures,” noted Pete Lou, chairman of the organizing committee. “Our members are committed to share the third angel’s message to all Chinese, including those people from other Asian countries. A fund has been established to raise funds for owning our own church building. We remain humble and committed, entrusting our ministry in God’s hand and letting Him lead us.”
Members at the L.A. Central Japanese church are getting greasy for God. Terence Vance started an oil change ministry to local Japanese people who could benefit from low-cost routine auto care and friendly faces.

“At the end of one Sunday, the sweat, grease and dirt associated with oil changes were smeared across our tired, grinning faces,” said Vance. The idea for a low-cost oil change ministry came from a desire to do something good for the local Japanese community.

Vance’s father taught him how to change oil. “I decided that since everyone needs an oil change for their car, I could turn my talent for wrenching into a ministry,” he said. “The most deserving of such a great deal in our target demographic are Japanese single mothers and financially challenged Japanese international students.”

Pastor Nozomu Obara and Associate Pastor Samuel Chung, along with the church board, decided to support the quarterly ministry. For $5, they change the oil and filter, perform a 10-point check and provide a yakisoba (noodle) lunch. Each event has a 10-car limit.

The group ordered windshield oil-change reminder decals with the church’s web address and a Christian message. Part of the ministry includes befriending visitors while they waited for their cars. “We had no problem finding volunteers in our supportive church family,” said Vance. Members invited their non-Christian mechanic buddies to help, so the ministry reached both staff and visitors.

The group advertised on Japanese-America’s “Craigslist” and hung posters at Japanese markets. Responses filled nine of the 10 available spots. “Three people cancelled, but we had prayed that the Holy Spirit would work to bring whoever needed to come,” explained Vance.

Sunday morning, only four of the cars turned up. Even so, “All four guests were very interested in our church; three stayed for hours to eat and chat,” said Vance. “My non-Christian mechanic buddies stayed well after we had finished, asking to be involved again.”

“I know God will use my simple talent again for our second quarterly oil-change ministry,” said Vance. “Although I cannot report that anyone gave their life to Jesus that day, the Holy Spirit planted seeds, and seven new people can find our church without a GPS!”

Four people in the community received low-cost oil changes during the church’s first oil change ministry event.
Paradise Church Presents “The Storyteller”

Kathy McFarland

Last year, the Paradise Adventist church conducted a four-weekend evangelistic outreach series titled “The Storyteller” — 12 nights focusing on Jesus’ life and ministry through His story and the stories He told.

The church decided to reach out in a non-traditional way in order to appeal to the many unchurched people in its area. “The average person in our community has little or no current Christian experience,” said Paradise church Senior Pastor Ben Maxson. “We felt that the focus would have to be on introducing them to Jesus ... We also wanted something that would make Jesus more real for our own members.”

Pastors and laypeople worked together to present “The Storyteller.” Paradise Adventist Academy teacher Dave Vixie researched and then dramatically recreated stories from Jesus’ life and ministry. “I imagined myself into each story, relating experiences of my own life,” he said.

Also, 10 individuals presented contemporary vignettes — short monologues of real-life situations — that highlighted the needs that people of today experience, and how God can meet those needs. Each evening concluded with Maxson presenting reflections on how Jesus’ story can make a difference in people’s lives.

“The Storyteller” was followed up by a new 14-week discipleship approach called “Your Story Begins” for those who were interested in learning more about how to live and walk with Jesus.

Among the 15-20 people who attended the follow-up meetings were two couples from one family. After a co-worker invited Suzanne Sayre to “The Storyteller,” she wondered how to invite her husband, Steve Braswell, who was experiencing a very low point in his life. Around the same time, Paradise church head elder Randy Waring invited Braswell to the meetings.

Wanting some moral support from his family, Braswell urged his mother and stepfather, Lois and Harry Poppelreiter, to attend also. At the first meeting, Braswell said he felt he had found a safe place to learn about the Lord.

On Aug. 1, 2009, Braswell and Lois Poppelreiter were baptized together. Sayre and Harry Poppelreiter also became members of the Paradise church through Profession of Faith.

Said Braswell: “I have gone from being a godless man to being a child of God.”
Paradise church member Dave Vixie experienced both fun and challenges in portraying the Bible characters he presented. For instance, he wanted his role of the demoniac to be a “full-sensory portrayal.”

“I wanted the character to look, sound and even smell like the outdoor wild life that must have been his,” he said. “I rolled in the rain-soaked mud of my horse arena, then drove to the church. When I walked forward to make the presentation, some young people jumped up and ran from me — not much differently than the disciples who ran from the possessed men!”

Vixie said his most challenging presentation was recreating the crucifixion of Jesus from God’s perspective. “I agonized over this presentation,” he said. “To try to describe God and His grief diminishes Him. I sat for nearly three days in prayer and silence for ideas. When I finally wrote something down, it seemed so inadequate ... All I could do was trust that God’s love for each one of us would be revealed in the story of the sacrifice of His Son.”

Vixie appears as the wild demoniac who was freed by Jesus.

Jon Holland, a pharmaceutical manager of a $100 million territory in Washington, put his job on hold to attend ARISE (A Resource Institute for Soul Winning and Evangelism). “This is absolutely hands down worth it!” he says.

Though he had an open door to return to his company, Jon and his wife, Melinda, decided to stay in Sonora, Calif., for a year to help church members follow up 57 active Bible studies.

Jon was one of 52 graduates of the 16-week ARISE Flagship Program that wrapped up in December 2009. “This group of young, and not so young, people epitomized the desired outcome of ARISE — changed lives,” says David Asscherick, director. The students knocked on thousands of doors and studied with more than 100 people in the Sonora area.

The 1999 Youth for Jesus evangelistic series in Orlando, Fla., was Asscherick’s first evangelist effort. Joined by Nathan Renner and a team of Bible workers, more than 100 people were baptized at the outreach sponsored by Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries.

The Michigan Conference invited Asscherick and Renner to serve as pastors and also asked Asscherick to be a conference evangelist. The ARISE concept was born to train those who desire to witness for Christ but are held back by fear. The eight-year-old institute relocated from Troy, Mich., in early 2009.

“We are not intentionally training people to be full-time Bible workers. It is for discipleship,” Asscherick explains. “We tell them, ‘This is the beginning for the rest of your life.’”

ARISE offers three programs: CROSStraining, a three-week session geared toward, but not exclusive to, college students that want to be effective soul-winners (June 2010, San Jose, Calif.); Bible Boot Camp, a two-week course on core teachings of Scripture (September 2010, Sonora, Calif.); and, the Flagship Program, a 16-week program with a total immersion experience in the art, science and labor of both personal and public soul winning (September-December 2010, Sonora, Calif.).

Reaping the Results

The culmination of the 16-week session is public meetings. “The
church basically provides a place, acceptance and fellowship for the visitors,” says Renner, senior pastor of the Sonora church.

ARISE took it to the next level. “I’ve seen people I would have never thought would come to church,” says head deacon Vern Jones about the packed sanctuary. “It was absolutely amazing!”

“Our philosophy is long-term. We are not looking for a big number of baptisms at the end of the meetings. We like people to have a fairly solid relationship with Christ and the church,” Renner explains. “The thing that is just thrilling the church is that everyone we have baptized is still coming.”

“The students have made a tremendous difference in the community. My hairdresser raved about how professional they were,” says church member Connie Allen who has a day job but loves giving Bible studies. “I am so into this Bible work.”

Currently, 45 church members are giving Bible studies and following up the requests from the community.

“The effects of their balanced gospel preaching and teaching are having a powerful effect on this generation of young people,” says President Jerry Page. “Their love for Jesus and His Word is contagious as they lead others to commit to the mission and message of the Adventist church.”

From January through May, Asscherick and Matt Parra preach and teach around the world and hold weekend trainings in churches in Central California. “Our life is unbelievable,” Para says.

“We believe the world is coming to an end,” adds Asscherick. “We covet that feeling.”

For more information, go to www.ariseinstitute.com.

The ARISE Crew

David Asscherick (2nd from left)

An avid rock climber, aspiring skateboarder, and tattooed singer in a punk rock band, Asscherick was a 4.0 pre-med student in his junior year of college when he was converted. After his girlfriend broke his heart, his friends who owned a vegetarian restaurant he frequented gave him a book called The Great Controversy. Asscherick’s life was turned upside down by his Adventist friend.

Nathan Renner (3rd from left)

A passionate rock climber and nominal Christian turned atheist, Renner returned from a rock-climbing adventure in France to hear about another adventure — a miraculous healing of his friend, Asscherick, whose ankle was badly injured during a rock climbing accident. “I just became a believer,” Renner says. “We began studying the Bible, and I was converted.” Together, they enrolled in the Black Hills Mission College.

Three years later, in 1999, Asscherick and Renner, along with a team of Bible workers, arrived in Orlando, Fla., to hold the very first Youth for Jesus meetings sponsored by Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI).

Matt Parra (left)

When Matt Parra’s mom invited him to the Orlando meetings, he agreed to go. By then the 25-year-old had seen the world, thanks to the U.S. Navy, had been divorced, and was in a life of drugs.

“These people were different,” Parra says about his first encounter with Asscherick, Renner, and their team, which now included their wives. “They talked weird, were simple and plain, but had an inner strength. Maybe these are God’s people.” Parra made a decision for the Lord and was one of more than 100 people baptized at the end of the meetings. He immediately enrolled in the Black Hills Mission College.

Randy Ban (right)

Though being raised in an Adventist family and receiving Adventist education K-12, Ban had one foot in the church and one foot in the world. While at Canadian University College, Ban “began to come back to the Lord for real” and had a conversion experience. After finishing his business degree he attended ARISE in 2006.

“I didn’t know that this type of Christianity existed,” Ban says in describing his experience at ARISE. He joined the team as the administrator in 2007.
Public Health Investigators and Student Publish in International Journal

Heather Riefsnyder

Four Loma Linda University School of Public Health investigators on the National-Institutes-of-Health-funded Tobacco Control Leadership Training research grant and a public health doctoral student published an article on tobacco use in Cambodia in the December 2009 issue of the international Bulletin of the World Health Organization together with investigators from the Ministry of Health and World Health Organization in Cambodia, as well as Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Cambodia.

The most significant finding in the report is the high rate of older Cambodian women using smokeless tobacco, says lead author Pramil Singh, Dr.P.H., associate professor of epidemiology. Seventeen percent of Cambodian women use chewing tobacco — more than 560,000. Prevalence increases as women age; about half of rural women over the age of 50 have the habit.

The reason for its high use, especially in rural areas, tends to be the influence of older relatives, appetite reduction, and the alleviation of morning sickness during pregnancy.

“For tobacco control programmes, this poses the immediate challenge of ‘educating’ rural women against long-held cultural, familial and traditional medical beliefs,” the report states. “Tobacco control programmes to decrease tobacco use in pregnant women may also need to include health education for their older relatives and health-care providers.”

The findings were reported by news sources including The Washington Post and The Associated Press. The report is based on the largest study ever undertaken of tobacco use in Cambodia. It was conducted in 2005–06 by LLU School of Public Health, the National Institute of Statistics (Ministry of Planning, Cambodia), the National Center for Health Promotion (Cambodia), and ADRA Cambodia.

The report can be read online at www.who.int/bulletin/en/ under the link for past issues. In addition to Singh, School of Public Health investigators Jayakaran Job, M.D.; Linda Hyder Ferry, M.D., M.P.H.; and Synnove Knutsen, Ph.D., M.D., M.P.H., and epidemiology doctoral student Jaime Lopez are authors on the paper. There were three additional authors not from LLU.
Loma Linda University continues to support Hopital Adventiste d’Haiti (HAH), a 70-bed facility built in 1978 that is currently serving as one of the clinical centers for the nation.

Following the 7.0 earthquake that rocked Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010, the hospital suffered only minimal damage and quickly became one of the few functional hospitals in the region. Loma Linda University is coordinating teams on the ground there and working to provide the hospital with much-needed medical supplies.

In 2003, the hospital joined Adventist Health International, an nonprofit international organization based at LLU.

Additionally, the School of Medicine class of 2010 adopted the hospital in Haiti three years ago and has been involved with it since then.

“Several members of the LLU School of Medicine class of 2010 prepared a shipment for the hospital that included several surgical saws and a sterilizer,” says Dustin Jones, M.A., associate director of public relations at LLU. “Their support for the hospital in Haiti and our teams there has been amazing.”

A team was also deployed from the School of Public Health’s Center for Public Health Preparedness. This team collaborated with ADRA and HAH with rapid public health assessments that serve as the baseline for relief efforts.

Loma Linda University has partnered with Park Ridge Hospital and Florida Hospital to help maximize response to the humanitarian crisis in Haiti. From this collaborative effort, a reliable system for scheduling and transporting medical teams, supplies, and equipment into Port-au-Prince has emerged. More than 30 pallets of supplies have already been transported to HAH.

The Global Health Institute at LLU continues to collect names of individuals who possess skills that would be best suited to assist at the hospital, as well as medical supplies.

Additionally, a website at LLU was created to accept donations for HAH. Funds donated thus far have been used to purchase a sterilizer, a generator, orthopedic saws, medications and other medical supplies.

For more information, visit www.llu.edu or contact the LLU office of philanthropy at P.O. Box 2000, Loma Linda, CA 92354. The phone number is 909-558-5010.
“Ya’át’ééh!” is the Navajo greeting visitors hear at the Diné Outreach, a Seventh-day Adventist self-supporting ministry to the Native Americans at Coppermine, Ariz.

Outreach directors Allen and Kelly Fowler share their vision: “Our purpose is to share Christ with the Diné (Navajo) people in the northwest part of the reservation. The people we minister to face difficult challenges in life. We want to direct their minds and hearts to Jesus.”

Allen was raised in the area around Coppermine. His father, though not a Christian, was a spiritual leader in the Native American Church, a group that uses peyote in its services.

The Fowlers met in Page, married, and lived for a number of years in Tennessee. Then they felt God was leading them back to the lands of their ancestry.

The Navajo people in the Coppermine area are very traditional, and the area has been virtually untouched by Christianity. Therefore, Diné Outreach touches people who don’t know Jesus at all.

The Fowlers planned to build a large community center where they could host outreach events. Mission-minded families from Tennessee, Washington and Colorado spent two weeks during the Christmas season to help complete the construction.

A community Christmas program was first on the events list. Hosts presented gifts to each guest, gave away more than 100 coats, and prepared a holiday meal that fed more than 150 families in attendance.

Pastor Darayl Larsen presented a dramatization of the story of Jesus’ birth. “No one made a move,” recalled Allen. “All eyes riveted on him and the story of when the whole world was dark on the night Messiah came to earth.”

“By faith, a church is being formed and work is getting done,” says Allen. “So many churches were represented and responsible for making this our first Christmas in Coppermine a success for the Lord. I pray that more mission-minded churches will jump on board to help hasten the Lord’s coming here in Navajo land.”

For additional information, visit www.navajooutreach.org.
Rwandan Orphans Lift
La Sierra Alumna’s Faith

Darla Martin Tucker

From the vehicle’s window Michelle Jacobsen could see the children lining the dirt road leading to their orphanage, happily greeting her return. At that moment she realized just how much she had missed each of them and how glad she was to be back in Rwanda.

It was Nov. 28 and Jacobsen, a June 2009 graduate of La Sierra University, had been absent from her English-teaching post at the Gakoni orphanage for about a month due to an illness that brought her stateside. She and fellow La Sierra student Emily Gifford had arrived at the brown brick orphanage and a primary school six weeks after graduation, prepared to teach English and hoping for an African adventure. For Jacobsen, the odyssey became a lesson in perseverance and inspired a spiritual commitment.

Jacobsen and Gifford are participating in a year-long missions program through Reach International, Inc., in Berrien Springs, Mich. They connected with the organization through LSU’s missions office. Jacobsen, a history and politics major, had envisioned a political career prior to her work in Rwanda. Before enrolling at LSU, she attended Columbia Union College, now Washington Adventist University, in Takoma Park, Md., largely because of the school’s proximity to the political scene of Washington, D.C.

“I always thought I’d go to law school or do something in peace and conflict studies,” said Jacobsen. She originally considered serving in Africa through the U.S. Government’s Peace Corps program, but her parents suggested she work through a Seventh-day Adventist organization. When she heard about the need for volunteers at the Gakoni orphanage in Rwanda, Jacobsen was hooked. “I thought it was going to be an epic adventure,” she remembered.

The adventure turned out to be an exploration of beliefs, of ability, of commitment. Approximately 75 youngsters live at the orphanage. Nine women help care for them. Nearby Lake Muhazi serves as the compound’s water supply. During the weeks following her arrival, Jacobsen researched ways the orphanage’s food supply and funding sources could be supplemented with vegetable gardens and chicken farming. She secured donations from an organization for a water pump and acquired water filters. “The kids were drinking water straight out of the lake,” she said.

Food, water and medicine top the list of Jacobsen’s concerns for the orphanage, “but there are tons of things they need. Current projects include work on a new roof and a new multi-purpose room to potentially accommodate worship services and English lessons.”

The experience of helping others in difficult conditions, in a country still recovering from the horrors of the 1994 genocide, caused Jacobsen to put her political interests on hold and consider mission service as a career. “The people are amazing. Everyone is so genuine and incredible,” she said of her Rwandan experience. It’s an adventure, she said, “to know you’re helping these people.” The experience in Rwanda strengthened Jacobsen’s faith and changed her perspective. “I’d always been Adventist but it wasn’t until lately ... that things started to change within me,” she said. Jacobsen’s quest, she says, has become “What can I do with the Lord helping me?”

Michelle Jacobsen put her political aspirations on hold to volunteer at an orphanage in Rwanda for a year. Now she’s considering a career in service work.

Notice of Constituency Meeting of La Sierra University

The biennial Constituent Membership meeting of La Sierra University will convene at the La Sierra University Alumni Center, 11500 Pierce Street, Riverside, on Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is (1) to receive reports from the University and its auditor, (2) to amend the Bylaws, (3) to appoint Trustees as specified by the Bylaws, and (4) to transact such other business as may be submitted by the Board of Trustees.

Ricardo Graham, Chair
Randal Wisbey, Secretary
Global Medical Brigade Travels to Honduras During Christmas Break

Janna Vassantachart

During the Christmas season this year, Pacific Union College held its first Global Medical Brigade trip. The site was in Honduras, the second-poorest country in Central America, and 22 students and one physician devoted a week of their vacation to provide medical care.

GMB is an organization developing sustainable health initiatives and providing relief in areas of limited healthcare access, with a focus in Central America. It is a program of Global Brigades, Inc., the world’s largest student-led global health and sustainable development organization. The organization defines “brigades” as “groups of passionate volunteers who mobilize toward positive social change.”

Last year, several PUC students went on a GMB trip with UCLA, and this year the movement spread to the PUC campus. In December, the PUC students were joined by a few La Sierra University and Loma Linda University students, PUC staff member Edilson Garcia, and student Janna Vassantachart’s father, Prasit Ben Vassantachart, who works in internal medicine. The PUC brigade traveled to Tegucigalpa and settled into brick cabins alongside Sociedad Amigos de los Niños — Nuevo Paraíso Village, the orphanage project of a nun named Sister Maria Rosa.

The first day was spent visiting the orphans and viewing what one woman envisioned to help God’s children. Each of the following three days brought the mobile brigade clinic to a different community. Mornings began before the rooster call to account for traveling time — up to four hours a day bouncing through hilly terrain to bring medical service to people whose nearest clinic was a day’s travel away.

On site, triage, physician consult and pharmacy stations were set up. Global Brigades provided two additional physicians, and University of Southern California’s dental group also joined the brigade for a day.

The language barrier created a special challenge. Edilson “Chino” Garcia and juniors Jessica Kremer, Katherine McMillan and Kaileen Yeong, the four bilingual volunteers, were in high demand between triage and the physicians. Other students kept Spanish dictionaries on hand and jotted key phrases on index cards. Without any Spanish background, freshman Jeremy Lam could obtain symptoms from patients in triage after a five-minute crash course.

Once seen by a physician, patients waited for medicines to be packaged and labeled by students in the pharmacy. The medicines were donated by various organizations and brought to Honduras by the volunteers. Sophomore Carissa Kan said, “Working in the pharmacy was a good learning experience... After the trip, I was even more convinced that pharmacy was the right choice for me.” Other new skills included learning to wrap blood pressure cuffs from LLU nursing student Elisha Ilio.

The days flew by, and the patient count was tallied. Day one provided medical service to 250 people, day two to 365, and day three to 250.

The Honduran medical mission trip was a meaningful experience for each volunteer. Students bonded over a singular purpose and worked together. New goals were set: learn Spanish. Appreciation was renewed for the simple things: fluoride. And, a purpose as humans was revitalized: service.

Twenty-two students and a physician spent a week of their winter break on a Global Medical Brigade trip to Honduras.

Courtesy Janna Vassantachart
Newsletters
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Fallon Student Wins Essay Contest

Rebekah Bonjour

Teaira Lawson, a third-grader at Fallon Seventh-day Adventist School, recently won first place for her age category in the Leaders of Tomorrow essay contest sponsored by the Fallon Auto Mall. Teaira received a $100 prize, which was hand delivered with a certificate and a large bunch of balloons in December. “I worked hard for two months on my essay,” Teaira said. “I was surprised. I didn’t expect to win.”

She was also invited to the Fallon City Council meeting to be recognized by the mayor on Jan. 19. “It made me feel important to be able to shake the mayor’s hand,” she said. “If you try your best, you can win.”

“I am very proud of Teaira for her hard work and her humble attitude in winning,” said Rebekah Bonjour, Teaira’s teacher. “This experience for her has shown my other students that they don’t work hard for nothing. They are more excited than ever before to get serious about their writing.”

Notice of Constituency Meeting of the Nevada-Utah Conference

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd Constituency Session of the Nevada-Utah Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 1, 2010, at the Hilton Garden Inn Las Vegas/Henderson, 1340 West Warm Springs Road, Henderson, Nevada.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive the quadrennial reports, to elect conference officers, departmental directors, and the Conference Executive Committee; and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the session.

According to the constitutional provision, each organized church is entitled to one delegate for each fifty (50) church members or fractional majority thereof.

Larry W. Unterseher, President, Jason D. Bergmann, Secretary
On March 24, 1990, Wayne and Cynthia Foulston flew their small plane to the Hawaiian island of Lanai for a weekend of relaxation. Wayne taught at Hawaiian Mission Academy, and it was spring break.

At that time, Lanai was one big pineapple plantation. There was only one small town and a total population of only 2,500 people. On Sabbath morning, they walked from their hotel to the small Adventist church across the street. The building was a small plantation home that had been donated to the church by a plantation manager in 1953. When they stepped into the church, there were just four members there — Pastor Gerardo Cabanilla and his wife, Gladys, had lived on Lanai for about seven years. The other two members were Winifred Basques, who had become the first Seventh-day Adventist on the island in 1945, and Hermingilda Oliva, who had been baptized there in 1953.

As church was about to begin, Cabanilla asked Wayne to preach the sermon. “I had never preached a sermon in my life. So the best I could do for them was read the sermon of the month from an old copy of the Quiet Hour magazine,” Wayne says.

After church, Wayne was overwhelmed when the members told him they were the first visitors to come to the church in two years. “I began thinking of how many times we had come to Lanai in the past, just so we could go to the beach,” says Wayne. “The Lord had blessed us in so many ways. We owned our own plane and could visit the outer islands as often as we wanted. I looked at my wife and whispered to her that we should do something to help this church.”

Four weeks later, the Foulstons went back to Lanai, and they brought Pastor Lyle Arakaki from their home church on Oahu as a guest speaker. And a month later, they brought another, and another, and another. One Sabbath every month for the past 20 years, they have been going to Lanai and taking guest speakers with them.

In those 20 years, the Foulstons have flown to Lanai for church more than 300 times with more than 200 different guest speakers.

One Sabbath several years ago, Wayne felt impressed to go to Lanai, even though it wasn’t their regular week to attend. When he arrived at church, he saw that Ellery Limpahan, the head elder, had prepared the bread, grape juice, and washbasins for communion, but was there all alone. Since Wayne brought the attendance to two, they were able to celebrate the communion service after all. “It was one of the most wonderful experiences of my life,” he says.

“I am not a mission pilot, I am a pilot with a mission,” says Wayne. And throughout the years many others have joined in his mission.

This year, through the generosity of some faithful supporters, Keoki Gandeza is serving in Lanai as a Bible worker.

Since 1990, 26 new members have been baptized, three inactive members returned to church, and seven new members transferred to Lanai from other Adventist churches.

Unfortunately, when the pineapple plantation closed, many people moved off island and six members have passed away, leaving just six now faithfully attending church.

“Words cannot describe the feeling that comes over me as I see even one of the members coming through the door of the church on Sabbath morning,” says Wayne.

“Never is anyone taken for granted, and never is a visitor unwelcome. When working for the Lord, success is not always measured in numbers. If Jesus would have come to save just one, why shouldn’t we?”

Notice of Constituency Meeting of the Hawaii Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the Regular Quadrennial Constituency Meeting of the Hawaii Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene at 9 a.m. Sunday, April 25, 2010, at Hawaiian Mission Academy, 1438 Pensacola Street, Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive reports, to elect conference officers and the Executive Committee, and to transact other business as may properly come before the constituency meeting.

Each organized church shall be represented by one (1) delegate and one (1) additional delegate for each forty (40) members, or major fraction thereof.

Ralph S. Watts III, President
Robert H. Lloyd, Executive Secretary
Residents Find Paradise: Adventist Health’s Fourth Joint Venture Retirement Community Opens

Shawna Malvini

Picture a place where palm trees usher visitors into a spacious courtyard. Sunlight pours into the well-appointed lobby and glistens off the marble tile, illuminating droplets from a bubbling fountain. Laughter peels through the air and passers-by grab a bite to eat, visit the salon, go for a swim or head to the putting green.

What sounds like an exotic resort is actually a description of Paradise Village, San Diego’s newest senior retirement and assisted-living community. Paradise Village is a joint venture between Adventist Health and Generations, LLC., the same Portland, Oregon-based company that partners with Adventist Medical Center on CherryWood Village and Walla Walla General Hospital on Wheatland Village. Adventist Health celebrated the grand opening of the community late last year with festivities that were open to the public and included live entertainment, refreshments and campus tours.

“Retirement centers like Paradise Village are an important facet of our mission,” said Bob Carmen, Adventist Health president and CEO. “By working with value-driven companies such as Generations, LLC, these communities allow us to extend our healing services and sacred work.”

Paradise Village offers a variety of senior housing options as well as wellness opportunities and access to outstanding services and amenities. The new retirement community is designed to offer a spacious village feel for its residents. Much like a vacation resort, Paradise Village residents enjoy a Tuscan inspired plaza, which includes restaurant-style dining from an award-winning chef, full-service credit union, 212-seat theatre, state-of-the-art fitness center, salt-water swimming pool and many other amenities. Additionally, the community offers a Wellness Center and various religious services right on site, and Adventist Health’s home care agency — based in Chula Vista — maintains an onsite office for home health needs.

Residents like Marjorie Pressler are making the most of the beautiful new community. “I am enjoying living at Paradise Village very much,” said Pressler, who attends the La Mesa Adventist Community Church. “I especially like having such a variety of activities to participate in without leaving the campus.”

Currently, the complex is comprised of 278 independent living apartments and 92 assisted living apartments. Eventually, there will be 406 independent units for a grand total of 498 apartments on the campus. Residents can rent month-to-month and are able to transfer to assisted living apartments should the need arise. Also, visitors can take advantage of a “Seasonal Stay” program and live at Paradise Village for a few months out of the year.

“I love it,” said resident Betty Mallorca, a member of the Paradise Valley church. “I feel so safe and secure. Everyone on the staff is so nice and accommodating, and the residents I have met so far are all friendly. I feel so at home here.”

“Paradise Village is truly a place for the young at heart,” said Wendell White, chairman of the award-winning Generations, LLC.

To learn more about Paradise Village, visit www.liveatparadise.com, call 888-366-2092, or find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Paradise-Village/216599966188.
Sabbath Work Conflict Resolved with Last-Minute Letter

Ed Fargusson

Tuesday morning, Jan. 5, as Mariangeli Morauske got ready for work, she was filled with anxiety. She works at a small rural mental health clinic, and derives great satisfaction from the help she is able to provide people in her community. But this was no ordinary work day. She had been given two weeks notice of her termination, and Jan. 5 was to be her last day because she had asked to be relieved of a Saturday rotation so that she could keep the Sabbath.

A few days before Christmas, Mariangeli called the Pacific Union Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty for help. She outlined her work as a therapist at the clinic, and how she had been willing to take emergency on-call duties on Sabbath, because she felt it was appropriate healing ministry consistent with Jesus’ example. She reported that a new Saturday rotation was being added, requiring staff to transport patients. She would be required to work about one Saturday in five, but she objected to this work as a violation of the Sabbath. The employer had rejected her request for religious accommodation, telling her that if she did not work, she would have to resign.

Four months earlier, Mariangeli’s husband had lost his job. The family was now depending on her as the only bread-winner. She began to feel the pressure, and turned to the Lord in prayer. She also turned to the Church State Council, the Adventist Church’s religious liberty ministry in the southwest, devoted to helping members with these employment problems. She visited the website, www.churchstate.org, where she found sample letters to further urge her case to the employer. She submitted a very articulate explanation of how the employer could easily cover the needed Saturday duties without including her in the rotation, and without unduly burdening anyone else. In fact, her coworkers were willing to help. Her supervisor took this request up the chain of command, but the answer still came back in the negative — either she agree to work the Saturday rotation, or she would “resign” effective Jan. 5.

Mariangeli kept praying and enlisted the support of her church. On Monday, Jan. 4, PARL director Alan Reinach crafted a letter on Mariangeli’s behalf designed to enlist the good will and cooperation of the supervisor in order to preserve a positive employment relationship, while clearly informing him that the company’s position was illegal, and would be contested if it was not changed. It was intended to keep the peace, not start a war in court.

The letter was sent late in the day on the 4th and read at 6:04 a.m. on the 5th. When she arrived at work, her supervisor informed Mariangeli that she would be removed from the Saturday rotation and could keep her job. “I want to thank the attorney for taking the time to review my notes and write a letter,”
Four of the speakers from last fall’s “Marriage, Homosexuality and the Church” seminar at Andrews University convened a special program at the West Covina Hills church on Sabbath afternoon, Jan. 2.

The well-attended session began with Professor Nicholas Miller of the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University providing an overview of the topics covered at the Andrews seminar. These topics included biblical studies, psychology and counseling, and legal and political science perspectives.

Professor Gary Wood of Andrews University discussed the history and theory of rights, and the influence of the Declaration of Independence. Neither law nor culture continue to respect the notion of rights derived from the Creator, he claimed. Instead, he believes rights are considered purely artificial, a creature of culture, with only nominal respect for either constitutional text or founding theory.

Attorney Alan Reinach, religious liberty director of the Pacific Union, discussed the recent legal history of marriage in California and the possible implications for religious freedom of gay rights. He claimed that recent court rulings have held that gay rights trump religious freedom, even though religious freedom is a constitutional right.

Finally, Professor Scott Zentner of California State University San Bernardino discussed why humans know the importance of marriage and family on a very basic level — that society requires marriage for its survival, and that men and women each bring something different to the process of raising of children.

The afternoon session followed a sermon by Miller, where he urged listeners to expand their vision of what it means to champion and defend God’s law. Both marriage and the Sabbath are referenced in the text of the Three Angel’s Messages, he said, and both institutions ordained in Eden are under attack in these last days. He challenged Adventists to speak for and proclaim both institutions.

Audio CDs of the Andrews University seminar are available from American Christian Ministries, www.acm.org.
PREACH Seminar to Originate from Pacific Union

Mark A. Kellner

Four of the world’s top expositors of the Christian message will unite to present unique perspectives on communicating “The Word ... For These Times,” the 2010 PREACH Professional Growth Seminar organized by the Ministerial Association of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The event will be held April 20, 2010, in Pasadena, Calif., adjacent to world-renowned Fuller Theological Seminary.

Speaking from the sanctuary of the First Congregational Church will be noted Yale University theologian Miroslav Volf; Fuller’s Margaret Shuster; Adventist Review associate editor Roy Adams; and Lawrence Geraty, emeritus president of La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif.

“It’s a great privilege to share these experts with the world, and I’m excited about bringing this event to the Pacific Union,” said Anthony R. Kent, associate ministerial secretary for the world Adventist Church and conference director. “Ministers around the world will not only hear great preaching ideas, they’ll know it is originating from the Pacific Union.”

Miroslav Volf

Miroslav Volf currently serves as the Henry B. Wright Professor of Theology at Yale Divinity School, and founder and director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. A native of Croatia, Volf has forged a theology of forgiveness and non-violence in the face of the horrendous violence experienced in Croatia and Serbia in the 1990s.

While he maintains active interest in many aspects of faith’s relation to culture, his primary work has focused on theological understandings of work, the church, the Trinity, violence, reconciliation, and memory.

Volf is a highly awarded author; among other honors, Free of Charge: Giving and Forgiving in a Culture Stripped of Grace was selected as the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Lenten Book for 2006. Another of Volf’s books, Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation, has been recognized by Christianity Today as one of the most significant theological books to be published in the last 100 years.

Marguerite Shuster

Marguerite Shuster is a returning guest speaker at the PREACH Seminar. She is currently the Harold John Ockenga Professor of Preaching and Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. Shuster joined the School of Theology faculty in 1992 after serving as an adjunct assistant professor. Her courses include homiletics, systematic theology, making doctrine live, and various preaching practica.

Shuster’s published books include The Fall and Sin: What We Have Become as Sinners (2004), Perspectives on Christology: Essays in Honor of Paul K. Jewett (1991), and Power, Pathology, Paradox: the Dynamics
UNION NEWS

Roy Adams

Known and admired by Adventists and others around the globe, Roy Adams is also a returning speaker. He’s the associate editor of Adventist Review and Adventist World magazines, the global papers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and has served in these positions since 1988. He was born in the Caribbean, and received his education at schools in Grenada, Trinidad, Canada, and the United States. The bulk of his pastoral work was in the Ontario and Quebec provinces of Canada. After completing a Ph.D. in theology from Andrews University, he lectured at what is now the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines. From that base, Adams’ teaching and speaking appointments took him to many other Asian countries, and he continues to be a highly sought after international speaker at major clergy professional development meetings. Adams has also served as associate secretary of the Canadian Union. He is a prolific writer and has authored several books over the years. His three latest are Crossing Jordan (2005); From the Heart (2007); and The Wonder of Jesus (2008).

Lawrence Geraty

While many in the Pacific Union know Lawrence Geraty by his last position as president and professor of archaeology at La Sierra University, some may not know his extensive, varied background. He grew up as a citizen of the world in a Christian missionary family who served in China, Burma, Hong Kong and Lebanon. Being educated in seven different countries and various states across the USA set him on a lifelong course committed to the values of diversity. Geraty earned a Ph.D. with distinction from Harvard University in Hebrew Bible and biblical archaeology, taking examinations in 10 languages. In his notable scholarly career, Geraty has received numerous honors, including a Fulbright Fellowship and serving as advisor on archaeology to former Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan. As well as being president of several scholarly societies, he has also served as professor of archaeology and history of antiquity at the Adventist Theological Seminary, and president of Atlantic Union College.

The April 20 event in Pasadena is open to the public, and will be broadcast in North America via the Hope Church Channel, as well as over the Internet. More information on the seminar can be found at www.preach.ministerialassociation.com, where details on signing up to host a remote broadcast can also be found.

“Ministers around the world will not only hear great preaching ideas, they’ll know it is originating from the Pacific Union.”
FRESNO ADVENTIST ACADEMY/ FRESNO UNION ACADEMY ALUMNI REUNION (April 23-24). Golf Tournament, 4/23, Registration 10:00 a.m. 4/24 followed by a potluck. Bring a dish to share. Honor classes are 1940, ’50, ’60, ’70, ’80, ’90, ’00, & ’05. Info: Richelle Rickard, 559-251-5548 ext. 145 or rickard@faa.org.

La Sierra University

CHORAL VESPERS (March 6) 4 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

WINTER BIG BAND CONCERT (March 6) 7 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

LEE ZIMMER, GUITAR (March 7) 7 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

FESTIVAL OF ONE ACTS (March 3, 4, 6, 7) 8 p.m. Matheson Hall. One-act plays featuring student directors and actors. Info: 951-785-2241 or lsudirama@lasierra.edu.

SPRING QUARTER BEGINS (March 29) Enrollment: 800-874-5587.

WORLD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (March 6, 13, 20 and 27) 2-5 p.m. Info: 951-785-2209.

STAHl CENTER MUSEUM OF WORLD CULTURE (March 6, 13, 20 and 27) 2-5 p.m. Info: 951-785-2041.

FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP, FRIDAYS, 7-45 P.M. INFO: 951-785-2090.

Nevada-Utah

UTAH AREA TOWN HALL MEETING (March 7) Wasatch Hills church, 2130 Foothills Drive, Salt Lake City, 10 a.m. Info: 775-322-6929.

UTAH AREA-WIDE YOUTH RALLY (March 12-13) Provo church community center, 255 S 700 E, Provo, with special guest speaker Kymone Hinds, youth director for the Central States Conference. Info: Ben Carson, 801-885-2334 or MotionsYouthRally@gmail.com.

LAS VEGAS AREA TOWN HALL MEETING (March 18) Maranatha church, 100 E Washburn Road, N. Las Vegas, 7:30 p.m. Info: 775-322-6929.

JOURNEY TOWARD INTIMACY MARRIAGE RETREAT (March 19-21) Hilton Garden Inn Las Vegas/Henderson, 1340 West Warm Springs Road, Henderson, Nev., with special presenters Willie and Elaine Oliver, NAD Family Ministries director. Info: Heuifanga Finau, 775-322-6929 or hfinau@nevadauthah.org.

Northern California

ACADEMY CHORAL FESTIVAL (March 4-6) Final concert 3/6 at 5 p.m. Lodi-Fairmont church, 730 S. Fairmont Ave., Lodi. Info: Coreen Hicks, 925-685-4300, ext. 1264.

ADVENTIST CHURCH/SCHOOL CONNECT TRAINING SEMINAR (March 7) 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. NCC headquarters. Info: 925-685-4305, ext. 1347.

GREETING SEMINAR (March 13) 3-5 p.m. Speaker, Reginald Horton. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave., Sacramento. Info: 916-381-5353.


AY MEETING (March 20) 5 p.m. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave., Sacramento. Info: 916-381-5353.


PACIFIC INSTITUTE LAY TRAINING (March 28) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. NCC headquarters. Info: 916-508-7536.

SABBATH SCHOOL OUTREACH CARNIVAL (March 28) 1:30-6:30 p.m. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave., Sacramento. Info: 916-381-5353.


RIO LINDO ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND (April 2-4) Info: principal’s office, 707-431-5100.

SACRAMENTO ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI REUNION (April 3) Events begin at 9 a.m. Church service and afternoon vespers in addition to activities planned by the honor classes: ’90, ’89, ’85, ’80, ’79 and ’70. Info: slovell10@sbcglobal.net.


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MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER (April 9-11) Sacramento-area hotel. You can have a better marriage! Info: Rob or Debbie Purvis, 530-622-4798 or purviss4@comcast.net.


CHRISTIAN MAN’S RETREAT (May 7-9) New Date! Leoni Meadows. Don’t miss hearing Herb Larsen encourage and equip you in sharing and living the life of Christ. Info: Steve Nicola, 530-260-3616 or 530-626-3610.

Pacific Union College

CHOIR CONCERT (March 6) The PUC chorale and I Cantori choir perform in Paulin Hall at 4 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

ORCHESTRA CONCERT (March 6) Paulin Hall, 7 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

EVENSONG (March 13) End the Sabbath with music and the spoken word in the PUC church at 5:30 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

Southeastern California

BIBLE QUIZ-O-RAMA (March 6) Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Info: 951-509-2260, lizadams@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

PRISON MINISTRIES SEMINAR (March 6) 3-5 p.m., SCCC assembly room, Riverside. Speaker: Cleveland Houser, North American Division. Info: 951-509-2337.

PATHFINDER KITE DAY (March 7) San Diego. Info: 951-509-2265, judd.jeffreys@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

SECC HANDBELL FESTIVAL CONCERT (March 12) 7 p.m., Alumni Pavilion, La Sierra University, Riverside. Guest clinician Kevin McChesney. Info: 951-509-2313.

“THE ADVENTISTS” (March 12) 7:30 p.m., Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda. West Coast premier of film producer Martin Doblmeier’s PBS special that documents Adventist history and features the Adventist lifestyle as it interacts with health, science and faith at Loma Linda University and Florida Hospital. Info: 959-558-4570, ext. 47094, or dretzer@lumc.org.

NEW ENGLAND YOUTH ENSEMBLE VESPERS CONCERT (March 5) 7:30 p.m. Camarillo church, 3975 Las Posas Rd. Soloists, Brandon Hynum, tenor; Miden LaPang (13), violinist; Michael Patterson, pianist; Chris Ziadi, flutist. Virginia-Gene Rittenhouse DMA, conductor. Washington Adventist University, sponsor. Info: 805-482-4632.

BIBLE QUIZ-O-RAMA (March 20) Desert areas and Orange County. Info: 951-509-2260, lizadams@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

NURTURED HEART (March 21) Info: 951-509-2260, lizadams@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

BIBLE QUIZ-O-RAMA (March 27) North and South San Diego counties. Info: 951-509-2260, lizadams@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

CELEBRATION OF NATIONS (March 27) Beginning at 9:15 a.m., Del Rosa church, 1696 N. G St., San Bernardino. Second International Day celebration featuring a procession with flags from different nations, international cuisine, and an afternoon concert of different nations’ music. Info: 951-359-8426.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY VBS WORKSHOP (March 28) Riverside County. Info: 951-509-2260, lizadams@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

Southern California

BIBLE QUIZ-O-RAMA (March 6) Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Info: 951-509-2260, lizadams@seccsda.org, or www.seccyouth.com.

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“JESUS LOVES JEANS’ YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP FESTIVAL 2.0 (March 5-6) 7 p.m. March 5, Spanish-American church, 1815 Bridge St., L.A.; March 6, 9:30 a.m. White Memorial Church, 401 N. State St., L.A. Free iPod Nanos, JLJ T-shirts, youth ministry tools. (In English) Hispanic Youth Ministry, sponsor. Info: 818-546-8448.


LOS ANGELES ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI HOMECOMING (March 12-14) Fri., 6:30 p.m.; Back-to-School Night, Lynwood Elementary/Academy alumni and honor classes registration. Sabbath, all day; 4 p.m., LYNX reunion, John Dennison/Michael Kelly directing; 7:30 p.m., basketball tournament; Sun., 11 a.m. general session. LAAA, 846 E. El Segundo Blvd. Info: 323-321-2585.

FREE AGAPE LIGHT TATTOO REMOVAL (March 19) Attend vesper service on “free dates” and 10 hours of community service. Vesper service begins at 7 p.m. Culver City church, 5320 W. Adams Blvd. (For low-cost tattoo removal: Call Steven Popkow, M.D., 310-915-9060.) Info: Pastor Jan Kazaz, 310-398-9205; jkazaz@verizon.net.


ARE YOU EATING ENOUGH TO LOSE WEIGHT? (March 23-25) Free, light-hearted lecture and book signing by the authors of The Full Plate Diet. Schedule: 6:30 p.m. 3/23 in Glendale (location TBA); 7 p.m. 3/24 at Simi Valley church; 7 p.m. at Temple City church. Details: scchealthmin.adventistfaith.org.


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0161, ext. 3313, or www.lla.org.
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SINGLE AND OVER 40? An interracial group exclusively for Adventist singles over 40. Stay at home and meet new friends in USA with a pen pal monthly newsletter of members and album. For information send large, self-addressed, stamped envelope to ASO-40, 2747 Nonpareil, Sutherlin, OR 97479.

WWW.ADVENTISTCONTACT.COM SUCCESSFULLY MATCHING single Adventists since 1974. Adventist Contact is the original dating ministry for Adventists. We endeavor to be the very best! Will you be our next success story? Still alone? Why? Join now! See what’s free! Tell your friends. Married through CONTACT? Send your story/photos to: success@adventistcontact.com.

Bulletin Board

DONATE YOUR CAR, boat or RV to Can-vasback Missions. Serving the medical and dental needs of the Pacific Islands. Donation is tax deductible. Autos preferred to be running. Restrictions apply. For more info: 877-793-7245 or visit www.canvasback.org.

GARDENING VOLUNTEER WANTED at Indiana Academy. IA Gardens director works with young adults to grow delicious produce and distribute to our CSA members through the spring and summer. Free eats when café is open, free produce from gardens, and free house/apt. March-Sept. Contact: 317-984-3575 ext. 224.

SPONSOR A CHILD in India! $30 a month can send a child in India to an Adventist school. It pays for tuition, housing, food, uniform and books. Adventist Child India is an official project of the Southern Asia Division of Seventh-day Adventists. For information: 308-530-6655, www.acchild.com or childcare@sud-adventist.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR India. An Engineering College, Nursing College and High School operated by Adventist Layman in Southern India is looking for a pastor, a chaplain and a Bible teacher. Please contact Mount Zion Educational Institutions at info@mountzion.in. Visit www.mzce.in or call Robinson Devad-hason at 619-838-9578 for more info.

WANTED: CHAPEL (VINYL) Records for Adventist heritage restoration project to transfer music to CD and MP3 format so this music is not lost forever. Also wanted: Used Adventist books for missions and HMS Richards Sr., reel-to-reel and cassette tapes. Bring to Redwood and Tahoe camp meetings or call Doug, 909-224-4551, dougyon@hotmail.com.

WANTED: TAG ACTIVITY Cards. The Pacific Union Department of Education is urgently looking for the “Talented and Gifted” Activity Cards for the entire subject of Language Arts. Arrangements can be made to purchase or borrow and return the cards. For information contact: kimberly@puonline.org or 805-413-7206.

Employment

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY IS seeking a Psychology professor. Preferred applicants must have an earned Ph.D. from an APA accredited school with strong training in research methods and teaching experience. For more information and to apply please visit: andrews.edu/hr/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi.

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEeks applications for the position of Director of Institutional Assessment (DIA). The DIA is responsible for coordinating the University’s academic assessment processes and supports the continuous evaluation and improvement of student learning through consultation with faculty, deans, and various governance groups. The DIA provides oversight for data collection and analysis that will ensure compliance with the North Central Accreditation standards and principles. The Director also provides information to the University’s administrative decision makers in order to facilitate strategic planning, policy-making, resource allocations, and enrollment projections. The Director reports to the Provost and will serve as a

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member of key institutional committees and councils. The Director must hold a master’s degree (doctorate preferred), in an appropriate academic discipline with a clear grasp of such things as data collection and analysis, strategic planning, accreditation processes and requirements, and assessment of student learning. Above all, the Director must have a demonstrated ability to work well with people and rally support. Interested candidates apply online at andrews.edu/hr/emp_jobs_salted.cgi and also submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and list of three references, including contact information, to employment@andrews.edu.

CHEF, FRANK R. HOWARD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL is seeking an experienced chef that works well under pressure. Minimum of 3 years of progressive culinary experience and a graduate from an accredited school in culinary arts. Requires skills in training others and special function preparation. Apply at: www.Howardhospital.org.

FEATHER RIVER HOSPITAL is located in Paradise in the beautiful foothills of Northern California just 90 miles north of Sacramento. We offer competitive wages and excellent benefits in a friendly, supportive environment. Paradise Adventist Academy offers K-12 educational opportunities. Search for available positions online at www.frhosp.org or call 530-876-3102 for additional information.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE seeks nursing faculty for didactic and clinical instruction in Adult Health Nursing. Duties include planning, assessing, developing, implementing and evaluating classroom and clinical experiences in associate degree nursing program. For full job posting, please visit www.puc.edu.

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SAN JOAQUIN COMMUNITY Hospital seeks a full-time Employee Health Nurse (EHN). Qualifications and requirements: You must be a graduate of an accredited school of nursing. Bachelors of Science in Nursing preferred. A current California RN license is required, education preparation in Workers’ Compensation is desired and certification in Occupational Health nursing is preferred. Visit our website at www.sjh.us for more information or to apply.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY’s Department of Biology/Allied Health, Fall 2010. Prefer Ph.D. in Biology with emphasis in Anatomy and Physiology. Desire scientist committed to involvement with undergraduate student learning and research. The successful candidate will be a member in good and regular standing of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Send CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to: Keith Snyder, Chairman, Biology Search Committee, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. Phone: 423-236-2929. Fax: 423-236-1926. E-mail: kasynder@southern.edu.

UNION COLLEGE SEES committed Adventist to direct its NCAE-accredited education program. Doctorate and professional achievement essential; experience in K-12 church schools preferred. Candidate may also chair a division comprising education, psychology and social work. E-mail letter of interest and CV to Dr. Malcolm Russell, Academic Dean, marussel@ucolege.edu. Deadline: March 1.

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY School of Business seeks applicants for a full-time tenure-track position in Management/Human Resource Management beginning September 2010. An earned doctorate with emphasis in management is preferred, along with demonstrated teaching experience and relevant business experience. For details and to apply, visit our website at: http://jobs.wallawalla.edu.

OPERATIONRECONNECT.ORG. BOOKS, DVDS and other resources for outreach to missing members. Includes creative ideas from former Insight editor, author and pastor, Mike Jones who accepts occasional speaking appointments. Watch for his new book, “Help, Lord, I Blew it Again.”


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SALT LAKE CITY home for sale. $559,900. 4-bedrm, 3-bath, lovely sun room overlooking swimming pool, updated. Only 1 mile from church and 7 miles to K-8 church school. See online at www.saltlake-realestate.com or call Jim at 801-485-0709.


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“I didn’t know about Christianity until I came to La Sierra University. Coming to La Sierra was a great decision.”

—KEVIN NGUYEN, JUNIOR, ACCOUNTING MAJOR

During Christmas break, Kevin Nguyen shared the news with his family back home in Vietnam—while attending La Sierra University, he had given his heart to God and become a Seventh-day Adventist Christian.

Kevin grew up in a close-knit Vietnamese family. When he came to the U.S. in 2005 to study at a private high school, he knew little of Christianity. Two years later he discovered La Sierra University through an enrollment counselor.

At La Sierra, new friends shared their Seventh-day Adventist beliefs with Kevin. And during campus worship services, his relationship with God began to grow. He began Bible studies at the El Monte Vietnamese Church and was baptized last May.

“I feel very blessed because God led me here,” Kevin says. “I’ll never regret coming to La Sierra.”

At La Sierra University, Kevin’s story is one of many from students and alumni who have grown closer to Christ on our Adventist campus. More than 1,850 students have come to La Sierra this year to earn degrees, prepare for careers, and strengthen their faith on our campus in Riverside, California. We invite you to learn more. Contact us today to find out how faith is found at La Sierra.
AT REST


PARRA, ERNEST – b. April 4, 1912, Singa-


The March 2010 Recorder is available online at www.pacificunionrecorder.com. Letters may be sent to: Editor, Pacific Union Recorder, Box 5005, Westlake Village, CA 91359. E-mail:alicia@pucoline.org
Broadcast Live from First Congregational Church of Pasadena, United Church of Christ, 464 E. Walnut Street, Pasadena, CA 91101 (Adjacent to Fuller Theological Seminary Campus) TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010 9:45 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. U.S. Pacific Time [REPEAT BROADCAST APRIL 21, 2010]

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**Lawrence Geraty** is the President Emeritus of La Sierra University. He grew up as a citizen of the world in a Christian missionary family who ministered in China, Burma, Hong Kong, and Lebanon. Educated in seven different countries and various states across the USA set him on a lifelong course committed to the values of diversity. Lawrence Geraty earned a PhD with distinction from Harvard University in Hebrew Bible and biblical archaeology, taking examinations in 10 languages. In his notable scholarly career, Dr. Geraty has received numerous honors, including a Fulbright Fellowship and serving as advisor on archaeology to former Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan.

**Marguerite Shuster** is the Harold John Ockenga Professor of Preaching and Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. She joined the School of Theology faculty in 1992 after serving as an adjunct assistant professor. Her courses include Homiletics, Systematic Theology, Making Doctrine Live, and various preaching practica. Marguerite Shuster’s published books include The Fall and Sin: What We Have Become as Sinners (2004), Perspectives on Christology: Essays in Honor of Paul K. Jewett (1991), and Power, Pathology, Paradox: the Dynamics of Evil and Good (1987). She also edited and completed Jewett’s Who We Are: Our Dignity as Human (1996) and has published many articles, sermons, chapters, and reviews.

**Roy Adams** is the Associate Editor of the Adventist Review and Adventist World, serving in this position since 1988. He was born in the Caribbean, and received his education at schools in Grenada, Trinidad, Canada, and the United States. The bulk of his pastoral work was in the Ontario and Quebec provinces of Canada. After obtaining a PhD in Theology from Andrews University, he lectured at what is now the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS) in the Philippines. From that base, Roy Adams’ teaching and speaking appointments took him to many other Asian countries, and he continues to be a highly sought after international speaker at major clergy professional development meetings.

**Miroslav Volf** is the Henry B. Wright Professor of Theology at Yale Divinity School, and Founder and Director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. A native of Croatia, Dr. Volf has forged a theology of forgiveness and non-violence in the face of the horrendous violence experienced in Croatia and Serbia in the 1990s. Dr. Volf is a highly awarded author. Free of Charge: Giving and Forgiving in a Culture Stripped of Grace was selected as the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Lenten Book for 2006. Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness and Reconciliation received the 2002 Grawemeyer Award. He has also been featured on National Public Radio’s “Speaking of Faith” and Public Television’s “Religion and Ethics Newsweekly.”