The Recorder is a monthly publication reaching approximately 76,000 Seventh-day Adventist homes in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah. Our mission is to inform, educate and inspire our readers to action in all areas of ministry.

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Go Into the Cities

Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked. “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,” he replied. “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do” (Acts 9:5-6, NIV).

You are familiar with the life-changing encounter that Saul had with the Lord Jesus Christ on the way to the city of Damascus, where Saul planned to persecute Christians. After he met the Lord, he was directed to go to the city to receive further instructions.

In this passage, Saul (soon to be renamed Paul), was directed to the city where Christians were waiting to receive him into the Christian way.

There are a multitude of references to the city or cities in Scripture.

Ever since there was a city, God has been concerned about them, or more accurately, the people who live in them. Think of Nineveh, the city where God sent Jonah to preach a message of warning, an ancient message of “hope and healing” to its inhabitants. Cities are important to God because, to paraphrase the infamous bank robber Willie Sutton, “That’s where the people are.”

Ever since there was a city, God has been concerned about them, or more accurately, the people who live in them. Think of Nineveh, the city where God sent Jonah to preach a message of warning, an ancient message of “hope and healing” to its inhabitants.

Cities are important to God because, to paraphrase the infamous bank robber Willie Sutton, “That’s where the people are.” More importantly, Jesus spent His time teaching and preaching in the cities, in contrast to the ministry of John the Baptist, who held his revivals in the desert areas (see Matthew 9:35 and 11:1).

According to the United States Census Bureau, 82.6 percent of Americans live in metropolitan areas, or cities. Another 10.3 percent live in “micropolitan” or smaller urban areas, and the rest in suburban or rural areas. Today, most Americans live in cities.

One of the initiatives of the General Conference, Mission to the Cities, is focused on reaching larger numbers of people for God with the three angels’ messages, and thus, going “where the people are” in the cities and urban areas. This worldwide ministry of our denomination has stirred the evangelistic passions of members here in the Pacific Union.

North American Division leadership has asked each union to designate cities for special evangelistic focus during the remainder of the present five-year term between General Conference sessions. Realizing that there have been recent large, multifaceted, public evangelism initiatives in the cities of Los Angeles, Calif., Las Vegas, Nev., Phoenix, Ariz., and other cities in our union, the Pacific Union executive committee recently voted to designate the greater San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area of California as one for special evangelistic attention. The almost solid people mass flowing from Oakland through San Jose makes it a challenging area for a variety of soul-winning initiatives.

Years ago, Ellen White wrote, “I had been shown that San Francisco and Oakland were missionary fields and ever would be” (Ellen White, Testimonies, vol. 4, p. 284.3).

While the nature of all U.S. cities has changed dramatically since the above statement was written, it is probably still specifically true of San Francisco and Oakland today.

The Northern California and Central California conferences have joined together to bring the good news about Jesus to the cities of Oakland and San Francisco.

Noting that there are five literal bridges connecting different cities across these two territories, the administrations of both conferences have agreed to title their joint effort, “Bridges: Bay Area for Jesus.”

“Come and live is the invitation of the ages: Jesus, Heaven’s Bridge, awaits your crossing,” says Ramiro Cano, president of CCC.

“Jesus became the bridge between God and humanity, and we are called to be a bridge between people and Jesus,” said Jim Pedersen, president of NCC.

The plan includes simultaneous outreaches utilizing a variety of methodology, including, small groups or cell ministry; aggressive house-to-house literature distribution, health seminars, individual Bible study and more.

To be sure, there are churches and members already deeply involved in outreach of various kinds throughout the area. These conference leaders want to add to the already established activities to create a new climate or culture of evangelism. Not just to have people come into the church and then leave, but to win and retain souls for the Kingdom of God, and lead them to grow as disciples of Christ.

The ancient Latin phrase “pontifex maximus” means “greatest bridge builder.”

Jesus is the Great Bridge between humanity and divinity, and these two conferences, spanning the Bay Area in Northern California, are pledging concentrated resources on either side of the Bay to connect people to Jesus. Let’s not only pray for their success, but also join them in the work through our efforts, corporate and personal, to link people to Jesus the only Bridge between this life and eternity.
Oliver Morada, a social science teacher at Thunderbird Adventist Academy, received a national award at graduation ceremonies Saturday, May 25. Morada is among 10 teachers selected this spring by the Alumni Awards Foundation to receive a 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award. The award included a medallion and $2,000 gift.

“Morada has the unique ability to take an ordinary subject and make it come alive to his students,” says Rick Maloon, TAA principal. “Most history classes are lecture-based, but he turns his classes into a hands-on history lesson. It’s not unusual to see students acting out a historical event in costume or finding Morada standing on a chair getting his students’ attention as he excitedly shares an important concept. He intermingles direct instruction with student-centered activities and encourages a higher order of thinking.”

Over the last 10 years, Morada has taken a major role in the spiritual health of the campus by providing Bible studies for students and preaching at various church venues. In turn, those students began to give Bible studies, and eventually their own evangelistic series while serving their community and churches. Morada encouraged his students to improve their lives by building a relationship with Christ.

Victoria Leavens, a teacher at TAA, has worked with Morada for the last eight years, and during that time, Morada taught her children. “I believe he played an important role in helping my children establish their own relationship with Christ,” Leavens says.

Cody Blake, a former student, now a junior at Union College, credits Morada with influencing his own desire to become an educator. “He made learning a fun experience and created an environment where knowledge became something I couldn’t get enough of,” says Blake.

Morada explains he became a teacher for two main reasons: “One, teaching brings me joy by serving others, especially those who are less fortunate than me. Teaching is a way to give these students hope and inspire them to change the world for God’s glory. The other reason is because of the joy of seeing students succeed and drawing closer to the heavenly kingdom.”

Second, Morada explains that when his former students decide to become teachers because of their experiences at TAA, he feels that is “what makes being a teacher worth it.”

AAF is a nonprofit organization that has awarded grants to Seventh-day Adventist schools and teachers totaling more than $2 million. Since its establishment in 1995, the organization has recognized 115 exceptional teachers with an Excellence in Teaching Award. In 2011, AAF refocused and created the Renaissance Network, an initiative that improves the level of excellence in Adventist schools by providing leadership expertise, vision, resources and training. AAF aims to awaken the Adventist community to the full potential in Adventist education. Learn more at AlumniAwards.org.
Pastor’s Language School Impacts Community

Many cities have an area referred to as China Town. Most China Towns have bright colored buildings, busy open markets, great ethnic food. Honolulu’s China town has one unique difference: the Honolulu Seventh-day Adventist Community Gospel Center.

While pastoring the Hawaii Chinese Vietnamese church, Pastor Frank Loi has operated the community center since 2004. With just a modest 800 square foot space on the second floor, this small facility has made a huge impact. Every weekday, new immigrants seeking to learn English come. Most of the students are middle-aged adults with little to no knowledge of English or the Bible. The two-hour lessons are primarily comprised of Scripture and hymns.

Loi indicates that, “The most common question he is asked is, ‘Who is this Jesus?’” With a broad smile and a chuckle, he says, “and I get to tell them!”

Learning English is a bridge to citizenship and better jobs. Having simple conversational skills can open many opportunities for a new resident. Loi, however, does not stop there. “We offer referrals for legal services, help with necessary forms, public transportation instruction, and more.”

Loi has become a fixture in the community and has been recognized by the City Council for his dedication. He is regularly asked to conduct funeral services for the community and sits on various committees. A handful of members from various churches volunteer once or twice a week, and they are able to assist Loi in the instruction. Every month, the class attends his church, which meets at the Honolulu Central church chapel. His class helps with the service by performing songs in English.

“When I first came to the US, I knew very little English,” says Loi. “I know how hard it is. This is a way our church can serve!” While other similar services are offered nearby, this ministry stands out because of its consistency, holistic service and cost. Loi has never charged for a lesson.

This ministry has not gone unnoticed. People from across the world have made donations. The landlord was so impressed that the rent was reduced by 60 percent several years ago. In a community facing many challenges, Loi and his volunteers are not just serving new residents of the United States, but welcoming them into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Pastor Loi stands at the door that has welcomed hundreds of students for nearly a decade.
Notice is hereby given that the First Quinquennial Session of the Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is called to convene as follows:

La Sierra University Church
4937 Sierra Vista Ave.
Riverside, California
9 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 27, 2013

The purpose of this meeting is to receive reports; elect conference officers, vice presidents for ethnic minorities, the executive committee, and the bylaws committee; and to transact any other business that may properly come before the delegates in session.

Gerald Penick, president
Sandra Roberts, executive secretary
Verlon Strauss, treasurer

Mission story highlights included the personal testimony of Alexis Temko, for whom QHM mission trips were instrumental in overcoming troubled teenage years, and Demetrios Brown, who shared about his outreach to the children on the QHM Thailand mission trip — complete with an on-stage demonstration of a song-and-motions routine he did with the kids.

Bill Tucker, QHM president and speaker, also gave a presentation, along with his wife, Jackie, about their recent evangelism mission trip to the Philippines, an effort that has resulted in more than 6,500 baptisms.

José Rojas gave a sermon Sabbath morning challenging attendees to get involved in soul-winning. And in the afternoon, Christian recording group Selah treated everyone to an uplifting concert.

At one point, attendees were asked to stand, one table after another, representing all the people baptized through QHM mission trips so far this year. Soon the whole room was standing — each person representing almost eight baptisms. A huge applause went up to in praise to God as the audience celebrated nearly 8,000 people baptized already this year.

Attendees also gave an offering that will allow the ministry to reach an additional 8,000 people for Christ.

“It was a wonderful, very professional program,” said Bryan Fellows, an attendee from Michigan. “There were so many stories and reports from what’s going on around the world. I was just captivated as we saw one amazing story after another.”

“We can only praise God for everything that’s been accomplished,” said Tucker. “This was a special occasion, a time to see how the Lord is reaching people with the message of His grace in these last days. And He’s doing it through ordinary people doing extraordinary things in the mission field.”

Video highlights from the Missions Convention are available at www.qhministries.org/convention.

Quiet Hour Ministries is a Seventh-day Adventist supporting ministry focusing on international evangelism. Its evangelism mission trips involve people from all walks of life in reaching others for Christ. Last year, its combined ministries reached more than 200,000 people worldwide. For more information, visit www.qhministries.org.

Steve Hamstra
Hemet Adventist Christian School Celebrates 100 Years

The Hemet Adventist Christian School will celebrate its 100-year anniversary Oct. 20.

“We are like a family,” said Gary Brown, principal. “The older students help the younger ones. The staff works together really well, and we have a biblical theme each year.” This year, the theme is based on 1 Corinthians 14:31.

Hemet is one of the oldest cities in Riverside County. The town was incorporated in 1910 after two wealthy landowners invested in the area, constructing warehouses, an opera house, the Bank of Hemet, rental cottages, a stock farm, a water filtrations system and a stage line to Idyllwild.

Although the town incorporated with only 1,000 people, the school was opened three years later, and Ida Proctor was the first teacher. According to research by Noel Coronel, the Hemet school was the first Christian school in the city. The school grew, and by 1917, there were already two teachers. Mary Cushman taught the first three grades, while Alma Fink taught the rest.

The school went through some growing pains and between 1918 and 1921, during which it was shut down. It reopened in 1922 under the care of Leora Van Benthusen, who was later relieved by Mildred Merryweather.

By 1933, the population of Hemet had grown to 2,300. The Hemet school’s teacher salary was $35 per month, which included firewood and the one room school house’s stove. By today’s standards, that would be equivalent to approximately $620 per month. At this time, the school flourished. It moved from its original location to a spot on Girard Street. The school has since moved again, and is currently located on Hemet Street.

As housing became more affordable, the city kept expanding. By 1975, Hemet’s population reached 12,500, and the school needed to expand. A new school building was constructed on the 10 acres it now occupies.

Although both enrollment and teachers fluctuated going forward, one teacher, Jeanne Miller, taught there for 26 years.

The school has embraced technological advancements in order to engage with students. Smartboards and computers are located in each classroom. In the past few years, the school has gotten new carpet, paint and self-locking safety doors.

Due to the small size of the school, the students are able to go on several field trips each year. Most importantly, the school is involved in several mission trips, working closely with the Restart Mission in Hemet, which serves displaced families. The school is also engaged with a reservation located in Arizona.

Chloë Jacqueline Vander Zwan
with Mario A. Munoz
La Sierra University Constituency Delegates Overwhelmingly Pass Bylaws Revisions

Constituency delegates approved a series of changes to La Sierra University’s bylaws during a special meeting held on the campus on May 23. The revised bylaws document passed by a vote of 69-10, or 87 percent, well beyond the two-thirds vote required for passage. The bylaws revisions provide refinement to La Sierra University’s governance, while addressing some concerns about the university’s bylaws expressed since 1996 by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, La Sierra’s regional accrediting agency.

This follows an information session held on Feb. 21 in which constituents offered feedback and suggestions on the proposed bylaws revisions.

“We all need to appreciate the difficult task that our Articles and Bylaws Committee members have had to complete,” said Ricardo Graham, Pacific Union president and current La Sierra University board chair. “During their nearly two years of study and review, committee members have listened to constituency delegate feedback, and have used care to ensure the revised bylaws meet current governance needs while reinforcing La Sierra University’s clear and unequivocal connection to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its mission and philosophy.”

The significant bylaws changes fall into two main areas:

- Changing the way in which the board chair is selected.
- Making clear the specific roles of the Board of Trustees and the university President.

Delegates approved bylaws changes that require, in consultation with Pacific Union officers, La Sierra University’s board chair to be elected by the board itself from one of the four ex officio member Pacific Union officers, rather than automatically being the union president. This change allows the trustees to select their own chair, while simultaneously ensuring that the chair will always be an officer of the Pacific Union. An additional key limitation would be that neither the chair or vice chair of La Sierra’s board can serve concurrently as chair or vice chair of another university or college board. This resolves Pacific Union’s unique issue in its operation of two institutions of higher education. La Sierra University and Pacific Union College both faced questions from the accrediting agency on this issue that are not faced by institutions in the rest of the North American Division.

Since 1990, La Sierra’s board membership has included nine ex officio members (the Pacific Union president, secretary, treasurer and vice president; the Pacific Union education director; the presidents of the Arizona, South-eastern California, and Southern California conferences; and the University president); and 14 members elected by the constituency. No change in that composition was considered during this process. Additionally, the revised bylaws require all 14 elected trustees be members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Previously one elected trustee could be from outside the Church.

The approved bylaws charge the Board of Trustees with ensuring that the mission and major policies of the university reflect the goals and objectives of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Other changes recognize the limitations of expecting a board to manage day-to-day details of a complex institution.

The board will continue to appoint the president, provost and vice president for financial administration, and grant tenure to members of the faculty. This allows the board to have direct interaction with the administrative, academic, and financial leaders of the university. It allows trustees to maintain financial oversight of the university, and to establish the policies necessary to university governance. The president is identified as the university officer accountable for implementing the board’s broad policies into daily operations.

Trustees will also focus on providing strategic vision for the university, establishing governing policies and protecting the university’s assets. The full bylaws document identifies 18 specific governance functions retained by the trustees under the revised bylaws. The full document will be posted on the university website after the bylaws committee completes editorial changes voted by the delegates.

“God’s Spirit was evident throughout the session,” Graham said. “I appreciated how delegates cared so much about these issues, as demonstrated through the robust discussion and their insightful questions.

“I am optimistic about La Sierra University’s future,” Graham concluded. “The board, administration, and faculty are committed to building this outstanding institution of higher education and developing the Christian commitment of every student.”

Larry Becker
PUC Week of Prayer Ends with Beach Baptisms

Jessee Ebinger almost didn’t enter the water. On a chilly Saturday in May, she stood shivering on the sands of northern California’s Goat Rock Beach. The sun, warm and bright 10 minutes prior, had been replaced with fog. For the Pacific Union College students wrapped in blankets and towels, taking a dip seemed out of the question. However, Ebinger and fellow PUC freshman Emily Miller had come precisely for that reason. They were getting baptized.

“I’m doing this for God,” said Ebinger, who nearly postponed her baptism but decided to plunge into the icy waters with Miller. “It was very, very cold, but very spiritual, and I felt very blessed afterwards.”

The baptisms were part of a special Sabbath afternoon that served as both a Student Association outing and a conclusion to Student Week of Prayer. More than 100 students made the hour-and-a-half trip to the beach. After enjoying a free lunch, students spread out to wade along the water’s edge or skip stones. A few played instruments, while others made a game of tumbling down a sand dune.

“When we’re out there and we’re actually experiencing the beauty of the water — the beach, the waves, the mountains — that automatically brings it to a spiritual feeling, a spiritual peace,” explained senior nursing student Jeff Georges.

The group later gathered along the nearby Russian River, which cuts through Goat Rock Beach to the Pacific Ocean. Because the river lacked the strong currents of the ocean, it served as the venue for the baptisms. Pastor Laffit Cortes, PUC’s chaplain, baptized both girls to the cheers of students.

“It warms my heart,” sophomore Kelsie Nielsen said. Nielsen is the leader of Miller’s Fusion Group, a guidance and transitioning program for first-year PUC students. “I just think it’s really cool that someone gets to share their faith and that I get to be a part of it.”

Both Ebinger and Miller were baptized in 2011, but felt they lost their connection to God. Miller kept telling herself she would “go back” but continued to put it off. Finally, she realized she didn’t know why she was waiting.

“Even if I don’t know how it’s going to turn out, even if I’m scared, I just need to go for it,” said Miller, a nursing major. “I’ve kind of been doing my own thing, and it just wasn’t satisfying.”

Ebinger, who is studying exercise science, had also felt for a time that she wanted to recommit her life to God, a conviction that grew stronger during Week of Prayer. When Cameron Haley, SA religious vice president, made an altar call one night, Ebinger stepped forward.

“I shot right up as soon as he said ‘baptism,’” she recalled with a laugh. “I felt it in my heart that God wanted me to be re-baptized.”

Baptism is not the only decision both students are glad to have made in recent months. They also feel they made the right choice in attending PUC.

Miller spent kindergarten through 10th grade in public school, which she says was a struggle for her faith. She participated in events that often took place on Saturday, causing her to miss Sabbaths at home and church. She resolved to find a place where the social and spiritual aspects of her life wouldn’t be at odds.

“Before I even came to PUC, I decided I wanted to go to an Adventist institution,” said Miller. “I just wanted to feel support, and that’s what I’ve gotten here. . . . It’s just so different to have people understand and not have to try so hard to explain.”

Ebinger also relishes the community at PUC. “It’s probably one of the most amazing schools I’ve been to,” she enthused. “People I’ve just met will come up and give me a hug and ask me how my day went, how my week’s been going.”

Ebinger lights up when describing the friends she’s found, the weekly Girl Talk worships she attends, and the English class where she eagerly scribbles down the daily Bible verse. She also mentions her love for the college’s breathtaking setting, a feature recognized both nationally and by fellow students.

“You get the best of both worlds, you know?” said a smiling Georges on the return trip to school, as the PUC bus rumbled past thick green forests and lazy rivers. “You have the beach and you have the vineyards back at home. You can’t find that everywhere.”

Colleen Uechi
In April, Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy students spent four days working on community service projects at more than a dozen locations around the East Bay and in San Francisco. Projects included cleaning parks, tutoring students, serving meals, sorting clothes, unpacking food and more.

Principal Ally Emmerson and chaplain Juan Damon planned the week as part of the Bible curriculum, to reinforce lessons about servant leadership. “The community service week really opened students’ eyes so they could put into action everything we talked about in class,” said Damon. “Don’t say it; live it — that was our theme for the year.”

The students’ efficiency and positive spirit impressed the local agencies where they volunteered. Several groups cleaned up parks in the cities of Concord and Martinez, which included picking up trash and fishing shopping carts out of a creek. “The people in charge thought that, being teenagers, we’d be slackers, but we got the work done really fast,” said senior J.V. Ellorin.

The teens also unpacked and prepared food for distribution at Project Open Hand, which provides food for senior citizens and people with HIV. “Open Hand said that ours were the first kids they had seen that had fun while they were volunteering,” said Emmerson. “They smiled and enjoyed the experience.”

Senior Kari Logan spoke enthusiastically about the days she volunteered at Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center in San Francisco, tutoring kids at an after school program. “These little kids were so excited to learn and get help from new people. I loved it!” said Logan, who plans to become a teacher.

Faculty members and volunteers drove the students to the various locations and worked alongside them. Pleasant Hill church member Richard Gustafsson especially enjoyed observing the teens serve meals to older members of the community. “It was a wonderful experience, seeing the reaction between the students and the seasoned citizens,” he said.

The teens enjoyed the camaraderie of the day. “My favorite part was working with my friends,” said Alice Chen, a senior who sorted clothes at The Hall Closet, a thrift store that helps support a local juvenile hall. But she also learned the importance of volunteerism to the community. “Money comes to the thrift shop and goes to the juvenile hall kids. Without the volunteers to go work there, we won’t see that happen,” she said.

Emmerson restructured the class schedule on Fridays so that students took turns volunteering at The Hall Closet throughout the rest of the school year and will continue the program next school year. He said that he is happy — not only because his students are giving to the community — but also because they are experiencing first-hand the blessings of service. “The week really got the kids excited for the rest of the school year,” he said. “They want to do it again.”
Kids Build the Future, One Lego At A Time

“All teams were recognized for accomplishments in various categories during the closing ceremonies, reinforcing the ARL commitment to celebrating all students’ growth. “It is not about the robot. It is about the teamwork, and the knowledge they gain — the life skills,” said Mel Wade. “The robot is just a vehicle to learn from.”

Next year, ARL will expand to include students in grades 9 to 12.

Deborah Thornton

Magalia Robotics Engineers Combine Learning and Fun

Does STEM education (science, technology, engineering and math) sound boring? Not for the Magalia Robotics Engineers! They are a team made up of students from Magalia Adventist School and local homeschooled who competed in the 2013 Adventist Robotics League Championship. (See article above.)

Back in November, the team began preparing for the regional competition at Chico Oaks Adventist School in March. They used that event as a learning experience to improve their performance for the national competition in Sacramento — the only Northern California Conference team at that event. “It was rewarding to see all the results of their hard labor,” said Tom Hunt, teaching principal, who worked with the team along with volunteers Nancy Hunt, Scotty Nordstrum and Loren Sutherland.

On the day of the national championship, the team’s robot — named Pixel — competed in the robot games, performing tasks designed to assist older people. “My favorite part was getting to see the robot in action,” said fourth-grader Cristian Gordon.

During another part of the competition, the team presented their invention, also focused on the theme of helping senior citizens. After interviewing seniors in the Magalia area, the students designed a device to help people who have fallen. “The kids came up with this idea: what about a little hydraulic cushion on rollers that scissors up and helps seniors get up on their feet again?” said Hunt.

The team discussed their ideas with a local mobility specialist, who was encouraging and gave them some design ideas. When they presented the project in Sacramento, fourth-grader Kassie Moore played the role of the senior citizen in need of help. “My favorite part was acting it out for the judges. It was really fun!” she said.

Although the Magalia Robotics Engineers didn’t win the competition, the students learned the benefits of cooperation and discovery. “I liked how we worked as a team and how we got to learn new things,” said sixth-grader Harmony Dodson.

Their principal believes that their hard work will pay off in the future. “We’re teaching practical math at a young age,” said Hunt. “And if they get interested in it now, they’ll be ready when they’re older for greater challenges.”

Julie Lorenz

EMMA GRYTE

Christian Zausch and Cristian Gordon (on left) look on as their teammates, Aidan Cowan and Jaron Brown send their robot, Pixel, on a competitive mission at the regional competition at Chico Oaks Adventist School.

ARL is a recognized partner of US FIRST Lego League (FLL), a worldwide association of clubs that promotes science and technology education through helping students build and utilize robots. “It is a growing movement within our Adventist schools across the North American Division,” said Mel Wade, SAA technology director and ARL executive director, who founded the organization in 2003. “We have events and teams representing every region and union across the country. ARL opens the doors for Adventist students to get the full FLL experience without having to compete on Sabbath.

Throughout the day of competition, each team of students in fourth through eighth grades moved steadily through the various checks, as community member judges evaluated the teams in the areas of core values, robot design and project presentation. “It is so great to have students of different ages working together and helping each other,” said Nancy Thornton, SAA fifth grade teacher, who served as a project judge.

The highlight for all teams was the robot games portion of the day. Each team’s robot had two minutes and 30 seconds to complete as many tasks as possible on a tabletop playing field. For this year’s challenge of “Senior Solutions,” robots fixed a broken chair, gardened, walked the family dog and even went bowling!
Malibu Group Visitation Program Yields Baptisms

Since 2008, an Adventist church group has been meeting in the affluent coastal city of Malibu, Calif. According to leaders Judith and Job Miranda, the group’s existence and growth are the result of God’s blessings on the members’ efforts, prayers and visitation.

Members and friends visit residents each week, inviting them to Sabbath services in a local school. At the school, weekly invitations to study the Bible are given after services, for those who want to learn more about Jesus and the Bible. Job Miranda teaches those who come to the studies during the 45 minutes between church and potluck, as food is warming for the popular weekly plant-based meals.

“Job studies with interested persons for about eight weeks,” Judith noted. “Some of those who recently have been baptized are former members reconnecting. Others are from local families, ranging in belief backgrounds from atheism to Catholicism to non-Christian faith groups.”

One who came was David*, an 18-year-old college student who was being groomed for leadership in his non-Christian faith. His mother Anna*, a former Adventist, had responded to invitations from the church and was baptized in 2012. In the process of reconnecting, she enrolled her daughter Sarah* in an Adventist academy, and then enrolled David there, as well. Both have since graduated.

Earlier in 2012, Sarah was baptized in the Malibu group, and encouraged her brother to study for baptism. One Sabbath, he sat in on Job’s Bible class to compare Jesus and the Bible with his own faith views. When the class was invited to give their hearts to Jesus, most of the students did, but David said he still had questions.

Before dawn the next morning, David called his Mom and said, “Get up out of bed! I was almost killed.” He had dropped off a friend and was confronted by knife-wielding carjackers. David hid under some shrubbery, praying, “God, if Jesus is truly Your Son, spare my life, and I will tell the world about Him.” Though the men were very close to where David was hiding, they did not find him.

Shortly after, as Judith was meeting with the group, David came to her. “What do I need to be baptized?” he asked. “I’ve already given my heart to God. I want to serve Him for the rest of my life.”

In December 2012, David invited his extended family to the church for his baptism. Since then, 10 people were scheduled for baptism on June 19, 2013. A total of 18 persons were baptized in the Malibu congregation during 2012 and 2013. Encouraged, Judith put up a big red thermometer, kicking off a campaign to send the Great Controversy to every home in Malibu. “God impressed someone from the community to donate $10,000 for the project,” she said. So the group, numbering about 50 members and visitors, scheduled a mailing of the books and is continuing to pray and visit. Twenty-five young adults from the church will follow up on the mailing project by knocking on doors to inquire if residents have received their copies.

The Malibu Adventist Group meets at the Juan Cabrillo Elementary School, 30237 Morning View Drive, Malibu 90265. For information, call 818-458-8884.

*Names have been changed.

Pastor Will McCall invites others who wish to study for baptism at a later date. Two people responded.
Back to Eden Korean Group Hosts Food Festival

Two large rooms displaying tables of delectable vegan foods were the center of attention at the annual Back to Eden Vegetarian Cooking Festival in Los Angeles in May. Conducted by Back to Eden, a church plant sponsored by the Los Angeles Central Korean church, the festival attracted more than 700 participants.

Lavish balloon decorations hung from the first-floor entry and in the large dining room area of the office building in which the group meets each week. For the festival, the group rented additional rooms to accommodate the many platters of food samples prepared by members and friends of the group. From 50 to 70 people — the majority of whom are community guests — regularly meet for Sabbath services at Back to Eden.

According to Pastor Il Kwon Yang, the group’s health outreach essentially follows NEWSTART principles taught by the Weimar Center of Health and Education.

Sabbath morning sermons often use science-based illustrations, and focus on key elements of every day living. On the day of the festival, the topic was relationships — with ourselves, with others and with God.

Yang shared the results of a longevity study in which mice were the subjects. “A single mouse lived 600 days,” Yang reported. "Mice living in a cage with others would fight and then hug (having relationships); they survived for 700 days. A third group of mice was cared for and loved by the lab attendant, and lived 950 days.

“Humans are the same,” Yang added. “If I respect myself and others, my relationship with others will be happier. Also if I respect God, who takes care of me, we will be happier. We will live not only 950 days, or 100 years; we’ll have eternal life!”

The church plant’s programming has a total-health focus that includes periodic NEWSTART weeks and prophecy seminars. Yang has degrees with specialties in preventative and public health and nutrition and in Oriental medicine. He has been a pastor for more than 25 years. His wife, Misook Lee, is a registered dietician. She plays a featured role in church outreach, leading out in cooking demonstrations and nutrition information on Sabbath afternoons. Lee also has a weekly cooking class on a local Korean radio station and has published a number of illustrated cookbooks.

“So many people came to the vegetarian cooking festival,” said Pastor Yang. “We appreciate the many people who helped and who sponsored the event. Now our guests know that the Adventist church has good food and will teach them how to make it. We are preparing a vegetarian cooking class that we want to hold in a restaurant. We are praying and looking for a restaurant that we can rent for Bible, health and cooking classes on Sabbaths.” Back to Eden currently meets at 520 So. Lafayette Park Place, #400, Los Angeles 90057.

About 70 percent of the festival attendees came from the community to view some 200 plant-based dishes during the afternoon and sample them later at a gala dinner.
Adventists in Porterville Known for Community Health Programs

The Porterville church has a long tradition of providing quality health education programs to the community. Stop Diabetes Now!, a three-day seminar held April 22-24, was the most recent gift to the residents of Porterville.

The congregation's health ties to the community began 36 years ago with the introduction of the Heartbeat program. Through the ensuing years, cooking schools, smoking interventions, stress and depression management, and brain function seminars have been offered.

“We've come a long way since 1977,” says Frank Baughman, member of the original Health Services Committee and current committee chair. “The City of Porterville now requests programs from us, opens up City Hall and the library for our use, and provides refreshments for attendees. Intra-city memos and newsletters also advertise upcoming church programs.”

The STOP Diabetes! seminar began at 6 p.m. with a light, healthy meal, one of which was breakfast. Dr. Milton Teske presented on managing and/or reversing Type 2 diabetes. He is currently director of the Emergency Department for the Adventist Medical Center in Hanford, Calif., and was formerly affiliated with the Weimar Health Institute, Weimar, Calif.

Beginning with the database contacts, advertising also happened with colorful posters placed in doctor and business offices, ads on local radio, newspaper articles and word-of-mouth. Pathfinders personally handed out more than 800 invitations.

The result was an average attendance of more than 100 each night. “It met a real need in this community,” says Pastor Douglas Motsenbocker.

Church members rallied behind the Health Services Committee, giving hours of preparation and attention to the smallest details. Advanced online and phone registrations enabled members to greet guests by name as they arrived. Interpreters were present to sign for members of the deaf community.

Volunteers prepared tasty, healthy and colorful meals, which were served by the Pathfinders, trained by church member and former waitress Debbie Wagner. “I was humbled to realize God gave me a gift I could use for service,” Wagner says. Participants learned basic skills to manage blood sugar, lose weight safely, increase exercise capacity, and halt painful neuropathy. “This guy is good,” said an attendee of Teske. “He presents the information in a way that's very easy to understand.”

One participant, very enthusiastic over her results, said she returned to her chiropractor and thanked him for displaying a poster in his office.

Church member Heidi Prado concurred. “It was great. I learned a lot of things I didn’t know.”

At the seminar’s conclusion guests asked, “How do we make the transition to a healthier diet? Where can we get recipes?” More than two-thirds of the participants filled out survey cards, with the majority requesting natural food and cardiovascular seminars.

Participants left with Teske’s favorite admonition ringing in their ears: “Whole plant foods eaten whole; walk, walk, walk, walk, walk!”

Church members remain busy with post-seminar outreach. Two follow-up meetings for nurture and support have been held since. With Teske’s consent, church member Steve Rose taped the seminar for use with housebound physical therapy patients. Plans are underway to create a link on the church’s website for viewing the seminar.

“We feel that offering various health programs to the community for many years has greatly changed and improved Southern Tulare County’s viewpoint of Adventists,” says Baughman. “We are no longer thought of as a cult-type organization, but as a truly valid, mainstream, Christ-centered church concerned for the health, well-being and longevity of its friends and neighbors.”

The church members’ goal is to continue having a positive impact on community residents by helping them to live longer, healthier and happier lives.
Newsletters
Newsletters
Newsletters
Newsletters
Fallon Students Visit Yosemite National Park

Fallon Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School students recently visited Yosemite as part of the school’s annual outdoor education program. For some, this was their first trip to the national park.

The outdoor education excursions are carefully planned to give students the opportunity to spend quality personal time with God, as well as to learn by hands-on experience in diverse natural settings. This year, the venue was Yosemite National Park with an emphasis on the valley and the Mariposa Grove.

Kathy Melendy, principal/teacher, made study booklets for the children to complete during the week. The students occupied the many hours of travel time by documenting statistics and points of interest along the way, including: all of the bodies of water passed, the routes taken, and mountain passes traversed. Learning to read and follow maps accentuated their study. Each day’s lesson ended with the opportunity to record their experiences and reflections on God’s love for them.

On Sabbath morning, the group watched the sunrise over Half Dome from Glacier Point. "I didn’t remember it being so beautiful," exclaimed Teaira Lawson, a sixth-grader.

"How can anything look so beautiful," sixth-grader Jamie Bekiares wondered as she gazed upon the valley.

While there, the group heard what sounded like dynamite blasts and falling rocks. On Monday, during an open-air tour of the valley, the park ranger shared that there had been a massive rock slide — so large that it had destroyed the switchbacks on the John Muir Trail. Fortunately, because it happened early in the morning, no one was on the trail in the path of the slide. If it had been later in the day, it’s possible that many people could have been killed or injured.

None of the students had ever seen a sequoia, so visiting the Mariposa Grove was a special treat. The grove is home to more than 500 giant sequoias.

The children loved standing at the bottom of the Grizzly Giant and looking straight up trying to see the top nearly 200 feet above their heads. "This is awesome," Seth Plants, a fourth-grader, shouted.

"God is great," they all agreed after taking scores of pictures of Bridal Veil Falls, Half Dome, and El Capitan.

They also were thrilled to stand at the bottom of the thundering waters of Yosemite Falls and Bridal Veil Falls while mist covered their upturned faces and soaked their clothes. "Yosemite is outrageously beautiful, with giant redwood trees and fantastic waterfalls," said Morgan Rodrigues, an eighth-grader. "It was what we call real genuine eye candy."

Kathy Melendy
At Adventist Health, Every Dog Has Its Day

Frank Davis is a star. On a recent visit to San Joaquin Community Hospital in Bakersfield, Calif. Frank couldn’t make his way through the visitor lobby without fans crowding near, stretching out their arms to touch him. They even loved him when he drooled.

Frank, also affectionately known as Franky, is a 6-year-old Newfoundland and one of four pet-assisted therapy dogs in SJCH’s new Pet Partner Program. The program brings patients and pets together to provide diversion and relief from the experience of a hospital stay. It’s just one of several Adventist Health hospitals that have recently implemented pet therapy programs to enhance emotional well-being, optimize healing and reduce the stress of hospitalization.

“Animal assisted therapy visits reduce feelings of isolation, sadness, pain and vulnerability,” said Dr. R. Philip Doss, an ophthalmologist on staff at White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, which began its pet therapy program in May 2012. Because pets have a special way of reaching people, pet therapy is part of many Adventist Health hospitals’ philosophy of personalizing and humanizing the hospital experience, and pet therapy is often administered through the hospital’s spiritual care program.

“Animals remind us that God works in mysterious ways — or at least in many different ways,” said Dan Stillwell with Behavioral Health Services at Castle Medical Center in Hawaii. “Willy, the therapy dog, for us, has been one of God’s angels!” Together with the hospital’s other therapy dogs, Willy brings comfort and unconditional love to patients and staff.

In addition to boosting spirits during informal encounters, some therapy dogs can be put into structured situations with more specific goals, such as helping someone reach a clinical goal, improve mobility or enhance memory. They may help patients recovering from stroke, for example. A physical therapist may sit a dog on a raised table and ask a patient to stand while petting or brushing the dog, as part of

Kathy Summers (far right) has been breeding Golden Retrievers like Sophie (with the Laulima Unit staff) and training them to be therapy dogs for more than 25 years. Sophie (a relative of Willy) is loved by Castle Medical Center associates as well as the patients she visits.
their rehabilitation program. Or the patient may walk the dog for a short distance. In the cancer center at Feather River Hospital in Paradise, Calif., furry visits from a pooch named Chili Dog help patients cope with the serious business of fighting cancer by reducing anxiety and stress levels.

Pet therapy can also be used to provide mental stimulation to residents of long-term care facilities, assist with counseling sessions in mental health centers, help children improve their reading skills by reading to a therapy animal and enhance quality of life by providing motivational, educational and recreational interactions.

All animals taking part in pet therapy programs are specially trained, and usually certified through an approved animal therapy organization. The dogs are always accompanied by a trained professional, and the dog-handler teams are escorted by a hospital volunteer. The teams wear hospital identification badges and the dogs wear special therapy dog jackets. Before each visit, dogs are checked to ensure their vaccinations are current, that they’re clean and well-groomed and that they’re free of respiratory or other infections. Additionally, pet-handler teams are experienced in interacting with people who are ill, physically handicapped, developmentally delayed or multi-handicapped.

At Howard Memorial Hospital in Willits, Calif., visits focus on longer term patients who are not in critical condition. Once the patient’s physician clears the visit, a nurse helps bring the patient to the hospital’s outside deck. Orthopedic patients may visit with their nurse or physical therapist during scheduled “walk-abouts.”

At other hospitals, “meet and greet” pet therapy visits may occur throughout the hospital — but patient safety always comes first. Visits exclude areas where the risk of infection is too high, including maternity care, intensive care, the emergency department, burn units, isolation rooms, surgical recovery and others. The pet-handler teams check in first with unit nurses who ensure patients are approved for a visit. Before and after each visit the volunteer escorts help patients wash their hands or clean them with alcohol hand sanitizer.

While the evidence is mostly anecdotal, studies have shown that pet visits have an immediate calming effect, bringing down blood pressure and heart rates in patients of all ages. Other documented benefits — for both patients and hospital staff — include promoting joy, reducing anxiety, promoting healing, alleviating depression and providing bereavement assistance.

“There’s a reason why dogs are ‘man’s best friend,”’ said Allen Thompson, a dog handler who makes visits at SJCH with a 2-year-old boxer named Molly. “They care. They show that they care. They love their people all the time and don’t ever seem to have bad days. They’re always ready to receive and give love.”

Lovable Newfoundlander Franky’s handler Sherry Davis agreed. “Some very good therapy dogs are into it just because they love people and the attention they get. Then there are other dogs that seem uniquely fine-tuned and sensitive. These dogs will seek out the people who need them most, often refusing to move on down a hallway, changing direction for no reason or even sitting at a closed door to indicate that they are needed.”

The bottom line, Thompson said, is that therapy dogs are special. “They’re not really trained to be comforting and well-behaved. For the most part, they just come by it naturally. They love to be loved, and they give it back double.”
A Great Loma Linda Tradition

By Richard H. Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., President of Loma Linda University Health

My last patient took longer than anticipated, so I was late as I headed across campus several Thursdays ago. Slipping into the back of the University Church, I could see the program was underway. Some of our students had already met their special guests, showing them about campus and helping them find seats in the sanctuary. The last 10 or 15 rows had been roped off, so the front two-thirds of the church were completely full. I lifted the rope and sat down behind the last row of guests. I could tell that most of those present had never been in our church before. They were sitting in family groups and had come to say farewell once again.

This was the annual memorial service of our “Bodies for Science” program. Over the last three quarters, our students and their instructors had been carefully dissecting and studying the loved ones of these family members. Students from medicine, dentistry, occupational and physical therapy, and nurse anesthesia programs were talking about the “teacher” with whom they had become intimately acquainted as they worked their way through his or her muscles, nerves, vessels, and organs. They had taken careful note of the normal and unusual, the scars left from life, the organs repaired, and the disease processes that had finally claimed each life. Some of our students were now speaking of the impact on their own lives of these most valued “teachers.”

The printed program listed each person only by his or her date of death and occupation. From homemaker to mechanic, physician to teacher, pilot to cashier, you could see the vast diversity of those who had voluntarily indicated they wanted to donate their bodies for this last act of service to humanity. I could see the families of the deceased look quickly through the 170 dates and careers listed in the program and nod in agreement as they recognized their loved one on the list. Tears came freely as they remembered once more the one they had lost — that loss now balanced with a renewed appreciation for the gift their loved ones had given to our students and medical science.

We have nearly 5,000 people who have registered to donate their bodies to this
program when they die. Each year for the past 19 years, some 170 bodies are delivered to our anatomy lab after personal funeral ceremonies, where they are embalmed and used during the school year. When the dissection is completed, the bodies are cremated and the ashes can be returned to the family. This service commemo- raters a selfless act of giving, with a thank you to those families who participated in the gift.

My mind went back six or seven years when we were making decisions about the Centen- nial Complex. A number of medical schools were shifting from dissecting real cadavers to having “virtual” anatomy labs — computers loaded with programs to enable you to “dissect” through the body’s systems on the screen. Faster, easier, and certainly cheaper, these programs probably gave a student the ability to pass anatomy exams just as well as dissect- ing real bodies. But there is something very sacred about working on a real person — one who had walked the path of life, loved others, struggled with many issues, and finally offered his or her body for the benefit of medical science. Our students certainly caught that differ- ence as they eloquently thanked the family members of their “teacher” for what that person had meant personally to them. I was thankful we had made the decision to build a major new anatomy laboratory in the Centennial Complex.

As the first students completed their tributes, others came forward to play “It Is Well With My Soul,” recognizing God’s guidance in life. Then more students shared poems, humorous incidents, and passionate comments about how this experience had changed their understand- ing of life and their appreciation for the marvels of the human body. This was followed by 21 students each saying “thank you” in their native tongue, including some languages I had never heard. As they finished speaking, the organist played “We Thank You” while students gave rose buds to the family members, sharing hugs and tears.

As the program was closing, the audience stood for the playing of taps and a moment of silence. What a testimony to those present as they sensed that the benefits of this “anatomy lesson” would be carried in the minds and hearts of these young professionals to many countries and patients for years to come. After a final orchestral and vocal rendition of “Amaz- ing Grace” by the students, followed by closing prayer, we were each left with a profound feeling of the value of life and the sacredness of the healing professions in serving others. I exited quietly through a side door, dabbing my own eyes.

This article is from “Notes from the President,” a special monthly communication from Dr. Hart. To be a part of this newsletter, email president@llu.edu.
Royce Williams Passes to His Rest

Pastor Royce Carlton Williams, a longtime evangelist who throughout his career served as manager, global evangelism coordinator, director of field services, and special projects coordinator for the It Is Written television ministry, and also worked extensively in the Far Eastern Division, died unexpectedly May 28, 2013, from complications of pneumonia. He was 85.

Evangelism and soul-winning were his passions, and he was looked upon as a spiritual giant by those who knew him. “What else can I do?” he once said. “I am God’s man for life!”

Williams worked for It Is Written full-time from 1976 to 2007, which marked his 56th year of working for the church. Although he retired Dec. 31, 2007, he continued working on a nearly full-time basis until shortly before he entered the hospital in early May.

While at It Is Written, he assisted speakers George Vandeman, Mark Finley, Shawn Boonstra and John Bradshaw. He traveled extensively around the world — coordinating It Is Written evangelistic meetings and special projects, and holding evangelistic series of his own.

Williams mentioned during a 2007 interview with then-North American Division President Don Schneider that he had crossed the Atlantic 106 times and the Pacific 84 times, had flown on 91 different airlines and had visited 64 countries. He traveled with Finley on at least 22 overseas evangelistic trips, and held training seminars in every non-regional conference in the United States, and most of Canada.

In 2006, Williams traveled to Africa to deliver solar-powered “Godpod” Bibles to people living in the Kalahari Desert. One year later, he accompanied Boonstra on It Is Written’s trip to the Arctic, where — partly by dogsled — they delivered Inuktitut-language Bibles to Inuit people living in remote areas.

Earlier this year, he joined Bradshaw for a major evangelistic series in Central America. Said Bradshaw, “It was truly inspirational to see him each night as he returned from his meetings energized — glowing with the joy he received from preaching the Word of God and seeing people respond to the call of Jesus.”

Early Years

Williams was born on a farm northeast of Greeley, Colorado, on February 15, 1928, the youngest of four brothers — all delivered in the same farmhouse by a country doctor. His father had traveled from Missouri to Colorado at the age of two in a covered wagon pulled by mules. When Williams was four, his family moved to Nebraska, where he grew up on a cattle ranch.

In 1946, Williams was drafted into the Navy, and was discharged a little more than six months later when World War II ended. But that was enough for him to qualify for the GI Bill, enabling him to attend college. In 1947, after a few months at Union College, and after falling in love with his soon-to-be wife, Frances, Williams decided to become a minister.

After graduating from Union College in 1951, Williams served as a pastor in Missouri for two years before accepting a call to the Philippines. During the next 23 years, he served as a mission director, union evangelist and Far Eastern Division ministerial secretary, before returning to the United States to work with It Is Written.

Williams said that the most thrilling moment of his ministry was the night in 1953 when he sat in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy McKee as they responded to his appeal for baptism. They were the first people who came to Christ as a result of his ministry. He liked to quote a statement by Charles H. Spurgeon that stated well the driving force in his life:

“Never did I know perfect, overflowing, unutterable happiness . . . till I first heard of one who had sought and found the Savior through my means. No young mother ever rejoiced so much over her first-born child, no warrior was so exultant over a hard-won victory.” (The Soul Winner, 1869)

Williams is survived by Frances, his wife of 66 years; his children Marlin, Sheryl, Terry and Darlene; 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to It Is Written’s Eyes for India project (800-479-9056 or www.itiswritten.com/eyesforindia).

Michele Stotz
The spring meeting of the Pacific Union executive committee is usually held on the campus of either Pacific Union College or La Sierra University. This year, on May 15, the committee met at PUC in the morning, then participated as delegates at the Pacific Union College constituency meeting in the afternoon.

Adventist Health started the day with a report, during which Bob Carmen, AH president, noted that by 2017, Adventist Health aims to serve twice as many people as they are now serving. To achieve that goal, AH plans to expand its operations — particularly outpatient services. Health care reform will present more opportunities to promote health education programs in partnership with local churches, schools and community service centers. Paul Crampton, assistant vice president for mission, said, “At its core, the Affordable Care Act is attempting to reduce medical costs by keeping people well. In essence, the government is asking for the Adventist health message. We are uniquely qualified to fit into the program. [The Affordable Care Act] recognizes that science isn’t the answer to everything. Wellness includes the physical, mental and spiritual dimensions of the individual.”

The executive committee approved ordinations that had been requested by local conferences: from the Northern California Conference, Trevor D. Barnes, Jr., Christopher Hagen and Long Adam Thatcher; from Arizona, Myckal Morehouse and Phil Vechiarelli; and from Southeastern Calif., Oscar Pereda.

Ministerial scholarships were approved for Warren Muir from NCC; Javier Navarrete and Jillian Lee Spencer, from Southern California; Ildo Sohn, from SECC; and Justin Michael Isaiah Torossian, from Central California. Several pastors were approved to pursue Doctor of Ministry degrees: from SECC, Daniel R. Belonio Jr., Caleb Jara, Jonathan Park and Yohalmo Saravia; from SCC, Gregory Hoenes, Michael Jenkins and Choong Hwan Lee; and from Central California, Ivory Roberts-Claire.

As the first step toward planning the 2016 Pacific Union constituency meeting, the committee chose a place: Camelback Inn, Scottsdale, Ariz.

For many years, Andrews University has offered a discounted rate for approved ministers to earn a Master of Theological Studies degree, with the cost split equally between the student, the local conference and the union. The executive committee voted that the union will also pay one-third of the cost for a similar program offered by the H.M.S. Richards Divinity School at La Sierra University.

They also voted to provide financial assistance for ministers to participate in a North American Division ministerial convention to be held in San Antonio, Texas, in 2015, immediately before the next General Conference constituency session.

In the 1980s, the Pacific Union discontinued many of the union ministry departments, such as youth, health, women’s and prayer ministries, believing staffing those positions at the NAD and conference levels was enough. But without adding any salaries, the committee in May appointed five union ministry coordinators, on a volunteer basis or as part of their existing paid positions.

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They also voted to ask Sonatane Vunileva to represent the Tongan language group on the Pacific Union Asian/Pacific Coordinating Committee and the NAD Asian Advisory.

During his financial report, Ted Benson, union treasurer, mentioned that Union tithe income is down 2.82 percent from last year, but expenses are down much more, so the budget looks good.

Brad Newton, union executive secretary, reported that the membership of the union remained almost unchanged during the first three months of the year; additions exceeding deletions by 24.

Arnold Trujillo, union VP, introduced Ron Pickell, who reported on Adventist Christian Fellowship, the ministry for Adventist students on secular campuses. “Many Adventist churches are across the street from secular universities and colleges,” Pickell said. “Some of them make a serious impact on the students; others make no impact.” Pickell reported that there are more than 22 million students on university campuses in the U.S., and there are ACF chapters or clubs on about 150 of those campuses. Southeastern California is pioneering public evangelism at California State University/San Marcos, where they recently pitched a tent on campus and held two meetings per day, plus music, discussion and counseling, resulting in hundreds of interests.

The next meeting of the executive committee will be by teleconference, Sept. 4.

Gerry Chudleigh

July 2013 25
Name: Kendall Trood

Hometown: Napa, California

Major: Accounting, Tom & Vi Zapara School of Business

Highlights: Presidential Scholar, 2013 President’s Award For Outstanding Undergraduate Student, Senior Class Officer.

Service: REVO coordinator, La Sierra Praise Worship Leader, Director of Homebase Ministries.


Next Step: Starting work at a Big Four accounting firm.

Parting Thoughts: “I believe firmly that God wants us to help others. In my time on this campus I have found many ways to do that. I appreciate La Sierra for teaching me how to do that more effectively.”
Northern California Conference

GET F.E.D. (July 14-Aug. 9) 7 p.m.

BLOCK PARTY (July 14) 1-5 p.m.

REDWOOD CAMP MEETING (July 18-27) 2437 Dyerville Loop Road, Redcrest. Spiritual refreshment in a beautiful setting! Speakers include Jim Ayer, Dan Jackson, John Lomacan, Lonnie Melashenko and Herb Montgomery (Adult II). Concerts and seminars! Hispanic camp meeting: Rodolfo Paredes. Info: www.ncc.adventist.org/redwoodcamp.


Vacation Bible School (July 15-19) 6-8 p.m. Palm Springs church, 620 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs 92264. All kids from preschool through elementary age are invited. Parents are also welcome and encouraged to experience Athens VBS together with their children, as a family. Info: 760-327-5112.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE


Second Saturday Series Concert (July 13) Featuring organist Emil Iliev, with music of Bach, Mendelssohn and Durufle. Reception following, 4 p.m. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Donations received at the door. Info: 818-244-7241; www.glendalecfc.com.

SERIOUS ABOUT LOVE (July 13) For single adults. Interview with Kay Kuzma, Ed.D. What to watch out for in a potential date; understanding the difference between romantic illusion and true love; topics to discuss before considering marriage. Q&A. 6:30 p.m. Altadena church, 2609 Lincoln Ave. Altadena Family Life Ministries, sponsor. Info: 626-794-3953.

Southern California Conference


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RELOCATING? APEX MOVING & Storage has a National Account Contract with the GC for your moving needs! Take advantage of a volume-rated discount. Be assured you are moving with one of the best! Call Mary at 800-766-1902. Visit us at www.apexmoving.com/adventist.

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 A5O-40, 2747 Nonpareil, Sutherlin, OR 97479.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master’s degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more info: 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies.

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE is an Adventist community in a rural Oklahoma setting but close to Oklahoma City medical facilities and shopping. Made up of mostly individual homes, the village has a fellowship you’ll enjoy. On-site church, independent living, nursing home and transportation as needed. Website: www.summitridgevillage.org or call Bill Norman, 405-208-1289.

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, osteoporosis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, substance abuse, stress, anxiety, depression and many more. Invest in your health and call 800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle.

Bulletin Board

DEMAND IS HIGH for managers of skilled nursing facilities and senior care centers. Southern Adventist University’s degree in long term care administration is available on campus or online. Enjoy being a leader in the business of caring. Call 800-SOUTHERN or e-mail ltcad@ southern.edu for information.

I AM A NATUROPATH, Master Herbalist, and a CMT (advance therapeutic massage) interested in bringing together other health practitioners to develop a holistic clinic in Northern California or join one that is established in a suitable area. Please e-mail edenrejuvcenter@comcast.net or call 423-910-0667. Applications close August 30, 2013.


SDA CERTIFIED ORGANIC MARKET farms in Arizona and Michigan are looking for qualified individuals to fill the following positions: marketing, bookkeeper, crop supervisor, general manager. Besides being passionate about health, living, and local organic food, applicants should be energetic, motivated, and enjoy working with young people. Paid intern positions for young people desiring to learn about organic Veganic farming are also available. For more information or to submit a résumé, please contact: info@sunizonafamilyfarms.com.

SDA GUAM CLINIC is embarking on a major expansion and is seeking physicians in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, General Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Cardiology, Rheumatology, Pulmonology, Gastroenterology, OB/GYN, Urology, Pediatrics, ENT, Optometry, and Dermatology. Contact us to learn about our benefits and opportunities by calling 671-646-8881, ext. 116; e-mailing hr@guam.sda.edu; or visiting our website at www.adventistclinic.com.
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Counseling & Testing Services / Student Success Center seeks Licensed Professional Counselor. Candidates must have a Master’s degree and license in counseling (LPC) and a minimum of three years of successful counseling related experience. Candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, and be a Seventh-day Adventist church member in good and regular standing. Submit resume and cover letter to Jim Wampler, Southern Adventist University, Student Success Center, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37363-0370 or jwampler@southern.edu.

Wampler, Southern Adventist University, Submit résumé and cover letter to Jim Wampler, Southern Adventist University, Student Success Center, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37363-0370 or jwampler@southern.edu.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Dean for School of Business and Management. A doctoral degree required. Will oversee the undergraduate and graduate programs. Priority given to applications received by July 1, 2013. The successful candidate must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, and be an SDA church member in good and regular standing. Submit curriculum vitae and cover letter to Pat Coverdale, Director of Human Resources, pcoverdale@southern.edu or Human Resources, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37363.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a mathematics professor to begin August 1, 2013 or January 1, 2014. Master’s degree in pure or applied mathematics required; doctoral degree preferred. Contact Dr. Amy Rosenthal at 817-202-6212 or arosenthal@swu.edu.

TEN-MONTH MISSIONARY TEACHER needed for Navajo reservation near Page, AZ. Quaint one room school, multiple grade, stipend included. Call Kelley at Dine Outreach, 928-221-9477 or oliveandasage@yahoo.com.

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION Sciences and Disorders at Loma Linda University is seeking an individual to fill one full-time, 12-month faculty position. Must possess a master’s degree in speech-language pathology, with expertise in child speech & language. Must be eligible for speech-language pathology licensure in California, and CCC. To apply, contact: Paige Shaughnessy, 909-558-4998; pshaughnessy@llu.edu.

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION Sciences and Disorders at Loma Linda University is seeking an individual to fill one full-time, 12-month faculty position. Must possess a Ph.D. in speech-language pathology or a related field, with expertise in child language and autism. Must be eligible for speech-language pathology licensure in California, and CCC. To apply, contact: Christina Bratlund, 909-558-4998; cbratlund@llu.edu.

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION Sciences and Disorders at Loma Linda University is seeking an individual to fill one full-time, 12-month faculty position. Must possess a Ph.D. in speech-language pathology, with expertise in child speech & language. Must be eligible for speech-language pathology licensure in California, and CCC. To apply, contact: Paige Shaughnessy, 909-558-4998; pshaughnessy@llu.edu.

REAL ESTATE

AFFORDABLE ACREAGE. Only $25,000. 40 acres in South East Arizona. 15 miles south Willcox, Ariz. Looking for a mission field, a small Adventist church, living off the grid? Good water when you put in the well, clean air. Orchards, vineyards in area. Owner. Financing available. Call B.J., 541-788-1244. Only

ARE YOU LOOKING for a beautiful, affordable place to retire? Look no longer. Tucked away in the mountains, 2,600 ft. above Bakersfield in Lake Isabella is Lake Ridge Mobile Home Park where there are several mobiles for sale. Come check it out, especially our small, friendly church. Info: Park Manager, 760-739-2274.

BEAUTIFUL VIEW 1.25 acre, 1,655 sq. ft., 3-bdrm, 2-bath house plus attached oversized two-car garage and fruit trees, in North Armenia 12 miles from Weimar Institute. Recently remodeled kitchen and 31’ by 11’ composite deck with spa and whole house water purification system, $500K. Contact: 909-452-8886.

MOBILE HOME for sale in Paradise, Calif. Very nice newer 1,300 sq. ft. in desirable senior park. Includes 2 bed/2 full baths, den, laundry room, refrigerator, gas stove, central air, bath grab bars, dishwasher, storage shed, extra parking, covered front deck. Pets OK. Electric wheelchair lift. Freshly painted. Located 5 minutes from Feather River Hospital, 10 minutes to church, academy close to shopping. Asking $25,500. Call 530-873-3016 or 530-876-8605 for info/photos.

PRICE REDUCED for quick sale. Beautiful hand crafted log home on 20 acres in NE Washington. Home features gravity feed water, timber, and off-grid solar power system. Amish wood cook stove heats house and water, large fenced garden spot with fruit trees. Our dream home is almost finished. Reduced to $324k. 509-675-6771.

SCENIC 25 ACRES. Fantastic views NW Arkansas Ozark mountains. Wooded bluffs, small springs, phone line, electricity, cleared home site. Between Fayetteville-Harrison both with state colleges; near Harrison church school, 6 hospitals; 60 miles to Ozark Academy; 6 SDA churches 25 miles. $55,000 (Negotiable), 870-553-2731, 870-577-5490 orjames_bogie@yahoo.com.

SEEKING SDA NEIGHBORS to share country living on beautiful undeveloped mountain property all sides abutting BLM in northeast Nevada. Features: year-round stream, pine and Juniper trees, presubdivided 16 ranchettes; County maintained access near utility. No easements to invade privacy. Asking price $60k per 40 acre ranchette. Contact: 760-402-6788.

REUNIONS

OAK PARK ACADEMY will hold its alumni homecoming weekend (Sept. 27-28), Nevada, Iowa. Honor classes ’63 (50 years) and ’73 (40 years) hosting Friday vespers and Sabbath worship. Speakers: Michael Porter (’71) Friday; Ron Karr (’63) 11 a.m. worship; and Teresa Hoover (’73) Sabbath evening vespers. Jaime Jorge, an internationally known violin virtuoso in concert, Sabbath afternoon. Contact: Michael Porter, mporteratp@gmail.com or 202-746-0744.

JEFFERSON ACADEMY in Jefferson, Texas, is preparing for the 100th Anniversary Celebration. If you were a faculty or student, please send your contact information to Jefferson Academy Alumni, P. O. Box 187, Jefferson, TX 75657 or jeffersonacademyalumni@gmail.com.

VACATIONS

RELAXING MAUI VACATION, 2013 Summer Special Rates – July-Sept. $96/night (4 night min. stay). Only a 3-minute walk to the beach! 1-bdrm w/king-size bed. 4 guests, Clean & well-maintained. Full kitchen, washer/dryer. FREE Wi-Fi, parking, & calls to U.S./Canada! 20-minute drive to Kahului church. www.vrbo.com/62799; call, 909-307-8570.

SUNRIVER, CENTRAL OREGON. Four-bedroom executive home on the North Woodlands golf course. Two master king suites, two queens, one bunk set, hot tub, loft, Jacuzzi bath, gas log fireplace, BBQ, W/D, bikes, all “lodge amenities,” sleeps 10, no smoking, no pets, includes housekeeping. For rates, photos and reservations: 541-279-9553, 541-475-6463 or schultz@creativeweb.com.
MAYBE GOD IS CALLING US TO JOIN HIM WHERE HE’S ALREADY WORKING:

EVERYWHERE

ontario, ca
august 16-17, 2013

#iShareChrist
www.ishareconference.org
ADVERTISING

Advertising is accepted as a service to Seventh-day Adventist members in the Pacific Union. The Recorder management reserves the right to refuse any advertisement, especially ads not related to the needs and practices of the Church membership. Acceptance of any advertising shall be considered a matter of accommodation and not a matter of right, nor shall it be construed to constitute approval of the product or service advertised.

Payment — Payment in advance must accompany all classified advertisements or they will not be published. Display ads for known advertisers will be billed. To pay by credit card, please call 805-413-7280.

How to Submit Advertising — Classified ads must be sent with payment to the Recorder office (commdept@puconline.org). Display ads should be arranged with the editor (alia@puconline.org).

Classified Rates — $55 for 50 words; 65 cents each additional word.

Display Rates (Full Color Only) — Back cover, $3,950; full page, $3,650; 1/2 pg, $2,120; 1/4 pg, $1,560; 1/8 pg, $575; $15 per column inch.

Information — Circulation is approximately 76,000 homes, and magazines are scheduled to arrive in homes by the last Thursday of the previous month. For more information about advertising, please click on the Advertising tab at www.pacificunionrecorder.com, e-mail commdept@puconline.org or call 805-413-7280.

Deadlines —
July: May 28, 2013
August: June 25, 2013
September: July 30, 2013
October: August 27, 2013
November: October 1, 2013
December: October 29, 2013
January 2014: November 26, 2013

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Recorder pages are assigned to the local conferences, colleges and health care institutions, and all content comes through the communication directors in those organizations. If you have a news story/idea, calendar announcement, etc., please contact your local communication director (except Hawaii, contact the editor, below). See page 2 for contact information. Want tips for writing for us? See www.dailywritingtips.com/the-art-of-writing-news.

E-mail: alicia@puconline.org

July 2013 31
**Portraits of CHRIST**

2013 MARANATHA CONVENTION

**SEPTEMBER 20 & 21**

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

**Where**

ADVENTURE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
6401 Stanford Ranch Road | Roseville, CA

**Weekend Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday Evening</td>
<td>7:00 - 9:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabbath Morning</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabbath Afternoon</td>
<td>2:00 - 4:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Children’s programming available. See website for more details.

**Special Musical Guest**

STEVE GREEN

**FREE REGISTRATION!**

Visit maranatha.org or call 916.774.7700

FREE SABBATH LUNCH with your advance registration