8 Restore a Child
Ministers to Orphans Around the World
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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“Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.”
— Exodus 20:8

SUNSETS

Alturas 7:33 7:40 7:48 7:55
Angwin 7:38 7:44 7:51 7:58
Calexico 7:05 7:10 7:15 7:21
Chico 7:36 7:43 7:50 7:57
Eureka 7:47 7:54 8:01 8:09
Fresno 7:25 7:32 7:38 7:44
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Las Vegas 7:07 7:13 7:19 7:25
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Loma Linda 7:13 7:19 7:24 7:30
Los Angeles 7:18 7:23 7:29 7:34
Moab 7:45 7:52 7:58 8:05
Oakland 7:36 7:43 7:49 7:55
Phoenix 6:52 6:59 7:06 7:08
Reno 7:28 7:35 7:42 7:49
Riverside 7:14 7:21 7:25 7:30
Sacramento 7:34 7:40 7:47 7:54
Salt Lake City 7:57 8:05 8:12 8:19
San Diego 7:12 7:17 7:22 7:27
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RESTORE A CHILD is partnering with Upward Bound Ministries to build homes for orphan girls and a school in Haiti.

This girl is exploring the property where they are already growing food.

“Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.”
— Exodus 20:8

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Postal Regs: The Pacific Union Recorder (ISSN 0744-6381), Volume 113, Number 4, is the official journal of the Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and is published monthly. Editorial office is at 2686 Townsgate Rd., Westlake Village, CA 91361: 805-497-9457. Periodical postage paid at Thousand Oaks, CA, and additional mailing offices. Subscription rate: No charge to Pacific Union Adventist church members; $12 per year in U.S.; $16 foreign (U.S. funds); single copy, $0.85. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Circulation Department, Pacific Union Recorder, Box 5005, Westlake Village, CA 91359.
The Privilege of Prayer

Many of you will recognize the title of this article as the same as the title of a chapter in the classic Christian book, *Steps to Christ*, by Ellen G. White. I have “borrowed” it for this writing.

I recommend the reading of the entire book, but for this short article, I wanted to highlight a few things that jump out at me from this powerful chapter, which is full of advice for those who are seeking to plumb the unmeasured depths of prayer. Here are just a few.

First, prayer is a privilege, which is, according to one dictionary definition, a special right or advantage available to a select group of people or individuals. It is our right, as the earth bound children of the Heavenly Father, to hold conversation with Him through prayer. He is more than willing to hear our joys, concerns, trials and errors, not because we can inform Him of an event or even how we feel about it, but just because He cares. He is also willing to communicate with us in a lot of methods, and one is prayer, which is a communicative avenue. Not only does God want to hear from us, He wants to speak to us. As we come to God in faith, He promises to hear us. That in and of itself is powerful. The God who creates, sustains and brings salvation is waiting to hear from you. Imagine that.

Second, White tells us “through nature and revelation, through His providence, and by the influence of His Spirit, God speaks to us. But these are not enough; we need also to pour out our hearts to Him. In order to have spiritual life and energy, we must have actual intercourse with our heavenly Father.”

If we are really serious about spiritual renewal and spiritual vitality, prayer will be central to our experience. Salvation is multifaceted, as you know. But basically, it is the result of a personal relationship with God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. All relationships thrive on communication. As we commune with God, He changes us, changing our focus from selfishness to unselfishness, from self-centeredness to Christ-centeredness. Character transformation is facilitated through this experience of having conversation with our Heavenly Father.

White describes prayer as “the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. Not that it is necessary in order to make known to God what we are, but in order to enable us to receive Him. Prayer does not bring God down to us, but brings us up to Him.”

God is able to be our God while we make ourselves vulnerable to Him as to a trusted friend; not that we can inform Him of anything, but because He seeks to dwell in our beings. He has unlimited, unnumbered ways to accomplish this — one way is through prayer. Prayer elevates us into the presence of God. What an opportunity! To experience God, simply make time for Him in prayer. What a God we serve, who seeks not just our worship, but also our friendship and fellowship, and wants to communicate with us in prayer — a private, personal appointment of listening and speaking to us about all the important issues of our lives.

Someone queried, “Why is it OK to say we talk to God, but when we say God talks to us, we call it insanity?”

Many people, “mighty in prayer,” have shared that at distinct times in their experience they have not only felt the leading of the Lord, but also have heard His voice. I believe that this is often part of a genuine experience with God.

Prayer is essential to the survival of the Christian and the Church. This is demonstrated by fact that when the Apostles observed Christ in prayer, they asked Him to teach them to pray. He quickly consented and fulfilled their request.

The perfect prayer, as recorded in Matthew 6:9-13, is simply sublime in its directness, submission and praise, and serves as an example, outline or template for our prayers today. Jesus told his disciples how to pray as a distinctly different form than the prayers of the unbelievers of his day.

Jesus said, “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen” (Matthew 6:9-13).

Finally, there is Jesus’ need for prayer. White states that his humanity made prayer a joy and a necessity. Then she asked this question: “And if the Saviour of men, the Son of God, felt the need of prayer, how much more should feeble, sinful mortals feel the necessity of fervent, constant prayer.”

That last statement can’t be improved. But the question that should linger with us is, “Why don’t we pray more? What legitimate excuse can we give for not engaging in more personal, fervent constant prayer?” I can’t think of one.
It was a Bible conference with a surprising twist. Last February, nearly 280 ninth- and 10th-graders came together for the Northern California Conference Freshman/Sophomore Bible Retreat at Leoni Meadows. But the leaders of this retreat were not pastors; they were high school juniors and seniors.

Several days prior to the event, 58 11th- and 12th-graders arrived at the camp to begin intensive training in small group Bible study leadership. A team of youth pastors, led by Rio Lindo Adventist Academy church Pastor Krystalynn Martin, helped the kids prepare for their upcoming roles. “A challenge is getting them to believe they have the ability to do it,” said Martin. “But young people have the audacity to try it.”

The teens’ inexperience actually is helpful for this type of Bible study experience, according to Martin. “Students leave room for other students to struggle [with a question],” she said. “They don’t have all the answers, unlike adults who will be uncomfortable with the quiet space of thinking.”

The pastors equipped the young leaders with tools to interact with their groups, such as icebreaker games and questions to help everyone get to know each other and become comfortable sharing their thoughts. They also modeled the Bible study technique they wanted each leader to use — sharing what a Bible passage means to him/her personally. “The purpose of the Bible study is to encourage open discussion, encouraging the freshmen and sophomores to dig deeper into the Bible,” said Grass Valley church assistant pastor Tim McMillen, one of the trainers.

When Friday night came, the new leaders were prepared. Two older kids were assigned to each group of 10 underclassmen. “My group leaders knew what they were doing. They weren’t shy at all,” said Sacramento Adventist Academy freshman Jake Calkins.

“It was really cool that even though they are older than us, they really opened up to us,” said Megan Bush, Sacramento Adventist Academy sophomore.

At the end of each of the four small group periods, the pastors held a debriefing session for the leaders so that they could share experiences and encourage each other. “They could get refueled to go out and do ministry,” said Martin.

The small groups started out lightheartedly, but many serious discussions took place over the weekend. “It’s fun to play games, but the entire point of the freshmen and sophomores going up to Leoni is for them to come out of their spiritual shell,” said Lodi Academy senior Jordan Greene, who co-led a small group.

Greene was also one of the weekend’s three speakers, along with Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy senior Armando Camacho and Rio Lindo Adventist Academy taskforce worker David Kabanje. “We’re trying to train young people, giving them opportunities to lead out in worship and in spreading the gospel,” said NCC youth director Eddie Heinrich.

The youth pastors hope that the student leaders will take what they have learned and start Bible studies in their home churches and schools. “The best part of the retreat,” said McMillen, “is seeing how God can empower a young person who is willing to step out.”

“Games helped the students from various academies, high schools and home schools get to know and trust each other.”

PHOTOS BY ANNA MCMILLEN
Sacramento Central Church Christmas Concert Shares the Gospel with Thousands

The Sacramento Central church Christmas concert signals the start of the holiday season for many in Sacramento and around the world. “We always go to the Christmas concert!” exclaimed church member Carol Jones. “It has become a holiday tradition, and we just have to be there. It’s wonderful!”

More than 1,600 people attended the eighth annual concert last Dec. 8. They filled up the sanctuary and spilled into the church foyer and other overflow areas where they viewed the program on large monitors. Hundreds more watched the event online via live streaming, and thousands more worldwide watched the program when it aired on 3ABN and the Hope Channel, or when they purchased the concert DVD.

The concert included a vast array of musicians from Northern California and beyond. The 160-member choir and 40-piece orchestra, led by conductor Handerson Pontel, included Weimar Academy and Weimar College choirs and orchestras, as well as orchestra members from Adventist Health and Sacramento Adventist Academy. Numerous other volunteers — including production assistants, stagehands, ushers and crewmembers — worked many hours to present an evening of music, fellowship and praise.

Music provides an opportunity to share the gospel with those who would otherwise be difficult to reach. “Standing at the door and greeting so many visitors from the community is every pastor’s dream,” said Doug Batchelor, senior pastor. “This was the largest attendance I know of for any event at Central church. No one was prepared for the tsunami of guests, but what a happy problem! Music is a wonderful solvent to rinse away barriers.”

This year, 300 copies of Steps to Christ were distributed to visitors, and Batchelor delivered a gospel message, encouraging the attendees to receive the gift of salvation that has been offered through Jesus Christ. Batchelor also reached out to visitors at a reception held after the program as an opportunity for the church to connect with members of the community, many of whom have watched the church’s television broadcasts and were eager to meet Batchelor.

The annual Christmas concert at the church began when Debbie Thompson Kippel became the church’s music director. She decided to turn her love of the classic songs of the Advent season into something to share with others. “I had no idea that our first concert in 2005 would become what it is today,” said Thompson Kippel. “Each year, this concert is nothing short of a miracle.”

The hard work and creative vision have paid off, according to the glowing reviews of the volunteers and those in attendance each year. “This music is heavenly!” said Gloria Rubio, who served as a production assistant. And just think, the music in heaven is going to be even better than this. I just can’t imagine how amazing it will be!”

For more information, visit saccentral.org.

Ruth Dawson

PHOTOS BY ADAM OLIVER

During the choir’s performance of “Beneath His Father’s Heaven,” Terry Hubert sings the solo part.

Chico church member Handerson Pontel energizes the choir and orchestra with his dynamic conducting.

Matthew Brown, a percussion teacher in Sacramento, performs with the orchestra.

Jamie Milson, 9, and Sarah Sheridan, 14, sing “The Prayer.”
Pastors throughout the Northern California Conference serve as a testimony of the many different ways God leads people on their faith journeys, culminating in their call to pastoral ministry. The conference acknowledged this call in several pastors’ lives during the past year.

Jason Decena was commissioned to the gospel ministry on June 23, 2012, in Scales Chapel at the Pacific Union College church, where he serves as an associate pastor for youth and worship.

Born in Long Beach, Calif., Decena grew up attending Westminster Adventist Academy. He went to Orangevale Adventist Academy from first grade until graduation. When he was in sixth grade, he took baptismal classes, and was baptized in 1991. In academy, Decena discovered his passion for leading worship through music, and he was very involved with the campus spiritual activities, including serving as the school’s co-religious vice president. Two teachers told him that he should think about pursuing ministry, but Decena brushed the advice aside.

When he arrived at PUC for college, he had not decided on a major. In the middle of his second year, Decena was invited to speak for the week of prayer. He wasn’t sure if he wanted to do it, but a longtime mentor encouraged him. After speaking in front of 800 peers, he realized that his talents, skills, desires and burdens all corresponded with a pastor’s role and ministry. The next school year, he declared a theology major, and later served as an extern pastor at the Napa Community church. Decena graduated in 2002 with a bachelor’s degree in theology.

After college, he became assistant pastor at the Chico church. Six months later, he married Heidi Holm. (The two had met years before in academy.) After two years in ministry, Decena was asked to serve as associate/youth pastor at the Escondido church in Southern California. In 2005, son Luke Daly was born, and in 2008 another boy, Aidan Bennett, joined the family.

In 2010, the Decenas returned to Angwin to serve at the PUC church. “I love connecting with students of all ages, but especially high school and college students,” said Decena. “As they prepare to make life-trajectory decisions, I love to be able to advise them in the ways of Jesus as they choose their paths. I also enjoy helping all — young and old — find and develop their gifts and talents for God, especially in the areas of music, creativity and worship.”

A very different path led Sasa Andelkovic to heed God’s call for his life. Now serving as pastor of the Sacramento Yugoslavian/West Sacramento district, Andelkovic was ordained to the gospel ministry on Nov. 10, 2012, at the Sacramento Yugoslavian church.

Andelkovic was born in Belgrade, Serbia (part of the former Yugoslavia). His father was pastor Sasa Andelkovic serves the Sacramento Yugoslavian/West Sacramento district, along with his wife Ivana and their two children, Tamara and Stefan.
an active member of the Communist Party. As a child, Andelkovic became interested in religion, and at age 20, he came across books about life and spirituality which made a huge impact on his thinking.

About that time, Andelkovic started dating Ivana Nikolic, a friend from childhood. In 1994, they attended a service at a Pentecostal church and, for the first time in their lives, heard a clear gospel message. Soon after, they were invited to a Bible seminar at the local Adventist church. A year later they surrendered their lives to God through baptism on July 1, 1995. They were married in May 1997. (Their family grew when daughter Tamara was born in 2007, and son Stefan was born in 2009.) Also in 1997, Andelkovic graduated with an associate degree in computer science. He later graduated with a bachelor’s degree in business administration from a Belgrade university.

In 1998, Andelkovic was asked to relocate a church plant (of which he was a charter member and head elder) to merge with a dying church. With the help of church members and the local conference, the new church became very active. At that time, Andelkovic sensed that God was calling him to full-time ministry. In 2003, he began studies at Andrews University, where he received his Master of Divinity degree in 2007. That December, Andelkovic began serving as pastor of the North Bay/South River district in Canada’s Ontario Conference. In 2010, he became pastor of the Sacramento Yugoslavian church, and the following year he began serving at the West Sacramento church, as well.

“Any success I have should be attributed to God who gently led me and used me as He saw fit,” said Andelkovic. “My prayer is that God will continue to use me and my family for His glory and the growth of His kingdom.”

Also during the past year, the Northern California Conference acknowledged God’s call in the lives of four other NCC pastors, who were previously commissioned to the gospel ministry. During Sabbath worship services at each pastor’s church, NCC President Jim Pedersen presented certificates of ordination to Carmichael church associate pastor Marit Case on Dec. 8, 2012; Paradise church associate pastor Mary Maxson on Jan. 26, 2013; and Tracy church pastor Jessica Richmond on Feb. 16, 2013. Norma Osborn, former associate pastor at the PUC church, was presented with a certificate of ordination on Sept. 15, 2012, just prior to her retirement.

“It is a privilege for us to acknowledge the Holy Spirit’s work in all of these pastors’ ministries,” said Pedersen. “I will be praying for God’s continued blessing on their lives and in their work.”

Julie Lorenz

Sasa Andelkovic was ordained Nov. 10, 2012, at the Sacramento Yugoslavian church.

**Redwood Camp Meeting**

**July 18-27, 2013**

**Plan now to attend this year’s event.** Our 2013 theme is “He’s on His Way.” Nestled in a campground in Northern California near Fortuna is one of the most beautiful camp meeting locations ever found. Beneath the giant Redwood trees, come to hear scheduled speakers Dan Jackson, North American Division president; Lonnie Melashenko, Columbia Union Conference revivalist; and Herb Montgomery (Adult II), Renewed Heart Ministries director, along with other exciting speakers. There will also be many seminars on a variety of topics and musical concerts, including a special musical presentation by Jennifer Jill Schweitzer.

**Don’t miss the event featured on the Recorder cover!**

The 2013 registration form is online!
Thousands of orphaned children in 15 countries receive food, clean water, clothes, education, shelter and medical care, thanks to Restore a Child, a ministry founded by Norma Nashed, a former Loma Linda-area resident. Nashed takes seriously Christ’s parable of the sheep and goats, in which He said, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40, NIV).

Christians, Nashed believes, are responsible for the forgotten brothers and sisters of the world — the orphans. “God entrusted the care of the orphans to us, the body of Christ,” she said, “and it’s my duty and privilege to share the love of Christ by meeting the needs of others. We are the conduit of God’s blessings, not the repository.”

Some of the projects Restore a Child has undertaken include digging wells in four African countries; building and/or supporting orphanages in Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Bolivia, Indonesia and other nations; establishing a children’s ward at Béré Adventist Hospital in Chad; and providing children with education in 12 countries — just to name a few. Kids in the United States have also benefited from projects sponsored by the organization.

This year, Restore a Child is planning a special focus on an extensive project in Haiti. Partnered with Upward Bound Ministries, they are building a model village that will include Restore a Child Academy, an academic and vocational training school, and several homes for orphan girls. “We have secured a plot of land next to the model village where we are already growing produce so that their food supply is sustainable,” said Nashed.

Because she experienced hardships as a child growing up in Jordan, Nashed understands the plight of those she works to help. When she was a young girl, her father died, leaving a wife and seven children who struggled to survive. “I slept on the floor; I walked with holes in my shoes,” she said. “Sometimes I had no food.”

For six years, Nashed lived with an Adventist missionary family. “Their investment in me helped me, then it helped my family, and then [through the ministry] the world,” she said. She believes that the young people she now helps, such as the 30 university students the ministry sponsors in Indonesia, will do the same.

After a successful career in Jordan and the United States, Nashed was diagnosed with cancer in 1999. While fighting her illness, she returned to Jordan. On a visit to her former school, she saw two children who had been asked to leave for lack of tuition funds. She made sure their fees were paid, and an idea was born: she decided to become an advocate for children.

When Nashed returned to the U.S., she quit her job and began focusing on orphans. Eventually, her work turned into the nonprofit organization Restore a Child. Although she has...
suffered setbacks since then (several years ago a house fire destroyed many of her ministry’s records), she has been faithful to her calling. “I am working for God and doing what He asks me to do,” she said.

Nashed believes wholeheartedly that God opens doors for the ministry’s projects. A few years ago, funds were alarmingly low, but she pressed on. When God sends the money, we’ll be ready with a plan, she thought. A Kansas farmer sent a large donation that enabled the ministry to continue.

“It is God’s work; we don’t have to be afraid,” she said. “I trust God. He is faithful; He has been faithful for 14 years.”

Now Nashed travels throughout the world to visit the ministry’s projects, as well to speak about the plight of orphans to audiences from a variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds — with surprising results.

“During the three presentations I gave at the World Bank, the people were so touched by the work that some of the men were literally moved to tears,” she said. “When I visited Jordan, two leading national newspapers featured this ministry with great enthusiasm. These are Muslims, happy about Christian benevolence.”

Nashed hopes that more young people will get involved in supporting the children of the world. To that end, the ministry has begun the “DO [defend orphans] movement.” The movement encourages youth and young adults to think of creative ways to promote the cause of orphans — and then share their ideas with others. “We are eager to hear their fresh ideas on how to get their friends and peers involved and how to spread the word and take action,” she said.

Nashed believes she has been called to rouse Adventists to action. “It’s time that the leadership of the church wakes up,” she said. “I am not going to leave them alone until they do something for these kids.”

To find out more about Restore a Child, to check out its gift catalog (in order to give funds for a specific project), and to get involved with the do movement, visit the ministry’s website: restoreachild.org and facebook.com/RestoreAChild.

This girl is on the farm at Bwa Pen, Haiti — land bought by Restore a Child as part of the model village the ministry is helping to construct.

Julie Lorenz

Restore a Child sponsors 500 children to receive an Adventist education in Béré, Chad. “They learn about Jesus and get an education,” said Nashed. For $12 a year, a child can go to school in Chad.

The ministry built a children’s ward at Béré Adventist Hospital, and continues to pay medical care for children at the hospital and the Moundou Surgical Clinic in Chad.

Construction has begun on a new home for orphan girls in Lascahobas, Haiti. The second floor is a guest house for volunteers. The ministry plans to build three more structures like this, then Restore a Child Academy and a vocational training school.
Beaumont Church Reaches Out to Community Through Health Fair

Beaumont church members believe there are ways to defy premature aging by making healthy lifestyle choices and keeping tabs on the warning signs of disease. That’s why they partnered with Loma Linda University Medical Center and entities of Highland Springs Medical Plaza to offer their community a free health fair at the church on Feb. 10.

“Volunteers were awesome, and despite the cold weather, people in the community responded positively,” said fair organizer and Beaumont church member Maria Garcia. “Though we had a few minor glitches, God responded to our prayers instantly.”

About 180 community members took advantage of the church’s numerous free screening tests and health lectures. More than 20 screenings were offered, including bone density, diabetes, cholesterol, vision, blood pressure and hearing. Other services included massage therapy and physical therapy.

“The main purpose of the fair was to highlight health awareness in a casual and friendly environment in which the whole family had fun,” said Julio Tabuenca, interim pastor.

Health talks by medical professionals covered subjects such as losing weight, sleep apnea, natural health remedies, healthy habits and living with addictions.

“I think doctors should be more than just people who meet people one-on-one in an office,” said pulmonary critical care physician Roger Seheult. “I think we have a larger responsibility to get out there and make a difference in our community. If we invest in our community and make it a healthy one, wonderful things can happen. People become health conscious. People start to realize they can make a difference.”

The health fair also offered a bounce house and crafts for kids. A LifeStream blood center van rolled onto the church walkway, and people attending the fair donated 29 units of blood, which exceeded the church’s goal.

Physicians and other medical professionals volunteered from Highland Springs Medical Plaza, Loma Linda University Medical Center, Beaver Medical Group and Redlands Community Hospital. Volunteers genuinely wanted to make a difference in people’s lives, bringing the healing ministry of Jesus Christ and offering a helping hand.

“Part of the beauty and strength of our message as Seventh-day Adventists is the health message,” said Ralph Clark, a volunteer doctor. “I believe that Christ came that we may have life, and have it more abundantly. The health message is part of how this is fulfilled, both because of better physical health and the resulting improvement in spiritual and emotional health that comes with following the laws of health.”

Craig Seheult, internal medicine physician and director of health ministries for the Beaumont church, agrees with Clark and was a big proponent of the health fair, helping to round up volunteers.

“The health message is a pillar of our faith. The Bible shares health answers to the age-old desire for life, and life more abundantly,” Seheult said. “If we know this, we have the responsibility to live it and share it.”
Loma Linda Korean Team Serves in Comayagua, Honduras

Members of the Loma Linda Korean church recently partnered with Quiet Hour Ministries to organize a 10-day mission trip to the country of Honduras, in Central America.

Eighteen participants flew into San Pedro Sula wearing their matching bright-red mission team T-shirts, publicly declaring their vision for outreach. Strangers inquired about their work as the team gathered together.

However, the team still had to travel two more hours to the region of Comayagua, where they would be responsible for a construction project, an evangelistic series, and other programs planned for the local community.

The first project was to build an extension to a recently constructed church. The addition, located at the back of the church, would become a children’s room.

The team began an evangelistic series in three locations. They also conducted programs for the children. Everyone from the team was involved. Even the youngest team member — only 14 years old — contributed by presenting a topic for one of the evangelistic meetings.

On the first Sabbath of their trip, the mission team was invited to the home of an individual they dubbed “Mother Teresa.” She is a church member who lives in the mountains, approximately one hour from Comayagua.

Since her home is very far from any Adventist churches, she decided to start her own house church. Every Sabbath, she invites friends, neighbors, and anyone she meets to come to her home. Those who come are able to gather and worship on her spacious back porch.

Her influence is widespread, and a number of people attend every Sabbath. When the mission team visited, they took children’s VBS materials, including crafts, Bible stories and games. As the team left that evening, they each shared how much they had enjoyed their time. Throughout the week, the team asked if they could visit “Mother Teresa” one more time before their trip came to an end.

Diaz made arrangements for them to do that. The mission team members pooled their own money and headed to the market to buy resources for the families — including shoes, school supplies, soccer balls, and three colorful piñatas for the kids.

When they returned to the mountain home of “Mother Teresa,” many people were gathered for the meeting. Shoes and supplies were distributed among the families, and everyone received at least a few items.

“The parents were happy; the children were ecstatic,” recalls Cho. “And our team members — especially the young people — were absolutely elated. The love and connection we were building with local people was so strong.”

After playing with the children by giving piggyback rides, playing soccer, hitting piñatas and taking plenty of pictures, it was time for the team to head back to Comayagua.

As the mission trip came to an end, the team members were grateful for God’s guidance in keeping them safe, healthy and filled with meaningful experiences. God’s protection was especially noted on the return trip to San Pedro Sula. The bus’s radiator started acting up, but they were able to make it to the airport, which was two hours away.

The mission team members are grateful to have worked with Quiet Hour Ministries. Through their organization, training, preparation and invaluable help, the team was able to have a successful trip, and each member now has an invaluable experience to hold on to.

“I believe this trip will have tremendous eternal consequences for both the local people and our mission team members,” adds Cho.

Joy Cho, a missionary English teacher in Seoul, South Korea, was part of the mission team. She describes the involvement of the young people on the mission team: “It was amazing to see our young people leading, teaching, preaching, playing with the local kids, working at the construction site and giving eye exams.”

In addition to doing their work, the team members also developed relationships with local individuals who helped make the trip a success. Pastor Juan Carlos Diaz and their translator, Alexis Baca, were instrumental in facilitating events and activities. In addition, several others helped out immensely, including their bus driver, Ramon, the local pastors, cooks, children’s program helpers, church members and local children.

As an additional service, the mission team facilitated an eye clinic for the local people. They distributed more than 300 pairs of eyeglasses to those in need.

The local children stole the hearts of the mission team members.

The construction team worked long hours in the hot Honduran sun.
The area around South Lake Tahoe, Calif., is known as Heavenly Valley. A ski resort, hotels, restaurants, churches, businesses and organizations attach the pleasant-sounding phrase “Heavenly Valley” to their names.

Tall pines, the clear, deep blue water of Lake Tahoe, birds soaring in the air above, blue skies with fluffy white clouds, and nearly tame squirrels and chipmunks darting up and down trees make it an ideal location for a summer camp meeting.

South Lake Tahoe’s Heavenly Valley area, at the far east edge of California, is just inside the boundaries of the Nevada-Utah Conference, and is host to the Lake Tahoe camp meeting, now in its 28th year. Dates of the camp meeting for 2013 are Monday, July 29, through Saturday, Aug. 3.

In its second year at a new location, the Lake Tahoe camp meeting is held in the private Tahoe Valley Campground in South Lake Tahoe near the intersection of Highway 50 and C Street.

While the camp meeting is lay-driven, the Nevada-Utah Conference lends support by providing tents, chairs and equipment. In addition, the conference receives a portion of some offerings, and uses Friday evening and Sabbath to host the annual Reno Area Adventist Convocation.

This year, the featured speaker will be Ed Keyes, the executive secretary and ministerial director of the Arizona Conference. Other speakers include Tim Roosenberg, speaker/director/presenter of Islam & Christianity in Bible Prophecy; Doug Ammon, formerly president of Adventist Health/West; and Larry Siemens, a naturalist who will lead guided hikes and tours of the area during the week.

In addition to a full line-up of meetings and seminars during the week, the Sabbath schedule includes Sabbath school, worship, an afternoon meeting and concert, and an evening meeting.

Meetings for adults and all children’s/teens age groups are held in large tents scattered throughout the forested campground. This year, through special arrangement with Tahoe Valley Campground, some trees are being felled to make space for the large adult tent, accommodating many more people than last year.

The Adventist Book Center will be on site the entire week. Vegetarian meal service, as well as a vegetarian snack bar, will also operate during the entire session.

For those who do not camp in their RVs or tents, many area motels and hotels are available near the campground, and parking is available inside the campground.

Lake Tahoe camp meeting committee chair Darlene Spratt is hopeful that this year’s event will attract many long-time and new supporters of the age-old, Adventist, camp meeting tradition. “Our Lake Tahoe camp meeting is a very special and unique experience that brings us all closer to Jesus, family, and friends amidst the most beautiful of natural, God-created surroundings,” she says. “We invite you to be part of it.”

Lake Tahoe Camp Meeting Information

Camp meeting runs July 29 to Aug. 3. For info, visit tahoeCamp-meeting.adventistfaith.org, e-mail tahoeCampmeeting@gmail.com, or call Virginia Rose, 916-967-5932.

For camping reservations, contact Tahoe Valley Campground (1175 Melba Dr., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150) at 530-541-2222. Be sure to specify the Adventist camp meeting to receive a reservation in the camp meeting loop. Early reservations are recommended, as space in the camp meeting loop fills up fast. For more info about the campground, visit www.rvonthego.com.
The Logan, Utah, church has experienced some hard times. Originally organized in 1920, the Logan church functioned successfully for nearly 25 years. During that time, even a school was started as part of the growing church.

During the war years in the early 1940s, the church experienced declining numbers, and in 1945 the church disbanded. For the next 35+ years, any Adventists living in the Logan area had to make the 50-mile trip to the church in Ogden.

During the 1960s and 1970s, the Adventist population in the Logan area began to grow. As the numbers increased, restarting the church seemed possible. In 1982, a church was purchased, and the Adventist influence and membership in Logan began to increase once again.

But in 1997, the City of Logan began planning a redevelopment area that would be the municipal core of the city. Part of the area considered for this development included the Adventist church building and property. The congregation resisted the deal, but ultimately lost their church home by eminent domain in the spring of 2000. While the church received fair market value for the church property, it was not enough to rebuild the church on another site.

With money in the bank from the old church, together with ongoing contributions to a building fund, the Logan congregation continually searched for property to build on or an existing building to buy. Nothing ever seemed to work out, given the high cost of land, buildings and construction in the booming university town of Logan. In the meantime, they met in private homes, in three different churches rented for Sabbath mornings, and even in a commercial building. But constant disruptions, the inability to hold mid-week services, and lack of space for social and outreach projects became increasingly frustrating over the years.

For 12 years the search for a new church continued. Dan Ewert, a member anxious to have a permanent home for the church, led the final push for a new church location. In 2012, a warehouse building, most recently used as a residence, came up for sale on the corner of a prominent street in Logan.

After contemplating the unusual property for a few months, the congregation made an offer on the building, subject to a period of due diligence to insure the viability of converting the 10,000+ square foot building to a church, especially in light of strict city requirements for churches.

On Jan. 31, 2013, the Logan congregation signed the papers on the new church building. Much work needs to be done in converting the building to a church, but the congregation is excited to meet in their own church when renovations are complete.

“After years of being church nomads, there’s an air of excitement in the church family,” says Terry Griswold, head elder. “We have a home of our own. No more trucking bins of Bibles, hymnals, Sabbath school materials, and potluck supplies. We can unpack, settle in, and invite guests. The wandering in the wilderness will soon be over.”

For info, contact Terry Griswold at 435-245-4820, rtgriswold@pcu.net.
World Ag Expo, the largest agricultural fair on the planet, is held in Tulare, Calif., every year since 1968. The annual expo, this year held Feb. 12–14, attracts more than 100,000 visitors from around the world each year.

The opportunity to share Jesus at this worldwide event became a passionate desire of the Dinuba Junior Academy staff and supporters. When they applied for a booth, the answer wasn’t hopeful — there was a 15- to 20-year waiting list.

In 2007, a women’s prayer group gave themselves a challenge; if money were no object, what would we do? They made a list of 10 things, which included getting a booth at the World Ag Expo. They began praying over the list daily.

The following year, a propane stove was donated to the school. Three months later, a representative from the Mennonite school called. They had a concessionaire booth at the Expo but were burned out, and asked if DJA would be interested in taking over their booth.

Principal Allen Lipps answered “Yes!” then called the constituent church members and Pathfinders for help. For the past five years, the small school, with 21 students and two teachers, has manned a vegetarian burger station and evangelistic outreach booth.

With the help of volunteers from the Dinuba, Orosi and Tulare churches, the school offers 80 percent unprocessed meals, shares the health message and passes out literature to farmers and visitors.

“The focus is not the food. It’s not about veggie burgers,” said Debbie Purviamente, who coordinates the DJA booth. “It’s about spreading the gospel, so every year we do more and more free literature.”

This year, copies of The Great Controversy were available in the free literature giveaway. Working in teams of 14 in the booth and five distributing literature, DJA students, teachers and volunteers handed out more than 150 Great Controversy books and 2,500 GLOW tracts.

“There are farmers from all over the world coming here,” said Dee Dee Bindernagel, who volunteers and coordinates the literature distribution. “Our aim is to touch people who wouldn’t be touched by an Adventist otherwise.”

“We want people to recognize the importance of the body,” said Nick Ionashku, Community Media Access Collaborative producer. The church-run CMAC produced a television feature about DJA’s booth and literature distribution for public television and 3ABN.

“God has entrusted us with this message, and we have to let people know,” he said.

“The students are very impactful, and people find them hard to resist,” explained Lipps, teacher of grades five to eight. “The students also learn about themselves, that they can do this. They can do evangelism, meet people and make friends.”

Seventh-grader Cesar Garcia is an experienced volunteer. “Lots of people come here every year, and they don’t all eat meat, so we give them a healthy option. Plus, there are people from all over the world who come, and when we give them tracts about God, we’re helping to spread the word of God around the whole world.”

Free literature displays are available at the Vegeburger Bar. For five years, DJA students with volunteers from Orosi, Dinuba and Tulare churches, have offered free literature at the booth and throughout the grounds of the World Ag Expo.
San Jose Hispanic Church Hosts Religious Liberty and Immigration Law Seminar

Protecting and defending religious freedom is a priority ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. With immigration laws expanding to adjust to today's legal challenges, that ministry serves a much broader audience. On Jan. 5, members of the San Jose Hispanic church hosted a Religious Liberty and Immigration Law seminar for the community and church members to inform and explain an individual's rights in the workplace.

The idea began with the need for education. "Growing up in a Spanish church, I have seen the need to help educate members and connect them to all the free services and benefits the [Adventist] church's religious liberty department can provide," says Edwin Perla. Immigration law was a perfect fit.

"My brother, Gerson, is a lawyer and is spending time helping our church members with information and connecting them to immigration lawyers. Sometimes there are so many people, and he cannot help everyone. I felt that we needed to provide something for our church and our community," Perla says.

Perla first talked to Alan Reinach, executive director of the Church State Council for the Pacific Union, about the seminar and asked if he would bring a few of his lawyer friends. Reinach agreed. Perla shared the idea with his pastor, Ricardo Viloria, and local church leaders, and they formed a planning committee.

Designed to reach the community, seminar presenters were interviewed on local radio, local Bay Area Hispanic churches were invited, and church members shared the opportunity with their neighbors and work colleagues. "We felt we needed to invite the community to come out and see that our church offers relevant practical help as well as spiritual help," Perla adds.

One year later, Reinach came with two immigration law specialists: Attorney Samuel Hernandez, immigration and family law from Riverside and San Bernardino, Calif.; and Cindy O'Hara, senior trial counsel at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in San Francisco, Calif. She spoke generally on the work of the EEOC and the non-discrimination laws that protect all workers, regardless of immigration status.

Religious liberty is based on the gospel of Jesus Christ and the Golden Rule, Reinach says. "The gospel teaches us that Jesus died so that every person could obtain an eternal, intimate relationship with God, through Him," Reinach explains. "Neither the powers of church or state have any right to interfere with that relationship. The Golden Rule teaches us to respect the rights of every person, even as we would want our own rights respected."

The attorneys took turns presenting and explaining information, including new legal status laws. "The program was free and allowed visitors to ask questions about immigration laws and rights even when employed without legal status," Perla explains.

Reinach's position is this: "The law protects all workers, regardless of immigration status," Reinach says. "Whether one is documented is irrelevant to an issue such as whether they have been cheated out of overtime pay, minimum wages or suffered discrimination. These are illegal activities."

New church member Samuel Gutierrez thought the seminar was very helpful. "It answered a lot of questions I had about the immigration process. Sometimes as immigrant Christians, we will do 'anything' for legal status, but what the government is looking for are applicants; men and women of good moral character." The question and answer portion was most helpful, according to attendees. "The lawyers took time to answer everyone's questions. I think this seminar was a blessing for our Latino community in San Jose because our people need orientation," Gutierrez adds.

"By the grace of God, we had approximately 40 visitors," Perla says. "The next step is distributing these names among our elders to begin to reach out and follow-up with visitors to see if they would like to study the Bible."

For more information about immigration rights seminars, contact Alan Reinach at 805-413-7398 or ajreinach@churchstate.org; www.churchstate.org.

Caron Oswald
Central California Conference Camp Meeting in Soquel, CA
July 11-20, 2013

Be Still And Know...

Opening Weekend
July 11-13, 2013

James Doggette
Pastor of Madison Mission Church

Elizabeth Talbot
Speaker/Director of Jesus101 Biblical Institute

Jim Gilley
President & CEO of 3ABN

Closing Weekend
July 19-20, 2013

Daniel Jackson
President of the North American Division

Seminar Presenters:
Bill Liversige, Don MacLafferty, John Mathews, Myla Mendez, Esther Neal, Peter Neri, Elliot Osborne, Schubert & Yolanda Palmer, Rene Qusipe, Colin Ross, Elizabeth Talbot, and Nancy Van Pelt

Estad Quietos y Conoced...

Spanish Tent Speakers:
Ramiro Cano, Mario Niño, Juan Francisco Altamirano, Jorge Soria, Daniel Escamilla, Elizabeth Talbot, Guillermo Garcia, Norka Castillo, Cenia Garcia and more...

Main Speaker
July 13-20, 2013

Ismael Castillo
President Montemorelos University

Daily
July 14-19, 2013

Maria Jose Hummel
Nutritionist & Health Educator

Highlights:

African American Meetings
July 14 & July 20
5:15-6:30 p.m.

Sabbath Afternoon Concerts
July 14 & July 20
3:00 p.m.

Live Satellite: Hope Church Channel

www.hopetv.org

Evenings:
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Sabbaths:
10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
& 5:15-6:30 p.m.

Info:
ccc.adventist.org
(559) 347-3000

Live Web Streaming:
www.triangel.tv
Two Autographs

by Dick Duerksen

Autographs are notoriously hard to read, and unless signed with permanent ink Sharpies, they fade away faster than the memory of the signing. But, sometimes…

Two autographs hold special places on the top shelf of my home office. They are on the same official Rawlings National League hardball, clearly inscribed in Sharpie ink. The baseball has never been pitched, never been hit, and never been caught. Just hand-signed by two of my personal heroes.

The first autograph is by Hall-of-Fame pitcher Sandy Koufax himself, the “King of Strikeouts.” He was the pitcher every batter feared. Four no-hitters in four years. Three-time 25-game winner for the Los Angeles Dodgers. First pitcher to get more than 380 strikeouts in a season. ERA of 0.95 in four career World Series. Perfect game in 1965. And one of the nicest people to ever play baseball. On my top shelf!!

There is another signature on that baseball. A reluctant autograph.

“I don’t know that I can do this,” Dave Dravecky said when I asked him to sign the ball. “Koufax has always been my hero. My signature doesn’t deserve to be on the same baseball as Sandy’s.”

Dave Dravecky pitched for the San Francisco Giants, and never wore Dodger blue. His stats are pale next to Koufax. He was a 21st-round draft pick who fought his way to baseball stardom, a lefty with a “tremendous desire to win.”

XMO: Open Our Eyes

A ChurchApplied Video

You can spend your life just living for yourself, or like a group of Seventh-day Adventist members and friends from The Place Fellowship (in Thousand Oaks, Calif., and beyond), you can bump it up a notch by moving everything over to the edge. You know you’re on the edge when you do things you’ve never done before; when your eyes are “opened” by helping other who cannot see. Suddenly blindness takes on a whole new meaning, and a new way of seeing becomes possible for all. Xtreme Mobility Camp is a labour of love.

View videos: www.vimeo.com/churchapplied/xmo
You may be asking, “Why would anyone want to keep people away from their church?” Good question. Yet, sometimes we say and do things that actually make this happen. If we want our ministry efforts to be effective, we must be intentional with how we treat those who walk through our doors, just as businesses are with their customers. But you may argue, “A church isn’t a business. We aren’t here to just make people happy.” First and foremost, the business of the church is people. We exist to interact with people on behalf of God’s Kingdom. I agree that our first motive shouldn’t be to just make people happy, but I have never seen a hospital that went out of its way to make people miserable. Likewise, churches are supposed to be places of healing and recovery — staging areas for the Kingdom that instill hope and renewal.

Recently I told my 1,000+ Facebook friends (Adventist and otherwise) that I was writing an article titled, “How to Keep People Away From Your Church,” and I posed this question, “What have you found that works?” I received an unexpected flood of responses. The summaries below reflect some of their sentiments:

• Place greeters in your foyer who make snide remarks about people’s dress or appearance (i.e. “We don’t wear that here”).

• Choose greeters who are not afraid to “call sin by its right name.” I once heard of a greeter who chastised a visitor because he came to church still eating his breakfast from McDonalds. The greeter made it clear that eating meat was “unhealthy.” The visitor had never been to that church before and probably never went back.

• If you want to divide people, get political. Bring your politics to church and openly denigrate those who do not subscribe to your political preferences. If your goal is to have a church where everyone belongs to the same party, skunk out those who are in the “wrong camp.”

• Criticize the other churches in your community who are not as “advanced” in their understanding of truth as yours.

• Emphasize the idea that unless people “belong” to your church, they are not going to heaven.

• Post a sign near your fellowship hall that reads, “No Cheese Dishes Allowed.” Make veganism a requirement.

• Emphasize uniformity of thought and discourage people from asking too many questions.

• With a wild-eyed expression on your face, sneak conspiracy theories to members and visitors in the form of CDs, DVDs, books, or by word-of-mouth.

Of course, we hope no church member or leader would purposely do these things. But unfortunately, the unintended messages we sometimes convey are damaging. If this continues over a period of time, the personality of a church may reach the point where outsiders view it as “toxic” or negative.

One of my Facebook friends responded, “There was a time when it took every ounce of emotional capital I had within me to make it to church. When I heard from the pulpit that, essentially, ‘if I was only there to warm a seat and listen to music I might as well not be there’... as if to say, ‘if you are here for healing, then why are you here?’ I wanted to scream, but I could hardly breathe...”

What should the defining qualities of a Seventh-day Adventist church be? Without getting into the nuances of Adventist theology and doctrinal belief (which I’ll save for another time), let me focus on the “elephant in the room” that we often try to ignore. Pain! Every Adventist church...
The Roku Connection — If you have high-speed internet, you can access HOPE TV, Loma Linda Broadcasting and 3-ABN without a satellite dish. All you need is a Roku box that connects to your television and streams these channels and more to your TV. There is no monthly fee. Simply purchase the box once, and watch all you want. For details visit: www.churchsupportservices.org/roku.

International Children’s Care (ICC) — If you would like to help homeless children who have no place to go and no future to look forward to, consider supporting ICC, an Adventist lay ministry that has been in operation since 1978. Learn more here: www.forhiskids.org/videos.php.

Reframe — Video/Audio Software
Reframe is a high-quality video converter that lets you convert audio and video from one standard to another. You can convert between PAL and NTSC video, SD and HD video, or from film to video. It also converts video and audio among formats include: MOV, AVI, MP4, MPG, M4V, DV, WAV, AIF, and many others. Reframe is an affordable stand-alone software solution for video and audio conversion. Read more at: www.miraizon.com.

Don’t Call Them Visitors

According to Rodlie Ortiz, associate pastor at Pioneer Memorial church, we should not call the non-members who visit our church, visitors:

“A visitor is someone that you were not expecting. Someone that you expect to stay just a little while and then go home. What’s a better word to use? Guests. A guest is someone that you were expecting and are happy to see. You clean up the house when you’re expecting a guest. You light the candles and vacuum well. You’re happy to see them.

And yet in how many churches do we often hear from the front, ‘I just want to welcome all the visitors for coming this morning. We’re so glad that you’re here.’ I cringe every time I hear it. Sometimes people still say it in my churches.”

Read more: www.tinyurl.com/ahk7lqm

Enjoy the first ever Adventist inSpire weekend in Berkeley, Calif., April 26-28, 2013. Participate in presentations, discussion, new music, art and poetry — a weekend of creative celebration, great music, networking and inspiration (with Dick Duerkson for Sabbath worship). Other special guests include Dorothy Stiegler (speaker and Blacksmith artist) and Greg Evans (songwriter and performer). Participate in our search for new music and graphics. Be eligible to win an Apple iPad in our music or digital design contests.

EVERYONE is FREE to attend the Friday evening and Sabbath sessions, but if you wish to partake in the meals, receive the DVD or participate in the contests, you need to register! The Sunday morning brunch features Chip Dizárd, tech guru from Baltimore, Md., who will be talking about how to use, video, Internet, social media, and all media-related venues to enhance your ministry or creative projects. Chip knows his stuff. Don’t miss his presentation. Register now!

For details visit: www.visitinspire.org/berkeley
Then, as his career rose toward Hall-of-Fame quality, cancer took half the deltoid muscle in his pitching arm. Dave Dravecky “would never pitch again,” the sportscasters said. The dream had ended. Hope had died.

But, sometimes…

A year later I stood, applauded, and celebrated with thousands of others as Dave Dravecky pitched, AND WON, for the San Francisco Giants. Dravecky was all victory once again! Cancer had been defeated and hope had returned.

Five days later, Dravecky threw “the pitch heard round the world.” While pitching a 90-mph fastball to Montreal Expo player Tim Raines, Dravecky’s left arm broke. I heard the “crack” from the TV screen, and cringed as Dravecky fell off the mound. The pain was overwhelming, nearly knocking him out. Cancer back. Amputation tomorrow. Career over. Hope gone.

I asked Dravecky to sign the baseball because of what happened next.

Dave Dravecky, and his wife Jan, chose to turn defeat into victory. “We decided,” Dave says, “to serve others who are suffering as we have. God has called us to offer encouragement, comfort, and hope to them through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.”

Five books, millions of miles, thousands of assemblies, hundreds of cancer wards, and squillions of one-armed-hugs later, the Draveckys are happier than they ever were while living their Hall-of-Fame dreams. Providing hope for cancer, hope for depression, and hope for the hurting has become the “reason for living.”

As Dave Dravecky signed under Sandy Koufax’s name, he said, “Dick, there’s really only one autograph worth getting. That’s when you ask God to write His name on your heart.”

For more details visit: www.storyharvest.org/autographs
PUC Fulbright Scholar Returns from Paraguay Research Trip

In an active, creative biology department that emphasizes field experience — both for students and teachers — Pacific Union College professor Floyd Hayes is one example of leadership in research and life learning. Hayes recently returned from a trip to Paraguay as a 2012-2013 Fulbright Scholar. From September 2012 to December 2012, the zoologist taught an undergraduate course in ornithology at the National University of Asunción in San Lorenzo, Paraguay. Hayes also co-taught a 10-week undergraduate course in environmental management at the San Carlos University in the capital city, Asunción, the country’s largest city.

“It was fun to return [to Paraguay],” says Hayes. The biology professor is familiar with the country, having spent three years in Paraguay as a vertebrate biologist for the U.S. Peace Corps, based in the National Museum of Natural History of Paraguay. Hayes conducted his doctoral research on the birds of Paraguay, and his wife Marta is a Paraguayan citizen. He is also fluent in Spanish.

Hayes believes his previous experience in the country gave him a competitive edge over other applicants for the prestigious award. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government, and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. Approximately 1,100 American professors and professionals traveled abroad as Fulbright Scholars during 2012-2013. Hayes is the third professor from Pacific Union College to have earned the prestigious international award.

Hayes experienced his “most auspicious day of birding ever” during one important diplomatic birding trip. “A police escort with flashing lights led a five-vehicle caravan, including the Mexican, French and American ambassadors, plus armed bodyguards and news reporters,” Hayes recalls. The American Embassy sponsored the excursion, for which Hayes was a bird guide, accompanying colleagues from Guyra Paraguay, a nongovernmental conservation organization in Paraguay. “What fun!” says Hayes.

Hayes also presented the results of his research at two scientific meetings organized by Guyra Paraguay. He enjoyed his professional duties, but especially appreciated the chance to travel to different parts of Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil, usually in the company of his wife Marta. Together, the two observed and photographed a formidable amount of wildlife diversity, including caimans, whales, sea lions, elephant seals, guanacos, penguins, rheas and toucans.

Hayes’ trip to South America is not the only example of his international experience. He also taught biology at Caribbean Union College (now University of the Southern Caribbean) and the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago. In St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Hayes worked as a wildlife biologist for the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Hayes has also been the editor-in-chief of Journal of Caribbean Ornithology since 2005.

Midori Yoshimura with Floyd Hayes
Southern California Conference

Faith Trip Inspires Students and Support Team

On Dec. 16, 2012, 12 young adults began a journey from Southern California to Seattle, Wash., for the 2012 Generation of Youth for Christ conference. Inspired by Weimar College’s Faith Trip to Houston in 2011, these young people decided to put their faith to the test and allow God to provide for them through literature evangelism ministry. “We filled two vans with books and one tank of gas. We left Riverside, Calif., praying that God would provide,” said Lesieli Heimuli, literature evangelism director for Faith Trip Inspired.

The goal was to distribute literature for donations in neighborhoods that would cover gas, lodging, food and other needs. “People thought it was crazy, but we believe in this work and that God is coming soon,” said Luisa Paongo, a newly baptized Adventist.

The majority of them had no literature ministry experience, so directors needed to train them during traveling hours and down time. “We had an inexperienced team and more than 1,000 miles to travel,” said Pau Moala, the canvassing leader. “However, we witnessed God move in ways we’d never seen before. To literally see Him provide was breathtaking.”

Each day, the team woke early, had devotions, prepared breakfast and sack lunches, packed the vans, stocked books and headed to their next location. After arriving in their expected territory by afternoon, they canvassed until 8:30 p.m. Afterward, they counted the donations they’d received and drove to their designated location to sleep.

Going through Redding, Calif., the team experienced their first day of cold weather and snow. Drivers had to stop to put on chains before continuing. On arriving in Grants Pass, Ore., they were greeted by Pastor Christian Martin, who opened his church to allow the team to rest and rejuvenate for another long day of traveling. “It was snowing so hard when they arrived that there was a power outage in my neighborhood,” said Martin. “It has not snowed like that since 1994; yet they still canvassed. I was stunned by the team’s persistence.”

For two weeks, the Faith Trip Inspired team canvassed through rain, snow and sunshine. On days off, the young adults visited convalescent homes and hospital patients, and caroled while sharing GLOW tracts on Christmas. “I never experienced anything like this,” said filmmaker Michael Taimi, who taped their experiences. “I will never be the same again.”

On Dec. 27, Weimar Academy students met with Faith Trip Inspired to create a jumbo team totaling 22 students. Their goal was to take literature into some of the most affluent homes in the area. “Literature evangelism is a war tactic for spiritual warfare,” said Jojoe Tonga, current leader for Weimar Academy students. “A person would be foolish to love war, but the burden for souls drives us into battle.”

Faith Trip Inspired raised a total of $6,639 and filled orders for more than 300 books and pieces of literature in homes across three different states. Financially provided for, the team returned home spiritually uplifted and ready to continue the ministry in their home churches across the U.S.

“It was really tiring,” said Kauvaka Ahoia, “but every day we prayed for strength to continue.”

Felicia Tonga
Ten Commandment Hike Visits the All Nations Church

A group of Boy Scouts, local community leaders, police and interfaith representatives in Monrovia, Arcadia and Duarte gathered early this year for the 14th annual 10 Commandment Hike. The hikers visited area houses of worship, learning about each faith group while focusing on specific commandments.

David Hall, an elder of the All Nations church in Monrovia and a commissioner in L.A. County’s 5th District, chairs the council representing the unincorporated areas of Monrovia, Arcadia and Duarte. Hall introduced the idea of having the hike include the All Nations church as a stop on the 2013 hike, the first 10 Commandment Hike held in the area.

At 8 a.m. Saturday, the group made their first visit to the Arabic Evangelical Church in Monrovia. The pastor and his wife focused on the first commandment and worship, underscoring the freedom to worship that U.S. citizens enjoy. At the Calvary Chapel in Monrovia, the group heard a presentation on the second and third commandments.

The All Nations church was next, with a focus on the fourth and fifth commandments. Associate pastor Anthony Paschal spoke to the group, interacting with them about the Sabbath and their understanding of it. Spending less than a half hour at each church, the hikers’ arrival essentially coincided with almost the entire adult Sabbath school. At each stop, a county representative presented a certificate of appreciation to the pastors for their participation. Myriam Salcedo-Gonzalez, senior pastor, received All Nations’ certificate, warmly welcoming the group and expressing appreciation for their visit.

“I really enjoyed Pastor Paschal’s explanation of the Sabbath,” said one official, who represents the unincorporated areas for L.A. County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

Some in the group acknowledged that they had known about the Sabbath, but one Eagle Scout said, “I am so glad that I came. I really didn’t understand about the Sabbath before.”

After stopping at a Baptist church in nearby Duarte to learn about the sixth and seventh commandments, the group marched to a local park for their lunch, which each had carried with them on the trek.

The group learned about the remaining commandments at the Calvary Grace and Annunciation Catholic churches in Duarte.

Roman Catholic Priest Alexei Smith, director of Ecumenical and Religious Affairs for the Archdiocese of L.A., said, “I look forward to participating in the 10 Commandment Hike every year, because it accomplishes two things: it provides young people and adults with an opportunity to learn about the Commandments and to visit other houses of worship. It also broadens their understanding of other faiths, which I think is so essential today.”

In addition to spending the day learning about churches and the 10 Commandments, the hikers walked approximately 5.5 miles.

“It was amazing to have all the children and adults from the 10 Commandment Hike come to our church,” Salcedo-Gonzalez reflected. “Several parents thanked us for our hospitality. Our church wants to reach out more into the community.”

Betty Cooney
The Rekindle Retreat, a prayer retreat for pastors, began on a windswept Monday afternoon in January at Pine Springs Ranch. Outside of informational meetings, this retreat was the first one held by the Southern California Conference specifically to bring the pastors of the conference’s five regions together for prayer.

The worship services, which were separate from the teaching time, took advantage of this rare, cross-regional opportunity by offering spaces for testimonies from the different pastors.

“I have had amazing worship experiences, and I have had amazing prayer experiences like this one before,” commented Pastor Cherise Gardner of the Glendale City church. “The truly amazing thing about this weekend was hearing all of you [pastors] give your stories.”

The teaching time featured S. Joseph Kidder, D.Min., associate professor of Christian ministry, Andrews University, who spoke on the power and necessity of earnest prayer in ministry. Kidder emphasized the impossibility and foolishness of doing ministry without regular prayer, and recommended that pastors spend one or two hours a day in prayer.

“The job of a pastor,” he taught, “is to spend the week talking to God about your parishioners. Then, on Sabbath, you talk to your parishioners about God.”

Kidder also discussed the necessity of praying as though secure that God will actually answer. “If you are spending this amount of time in communication with God,” he said, “you will know what His will is, and your desires will slowly line up to it. Do not be afraid to ask for these things.”

Throughout the retreat, Kidder emphasized, “Pray as if your life depended on it.”

On the last night of the retreat, conference administrators and the Prayer, Spirituality and Renewal Team of the conference hosted an Agape Feast. Candlelit tables displayed the shredded remains of red roses on white tablecloths. The pastors were asked to wash the feet of a colleague from another region, and to pray with them.

The communion itself was modeled after the Jewish Passover, which celebrates God’s redemption, grace and freedom. Several pastors commented, “That was amazing. I want to steal this idea to use at my church.”

In addition, the conference administrators went through the room with oil, anointing and praying over each pastor individually.

“They’re doing this properly,” remarked Eustace Laurie, associate pastor of the Breath of Life church. “They’re actually praying over each one of us.”

The retreat accomplished a number of things. It brought busy pastors to their knees, brought pastors who never see each other face to face to fellowship, and brought the pastors and their administrators together in a more intimate way.

“What we hoped to accomplish,” said SCC President Larry L. Caviness, “was to help you clear your desk of all its distractions so that you can return to your local ministry refreshed, revitalized and focused on our Lord Jesus.”
On the last weekend of January, 17-year-old Jay* discovered that the Adventist church was started by several people not much older than he. “It was amazing to learn,” he said, “that Ellen White was only 17 when she received her first vision, and James White was in his 20s when he began taking a leadership role in the church.”

Sherri* shared her personal journey when telling a story during the weekend. She had never been comfortable telling stories up front. So, very hesitantly, she began speaking in her first presentation, telling a story of a child who had lost someone very close to her and experienced deep personal grief. At the end of the story, Sherri acknowledged, “This actually was my own story.”

For the last 18 months, the Southern California Pathfinder Teens in Leadership Training (TLTs) have been working toward investing at least 100 TLTs as Master Guides at the International Camporee at Oshkosh, Wis., in 2014. Preparing Pathfinder high school teens to be inducted has been the goal of Pastor Bob Wong and Steven and Lynnette Clement since Oshkosh 2009, where two or three clubs each inducted 8-12 Master Guides. While their announced goal is 100 or more Master Guides, their dream is to induct 200 SCC Master Guides at Oshkosh 2014.

Pathfinder Clubs whose academy and high school teens participate in TLT activities have had the enthusiastic support of their churches. Activities are held on Sabbath afternoons each month during the fall and early winter, focusing on one Master Guide requirement.

Annually, the White Memorial church has hosted a TLT training weekend with a focus on some of the lengthier Master Guide requirements. At the most recent TLT weekend, three activity tracks were offered for Master Guide candidates, with close to 150 attending.

One track focused on two-hour Master Guide classes on creativity, child and youth evangelism, and communication and leadership skills. These classes have been held multiple times to make them accessible to all who want to be invested, but was an unfulfilled need for those who attended these classes. A second track focused on the Christian Storytelling Honor. During the eight hours of training, teens who participated developed a much greater comfort level with their ability to talk in front of others by telling stories. One participant acted out the story while telling it, involving the audience in the process.

A third track focused on completing the Adventist Heritage Award, with the goal of creating an understanding of Adventist heritage. The group researched many articles about early Adventist pioneers who shaped the direction of the church.

Participants were required to prepare a history of their own local churches, which will be submitted to the Loma Linda University Library where local church history is catalogued. The Van Nuys Spanish church recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and used this requirement to get their teens’ help in developing the history of the church.

Over the next year, more TLT activities are planned as the date for the 2014 Oshkosh Camporee approaches.

*Names have been changed

Steve Clement

Duncan Paniagua, White Memorial church, works on a creative way to learn the books of the Bible at the creativity class taught as one of the Master Guide requirements.
The Arizona Conference recently celebrated grand opening ceremonies for two new churches.

Gila Mountain — Yuma

“As I look at this beautiful sanctuary and the people seated here, I see dozens of miracles. The hand of God has faithfully guided His people toward this moment for years,” said Yuma Pastor George Boundey as the Gila Mountain Seventh-day Adventist Church opened its doors Feb. 23.

Men and women who had sacrificed to make this day a reality filled the church. Gila Mountain Pastor Mel Phillips, Bob and Sharon Acord, Harold Weir and many others told stories of how the Gila Mountain church was God’s miracle for them.

Boundey reminded the congregation of the groundbreaking ceremonies three years before on Feb. 18, 2010. “I believe God looked down on Yuma one day and decided it was time for some miracles,” said Boundey. “He had some goals for the spreading of the gospel in this area. In preparation, God inspired a group of people to decide there needed to be a church in the eastern part of Yuma. They started with a branch Sabbath school, graduated to a company and soon it became an official church.”

Dr. Ellis Browning and his family gave a significant gift to purchase the prime property on Fortuna Road at a major interchange on Interstate 8. At the time the project was first discussed, the nation’s economy was not very bright. Construction costs seemed overwhelming. But the discussions went on; committees debated the merits of the project.

They embraced the challenges as a test of faith and chose to trust that God would make possible what seemed impossible. Enter Maranatha Volunteers International, which, with the help of approximately 75 volunteers (with an average age of 73), built most of the facility in December 2010. The rest has been completed since.

“I can say without any hesitation God has plans for the Gila Mountain church,” said Boundey. “This church doesn’t just happen to be here. It is a direct result of the specific guidance, intervention, and miracle-working power of God.

On the south end of Fortuna Road this morning is a beautiful building. But it will only find its true glory, and fulfill its purpose for being here, as Jesus’ presence is allowed to fill, to permeate, to glorify this place in order to shine that glory out to the community around us.”

Clearview — Surprise

As Dr. Robert Spady jogged past a piece of property in Surprise, Ariz., he was impressed that it was perfect for the new church being planned for the rapidly growing Clearview community west of Phoenix.

He immediately shared the information with his father-in-law, John Stevens, who was actively working to fulfill a challenge given him by former Arizona Conference President Duane McKey to build a church in Surprise.

“Immediately I went into escrow for the entire parcel,” said Stevens. “It was zoned for a church, and the five-acre parcel fronted one of three main palm tree lined avenues on Clearview Boulevard. However, the city planned a fire station in Sun City Grand, an upscale Del Webb development, and exercised their constitutional mandate of eminent domain, purchasing the property. But they only used 2.2 acres and sold our congregation the remaining 2.8 acres.”

Sabbath, March 3, a group of people witnessed the official grand opening of the Clearview Seventh-day Adventist Church. The event was filmed so it can be televised on Good News Television at a later date.

Special guests included councilman Richard Alton, project manager Mahdi Sadek, Jim and Camille Gilley of 3ABN; Duane and Kathy McKey; and Arizona Conference officers Tony Anobile, president, Ed Keyes, executive secretary, and Robert Hastings, treasurer. The King’s Heralds Quartet provided a concert for the occasion.

Pastor Murrell and Ginger Tull have recently moved from the Lake Havasu church to pastor at Clearview. “The Clearview church has been designed to be used by Internet, television, and any multimedia possible to attract a new generation of people who have grown up in this electronic age,” said Murrell Tull. “We want the community to feel comfortable attending Clearview, and we plan weekly advertisements inviting them to our services.”

“It’s thrilling to see two brand new churches open their doors as we continue making evangelism our major emphasis in the conference,” says Anobile. “Even in this challenging economy, the Lord has blessed with two new gospel beacons in Gila Mountain and Surprise. Plus, groundbreaking ceremonies were just held for a new Filipino-American church in Chandler. Praise God for the faith and dedication of our members as they work to win the world for Jesus!”

Phil Draper
Adventist Health Sponsors Largest Number of Teams at California International Marathon

Adventist Health sponsored 45 relay teams with approximately 200 people taking part in the California International Marathon as runners, photographers, drivers, cheerleaders and other volunteers. They sported neon green T-shirts emblazoned with “Team AH-SOME!”

Runners represented Adventist Medical Center – Hanford, Feather River Hospital, Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, Glendale Adventist Medical Center, St. Helena Hospital Napa Valley, Sonora Regional Medical Center, Ukiah Valley Medical Center and the corporate offices in Roseville, Calif.

A four-person ladies team from Ukiah Valley Medical Center was the first place winner in the Women’s Corporate category, and a coed team from Sonora Regional Medical Center won second place in the Coed Corporate category.

The 26.2 mile race from Folsom to the state Capitol is ranked as the 14th largest marathon in the country, and this year celebrated its 30th anniversary.

Glendale Adventist Medical Center Float Wins Award in the 2013 Tournament of Roses Parade

Riding on the float as it rolled down Pasadena’s Colorado Blvd. on New Year’s Day were GAMC cancer survivors, the hospital’s director of cancer services, Physician of the Year, and Nurse of the Year. The float, co-sponsored with the City of Glendale, depicted images of life at the hospital and Glendale. GAMC images on the float included nurses, patients and cancer survivors in exquisite detail. The float was honored with the Governor’s Trophy for the best depiction of life in California.

The AIS Cancer Center of San Joaquin Community Hospital Affiliates with UC Davis

Residents of Kern County, Calif., where cancer rates overall are higher than the state average, will now have access to the expertise and experience of the UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center researchers and clinicians through an affiliation. Currently one in five cancer patients in Kern County leaves the area for treatment, often traveling as far as Los Angeles for access to expert care. With this affiliation, the Cancer Center will have access to broadband tele-medicine technology, which allows teams of specialists to meet weekly via “virtual tumor boards” to share medical information and discuss individual patient treatment plans, including participation in available clinical trials.

President of Sonora Regional Medical Center Elected to Industry Board

Jeff Eller, president/CEO of Sonora Regional Medical Center, was recently elected to the board of the California Hospital Association Rural Healthcare Center. Eller was one of six new board members whose three-year terms began January 2013. The CHA Rural Healthcare Center represents small and rural hospitals which, due to their smaller size, distance from population centers, and proximity to patients, each present a distinct set of challenges. The Rural Healthcare Center also serves Critical Access Hospitals and advocates for their interests on federal and state legislative and regulatory policies. Adventist Health operates the largest number of rural health clinics in California and also has clinics in Oregon and Washington.

City Council Applauds Simi Valley Hospital Staff for Heroism

Simi Valley Hospital staff members were formally recognized for their heroic efforts to protect the lives of two community residents in separate occurrences last summer. Members of the hospital’s Rapid Response Team were commended by the city council: they assisted an injured police officer after she fell while pursuing a suspect who had escaped her custody. Other hospital staff members were honored for saving the life of a 3-year-old boy at a community swimming pool. They performed CPR until paramedics arrived; the boy has since fully recovered.

Rita Waterman
LSU Lands Nation’s Top Higher Education Service Award

La Sierra University joins four other higher educational institutions as awardees in the 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. This distinction is the highest honor a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement.

La Sierra University President Randal Wisbey received the honor from the Corporation for National and Community Service during the annual meeting of the American Council on Education in Washington, D.C., on March 4. Jonathan Greenblatt, special assistant to President Barack Obama and Wendy Spencer, CNCS chief executive officer, presented the award.

The recognition commends La Sierra’s achievements in a special focus area, Promise Neighborhood, which also aligns with President Obama’s education and innovation priorities. La Sierra was cited for its efforts during the 2011–12 school year to aid the region’s residents through various outreach programs, including Service-Learning classes, Enactus team activities in economic empowerment, and other civic involvement.

Projects undertaken by La Sierra students and faculty included: tutoring and mentoring elementary students and fundraising for afterschool programs in the Alvord Unified School District; interactive learning experiences created by biology and communication students in the university’s World Museum of Natural History for middle school students in Alvord’s After School Programs classes alone, 899 La Sierra students provided 14,106 hours of service.

“Service-Learning at La Sierra University is much more than the simple act of giving back to our community,” commented university Provost Steve Pawluk. “It also aims to help students internalize our university’s conviction that a university education is not only for one’s personal benefit, but to equip each of us to contribute to the greater good.”

“Service-Learning between the students at La Sierra University and the elementary or middle school students in Alvord’s After School Programs has been a mutually beneficial and powerful experience for all,” said Carmen Phillips, Alvord’s After School Programs coordinator. “The college students assist, encourage and promote learning, sharing or giving to the younger students in the nearby community. The younger students look up to and enjoy their time with the college students. They feel important because someone, unrelated to them, is learning about them, willing to assist them, and cares that they succeed.”

“What a huge blessing La Sierra University has been to the women and children in the homes of Sylvia’s Serenity. These students have shown us what a community can do when they come together and what our next generation should be like,” commented Sylvia Hernandez, director of Sylvia’s Serenity Sober Living Homes Inc. in Riverside.

“Congratulations to La Sierra University, its faculty and students for its commitment to service, both in and out of the classroom,” said CNCS’s Spencer. “Through its work, La Sierra is helping to improve the local Riverside community and create a new generation of leaders by challenging students to go beyond the traditional college experience and solve local challenges.”

Randal Wisbey, Secretary

La Sierra University President Randal Wisbey, center, receives one of the top national awards from the 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Presenters are Corporation for National and Community Service CEO Wendy Spencer (left) and Jonathan Greenblatt, special assistant to President Barack Obama.

Notice of Constituency Session

The La Sierra University constituents will meet in a special session in Angwin Chapel, on the campus of La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, CA 92505, on May 23, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. The agenda will focus on the La Sierra University Bylaws.

Ricardo Graham, Chair
Randal Wisbey, Secretary

Darla Martin Tucker
Loma Linda was the epicenter of all major scientific-based research on plant-based diets and nutrition as more than 800 of the world’s leading scientists, researchers, and advocates gathered for the 6th International Congress on Vegetarian Nutrition, hosted by Loma Linda University Health.

6ICVN, organized by Loma Linda University School of Public Health, is an event that happens every five years and is the premier gathering of the world’s experts in plant-based nutrition and health.

At this year’s gathering, held Feb. 24-26 at LLU Drayson Center, delegates dove in to dozens of seminars, workshops and presentations exploring such topics as the link between diet and longevity, how plant-based diets can help prevent and treat major chronic diseases, and the sustainability of plant-based diet lifestyles.

“I have been attending the Vegetarian Congress since the fourth one because I’m a vegetarian, and there are many new things that I learn,” says delegate Hiroshi Yamaji, 52, of Tokyo, who is the director of health ministries for the Japan Union Conference. “I feel very blessed by the lifestyle I have,” he continues. “I have been a practicing vegetarian since I was born, and I see the benefits in it. I am glad there is now strong scientific support for it.”

Delegates received a rousing welcome from LLUH officials at the start of the events. “It’s a real privilege for Loma Linda to be identified with this congress, which is the premier international conference for research in plant-based diets,” says Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president of LLUH, during his welcome. “Loma Linda has pioneered efforts that now allow us to gather here. Vegetarianism is no longer an Adventist thing or a novelty. It has become a science-based way of life for many people.”

Joan Sabate, M.D., Ph.D., 6ICVN chair and chair of the nutrition department at LLU School of Public Health, noted that the event has been growing each time, and this year’s attendance easily surpassed the expected 700 delegates.

“The interest from both the Adventist community and the scientific community is increasing,” he said.

“Vegetarian nutrition is one of the stalwart research themes of our school,” says Tricia Penniecook, M.D., M.P.H., dean of LLU School of Public Health. “During the congress, scientists, practitioners, academicians, students, and members of the community at large learned more about how a vegetarian lifestyle can be taught and implemented in practical ways.”

The congress also provided the venue for announcing major research findings, including the first public presentation of an international-headline-making landmark study by Spanish researchers that made a head-to-head comparison and determined that plant-based Mediterranean diets are better at reducing heart disease risks than a low-fat diet.

Miguel Angel Martinez, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D., lead investigator of the study called “PRE-DIMED,” for “PREvencion con Dieta MEDiterranea,” says 6ICVN was a good place to unveil his study’s findings because they stand on groundbreaking research conducted at LLU, such as the landmark Adventist Health Study and a study on walnuts and heart disease.

“It is a good opportunity to celebrate the findings from these studies from two decades ago, it’s like closing the loop,” he says. “Our findings are very supportive of the research of those pioneering studies at Loma Linda.”

For more information on the congress and research findings, see the website at www.vegetariannutrition.org.

Herbert Atienza
Central California

GIRLS’ & GUYS’ RETREAT (April 12-14) Girls at Seol and Guys at Camp Wawona. Info: Sandra, 559-347-3174.

SINGLES RALLY (April 13) Bay area. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3142 or ministries@cccsda.org.

GOD’S GIRLS GETAWAY (April 19-21) Sonora; for girls ages 9-12. Info: ccc-children.adventistfaith.org

SAN FRANCISCO JAPANESE church 75th Anniversary Homecoming (April 20) Services begin at 9:30 a.m. with former pastors and worship by Pastor Mark Duarte. Afternoon program features founding Pastor Kinichi Nozaki’s children with retrospective and special music. Potluck and parking vouchers included. Info: Pastor Naofumi Nozawa or Shirley Nozawa, 415-346-8481.

Fresno Westside church. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3142, ministries@cccsda.org.

Palo Alto church. Info: Marlyn, 559-347-3174.

Camp Wawona. Info: Sandra, 559-347-3174.

559-347-3144, fmorales@cccsda.org.

Maryland Adventist Church. Info: Pastor H. Williams, 301-637-2628) Info: Sandra, 559-347-3174.


LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2013 (April 19-21) Celebrating 50 years of Adventist Colleges Abroad, and honoring the classes of 1953 and 1963. Events include banquet with alumni of the year, alumni worship service at 9:30 a.m. Soul Church and a Latino alumni reunion on Sabbath. Info: 909-785-4LSU, or go to www.lasiera.edu/alumni.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT — Faculty Recital featuring Martin Gluckich, flute (April 6) 7 p.m.; 55th Annual Concerto concert (April 20) 8:15 p.m.; Theresse by Jules Massenet (April 24) 7 p.m.; Opera Gala Concert (April 27) 8 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP Fridays 8 p.m., LSU church. Info: 951-785-2090.

Northern California Conference


LA DORADO NATURE CLUB Campout (April 19-20) Almond Tree RV Park, 3124 Esplanade, Chico. Soup & sandwich supper, Friday, 6 p.m.; Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m., church 11 a.m., potluck lunch after. Beautiful RV park: full hook-ups, nice clubhouse. 532/night. Reservations required: April 12. Info: Mel Ferguson, 707-965-3504; Charlene Adams, jandc-adams@gmail.com.


EL DORADO NATURE CLUB Campout (April 19-20) Almond Tree RV Park, 3124 Esplanade, Chico. Soup & sandwich supper, Friday, 6 p.m.; Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m., church 11 a.m., potluck lunch after. Beautiful RV park: full hook-ups, nice clubhouse. 532/night. Reservations required: April 12. Info: Mel Ferguson, 707-965-3504; Charlene Adams, jandc-adams@gmail.com.


YOUTH WEEK OF PRAYER (April 6-10, 12-13) 7 p.m., Del Rosa church, 1696 North G Street, San Bernardino. The program focuses on the life and sacrifice of Jesus. Info: 909-883-2400.

PATHFINDER LEADERSHIP River Trip (April 4-7) Ten river trip is reward trip for teen leaders who have worked hard in their clubs. Info: www.seccyouth.com.

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY Vocal Octet Reunion Concert (May 4) 4 p.m., LSU church sanctuary. Concert under the direction of Dr. William Chunnestudy. Info: 951-354-7095.


Southern California Conference


EASTER DRAMA and musical (March 29, 30) Del Rosa church, 1696 North G Street, San Bernardino. The program focuses on the life and sacrifice of Jesus. Info: 909-883-2400.

FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS for CHIP (April 14, 16, & 18) 4/14, 1 p.m.; 4/16, 18, 6:30 p.m.; (CHIP program will begin April 21) Reverse high blood pressure, turn around diabetes, lose weight without dieting, lower cholesterol. A powerful yet simple 30-day world-class lifestyle—education program. Camarillo church, 3975 Las Posas Rd. Registration/Info: 805-482-4632.


RESPONDING TO CONFLICT biblically (April 20) 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Seminar will help you work through conflict in your life using biblical principles. Presenter, Elder Charles Brown, pres., Adventist Reconciliation Services, a Christian conciliator certified by the Institute of Christian Conciliation. Simi Valley church, 1636 Sinaloa Rd. Info: 805-526-0141.

PASTOR CHERISE GARDNER Ordination Service (April 27) 2:30 p.m. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-546-8437.
PEACEFUL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
in the Portland, Ore., area for active seniors. The Village Retirement Center offers
cottage style apartments on 16 beautifully landscaped acres in Gresham, Ore. Studios, one-bedroom and various newly
remodeled two-bedroom styles offered. Transportation, food services and many other amenities available. On-site church and many activities. For a brochure or to
arrange a tour and to check availability, contact 503-665-3137; www.villageretire-
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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
center, assisted living, nursing home and
transportation as needed. Website: www.
summitridgevillage.org or call Bill Norman,
405-208-1289.

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diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, osteoporosis,
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for more information or visit wildwood-
health.org/lifestyle.

UNWANTED: You don’t like the feeling. Neither do blind adults and children. If you
miss the video April 13 at your church, find it at www.CRSBGift.org. Reach out with
a tax-deductible gift to: Christian Record
Services for the Blind, Box 6097, Lincoln
NE 68506.

URGENTLY NEED gently used, completely
working, hearing aids. Donate your car,
boat or RV to Canvasback Missions. Serving
the medical and dental needs of the Pacific Islands. Donation is tax deductible. Autos
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Bulletin Board

HAVE YOU WRITTEN a children’s book, life
story, testimony of God’s love, or your spiri-
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Church State Council

Annual Lobby Day
Monday, April 8
10 am
Sacramento State Capitol

Come meet and talk with your legislators
about issues that are important to you
and the Seventh-day Adventist church.

The easiest way to lose the freedoms that
we cherish as Christians is to do nothing!

For more information and RSVP
Call Natalie at (918) 446-2552 or email
neva@churchstate.org

April 2013 31
ASSOCIATE TREASURER for accounting, full-time. Oversees operations of the accounting department including accounts receivable/payable, cashier, payroll, church receiving, and general ledger. Includes monitoring conference budget. Develops and maintains policies and procedures for the accounting department. Bachelor’s degree in accounting or business related. MBA desired. Five years related experience including supervision is required. Understanding of payroll is essential. For information, contact Human Resources, Southeastern California Conference, 951-509-2352 or macy.grayson@seccsda.org.

BETTER LIFE TELEVISION: Seeking broadcast engineer for 20 stations and Grants Pass, Ore., headquarters. Requires knowledge of RF broadcast engineering, FCC regulations. SDA member in good standing. E-mail: RonDavis@BetterLifeTV.tv.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is looking for a Professor to join the Department of Computer Science. Eligible candidates should have a Ph.D. from an accredited university in Computer Science or related field. Experience in teaching is preferred. For more information and to apply visit: puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is looking for a Professor for their Nursing Department. Eligible candidates should have at least a Master’s Degree, Ph.D. preferred. Current California RN license (or immediate eligibility) required. For more information and to apply visit: puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is searching for a Professor for their Business Administration Department. Eligible candidates should have a Ph.D. or D.B.A. in Finance, Accounting or Management (ABD considered, an MBA with a CPA or other significant professional experience will also be considered) for more information and to apply: puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE has two fleet mechanic positions open in their Facilities Management Department. Qualified candidates should have experience in repairing and operating all types of machinery, ASE 1-9, bus certifications, and Class A license are preferred. For more information and to apply: puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings.

PHYSICIAN: M.D./D.O./Naturopath, NP/PA: Opportunity of a lifetime at Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital. Two physicians and one NP/PA needed to complete our medical team. Will train in lifestyle and natural therapies. Missionary positions available at the only SDA facility of its kind in the US. E-mail: Dr. Zeno@wildwood-health.org.

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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST 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-mail hr@guamuda.com; or visiting our website at www.adventistclinic.com.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks graduate faculty to join our mission-focused team at the MSN and DNP levels. Candidate must hold current family/adult NP certification. Requisite qualities include interest in research, successful teaching and advanced practice nursing experience, flexibility, and commitment to SDA education. The candidate must be a member in good and regular standing in the SDA Church. Doctorate required. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to Dr. Holly Gadd, hgadd@southern.edu. SAU School of Nursing, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY School of Nursing seeks applicants committed to SDA nursing education to join a mission-focused team as adjunct, part- or full-time faculty. Earned doctorate required. Advanced practice certification/experience preferred, but not required for some courses. Consideration given for candidates who wish to teach online without relocating. Must be a member in good and regular standing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Send curriculum vitae to Dr. Barbara James, bjamess@southern.edu. SAU

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY’S School of Work seeks full-time faculty. Candidate must have MSW degree from a CSWE-accredited program and a Ph.D. in related field. Candidates should be able to demonstrate CBT skills. Must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, the teachings and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, an SDA church member in good and regular standing. Please submit a curriculum vita via e-mail to René Drumm, rdrumm@ southern.edu, Dean, School of Social Work, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time nursing educators in the areas of mental health, community health or pediatrics. Master’s degree required; doctoral degree preferred. Must have some teaching experience and an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Contact Dr. Lenora Follett at 817-202-6670 or lenora.follett@swau.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a director of academic support and advising. Master’s degree in developmentally oriented curriculum and counseling preferred. Must have some teaching experience within the last five years, a minimum of one year experience teaching registered nursing related courses, or completion of a post-baccalaureate course with teaching practice. To apply visit www.wwu.edu/jobs.

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WEIMAR INSTITUTE is currently looking for qualified individuals to fill the following positions: Cafeteria Shift Supervisor, NEWS-START Program Nurse, Male Hydrotherapy & Massage Therapist, Plant Services & Maintenance Employee. For detailed job descriptions and to apply, please visit www.wwa.edu/jobs.


Events

Valleymont

Yuba City, Calif. Contact: Phyla Caldwell, Yuba City Adventist Church, 1460 Richmond Road, Yuba City, CA 95993-6549; 925-673-3754; yubacs@yuc.com. To apply visit www.edjulie1@att.net; or call 630-232-9034. LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY Homecoming (April 19–21) “One University Changing the World.” Celebrating 50 years of Adventist colleges abroad. La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, Calif. More info: Julie Narducci, julie@lasiera.edu, 951-785-2578, www.lasiera.edu/alumni.

Monterey Bay Academy (April 21–24) Alumni Weekend: 1950s-1960s. More info: Liz Xbox, liz@montereybayacademy.org or 831-728-1481, ext. 1222. More info: Liz Xbox, liz@montereybayacademy.org or 831-728-1481, ext. 1222.

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La Sierra University Homecoming (April 19–21) “One University Changing the World.” Celebrating 50 years of Adventist colleges abroad. La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, Calif. More info: Julie Narducci, julie@lasiera.edu, 951-785-2578, www.lasiera.edu/alumni.

MONTEREY BAY ACADEMY 61st Alumni Weekend (April 21–24) Friday, golf tournament; Sabbath, worship services & evening Oceanside/Westwind Concert. Saturday, 49ers Brunch for Classes 1950-1961. Info: alumni@montereybayacademy.org or 831-728-1481, ext. 1222.
AT REST


Correction: MATTISON, WELDON HOWARD — b. Oct. 4, 1922, Lucknow, India.; d. Dec. 11, 2012, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Eloise; son, Steven; daughters, Carol Myers, Susan Wolfe, Nancy Mack, Malini Folkai; stepsons, Dwight Hiscox; stepdaughter, Charlene Folson; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Served as a missionary to India.


SAMARDOZA, LILIANE — b. Feb. 8, 1940, Nis, Serbia; d. Feb. 15, 2013, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, Blagoe; son, Michael; three grandchildren.


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