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LIVING 28

ADVENTIST RECORD LAUNCHES
NEW BOOK 7

NEWS

TREMENDOUS GROWTH FOR
PAPUA NEW GUINEA 6

ADVENTIST RECORD | MARCH 7, 2020
ISSN 0819-5633



For the One

"I love to preach the gospel. I am joining 120 pastors from the rest of the SPD to preach in PNG."



2020 CAMP MISSION OFFERING

2020 is spiritual harvest time in Papua New Guinea.

Over 120 pastors from across the SPD with over 1,500 local pastors and elders to share the gospel across 2,000 sites in Papua New Guinea. You are invited to partner with Papua New Guinea Union Mission.

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Supply steel building materials for simple structures built locally by members. AUD \$4,500 per structure (inc freight of materials).

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Cheques sent to your local conference and given specifically for CAMP MISSION OFFERING 2020 (PNG for Christ).



NUTURE AND FELLOWSHIP CHALLENGE

Do you know what the people sitting around you in the church worship service are going through? There are parents praying for their son, who is growing more distant from them and God. There is a husband struggling with pornography. There is a wife who is always trying to get even with her husband who seems to control her. There is the family who are proud of their daughter and sister who just graduated with honours. A single, elderly lady wonders if anyone is going to notice her. A young couple who have just found love and are planning for marriage. A single dad is struggling to cope with his daughter, who has ADHD. There is an elderly couple celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary; a teenager who is thinking about their friends and the good time they will have together in the afternoon and evening—wondering if their clothes are appropriate. There is a boy wondering if he will ever be able to tell anybody that he has been abused, while another young adult wonders why she is at church at all—most of her friends are gone and nobody seems to care. There is a manager wondering if he will have a job on Monday because of restructuring; a young adult grieving the loss of their mentor and grandfather who died in another country; a young couple expecting their first child after many years of IVF; a middle-aged cleaner who is being bullied by many of the other staff . . .

Enough. We get the picture. We don't need another disaster like bushfires or coronavirus or cyclones or the stock market crashing—we are already overloaded emotionally.

What do we do with all the pain, joy, insecurity, heartache, injustice and love that we as humans experience? How would we treat people if we actually knew what was going on deep down inside them?

Does God have a word for us?

My weekly sermons as a local church pastor tried to take people's issues into account—but that is a daunting task. No sermon, no matter how well researched and delivered, and no worship service, no matter how well prepared and crafted to reach people and honour God, can connect with all that is going on in each person's life. The Holy Spirit knows the inner challenges of each

person and the Holy Spirit can speak truth and healing into each life. As human instruments we must depend on His eternal abilities. But sometimes what people need is a "sermon and worship" in action—the church ministering to each other in the giftedness and power of the Spirit can be its strength.

The Adventist Centre of Research and Statistics at the General Conference reveals that 40 per cent of all those baptised leave the Church. Statistics for the South Pacific Division (SPD) are actually worse. Research through Natural Church Development in the Seventh-day Adventist Church worldwide shows that, of the eight characteristics of a healthy church, loving relationships is typically our lowest scoring.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a nurture and fellowship challenge.

The early Jerusalem Church had quality fellowship and it attracted people (Acts 2:42–47). Humans want to be in a group where they are accepted and valued and can contribute. There is no better place than the church for this. Jesus, the Head of the church, was first its Saviour and became like a human to understand and rescue us (Hebrews 4:15). He experienced human reality in the flesh.

However, I also wonder whether we need a reality check. As Adventists we know we have the last-day message for this world and might be tempted to think we have it all figured out. When we don't, we pretend. Our teenagers and young adults are telling us by their leaving that our pretence does not work. They want reality. They want to know that all of us in the Church are struggling deeply with something, but we have found a gracious Saviour who comforts, heals, strengthens and encourages. When we have found that kind of Saviour, we will live it out in reality and the Church and the world will be a better place—full of real disciples of Jesus.



GLENN TOWNEND
SPD PRESIDENT
/SPDpresident



South Pacific

abn 59 093 117 689
vol 125 no 5

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prices on application.
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A PSALM OF GRACE

Deliver me, O Lord, from cool and graceless places where the righteous cluster often to adjust their reputations. Save me from gatherings where no pulses ever quicken, where no tears are ever shed, where sinners are not swallowed up in oversized embraces. Keep me from walking into snares where theology is scrutinised, but no-one wants to hear of Your tenacious love for me.

Surround me, God, with those who know the pain of brokenness—and know how rich Your healing is. Encircle me with men and women unafraid of dirt—with those who know the words of hope. And do not let me stray from them.

Appoint my steps to walk beside—among—the hurting and disheartened, for I will call to mind Your grace each time I recognise their pain. Anoint my lips with silence when I'm tempted to compare myself to those who just began their journey.

Your grace is how I seek to live—to laugh, to weep, to learn, to grow—among the many You are saving. I want no better friends than those who pray with humbled heart: “Be merciful to me, a sinner.”

Then my lips will sing Your songs: my heart will strike a higher key. Among those ransomed by Your love, my voice will be both loud and clear:

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me;

Bless His holy name.”

So may I always walk with You, and stay in grace.

Looking for a short, inspirational thought to share with a friend or someone who needs to hear the good news of God's unfailing love? Visit <MoreGraceNotes.com>.

BILL KNOTT
GUEST COLUMNIST
ADVENTIST REVIEW
EDITOR
AREditor



SUMMER OF HEARTBREAK FOR ADVENTIST SITES

TRACEY BRIDCUTT

This summer's devastating bushfires and storms in Australia have impacted at least 31 Seventh-day Adventist sites, including schools, churches and aged care entities.

The damage ranged from minor flooding of carpets and collapsed ceilings—to significant, such as the extensive flooding that occurred at Crosslands Youth and Convention Centre in Sydney last month.

Risk Management Service (RMS) administers the insurance program for the Adventist Church in the South Pacific and helps Adventist organisations with safety. It is working with these sites to help them get the damage rectified as quickly as possible.

“It is tragic to see such widespread damage to property,” RMS manager Jonathan Hale said.

“Risk Management Service is here to help Adventist sites get back to business after loss events like this and we are in constant contact with our insurance providers advocating on the Church's behalf.

“We appreciate the selfless effort that volunteers put in to assist the clean up and make sites safe. Our priority is to enable these sites to get back to the business of mission as quickly as possible.”

As of February 18, 31 sites were affected. To see the full list, please visit the *Adventist Record* website.



HAILSTONES FROM A RECENT STORM IN CANBERRA, ACT.

Photo: Gavin Howe

SURFERS PARADISE WINNING SOULS

JOHN O'MALLEY/RECORD STAFF

Despite an average weekly attendance of only 20-35 people, the Surfers Paradise Company (SPC), Queensland, pastored by volunteer John O'Malley, helped facilitate 1440 baptisms in the Philippines in 2019.

Known by SPC as “The Iligan Project”, the initiative was inspired by key church members Minardo and Lynda Baldonado from the city of Iligan in Mindanao, who desired to support church growth in their home city.

Each year, the project is funded by an annual offering from SPC

members of around \$A30,000, a sacrifice beyond their normal tithes and offerings.

Utilising the funds, SPC uses Vacation Bible Schools (VBS) to teach hundreds of young people, and financially supports two graduate Adventist ministers from the Philippines who follow up contacts made during each VBS.

Every child receives a Bible at VBS graduation, and parents often enquire about the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a result.

In the early months of 2020, SPC hosted four simultaneous Revelation seminars in the cities of Acmac, Libertad, Sambulawan and Suarez, resulting in 75 more baptisms.

In 2018, 1620 people were baptised, and from 2007 to present, 8250 baptisms have been conducted, thanks to SPC.



VBS GRADUATES WITH THEIR BIBLES.

THOUSANDS TRAINED IN EVANGELISM AND BIBLE READING ACROSS THE PACIFIC

PETERO NAVOSAILAGI

Young people from across the Trans Pacific Union Mission (TPUM) were trained in Bible literacy, sermon preparation, conducting mobile phone evangelism and discipling families at TPUM World Changers Bible and Youth Preachers Training events around the Pacific.

The first event was held in Fiji on the weekend of January 24-26, which was attended by more than 1500 people.

Subsequent events have been held throughout February in Vanuatu and Kiribati, with 400 and 60 attendees respectively, and throughout Solomon Islands, American Samoa and Samoa.

"I am incredibly humbled. . . . [Attendance] just exploded beyond any of our expectations. It's certainly confirmation that God has pointed us all in the right direction," said Hope Channel South Pacific director Pastor Wayne Boehm.

Training was facilitated by TPUM president, Pastor Maveni Kaufononga, in conjunction with TPUM's Discipleship Ministries Team (DMT), which includes TPUM youth director Pastor Charlie Jimmy, Pastor Nasoni Lutunaliwa, Dr Ronald Stone, Dr Paul

Wood, Bev and Anne Norman, and Mele Vaihola. From the South Pacific Division, Dr Nick Kross and Litiana Turner from the Discipleship Ministries Team also supported the event.

During the programs, Pastor Kaufononga shared the importance of modeling discipleship through "farming cycle" process, Pastor Jimmy challenged youth to dedicate their lives in prayer and Dr Stone encouraged attendees to take their Bible reading seriously.

A theme song entitled "Go Forward" was performed at the events, composed by the Miracle Singers from Solomon Islands.

More World Changer Bible Training events are scheduled to take place in Tonga (March 23-29), Tuvalu (April 9-12) and Nauru (April 23-25), in time for TPUM's annual "harvest month" in July, which will focus on youth involvement in evangelism.



DOUG BATCHELOR'S AUSTRALIAN TOUR

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX

Hundreds gathered in Adelaide (South Australia) and Melbourne (Victoria) for a series of presentations by internationally renowned evangelist Pastor Doug Batchelor.

Centred on current global events and end-time prophecy, Pastor Batchelor's "Preparing for Christ's Return" presentations began with a regional gathering in Adelaide from February 7 to 11, before continuing in Melbourne from February 12 to 15.

In Adelaide, there was an average attendance of 400 guests per night, with double sessions held to facilitate the crowds. The series was live-streamed in various languages by Living Ministry Media, an Adelaide-based group of volunteers, with each video receiving thousands of views—one exceeding 25,000 views. The presentations were also broadcast on Faith FM radio.

Thousands of books and literature

on prophecy and the Bible were sold at the events. In addition, displays by ADRA, Faith FM and the Adventist Motorcycle Ministry attracted interested visitors.

"Our pastoral team [in Adelaide] are now following up the 33 people who made a decision for baptism or re-baptism," said South Australian Conference president Pastor David Butcher.

Like Adelaide, Melbourne also attracted crowds.

"The Robert Blackwood Hall seats about 1600 and it was totally booked out," said Victorian Conference president Pastor Graeme Christian. "Many signed up for follow-on programs."

A highlight of the series in Melbourne was a special concert by Paul Lee, who sang at the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.



Pastor Christian said Pastor Batchelor's visit was a natural flow-on from the "Revelation Today" series that ran in Melbourne last May, and that it fit perfectly into the Conference's five-year harvest model.

"Pastor Batchelor is one of the best at reaching people," said Pastor Butcher. "Our goal with these programs was to see changed lives."

"We met dozens of people who've said, 'We came to the Lord by watching the programs here in Australia.' Thank you for making it all possible," Pastor Batchelor said in his final address.

TREMENDOUS GROWTH FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX

Data collected at recent ministers meetings and disciple-ship training events held across Papua New Guinea (PNG) has revealed significant growth over the past 12 months thanks to the implementation of Discovery Bible Reading (DBR).

As a snapshot, Eastern Highlands Simbu Mission has planted 592 “branch churches” and Madang Manus Mission has planted 185 in the past year.

Church leaders have been training churches in PNG to implement clear and simple disciple-making building strategies, including DBR, which is followed by nearly all new branch churches and branch Sabbath schools in the country.

“Disciple-making is multiplying across those cities, towns and regions of Papua New Guinea where the simple, reproducible, no-cost methods of Jesus are being followed,” said Dr Peter Roennfeldt, who conducted some of the disciple-ship training events. Most of this growth has occurred over the past year thanks to the intentional creation of branch Sabbath schools.

“Branch Sabbath schools are conducted by Sabbath school class teams, gathering families near their homes to sing and read the gospels using the Discovery Bible Reading (DBR) method,” added Dr Roennfeldt.

“The data outlines some amazing multiplication as a result

of progressive equipping over three years,” said SPD DMT stewardship specialist Christina Hawkins, who conducted training in

Goroka. “Continuity pays dividends for the kingdom.”

In addition to Dr Roennfeldt and Mrs Hawkins, Dr Danijela Schubert, Dr Nick Kross and Dr Leigh Rice also conducted training across Papua New Guinea—including in Madang, Manus Island, Alotau, Goroka, Wewak, Vanimo, Port Moresby and Central Papua Conference—during January.

“I was in Madang and people travelled from all around the province, some through the night to attend the training,” said Dr Schubert. “They slept in little tents, crammed into small classrooms, under the trees, around the building on concrete. Such dedication.”

Presenters focused on implementing clear and simple disciple-making building strategies, including DBR, and other simple processes including enlisting elders to baptise and having regular Lord’s Suppers in different locations, and introduced new resources.



L-R: DANIJELA SCHUBERT, DAVID KLAK AND PETER ROENNFELDT.

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ADVENTIST RECORD LAUNCHES NEW BOOK

RECORD STAFF

A new book produced by *Adventist Record* in partnership with Signs Publishing, entitled *Living 28: Fresh perspectives on practising our faith*, was launched over the weekend of February 21-24 at the Adventist Book Centre (ABC) managers' meetings in the Yarra Valley, Victoria.

"This project has taken a few years of planning and hard work from so many people to get to this point," said *Adventist Record* and *Living 28* editor Jarrod Stackelroth. "The most exciting part is some of the new and young writers we uncovered through the series."

The book launch on the opening day of the meetings was followed by a worship, themed "Living faith in today's world", which reflected the book's key question—how do we take our cherished beliefs and live them out in practical ways that change our everyday lives?

"Jarrod's vision was one that really appealed: How can we make the fundamentals more accessible to the coming generations?" said *Living 28* writer Josh Wood, who pastors North Fitzroy and MASDAC churches in Victoria.

On the Monday following the launch, a lunch was held with staff at the Warburton printing press, where the book was dedicated with prayer and Mr Stackelroth thanked staff for their contribution to *Record* and making *Living 28* possible.

"*Living 28* was written in community and can be enjoyed that way too, as we've added discussion questions that can help small groups go further into their journey of living their faith," said Mr Stackelroth.

The chapters, one for the preamble statement and each of the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, were run in *Adventist Record* throughout 2018 and 2019, with the book format giving readers an easy-to-access and longer shelf-life format.

"Working on this project taught me that the 28 Fundamentals work best as one combined vision of the character of God and His purpose for His people," Mr Stackelroth added.

"You will be exposed to a part of God's story through the story of the God-believer," said South Pacific Division president Pastor Glenn Townend, who also wrote the book's foreword. "While each article may not be exhaustive or you might have chosen to highlight other aspects of the particular belief, this book was compiled to remind us that our faith today is to be biblical and practically lived" (Foreword, IX).

An advance copy of *Living 28* has been sent out with the March 7 issue of *Adventist Record* to be used as a resource in church libraries. The authors hope the book will be used in creative and diverse ways, from personal reading, to youth and small groups, a Bible study or Sabbath school resource or even a baptismal gift.

With this in mind, there is a special offer for *Living 28*: Buy four copies and get the fifth copy free.

The book can now be purchased through Adventist Book Centres and online.



THE FRONT COVER.



SOME OF THE AUTHORS OF LIVING 28 AT THE LAUNCH.

NEWS GRABS



FREE TUITION

Recognising the importance of children completing their school year, Seventh-day Adventist schools in Puerto Rico are offering free enrolment, tuition, uniforms and school supplies to students, after a series of earthquakes forced 800 public schools to close. More than 130 students have already enrolled in schools with classroom space. —ANN



HEALTHY PASTORS

A new study by AdventHealth University (Florida) aims to better understand pastors' wellbeing. Open to all clergy and faith-based leaders across Florida representing all faith groups and religious contexts, the survey includes questions about social, physical, emotional and spiritual health and occupational distress. —Adventist Review



LET'S GO VEGGIE

A global transition to a vegetarian diet would significantly help in the battle against global warming, according to research conducted by Loma Linda University Health. Meat production consumes 70 per cent of fresh water and is responsible for 80 per cent of the world's deforestation. —Adventist Today

HOT TOPICS



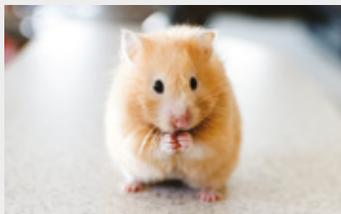
CHRISTIAN GENOCIDE WARNING

Five million people marched in 28 of Nigeria's 36 states on February 2 to protest the beheading of Pastor Lawan Andimi by Boko Haram—a jihadist terrorist organisation. As the final event of a three-day fast, the march also highlighted the Nigerian government's failure to stop Christians being killed and attacked in the country. —*Eternity News*



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

A new study shows that, compared to non-religious graduates, Christian college graduates value making a difference more and making money less. Two-thirds want a job that "directly helps others", compared to 50 per cent of non-Christians, and 70 per cent want good pay, compared to 76 per cent of non-Christians. —*Christianity Today*



PREGNANCY HOPE

Researchers at the University of Queensland have lifted fertility rates in older female mice with small doses of a metabolic compound that reverses the ageing process and restores the quality and number of female eggs. In the future, this may offer hope to couples struggling to conceive by alleviating the biggest barriers to pregnancy, particularly in older women. —*Science Daily*

GODPODS SET TO EXPAND REACH IN ISLANDS

MARYELLEN FAIRFAX

Last month, Pastor Bruce Likaveke was in the Adventist Media studios (Wahroonga, NSW) recording *Steps to Christ* in Solomon Islands Pijin, to be loaded onto Godpods and distributed throughout Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.



PASTOR LIKAVEKE RECORDING STEPS TO CHRIST IN THE STUDIO.

The resulting audio book is being uploaded to the devices alongside audio Bibles, sermons and Bible studies on the 28 Fundamentals, available in Pijin, Pidgin English, Bahasa (Indonesian) and English.

More than \$A20,000 in donations has been received in recent months—enough to purchase an extra 324 Godpods, in addition to the 10,000 that have already been ordered.

"We've had a great response to our previous calls for donations [for Godpods]. Thank you to everyone who donated," said Hope Channel South Pacific director, Pastor Wayne Boehm.

Carrying on the work started by *It Is Written Oceania*, Hope Channel is excited to be partnering with Adventist World Radio (AWR) for the first time to facilitate distribution.

"In the past we've ordered and distributed the Godpods independently, which was more expensive. It made sense to join onto AWR's existing order of 100,000 Godpods to keep our costs down as much as we can," said Pastor Boehm.

For the first time, Hope Channel has

also ordered Godpods made of clear plastic so they can be sent into the prisons.

"That way, prison officials can see that nothing is hidden inside them, and the inmates can listen," he explained.

In addition, Hope Channel plans to collect personal contact information from those who receive Godpods, to create a database so they can send follow-up sermons and Bible studies to their phones. This mobile phone evangelism initiative was recently presented by Pastor Boehm at the TPUM World Changers Bible Training programs (see story, p 5).

With thousands predicted to attend the "Papua New Guinea for Christ" evangelism event in May, the goal is to provide as many people with Godpods as possible. "It's fantastic to see the Church get behind this project, but we [can still] order more. We'd love your support," Pastor Boehm said.

If you would like to donate, please visit bit.ly/godpoddonation or see back page for details.





AWARD-WINNING COOKING

Representing a new honour for Signs Publishing, *Food As Medicine* has been listed among the “Best of the Best”, representing Australia in the “Health and Nutrition” category. In 2017, *Food As Medicine* by Dr Sue Radd was awarded “Best in the World” in the Health and Nutrition category at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards. Now, to mark 25 years of the awards, organisers have released a list of the “Best of the Best” of award-winners across their history. The selected books will be honoured at a Gourmand event in Paris in early June.

—Nathan Brown



CHURCH HELPS MUSLIM WIDOW

Members of Garden City Fellowship Church (Christchurch, NZ) have been providing physical and emotional support to a Muslim woman widowed during the mosque shootings in March last year. Assembling on January 18, the team helped her to tidy and move house—washing windows and weeding the garden—before joining together for lunch. The woman was very thankful, sending the team a message of gratitude and acknowledging the church on a Muslim community Facebook page. The women’s ministries team at Garden City have also planned a meeting with Muslim widows in the community on March 21. They plan to sit, pray, fellowship and offer compassion and care.—Younis Masih



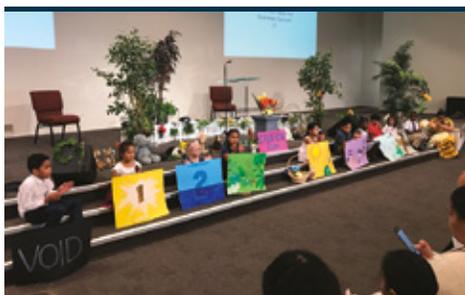
STRATFORD CELEBRATES

Stratford Adventist Church (North NZ) celebrated its mortgage being paid off on Sabbath, February 8. Conference president Pastor Ben Timothy dedicated the church during the Sabbath service. Under the leadership of Pastor Bruce Mason, the group of 11 members and 25 regular attendees achieved this goal within six years. Bought in 2014, the building was originally a house and workshop, and after repairs and renovations, the congregation began worshipping there in 2015. They decided to postpone the dedication until the mortgage was paid. Taking on extra work such as painting, chopping wood and other jobs, their private contributions and God’s provision made it possible.—Kirsten Oster Lundqvist



BUILDING A HOUSE AT SCHOOL

Industrial Technology Skills (ITS) students at Brisbane Adventist College (BAC) recently assembled the deck frame for the Prep cubby. The deck was designed using software that allows for very precise calculations and adjustments prior to fabrication. The students used Pythagorean theorem to ensure the deck was perfectly square and learned some of the finer skills required to assemble a deck correctly. The school was thankful to Alan from BuildTuff for donating the TuffBlock foundation system, and to “peerless Pam” from Bunnings Mt Gravatt for donating the timber used in the deck. These significant contributions were appreciated by BAC students, teachers and families.—BAC Facebook



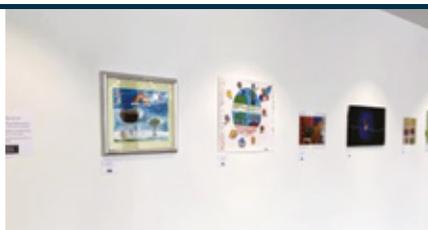
CREATED TO SHARE

Kindy Sabbath School at Manna Park Seventh-day Adventist Church (Auckland, NZ) shared what they’d learned about creation at adult Sabbath school on February 8. Sabbath school starts every week with songs and short stories before separating for Bible study, and various groups lead out at different times to make sure everyone is involved. Intergenerational sharing is an important part of church community and this is a way that Manna Church makes this happen.—Ole Pedersen



BEST BY DESIGN

Recent Longburn Adventist College (NZ) graduate, Lily Bull, received an NZQA Scholarship in Design in her recent 2019 examinations. Only 56 of 2294 students gained the award this year (2.38 per cent), with Lily also gaining NCEA Level 3 with Excellence. Her work will be exhibited at Te Manawa, a museum and art gallery in Palmerston North, in the near future.—Brendan van Oostveen



YOUTHFUL HOPE

As part of the recent *God of Hope* art exhibition at Sydney Adventist Hospital, students from Adventist schools around Sydney were asked to showcase their work, answering the question: “What does hope look like?” The competition was designed to encourage artmaking as a catalyst for spiritual dialogue across Greater Sydney schools, with each piece showing glimpses of hope through the eyes of young people.—Megan Lillo



THE HARVEST IS PLENTY

President of the Victorian Conference, Pastor Graeme Christian, has attributed credit to the “Revelation Today” series for the most fruitful year for the conference since 1992. Hosted by John Bradshaw and Eric Flickenger in Melbourne (Victoria) during May 2019, a total of 362 people joined the Adventist church during that same year. The focus on “reaping” for 2019 has returned a plentiful harvest.—Graeme Christian/Record Staff

restoring a precious jewel

The South Pacific Division (SPD) is the custodian of a precious jewel—a beautiful reminder of God’s amazing handiwork.

The “Jewel of Lane Cove”, as it is known, is a 31.4-hectare environmental conservation zone that links to Lane Cove National Park in Sydney. It is a significant component of the 66-hectare Wahroonga Estate, an area of land acquired by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1898. The estate also includes Sydney Adventist Hospital, Adventist Aged Care Wahroonga, two churches, Wahroonga Adventist School and the SPD offices.

The SPD takes its responsibility of caring for the bushland seriously, allocating almost \$A500,000 annually to its maintenance and regeneration. The environmentally significant site features a diverse array of flora and fauna, including two critically endangered ecological communities: a Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest and a Blue Gum High Forest. Bandicoots, echidnas and sugar gliders are among the residents. It is also home to around 70 bird species including the endangered powerful owl.

The site is cared for by staff from the grounds department at Advent-

ist Aged Care (AAC) and a number of community volunteers who have formed the Wahroonga Waterways Landcare group. They are led by AAC grounds and project manager Graham Wegener, who took on the project 16 years ago, and Jayden Streatfeild, the site’s dedicated environmental scientist. When Mr Wegener first began working the site, much of it had been overtaken by invasive privet and lantana. This had resulted in an increase in feral animals like rats, rabbits and foxes.

Regeneration has involved a lot of hard work, with the goal being to return the bush to its original pristine condition. Along with weed management, the group focuses on plantings, erosion control and native seed propagation, the latter helping to preserve the genetic integrity of the site. With Australia experiencing a long period of drought and recent devastating bushfires, another critical aspect of their work is preventing vegetation or “fuel” build-up.

“We maintain all the asset protection zones right around the edge of the site because we are fully bounded by urban areas, so it’s critical that we do this as a good neighbour,” Mr Wegener said.

Their work is having a significant impact, with the delicate balance of nature being restored. Over the past eight years there has been a noticeable increase in insects and birds, including a large influx of native bees, says Jillian Nolan, the resident volunteer naturalist and photographer. Plans are now underway to set up bee “hotels” for the community to add to, which will provide nesting places for the bees.

Bushwalkers, bird watchers and mountain bikers are among those who enjoy the beauty and serenity of the regenerated site. Environmental sessions are conducted for local schools, community and corporate groups.

“We are able to share with these groups the intricate marvels of nature that speak of a Master Designer, a Creator God,” Mr Wegener said.

While not a typical form of church outreach, the program helps to generate conversations about God. For example, 26 different species of orchid and bush tucker signs installed at various points along the bush trails not only help visitors identify plant species, but also draw attention to God’s creative power as each sign features a Bible verse.

“We share a Bible verse as a way of sharing God’s amazing creativeness, goodness and grace,” Mr Wegener said.

“The bush regeneration program has turned out to be a real mission opportunity and helps to raise positive awareness of the Church. People who walk through the valley and see all the regeneration work that’s being done say it’s the best PR for the Church.”

More information about the program is available via the Wahroonga Waterways Landcare page on Facebook.

TRACEY BRIDCUTT
COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, SOUTH PACIFIC
DIVISION.



MEMBERS OF THE WAHROONGA WATERWAYS LANDCARE GROUP.



THE BUSHLAND IS HOME TO AROUND 70 BIRD SPECIES INCLUDING THE ENDANGERED POWERFUL OWL.

Photo: Jillian Nolan



JAYDEN STREATFEILD, GRAHAM WEGENER AND JILLIAN NOLAN.



WEED MANAGEMENT IS A KEY FOCUS OF THE GROUP.

LIVING HIS WORD WITH WAYNE BOEHM

2020 PERSPECTIVE (PART 2)

We all know what is right and wrong . . . right? Instilled in us from birth, there appears to be a clear sense of right, wrong, justice and fairness. (Having raised two boys, believe me, they have taught me the finer points of justice and fairness). But, somewhere through the growth process, right and wrong can become blurred, which can have an impact on our understanding of righteousness. **REFLECT** on your earliest memories of a "righteous" person. Who were they and why did you consider them righteous?

Key Bible characters are identified as being righteous. **CONSIDER** Genesis 6:8,9; Job 1:1,8, 2:3; Ezekiel 14:14,20; Luke 1:5-6. What do we learn about righteousness from these characters?

The Bible identifies several characteristics of a righteous person: "blameless", "perfect", "upright", "God fearing", "just" and "walking in the commandments". **CONSIDER** Ezekiel 18:5-9 as the prophet reflects on 10 aspects of righteousness. What do they mean to you?

Reading Scripture, there seems to be a "righteousness gap". **CONSIDER** Psalm 145:17 and Isaiah 64:6. The Psalmist says the "Lord is righteous in all his ways" and yet "all of our righteousnesses are as filthy rags". The Lord's righteousness is absolute while humanity has no righteousness at all. Just let that thought sink in—you and I have no righteousness, period! This is the beauty of the gospel—those who are unrighteous have been made righteous. How? **CONSIDER** Isaiah 61:10. Our righteousness comes from God. It is He who clothes us with His robe of righteousness; His garments of salvation. So if your right and wrong has become a little blurred, look at Noah, Job and Elizabeth . . . better yet, look to Jesus and praise God for His robe of righteousness that has covered you and that will give you reason to worship Him in 2020.

a leap of ●● faith



Do you sometimes struggle to take a leap of faith? If you do, I hope this story encourages you to take one.

We were on a holiday, camping at a caravan park in Parkes, New South Wales. We went to the Parkes swimming pool in the afternoon to cool down. It took Jared, my husband, some time to convince our little son, Joshua, that he would be safe in the pool with Daddy. Then to prove it, Jared put him on the edge of the pool and asked Joshua to take a tiny leap.

Immediately, he was caught in Daddy's strong arms. Jared did this a couple more times, but each time Daddy moved further away from the edge. Then the precious moment came. Joshua took his first, biggest leap over the water, and his daddy caught him!

Trusting someone takes time. It used to concern me when I first heard about Jesus' disciples. They were called to follow, and they followed! I was troubled because it wouldn't be possible for me. Then I read Scripture.

In John 1, I discovered that Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was John's disciple and he heard John saying, "Look, the Lamb of God!" when he saw Jesus.

It would be reasonable to conclude that Andrew followed Jesus because he knew he could trust John the Baptist. In John 2:1–10 is the story about Jesus turning water to wine, His first miracle. In verse 11, John wrote, "He [Jesus] thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him."

Jesus spent more than three years with his 12 disciples, slowly building their trust. They were quarrelsome and simple-minded at times, yet He continued to teach them and patiently explain the meanings of His teachings. He didn't rush them. As a result, all except one eventually gave everything they had for Him.

Just like Jared giving Joshua test runs before making him take the big leap, Jesus doesn't ask us to make a leap of faith without giving us successful test runs. We only need to look back to see how He has led us in the past. Each small trial and temptation that we have overcome is a stepping stone for us to stand on before taking another leap. Each leap may be wider and harder to take, but our Daddy is waiting a little distance away to catch us. In those little leaps, Joshua learned to trust in his daddy, and now in his teen years, he is learning to trust his daddy with bigger things in life.

I am wary of my shaky faith as I am committing myself to leap over the water this year and allow Jesus to catch me.

However, experiences have proven that I can trust Him with my life. Would you join me taking leaps over the water? Truly, our Daddy knows He will catch us. Otherwise, He would not ask.

PEEMPAHN HENLEY

PRIMARY TEACHER FROM MOREE, NSW, WHERE SHE LIVES WITH HER HUSBAND, SON AND CAT.

Danny's bus



About 22 years ago, Danny Walker, a member of Rosny Seventh-day Adventist Church (Tasmania), set into motion a ministry that has been going ever since: a mobile soup kitchen.

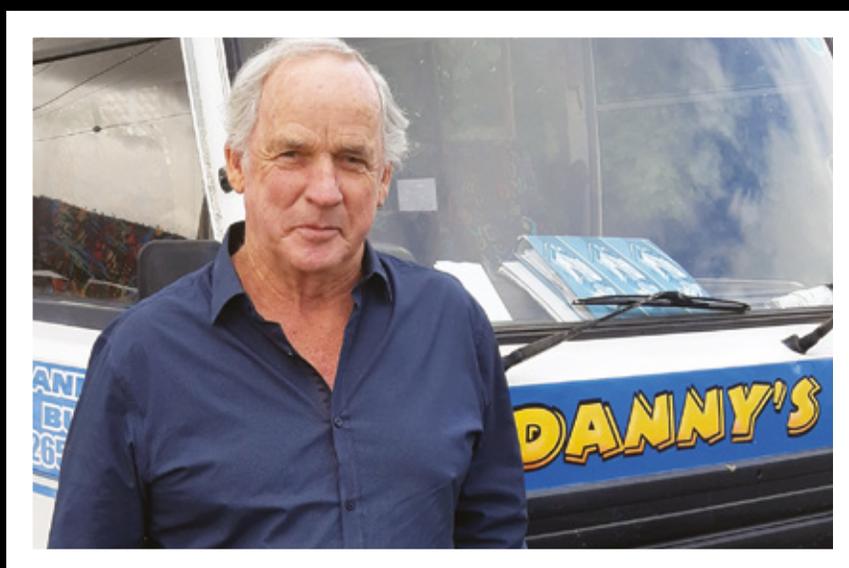
Feeling compelled to reach out to the marginalised, homeless and disadvantaged in Glenorchy and Hobart, Mr Walker is committed to going out every Friday and Saturday night—rain, hail or shine—to supply soup and bread to people in need.

Bread is collected weekly from Banjo's Bakery at Lindisfarne, and hot soup and drinks are prepared at Rosny church before the bus goes into town.

A group of around 55 people currently support the ministry every month by making food and going out into the community, and up to 40 others work behind the scenes to purchase groceries and run an annual Christmas dinner.

In addition, people from the community are actively supporting the ministry in different ways.

A local Member of Parliament has financially supported the bus, as has Mr Snacks, a local vending and snack box specialist, whose contribution goes towards purchasing the necessary groceries. A myriad of other people support the ministry financially by selling handicrafts and other items.



Students from Hilliard Christian School and a group from the town of Kingston have given many blankets and items of warm clothing. Further, students from two government primary schools in Tasmania have fundraised to support the annual Christmas dinner.

ADRA makes a biannual financial donation to the ministry, and supplies warm clothes and bedding items. In return, ADRA's logo is emblazoned on the side of the bus.

Mr Walker's first bus was purchased from the Tasmanian Conference, but after being worn out, was replaced with the current Mazda vehicle that previously served as a bus for the Adventist schools in

the area.

Every weekend, volunteers get a free ride in the bus, but they "pay" for the privilege by donating up to three hours of their time to give food, clothes, hot drinks and a listening ear to those in need.

Over the years, many people have thanked Mr Walker and his helpers for making a difference in their lives. They have been blessed by the quiet, unassuming way that he and his friends serve God and reach out to people who have experienced hard times.

STUART BARONS
RETIRED PRINCIPAL/BUILDER FROM ROSNY
CHURCH, TASMANIA.

Daniel: how relevant is it to my everyday life?

A young adult shared with me last week: "I'm surprised as I study the book of Daniel, how relevant it is to my everyday life. I've always thought it was just about scary beasts and dates and prophecies. I'm really enjoying it."

Is she right? Is there more to the book of Daniel than just complicated prophecies? Can I find a merciful and gracious God there? Valid questions. What questions do you have? And why? If they were answered, what difference would it make?

What Paul states is instructive at this point: "All Scripture is God-breathed, and useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). So if reading Daniel ticks one of those boxes, we are on the right track. When Jesus endorsed the book of Daniel (Matthew 24:15), He did so in an end-of-the-world context—amidst great religious, social and political upheaval. But that begs the question: did Jesus



and the prophets (including Daniel) give us this information to scare us or to give us hope and courage? It has to be the latter if Jesus is consistent with the reason for His first coming—to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10), to give His life as a ransom for many (Matthew 20:28) and to give us life in all its fullness (John 10:10). So scaring us into being good does not fit there at all.

What we find throughout the book of Daniel are many indications that God is there to deliver and support His people. And beyond that, it addresses such issues as the importance of our identity, how to maintain faith in the most impossible of situations, how to react to situations of cynical peer pressure and professional jealousy. It reveals that the reign of corruption and oppression will one day cease and how God looks after His people during all of those situations. So the book contains much more than just number crunching and time charts.

The evidence that God looks after and supports His people is found in the stories told in the first half of the book. When Daniel and many of his contemporaries were herded off into exile, they left behind all their families, neighbourhoods, social and spiritual support systems, and all their dreams. Their world had collapsed around them. There was nothing left, and no reason to maintain faith in a God who seemed to have deserted them. The popular thinking of the age was that nations were successful in war when their god prevailed over their enemies' gods. So with the fall of Jerusalem, it is no surprise that most of Daniel's colleagues buckled under the crisis and became compliant in their captors' hands. But Daniel and three of his friends clung to God regardless. We know their names, but we have no idea who the others were. In staying true to God, the identity of Daniel and his three friends was preserved in history. They recognised that God stays by His people in the worst of circumstances, when all else is lost. And in so doing they kept their identities.

The forgotten dream (chapter 2) illustrates the principle that, when faced with impossible situations, God can step in and provide the answers to the most perplexing difficulties. He actually stands by His people during fiery trials, even when they are unaware of His presence (chapter 3). This reminds me of what some of my church members experienced nearly 40 years ago. There were four of them in a yacht that hit stormy seas, and it was so bad, they had to get into a life-raft. They floated for days until eventually rescued by a merchant ship that had been diverted to rescue them. The captain, in welcoming them aboard, asked them where the fifth person was. He had counted five in the raft, and was surprised when only four clambered aboard.

When Nebuchadnezzar was full of pride over the Babylon he had built (chapter 4), he was reduced to a grazing beast. God does have a way to humble us when we become too full of ourselves. But by the same token, he also has a way of picking us up out of the mud and restoring us to something honourable. Yet when his grandson

Belshazzar refused to learn from Nebuchadnezzar's mistakes, he had to face his own consequences (chapter 5).

God also came through for the aged prophet on a cold, dark and dangerous night (with lions, chapter 6). It is interesting that the influence of Daniel's faithfulness greatly impacted all the political leaders he worked with. I guess that means we need to recognise that our influence in the workplace has far greater effect than we could ever imagine. It is not our words that people notice as much as our lives.

The rest of the book seems to focus exclusively on nations and prophecies, but there is a back story attached to each of them. They also reflect themes from the narratives. The dream of the four beasts (chapter 7) parallels Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the image made from four different metals. Both affirm that God has it all figured out, and that the end game is the destruction of all humanly contrived forms of corruption and oppression. This is crucial. Evil and suffering are not permitted to carry on, unchecked, forever. To borrow a metaphor from chapter 5, the writing is on the wall for the powers of evil. Their doom is signed and sealed, and one day they will be dealt their death blow.

Chapters 8 and 9 form a unit with chapter 7. These visions are related to each other, all pointing to the end of evil, and affirming that Jesus is the key to victory over evil. Chapter 9 specifies the time and circumstances of Jesus' scheduled arrival on planet Earth to break the stranglehold of evil by His own death. It is that hope that kept faith alive for the Israelites in the centuries before the incarnation. So the wise men from the East made their arduous months-long trek across the desert following a star, having read of its significance in the Jewish holy writings. The aged prophets, Anna and Simeon, recognised the specialness of the Baby they saw in the temple, and the writers of the New Testament all referred to the expectation of the appointed time that a Deliverer would come. Many prophets predicted aspects of the first coming of Jesus, but it was only Daniel who specified the time.

The final three chapters of the book also form a unit. Their specificity has made many Bible scholars conclude that these prophecies (chapter 11 especially) must have been written after the fact—they are so precise. But it is that specificity that can assure us that the content of this book has very impressive credentials. We can trust that God knows what He is talking about; He does know the end from the beginning, and very soon He will pull the plug on all evil, "For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. He rescues and he saves" (Daniel 6:26, 27).

Even so, come Lord Jesus.

DR DAVID TASKER
SENIOR LECTURER, AVONDALE SEMINARY.

THE SECOND GREATEST COMMANDMENT



If you read through the gospel of Matthew, by the time you arrive at chapter 22, the influence of Jesus' earthly ministry is growing.

He has ridden into Jerusalem on a donkey with believers laying cloaks and branches on the road and shouting, "Hosanna to the son of David, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest heaven."

He has overturned the money changing tables in the temple.

He has challenged listeners with parables and shone a light on the hypocrisy of the religious leaders—and those leaders are becoming concerned. The focus is shifting from them and their ways to Jesus and His ways. The power they've held so tightly for so long is slipping and they desperately want it back. They hoped to arrest Him but were scared because they knew the people loved Him.

So they hatch another plan—a plan to trick Jesus—to fool Him into making a mistake and to attack His credibility. They set up a few opportunities and take some shots.

They question His authority—and He flips it on them, asking them a question about John's baptism—which they can't, or more correctly, don't want to answer.

They try to bamboozle Him with a tax question—is it right to pay taxes to Caesar? Jesus' simple answer amazes them and they wander off.

The Sadducees are next and they pose the most improbable family conundrum where six different brothers marry their dead brothers' wife and question who will be married to who at the resurrection. Jesus stops them in their tracks.

And then we come to another question they tried to stump Him with—starting in Matthew 22:34.

"Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: 'Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?'

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest command-

ment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Great answer.

Perhaps simplistically, when I think of "all the Law and the Prophets", I think about the Bible—perhaps more correctly in this context, it is the Old Testament. Either way, it is a thick book with lots of pages. But in Jesus' response, we have in one sense the "executive summary" of the Old Testament. If we had to—and I am glad we don't have to—but if we had to compress the Bible message into less than 40 words, this is it:

"'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'"

I heard Gary Krause, director of Adventist Mission for the world Church, paraphrase this beautifully earlier this year. He said, "The Church only has two purposes—to enlarge God's kingdom and to benefit the



world." How good and how simple is that. Love God. Love others.

They are in the right order—God first—but they are both important, and I'd like to suggest that they are so intrinsically connected that the two greatest commandments are joined at the hip—so to speak.

When we love God with all our heart, mind and soul—when we are in that type of a relationship with God—it is impossible to not appreciate how much God loves every other person, equally, the same as He loves us.

Additionally, God expresses a special concern for those who are overlooked, silenced, oppressed, living in hardship—Jesus told us in Matthew 25 that we have a special responsibility for the hungry, the thirsty, the homeless, the naked, the sick and the imprisoned.

He didn't phrase this in terms of "if you have time, help out those in need". These were the criteria that separated the sheep from the goats—helping the "least of these" in Jesus' words, is the same as helping Him. That makes it pretty important. I don't

think any of us would intentionally walk past Jesus suffering on the side of the road.

From this perspective, loving others becomes part of loving God. They are inseparable—two sides of the same coin.

And it works the other way too.

When we genuinely love others—without strings attached—we lay the foundations for trust to develop and relationships to strengthen. From those relationships, a window to the God of love can be opened and if those we help peek through that window, all sorts of questions and outcomes are possible.

I met Mikey about 15 months ago. I was in Brisbane for some ADRA work and I spent an evening volunteering with the Vital Connection ADRA project. This project involves preparing and transporting meals to the CBD and serving it to people doing it tough.

I am not sure how Mikey first became involved with Vital Connection but he was in, boots and all. The week I was there, Mikey had volunteered on three separate days for about six

hours each day. He was extremely committed to helping others.

As we chatted, I found out that Mikey's life had been changed through Vital Connection. When he joined he didn't have an active faith, but he did have questions and curiosity. Through the friendly and inclusive environment the ADRA team created, and their commitment to serve others that he witnessed and participated in, that inkling of faith grew into Bible studies and the Bible studies led to church and today, Mikey is a baptised Seventh-day Adventist.

Helping people creates connections. Connections create trust. Trust is the building block for spiritual conversations. When you love people in a genuine and practical way, the window to a loving God is eased open.

So here is the takeaway message: Loving God leads to loving others. Loving others can lead to others loving God. The intersection of the two greatest commandments.

PAUL RUBESSA
CEO, ADRA AUSTRALIA.



Recipe of the Week

Sweet Potato Toast

Give your breakfast toast a fun twist with roasted sliced sweet potato, peanut butter, ricotta and blueberries. Bake extra sweet potato toast slices, then store in the fridge and re-heat in toaster or oven before assembling for a quick meal.

Find this recipe and hundreds more at:

Australia: sanitarium.com.au/recipes
New Zealand: sanitarium.co.nz/recipes



INTERMITTENT FASTING FOR WEIGHT LOSS?

Intermittent fasting diets are continuing to grow in popularity, with people switching from watching what they eat, to when to eat. We take a look at the different types of intermittent fasting and the pros and cons.

WHAT IS INTERMITTENT FASTING?

Many of us eat on-the-go and can be guilty of constant snacking. Intermittent fasting forces us to put on the brakes, stop eating and allows our bodies to use up some of our fat stores. There are many different intermittent fasting diets. The high-profile 5:2 diet includes eating normally for five days a week and limiting calories for two days a week. Another popular option is the 16:8 diet. In this case, the numbers refer to hours, so you can eat what you like for eight hours a day and fast for 16.

DO THESE DIETS WORK?

Several studies have shown intermittent fasting can help with weight loss. However, overall research shows that it is no more effective or beneficial in the long term than general healthy eating and calorie restriction. For most people, it is better (and easier) to stick with a well-balanced, plant-based diet.

PROS

One reason for the growing legion of 16:8 fans is that you can forget calorie-counting. This style of intermittent fasting doesn't involve fixating on what you eat, just *when* you eat. Advocates also say it can provide benefits that may extend beyond weight loss. Early studies with animals suggest alternative-day fasting may help lower the risk of certain chronic diseases. However, to date there's been no extensive studies in humans and more research is needed before we can say whether intermittent fasting has benefits other than weight loss.

CONS

One of the biggest challenges of an intermittent fasting diet is sticking to it. Fasting is hard, even if it is only for two days a week. Intermittent fasting can also lead to certain nutrient deficiencies and isn't recommended for everyone, so anyone considering fasting should first discuss it with a doctor and dietitian.

INTERMITTENT FASTING TIPS



DON'T SKIP BREKKIE

There's a ton of evidence that eating breakfast helps regulate your appetite, manage your weight, bump up your nutrient intake and improve your cognition—it makes sense that your body needs fuel, especially after breaking the fast. So don't fall into the common trap of skipping brekkie if you want to give intermittent fasting a try.



LOAD UP EARLY

Eat more food early in your "eating window" to help stabilise your blood sugar levels and manage appetite control. If you are thinking about dropping a meal or cutting back on your food intake, try it at dinner.



PLAN YOUR EXERCISE

It's important to plan your exercise for times of high food intake. If you're on the 5:2 diet, plan your big sweat sessions for non-fasting days and line up light exercise, or rest days, for fasting days. If you're on the 16:8 diet, plan your exercise for your eight-hour eating window.



CRUCIAL TIME

I enjoyed reading "Why I Go To Church For The Food" (February 1), mainly because, as a mother of four, I can relate very well to it! Parenting young children can be pretty tough going at times. I admire the author's positive attitude and the way she makes the most of her situation. I would also like to challenge the Church as a whole to think about how we can make church "work" for young parents. In many cases, parents can go years without setting foot in an adult Sabbath school lesson, sitting through an entire church service or even having a "Sabbath rest". I would like to challenge local congregations to look at ways we can ease this burden—perhaps offering a small group Bible study at an alternative time, keeping services to a reasonable time limit for restless littlies or offering to look after young children so their parents can listen from time to time. Parents have such an important role in bringing children to know God and I think it's important to recognise that we need to care for the spiritual development of parents at such a crucial time in their children's lives.

Clare Ringrose, NZ



END-TIME MESSAGE

It was with excitement that I clicked on the article "Three Angels' Messages" (February 13).

Like one who has not eaten for a month, I devoured the commentary, only to be left with an empty hollow in my stomach.

Even this precious and potent end-time message has to be twisted into the woke, social justice agenda of the day. The article fails to emphasise the true significance of the three angels' messages. They are the final messages of warning to the world. They ensure that everyone has the chance to choose between the kingdom of God (eternal life) and the kingdom of Earth, Satan's kingdom (eternal death).

The author states that, despite the global challenges, life can have meaning and be fair. Life on this earth can have "meaning" through the knowledge of Christ and His sacrifice but it will never be

"fair" under Satan's rule.

Finally, the angels/messengers symbolise the people of God. It is up to us to proclaim the warnings entrusted to us.

AE Hobbs, via email

LIFT UP JESUS

The Bible lets us know that not everyone who espouses the name of Christ will remain committed to Him or the church. However, there are many who would have stayed committed if the church had rightly placed Christ at the centre of its theology and not the church as we have done.

I have been told that ML Andreasen's theology of a perfect, spotless, last generation being needful for Christ to come is again permeating congregations.

As George Knight in his book *End Time Events and the Last Generation* says,

"Another key to the difference between Andreasen's human-orientated theology and that of the New Testament appears in the songs in the

book of Revelation. All of them glorify God and the Lamb for gaining the victory over Satan. *None of them exalt a people who finally win the victory for God.*" (my emphasis).

Knight goes on to say, "That point brings us to the most serious problem in Andreasen's final generation theology. It makes God dependent upon human beings, namely, the Adventist Church, for His justification and final triumph. That, to put it bluntly, was the ultimate heresy of the first-century Jews, who saw themselves as the only avenue through which God could complete His work. But contrary to all such theologies, the God of the Bible will always be God. He never makes Himself dependent upon any group of people."

If we lift up Jesus, then He will draw mankind to Him, show us how to be saved and live, and our churches will benefit.

Helen Amprimo, NSW

PROPHECY AS A MIRROR

Reading this week's editorial "Adventist Anti-Christ" (February 15), [I] couldn't agree more with your perspective and biblical understanding.

Too many Adventists look to others for confirmation of what's wrong in the world and examples of prophecy coming true. I find prophecy and biblical examples of sin are a mirror God placed in front of me.

I'm convinced that prophecy is about personal accountability and a measure of time, time short enough to share Jesus so others might know redemption, freedom and eternity.

Peter Karaoglanis, Vic

NOTE: Views in "Have your say" do not necessarily represent those of the editors or the denomination. Comments should be less than 250 words, and writers must include their name, address and phone number. All comments are edited to meet space and literary requirements, but the author's original meaning will not be changed. Not all comments received are published.

HI KIDS!

I help others learn about Jesus when I follow His example.



KIDS SPACE

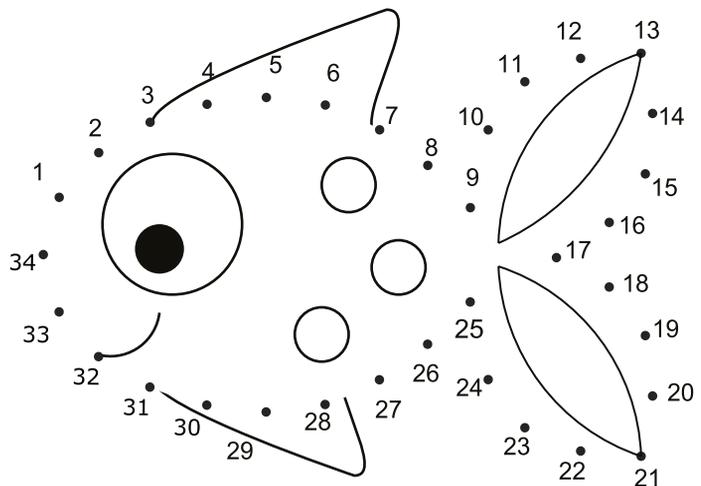
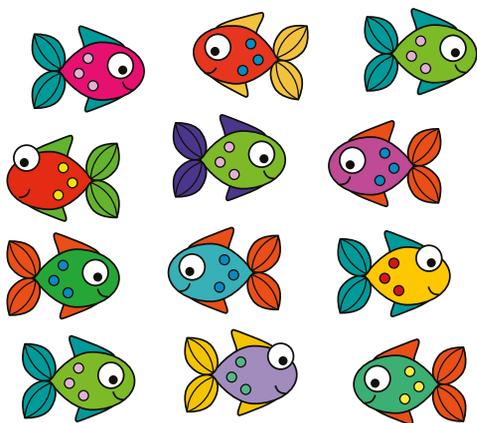
GONE FISHING!

At the beginning of Jesus' ministry He calls Peter, Andrew, James and John to leave their fishing nets and follow Him. They listen to His call, respond immediately, leave everything, including the biggest catch they have ever had, to follow Him.

Jesus still calls people to follow Him. When we choose to follow Him we become living demonstrations of His love and can help others to learn to know Him too.



FIND THE TWO FISH THAT ARE THE SAME



Memory Verse

"Come, follow me, . . . and I will send you out to fish for people" (Matthew 4:19, NIV).

DOT-TO-DOT

Anniversaries



FINDLAY. Barry and Nola celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 5.12.19. The couple raised their family in Lugarno (Sydney, NSW) and attended Ashfield church for many years. They moved to a retirement village in Glenhaven 10 years ago and now attend Castle Hill church. Barry and Nola have two children and four grandchildren. On the Sabbath following their anniversary they were presented with flowers and chocolates from their Castle Hill church family. The next day they celebrated their special anniversary with family at a restaurant in Dural. Barry and Nola are much loved by their family, friends and church family.



TOWNEND. Brian and Daphne celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on 16.1.20 at Bellbird Court in Avondale House nursing home (NSW) where Brian is a resident. They were married in the Invercargill church, NZ. Daughters Darralyn (Melbourne, Vic) and Brenda (USA) sent messages and photo memorabilia, along with messages from family and friends around the Pacific. Nephews Calvyn and Bill with their wives, Dawn and Robina, joined them for lunch. Brian and Daphne have served the Church in New Zealand, Australia, Fiji and Papua New Guinea. They are best known for teacher training and support, and the establishment, updating and/or running of libraries, including Pacific Adventist University, Avondale University College and many schools.

Obituaries



HAWKEN, Arthur Ernest, born 6.5.1922 on a property in Dunedoo shire, NSW; died 18.1.20 in Dunedoo. On 6.9.1943 he married Shirley McCormack. He was predeceased by his daughter, Sharon. Arthur is survived by his sons, Grenville and Eve, and Dale and Vickie; daughter, Lola and Ron Shanks; six grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren. Arthur was a builder of the Dunedoo church and involved in renovating the Mullumbimby and Hervey

Bay (Qld) churches. He was head elder of the Hervey Bay church for many years. In the book, *Azaria: What The Jury Were Not Told*, Phil Ward wrote a tribute to Arthur who worked tirelessly to see justice done. Arthur spent his final years sharing his love for Jesus with all he met and will be thrilled to be reunited with Shirley when Jesus returns.

Roger Ward, Ron Shanks

LONSDALE, Ian Keith, born 28.11.1953 in Oakleigh, Vic; died 31.10.19 in Maclean, NSW. On 11.1.1976 he married Cathy. He is survived by his wife (Yamba); sons, Matthew and Aaron; daughter, Kimberly and their families (all of Melbourne, Vic); and sister, Faye and family (Melbourne). Ian was a true "man of God". He lived his love of God, and his family was the love of his life. He was respected as a teacher at Lilydale Adventist Academy (Edinburgh College), Hawthorn school and Nunawading Christian College. He was prepared to stand up for truth and principle. A helpful and jovial man, he was a valuable member at church, especially at Lilydale. Walking was a pleasure and he enjoyed his interests in trains and travel.

Morrie Krieg, Adam Cinzio

LOWE, Joan Marilyn (nee Haysom), born 28.2.1931 in Subiaco, WA; died 8.1.20 in Bayside Aged Care, Bonnells Bay, NSW. In 1955 she married Ian Lowe in Cooranbong. She is survived by her husband (Cooranbong); children, Brian and Delphine (Wyong), Glenn and Donna (Kiama); and six grandchildren. For several years Joan was a lecturer at Avondale College in the Fine and Applied Arts department and was highly regarded by her students. Joan was a keen sportswoman, a lover of animals and a successful prize-winning horse rider. She was an advocate for women's rights and had a heart for the disadvantaged. She became disaster welfare officer for the City of Lake Macquarie and was awarded the National Medal for service to the community. Joan was a generous, kind person and strong of faith.

Roger Nixon



MEINTJES, Lawrence Ashley, born 6.3.1941 in Pretoria, South Africa; died 15.7.19. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; daughters, Nicole, Rachel and Natalie and their

husbands; seven grandchildren; and brother, Philip. In 1962 he accepted a posting as a patrol officer in Papua New Guinea, where he worked until 1975. The quiet witness of his Seventh-day Adventist speedboat driver, Mussau local, Phinehas, led to Laurie's baptism and subsequent attendance at Avondale. Laurie had a love for language, which expressed itself in a career devoted to educating others throughout Australia and the Pacific. Laurie was a humble trailblazer who nurtured within himself a deep love of the sacred, of truth and service.

Abel Iorgulescu



SPECK, Pastor Ormond Lynn, born 26.3.1924 in Sydney, NSW; died 21.1.20 in Adventist Retirement Village, Victoria Point, Qld. On 5.12.1946 he married Lillian Gallop, who predeceased him in 2017. He was also predeceased by his granddaughter, Lisa in 2014. Ormond is survived by children, Nerolee Gate (Bonnells Bay), Judith (Perth, WA), Leeanne (Brisbane, Qld) and David (Berry, NSW); three grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Orm was a faithful minister who loved his God, his family and his church. He served his Church as a teacher, a pioneer missionary in Papua New Guinea, an administrator, a local church pastor and finally as Trust Services director at the South Pacific Division.

Bob Possingham

STACE, Clive William, born 10.10.1939 in Wahroonga, NSW; died 25.6.19 in Taree. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Janet (nee Livock) (Taree); sister, Margaret Petrie (Cooranbong); son, Peter (Taree); daughter, Annette Roehrs (Karuah); seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Clive was a builder by trade and also served 10 years as an ambulance officer in Sydney. He built the Katoomba church while living in the Blue Mountains. He served the church as a deacon, elder and treasurer at Taree for 19 years. His patient endurance during 30 years of failing strength due to a muscular problem was testimony to his character. We look forward to the day when we meet again and he will be restored by the Lord he loved.

Graham Stewart, Shane Cowan

WARDEN, Jeff Peter, born 28.12.1957 in Sydney, NSW; died 14.12.19 in the Calvary Mater Hospice, Newcastle. He

is survived by Michelle, Melissa, Emily and Jonathan. In the closing period of Jeff's life, he renewed his relationship with Jesus. Jeff was a kind man who enjoyed helping others and he loved his family dearly.

Roger Nixon

WILLIAMS, Audrey May, died 26.1.20 in Berrigan, NSW. She was predeceased by two husbands, Bruce Fox in 1986 and Jack Williams in 1993. She was also predeceased by sons, Bruce and Kenneth Fox. Audrey is survived by children, Ian Fox, Kellie McGregor, Dianne Strahan and Glenn Fox; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. Most of her large extended family attended her funeral. Audrey will also be greatly missed by her church family and many in her local community where she was involved in many aspects of life. She died trusting in Jesus, and looking forward to His soon return.

Kevin Geelan, Toby Clare

ADVERTISING

ALLROUND TRAVEL 2020 PROGRAM

Bible lands tours of Israel and Jordan (Dr Peter Roennfeldt) May 17-31. Paul's missionary journeys: Greece, Patmos, Turkey (Dr Peter Roennfeldt) May 31-June 21. Reformation tour: Italy, Germany, Switzerland (Dr Peter Roennfeldt) August 30-September 19. World famous Oberammergau Passion play including Austria, Italy and Germany: August 17-30. Bible lands with Gary Kent: October date TBA. For further details please contact Anita or Peter on 0405 260 155. Email <alltrav@bigpond.net.au>.

INDIANAPOLIS GENERAL CONFERENCE TOURS & ACCOMMODATION

Adventist Heritage tour to Battle Creek and Andrews available prior to General Conference. Two and accommodation package available in downtown Indianapolis. Walk to the GC meetings. Visit <lawsondiscovery.com>; telephone: (07) 3272 2167.

GALSTON CHURCH HOMECOMING.

Sabbath March 28, 2020. Special church service and luncheon, commencing 11 am. Guest speaker Pastor Chenneoth Strickland. All ex-members are invited to join with us. 49 Arcadia Road, Galston, NSW 2159. Contact Terry Geelan 0413 314 458. Email <teryjudy@tpg.com.au>.

NOTICEBOARD

NORFOLK ISLAND SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH 125TH ANNIVERSARY

May 22–24, 2020. Former church pastors, members, families and friends are invited to celebrate this significant anniversary with us on Norfolk Island. If you have old photos, memories, anecdotes and memorabilia to share, or inquiries, please contact Ken Weslake at <nufkason@gmail.com>.

SHEPPARTON CHURCH OFFICIAL OPENING SERVICE, MARCH 21

Everyone is welcome to join us in our new building—a blessing from God. We will dedicate the building to Jesus, serving Him and the wider community. Stay with us for lunch, fellowship and rejoicing! We are now located at 124 Graham Street, Shepparton. Service starts at 11 am. For

catering purposes, RSVP to <RussellBryan@adventist.org.au> before March 2020.

FORRESTERS BEACH CHURCH OFFICIAL OPENING

(formerly Erina and The Entrance churches). We warmly welcome members, pastors and friends to the official opening of our new Forresters Beach church complex on Sabbath morning, March 21, 2020. The program will commence at 10.30 am and will be followed by a luncheon. Location: 7 Kyte Place, Tumbi Umbi. For further information please contact Delyce on <newsletter@forrestersbeachadventistchurch>.

NEXT ISSUE: ADVENTIST WORLD, MARCH 14

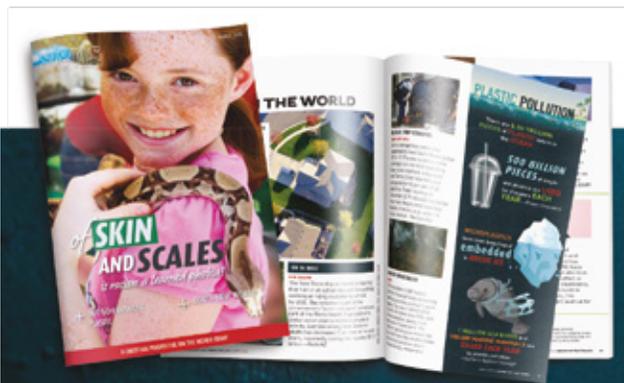
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POSITIONS VACANT

INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER**WAHROONGA, NSW**

The Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Limited is seeking expressions of interest from suitable candidates for this senior management role to run the Division Financial Services (DFS). DFS manages, within Australia and New Zealand, the Division investment program, the lending of funds to denominational organisations and other financial/banking services. The Investment and Financial Services manager is responsible for investment decisions, banking relationships, monitoring and managing total denomination loan exposures and providing financial services to more than 1000 clients. Candidates should have experience at a senior level in either the finance sector or in financial management. Qualifications in either business or investment management are essential. Based at the Division head office in Wahroonga NSW, this full-time role reports direct to the division chief financial officer and will commence in August/September 2020. For full selection criteria please visit the Division's human resources website <adventistemployment.org.au/spd-vacancies>. To apply, please send a cover letter addressing the selection criteria, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor to Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga NSW, 2076 Australia. Email <hr@adventist.org.au>. Fax: 02 9489 0943. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. Only those who have the legal right to work in Australia may apply. **Applications close April 6, 2020.**

WEB DEVELOPER, ADVENTIST MEDIA**WAHROONGA, NSW**

Adventist Media (AM) is seeking a web developer to create and maintain websites for AM that not only appeal to the desired target audience, but maximise the organic traffic available and provide optimal user experience. We are looking for a candidate who holds a relevant degree or at least two years' professional experience as a front-end or full stack web developer, has an understanding of SEO, advanced visual designing skills with ability to deliver creative content, thorough understanding of UX practices, knowledge and extensive relevant experience in use of coding languages and effective communication skills. Please contact <corpserv@adventistmedia.org.au> for a full job description. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and to close applications early. Only those who have the legal right to work in Australia may apply for this position. **Applications close March 12, 2020.**

DIVISION PROPERTY TRUST MANAGER**WAHROONGA, NSW**

The South Pacific Division (SPD) Limited has an exciting opportunity for an experienced individual in the area of property or commerce, with strong commercial acumen, to strategically manage the property holdings of the SPD with the goal of delivering on the future needs of the Church and continually maximise the portfolio's value and benefits to advance the wider mission of the Church. Based at the Division head office in Wahroonga NSW, this full-time role will report directly to the chief financial officer and will oversee the property portfolios of the Division and manage key development and expansion projects. The ideal candidate will be highly self-motivated, well organised, with excellent attention to detail and great communication and people skills. For full selection criteria please visit the Division's Human Resources website <adventistemployment.org.au/spd-vacancies>. To apply, please send a cover letter, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor to: Human Resources, Seventh-day Adventist Church (SPD) Ltd, Locked Bag 2014, Wahroonga, NSW, 2076 Australia. Email <hr@adventist.org.au>. Fax 02 9489 0943. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. Only those who have the legal right to work in Australia may apply. **Applications close March 31, 2020.**

MAINTENANCE AND GROUNDS/OFFICE ASSISTANT AND CLEANER**JINDABYNE, NSW**

Adventist Alpine Village, located in the Snowy Mountains just outside Jindabyne, caters for church, youth and school groups, and family retreats. The team at AAV are seeking a highly motivated and committed Seventh-day Adventist couple who would like to live and work in this spectacular part of Australia. Presentation of the grounds and facility is key to the ongoing success of AAV. Reporting to the manager, the maintenance position will oversee the maintenance of the grounds, equipment and facilities. The office assistant/cleaner is a part-time role that will work with and support the manager and cleaning team. Interested? Forward your resumes along with references and supporting documentation to Calvin Drinkall <snswgsecretary@adventist.org.au>. Please note, only those with the legal right to live and work in Australia may apply for this position. The appointing body reserves the right to fill this vacancy at its discretion and close applications early. **Applications close March 27, 2020.**

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