

Connecting the Pacific Union Adventist Family

Recorder

April 2009



14

Rhee, Tucker

Conduct First Two cLAim Series



Inside



LOCAL CONFERENCE NEWS

- 10-11 Arizona
- 16-19 Central California
- 20 Hawaii
- 22-23 Nevada-Utah
- 6-9 Northern California
- 3-5 Southeastern California
- 12-15 Southern California



KEEPING YOU INFORMED

- 25 Adventist Health
- 32-40 Advertisements
- 38 Advertising Policy
- 21 La Sierra University
- 26 Pacific Union College
- 30-31 Public Affairs and Religious Liberty
- 32 Sunset Calendar



ABOUT THE COVER

Van Nuys Spanish church Associate Pastor Yonny Jimenez, right, baptizes Marlon Ventura following evangelistic meetings conducted by Robert Costa, speaker-director, Esta Escrito television. Costa is conducting numerous SCC series during 2009.

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Our target audience is Adventists within our territory.

Our mission is to inform, educate and inspire our readers to action in all areas of ministry.

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Coachella Valley Members Gather for Camp Meeting

The first week in February is famous for Groundhog Day, but in Palm Springs, the first weekend in February is synonymous with camp meeting.

At this year's gathering, held in Palm Springs on Feb. 6 and 7, members of all the local Adventist churches in the Coachella Valley joined for worship and fellowship.

The weekend began Friday evening with opening remarks by Greg Clark, associate pastor of the Palm Springs church and pastor of the Yucca Valley church, and a rousing song service with the Schurch family.

This was followed by the first of three presentations by Gordon Bietz, president of Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tenn. His focus for the weekend was "How to Be a Spiritual Church." His first presentation centered on the book of Acts, in which it is said of the early church that its vibrancy and strong witness to Jesus turned the world upside down in a short time.

Bietz quoted sobering statistics about how the Seventh-day Adventist Church is less known today than it was 30 years ago and has a limited impact on the world. His challenge was to begin reaching the world where its real needs are, in order not to become irrelevant.

On Sabbath morning, approximately 800 people from the Palm Desert Oasis, Desert Hot Springs and Palm Springs churches, as well as the Hope Community Adventist group and many drive-in visitors, gathered in the Palm Springs High School for Sabbath school and church services.

The Palm Desert Oasis church conducted the Sabbath school, with Steve Blue, pastor, and Paul Savino, associate pastor, leading out. The mission emphasis was a local community outreach called "Festival of Life," in which many of the Coachella Valley churches will join together to reach the homeless and less fortunate of the valley. Paul Cedar, the area project coordinator, told what the churches, working together, can do. This was followed by a lesson study emphasis on marriage and family presented by Alfonso Valenzuela, pastor of the Indio Spanish church, and his family.

The worship service, planned by the Palm Springs church, included musical selections by Raejin Lee, music instructor at La Sierra University, and another challenging presentation by Bietz.

The young people led by David Marlow, Palm Springs youth pastor, had a lively program that included music provided by the youth of Palm Springs and Palm Desert Oasis, and arts and crafts led by Debbie Strohl.

A ventriloquist, Maylan Schurch, a pastor from Bellevue, Wash., kept the kids entertained with "Zack." Chris Morris, math teacher at San Diego Academy, provided drama and



Gordon Bietz, president of Southern Adventist University, spoke during camp meeting weekend about "How to Be a Spiritual Church."

inspiring stories that challenged the young people in their walk with Jesus.

After the noon meal, a capacity crowd returned to the Palm Springs church for the afternoon program. The Hope Community Adventist group started the afternoon with two rousing songs, after which Rowland Nwosu, the group's pastor, welcomed the crowd. Bietz gave his final presentation, "Dumb Smart People," in which he emphasized the vital importance of a Christian education.

The camp meeting concluded with a concert by His Voice men's chorus, directed by Michael Naluai.

Many of those who attended the 2009 Coachella Valley camp meeting in Palm Springs said they had been richly blessed. Reactions ranged from, "This was the best camp meeting I have ever attended" to "I felt the warm presence of the Holy Spirit in all that happened this weekend." ❧

Chester Schurch



(L. to r.) Cynthia, Shelley and Maylan Schurch enjoy a lunch break.



Pine Springs Hosts Annual Valentine's Retreat

Nearly 40 couples gathered for a marriage retreat on Valentine's weekend at snow-covered Pine Springs Ranch. This popular annual event, Romance at the Ranch, is sponsored jointly by the family ministries department of Southeastern California Conference and the management and staff of Pine Springs Ranch.

Cesár and Carolann de Leon, of Soquel, Calif., led in a dynamic presentation of various aspects of marriage that brought to life the issues of good communication, how to avoid the things that come between husband and wife, and the importance of forgiveness. (Carolann is a marriage and family therapist.) With candor and good humor, couples were challenged to draw closer to each other and together recommit themselves and their relationship to God.

The sun began to shine on Sabbath after an evening and night of cold and snow. After lunch, time was available for relaxation. Many couples bundled up for walks in the snow. Someone made a small snowman, decorating him with pinecones, and amateur photographers took advantage of Pine Springs Ranch in its winter finery.

As the sun moved toward the western horizon, another presentation with the de Leons focused on the importance of forgiveness in a marriage. This led into a time for Communion. This service has become a much-anticipated, sacred occasion each year. Each couple was given a basin and towels with instruction to return to their room and wash each other's feet, taking the time to talk of their commitment to God and each other.

After half an hour, they returned to the meeting room, which had been given a new setting. Tables draped in white with flowers and candles were set with the symbols of the body and blood of Christ. After a brief homily, prayers and the timeless, precious invitation to "take and eat" and to "drink all of it," each couple was invited to share the bread and the cup with each other.

Joe and Julie Savino led the singing during the Valentine's weekend event.

Tables decorated with white tablecloths, flowers, and candles were set with the symbols of the body and blood of Christ for a Communion service.

By that time, another transformation had taken place, this one in the dining room. Tables decorated with cloth tablecloths and napkins and fresh flowers surrounded the crackling fire in the fireplace, provided the setting for a Mexican fiesta. Tables laden with food the likes of which most campers could not imagine greeted those streaming through the candlelit pathway to eat together. Brian and Michelle Schwab and their staff brought many talents together to provide the banquet experience.

Not all activities at Romance at the Ranch were formal or structured. Many braved the cold night air and went on a hayride, enjoying the ranch at night and the stars that aren't visible in the city. The warm lodge was a welcome place to relax and watch an old movie after the hayride.

Now 40 couples have experienced the kind of renewal that can revive marriages. The design for Christian marriage includes taking time apart from life's usual activities, away from responsibilities, at home to focus on a loving commitment to one another and to God. ❧

Audray Johnson





Yucaipa Pastor's Prayer for 10 New Members Is Answered



Heinrich Strydom, front row, right, Yucaipa church pastor, pleaded with God for 10 new members—and God answered his prayer. Back row: Darel Ferguson, Marla and David Steck, Brian Boom, Jesse Flor, David Wallace; front row: associate pastor Elijah Grekov, assistant pastor Raewyn Hankins, Thirsa Flor Jr., Sara Dahlstrom, Thirsa and Louis Flor, and Strydom.

When his church presented the Discoveries '08 big-screen evangelistic series by Mark Finley, Heinrich Strydom, Yucaipa church senior pastor, pleaded with God for 10 new members.

God answered his prayer. Late last year, Darel Ferguson, Marla and David Steck, Brian Boom, Jesse Flor, David Wallace, Thirsa Flor Jr., Sara Dahlstrom, and Thirsa and Louis Flor were baptized and became members of the Yucaipa church.

Soon after David Steck began attending the Discoveries '08 meetings, he was driving in Yucaipa when a man who was driving very slowly cut in front of him. Steck honked his horn to tell the other driver exactly what he thought; the

other driver responded with unmistakable anger.

Incensed, Steck followed the man to an Ace Hardware store. As he walked toward the entrance, the man walked out. Steck was ready to give him a piece of his mind, but what came out of his mouth shocked them both.

"I'm so sorry for honking

at you," Steck said. Apologizing profusely, he repeated how sorry he was, and the men ended their conversation with a handshake.

Telling a friend the story, Steck said, "I don't know what came over me. How did that come out of my mouth?"

"It's not what came over you, it's Who," the friend replied.

That evening a car was driving slowly in front of them as Steck and his wife,

Marla, were on their way to the Finley meeting.

"Don't get mad," Marla said. "Maybe they're going to the meeting, too."

She was right.

The person who got out of the car was the same man David had met at the Ace Hardware store that morning, Darel Ferguson. Both men were surprised and happy to see each other at the meeting. Four weeks later, they both were baptized.

Happy that their pastor's prayer was answered, longtime Yucaipa members are nurturing the newly-baptized members in their Christian faith. A photo of the new members was printed in a recent church newsletter with this suggestion: "Why not post this picture on your refrigerator! Unless new members each make seven friends in their church in the first year, they are likely to leave. Here is your opportunity to bring their names and faces into your memory and into your hearts." ❧

Bonnie Johnson

Four weeks after their first encounter at a hardware store, David Steck, center, and Darel Ferguson, right, were baptized by Heinrich Strydom, left.





Soldier Goes Back to School



During his presentation, Toledo discussed Iraq's importance in history and the Bible.



"He has matured and grown into a really wonderful young man," said kindergarten teacher Nancy Hoyt, shown here with her former student Ben Toledo and some of her current students.

Soon after returning from a seven-month tour of duty in Iraq from April to October 2008, Ben Toledo, an E-3 Hospital Corpsman (medic) with the United States Navy, was the special guest speaker for a Veterans Day assembly at Foothills Adventist Elementary School on Nov. 11.

Toledo is an alumnus of the school, where he attended kindergarten through eighth grade from 1993 to 2002. He graduated from Pacific Union College Preparatory School in 2006 and then enlisted in the U.S. Navy.

During his talk to the students, he narrated a slide presentation showing photographs of Iraq, some of which he took while serving as a medic for the U.S. Marines (the Navy medics sometimes do double-duty with the Marines). As a member of the special surge units, their mission was to conduct the turnover of bases of

operation to the control of the Iraqi army.

"It opened my eyes to how war really is from a person who actually experienced war," said eighth-grader Kevin Sacro. "It made me proud to be an American."

Toledo later said that he hoped that the kids got the message that people in the military are constantly

protecting the United States.

"Whether you think about it or not, regardless of what you do, there is always someone who has your back."

Following his assembly presentation, he mingled with students on the Foothills campus, playing soccer and football with them. He has since returned to the school several times to play sports and eat lunch with the kids and staff.

Now he's "a local hero at the school," according to school secretary

Deno Hallam. "He became a household name overnight."

Since Veterans Day, Toledo has returned to civilian life and enrolled at Pacific Union College, where he is taking prerequisite classes in order to apply for the nursing program and earn a Bachelor of Science degree. He hopes to become a flight nurse.

Meanwhile, he is in the reserves for the next six years, and he continues to be willing to serve his country. "If asked to go back, I would go." ❧

Josué Rosado

Dear Northern California Conference Members,

Due to the economy and tight budget constraints that we are now facing in 2009, we unfortunately have to look at some significant cutbacks. Because of this, we are temporarily suspending funding for Redwood Camp Meeting this summer. We know that each year, these 10 days among the majestic trees of Northern California provide fellowship and spiritual renewal for thousands of campers, and we are sorry that these economic times have forced us to put on hold programs such as this.

These budget concerns are leading us to suspend funding for other convocations and camp meetings in 2009 as well, including the African American Convocation usually held in October. We trust that economic matters will not be an issue in future years and that the Seventh-day Adventist church in Northern California will soon be able to continue many of its ministry-related programs, convocations and camp meetings.

Please continue to pray for your fellow members, the church in Northern California, and all who are struggling through these difficult economic times. I am still convinced that the work in which we're involved is of eternal consequence. For 2009, we may have to take a temporary detour around "business as usual," but I know we will still continue to reach out to our communities for Christ and realize that even in these difficult times, God is still in control.

Jim Pedersen, Northern California Conference President

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Concord Churches Join to Form International Congregation

The Concord church and the Concord Spanish church have merged to become the first bilingual congregation in the Northern California Conference. The new church, the Concord International Seventh-day Adventist Church, met for the first time on Jan. 3.

On that Sabbath, the church service was held in two languages, and worshipers followed along in the bilingual bulletin. They sang hymns, alternating verses in English and Spanish. “It was wonderful to have all the voices singing in both languages, just as we will be doing in heaven,” said church member Kazumi Peterson.

NCC Executive Secretary Marc Woodsen presented the sermon in English, and it was translated into Spanish by Pastor Pedro Trinidad, formerly the pastor of both congregations, and now the pastor of the combined church.

For more than eight years, the Concord Spanish church met in the Concord church’s fellowship hall. The Spanish-speaking group was trying to find another place of worship—they even considering constructing a building on the empty lot next to the church—when they were invited by the Concord church to join memberships.

“Both churches, almost spontaneously, expressed interest in combining,” said NCC Hispanic Ministries Coordinator Richard Dena.

“We’re one official church as far as membership, pastor, leadership and team of elders,” said Trinidad.

“It’s great to work together to have the same vision even though we speak different languages,” said Spanish-speaking member Alicia Downs, through an interpreter.

Unlike some bilingual churches, the two language groups don’t worship together every week. Every Sabbath morning the church sanctuary hosts a Spanish worship service at 9 and an English service at noon. Between the two services, members attend a bilingual Sabbath school program followed by a choice of smaller lesson study discussion classes in English or Spanish. Once a quarter, the entire church will gather together for a bilingual communion service.

The English and Spanish children’s Sabbath school classes have also joined together. “Currently, most of the classes do a bilingual lesson,” said Vicki Bedolla, one of the kindergarten Sabbath school teachers. (The children are joined by kids from an Ethiopian group, which holds its worship service in one of the church classrooms.)

Trinidad’s wish is that the new church will help young people who often feel torn between two cultures. “We are reaching out to second, third and fourth generation Hispanics



“We were created to belong to each other and we were created for community,” said Marc Woodsen, during his sermon, interpreted by Pedro Trinidad.

who feel Latino but don’t understand Spanish as well as English,” he said.

He also hopes that members will take advantage of a new opportunity to witness to acquaintances who speak a different primary language by inviting them to church. “Hispanics will feel responsible for outreach not just to Spanish speakers, but to English as well, and vice versa,” he said. Trinidad wants this type of outreach to be “part of the culture of the church.”

“I’m always thrilled to see our various ethnic groups working together to positively impact the Kingdom of God,” said NCC President Jim Pederson. “And I’m confident that this merger will provide wonderful new opportunities for the Gospel message to be shared across cultures in the Concord community.” ✎

Julie Lorenz



Children in the bilingual kindergarten Sabbath school color pictures of a little donkey.



Lodi Youth Rally Attracts Hundred of Teens



Christopher Esory

Kids paint a Christian-themed mural on the wall of the One-Eighty Teen Center in Lodi.

Sabbath morning, to 350 on Saturday night.

"Willie Ramos was an amazing preacher who had my attention the whole time," said Lodi Academy junior Lauren Gomes.

"I loved how he moved the entire audience.

Everyone seemed to really understand him," said Allison Bradley, Lodi Academy sophomore.

Mural artist Milton Coronado directed the other main activity of the rally.

A former graffiti tagger — now an Adventist speaker with a street art ministry — Coronado helped kids create graffiti-style murals with Christian themes at a local teen center. Using cans of spray-paint, kids completed three wall paintings designed by Coronado and created other artwork of their own design.

The weekend also included student testimonies, student praise bands from various area Christian churches, dramatic presentations by groups from Lodi Academy and Rio Lindo Adventist Academy, and a free lunch for everyone.

Willie Ramos has an engaging preaching style that appeals to teenagers. "We had a lot of fun listening to the messages because they were so easy to understand," said Lodi Academy freshman, Lauren Shinn.

At the Sabbath morning meeting, 158 kids came forward to show their commitment to Jesus. "It was really great to see so many kids giving and recommitting their hearts to Christ," said Northern California Conference Youth Director Eddie Heinrich.

"The rally was an amazing experience, because I was able to witness God reaching out not only to Christians but also people who don't usually go to church," said senior Jordan King, president of Tokay High School's Christian Club.

Ward believes youth pastors need to use nontraditional methods to reach teenagers for Christ. His organization, Peace4youth Campus Ministries, reaches out to kids where they are — at all four high schools in Lodi (Jim Elliot Christian High School, Lodi Academy, Lodi High School and Tokay High School).



Christopher Esory

Hundreds of Lodi teenagers gathered at the Lodi City-wide Youth Rally, a youth evangelism event, Jan. 30 to Feb. 1.

The rally's instigator and organizer was Lodi-English Oaks Associate Pastor Scott Ward. "This was sowing evangelism, not reaping evangelism," said Ward of the weekend, which was designed to attract kids who do not attend church, as well as teens from various Christian churches.

The weekend's speaker was the "ghetto preacher" Willie Ramos, a former gang member who is now an Adventist evangelist. Through singing, street poetry and preaching, Ramos enthralled the kids. As word spread, meeting attendance at a local community arts theater grew from 200 on Friday evening, to 250 on



Christopher Estoy

Pastor Scott Ward interviewed street artist Milton Coronado.

"We need to do more than just try and draw kids to church; we need to go to the places where they are living their lives every day—we need to meet them at their schools," said Ward. "And if you're only at the academy, who are you going to evangelize? There's a world of kids out there on public campuses waiting to be reached!"

As a member of a local Christian youth pastors' network, Ward used his many church and school contacts around the city to organize the rally. "The concept was that we all team up to spread the gospel and reach unchurched kids," he said.

"Most kids at this age aren't wrestling over doctrinal issues; they



Christopher Estoy

Milton Coronado designed three colorful murals for the teen center.

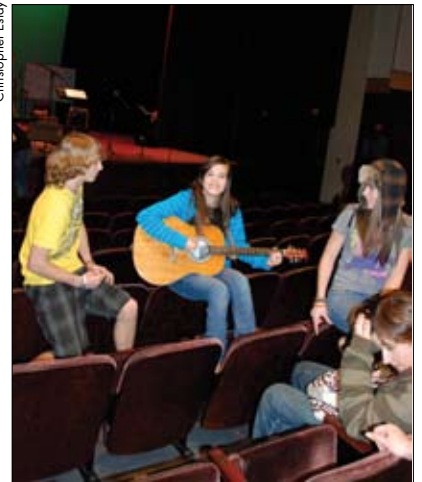
are deciding if they are going to follow Jesus," said Ward. "I know these kids from school, and they know that I'm the one planning the rally and that I'm an Adventist youth pastor. They'll always remember that."

"Considering that today's youth are more interested in spirituality than religion and more open to establishing relationships rather than attending a church, the Lodi Youth Rally was a great opportunity for our youth to share Jesus with their peers," said North American Division Youth and Young Adult Ministries Associate Director Manny Cruz.

Plans are in the works for another rally within the next 12 months.

Four different youth praise bands led worship during the weekend.

Christopher Estoy



Students from all four Lodi high schools attended the rally.

The kids "want to do it again, and they don't want to wait a whole year," said Ward.

"I made new friends and learned so much," said Tokay High School junior Brittney Aguilar. "It really made a difference on how I look at things. I can't wait for the next rally." ❧

Julie Lorenz



Christopher Estoy

William T. Johnson Named 2008 Physician of the Year



Dr. Bill Johnson

Dr. Bill Johnson was born on the Oakwood College campus where both his mother, Margaret, and his father, Louis, were professors of English and chemistry, respectively.

He spent his formative years roaming the rolling hills of Pine Forge Academy in Pennsylvania, discovering nature — bugs, snakes and frogs. His father gave him a chemistry set, with which he successfully created rockets and numerous other explosive devices that shook the foundations of the Pine Forge community.

From these humble beginnings, a keen interest in the sciences developed. Johnson graduated from Pacific Union College in 1966 with degrees in mathematics and physics, and married his wife, Leonor, that same year.

Johnson joined the Teacher Corps as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's higher education act and War on Poverty program. Through this program, he concurrently obtained a master's degree in mathematics and taught math to Appalachian children in East Tennessee.

In the first three weeks of their marriage, the Johnsons lived in their car, since no one in East Tennessee was willing to rent a house to black people. After President Johnson signed the Fair Housing Act, housing became easier to obtain.

While serving in the Teacher Corps, Johnson discovered that prejudice was not confined to color. The principal of his high school

refused Bill's request to replace the torn, worn, more than 10-year-old math books that had to be shared between two or more students. The young principal felt that Appalachian children could not learn, thus why waste tax payers' money.

This motivated Johnson to spend every waking hour writing a mathematics text for his students. Upon completion, his text became the most significant contribution of the Teacher Corps that year.

At the conclusion of his two-year commitment, the Johnsons decided to pursue their Ph.D. degrees at Purdue University — Bill in mathematics and Leonor in family sociology.

After successfully completing his comprehensive exams and writing his dissertation, Johnson had a spiritual epiphany. He decided that although mathematics brought him personal joy, he wanted to be of greater service to mankind through public health or medicine. Thus, he began a move from math to medicine, which he has adopted as a profession. He is a graduate of George Washington University School of Medicine.

The Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix, Ariz., where Johnson works is a 450-bed major teaching hospital with a 100-plus year history. Annually, physicians working at the Maricopa Medical Center are reviewed for their professional contribution to their patients and to the community in general.

In 2008, the Maricopa Integrated Health System selected Johnson to

receive its 2008

Physician of the Year award.

Johnson is chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and medical director of Perioperative Services.

Betsey Bayless, chief executive officer and Arizona's 17th Secretary of State, says, "Dr. Johnson has increased our level of anesthesia coverage and our operating room efficiency through his leadership role in perioperative services. He is a wonderful mentor who is always willing to share his knowledge and ideas on how to improve patient care. Dr. Johnson's dedication to health care is a great example of the exceptional physicians and nurses at the Maricopa Medical Center, and a reminder of how they make a difference in lives of their patients every day."

Another colleague, Dr. Daniel Caruso, director of the Burn and Trauma Center and surgical intensive care unit, says of Johnson, "The first attributes that come to mind when thinking, writing or speaking about Bill Johnson: always the professional, always gracious, always the gentleman. I wish we had about 1,000 more Bill Johnsons at Maricopa. He is a great man."

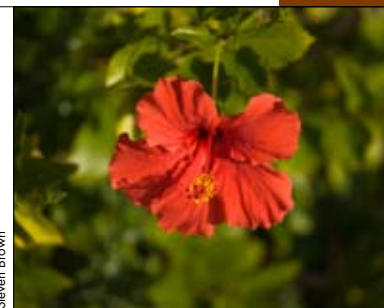
The Johnsons are members of the Phoenix Camelback Seventh-day Adventist Church. They have three sons and one granddaughter. ❧

Phil Draper



Memorial Prayer Garden Offers a Place of Peace

Steven Brown



The flowers and trees in the garden — pistachio, olive and palms — are all mentioned in Bible passages.

“You are invited to join this quiet place,” reads the bronze plaque at the entrance of the Memory Garden at the Mesa Palms church. The plaque was created by church member Mary Grice. It continues, “Those named here are but a few of many who have been loving members and supporters of this community of believers. To all here who reflect, we pray that your own silent heart cry will be comforted and gladdened as you contemplate that glorious day when we shall once again be together with our Lord.”

The Memory Prayer Garden with its oasis quality — stately palms, vibrant flowers and flowing water fountain — was the creation of church member Art Brown, but the project itself has progressed because of the time and effort of many others. David and Willie Manako,

father and son who are members at Mesa Palms, used their building skills and expertise in stone and concrete work to create much of the garden. M3 Architects contributed architectural drawings. Many others have contributed their time and talents.

In his grief at the tragic death of his daughter, Lisa, two years ago, Brown began to think of a positive way for he and his wife, Shirley, to remember her. His background as a professor of horticulture and landscaping at Andrews University naturally led to a creation that included the beauty and peace from nature.

“One thing I decided right after Lisa’s death, is that there was nothing I could do to change what had happened. It was a terrible, senseless loss. But God has allowed this evil thing to work for good,” says Brown. He gains much comfort from Romans 8:28, knowing that

all things work together for good; James 1:2-6, asking God for wisdom in dealing with the situation; and Genesis 50:17-20, realizing that what was meant for evil God has changed to be for good.

Everything about the prayer garden is meant to encourage visitors and reflect Christ. The variety of palms and plants portray the thought of an oasis in the desert — a place where the water of life can be found. The water from the fountain flows down from the top of the fountain, bringing to mind the water God provided for his people when Moses struck the rock.

“The Memory Prayer Garden has brought peace to the hearts of many people in our church and continues to be a special place for prayer,” says Pastor Terry Darnall. “As a church, we’ve experienced a number of

tragedies in the last few years, and this special place reminds us that God is always near and remembers our loved ones.”

Brown and photographer Steve Brown are working on a brochure that will share the beauty of the garden and words of encouragement, explaining the purpose of the place of rest and comfort. ❧

Shirley Chipman

Those who enter the Memorial Prayer Garden through this archway sense peace and hope.

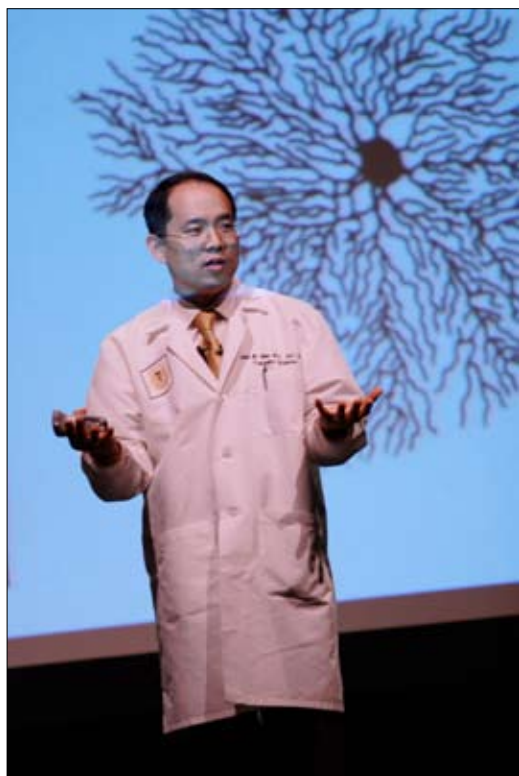


Steven Brown



Rhee, Tucker Conduct First Two cLAim Series

Spanish Churches Begin '09 "Serial Evangelism"



LifeQuest health lectures included a presentation on dealing with cravings that was especially popular with both community residents and members.

If sales of blueberries, Brazil nuts and carrots escalated in the Southern California area in late January, the LifeQuest for Total Health lectures may have provided some stimulus. Joon W. Rhee, M.D., Ph.D., MPH, who teaches at Loma Linda University Medical and Public Health schools and directs a wellness clinic, drew on

recent research to explain a variety of troubling and prevalent chronic health conditions, providing lifestyle guidelines for preventing or overcoming them.

"Did you know that blueberries can work like your arthritis medications, and can slow down cancer cell growth?" Rhee asked. In presentations laced with humor, he led the audience to consider foods that make natural medications for a variety of health conditions, including high blood pressure.

The first of two Southern California Conference evangelistic series held at the Pasadena City College in January and February,

Rhee's "LifeQuest

for Total Health" meetings drew attendance from a

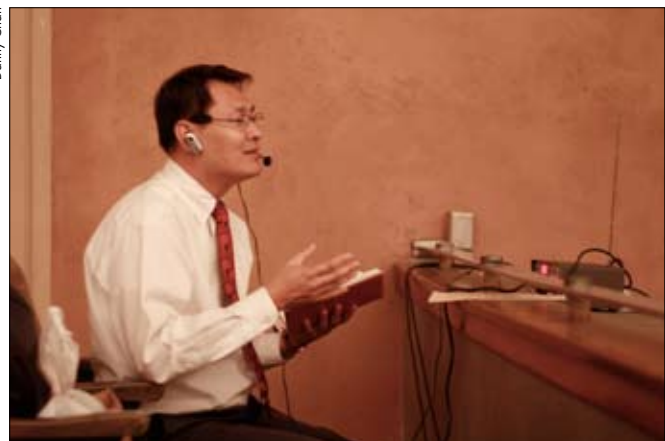
Vinh Nguyen, Elmonte Vietnamese church pastor, translated for his Vietnamese visitors during both series. Russian, Thai and Spanish translations were also available.

wide local area. As the seminar progressed, pastors heartily affirmed the presentations, which uniquely bridged physical and spiritual concepts. (DVDs of the lectures are available while supply lasts. Call 818-546-8461.)

Attendance averaged up to one-third community visitors, a number of whom returned for the opening night of the "LifeQuest in Search of the Life Giver" meetings immediately following.

The second LifeQuest series featured Mike Tucker, speaker-director for Faith For Today ministries, and Elizabeth Talbot, a university professor and previous SCC pastor. Team preaching, with short vignettes, offbeat features by youth evangelist Kevin Wells and guest appearances by international recording artists conveyed messages focused on major doctrinal concepts portrayed through the lenses of relationships and God's

Danny Chen





Dorothy Chan

Well-known Adventist vocalist Jennifer La Mountain was a featured singer and coordinated local Adventist and other Christian professional musicians featured during the meetings with Mike Tucker.

love. Tucker and Talbot also are involved in weekday Voice of Prophecy broadcasts.

On opening night, a PCC student munched his supper in the auditorium foyer before the meeting. A new Christian, Jared learned about the second LifeQuest meetings from a flyer. "My church has Friday night youth meetings, but our pastor is out of town," he said, "I was praying, because I really wanted to worship tonight, and then I found your flyer," he told us. "Praise God! I've been praying that God will bring other people to these meetings, too."

Many Adventists attended LifeQuest meetings; many bringing friends and neighbors. "The meetings were unbelievably uplifting," said Mary Khayat, a new Adventist who came with nearly

a dozen friends on some nights. "They helped me fall even more in love with Jesus."

Both LifeQuest series offered meetings for children. A sizable team of pastors, conference workers, lay Bible workers and volunteers supported both seminars during preparation meetings beforehand and in facilitating both meetings from Jan. 25 to Feb. 13. Pastors involved represented the "North Cluster" churches of the conference, most of which are located in or near the Pasadena-Glendale area.

Teams of pastors and lay people rotated in the prayer room throughout the meetings, praying for the speakers, performers, visitors, potential guests, those helping with the meetings and special prayer requests.

For the closing night of the Tucker series, posters displayed a young girl's photo, labeled "Missing." The signs helped illustrate a message by Tucker and Talbot portraying the depth of God's love for the world from Genesis to Revelation.

Recounting a recent news story about a father searching years to find his kidnapped son, the speakers related the father's depth of emotion and anguish to God's heartache for his children, who have been kidnapped by Satan. "If your child was kidnapped, how much would you give to get her back?"

Talbot asked. "You would give everything!" By the end of their message, the poster child emerged, running into the waiting arms of Talbot, illustrating how God has longed to welcome us home all along.

"Revelation uses all of the Old Testament covenant language about God's love and relationship with us and then — ta da! — we can see that it was all about Jesus all along!" Talbot said.

"The big picture is that we have been redeemed," said Tucker quietly, as tears glistened in many eyes, "and we are going home."

"The LifeQuest meetings generated more than 300 names," said James Lee, SCC Evangelism

Dorothy Chan



Speaker for the "LifeQuest in Search of the Life Giver" series was Mike Tucker (pictured), with Elizabeth Talbot and Kevin Wells.

director. "Our pastors and Bible workers are following up with those names within our conference territory. Pastors who invited Bible-study interests to both series are reaping results: in the Vallejo Drive church, six people have made their decisions to join the church. Others are attending our churches. Luka,

Continues on next page



Continued from next page 13

on the other hand, is one who first encountered Adventists through advertising for the LifeQuest health series, which he attended. Then he attended the Mike Tucker meetings and requested baptism.”

“The LifeQuest series were very successful in seed sowing,” Lee continued. “Even though we did not see the type of results we have seen in more traditional evangelism, we affirm the importance and viability of public health and other evangelism. So much so, that North Cluster pastors across generations say they want to do this again, working on health and public evangelism meetings together, cross-regionally.”

Hispanic Cluster Churches

“Our Spanish churches are excited,” said Alfredo Lee, Hispanic region and cluster director. “Everyone is aware of the coming

great Hispanic evangelism during Easter or Holy Week, Apr. 4 to 11, when at least 40 SCC Spanish churches will simultaneously conduct evangelistic series. Our pastors and members are responding eagerly, with greater expectations of baptizing more people this year. With God’s blessings, we would like to baptize 2,000 in 2009.

“Many of our churches are working in small groups. There is a special momentum and, with the interests generated from meetings people are starting to come to our churches, to have Bible studies. We

plan to sow seeds and reap all year, not just in April.”

Lee explained that churches will reap those who are ready during the brief April meetings. At the same time, they will be sowing seeds for new invitees. “So we continue to prepare for future reaping,” he said, smiling. “Evangelism is not a one-time event, but an ongoing cycle. Our churches always have

visitors since our members invite them every Sabbath, and they offer Bible studies. Some type of evangelistic activity is constantly going on in our churches. We are expecting great things from the Lord this year.” ✎

Betty Cooney

Van Nuys Spanish church Associate Pastor Yonny Jimenez, right, baptizes Marlon Ventura following evangelistic meetings conducted by Robert Costa, speaker-director, Esta Escrito television. Costa is conducting numerous SCC series during 2009.



Robert Costa

At the South Gate Spanish church, Pastor Jose Martinez reviews baptismal vows with five candidates before their baptisms. Ramon Canals, North Pacific Union, was the evangelist for a series held at the church.



Robert Costa



First Adventist Farsi-Speaking Congregation Opens in Canoga Park

Today a new Farsi-language church is established,” announced Pastor Gerald,* who leads the new group. Persian Adventists and friends from San Fernando Valley and other areas gathered on the evening of Feb. 22, to celebrate the grand opening of the first Persian congregation in the Adventist church.

The service was held at the Canoga Park Community Adventist Church. “It is always exciting when we see another seed planted for the kingdom of heaven,” said SCC President Larry L. Caviness. “Los Angeles has the distinction of being the most diverse city in the world, with more than 165 nations represented in the area. The Superior Court employs 580 translators; the Persian language is among the top five of those languages.

“We want to see this work in the Persian community grow,” he added.

In a service alternating Farsi with English to accommodate English-speaking guests at the event, Pastor Gerald and other leaders led in a service that radiated joy. “Many of you can testify,” Gerald noted, to applause and fervent amens, “that the gospel of Jesus is being preached in the whole world, including in Iran.” Introducing Bruce Moyer, professor emeritus of the Adventist Theological Seminary, as his boss, he added words of appreciation for Gospel Outreach, a ministry based in Washington that is focused on

sharing the gospel with individuals in the 10-40 window and which funded the group’s television work.

Also expressing appreciation to Gospel Outreach with which he is affiliated, Moyer explained, “We were looking for Gerald for two years.

We wanted a person with broadcast experience who could speak Farsi. We are thoroughly excited about finding him and about what is happening here,” he said.

Called “A Better Tomorrow,” the group’s main outreach is its broadcasts in Farsi. A variety show with the same name features drama, music and other features. The program began airing on Los Angeles-area public-access channels. At the same time Aria,* a production team member, suggested, “As soon as we have a one-hour program, let’s submit it to the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN).” CBN now broadcasts the group’s programming for 15 hours weekly, worldwide, including into the 10-40 window free of charge, for which the team praises God.

C. Elwyn Planner



A Better Tomorrow production team members with (front row, center to right) Pastor Will McCall, Bruce Moyer, Pastor Gerald. (Others not named, by request, for security reasons.)

Worship music for the opening service reflected the group’s cultural heritage—rhythmic and joy-filled, with frequent hallelujahs and engaging the whole audience in clapping and singing. Talented broadcast-team musicians provided the music on keyboard, flute and saxophone, with a lead vocalist and backup singers.

Following the meeting, group members hosted a Persian feast and time for fellowship with their many Persian-community visitors and other guests. For more information, e-mail gerald@fardayebehtar.com or visit fardayebehtar.com. ■

**Names have been abbreviated or changed for individual safety.*

Betty Cooney



Family's Short-term Mission Service Impacts Two Communities



Betty Tetzlaff mails bed sheets at the Big Oak Flat post office for the Gimbie Hospital in Ethiopia.

Little did Scott and Monica Barlow anticipate how the eight-month mission trip to the Gimbie Adventist Hospital in Ethiopia would affect their community. Arriving in October, the Barlows began sending e-mails detailing their day-by-day experiences back to friends in Greeley Hill and Groveland, Calif. As recipients forwarded the reports, news spread—even to local newspaper editors, who published them.

As the reports were read, many began asking how to help. Four area Protestant churches have shown videos and taken offerings. “Almost daily I get calls asking how the caller can send money,” says Lucille Keller, Monica’s mother. As of the first of February, she has received and sent approximately \$6,100.

In one e-mail, Monica described the dire situation of barefoot children infested with worms. “This week one boy had a 12-inch worm exit his mouth,” she wrote. Donated shoes were packaged and mailed. When Scott told of the sheets with

many holes, 70 twin bed sheets were collected and shipped. Keller reports that more than 20 packages have been sent, each costing \$5 per pound.

The generous response from both communities is a culmination of years of friendship and outreach by the Adventist members. In Greeley Hill, the annual Vacation Bible School is attended by nearly 100 percent of the town’s children. Residents also help staff the program. Adventists serve in community clubs, volunteer for the fire department, hold cooking classes and sponsor ladies to the conference women’s retreats. Community musicians often share in Sabbath worship services.

The Groveland church holds its community Easter weekend Friday night service and takes turn hosting the fifth Sunday hymn sing with other churches. When Pastor Ron Gerking served from October 2001 to November 2008, he preached at a Sunday church regularly, too.

Area residents are used to coming to both churches for programs such as CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Program) which has been offered 14 times, Neil Nedley’s Overcoming Depression seminar, and Life Line, a

health screening program. Groveland member Barbara Lonnstrom recently started a parish nursing program.

Caring about the physical health of others leads to opportunities for sharing spiritual health as well. Scott, a nurse, is known in the community as someone who has a heart for helping others.

Like Ted and Betty Tetzlaff. The weekly two-hour, round-trip drive to nearby Modesto for medical treatment was difficult. Ted, who had tongue cancer, needed his trach adjusted for unobstructed breathing. Scott readily volunteered to treat Ted at home. Betty Tetzlaff now attends church regularly, not missing one evening of Mark Finley’s recent meetings.

The Greeley Hill and Groveland congregations are experiencing the results of friendship evangelism and are anticipating with joy what the Holy Spirit will continue to do. ✚

Marilyn Wilcox

Scott Barlow and a young woman hold orphan babies Samuel Hosea and Henock at the Gimbie Hospital. The Barlows are in the process of adopting Samuel Hosea.





Young Adult Volunteers Lead Evangelistic Outreaches

*S*tart with a group of Southern California young adults passionate about growing God's kingdom and an increasing hunger to fully surrender their lives to Him. Add an urgent need for evangelistic outreach teams in Central California Conference. Fold in a divine appointment in Clovis, Calif., and an extraordinary adventure begins.

"It's God that put this thing together," explains Bill Krick, director of literature ministries. The "thing" is a new five-member volunteer young adult evangelism team called The Misfits, led by Michael Tuazon.

Krick and Tuazon have known each other for several years and re-connected at a Central California Conference training event this past fall. "God was really working on my heart," Tuazon explains. "People are most responsive during an economic downturn. When hit in their pocketbooks, you get their attention. It's like God was saying, 'I have blessed you with talents, and right now I would like you to take some time off and preach the Word.'"

With savings, a renter for his home and a couple of private donors, Tuazon called Krick and said, "I'm available, and I'm free." Then he invited four others to do something outstanding for God.

Central California leaders quickly accepted the offer, and within



Eight-grader Emilee Jones works with Michael Tuazon with door-to-door invitations. Training and mentoring young people is a priority for the Misfit team. In addition to involving them in all aspects of outreach, they also taught Bible classes at Central Valley Christian Academy.

weeks the Modesto Central church outreach was launched. "It sounded impossible to actually get it going, but it was really sweet," says Godfrey Miranda, associate pastor.

The kick-off rally was Jan. 9 and 10, the Misfit team arrived Jan. 31 and meetings were held Feb. 6 to 21. On the weekends, additional volunteers of up to 18 youth and young adults drove in from Southern California to help. "This is an extravagant gift!" says Miranda. Nine people were baptized, and another six are preparing.

These volunteers and the Misfit team members are part of the Finish the Work Ministry, a

The Unlocking the Mysteries of Daniel and Revelation series drew 177 people on opening night. Modesto is first of four locations for this outreach. Turlock, Watsonville and Salinas are in March, May and June respectively.

grassroots organization of students and young adults ages 18 to 30. Convinced of Jesus' soon return, they gift their time for revivals and evangelistic outreaches for churches and schools in the Pacific Union. They are sponsored, in part, by the Pacific Union chapter of ASI (Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries).

Misfit team members have moved to Turlock where more than 300 interests are being cultivated for the March reaping meetings. They will also hold meetings in Watsonville and Salinas in May and June.

"Young evangelists that are mentoring other young people are good things," Krick says.

"Once you see them, you want to run with them. What they are doing is setting the pace," says George Johnson, director of special projects and church plants.

Dale Leamon, evangelism coordinator, adds, "We know the harvest is great. And we've been praying for workers. It is so good to see how God is answering these prayers in such unexpected ways." ✎

Caron Oswald





The Misfits Bring Vitality and Dedication to Evangelism

*M*ichael Tuazon, 27, was a senior project manager content with his career, while doing evangelism part-time with a grassroots young adult ministry called Finish the Work. This past fall, a chain of events where God closed and opened doors dramatically interrupted his life. "I always have known what is next in my life," he says. Then God made His plan very clear: "Put your money where your mouth is. Tuazon resigned his position to develop and lead the Misfit team. "Now I'm living by faith. Right now this is what God really wants for me. There is nothing more comforting when you know that you are doing exactly what God wants you to do," he says.

Frances Cortes, 20, was attending San Bernardino Valley College when she accepted Jesus Christ and was baptized. "I decided the atmosphere was not the best for my spiritual life. I truly felt God wanted me to head in another direction, I just couldn't figure out where," she explains. So she quit school, took a job at an insurance company and waited. When invited to join the Misfits, she immediately accepted. "Through much prayer and willingness, I figured out that my true reason to be alive was to share the gospel of Jesus Christ."

Anthony Baca, 22, was working for Pep Boys. "I was unsure what would happen about my job and my bills," he says. "I decided if God wanted me to go, He would prepare the way." With savings he could pay his bills



The Misfits (clockwise from left) Nick Campbell, Michael Tuazon, Anthony Baca, Frances Cortes, and Jessica Tanguanan. The team, joined by members of Finish the Work, will speak at the Pacific Union ASI Convention Sabbath afternoon beginning at 2 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel. For more information about the April 23-26 ASI convention in San Jose, Calif., go to asipacificunion.org.

for several months. He approached his boss prepared to quit. Instead, he was given a leave of absence. "The Lord prepared the way and opened the doors, so I became a Misfit and am anxiously waiting to see what the Lord is going to do in Central California."

Jessica Tanguanan, 21 and a pre-nursing student, grew up Adventist. "I thought that just by going to church, listening to Christian music and putting on a smile was my Christian duty. But if that was so, then why was I still feeling lonely, depressed, angry, and empty inside?" she says. Two years ago, she got involved with the Finish the Work ministry, and her life changed. "When I truly gave my heart to God,

I have had so much joy and peace in my heart that I just want to tell others about it."

Nick Campbell, 21, was ready to apply for an x-ray tech program. "Ever since I started studying the Bible, I'd been wanting to do something in God's line of work, but I've been putting it off," he explains. Realizing that most of his decisions were made from his own selfishness, he finally surrendered. "I realized that God had plans. This was an opportunity to go all out for God, and I thought this was as good a time as ever to do something where I can be used by God to change lives and be changed in the process." ❧

Caron Oswald



Chad, Christina and
Dayton Stuart

Chad Stuart Changes from Prodigal to Preacher

Chad Stuart, Visalia's new senior pastor, abandoned his Adventist upbringing as a teenager. "I thought I'd done too many bad things for God to forgive me," he says. "So I was living without Him." It wasn't an easy road. Drugs, alcohol and ulcers took a toll. "No matter what I did, I was miserable at the end of every day."

During his junior year at Spring Valley Academy, a friend talked with Stuart about God. The ensuing conversation deeply affected him. "God said 'You've tried everything else, now give Me a try.' So I gave him a try," says Stuart. "It's never been the same since. This life with God is fun. It's a great adventure."

Stuart became active in campus ministries and prayer conferences and soon began speaking regularly. During his senior year, he was asked to speak at a workers meeting in Rochester, N.Y. That weekend God spoke to him through an encounter on the airplane, a deep feeling of unworthiness and a powerful preaching experience. "God straight up convicted me that I needed to do the ministry," he says.

He studied theology at Union College and Southern Adventist University, graduating in 2002. He then worked as assistant chaplain at SAU for a year before marrying Christina Holm. He got his Master's of Divinity at Andrews University, then pastored in Georgia for three years. Christina continued her education and became a nurse

anesthetist in August, just before they moved to Visalia.

"Chad and Christina are a vibrant, deeply spiritual young couple," says Jerry Page, conference president. "They are lovers of people and the Lord, they believe in the Adventist church and its mission, and are passionate about giving our last day message in the context of loving people. We're excited to have them leading the Visalia church."

With a team of church leaders, elders and associate pastors, a strategic vision for ministry/outreach districts, daily prayer groups, building up current programs, and helping people grow in the spiritual disciplines is being developed.

"We need to see evangelism as more than just a series. It's saying 'I've met the Messiah, come and see,'" Stuart says. "I'd like to see the Visalia church become a greater avenue for ministry in this community."

"I've walked into a great situation," says Stuart of the active, family-oriented church. "This is a great church. I love it. We're set up well to welcome people. We just need to see God's vision for us."

Chad Stuart was ordained into the gospel ministry on Jan. 31. Two spiritual mentors were present to take

part in the afternoon service. Ken Rogers, vice president of Student Life and Mission for Walla Walla College, led the dedication of three-month old Dayton and gave the charge. Ed Evans, Visalia church elder, gave the presentation and affirmation, and Dwight Nelson, senior pastor Pioneer Memorial Church, Andrews University, gave the ordination message. Other participants included Page, for the acceptance, examination and act of ordination and Ramiro Cano, conference executive secretary. Wives Mary Ellen Cano and Kimberly Horton welcomed Christina as a partner in ministry with words of encouragement and prayer.

"I want to thank all of you for not giving up on me," Stuart told the audience. "I don't know where I would be without you, but I know I wouldn't be here. And most of all I want to thank Jesus! When God called me to ministry, I got in the shower and wept. It was the worst news I could have gotten. Today, everything I have that is good in my life is from God. He has changed everything, and I am so grateful. I look forward to whatever God has until the day He comes." ❧

Caron Oswald



Pictured (l. to r.) are: Jerry Page, Chad, baby Dayton and Christina Stuart, Dwight Nelson and Ken Rogers.

Hawaii Conference Becomes Mission Driven

Jeremiah Weeks, assistant director of ShareHIM, speaks during a ShareHIM training session.



Left to right are Ralph S. Watts III, Hawaii Conference president; Pastor Eliezer Graterol, Hawaii conference ShareHIM Coordinator; Pastor Juan Rivera, Kahului, Maui; Jeremiah and Jill Weeks.

Evangelism is taking on a new face in the Hawaii Conference. Lay members, instead of heading to foreign countries to hold evangelistic meetings, are now planning meetings for their own communities.

With this renewed passion and commitment to evangelism, churches are now focused on developing plans for reaching the lost, organizing evangelism outreach teams, recruiting/training/mobilizing members, developing a lifestyle of evangelism, and conducting at least one reaping campaign in each church.

To help realize these goals, the Hawaii Conference has entered into a partnership with ShareHIM, a supporting ministry specializing in providing training and tools for lay people and pastors to conduct evangelistic reaping events. ShareHIM is directed by

Robert Folkenberg Sr. This partnership fits perfectly with the Hawaii Conference emphasis on creating a culture of evangelism.

Instead of viewing evangelism as an event that occasionally occurs on the local church calendar, it becomes a lifestyle for the local congregation—a continual process of sowing, reaping and retaining. The goal is to provide a safe place for people to come to know Jesus, embrace the

Seventh-day Adventist message, and grow to become disciples who, in turn, share Jesus and the Adventist message with others.

Because 2009 has been declared the “Year of Evangelism” in the North American Division, the Hawaii Conference kicked off this special year of soul-winning in January with a ShareHIM boot camp training on the Islands of Kauai and Maui. Jeremiah Weeks, assistant director of ShareHIM, along with Eliezer Graterol, Hawaii Conference ShareHIM coordinator, provided training.



This intensive weekend of instruction provided practical information on how to preach and conduct an evangelistic reaping event. Relevant and practical topics included how to make appeals, how to do home visitation, and technology issues. There was also time for practicing evangelistic preaching.

Local church outreach leadership teams spent time setting dates for future reaping events, as well as a time to view the sowing resource catalogue on DVD provided by ShareHIM.

“We were thrilled to see that on both Maui and Kauai, the churches are taking seriously the Great Commission,” observed Weeks. “Establishing an ongoing, creative evangelistic program is no small task, but the members on both islands are committed to learning as they go and building on past successes. By God’s grace, I believe we can expect exciting results!”

Several ShareHIM campaigns are already taking place with members leading out in the preaching. One of the conference president’s goals is to personally attend at least one meeting in each campaign as a way of participating, encouraging and supporting lay people as they preach and witness for Christ. ✎

Ralph S. Watts III

Evangelism outreach teams make plans for future reaping events.

La Sierra, Adventist Church Establish Archaeological Legacy in Jordan



A Jordanian laborer and La Sierra students Megan Channer and Jessica Logan work with University of North Carolina student Stephanie Brown during an archaeological excavation in Jordan.

In 1953, under an azure Middle Eastern sky, Larry Geraty's father baptized him in the brown waters of the famed Jordan river. The baptism took place near where historians believe John the Baptist baptized Jesus, creating a poignant moment for the 13-year-old Geraty.

"It was very muddy. I know how Naaman the Syrian felt about the Jordan, but at the same time, it was very meaningful to think I was literally following in the footsteps of my Lord," said Geraty, now La Sierra University's president emeritus and archaeology professor.

The memory stands out among the shimmering recollections of Geraty's first visits to Jordan where, 15 years after his baptism, he began leading and initiating excavations that placed Seventh-day Adventist archaeologists—and ultimately La Sierra University—on the global archaeological map.

In 1968 Geraty, a student under the direction of noted Andrews University religion and archaeology Professor Siegfried Horn, began excavating the Tall Hisban site in Jordan. "I was on the ground floor of the very first Adventist dig," Geraty said.


Throughout 40 years of archaeological discovery, Geraty and La Sierra religion professor Douglas Clark, who joined Geraty's dig at Hisban in 1973, have unearthed some of the country's most significant biblical-era artifacts. Key finds include the coin-sized Baalis seal impression referring to an Ammonite king (Jeremiah 40:14) and an ancient four-room house.

Geraty led the Hisban dig between 1973 and 1978. Andrews University currently sponsors continuing excavation at the site. In 1984, Geraty started another dig in the region at Tall Al-'Umayri, a project sponsored by La Sierra University where students and assistant professor Robert Bates

participate in biennial excavations. The La Sierra contingent last summer uncovered more than 1,000 pounds of 3,200-year-old pottery jar pieces, which students are cataloging, reassembling and gluing back together. In 1992, Geraty initiated another excavation at Tall-Jalul. The three-site digs are collectively known as the Madaba Plains Project. It is centered at the Andrews University Institute of Archaeology.

Clark, who arrived at La Sierra in 2006 from the Boston-based American Schools of Oriental Research, directs the 'Umayri project. This October, Equinox Publishing in London will release a 40th anniversary volume detailing the excavations and significant finds of the Madaba Plains Project. Clark led a team of directors to edit the book.

"The Madaba Plains Project and its offshoots in Jordan constitute the largest, longest-running American archaeological project in 150 years in the Middle East," said William H. Dever, professor emeritus of Middle Eastern Archaeology at University of Arizona. Deaver is one of the country's leading biblical archaeologists. "When you consider it was sponsored by a small ... American Christian denomination, Adventists, it's even more remarkable."

For more on this story, visit www.lasierra.edu. 

Darla Martin Tucker

La Sierra University student Steven Salcedo breaks rock during an archaeological dig in Jordan last summer.





SLC Spanish Youth Take Action

A young preacher delivers a message during the evangelistic series "Jesus Loves Jeans."



*S*alt Lake City Spanish church youth made the most of 2008. They attended AY (Adventist Youth) programs on topics including self-esteem, dating, education, friendship, hatred, and forgiveness. They participated in

addition, they actively supported the activities of the local Utah Spanish Youth Federation.

The first community service project involved visitation at the University of Utah Children's Hospital on March 29, 2008.

the youth didn't have direct contact with patients because of Utah's privacy laws, they toured the hospital, which helped them understand the illnesses and various treatments that patients receive.

Other service projects included visitation at various elder homes and dementia care homes. The young people visited, sang and prayed with residents. Most recently, the youth prepared an AY program for children and mothers living at the YWCA, a women's shelter for victims of domestic violence in downtown Salt Lake City. They sang Christmas carols, presented a funny skit and played games with the kids. The volunteer coordinator at the facility was so pleased that she invited the youth to return this year with more worship songs, skits, tamales and piñatas.

The youth group also hosted a Spanglish Youth Camp at Daystar Academy in Moab on the weekend of May 30. The topic was "The I AM Has Sent Me to You, Light up the Darkness"



Youth at Spanglish Youth Camp hike in Moab.

community service projects, the organization of a Spanglish youth camp and leading an evangelistic crusade. Four delegates attended the West Coast Youth Congress. In

The youth donated more than 25 Easter baskets. These baskets were individually wrapped and contained toys, coloring books and writing supplies. Although



with guest speaker Pastor Rogelio Paquini of the Van Nuys Spanish church in Van Nuys, Calif. There were 15 chaperons, five cooks and 105 youth from the Ogden and Salt Lake City Spanish churches. Paquini preached about the importance of making wise decisions and how each decision, whether good or bad, has consequences. In addition to singing worship songs around the bonfire, enjoying personal time with Jesus in the prayer room, seeing various skits, and listening to Paquini, the youth also enjoyed all-you-can eat meals, horseback riding, a hike to the Arches National Park, serenades and piñatas.

Spanglish Youth Camp attendees pose on a rock formation in Moab.

This year, the group also participated in their first evangelistic series, titled “Jesus Loves Jeans.” From Sept. 13 to 27, the church witnessed 15 young preachers, covering topics such as God’s Cell Phone Number (Prayer), The Jean Pocket Without Holes (Stewardship), The Promised Jean (God’s Second Coming), and Salvation. The youngest preacher was 15 and the oldest was 25. The youth learned how to organize an evangelistic series and coordinate nightly programs from start to finish, including invitation distribution, worship music selection, guest recognition, and refreshment preparation.

Finally, the youth have participated in Utah Spanish Youth Federation (FEJA—Federacion de Jovenes Adventistas) events. FEJA organized two rallies where youth from Copperton Spanish, Salt Lake City Spanish, Layton Spanish and Ogden Spanish churches heard messages from guest speakers and

participated in Bible bowl games and sports activities.

In addition, the youth from all four Spanish-speaking churches in the district traveled to Las Vegas the weekend of Oct. 11 to participate in a Pacific Union FEJA Youth Rally. This was the first time the Utah Spanish Youth Federation sent participants. The Federation sent a men’s basketball team, a women’s volleyball team and a men’s soccer team. It also sent a team to participate in a Genesis Bible Bowl for youth ages 15 to 20 and a team to compete in the Revelation Bible Bowl for youth ages 21 to 35. The Utah Spanish Genesis Bible Bowl team won second place and Revelation Bible Bowl team placed fourth.

Salt Lake City Spanish church recently welcomed its first youth pastor, Julian Miranda, and looks forward to an exciting 2009. ❧

Laura Nava





Smoking: Just a Bad Habit?

Every year, many people decide, “This is the year I am going to quit smoking.” Most people reading this article are not likely struggling with this problem. So, why are we talking about quitting smoking?

The majority of smokers who attempt to stop smoking (around 75 percent) fail to reach their goal. A common belief (especially among non-smokers) is that smokers lack the willpower to break the “habit.” Haven’t you at some point found yourself thinking, if smokers just had stronger self-control they could quit smoking? Recent research tells us we need to rethink this belief.

We all know that cigarette smoke from tobacco contains many harmful chemicals—at least 42 chemicals have the potential to cause cancer. The effects of these chemicals cause 90 percent of lung diseases (cancer and emphysema) and 30 percent of heart diseases.

The nicotine from tobacco smoke is a chemical that influences brain function and affects how a person feels, thinks and functions. After a smoker inhales one puff of tobacco smoke, the nicotine reaches the brain in seven seconds. The fast acting, concentrated nicotine results in actual changes in the brain cell structure and function. The number of nicotine receptors within brain cells increase two to three times.

Nicotine in tobacco smoke stimulates the brain to increase the production of a wide range of brain chemicals. Nicotine is one of the most powerful central

nervous system stimulants—10 times more potent than heroin, cocaine, or d-amphetamine.

The extremely high levels of nicotine that the cigarette delivers to the brain result in the cigarette smoker having feelings of alertness, energy, vigor, increased ability to concentrate and problem solve, memory enhancement and appetite reduction.

Research has shown that in order to become nicotine dependent, an individual must have a certain genetic component. About 10 percent of cigarette smokers do not have this genetic component and therefore do not become nicotine dependent. These smokers can quit smoking without experiencing nicotine withdrawal symptoms. However, the remaining 90 percent become physiologically addicted to nicotine. Therefore, just like other addictions, stopping smoking is a medical and physiological problem. It is not a matter of choice.

Smokers who are nicotine addicted experience nicotine withdrawal symptoms when they try to stop smoking. The withdrawal symptoms most commonly include feelings of anxiety, irritability, depression, difficulty thinking clearly and increased appetite.

The symptoms can be reversed by smoking again or by administering



nicotine replacement medicine through skin patches, lozenges, gum, oral inhaler or nasal spray. In addition, there are medications that have been found to help individuals quit.

Individuals frequently need to continue using the medications for many months, even up to a year or more. Medical supervision is necessary to help them have adequate replacement therapy to control the withdrawal symptoms and to help them gradually decrease the replacement therapy. It is critical to understand that individuals do not die from nicotine dependence. It is the tobacco smoke that is so deadly.

Tobacco dependence is actually a chronic illness often requiring long-term individualized medical supervision. For some of us, this requires a shift in thinking about smoking. The more informed we are about the nature of this addiction, the more effective we will be in supporting those struggling to break free. ❧

Dynnette Hart, Dr.P.H., R.N., and Anne Berit Petersen, M.S., M.P.H., R.N., Loma Linda University School of Nursing



Grant's Gift Comforts Grieving Parents, One Blanket at a Time

*I*t's been two years and talking about her second son can still bring Heather Wheeler to tears. Instead of celebrating his birthday in February with cake and festivities, the Wheeler family remembered the perfect baby they never got to bring home. Grant Kelton Wheeler, like thousands of babies every year, was born still.

"I felt all alone," she said of recovering at the hospital after Grant was born. "Everyone around me was welcoming healthy babies into the world, and mine had died."

"Our biggest regret was that we didn't get to keep the hospital blanket he was wrapped in." And so in honor of baby Grant, Wheeler is making sure that regret doesn't come true for other families.

The following Adventist Health hospitals are participating in Grant's Gift:

Adventist Medical Center,
Portland, Ore.

Feather River Hospital, Paradise,
Calif.

St. Helena Hospital Clearlake,
Clearlake, Calif.

San Joaquin Community
Hospital, Bakersfield, Calif.

Sonora Regional Medical Center,
Sonora, Calif.

Tillamook County General
Hospital, Tillamook, Ore.

Ukiah Valley Medical Center,
Ukiah, Calif.

White Memorial Medical
Center, Los Angeles, Calif.

Thus began Grant's Gift, a blanket collection program for parents whose babies die before, during or shortly after birth.

"While nothing can take away the sorrow of losing a child, the goal of Grant's Gift is to provide parents with a tangible item to remember their baby," said Wheeler.

"It's not just a blanket," she insists. "It's a way to reach out and give comfort to grieving parents from someone who understands the experience."

"These children are never forgotten," she added, emphasizing the importance of helping parents create memories of their child.

"A lot of people are uncomfortable with death, especially when it's a child," Wheeler said. "But by and large, people who lose babies want you to acknowledge the loss. Ignoring it not only negates the parent's pain but the very existence of their baby. And in most cases, these children are always considered a part of the family by parents, siblings and grandparents."

"Even if you don't know what to say, acknowledge it," she implored, praising the perspective shift in the medical community over the last 30 years.

At one time, parents of stillborn children were advised to forget the baby and immediately have another child. In some cases, parents weren't even allowed to see their babies.

Now, that bond is celebrated with memory books, receiving blankets and photography.

"I'm thankful that physicians are realizing these memories are important




Heather Wheeler and her husband, Kevin, started Grant's Gift, a blanket collection program, in honor of their second son. To learn more, visit www.grantsgift.org.

to grieving parents. I hope that Grant's Gift can help," Wheeler said.

To promote the project, Wheeler, senior communication coordinator at Adventist Health, invited her coworkers, family and friends to donate blankets, and in six weeks, more than doubled her goal. To date, Grant's Gift has donated nearly 300 blankets to hospitals on the West Coast, including the facility where Grant was born and eight within Adventist Health.

Bob Carmen, president and CEO of Adventist Health, said, "I think it's a tremendous undertaking. She's taking time from a very busy life as a professional and mother to reach out to others in pain, as well as inspiring her coworkers to do the same. This is a very noble cause."

To learn more, to donate blankets or to get resources about losing a child, visit: www.grantsgift.org. 

Shawna Malvini

New Scholarship Program Announced at PUC

*T*his spring, Pacific Union College unveiled the Malcolm and Eileen Maxwell Scholar, a program that honors high school seniors who have demonstrated high academic achievement, a commitment to Christian service, and outstanding leadership skills. Each year, up to five scholars will be chosen, and recipients will receive \$10,000 toward their freshman year at PUC with the opportunity to renew the scholarship.

Students applying for the Maxwell Scholar Program must be accepted to PUC and meet GPA and test-score requirements. As part of the process, students must write an essay, submit a résumé outlining service and leadership activities, and send in letters of recommendation by the scholarship deadline, May 1. Finalists will be announced in June.

The Maxwell Scholar Program honors Dr. Malcolm Maxwell and his wife, Eileen, and their commitment to Adventist education. Maxwell was the first alumnus to serve as president of PUC, and he had the longest tenure at 18 years.

Maxwell, son of famed Seventh-day Adventist author Arthur S. Maxwell, graduated from PUC in 1956 with degrees in theology and biblical languages. He completed his Master of Arts in systematic theology at Andrews University and earned his doctorate in biblical studies at Drew University. At Drew, Maxwell was honored as a Rockefeller Fellow and Drew University Scholar.

In 1983, Maxwell accepted the call to serve as president at PUC. He retired from the presidency in 2001 but continued to work at PUC as a professor in the religion department until 2006.

Eileen Maxwell's commitment to Adventist education was tremendous. At PUC, she worked in the records office as a graduation analyst and later in the education department as a credentials analyst. As first lady of PUC for nearly two decades, she was a constant support for official college functions. Eileen's generosity and caring spirit also made her a valued member of the community.

Both Malcolm and Eileen passed away in 2007.

The Maxwell Scholar is part of PUC's revamped merit-based scholarship program. Students with high grades or test scores can earn up to \$5,000 a year. Those who participate in school and church leadership functions are eligible for up to \$3,000 for their freshman year.

"We have extraordinary young people in our church, and they are doing extraordinary things in their communities. These are the kinds of students we want at PUC, and we want to reward them for their vision and commitment to excellence," says Richard Osborn, president of PUC.



Malcolm and Eileen Maxwell were committed to Adventist education, and served at their alma mater, Pacific Union College, among other places.

PUC provides need-based financial aid to deserving students and a special student loan program. The college, in partnership with La Sierra University, also conducts free financial aid workshops all over the Pacific Union to educate parents on federal and state grants, loans and scholarships available to their students.

For more information about the Maxwell Scholar program, other scholarship opportunities, or to use the online scholarship calculator, go to www.puc.edu/scholarships. ✎

Julie Z. Lee

Board of Trustees Approves New Administrative Appointment

During its December meeting, the Loma Linda University Board of Trustees approved changes in the administrative structure of the university by creating the position of university provost. The provost functions as the chief academic officer, reports to the president, and works closely with the deans on all university academic matters.

The establishment of the office of the provost is accompanied by the decision not to fill the position of chancellor left vacant by the appointment of Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., to the position of president of Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center and the university. As a result of this change, the designation of chancellor and vice chancellor will no longer be used. All vice chancellors will use their vice president designations.

The board named Ronald L. Carter, Ph.D., who has served as vice chancellor for academic affairs, as the new provost, effective immediately.

Carter received his undergraduate education at Columbia Union College, Takoma Park, Md., graduating in 1969 with a degree in biology. He completed his doctor of philosophy degree in biology in June 1971 from Loma Linda University. From 1989 to 1991, Carter took postdoctoral training in molecular systematics at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, a division of

Claremont Graduate University, Claremont.

Carter's professional career includes serving as associate pastor of the Arlington Seventh-day Adventist Church from 1974 to 1976. In August 1976, Carter began serving as associate pastor and college chaplain at Walla Walla College Church, College Place, Wash. He received his ministerial ordination in the fall of 1977.

In June 1980, Carter accepted a position as associate professor of biology at Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tenn., a position he held until 1984. That year, he returned to Walla Walla College as chair for the department of biological sciences.

Carter accepted a position at his alma mater, LLU, in July 1989 as professor of biology and chair of the department. In July 2003, Carter was named executive associate dean of the "new school," a position he held until December 2003 when he was named dean of the "new school," now officially known as the School of Science and Technology.

Carter's research interests have been in the fields of animal behavior, speciation and conservation genetics. He has published numerous articles in books and scientific journals. ✎

Dustin R. Jones



The university provost functions as the chief academic officer, reports to the president, and works closely with the deans on all university academic matters.

Ronald L. Carter, Ph.D.

LLU Tobacco Control Trainees Graduate in Cambodia



Thirteen of the graduates from Laos and Cambodia are pictured with Loma Linda University School of Public Health faculty after the Phnom Penh ceremony.

Loma Linda University School of Public Health has trained 14 students in Laos and Cambodia to be leaders in their nations in the fight against tobacco. The students each received a certificate in tobacco control and leadership last month during a ceremony in Phnom Penh.

The certificate course was possible because of a grant from the National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center, and was a joint effort between Loma Linda University, Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, and the ministries of health in Cambodia and Laos.

manager on the grant.

“We have educated some of the leaders in the Ministry of Health in both countries, so we hope that their knowledge can trickle down to others,” says Knutsen. “These are people who sit in important positions that can make policy changes.”

During their training, the students were able to accomplish some big steps toward reducing tobacco use. Students from both countries were instrumental in convincing the governments of Laos and Cambodia to ratify the World Health Organization’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, a measure designed to reduce the global tobacco epidemic.

The trainees are now competent in skills such as conducting surveys, analyzing data and implementing tobacco control measures. These are needed proficiencies in the two countries, says Synnove Knutsen, M.D., Ph.D., project

Furthermore, new tobacco legislation is awaiting approval in Laos and Cambodia. Students who also work for the Ministry of Health in their respective countries were part of the teams that developed and wrote the new laws.

In Cambodia, the students helped create and organize a national prevalence study of tobacco use, which was the first to include all of the nation’s 22 provinces. Loma Linda University School of Public Health has a second Fogarty grant to develop a survey instrument for a prevalence study in Laos, as well. Working with the trainees and other partners, the university expects to survey about 6,000 people by sometime in spring 2010.

One of the trainees, Chhordaphea Chhea, of Cambodia, says that the certificate program has given her knowledge on research, policy and strategies, and advocacy.

“In addition,” she says, “the training has built a network among tobacco fighters nationally and internationally, which I believe to be efficient in the short and long run for information sharing and supporting each other.”

Knutsen agrees. “We feel the partnership we have developed is very valuable, and we hope to build on that to do other research and projects in the future.”

Heather Reifsnnyder

Come Unto Me Sculpture Graces Entrance to Medical Center

Come Unto Me—a bronze sculpture of a smiling, happy Jesus Christ welcoming an assortment of eight people and three dogs into the circle of His friendship and healing—calls patients, visitors and staff to an encounter with the pivotal figure in human history from its new location in a sunny alcove to the right of Loma Linda University Medical Center's main entrance.

To stand in the sculpture garden and walk among the multiple bronze statues composing the installation conveys an impression that not only the Man of Sorrows, but also his human and animal friends, seem like they're having a wonderful time. Sculptor Victor Issa took great care to register a broad range of positive emotions on the faces of everyone sharing in the imaginative encounter.

The expression on the face of Jesus radiates kindness, approachability and acceptance. The work evokes the story in the 19th chapter of Matthew where Jesus welcomed children into fellowship despite the protests of His own misguided disciples who, in reflecting the elitist attitude of their times, felt that religious

leaders were too important to socialize with children.

Issa's 21st-century interpretation of the story invites viewers to believe that the Son of Man is equally open to people today. The ancestry of the people depicted reflects the multi-ethnic diversity not only of the Inland Empire, but of Southern California as a whole.

In one segment of the installation, a young girl and an adult male, apparently a physician, assist an elderly gentleman into the presence of Christ. Behind them, a young boy of maybe 5 or 6 years of age races ahead of his mother to join the event. To the left of the Teacher, a young woman hands a bouquet of flowers to a young girl. At the feet of Jesus, a golden retriever and her pup watch a light-hearted scenario

playing out as a second puppy reaches forward to lick the face of a young boy seated next to the Teacher.

The installation occupies a somewhat oblong space measuring approximately 14 feet wide by 28 feet long and attains a maximum height of roughly six feet.

Describing it as series of increasingly deeper stages of surrender to God, Issa said the "Come Unto Me" project challenged him technically, emotionally and spiritually far beyond any other sculpture he has ever produced. Issa said the three-and-a-half year process stripped him of self-sufficiency and taught him to rely on God instead of his own abilities. ✎

James Ponder

The nine-figure sculpture garden, "Come Unto Me" by Victor Issa, resides in a special alcove to the right of Loma Linda University Medical Center's main entrance. Issa, whose work in bronze is internationally acclaimed, acknowledged that creating an imaginative retelling of the life and mission of Jesus challenged him to the core.





Religious Liberty Legislative Updates

All five state legislatures in the Pacific Union Conference are in session this year. At press time, each legislature is still in its initial bill submitting stage. Yet there are already several bills that will require ongoing monitoring, while others will require assertive action on the part of the Church State Council and church members, alike.

In Arizona, H 2068 and 2069 are fraternal twin parental school choice bills. The intent is to provide tax funding to poor families to remove their children from failing public schools and place them in other public school districts or private (secular or religious) schools; sounds good, but at what price? A direct tax subsidy for the religious mission of private schools is one of the foundational principles of uniting church and state. HB 2357 is of interest because it attempts to protect students' religious viewpoints and activities as a matter of equal treatment with corresponding secular viewpoints and activities.

Though not a church-state concern, Adventists in Hawaii may wish to support HB 794, proposing to require all public schools to provide both vegetarian and vegan diet options in its cafeteria program.



California AB 66 is the reintroduction of the student work permits bill from last year that will enable private school principals to issue work permits for their students under each schools schedule. This is a much-needed measure that we support.

Two bills in California offer significant religious liberty concerns. AB 67 is the Pharmacy Patient Protection Act of 2008. The bill allows no accommodation for pharmacists' right of conscience with a moral, ethical or religious objection to providing certain medications to patients when those medications are in stock. It violates the California Constitution, Federal civil rights laws, and misinterprets last year's ruling in *Benitez*.

AB 120 amends existing law requiring specified medical personnel to provide women with all the health care information necessary to make an informed reproductive choice by allowing an opt-out clause for medical personnel rights of conscience having moral, ethical, or religious objections to providing the reproductive information. The bill states that "there are limits on these rights when they conflict with the *superior* right of patients to access health care services" (emphasis added). The balance to this bill would be improved if the word "superior" was removed so that two rights are balanced rather than a superior civil right is balanced against an inferior religious right. ❧

Matthew McMearty



CHURCH STATE COUNCIL HOSTING

Lobby Day & Religious Liberty Banquet



Sacramento, California • April 20, 2009
Face-to-face visits with California legislators and their staff.
Register at www.plusline.org/events or
800-732-7587 through early April.



EEOC Orders Post Office to Restore Clerk to Full Time Position

Scott Warkentin was one of two mail carriers in the Clovis, Calif., post office who had joined the Seventh-day Adventist church and needed Sabbath accommodation on the job. The other man accepted a transfer to Sacramento where he was given a window clerk position in order to avoid Saturday work.

Warkentin didn't want to move. He knew there was a clerk position in his own branch in Clovis, and he asked to be transferred there. Eventually, the post office agreed, and settled the case.

Unfortunately, the U.S. Postal Service didn't stick to the deal,

and never placed Warkentin in the window clerk position they had promised. Instead, they gave him part-time work at different hours. Meanwhile, the union encouraged other clerks to file grievances against him.

The Church State Council filed an appeal, charging that the post office had breached its agreement. In a rare administrative victory handed down in early January, the EEOC ruled in favor of Warkentin,

and ordered the post office to give him the full-time job it had originally promised. ✎

Alan J. Reinach

Scott and Vanetta Warkentin and their children are thankful for the positive outcome of their Sabbath accommodation case.





ADVERTISEMENTS

CALENDARS

Arizona

THUNDERBIRD ACADEMY

Alumni Weekend (April 3-5)
Honor classes end with 4 and 9 (1944, '49, '54, '59, etc.) from Arizona Academy and Thunderbird Adventist Academy. Info: Sherrie Warren, 480-948-3300.

ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER

Spring Open House and Sale (April 5) 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 13405 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale.

MARICOPA MINI CAMP

Meeting (April 10-12) Maricopa Village Church, 8050 W. Baseline Road, Laveen. Info: Bud Joe Haycock, 480-991-6777, ext. 111.

JESUS LOVES JEANS

Youth Evangelistic Meetings (April 11-18) Phoenix. Info: Carolina, 480-991-6777, ext. 125.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S Ministries (April 17-19) Celebrate the 20th anniversary at Camp Yavapines in Prescott. Speakers include Heath Dawn Small, General Conference Women's

Ministry Director, and Dr. Linda Jimenez, a family counselor. Info: Maria Felix Denny, 623-465-4403, or Cinthia Riffel, 480-991-6777 ext 117.

THREE ANGELS PRISON

Ministry (April 25) the Community Service Center, 1320 N 15th St., Phoenix. Info: Florence, 480-991-6777, ext. 114.

Central California

TEEN GIRLS' RETREAT

(April 3-5) Soquel Conference Center. Info: Pat Curtis, 559-642-3296 or patcurtis@sti.net.

HISPANIC MEN'S RETREAT

(April 10-12) Camp Wawona. Info: Claudia Arias, 559-347-3150 or carias@cccsda.org.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN YOUNG

Adult Retreat (April 17-19) Camp Wawona. Info: Wanda Flowers, 559-347-3172 or wflowers@cccsda.org.

PATHFINDERS BIKE-A-THON

(April 17-19) Info: Norma Villarreal, 559-347-3174 or nvillarreal@cccsda.org.

EARL MEYERS CONCERT (April 18) 4:30 p.m. Fresno Central church. Info: 559-233-1171.

HISPANIC YOUTH RETREAT

(April 24-26) Camp Wawona. Speaker Juan Quiroga Tellez. Info: Claudia Arias, 559-347-3150 or carias@cccsda.org.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEN'S

Retreat (April 24-26) Soquel Conference Center. Info: Wanda Flowers, 559-347-3172 or wflowers@cccsda.org.

VESPER

(April 25) Fresno Central church. "History of Adventism in Fresno County" by Grant Mitchell. Info: 559-233-1171.

CENTRAL VALLEY CHRISTIAN

Academy (April 25) Alumni Sabbath. Honor Classes '39, '49, '59, '69, '79, '84, '89, '99, '04. Info: CVCA_Alumni@yahoo.com.

La Sierra University

FACULTY RECITAL

(April 5) Lee Zimmer, guitar, Hole Memorial Auditorium, 7 p.m. Info: 951-785-2036.

SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS Week (April 14-17) "This I Believe" with LSU faculty speakers.

FESTIVAL OF NATIONS

(April 19) Celebrating Earth Day, April 19, Glory of God's Grace sculpture plaza.

OBSERVATORY

(April 3, 17) Gaze at the stars, weather permitting, 8-11 p.m. Info: 951-785-2273.

WORLD MUSEUM

of Natural History. Sabbaths, 2-5 p.m. Info: 951-785-2209.

STAHL CENTER MUSEUM

of World Culture. Sabbaths, 2-5 pm. Info: 951-785- 2041.

FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP.

Fridays 7:45 p.m. Info: 951-785-2090.

Northern California

LODI ACADEMY

Class of 1949 60th Reunion (April 3-5) RSVP and info: Elaine Tonn Owens, 916-451-9812.

RIO LINDO ACADEMY

Alumni Weekend (April 3-5) 3200 Rio Lindo Ave., Healdsburg. Info: 707-431-5100.

SUNSETS

APRIL TK 2009



	Apr 3	Apr 10	Apr 17	Apr 24
Alturas	7:31	7:38	7:46	7:53
Angwin	7:36	7:43	7:49	7:56
Calexico	7:04	7:09	7:14	7:19
Chico	7:34	7:41	7:48	7:55
Eureka	7:44	7:52	7:59	8:07
Fresno	7:24	7:30	7:36	7:42
Hilo	6:36	6:38	6:40	6:42
Honolulu	6:47	6:49	6:51	6:54
Las Vegas	7:05	7:11	7:17	7:23
Lodi	7:31	7:37	7:44	7:50
Loma Linda	7:12	7:17	7:23	7:28
Los Angeles	7:16	7:22	7:27	7:32
Moab	7:43	7:50	7:57	8:03
Oakland	7:34	7:41	7:47	7:53
Phoenix	6:50	6:56	7:01	7:06
Reno	7:26	7:33	7:40	7:47
Riverside	7:12	7:18	7:23	7:28
Sacramento	7:32	7:38	7:45	7:52
Salt Lake City	7:55	8:02	8:10	8:17
San Diego	7:10	7:15	7:20	7:25
San Francisco	7:35	7:42	7:48	7:54
San Jose	7:33	7:39	6:45	7:51
Tucson	6:45	6:50	6:55	7:00

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PATHFINDER BIKE-A-THON

(April 5) Sleep Train Amphitheater, Wheatland. Info: Youth Department, 925-685-4300.

BIBLE INSTRUCTORS Training System (April 10-12) Sacramento-Capitol City Church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave., Sacramento. Learn new methods to give Bible studies. Meals provided. Register at www.bibleinstructors.com. Info: Bernice Archie 510-299-7820 or Pastor Gregory Johnson 269-277-1029.

TEEN PATHFINDER Rock Climbing (April 16-19, 23-26) Info: Youth Department, 925-685-4300.

EVENSONG CONCERT (April 18) 7 p.m. Margie Salcedo-Rice, violin/vocalist. Lodi-Fairmont Church, 730 S. Fairmont Ave. A free will offering will be taken. Info: 209-334-1844 or 209-367-9533.

YOUTH RALLY (April 17-18) Paradise Church, 5720 Academy Dr., Paradise. Info: Youth Department, 925-685-4300.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DAY and NARLA Rally (April 18) 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave., Sacramento. Info: 916-381-5353.

RIO LINDO ACADEMY Days (April 19-20) 3200 Rio Lindo Ave., Healdsburg. Info: 707-431-5100.

CHURCH ELDERS Symposium (April 26) Sacramento Central church, 6045 Camellia Ave., Sacramento. Info: Ministerial Department, 925-685-4300.

EDUCATION WALK-A-THON (April 26) Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave., Sacramento. Info: 916-381-5353.

CHRISTIAN MEN'S RETREAT (May 1-3) Leoni Meadows. Info: 530-626-3610.

Pacific Union College

ACADEMY KEYBOARD Festival (April 2-4) Academy students, mostly from Northern and Central California conferences, spend several days on campus for ensemble music, master classes, and demonstrations. Final concert April 4, 8 p.m. Paulin Hall. Info: 707-965-6201.

NAPA VALLEY DIRT CLASSIC (April 5) This annual 22-mile

mountain bike race takes place on PUC property. Race begins 10:30 a.m. Info: 707-965-6346.

WEEK OF PRAYER (April 5-10) Student speakers present at special daily meetings. Info: 707-965-6303.

JACK KRUMBEIN CONCERT (April 11) As part of the Fine Art Series, violinist and PUC alum Jack Krumbein will perform in Paulin Hall at 8:30 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

STUDENT EXHIBITION (April 16-May 5) The "Student Art Exhibition" will show in Rasmussen Art Gallery April 16 to May 5. The Awards Presentation takes place April 16, and the Alumni Reception is April 18. Info: 707-965-6303.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND (April 17-19) The annual campus reunion will feature a music department concert, honor class parties, music professor emeritus brunch, and other special events. Info: 707-965-7500.

Southeastern California

HISPANIC WOMEN'S Retreat (April 3-5) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: 951-509-2333.

SECC JUNIOR HIGH Band Festival Concert (April 16) 7 p.m., La Sierra University Alumni Pavilion.

APOCALYPSE NOW meetings (April 17-May 16) 7 p.m., M, T, Th-Sat nights, Mentone church, 1230 Olivine Avenue, Mentone. Speaker: Amazing Facts evangelist Darrin Bartell. Info: 909-794-1610.

YOUNG WOMEN & the Word '09 (April 24-26) Theme: Adventist Women & the Earth. La Sierra University church, 4937 Sierra Vista Ave., Riverside. Free and open to all. Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center. Key Speakers: Chris Oberg, Rosemary Ruether, Ginger Harwood. Info: www.adventistwomenscenter.org or 951-785-2470.

LA SIERRA ACADEMY Alumni Weekend (April 24-25) Friday golf tournament, Eagle Glen Golf Course, Corona. Saturday reunion on LSA campus. 9 a.m. registration; Lewis Walton, featured speaker; potluck luncheon; afternoon gatherings; evening basketball game.

Info: Isaalumni@lsak12.com or 951-351-1445, ext. 244.

Southern California

"CELEBRATE 50" San Gabriel Academy Alumni Day (April 4) All day, starting at 9:30 a.m. and concluding with an afternoon business meeting. Info: 626-292-1156.

"CLAIM MALIBU FOR JESUS" (May 1-3) Sabbath features Ricardo Graham, Pacific Union president; door-to-door training/ministry; prayer service. Webster Elementary, 3602 Winter Canyon Rd., Malibu. Sun., health fair; door-to-door ministry. Doctors, nurses, volunteers needed! Info: Judith Miranda, 818-458-8884.

GLENDALE ACADEMY Alumni Sabbath reunion (May 2-3) Vallejo Drive Church, 300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale. Honor classes: 1999, 1989, 1984, 1979, 1969, 1959, 1949, 1939. Lunch, GAA cafeteria. GAA archives expanding; memorabilia appreciated. May 3, Alumni Fair 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at GAA. Info: 818-244-8671.

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Alumni Reunion

MADISON COLLEGE Alumni Homecoming (June 26-28) Honor classes '59, '50 thru '64. Several events at Madison Academy campus. Jim Culpepper, 615-654-3311.

PLEASANT HILL Adventist Academy Homecoming (May 2) Guest speaker, Dr. Linda Caviness. Come celebrate our first 10-year graduation homecoming. Info: visit www.phaacougars.com or e-mail alumni@phaacougars.com.

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Modern Languages Department

Dr. Carlos Parra, Chair, Search Committee

■ **Spanish professor.** Earned doctorate in Spanish required (specialization open). Native/near-native fluency in Spanish, college level teaching experience, enthusiasm for teaching all levels of Spanish, teaching and students' advising. Applicants qualified to teach other modern languages (Italian or ASL) preferred. Appl. deadline: June 1, 2009.

School of Computing

Dr. Richard Halterman, Dean, School of Computing, halterman@southern.edu

■ **Computer Science/Embedded Systems professor.** Requires a master's degree in computer engineering, electrical engineering, or computer science (embedded systems experience preferred). Responsibilities include teaching embedded systems, computer science, and academic advisement.

School of Journalism & Communication

Dr. Greg Rumsey, rumsey@southern.edu

■ **Professors (2)** to teach PR, public speaking or other communication courses; and (1) to teach photography, video production and media convergence. Candidates should have demonstrated success in college teaching and/or professional work experience.

Dept. of Social Work & Family Studies

Dr. René Drumm, rdrumm@southern.edu, 423-236-2768

■ **Director** to develop and implement a new master's program in social work. Requires a doctoral degree in social work or a related field, or a master's degree in social work and at least two years of MSW practice experience.

School of Education and Psychology

Dr. John Wesley Taylor, Dean, sep@southern.edu; fax: 423-236-1765

■ **Research and statistics faculty.** Requires Ph.D. in research or related area, teaching experience (preferably higher education).
■ **Outdoor Education faculty.** Earned doctorate in outdoor education or related field preferred. Responsibilities include teaching grad and undergraduate courses, collaborating with faculty, and mentoring students.
■ **Teacher Education faculty.** Requires an earned doctorate in inclusive or special education or related area and K-12 classroom experience. Responsibilities include teaching, coordinating field experiences, and mentoring students.

School of Nursing

Dr. Desiree Batson, Search Committee Chair, School of Nursing; drbatson@southern.edu

■ **Acute Care Nurse Practitioner faculty** member who holds ACNP certification and has current clinical experience. Requisite qualities include interest in research, successful teaching experience, enthusiasm, flexibility, and commitment to nursing.
■ **Mental Health nursing faculty** member who loves teaching and has current clinical experience. Requisite qualities include successful teaching experience, flexibility, and commitment to nursing.



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BLUE MOUNTAIN Credit Union, near Walla Walla, seeks CEO. Masters degree with 5+ years financial management experience preferred. Excellent leadership and communications skills are essential, along with lending, finance and computer expertise. Send résumé, cover letter, salary requirements to: BMCU Board Chair, 520 S. College Avenue, College Place, WA 99324.

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required, master's degree preferred. Minimum of 5 years in responsible nursing positions, including clinical and supervisory experience required. Please contact us at hr@parkviewamc.org or call 207-373-2176.

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Events

ADVENTIST BUSINESS owners, ministry leaders, professionals: remember to plan for the 2009 annual Pacific Union ASI Convention (April 23-26). Come for inspiration, fellowship and involvement in mission. Registration phone: 805-413-7254 or website: <http://asi.puconline.org>.

COURAGE TO STAND International Pathfinder Camporee (Aug. 11-15) More than 9,000 Pathfinders are already registered to attend the largest six-day Adventist youth event in the world. Over 30,000 participants will represent approximately 100 countries. Info: 269-471-8380 or www.camporee.org.

"NOAH'S ARK" brings to life the legendary adventure of Noah's Ark and other biblical stories. Included under one roof is a one-of-a-kind Noah's Ark theme restaurant, a life-sized copy of the Tabernacle of Moses and other biblical displays not found elsewhere. We also have extraordinary Bible book store and gift shop. Come and experience this provocative and entertaining adventure for the whole family! www.noahsarkwinston.com; 541-784-1261, 411 Safari Rd., Winston, OR 97496.

SAN DIEGO FORUM (April 11) 3 p.m. Beatriz Krumbein, "Art and Spirituality." Tierrasanta church, 11260 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, Calif. Info: 858-576-9990 or 619-561-2360. E-mail ak-jk@cox.net.

VISTA CHURCH 60TH anniversary celebration (May 9). Guest Speaker, SECC President Gerald Pennick. Former pastors, members and friends are invited to join the celebration. Vista church, 720 Alta Vista Dr. Vista, CA 92084; 760-726-5353; www.vistasda.org.

For Sale

EASIEST WAY to memorize entire chapters in the Bible. Scripture song cantata includes 10 complete Psalms, 10 commandments and Isaiah 53. \$20 for two-CD set, \$20 for all printed music. Optimum Health, P.O. Box 475, Paradise, CA 95967 or e-mail biblesongs@mail.org.

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Bought in 2004. Current list price \$149,000. Will sell for \$98,000. 928-466-9066.

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Missing Members

ALL NATIONS. Contact the church, P.O. Box 360, Monrovia, CA 91017, or 626-357-7514. Cory Allen, Kevin Allen, Reginald Arlantic, Romelyn Arlantic, Nathan Austin, Ralph Callender DDS, Keith Collier, John Comins, Lovell Terron Denard, Betty Ann Doyle, Elliot Elam, Debra Elvord, Wakako Morioka, Desmond Pierre-Louis, Dorene Pierre-Louis, Lynelle Fifiann Callender, Edwin Hodges, Shirley Jackson, Sara La Placa, Roy McNichol, Lourin Meyers, William Mitchell Jr., Virginia K. Nicholes, Candy Persaud, Kin Kem Pina, Nicole Prillerman, Daniel Pritchett, Gwendolyn Pritchett, Carleton Sampson MD, Jevita Sampson, Colewon Tarvin, Garrett Sebastian Taylor, Byron Webster, Michele Wilkins, Jean Williams, Larry Wilson.

PLEASANT HILL. Contact Kathy Snyder, Clerk, 800 Grayson Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, 925-934-5803, kathys@



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YREKA. Contact *Tami Zufelt, Clerk, 346 Payne Lane, Yreka, CA 96097, 530-842-4536*. Terry Fuller, Dana Kay, Diane Lane, Robert Lane (2), Richard Lewis, Richard Stewart.

Real Estate

35-ACRE FARM near LaFollette Tennessee Adventist church. House (3-bdrm, 1-bath), 2 barns, 60'x14' workshop, 2 fenced pastures, view Norris Lake, \$395,000, 423-566-4387, *jkstclair@copper.net*. Also two Norris Lakefront homes: 1) 4-bdrm, 4-bath, rec. room, garage/carport, incredible view, furnished, \$649,000. 2) 9-bdrm, 7-bath, 2-kitchens, swimming

pool, dock, perfect retreat center, \$1,200,000. 423-566-5007, *kaykuzma@aol.com*.

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WALEA, MAUI. This luxury 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo offers stunning ocean views and is located in Ekahi Village, a private oceanfront complex situated in the resort community of Wailea. For more info, pictures and availability calendar, please visit the website at *www.mauismith.com*. Reservations: 916-455-8655 or 530-521-0631.

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BERGOLD, IDA — b. June 9, 1926, Sao Paulo, Brazil; d. Feb. 12, 2009, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: brothers, Orlando, Lindolph.

CHAFFEE, STANLEY C. — b. Aug. 5, 1910, Pine City, Minn.; d. Jan. 1, 2009, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivor: sister, Margery Ferguson. Served as English and music teacher at Sheyenne River Academy, N.D.; Enterprise Academy, Kansas, and truck driver for Loma Linda Foods.

CORTINO, ARTURO — b. Dec. 12, 1919, Guadalajara, Mexico; d. Dec. 4, 2008, Hesperia, Calif. Survivors: wife, Luz; sons, Alfredo, Miguel, Luis, Arturo, Ricardo, Daniel; daughters, Lupe, Rose; 12 grandchildren.

ENGELKEMIER, JOE — b. Sept. 25, 1929, Newkirk, Okla.; d. Jan. 28, 2009, Berrien Springs, Mich. Survivors: wife, Gladys; sons, Marvin, Ed; daughter, Joetta Simpson; 10 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Served as teacher at Glendale Academy and Auburn Academy; taught for many years in the Andrews University religion department; authored several books.

GRINO, CARLOS — b. March 13, 1928, Ilo-Ilo City, Philippines; d. Jan. 6, 2009, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Ruth; sons, Carl, Charlie; daughter, Loselie Weber; seven grandchildren.

JENICKE, ELDON S. — b. Nov. 9, 1919, Hillsboro, Kan.; d. Oct. 1, 2008, Sun City, Ariz. Survivors: wife, Irene; son, Donald; daughters, Barbara Morphis; Sandra Monette; three grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; seven step-great-grandchildren.

KAYMAZ, HISNI — b. Nov. 20, 1919, Mardin, Turkey; d. Jan. 24, 2009, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: husband, George; daughter, Ailene (Lamia) Brown; three grandchildren.

KUNKEL, SUSAN DIANE — b. March 27, 1950, Glendale, Calif.; d. Jan. 9, 2008, Glendale, Calif. Survivors: sisters, Marti Meeks, Cheryl Saline.

LUTZ, NORMA — b. April 19, 1922, Boulder, Colo.; d. Jan. 11, 2009, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Sharon Sweet, Rosalyn Lutz, Jane Goodheart; sister, Fonda Chaffee.

MCBRIDE, BARBARA J. — b. April 20, 1936, Addington, Okla.; d. Feb. 12, 2009, El Cajon, Calif.

Survivors: husband, Dale; son, Jose Dominguez; daughters, Terri Mosley, Brenda Pfeiffer; brother, Alvin Allen; sisters, Melba (Franz) Spycher, Joyce Ramsey. Served as a nurse at Paradise Valley Hospital.

MOORE, ROLET A. — b. Dec. 1, 1930, Randolph, Vt.; d. Jan. 4, 2009, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: sons, Walter, Clifford; daughters, Kathleen, Heidi Elssmann, Rebecca Gallagher; seven grandchildren. Missionary to Indonesia at Rumah Sakit Advent hospital, 1966-1969.

NEAL, LESLIE C. — b. Sept. 15, 1936, Onaway, Mich.; d. Sept. 29, 2008, Akron, Mich. Survivors: wife, Juanita; sons, Rodney, Leslie, Neal II; daughters, Lenita Skoretz, Charla Willis; nine grandchildren. Served as pastor in Phoenix, Ariz., and was a member of the Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee.

OGLE, BETTHY JEAN (WALLACE) — b. April 17, 1925, Sacramento, Calif.; d. Feb. 15, 2009, Tucson, Ariz. Survivors: Jeanett Kenney, Kenneth Ogle, Debbie Carson.

ORR, J. CURTIS — b. March 14, 1933, Pickens, S.C.; d. Jan. 4, 2009, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: wife, Jeri; daughters, Heather Lindstrom, Heidi Orr-Applebury; two grandchildren. Served as a dentist in Sacramento and Fair Oaks; provided free dental care to the needy on mission trips and to local communities.

PEARSON, CRAIG — b. Jan. 4, 1928, Rockford, Iowa; d. Jan. 31, 2009, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Ron; daughters, Sharon, Eileen; two grandchildren.

RETZER, HELMUTH C. — b. Jan. 10, 1916, Hoven, S.D.; d. Jan. 19, 2009, St. Helena, Calif. Survivors: sons, Darold, Verlyn; daughter, Cheryl Bariel; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brothers, Lenford, Fernon, Harvey; sister, Delores Buller. Pastored in NCC; Sabbath School director for Pacific Union; president of Nevada-Utah, Southern California and Northern California conferences; volunteered at St. Helena Hospital for 17 years.

RICE, FRANKLIN HORATIO — b. July 6, 1917, Sulphur Springs, Texas; d. Jan. 17, 2009, Ukiah, Calif. Survivors: wife, Evelyn; sons, Steve, Geoffrey; daughter, Lillian; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

ROUSE, STELLA ROSALIND (HATCH) — b. Sept. 23, 1915, Bissell, Wash.; d. Jan. 12, 2009, Colville, Wash. Survivors: daughter, Estelle Abbott; five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

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The *Recorder* welcomes feedback to articles, suggestions, or comments which contribute, in a positive way, to the thinking of the church on important issues. Letters must include signature, address and home church. Limit, 250 words.

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