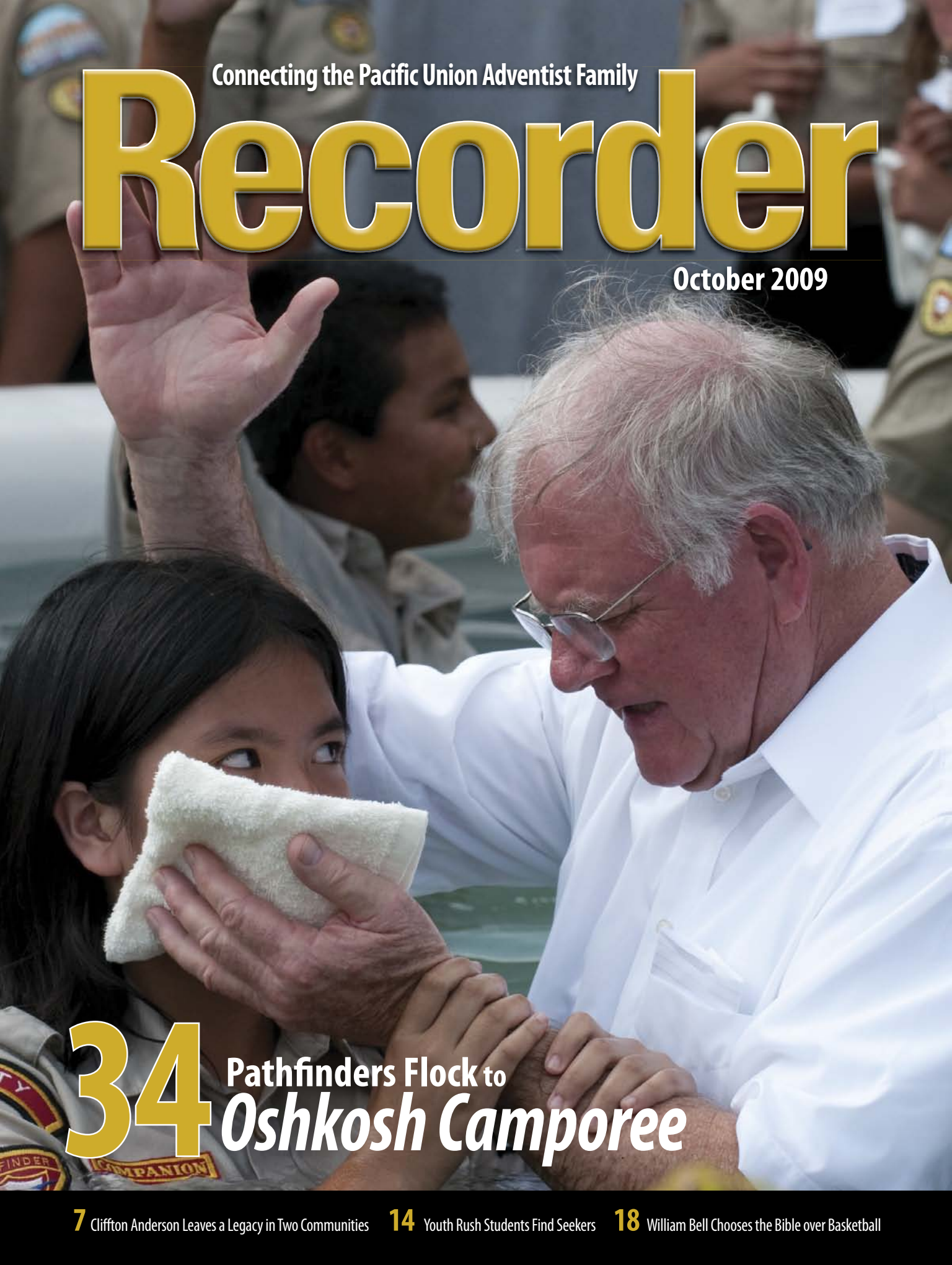


Connecting the Pacific Union Adventist Family

# Recorder

October 2009



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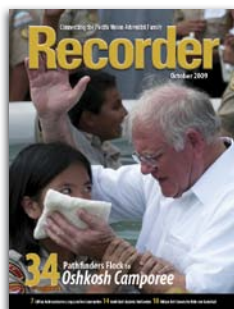
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Larry Caviness, president of the Southern California Conference, baptizes Eufricina Palaganas, from the Trinity Pathfinder Club, Covina, Calif., at the camporee in Oshkosh. Photo by Gerry Chudleigh.

### Pacific Union Recorder Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

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Total distribution	79,881	77,904
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Our mission is to inform, educate and inspire our readers to action in all areas of ministry.

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# Jesus, the Center of Attraction

**W**hat's your favorite part of the Bible? Are you a prophecy buff, loving to explore the futuristic forecasts of Daniel and the apocalypse of John, the revelator? Perhaps you are blessed in the Psalms, reading David's peons of praise to the God he came to love while he moved through his life as a shepherd, giant slayer, repentant king and aged ruler. Or does your heart beat faster reading the exploits of Moses and Joshua living the history of the Old Testament, wistfully wishing that you could be there to watch the Red Sea part or the walls of Jericho fall down?

I must confess that while I love the Bible from cover to cover — and there are plenty of parts that I don't understand, while I am challenged to live out the parts I do understand — I love spending time in the Gospels, those four books which center on the life and teachings of Jesus.

There is something magnetic and alluring about God revealed in Scripture that has its pinnacle presentation in the Prince of Peace.

That's what it is about. This righteous Rabbi who divides history and calls all people to Himself is the center of attraction. From beginning to the end, the Bible points us to Jesus.

I didn't grow up as an Adventist. While my maternal great-grandmother was a Seventh-day Adventist, the family lost the faith for a while and later recovered it. I grew up without the knowledge of the health message and developed some poor eating habits that I still struggle with. I praise God that I am doing much better in that respect. However, when I was young, I ate a lot of candy. One of my favorites was the Clark Bar. I don't know if it is still around, but I remember one of the company's advertisements.

The black and white TV showed a set of curtains with a spotlight focused on the opening. As the curtains were drawn back, there was the Clark Bar in all its glory. It appeared to unwrap itself and snapped into two pieces, and the unseen announcer said, "the center of attraction" and went on to describe the nougat or whatever it was in the middle. The center of attraction made it what it was.

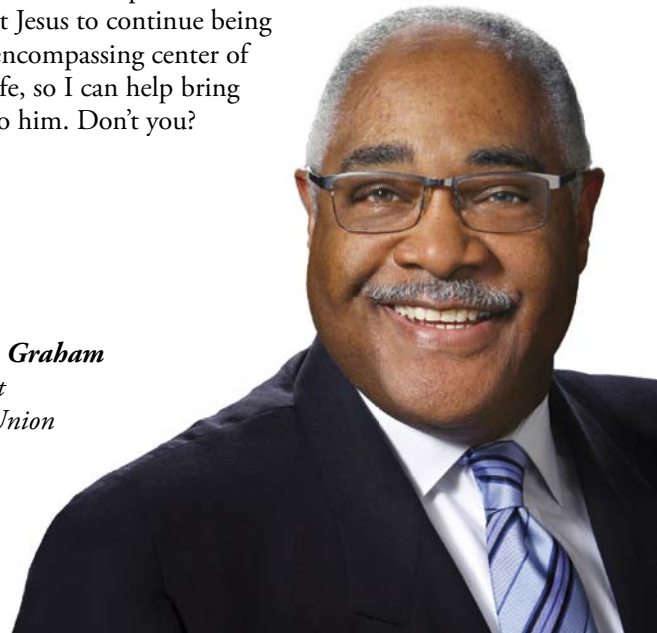
Jesus is the center of attraction for the Seventh-day Adventist church. All of our doctrines center in Him and His mediatory work for us. His great sacrifice on the cross to fulfill the words of John the Baptist, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world;" which fits fully with Paul's declaration in 2nd Corinthians 5:21, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

This is just the beginning of the reasons we are drawn to Him and the reason why he is worthy to be called King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Holy and majestic, loving and forgiving, hating sin and loving sinners, dwelling in us through the Spirit, commanding us to righteous living and giving us grace to do what He commands. He is all that and much, much more.

So the question comes to me as I write. Is Jesus the center of attraction in my life? How about in our churches here in the Pacific Union? Does our work revolve around lifting Him up or elevating ourselves and our denominational ministries? Is Jesus the center of attraction for us? If He is not "center stage" in our individual and corporate lives, there will be no lasting and transformative power for us.

I want Jesus to continue being the all-encompassing center of in my life, so I can help bring others to him. Don't you?

**Ricardo Graham**  
President  
Pacific Union





# Financial Seminars Help Church Members Keep Their Money

Church is the last place many people think of when they are looking for help managing their money. Northern California Conference Stewardship Director Gordon Botting wants to change that mindset.

Botting hopes that his seminars, “7 Steps to Financial Freedom” and “7 Stupid Things that Smart People Do to Mess up Their Finances,” will influence church members and others to view the church as a place to help them learn money management skills.

“Most people associate churches with televangelists, who try to take your money,” he said. “These seminars are a chance for the church to help you keep your money.”

Botting, who is also the Pacific Union stewardship director, has conducted more than 800 financial seminars in the past 20 years at churches and camp meetings all over the country, and he continues to present two or three every month. He edits and writes the monthly stewardship bulletin insert, “The Stewpot,” which is distributed in three languages to thousands of congregations worldwide.

Botting encourages local churches to host free financial seminars as outreach opportunities. “Lifestyle evangelism is building relationships,

and this is a great way to build them. I hope people will reach out to neighbors, friends and fellow employees,” he said.



William Gemora, pastor of the East Bay Fil-Am and Stockton Fil-Am churches, has used Botting’s seminar as an outreach tool several times this year.

“People come to church for a topic which has nothing to do with religion, but is something that they need,” he said. “Once they are in church it will be easier for them to come back.”

Alameda church member Judith Jonsson attended one of Botting’s financial seminars this year, and she thought it offered “a lot of common sense. The most uncommon thing

in the world is common sense when it comes to finances.”

“The great thing about the seminar was that it was simple and practical, and the people were able to relate to it,” said Valley Community church Pastor Rudolph Peters, whose church hosted a financial seminar last spring.

After each seminar, Botting asks the local church to host a 12-week class in which participants complete a workbook, *Faith and Finance* (which he co-wrote), to learn more about responsible money management. A member of the Lodi-Fairmont church who is a certified financial planner, called the book “some of the finest material he has ever seen,” according to Senior Pastor Bill McVay.

Contact Botting at the NCC conference office (925-685-4300) to schedule a seminar at your church or to order copies of *Faith and Finance* for only \$6.

Julie Lorenz



## MINISTRIES Training CONFERENCE

*If you are a local church leader, this conference is designed for you! You have the great opportunity to serve your congregation, and this event will provide the training and tools you need for your ministry to succeed.*

[www.ncc.adventist.org/ministriestraining](http://www.ncc.adventist.org/ministriestraining)



Sunday  
October 18  
Starting at 9:30 a.m.

Sacramento Central Adventist Church  
6045 Camellia Ave. • Sacramento, CA 95819

Sponsored by the Northern California  
Conference of Seventh-day Adventists



# Antioch Church Hosts Bug Safari Vacation Bible School

On Wednesday night, June 24, the Antioch church buzzed with more than 80 kids and 60 helpers. It was the third night of the church's week-long bug safari themed Vacation Bible School. The night's emphasis was bees, and the memory verse was based on Psalm 23:1: "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not 'bee' in want."

The evening began with a song service led by the United in Christ house band. The Antioch gym resonated with kids and staff clapping, jumping and singing lively songs.

After song service, VBS crew leaders took their groups of kids to various activity stations, including Doodlebug Crafts, Bug Blast Games and Picnic Place. At the Bible Exploration station, kids crawled into a makeshift cave and listened to Antioch church Pastor O. Kris Widmer reenact the perils of David hiding in the cave from King Saul.

The "cave" was dimly lit, and the kids could hear sounds of water

dripping. With young listeners seated around his feet, Widmer captured their attention with stories, dialogue and singing. Every now and then, outside voices threatened to enter the cave to look for David. The kids did their best to keep quiet until they could no longer hear the voices, and then Widmer would continue his story telling.

Widmer talked about the friendship of David and Jonathan and asked the kids, "What makes a good friend?" Their responses included: "being able to talk to them when you're sad," "being able to share things," "someone you can trust" and "having a special connection."

Teen staff members played an instrumental role in ensuring that the kids had a good experience.

"Vacation Bible School helps kids get involved and learn more about Jesus," said Lauren Kizer, eighth-grader. "You must be a good example, because the kids are watching you."

Kathy M. Batchelor



Robell Nyirendah helps his crew make a "Bee Your Best" mobile.

High school senior Robell Nyirendah said he liked "helping out with the kids and having a good time with them."

While kids were inside enjoying the program, some of the church elders were outside greeting the parents. "The elders talked to the parents about the love of Jesus as they dropped off and picked up their kids," said Antioch VBS leader Lydia Fua Paredes. "The ministry of VBS was happening both inside and outside of the church."

By the end of the week, 94 children had attended the VBS program, including 51 non-Adventist kids. "One little girl had never heard about Jesus," said Paredes. "We have a huge mission field right in Antioch, and there is a lot of work to be done."

*Kathy M. Batchelor*

Three boys make Buddy the Bee treats out of lady fingers, chocolate frosting, pretzels and chocolate cookies.



Kathy M. Batchelor





# Capitol City Church Provides Rites of Passage for Young People

In January 2008, the Sacramento-Capitol City church launched the Rites of Passage Young Ladies Ministry.

Designed for girls ages 10 to 13, the program aims to enhance their spiritual, cultural, social and moral character development, and to help them fully learn and accept the responsibility of becoming Christian young adults.

The new ministry was developed by a number of women who saw the need for a Christ-centered program to help girls prepare for the complexities of adolescence and adulthood. Kathleen Williams, YLM leader, brought together a group — Brenda Baggett, Angela Fusilier, Ella Tolliver, Dianne Lucas, Amber Overby, Jackie Smith and Kelli Angus — who shared a vision and passion for this type of ministry.

The women chose a program designed by Paula Thompson of Huntsville, Ala., titled “The Rite of Passage Experience.” The phrase “rite of passage” comes from the African philosophical approach of making a significant transition in a human life. This program was first developed for the Adventist arena, but later it was adopted by the public school sector.

After a strenuous weekend of training, Thompson certified the group of women to facilitate the program at the Capitol City church, and the group was officially

dedicated during a worship service. The women then labored long hours to develop their own unique program, including curriculum for six modules, a course syllabus and additional materials, field trips, a mentoring component and other experiential activities.

Incorporating group interaction, field trips and service learning activities, the ministry endeavors to

most importantly for the kingdom of our Lord.”

At the end of an intensive six-month program, the young ladies participated in a formal graduation ceremony. Reginald Horton, Capitol City church senior pastor, presented a charge to the girls and offered his continued support of YLM.

“This ministry has impacted the lives of our young ladies in a tremendous way,” said Horton. “We, as a church, look forward to sharing the moment when our young ladies are released into the world and make a spiritual impact upon society because of YLM’s involvement in their lives.”

The girls, their parents and other church members were so enthusiastic about the initial program that two similar ministries have been launched: “Another Level” for girls ages 13 to 18, led by Allison Edwards, and “Young Men’s Ministries” for teen boys ages 12 to 18, led by Garnett Overby.

“The Lord has truly blessed this ministry with godly men and women who volunteer and share their time and talents to mentor young people,” said Williams. “The Bible commissions us in Titus 2:4-8 to train our young men and women to do good. This is what we are striving to do in this ‘Rites of Passage’ program.”

*Ella Tolliver*



Damon Washington, Washington Photography

aid girls in practical ways, such as encouraging their personal relationship with God, helping them deal with sensitive and emotional subjects, and improving their study skills.

“I never knew I could go to college, and that I needed to start thinking about it now,” said an 11-year-old girl who completed the program.

“I never knew it was so hard to be a lady,” said a 10-year-old.

“What a blessing it is to see our young ladies grow into godly young women for Christ,” said Williams. “YLM has worked hard to instill and impact the lives of these young ladies, not only for the future, but



# Cliffton Anderson Leaves a Legacy in Two Adventist Communities

Two Adventist communities in California are mourning for science and history teacher Cliffton Anderson, who passed away on Thursday, Aug. 13. A memorial service was held at the Placerville church on Aug. 21.

His loss stunned his colleagues at El Dorado Adventist School, where he taught last school year, and his former coworkers at Bakersfield Adventist Academy, where he taught for 17 years, three years of which he also served as assistant principal.

Teachers and staff at both schools describe a man of energy, spiritual commitment and passion. “Whatever Cliff did, he was passionate about it,” said BAA registrar Cathie Gullett. “The kids were his passion. Every year he would tell his wife Melody, ‘We have lots of kids.’”

“He devoted endless hours before and after class, at lunchtime, to spend extra time with the kids,” said Marilyn Anderson (no relation), EAS teacher.

“He wanted his students to know Jesus,” said BAA teacher Marie Jordan, who taught with Anderson for 17 years. “When we had activities with students, he was the first one there. If they were in trouble, he would talk with them and encourage them.”

“He was very interesting and funny, but most importantly he really cared for his students,” said Jason Hager, EAS ninth-grader.

Anderson will also be remembered for his engaging personality. “He had good interpersonal skills

and was a very friendly man,” said Vern Biloff, Central California Conference vice president for education. “He was the kind of guy that everybody liked.”

“He had an infectious laugh — a ready laugh — that the kids connected to,” said Randy Norton, EAS teacher.

Anderson grew up attending a Baptist church in Tracy, Calif. After graduating from high school, he joined the Army. He was a personnel management specialist stationed in Fort Knox, Ky., when someone gave him a copy of *The Great Controversy*. He read it, became convicted about the Sabbath and other Adventist doctrines, and decided to join the church.

“He was a godly man who loved the Lord supremely. He had a very strong faith,” said Bonne Daggett, EAS administrative assistant.

Following his honorable discharge, with the rank of Specialist 4, he returned to Tracy and became involved with many ministries in the Tracy church. After working in construction for a time, Anderson received a scholarship to attend Pacific Union College in 1986. He graduated in 1991 with a bachelor’s degree in biology, and the next school year he began teaching at Bakersfield Adventist Academy, where he taught until he was called to El Dorado Adventist School in 2008.

“He was a veteran teacher who in one year had already made an impact on the Placerville

community,” said NCC Education Superintendent Berit von Pohle.

In 1995, Anderson married Melody Creer from Stockton. For many years they were both involved in ministry at the Bakersfield Southside church, where Anderson served as head elder for four years.

“He used his teaching gift to teach individuals how to lead, how to organize themselves, and how to plan. He had the mission of the church at heart,” said Kevin Rhamie, Sr., Bakersfield Southside church pastor.

Now two communities feel a deep loss as they reflect on the impact that Anderson left on their lives. “We are so thankful that God sent him to us, even if for only one year,” said EAS Principal Larry Ballew. “He entered our hearts fully from the time he arrived and leaves a huge empty space.”

*Julie Lorenz*





# Barry Black Is Featured Speaker at Touch of Love Rally

**B**arry Black, chaplain for the United States Senate, was the featured speaker for a Touch of Love rally held at the Paradise Valley church in National City on August 1.

Touch of Love ministries, founded and directed by Michael Ashley, has introduced 50,000 prison inmates to Jesus in the 21 years of its existence. Last year, 167 baptisms resulted from this ministry, which involved 200 trained volunteers covering prisons in Texas and California.

Recently, the ministry enlarged its outreach to include the children of inmates. In one prison, there are 1,700 women with an average of three children per inmate. Statistics show that one out of three of these children will follow in their parents' footsteps unless something is done to care for them.

Last summer, Touch of Love sponsored nine children at Leoni

Meadows summer camp, and they hope to provide this opportunity to many more children.

In a sermon illustrated with his experience of growing up in a home with an absentee father, Black asked the congregations in both the morning and afternoon services, "What about the children?" Drawing from the example of Jesus, who called children to Him, Black challenged listeners to "find their way to greatness" by doing something about the children in their communities.

In the afternoon session at the Paradise Valley church, two women who served time in California prisons shared their stories. From the age of 18, Roxanne Rafanan spent a lot of time in and out of prisons. Her resolutions to change her life fell apart every time she was released; but finally, she met Jesus through a Touch of Love service.

"I was happy to know that real people outside prison were willing to come and share the gospel," she said. "They didn't know me, but they prayed for me."

Rafanan made a commitment to Jesus, and a few days after leaving prison, she contacted Ashley who, she discovered, lived only five minutes away. She immediately began Bible studies and was baptized into the San Bernardino 16th Street church. Every Sabbath she was at the altar crying.



Barry Black, chaplain of the U.S. Senate, challenges Paradise Valley church members and friends to do something for the children in their community.

"What's wrong?" Ashley finally asked her.

"It's my children," she said. "I made many mistakes as a mother, but I want my two sons to know Jesus."

Rafanan's prayers were answered. Her 18-year-old son took Bible studies and was baptized March 7, 2009. Her younger son was baptized May 6.

Tina Lewis, a 4.0 graduate of USC and a successful physician's assistant, found herself in prison serving a seven-year term.

"I regret being away from my daughter," Lewis said, "but I do not regret having gone to prison. I needed to be humbled." She



Athina Japer

Roxanne Rafanan met Jesus through Touch of Love. After her baptism, she prayed for her sons, both of whom were baptized this past spring.





## General Conference President Speaks to Retirees

attended Touch of Love services while there.

Miraculously, Lewis's prison term was cut short. Upon her release, she contacted Touch of Love and began Bible studies. She was baptized on Aug. 22 into the Normandie Avenue church in Los Angeles.

Lewis accepts collect calls from the women she met during her incarceration, who invariably want her to contact their children. She rejoices that God has restored her relationship with her own daughter.

Ashley explains that it is more cost effective to invest money in the children now, rather than letting them drift into a life of crime that costs society much more than dollars invested in prevention.

It costs about \$225 to send a child to summer camp. Black ended his message with the personal commitment of this amount and challenged listeners to do the same.

Other participants in the Sabbath services were Ron Morrison, National City mayor; Rudy Bermudez, Touch of Love board member and director of prison ministries for Southeastern California Conference; and Bobby Mitchell, from the Pacific Union, chair of the Touch of Love board.

For more information or to sponsor a child, contact Touch of Love at 951-485-0226, [tolnb@yahoo.com](mailto:tolnb@yahoo.com), or [www.newbeginningstol.org](http://www.newbeginningstol.org).

*Patricia Maxwell*

Seventh-day Adventist retirees from all parts of the nation found their way to Southern California early in August for the annual retiree convocation sponsored by the North American Division.

The denomination's world president, Jan Paulsen, came from Silver Spring, Md., to be the main speaker for Sabbath services held on the campus of La Sierra University. He capped off his appearance during an afternoon program, when he told about his recent trip to China. It was the first time in modern history that an official trip was taken to this nation by a General Conference president.

The three-day conclave was directed by a former president of the Southeastern California Conference, Steve Gifford, himself a retiree from Keene, Texas. He directs the retiree program for the NAD.

The program included sermons, breakout sessions and tours of nearby Loma Linda University Medical Center and the La Sierra University campus. Del Johnson, the NAD director of retirees, taught the Sabbath school lesson.

Other speakers included Chester Damron, of Berrien Springs, Mich.; Larry Geraty, retired president of LSU; and Randal Wisbey, current university president.

The traditional Thursday night banquet featured Damron, an Abraham Lincoln presenter, who told the audience about the life of the Great Emancipator. Damron

Don A. Roth



General Conference president Jan Paulsen, left, speaks with Pastor Konrad Mueller and his wife, Emma, with whom Paulsen and his wife, Kari, worked many years ago in West Africa.

has given his presentation at large and small assemblies throughout the nation and overseas.

During his Sabbath afternoon report to the group, Paulsen said that he visited three major Adventist centers in China on his recent trip. About 50 percent of the pastors in China are women, he said, and the estimated number of members in China now approaches 400,000.

LSU students shared with the retirees about student life and activities when Wisbey led both a Friday evening vespers program and the first part of the morning service at the LSU church.

Convocations of this kind have been held for several decades. All have been held on college and university campuses.

*Don A. Roth*



# 16th Street Church Tells Its Youth: "Jesus Never Taps Out"

The theme of this year's annual Youth Explosion at the San Bernardino 16th Street church was the controversy between Christ and Satan: "U.F.C. Ultimate Fighting Christians, Jesus Never Taps Out!" The event was held Wednesday, July 29, through Sabbath, Aug. 1.

"We want our youth to know that Jesus Christ is the undisputed, undefeated, ultimate fighting champion," said Jerrold Thompson Sr., 16th Street youth coordinator. On Wednesday evening, Thompson told the youth four reasons that Jesus never taps out (gives up): He loves them, He is preparing a place for them, He wants them to have life and to have it more abundantly, and for Him there was no other choice.

Thursday evening, Thompson told the story of Samson, who gave in to sin and outwardly seemed defeated but did not give up. He tapped back in and prayed, "O Lord God, remember me" (Judges 16:28).

On Friday evening, Thompson challenged the youth to let go of their cherished sins and those sins they have surrendered to. More than 30 youth came forward for a

Jesus, portrayed by Anthony Williams, and Satan, portrayed by Michael Henry, battle for victory as Jerrold Thompson speaks.

special prayer to conquer those sins they believed were hindering them from gaining victory in Christ.

The main event on Sabbath morning was an enactment of the original "fight" between Good and evil. The crowd sat in eager anticipation as the fight announcer, 16th Street youth Jarius Fields, entered the ring that had been set up on the platform.

"One Six, are you ready! Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, get ready for the fight of your life!" shouted Fields. "Coming down the aisle is the master of deception, the author of lies, the prince of darkness, Satan!"

The crowd booed as Satan, the good angel gone bad, portrayed by youth leader Michael Henry, arrogantly made his way to the ring. Fields then announced the entrance of Christ, portrayed by Anthony Williams, into the ring, announcing Him as "the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Creator of heaven and earth, the victor over death, the undisputed champion, Jesus Christ!"



stood face to face as Thompson sent them to opposite sides of the ring and began his message. When it was all over, Christ took home the victory as Thompson loudly proclaimed, "Jesus never taps out!" One youth, Vanessa Becker, full of emotion from the day's events, stated, "That was awesome!"

To culminate Youth Explosion 2009, the youth and the youth leaders drove to the Paradise Valley church in National City to hear U.S. Senate chaplain Barry Black speak. Later that evening, Black spoke with 16th Street youth about his inner city background. He told stories of how he made it from the "hood to the hill." Tonisha Williams, junior youth council member, commented, "He inspired me to work hard in school so that I can become like him."

*RoWandalla "Candi" Dunbar*



The Deliverer and the deceiver

San Bernardino 16th Street church youth, Jerrold Thompson, youth coordinator, and other youth leaders pose for a picture with U.S. Senate chaplain Barry Black.



# Indio Spanish Church Is a Spiritual Oasis in the Coachella Valley

**T**he Indio Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church has become a real oasis to the Coachella Valley,” says Alfonso Valenzuela, the new pastor of the 50-year-old church. “Not only are the adults on fire for the Lord, but also the young people.”

This congregation conducts weekly evangelistic meetings. In addition, various ministries are active nurturing members and reaching out to the community.

As a result of all these activities, nine people have been baptized, and several are studying the Bible with church members and preparing for baptism. Former members are coming back to church; members are becoming more united as they minister to others; and the young people, in particular, have discovered the value of mission and are committing their lives to the service of the Lord.

Every month the young people celebrate *Sábado Joven* (Youth Sabbath), a program for youth, by youth. On those Sabbaths, after eating lunch together, more than 35 young people serve the community by delivering food, inviting people to church meetings, and singing and praying for the sick and the needy. Every Saturday night, after the youth program, they participate in games and activities that attract more than 50 young people to the church.

“Recently we had a lock-in activity that attracted more

than 100 kids to the teen center, a brand-new facility. We spent all night playing, eating, and having a lot of fun,” said Veruschka Zárate, youth activities coordinator.

Music plays a significant role in the life of the Indio church. Every church program begins with praise music led by the youth and includes contemporary music as well as traditional hymns and songs.

Every Wednesday evening, more than 300 people attend evangelistic meetings.

“We were having so many visitors at prayer meeting that we decided to move it to Monday nights. In its place on Wednesday nights we have evangelistic meetings, with gifts and special music. Under the title ‘The Teachings of Jesus,’ we present the Christian doctrines from Jesus’ point of view,” said Manuel Galván, personal ministries coordinator. Several volunteers, under the leadership of Gloria Zepeda, community services director, provide food to all the visitors, a total of 750 people every month.

“Something that is helping our church and our community is that we are also teaching English as a second language every Thursday night. Once a month we have a *Día de la Familia* (Day of the Family), and every quarter we have a *Festival de la Familia* (Family Festival) with topics of interest for every family member,” said

Linda Ruiz, the church’s family life director.

The prayer ministry is a vital part of the Indio church. Under the leadership of Esther Bravo, church members and visitors meet on Mondays and on Sabbaths after the church service to pray for the needy and the sick.

“We have a long list of prayer requests, and our prayer warriors are constantly praying for miracles from the Lord,” said Bravo.

Besides the evangelistic meetings the church is conducting every Wednesday, members are giving their support to major evangelistic projects. Arnold Trujillo, Pacific Union vice president, conducted meetings the last week of June. Alberto Ingleton, Southeastern California Conference vice president for Hispanic ministries, plans to conduct a two-week series in November. Conference evangelist Phil Jones is preparing for a six-week series that will begin in January.

For more information on the activities of the church, visit its website at [IndioSDA.com](http://IndioSDA.com).

*Jocelyn Fay, with Alfonso Valenzuela*

Arnold Trujillo, who conducted evangelistic meetings at the Indio Spanish church in June, assisted with food distribution.







# Messiah's Mansion Team's Spiritual Focus Inspires Visitors and Volunteers

**T**ania Acuna, a senior and the class religious vice-leader at San Fernando Valley Academy, signed on to be on the Messiah's Mansion team this past summer, expecting to fill some free time with an interesting experience. "When my friend Vilma Villegas, the MM Project director, invited me," she reflected, "little did I know that the experience I would have would be an unforgettable one."

"A few days before the team arrived, I met with the welcoming committee at San Fernando Valley Academy to await the arrival of the life-size replica of the biblical sanctuary. When the Oklahoma Academy truck pulled up, we greeted them with thank you gifts, but they were eager to start setting up the sanctuary. Setup took two days of labor under the hot sun; not once did I hear complaining."

"I have never met young people so 'on fire' for the Lord's work," reported Acuna. "They began and ended each long day with worship. At evening worship, I felt God's presence more strongly than ever before. These 16- to 25-year-olds wanted nothing more than to bring the message of salvation to total strangers, most of them not Adventist members."

"Their insights about religion, God and life," Acuna said, "inspired



Oklahoma Academy senior Stephanie Johnson, a Loma Linda resident, responds to one of many questions the MM team encountered.

Betty Cooney

me to step up and accept my own calling to carry the gospel across the world."

When Acuna approached the MM director about 2010, he immediately invited her. "I will prepare all year," said Acuna. Her role as SFVA's religious vice-leader, plus her experience working with the MM team, will help her prepare as well as enhance her campus religious work.

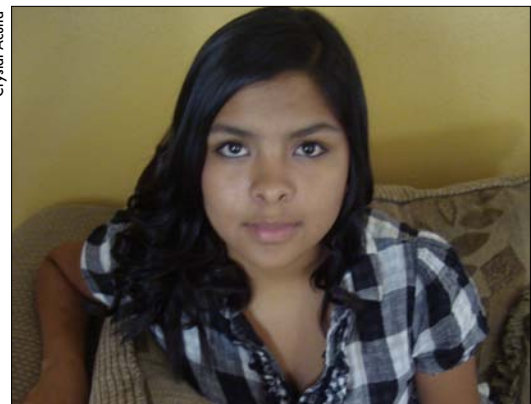
Approximately 3,644 visitors toured the exhibits; more than 75 percent were community visitors. Many signed up for Bible studies, including Jewish visitors. "Our academy is located in a Jewish community," noted Principal David Gardner, "and a growing Korean

community. Mennonite and Korean Christian groups came for tours. I was moved to discover that tour guides took a break for personal prayer before each tour."

"People thirst for a message of hope and salvation and that was exactly what they got from Messiah's Mansion," said Acuna.

Betty Cooney

Crystal Acuna



San Fernando Valley Academy's senior class religious vice leader, Tania Acuna.



# U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain Corps Inducts Adventist Pastor

**E**liseo Aquino, 39, took his official oath Aug. 29 as a chaplain in the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps. The ceremony was conducted by U.S. Chaplain Captain Steve Blackwell at the White Memorial church in Los Angeles.

On the recommendation of Congress, President Barak Obama appointed Aquino to serve God and country by sharing his unique spiritual gifts with U.S. soldiers.

"I believe this will be a very interesting ministry for me," Aquino said, "since I will be dealing with the broad, diverse, challenging and

ever-changing environment of the U.S. Army.

Aquino's appointment was also empowered by endorsement of the

(L. to r.) U.S. Army Chaplain Captain Steve Blackwell, U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain 2nd Lieutenant Eliseo Aquino with his wife, Cathrine, and daughter, Christianell.



Gina Boyo

General Conference. He is presently enrolled at the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, where he is studying for his Master of Divinity degree.

Aquino and his wife, Cathrine, and their daughter, Ella Christianell, will leave soon for Hawaii, where he will complete his Chaplaincy Candidate Program. During his brief stay, he will serve in a hospital for his Chaplaincy training and also have weekly visitation with an Army battalion unit.

*Granville Ampong*

# Junia McKenzie Appointed Congressional Page

**J**unia McKenzie, a member of the Miramonte Blvd. church in Los Angeles, was recently appointed a congressional page for the fall school semester. Congressional pages serve for one semester in the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. They assist members of Congress with everything from administrative duties to serving in the cloakrooms.

McKenzie was appointed by Democratic Congresswoman Diane Watson of California, representing the 33rd congressional district. He attends King/Drew Magnet High School in Los Angeles, where he earned a 4.00 grade point average last semester. Prior to attending

King/Drew, Junia was a student at Los Angeles Adventist Academy.

"My sincerest congratulations to Junia and his family," said Watson. "Being selected as a congressional page is an incredible honor and is a real testament to this young man's maturity, integrity and intelligence."

"I'm going to serve to the very best of my ability," said McKenzie, "because I know I'm representing my family, my school, my church and my God."

*Reuben Taylor*



Junia McKenzie, wearing his Principal's Honor Roll medallion, and Congresswoman Watson, attended a local Town Hall meeting.



# Youth Rush Students Find Seekers

"I would like eight more books," noted a woman's letter accompanied by a check, "and please send someone to study the Bible with me!" The books she wanted were ones that literature evangelists distributed for donations during the annual Youth Rush program this past summer. "I hope the enclosed \$80 will cover it," she added.

Lupe Torres visited the home of two men in Oxnard. When one said, "I need peace in my life," she told him about the *Steps to Christ* magabook, suggesting a donation of \$10 to \$15 dollars. "I can only give \$5 for the book," he replied.

"Five dollars will be fine, because of some donations given earlier today," Lupe said.

"I have your \$10," he quickly responded, handing her the money. Noting Lupe's surprised look, he explained, "I wanted to see if you

cared more about the money or about me having the book. I saw that you cared more about me having the book."

Literature evangelism can change the lives of people who buy the books, and it can also ignite the Spirit's fire in the lives of the young people who work in the program. "This summer's program taught me that it's one thing to be hearers of the Word," said Jordan Layao, a student from Tehachapi. "It's a whole different thing to be doers of the Word."

As the '09 Youth Rush students discovered, there are both spiritual and financial blessings for those willing to step out in faith to distribute free tracts or books for

donations to those needing to hear the message of truth. "If you step out as we have, you will find that people are very receptive," Jonathan Chitwood, a program leader, said. "They are searching for more than this world has to offer."

*Robert Koorennny*

## 2009 Summer Youth Rush Statistics

- Message Books Distributed: 22,195
- Total Books Distributed: 26,774
- Bible Study Interests: 215 Total
- Personal Studies: 85
- Correspondence Studies: 130
- Donations Received: \$171,094
- Money provided for Adventist Education: \$85,000
- Homes Visited: approx. 185,000
- Students involved: 40+

*"This summer's program taught me that it's one thing to be hearers of the Word," said Jordan, a student from Tehachapi. "It's a whole different thing to be doers of the Word."*

Youth Rush literature evangelists Diana Meneses and Oscar Villa went door to door during the '09 Youth Rush in SCC.



Robert Koorennny





# Pathfinders Take Evangelism Personally at Camporee

About 50 SCC Pathfinders were baptized at the '09 Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis.," reports SCC youth ministry director Bob Wong. Two SCC baptisms, however, were unexpected: two fathers of Pathfinder baptismal candidates who had long participated with their families in the Eagle Rock church Pathfinder club accepted their children's invitations in Oshkosh to be baptized with them."

Kevin and Kim Ong had planned to be baptized in the Alhambra church, where the family attends. At the last minute, the boys and their youngest sister Kelly decided to be baptized at the Camporee instead.

Mario Ong attended the camp pre-baptism class with his three children when his wife Esther needed to attend another camp function with the couple's two older daughters. When Pastor Donald Smith met with the three candidates, he asked their father, "How about you, Mario?"

Ong's children also asked, "Daddy, why don't you join us?" Not wanting a divided home, Mario decided to accept their invitation. He also had been having growing concerns about his previous church, which does not share Adventist thinking about smoking and drinking. In 21 years, he had become well acquainted with the Adventist beliefs he now embraces.

"We've been married 21 years, and I never thought it would happen there," said Esther, smiling through tears of joy. She expressed gratitude for the faithful Pathfinder club leadership of Lynette and Steven Clement and for the spiritual direction of their club.

Kristy Warrick was equally surprised. Her son Braden had studied with Pastor Donald Smith, and her husband Bruce had had studies with the pastor earlier. At the Camporee, when their youngest son Braden asked if his dad would like to be baptized with him, he replied, "Yes, I would."

"We have been married almost 16 years," Kristy said. "Bruce has come

to church with me for 15 of those years. When I could not attend, Bruce would go with the children. I just never expected he would make his decision at the Camporee!"

"Pathfinding is about leading young people to Christ," said Wong. "Every year at Pathfinder Convocation, attended by more than 1,500 Pathfinders and leaders, up to 100 Pathfinders come forward to request studies for baptism. Many parents are among them."

For a list of Pathfinder clubs in Southern California Conference, visit [sccpathfinders.adventistfaith.org](http://sccpathfinders.adventistfaith.org).

*Betty Cooney*



Betty Cooney

Pastor Donald Smith prepares to baptize Eagle Rock Pathfinder dad Bruce Warrick.

The Ong Family: (l. to r.) Karla, Kim, Mario, Esther, Kevin and Karen; foreground, Kelly Ong.

Steven Clement





# Santa Cruz Church Uses Friendship Evangelism to Reach Out

Kyrie Kasper considered herself an atheist until she met Derek Scranton, her new boyfriend. Scranton encouraged her to attend the weekly Friday Night Fellowship with him at the Santa Cruz church.

Scranton, a recent graduate of the University of California at Santa Cruz and bookkeeper at the VHM Adventist elementary school, was also searching for a deeper relationship with the Lord. Scranton attended the Spring “Revelations of Prophecy” seminar with Amazing Facts’ Evangelist Eric Flickinger and invited Kasper to go along. Scranton was inspired to renew his relationship with Jesus. Kasper attended with him, discovered the wonderful Bible truths and met her Savior.

At her baptism, Kasper shared a serious car accident experience. “I was wearing a metal dog tag inscribed with the Lord’s Prayer that a close friend had given me. I remembered reaching for that special gift and clutching it to my heart at the point of impact. After giving my heart to Jesus, I realized that He was tugging at my heart all along.”

Patricia Loux first learned about Adventists from her daughter Jeanne Gayler. She had become an Adventist after attending a Revelation seminar in her hometown of Conway, Ark. Excited, Gayler kept telling her mother about all she was learning. When Gayler discovered an Amazing Facts series was going to take place at the



Twenty one new members of the Santa Cruz, Calif., church are a result of several years of community outreach. Pictured are (back, l. to r.) Phil Frisbie, Pastor Joe Reynolds, Kyrie Kasper, Gary Roeder, Patricia Loux, Terry Helton (front row, l. to r.) Rindon Heinz, Nathanael Fratianni, Jan Jorgensen, Derek Scranton, Wilbert Wicht, Tim Valdez and Evangelist Erick Flickinger.

Santa Cruz church, she urged her mother to attend. Loux decided to make the 55 mile drive from her Carmel home each evening. “I am very glad I did,” Loux says. “The experience has changed my life.”

Phil Frisbie’s four-year acquaintance with a friendly family who were regular customers at his business ultimately led him on a remarkable journey. “They were always talking about their love for the Lord and inviting me to attend their church in Santa Cruz,” says Frisbie. Finally, on a Sabbath morning while struggling with a serious personal problem, he agreed.

At their urging, Frisbie faithfully attended a church-sponsored

Coronary Health Improvement Program and lost more than 70 pounds. After CHIP, he attended the five-week “Revelations of Prophecy” seminar and accepted Jesus as his Savior. “This has been an amazing journey,” he says. “I’m now regularly attending church and prayer meeting, studying the Bible and continuing to work on a healthy lifestyle. I now want to share my faith with others like my Adventist friends did with me.”

## Community Outreaches

Ten people joined the Seventh-day Adventist church at the end of the five-week seminar in May. “I was amazed when there were



# MBA Principal Sees God Working for Students

100 visitors at the beginning of the series,” says Pastor Joe Reynolds. “By mid-point, 60 visitors were regularly attending, and half of these consistently attended during the last few weeks. Several are regularly attending church and prayer meeting, and also participated in a series of meetings sponsored by the nearby Soquel church.”

The Santa Cruz members have held a variety of successful ongoing programs for the community in the past several years. These include two, four-week Share Him seminars, organized and presented by lay church members, an Amazing Facts series with Evangelist Jason Morgan and a health outreach through the CHIP program.

Church members say that they have grown stronger spiritually as they’ve focused on community outreach. “While all of these programs are important vehicles in evangelism, it’s the dedication, warmth and friendliness of our members that really made them successful,” says Reynolds.

“We’ve seen firsthand through Loux, Frisbie, Kasper, Scranton and all the other new Christians who have either joined or are interested in our church, that friendship evangelism is the way to win and nurture souls.”

*Nancy Stake*

A few days before fall classes began at Monterey Bay Academy, Principal Timothy Kubrock spent time on the phone with a mother whose daughter had been accepted to school, but was lacking the necessary finances to enroll. The girl had written a heartfelt appeal letter and sent it to 52 church members, family and friends. Unfortunately, there hadn’t been any significant response.

The day after the phone call, a lady contacted the school and made an anonymous donation for the girl — enough money to cover the entire school year.

In another situation, twin brothers needed financial assistance in order to attend school. Short of a Divine intervention, they were most likely headed to public school. “God had placed a real burden on my heart for these boys that would not go away,” said Kubrock. Many people had pledged their support — church members, alumni, school board members, school staff, family

and friends. The last piece of their financial puzzle fell into place the Thursday before school started.

The third miracle happened the next day. “I spoke with another mother whose daughter had been accepted pending her financial package,” said Kubrock. “It became clear that this mother needed a miracle. Now, in complete desperation and already on the road, this mother continued her journey to Monterey Bay Academy convinced that God was leading her. From my knees in my office, I knew God would have to take care of it. By the end of the day, the full amount was provided from a man, 1,300 miles away, whose heart was touched by God after hearing their story. Mom and daughter wept tears of joy as the Sabbath approached.”

More than one quarter of MBA’s students are able to attend because of financial donations from people outside their immediate families.

*Alicia Adams with Tim Kubrock*

MBA Principal Tim Kubrock addresses 209 students who began the year. More than 65 are in Christian education because of the generosity of others.







# Bell Chooses the Bible Over Ball



William Bell prepares to do what he does best for the Salinas High Cowboys. His coach successfully petitioned for the district basketball schedule to be changed so Bell would not have a conflict with his Sabbath observance. The Cowboys had their best year ever.

*“We all knew he had religious issues with playing on Fridays and Saturdays — we all respected him because we could tell it was important.”*

William Bell, a 6'1" point guard for the Salinas High Cowboys, almost missed an entire season of hoops, swooshes and nothing-but-netters. Calling himself “The Blur,” the 19-year-old member of the Seaside Community church in Seaside, Calif., spent his childhood cultivating the speed, strength and knowledge of the game of basketball. But for his senior year, it looked like his Sabbath conviction would keep him off the court.

Raised by parents Tony and Glenda, Bell is committed to keeping the Sabbath holy. He and his father had been setting down rules and guidelines for coaches all during his childhood. “I always encouraged Will to try out for teams, no matter what their schedule. And when he made the team, we’d explain our religious convictions and tell them not to expect William from Friday sundown to Saturday sundown. Sometimes, it worked; other times, it didn’t,” Tony explains.

While missing games is “disappointing,” Bell says, “I knew I was doing the right thing. Of course, I wanted to play, but it was more important to do what I knew was right — not just do something for the sake of the game.”

Despite having to miss some games, Bell quickly became one of the most talented players on the team. His teammates knew of his dedication to both God and his team. “He always had a great work ethic and took leadership positions that not many other guys could handle,” says teammate Eric Neal. “We all knew he had religious issues with playing on Fridays and Saturdays — we all respected him because we could tell it was important.”

Bell’s senior year looked meager as he faced missing the district championship games. It was then that faithfulness to God paid off in ways that no one expected. Bell’s coach, Joe Chappell, found a way.

Chappell’s seniority and success allowed him to petition for a different schedule that would allow Bell to play every season game. Chappell says, “I felt it wouldn’t be unreasonable to help accommodate him,” describing Bell as “upfront, responsible and respectful. It would be a shame that he would miss so many games his senior year.”

The Cowboys went on to beat the 2007/08 champions, barely missing the championship by losing to San Francisco’s Lowel High. The Cowboys became the success story of Monterey County.

Bell gives God all the glory. The world of sports doesn’t revolve around observance of the Sabbath; many Adventists in public schools never get the chance to participate. Bell’s dedication to God off the court and his attitudes and demeanor on the court speak volumes about his faith and character.

This fall, Bell began his freshman year at Pacific Union College. He is majoring in business management, playing basketball on the college team and grateful for the athletic scholarship he received.

*Qres Ephraim*



# Childhood Friends in Vietnam Reunited in San Jose

**N**ga Kim Ly and Thuy Tsu Tran grew up together in Vietnam. Friends since 1957, they attended school and the local Catholic church together in Saigon. College took them on separate paths — Nga became a teacher and Thuy a pharmacist — and they lost touch.

In 1987, Thuy was living in a refugee camp in Malaysia, having escaped Vietnam with her niece by boat. Her husband, in an army reeducation camp, stayed behind. Thuy and her niece, whom she adopted, arrived in the United States in 1989.

In 1979, Nga Kim Ly and her four children escaped to the United States. The price for their way out was paid in gold by her step-mother. “If you save me, I will do charity work for you the rest of my life,” she desperately prayed to God.

In Vietnam, Nga’s life had been hard. Just before the fall of Saigon in 1975, her father had been jailed

and her husband had abandoned the family. In 1976, God stepped into her life through an Adventist neighbor who invited her to church. They worshiped together three days each week.

After the successful escape, Ly and her children settled in Glendale, Calif. “Now one is an engineer, one is a technician and two are dentists,” she proudly shares about her children. And Nga has honored her promise and gratefully served her Lord.

In 2006, Thuy and Nga reconnected, thanks to another childhood friend, now an attorney in Los Angeles. Thuy had moved to San Jose, Calif., to live with her niece. Nga lived in San Jose with her husband, Giao Cong Le, an Adventist pastor and respected leader of the Vietnamese work in California.

Their love for each other had never changed. And just like in childhood, the reunited friends did almost everything together — including attending Nga’s church.

In 2009, Thuy became a Seventh-day Adventist, joining the San Jose Vietnamese church. “I am so happy in God, for what He gives me, and I wanted to be baptized,” said Thuy.

Now these two friends look forward to spending an eternity together in heaven with their Savior.



Thuy Tsu Tran, left, and Nga Kim Ly stand in the courtyard of the San Jose Vietnamese church. Thuy is one of six new members who recently joined the church.

*Caron Oswald*

# 40 ASI Youth Witness for Jesus in Phoenix Metro Area

In March 2009, ASI teamed up with the Arizona Conference to begin Youth for Jesus, an exciting multifaceted program that makes winners of participating churches, youth, and people in the community. A total of five church communities — Camelback, Tempe, Thunderbird-Scottsdale, Monte Vista, and the Community Service Center — participated with the program.

According to Youth for Jesus director Kevin Sears, they had three major goals: to find and lead individuals in the community to Christ, to bring youth into a closer walk with Jesus through active soul-winning, and to inspire local churches to build their membership through personal evangelism.

In April and May, the ASI team led a six-week church training that taught members how to find and keep Bible study interests, resulting in hundreds of Bible studies scheduled. Members learned simple strategies on how to go door to door and give Bible studies as well

as how to effectively reach out to neighbors, friends and coworkers.

A team of Bible workers from around the country were brought in to prepare the cities for the culmination of the program: the youth program and the Revelation of Hope prophesy series in July. The National Association for the Prevention of Starvation (NAPS) from Oakwood College, working with the Monte Vista church and community service center, joined the with Bible workers in a concerted effort to reach people in their homes and neighborhoods, with over a hundred studies being conducted weekly.

When July came, more than 40 youth, arriving from many different states and some from other countries were housed at Thunderbird Adventist Academy. Local youth Cody Blake and Cassie Dhole joined the program without really knowing what to expect. For Dhole, one of the greatest aspects of the program was her new peers: “I’ve never met people like the Youth for

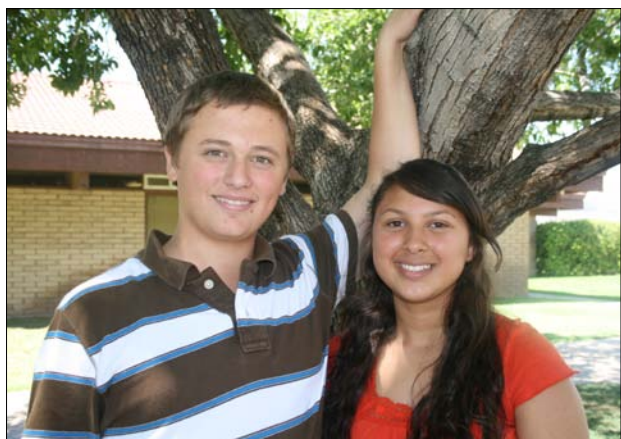
Jesus people who loved God so much.”

The youth had an action-packed schedule. Classes in the morning equipped students for outreach in the

afternoon. Guest speakers such as a Derek Morris, Nicole Parker, Scott Moore, Shawn Boonstra and Doug Batchelor spoke on foundational topics with the purpose of strengthening the youth’s personal relationship with God, their use of prayer, and their understanding of God’s final message and work as well as how to be a powerful instrument for God on both a personal and public level.

In the afternoon, students and Bible workers went to public places to pass out literature and into neighborhoods to invite people to the evening meetings and to sign them up for Bible studies. Many youth had the opportunity to actually give a Bible study for the first time. “I liked going door to door and stuff like that,” said Blake. “Now I’m not as afraid to go out to people I don’t know and share the news of Jesus.”

In the evening, youth and workers saw the fruits of their labor as Bible students and contacts from the community arrived at the prophecy seminars held at each church site. Two youth were assigned as speakers for the series, and other youth served in every aspect in the seminar from greeters and ushers to working in children’s programs, performing special music, and giving short health talks. Youth were instructed to befriend visitors attending the meetings, and Dhole,



Phil Dropper

TAA students Cody Blake and Cassie Dhole participated in the program.





Nicholas Knecht

Pastor Charles White baptizes Jordan Kizzire at the conclusion of the Youth for Jesus meetings.

eager to help, asked a Bible worker whom she could sit with. She soon became very close to a visitor named Betsy, and each night that Betsy came to the meetings, Dhole got to know her more. "She was searching for something," Dhole said. Betsy accepted new-to-her truths from the Bible and is planning to be baptized.

Many attendees from the community discovered truth from the Bible as they had never heard it before. Jordan was one such individual. He received a flyer in the mail for the meetings, and felt impressed to not throw it out.

Watching a game one evening, he remembered the flyer, and decided to attend the meeting that night. He ended up attending all the meetings, and the topic of the Sabbath especially touched him.

As a dedicated Christian for many years, Jordan still felt that there was something missing in his life. About a year before the meetings, he had a dream he believes was from God. In this dream were four of the most beautiful sunflowers he had ever seen. Following the Sabbath presentation at the seminar, Jordan received a magazine about the Bible Sabbath, and on the front was a huge sunflower. He was immediately reminded of his dream, and when praying, he asked God why there were four sunflowers in his dream. The question came into his mind, "Which commandment is the Sabbath commandment?" The fourth commandment is about the Sabbath.

Jordan believes that he has found in the Sabbath truth what was missing in his life as a Christian. He was

one of more than 70 people who were baptized at the conclusion of the Youth For Jesus program.

"It was great seeing everyone giving their lives to Christ," said Dhole of the Aug. 2 baptism service. "It was awesome seeing my friends get baptized. And it was even more awesome to see people that came to our site that I got to know get baptized. It brought tears to my eyes."

Pastors and church members plan to provide follow up for the new members and ongoing interests. Sears says working with the Arizona Conference was a wonderful experience: "They were great, so friendly and very helpful."

*Julie Ford*

# PUC Ranks #1 Among “Best Colleges”

PUC's academic reputation gets national recognition again this year with a high ranking in the “Best Colleges” edition of *U.S. News & World Report*.

For 16 years, Pacific Union College has been named among America's best educational institutions by *U.S. News & World Report*. In the 2010 “America's Best Colleges” issue, released online in August, PUC ranked number one among baccalaureate colleges (West) for racial diversity (not including international students). They also ranked number two for most international students and number four for freshmen retention rates. In the overall rankings by region, PUC placed number 11.

“Here at PUC we have a proud tradition of strong academics; this consistent achievement is recognized by *U.S. News*, and we're always happy to see it,” said Nancy Lecourt, academic dean of PUC. “We are also very pleased to be

ranked highly for diversity and international students, since that's part of what makes PUC a rich environment for learning and growth.”

One of the most well-known and widely referenced sources of college rankings, *U.S. News & World Report* collects data from more than 1,400 colleges for their “Best Colleges” rankings. Scores are based on peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

The annual high ranking by *U.S. News* is national recognition of PUC's long-standing academic excellence, with seniors scoring well above the national average in



Major Field Achievement Tests, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges giving PUC its most favorable rating, and students consistently getting accepted by top-notch graduate schools in their areas of study. In addition, PUC has long been known for very high acceptance rates for its students going into medical and dental school.

*Lainey S. Cronk*

## College, Church Hold 40 Days of Prayer

For 40 days in August and September, the PUC community focused collective prayer on asking God's blessing and wisdom for the church and college. For this “40 Days of Prayer,” the church and campus asked sister churches from Northern, Central, Nevada-Utah, Arizona and Hawaii to join them.

“This fall we are celebrating 100 years in Angwin, as well as the arrival of our 21st president, Dr. Heather Knight,” said academic dean

Nancy Lecourt. “We are hopeful about the future; our prayers should be both petition and thanksgiving.”

Some of the prayer requests on the 40-day calendar were related to a day's events, such as praying for the deans and resident assistants on the day they held residence hall staff training. Others were requests for protection for student missionaries or for “students to meet new friends who will influence them for good.” People gathered by the church doors on the first

evening, and the 40 days ended with a 40-hour prayer vigil that concluded on the first Sabbath of the new college term. “Prayer seems like the ideal response to our needs and opportunities,” said PUC church senior pastor Tim Mitchell. “It's the unity of human effort with Divine vision and power.”

*Lainey S. Cronk*

# Church Applied

Fall 2009

• Networking Pacific Union Churches with Ministry Resources, Ideas and People •

## Why Join a Church?

by David B. Smith

A young Christian couple moved to a small mountain town where the nearest church was 45 minutes away—and it was a small, offbeat collection of dubious characters. “It was more like a truck stop than a church,” they lamented. Other times Christians reflect that they can pray and read their Bibles just as easily at home, and not have to bother mingling with hypocrites and offensive people. It can take just a few weekends before the habit of isolating yourself and getting your sermon from the Internet can take hold.

But it's plain in the Bible that being with a

group of fellow believers and growing together into the likeness of Jesus—through ups and downs—has always been the norm. John Wesley is said to have remarked: “The Bible knows nothing of solitary religion.” It's rare to find a person who leaves the communion of a church and, years later, is still having a vibrant and maturing Christian experience.

The Bible's explicit directions to us are found in Hebrews 10:25: *Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day [of Jesus' soon return] coming.*

Read full article:  
[www.biblebay.org/church](http://www.biblebay.org/church)

## Bringing the Fire

by Bernie Anderson

Using bowling-pin-shaped juggling clubs that you might see at a circus, my college roommate and I started juggling together in our free time. Before long we could rhythmically pass the clubs horizontally between us while at the same time tossing in random stunts. We got pretty good and people started asking us to perform for various events like local community fairs, church socials, and birthday parties. We even earned some extra cash! What we soon found out though was that our act could only hold the audience for about ten minutes, then they got that “been there, done that” distracted look on their faces. I think I even saw a few people yawn! We quickly realized that we would have to change our act or lose the crowd. Especially when it came to the kids.

Read full article [www.churchsupportservices.org/fire](http://www.churchsupportservices.org/fire)





# MORE THAN

by Rich DuBose and Monte Sablin

# Words



Jesus said we are to be the “salt of the earth,” meaning we are to add flavor and nourishment to those we mingle with and touch. In other words, we are not just called “to save souls for eternity,” but to use our talents and means to minister to people’s physical and emotional needs as well. This is reinforced by what Jesus said in Matthew 25 about caring for the people around us. In the end, theology isn’t even mentioned as a determining factor for who is saved and who isn’t. The question is, “how did you treat others?”

Tending to people’s physical needs cannot be something we simply tack on to our busy schedules to fulfill a spiritual requirement. Rather, performing acts of love is an integral part of what it means to be born again, renewed, transformed and Spirit-filled.

God’s kingdom stands in stark contrast to the kingdom of this world that is based on political power, domination, materialism and selfishness. Instead we are called to a life of balanced living,

self-control, spiritual discovery and sharing. God calls us to translate our theology into biography—to live out His words. This should set us apart from the rest of the world.

Read full article:

[www.churchsupportservices.org/words](http://www.churchsupportservices.org/words)



## COUNTRY MUSIC

by Dick Duerksen

Country Music is of the devil. It’s got too much cursin’ and leavin’ and lovin’. Too many pickup trucks, and not enough serious commitment.

Wrong.

Country music has a lot of songs that were written by angels. Unfallen angels. Look, for instance, at the music of Randy Travis. Randy first found #1 on the country music chart in 1986 with “On the Other Hand,” a song that my mama would have been proud for me to follow. Randy’s like that, choosin’ songs that preachers can use as sermon illustrations, songs that bring your values right out in public along with your tears.



Between 1986 and 1998 Randy had 21 #1 songs. Then came five years in the chart cellar. Randy had gotten religion, thrown away the wild life, and followed his wife Lil’s advice to sing about God. Those albums are some of my favorites, but the charts mostly ignored them.

Read full article:

<http://www.answersforme.org/country>

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# Using Social Media to Promote *Your Church*

Social media tools like Facebook are pushing some businesses and educational institutions to re-evaluate how they disseminate news. A recent article by technology student, Vidim Lavrusik, describes how education in particular is experimenting with today's emerging technologies.

"Instead of focusing their attention on promoting information to mainstream media, some university public affairs offices are using the power of social media to engage the community directly. In many cases, social media tools like Facebook pages have given universities an opportunity to speak to audiences on their own, reaching thousands of people interested in keeping up with news at the school and connecting with others on the social network. Universities are constantly exploring new ways to use social

media to fulfill their missions of engaging and sharing knowledge with their constituents" (*10 Ways Universities Share Information Using Social Media*, by Vadim Lavrusik, July 15, 2009, Mashable).

Churches can do the same. Why not use the power of social interaction and friendship to share our message of hope and healing?  
—Editor

Read full article:  
[www.tinyurl.com/pems4c](http://www.tinyurl.com/pems4c)



**We have long known that church growth and wellness is tied to a church's ability to build**

**a strong sense of community. The Grand Avenue Church in Oakland, California, uses social networking web technology to connect their members with each other and to draw visitors into their spiritual community. Check it out at: [www.grandadvent.net](http://www.grandadvent.net)**

## FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Bible Bay features a FAQ section with answers to questions that readers and Bible students commonly ask. View the list at [www.biblebay.org/questions](http://www.biblebay.org/questions). Some of the questions include:

- Did Jesus Say We Should Hate Our Parents?
- Does James Teach a "Salvation by Works" Gospel?
- Does the Bible Support Capital Punishment?
- Is it Wrong to Have Sex Before Marriage?
- Is There Such a Place as Purgatory?
- Did Jesus have a Holy, Sinless Nature?
- Why Don't Religion and Politics Mix?
- Are Other Worlds Inhabited?
- Do People Really Speak in Tongues?
- Should I Worship God if I Don't Feel Anything?
- How Do I Keep The Sabbath?

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# Web Round-Up

**BlueFish TV**  
[www.bluefishtv.com](http://www.bluefishtv.com)

**Deeper**  
[www.deeperfaith.org](http://www.deeperfaith.org)

**Grace Unconditional**  
[www.graceunconditional.com](http://www.graceunconditional.com)

**Highway Video**  
[www.highwayvideo.com](http://www.highwayvideo.com)

**North Hills Church**  
[www.nhillschurch.org](http://www.nhillschurch.org)

**Stone House**  
[www.stonehousecenter.org](http://www.stonehousecenter.org)

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Pacific Union Conference. We provide stories, resources and  
event info for local church ministry.

[www.churchsupportservices.org/signup](http://www.churchsupportservices.org/signup)

# Apple becomes evangelistic

Church of the Customer.com is a  
blog that has nothing to do with church.  
Ben McConnell and Jackie Huba's blog  
entries are very popular (with over  
120,000 readers) with those who want  
to be on the cutting edge of business.  
But some of the language they use  
might make you think they are talking  
about God and spiritual things. The  
following excerpt illustrates my point:

"At Apple Computer in the early  
1980s, Guy Kawasaki and his  
marketing team didn't just  
sell computers with an  
easy-to-use user  
interface. Instead,  
Apple sold the  
Macintosh dream: to  
improve productivity  
and creativity, and to  
resist the IBM 'clone,'  
literally.

"Building on the  
momentum of loyal and extremely  
passionate customers, Apple created  
an evangelism department and hired  
marketers to accomplish three things:  
evangelize, evangelize, evangelize. Guy  
was eventually named the company's  
"chief evangelist," and Apple evolved  
into something resembling a religious  
doctrine. Its customers are believers,

and true believers help  
spread the word  
based on the  
emotional connection  
that the company promotes and  
inspires."<sup>1</sup>

Isn't this the way it's supposed to be  
with sharing the Good News of the  
gospel? Every believer who truly  
"believes" and is sold on the  
message they embrace is the best  
marketer of that message. Satisfied  
"customers" cannot keep their  
enthusiasm to themselves.  
They will tell you in multiple  
ways how happy they are with  
their faith experience!

### Questions to Ponder

1. Have you identified the  
"happy customers" in your  
church?
2. Do you allow time for them to tell  
their stories?
3. Is your church seeking to share an  
emotional connection with its  
message?

—Thoughts from the Editor

<sup>1</sup> Originally published in *MarketingProfs* April 20,  
2004 | Read full article: [www.tinyurl.com/ng9xna](http://www.tinyurl.com/ng9xna)



# Providential Path Leads Vietnamese Student to Jesus

He was only 16 years old, but “Kevin” Phung Nguyen was determined to leave his small, peaceful town near a tropical Vietnamese beach and pursue a better education in America. He would then use his schooling to aid his family’s business back home in Vung Tau.

At least that was his plan in 2005. Nguyen was unaware that a God he didn’t yet believe in was the Author of those plans and would lead him to La Sierra University, a school he’d never heard of, and there speak truths to his heart he’d never before contemplated.

“I wanted to leave the country to see how different the outside world is. I wanted to gain knowledge in the number one country in the world, and then I planned to go back to improve my parents’ business,” Nguyen said.

“I was a little nervous at first. Now I know that I made a right decision by coming to the [United States],” he continued. “Attending La Sierra is so far my best decision. I feel very blessed because God led me to La Sierra, and I could learn about His death for human race. I’ll never regret coming to La Sierra.”

Nguyen will be a junior accounting major this fall. After graduation, he plans to pursue a Master of Business Administration in accounting, eventually becoming a certified public accountant.

His story began four years ago when he arrived on a student visa from his community south of

Darla Martin Tucker



Kevin Nguyen

Ho Chi Minh City to study at Fairmont Preparatory Academy, a private high school in Anaheim. He left behind his parents, a younger brother and other relatives and neighbors with whom he shares close relationships. The family often drove along the coast in the evening to catch the tropical breezes and talk about life. “Life in Vietnam is slower and more peaceful than the U.S.,” Nguyen said.

In 2007, Nguyen attended a college fair and there met a recruiter from La Sierra. After receiving some information about the university, he filled out an application. “The lady at the table was sitting there alone. I came to talk to her and found out she was a Christian,” Nguyen said. “I went to La Sierra because I didn’t know anything about Christianity before,” and Nguyen was interested, he said.

Back in Vietnam, the government oppresses Christian beliefs, he said. His mother, who works hard at her own business to support her son’s

life in America, occasionally attends a Buddhist temple, but Nguyen grew up with a primarily secular perspective.

At La Sierra, Nguyen, like other students, was required to attend university worship and other religious events. “I attended the university worship every Thursday, and I loved it a lot. I love to sing Christian songs because I had never heard any of them before. Christian music gives me a special feeling when I sing with a group of people,” he said.

Nguyen also began attending the El Monte Vietnamese Seventh-day Adventist Church and became involved in youth activities there. “I made it my second home. I started reading the Bible, and I found many verses applied to my life. I started discussing about the Bible, about God, about my life at school and at church. I think I finally found the truth a few months ago, and I decided to get baptized.”

Pastor Shawn Boonstra and Pastor Vinh Nguyen baptized the La Sierra student on May 23 at the Shrine Expo Center in Los Angeles during Boonstra’s evangelistic series titled “Revelation Speaks Peace.”

“When I read the Bible, I see the verses there really apply to me,” Nguyen said. “The more I study the Bible, the more I find the truth.”

Read more about Nguyen’s story at [www.lasierra.edu](http://www.lasierra.edu).

*Darla Martin Tucker*

# Maui Adventist School Student Inspires Teachers and Classmates



Jharrell Sim appreciates being able to go to school and work on his assignments.

Born in 2003, Jharrell looked like a healthy little boy. He had five fingers on each hand and five toes on each foot, and from all outward appearances he

looked normal and healthy. However, within a few days he quickly became jaundiced and his stomach hardened and grew bigger. Various medical tests quickly indicated that something was significantly wrong as Jharrell's cries expressed that he was in a great deal of discomfort.

At just 3 months of age, a large hematoma appeared on Jharrell's cheek. When it looked like it was ready to burst, Jharrell was flown from Maui to Oahu's Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children, where Jharrell was diagnosed with biliary atresia, a potentially life threatening medical condition that happens in about 1 out of 20,000 children. This condition, in which the common bile duct between the liver and the

small intestine is blocked or absent, restricts or prevents bile flow from the liver. Over time, this lack of flow could lead to irreversible liver damage and possibly death. The only effective treatments are surgery or liver transplantation.

At a very young age, Jharrell underwent a Kasai procedure. The clogged bile duct was cut and his small intestine directly connected to the liver. The surgery was successful, but he is still very susceptible to infection.

Jharrell is in and out of hospitals and has been poked with needles more than a hundred times because of frequent blood work and line placement procedures. Jharrell thrives and lives each day happily while awaiting a liver transplant. He is monitored closely by his doctor and transplant team at Lucille Packard Children's Hospital. Fortunately, his mom's liver is a perfect match.

Through the guidance of the Children's Organ Transplant Association, a fundraising campaign was organized. Volunteers worked hard in organizing and supporting fundraising events. John, Hayde, Jharrell, and younger brother Ethan praise God for all the people who have helped. With the support of family, friends, Maui churches, Maui Adventist School, co-workers, the local community and strangers, the \$65,000 campaign goal for the transplant was reached.

Jharrell was scheduled for the transplant on Jan. 12, 2009. On the

At Maui Adventist School, teachers believe that every child who walks through the school doors comes by the Lord's leading, and that He can use children to teach adults.

In the fall of the 2008-2009 school year, John and Hayde Sim enrolled their son, Jharrell, in the kindergarten class at the school. The soon to be 5-year-old walked through the school doors wearing a smile that seemed bigger than life, and he seemed comfortable talking and playing with his new schoolmates. While it seemed obvious that he was happy to be at his new school, it was not obvious that he was there against the odds because of the medical complications he was facing.

*Jharrell was diagnosed with biliary atresia, a potentially life threatening medical condition that happens in about 1 out of 20,000 children.*



Jharrel Sim mugs for the kindergarten photographer.

way to California, the Sim family met with Pastor Tim Nelson and fellow Kihei church members at the Honolulu International Airport for an anointing. With faith in God and peace in their hearts, the family waited. Then, just four days before the scheduled transplant, Jharrell and his family were notified by the chief of the transplant staff that the latest blood work indicated a slight improvement in Jharrell's liver function and the transplant could be postponed.

Upon hearing the news, Jharrell exclaimed in the presence of his doctor, "God answered our prayers!" He was so excited to return to Maui! He told his parents that he was happy to be able to see his schoolmates very soon.

"Despite Jharrell's condition, we are at peace when he goes to school because we know that he is in good hands," said John and Hayde Sim. "We are very thankful to the three dedicated teachers at Maui Adventist School. Mrs. Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Ramos give extraordinary support and understanding of Jharrell's medical condition."

At school, Jharrell participates as if nothing were wrong. He plays,

*"Do you want me to pray with you?" He replied, "Yes!" and they both bowed their heads. And before Kim got a word out, Jharrell started praying aloud, thanking God for loving him and taking care of him. "It was an amazing experience just to see the faith Jharrell has in the Lord," she said.*

studies, sings and participates along with his schoolmates. He never complains about the task at hand and he never uses his condition as an excuse. Jharrell's efforts to do things well have been a wonderful reminder to everyone around him to always do the best with the gifts the Lord has provided.

Kim Ramos, one of Jharrell's teachers at the school, shared how she was talking with Jharrell one day and asked, "Do you want me to pray with you?"

He replied, "Yes!" and they both bowed their heads. And before Kim got a word out, Jharrell started praying aloud, thanking God for loving him and taking care of him.

With tears in her eyes, Kim listened

to the humble prayer of a then 4-year-old. "It was an amazing experience just to see the faith Jharrell has in the Lord," she said.

Though Jharrell's liver is badly damaged and needs a transplant, many are joining the Sim family in praying for a miracle that Jharrell's liver will continue to improve so that he will not need the transplant after all.

For updates on Jharrell's condition, visit his website at [www.cotaforJharrellS.com](http://www.cotaforJharrellS.com).

*Rhonda Nelson*



Jharrel participates in all of the school's activities.





# Hospital Demonstrates Mission by Sponsoring “Buy Local” Campaign

With the national economy floundering, many small towns are, by necessity, finding creative ways to keep their local economies above water. One increasingly popular idea is to encourage residents to “buy local,” or to purchase merchandise from area stores instead of national chains. Feather River Hospital is helping its community do just that.

This year, the town of Paradise, Calif., debuted its Buy Local campaign. Paradise Ridge Chamber of Commerce leaders decided to kick off the campaign by reviving its farmers’ market, which shut down several years ago. Cooperation between the Chamber, the Town, the Paradise Business Association and the Paradise Downtown Business Association helped to establish the parameters for this community focus on local businesses.

The only problem was funding. It would cost about \$5,000 to put on a weekly farmers’ market for six weeks during the summer. Though it might not seem like a large sum, the Chamber of Commerce did not have enough money in their budget.

That’s when chamber member Maureen M. Wisener suggested they get sponsorships to help

support the event. She got approval for a presenting sponsorship from Feather River Hospital, where she is the director of Marketing and Communications.

With funding secured, the chamber was able to make its idea a reality.

The farmers’ market kicked off on July 9, and highlighted local businesses.

Farmers had their pickup trucks piled high with fresh produce: everything from juicy, red tomatoes to fresh brown eggs.

Produce wasn’t the only thing featured at the farmers’ market though. Residents sold gift baskets, fresh flowers and key chains, among other things. Visitors who came out got to enjoy music from a local band as well as giveaways from area businesses.

To complement its financial support, FRH set up booths featuring hospital services from radiology to lifestyle medicine. Department leaders gave residents information about the hospital’s mission, services and tips on how to stay healthy.

The Paradise Ridge Chamber of Commerce felt the event was a success and hopes to continue hosting it each year.

“It would not have been possible without the hospital’s help,” said Katie Simmons, executive director



Keri Dowell RN, Lactation Consultant (left) and Wendy Limbaugh, Administrative Assistant to OB Services, share information with Buy Local visitors.

of the Chamber. “We owe the success for this event to their support.”

The hospital also sees the value in the event. FRH is not only working to keep Paradise residents healthy, but it is also working to make the local economy healthy.

“I see this as a strength for both the community and the hospital with this event,” Wisener said.

“It allows us to demonstrate our emphasis on a healthy community through wellness and health care services, while allowing us to support the health of the business community, as well. And, it allows us to show that the hospital is a strong part of this community.”

Both community leaders and hospital representatives hope to make Buy Local an annual event. Wisener said, “I would love to see the hospital sponsor it every year.”

*Emily Young*



# LLU Researchers Discover Source for 250 Additional Transplant Hearts Per Year

Thanks to the findings of a team of researchers at Loma Linda University, an additional 250 juvenile hearts could become available for life-saving transplant procedures every year.

The study — conducted by Leonard L. Bailey, M.D.; Anees J. Raz-zouk, M.D.; Nahidh W. Hasaniya, M.D., Ph.D.; and Richard E. Chinn-ock, M.D. — found that hearts previously rejected on the basis of a perceived deficiency in organ quality perform as well as A-list hearts when transplanted into pediatric patients.

Bailey, who is widely known as the father of infant heart transplan-tation, became concerned that many potentially useful donor hearts were being rejected due to overly stringent evaluation criteria.

With the approval of the Insti-tutional Review Board, the team scrutinized databases from LLU and from the United Network for Organ Sharing to see how well hearts which had previously been excluded performed after they were later re-evaluated, accepted and transplanted into pediatric recipients.

The team divided the data into two categories: group A consisted of transplant recipients who received

hearts that had originally passed the screening criteria; group B were transplant recipients who received hearts that had originally been rejected, but were transplanted anyway. The groups were compat-ible in every way except one: the hearts in group B had been in cold ischemia — a process of artificially cooling the temperature of an organ while it awaits transplantation — 100 minutes longer than the hearts in group A.

The question of how cold isch-emia affects heart procedures moved from the purely academic to the urgent when Bailey and his col-leagues recently received word that a donor heart had become available in Pennsylvania. The donor offer had been turned down by 36 other heart transplant centers before LLU was called. Because the heart was so far away, the length of time it would be kept in the cold without a blood supply was also a concern.

“Until recent years, four hours was thought to be the outlier for keeping the heart outside the body,” Bailey notes. “Recently, it has been pushed back to five.”

The team flew to Pittsburgh to evaluate the situation first-hand and after a careful review of the facts, accepted the heart.

Altogether, it had been in cold ischemia and without a blood supply for 10 hours and 24 minutes — more than twice as long as the norm.

The operation was a resounding success, and, as Bailey reports, “the outcome is a healthy 4-year-old boy.”

Bailey says donor hearts are screened against the UNOS refusal code 830 before being accepted for transplantation into a waiting recipient. Under code 830, hearts can be rejected on the basis of: size disparities; the presence of infection; conditions such as hypertension, hypotension, or asphyxia; a history of cardiac arrest, or diabetes; donor age; and other conditions.

Bailey and his cohorts evaluated the outcomes of heart transplant procedures performed on 112 infants, children and adolescents. Group A represented the 84 recipi-ents who received hearts that passed the UNOS screening criteria. Group B consisted of 29 heart recipients who were either transplanted, or re-transplanted, with heart grafts that had previously been declined on the basis of quality according to code 830.

When the results were compared, there was no statistically significant difference in outcomes between group A and group B. The team concluded that pediatric donor hearts should seldom be declined on the basis of organ quality.

The study manuscript, titled “Pe-diatric transplantation using hearts rejected on the basis of donor qual-ity,” was published in the June 2009 edition of *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*.

*James Ponder*



Leonard L. Bailey, M.D.

# ASI Elects Norman Rietz President

*Pacific Union Layman Heads International Organization*

The intensity of the Arizona heat matched the fervor of the committed individuals attending this year's ASI Convention Aug. 5-8 in Phoenix. Keynote speaker Justin McNeilus, current president of Generation of Youth for Christ, challenged



Norman Rietz was elected president of ASI for the next two years.

since. His goal is to double ASI membership during his term, and to "share the big blessing of ASI with the greater group of church members in North America and throughout the world."

During main sessions, dozens of ASI members presented evangelism progress reports. Nineteen seminars provided practical training in evangelism, apologetics and dealing with financial challenges in ministry. Lewis Walton, a Los Angeles tax law attorney, presented seminars on starting and running tax-exempt organizations, as well as on current economic analysis. Other speakers from the Pacific Union included Daryl and Mary Jo Oft (Payson,

Ariz.), Lee Gugliotto (Reno, Nev.), Ivor Myers (Templeton, Calif.), Nathan Renner (Sonora, Calif.), Rick Jaeger (Granite Bay, Calif.), Don Mackintosh, director of Amazing Facts College of Evangelism, and Shawn Boonstra, speaker/director for It Is Written International Television.

Despite tough economic times,



Allan Nedley, from Weimar, Calif., plays his violin at an opening meeting.

the more than 2,000 convention attendees, including several hundred children and youth, dug deep and gave over \$2 million to support 37 ASI-sponsored ministry projects around the world. One of those projects is Eden Valley Institute, a lifestyle center located in the foothills of Colorado's Rocky Mountains. Eden Valley plans to modernize guest rooms in its state licensed assisted living facility, Eden Valley Village.

An outstanding feature of every ASI convention is the programming provided for children and

evangelism-minded individuals to leave no stone unturned in fulfilling ASI's mission: Sharing Christ in the Marketplace.

Norman Rietz, an attorney from Hayward, Calif., was elected president of ASI during the business session at the convention. He will serve for a two-year term. Rietz originally resisted joining ASI 10 years ago. He feared adding one more commitment to his already busy schedule. His perspective changed when he saw the power of association to accomplish greater goals in evangelism. He has been an active, committed member ever

Gerry Chudleigh

Gerry Chudleigh



Primary children sing for the adults.





Gerry Chudleigh



Jeremiah Brownfield, from Mesa, Ariz., helps replace old entrance ramp at the Maricopa Village Christian School, in Laveen, Ariz.

youth. It wasn't uncommon to see parents and other adults wandering downstairs to the young people's divisions. There they found the likes of Mark Finley, David Asscherick, Doug Batchelor and Christian Berdahl speaking to spellbound groups of young people who appeared as attentive to hard issues as their parents. An 11-year-old boy leaving the junior room was overheard saying, "I could listen to that guy preach until 5 in the morning!"

The exhibit hall, filled with colorful, interactive booths, in some ways resembled a large family reunion, providing opportunities for long-separated friends and family to congregate and catch up on a year's worth of experiences while

encouraging one another in their faith.

ASI is an organization of Adventist lay persons involved in professions, industry, education and other services. It exists to nurture its members in "Sharing Christ in the

Marketplace" in their everyday endeavors. Next year's ASI convention will be held Aug. 4-7 in Orlando, Fla. All are welcome to attend. Visit [www.asiministries.org](http://www.asiministries.org) for more information and to sign up for ASI's bi-monthly e-news Update.

*Conna Bond*

ASI mens choir performs Sabbath morning.

Enno Müller







# PATHFINDERS FLOCK *to* Oshkosh

*36,000 Attend International Camporee in Wisconsin*

BY DIANE THURBER

**M**ore than 36,000 Pathfinders, staff and volunteers from around the world, including more than 5,000 from the Pacific Union, traveled to the Experimental Aircraft Association campgrounds in Oshkosh, Wis., in August for five days of learning, playing, witnessing and worshipping. Most were from the United States and Canada, but nearly 2,000 came from at least 50

other nations.

When asked what they liked most, individual Pathfinders mentioned such things as ice skating, sailing, golfing, Frisbee golf, inflatables, archery, a petting zoo, wall-climbing, drill team and drum corp demonstrations, or one of the 120 honors or other skills taught at the camporee. But — as at previous international camporees

— pin-trading was mentioned most often. Why? “Because I get to meet lots of new people,” almost everyone said.

Serving others was also popular. Off-site projects included cleaning up a wetlands preserve and several parks, removing invasive plants, refurbishing a playground for needy children and preparing back-to-school supplies for disadvantaged





Gerry Chudleigh

Elijah Clay, right, from Washington, discusses a potential pin trade with roadside dealer Parker Sutton, from the Placerville Prospectors club in the Northern California Conference.



Gerry Chudleigh

Seven Pathfinders from the Vallejo Central Mariners club, in the Northern California Conference, pose while waiting to be baptized at the Camporee. Front row, from left: Joshua Duran, Nicole Dicen and Jaynie Sargalis.

Ruby Barazza, from Central Spanish church, Phoenix, Ariz., walks carefully across the hanging ropes bridge.



Tammy Fisher

Garry Mupas, associate pastor of the Loma Linda Filipino church, baptizes Rico Oliver Macias, member of that church's Pathfinder club.



Gerry Chudleigh

Teofanny Saragi, from the Azusa Indonesian-American Pathfinder Club, Southern California Conference, cheers during an evening program.



Gerry Chudleigh

kids. On-site, many participated in Locks of Love, donating their hair to children with no hair due to illness or medical treatments. Katie Bue of the Gridley Guides Pathfinder club, in California, grinned as hairdressers cut 12 inches from her hair. She remarked, "It feels good to give it to people who don't have hair, because I'd hate it if I didn't have hair."

On Friday, 1,500 Pathfinders boarded buses for downtown Oshkosh and paraded in full dress uniform. Townspeople gathered to see the kids they had been seeing or hearing about all week. The parade concluded with a rally where the world church youth director, Baraka Muganda, challenged attendees to adopt healthy lifestyles.

Each night Pathfinders brought Bibles (plus a "buck" for shipping) they had collected in their home churches. At the 2004 camporee 32,000 Bibles were collected. In 2009 the goal was 35,000 English and Spanish Bibles. These Bibles will be delivered to mission sites in Ghana, Belize, Brazil and India in 2010. The Sabbath morning offering appeal by Kevin Gutierrez





urged Pathfinders to donate one dollar each to raise the \$35,000 needed to cover shipping costs or to purchase Bibles in native languages.

Nightly, the Pathfinders sat with rapt attention as "Courage to Stand: The Story of Esther" was portrayed

by a 24-member cast and approximately 40 extras and guards. Esther's story of courage in adversity and her stand for truth encouraged many Pathfinders to also stand with courage in a world that challenges them with many temptations. Some

were so inspired by Esther's stand for the Lord that they decided to join the Sabbath afternoon service where 518 Pathfinders were baptized.

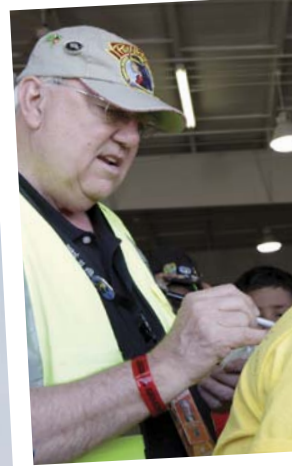
As the sun set before the closing night's program,

Gerry Chudleigh



The drill team from the Loma Linda Filipino Pathfinder Club competes at the camporee. With 161 members, Loma Linda Filipino was the largest club at Oshkosh.

Rich Herard



Pathfinders from the Loma Linda Filipino-American club, Rico Macias, left, and Ryan Figueras, go to empty gray water and get fresh water Sabbath morning.

Gerry Chudleigh



Larisa Vivanco, from Los Angeles, marks the location of her club on a map during the first stop of the Pathfinder Historical Museum tour.



Vincent Thomas, from Popano Beach, Fla., and Cameron Gatewood, from the Normandie Avenue church in Los Angeles, try their skill on a climbing wall.

Rich Herard



Gerry Chudleigh

Chinese Pathfinders from Los Angeles; Loma Linda; Vancouver, British Columbia; Canada; and other locations, including Hong Kong and Singapore, gathered at the Loma Linda Chinese campsite and shared food Friday night. From left, Jared and Jonathan Chung, from the Vancouver, B.C., club.





whispers and gasps were heard throughout the assembly as many pointed to a cloud formation in the sky. When an airplane intersected a vertical cloud formation, the plane's horizontal vapor trail

created the shape of a cross clearly visible in the sky. Some called it a sign the Lord was present at the event.

The next international camporee at Oshkosh is scheduled for Aug. 12-16, 2014. Visit

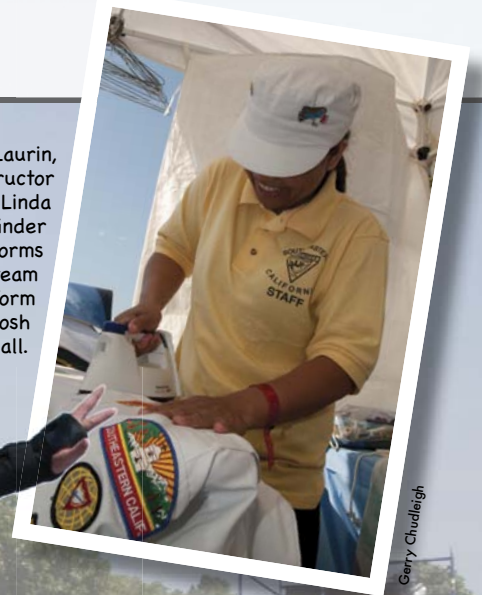
[www.adventistyouth.com](http://www.adventistyouth.com) for information.

*Diane Thurber*



Pastor Don Schneider, president of the church in North America, signs the T-shirts of Savannah Carmono and Savannah Carmono of the El Centro Spanish church in El Centro, Calif.

Yvonne McLaurin, Companion instructor in the Loma Linda Filipino Pathfinder Club, irons uniforms for the drill team before they perform at the Oshkosh Outlet Mall.



Gerry Chudleigh



Rich Herard

Esther (Jordan Mckee) speaks during the opening night performance of the play.

Patrick Graham



Shawn Sisney, a member of the Waterford, Calif., Warriors, amazes his friends with his skateboard skills.

Gerry Chudleigh

Pathfinders from the Pacific Union parade through the grounds with American flags.



Patrick Graham

Riverside Kansas Avenue, Calif., Pathfinders line up before starting the day's activities.



Gerry Chudleigh

# Lutheran Church Votes to Approve Gay Clergy

I've been reading a wonderful new history of the Reformation. Luther's famous stand before the Emperor was made on the basis of Scripture. Luther risked his life on the principle that the Bible, not tradition, is the foundation of church belief and practice. Ever since, Protestantism has been defined by this fundamental

being discredited. Luther's solution was to close ranks behind the ideal of "Christendom," which to him required infant baptism. Christendom describes a certain collaboration between church and state and society, where all are baptized as infants and considered members of each. It remained for groups like the Anabaptists, with their

as saying: "We trust the weather is not a commentary on our work" (catholicnewsagency.com).

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is attempting to address issues of homosexuality and the church at an historic conference at Andrews University, Oct. 15-17. "Marriage, Homosexuality and the Church" involves an interdisciplinary look at theology, pastoral practice, medical issues and religious freedom.

Can our church proclaim a gospel that offers salvation to all, including gays, while also remaining faithful to biblical teachings regarding marriage and human sexuality? I see church leaders striving for just such a balance. The Church State Council is proud to be included among sponsors of this important conference. These issues broadly impact the life of the church, including our religious freedom. Hope to see you there. To register: [www.plusline.org/events](http://www.plusline.org/events).

Alan J. Reinach



*The Church will attempt to address issues of homosexuality and the church at an historic conference at Andrews University, Oct. 15-17.*

commitment to the Bible. I could not help but think of this as I read the *L.A. Times* account of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America backing away from biblical teachings regarding human sexuality to approve of gay clergy under some circumstances. Those marriage supporters who lament the decision of the ELCA may miss the deeper significance of the action: it represents a return to tradition over Scripture.

Actually, despite Luther's rhetoric about "sole scriptura," i.e., the Bible and the Bible only, Luther compromised on biblical faithfulness in order to preserve "Christendom." When faced with strong biblical evidence against infant baptism, Luther chose tradition instead. Luther was dealing with the social and political turmoil that his writings had produced. The gospel itself was

understanding of adult baptism, to discern that there should be a separation of church and state.

The issue of gay clergy in the Lutheran church, therefore, reminded me that Scripture is the only real safeguard of liberty of conscience, and that baptism is central to its doctrinal foundation.

After all, baptism represents the mature commitment to serve Christ expressed freely and voluntarily.

News reports largely ignored an unusual occurrence: during the actual vote on gay clergy, a tornado struck the area surrounding the convention center, and knocked the cross off the steeple of the Central Lutheran Church across the street. Inside the convention, the president read Psalm 121, attempting to comfort people. The author of the Lutheran statement on sexuality, Rev. Steven Loy, was quoted





## CALENDARS

### Arizona

**THREE ANGELS PRISON MINISTRY** (Oct. 24) Community Service Center, 320 N. 15th St., Phoenix, from 3:30-5 p.m. Info: Florence, 480-991-6777.

**VEGETARIAN COOKING SHOW** (Nov. 8) Featuring Celebrity Chef Mark Anthony at the Paradise Valley church, 2727 E. Cactus Rd., Phoenix, at 1 p.m. Topics: Plant-based Nutrition Program, Vegan Cooking, and Healthy Living Made Easy, and the Culinary Performing Arts Program. All free of charge. Space is limited. Info: 602-971-6010.

### Central California

**PRAYER MINISTRIES TRAINING** (Oct. 4) Soquel Conference Center. Info: Janet, 559-696-3692 or jpage@cccsda.org.

**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT** (Oct. 9-11) Camp Wawona. Info: Lisseth, 559-347-3176 or lpassillas@cccsda.org.

**HISPANIC SABBATH SCHOOL & CHURCH OFFICERS TRAINING** (Oct. 10) Fresno Spanish Church. Info: Florina, 559-347-3150 or fmoales@cccsda.org.

**WOMEN & FINANCE** (Oct. 11) CCC office. "How to deal with what's left of your money." Marin McCann, CFP. Info: 888-424-5777.

**PATHFINDER CAMPOREE** (Oct. 16-18) Showalter's Ranch. Info: Norma, 559-3473174 or nvillarreal@cccsda.org.

**YOUTH PRAYER CONFERENCE** (Oct. 22-25) Bakersfield Adventist Academy. Info: Leah Page, 661-330-8450.

**15TH ANNUAL FRESNO WESTSIDE MALE CHORALE FESTIVAL** (Oct. 31) Fresno Westside Church at 4:30 p.m. Male chorales from Fresno and Bakersfield areas will be participating along with singers from Northern California. Info: Harry Dulan, 559-322-6950 or e-mail: harrydulan@sbcglobal.net.

### Northern California

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT** (Oct. 2-4; 9-11) Leoni Meadows. Speaker Sheri Rose Shepherd. Info: Audi Silber, asilber@lodisdaelem.org.

**HISPANIC YOUTH FEDERATION** (Oct. 4) NCC office. Info: Hispanic Ministries Department, 925-603-5092.

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN EVANGELISM MEETING** (Oct. 10) "Reaping the Harvest 2009;" 3-7 p.m. Oakland-Grand Avenue church, 278 Grand Avenue,

Oakland. Speakers: Bobby Mitchell, Marc Woodson, Marcel Wip. Info: 925-603-5097.

**CAPITOL CITY COUPLES MINISTRY RETREAT** (Oct. 16-18) "One Flesh;" Embassy Suites, Valencia, Calif. Registration: Carol Hairston, carolhairston@inbox.com or 916-613-2001.

**OAKLAND YOUTH RALLY** (Oct. 17) "Cross Infusion;" 10 a.m. Skyline High School, 12250 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**NCC MINISTRIES TRAINING CONFERENCE** (Oct. 18) 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Sacramento-Central church, 6045 Camellia Ave., Sacramento. Info: 925-685-4300 or www.ncc.adventist.org/ministriestraining.

**JUNIOR/SENIOR ACADEMY STUDENT RETREAT** (Oct. 23-25) Leoni Meadows. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** (Oct. 23-25) Sacramento area hotel. Restore communication, rekindle romance, renew commitment. Room and meals provided. Info: Rob or Debbie Purvis, 530-622-4798; 916-599-5560; purvis4@comcast.net.

**TEEN PATHFINDER CAVING** (Nov. 6-8) Lava Beds National Monument. Info: Youth Department, 925-603-5080.

**WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** (Nov. 7) "One Voice, One Vision, One Mission;" Chico church, 1877 Hooker Oak Ave., Chico. Speaker Raquel Costa Arrias, GC Associate Director for Women's Ministries. Info: 530-342-7777.

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### Pacific Union College

**CENTENNIAL IN ANGWIN** (Oct. 3) Pacific Union College and church celebrate 100 years in Angwin. Join us for featured Sabbath speaker Lou Venden along with the PUC history museum, historical tour, and potluck and social. Info: 707-965-6303.

**EVENSONG** (Oct. 3) Mark the end of the Sabbath with music and the spoken word. PUC church, 6 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

**ART OPENING** (Oct. 3) Opening reception for "Working Out: Artists with Developmental Differences" exhibit, showing artwork from the clients of four art therapy programs. Rasmussen Art Gallery, 7-9 p.m. Shows through Oct. 25. Info: 707-965-6303.

**CLARINET & PIANO CONCERT** (Oct. 3) Sherrick Hiscock, clarinet, and Ken Hardin, piano, perform a Fine Art Series concert in Paulin Hall, 8 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

**PARENTS WEEKEND** (Oct. 16-18) Parents can sneak a peek at student life and enjoy a reception (5:30 on Friday) and music department concert (7:30 on Saturday). Info: 707-965-6303.

**EVENSONG** (Oct. 24) Mark the end of the Sabbath with music and the spoken word. PUC church, 5:30 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

**TRIO BRIO CONCERT** (Oct. 25) Beverly Wesner-Hoehn performs with the Trio Brio (harp, viola, and flute) in a Fine Art Series concert, Paulin Hall, 7 p.m. Info: 707-965-6201.

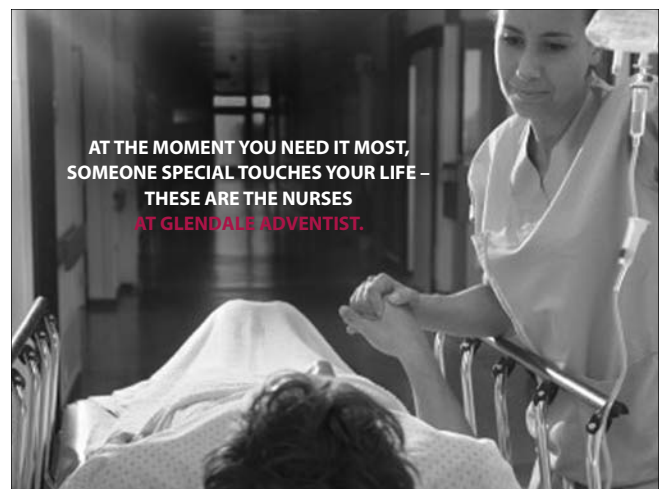
### Southeastern California

**PATHFINDER TEEN INSTITUTE** (Oct. 2-4) Pine Springs Ranch. Info: 951-509-2265 or www.seccyouth.com.

**DISABILITIES MINISTRIES SEMINAR** (Oct. 3) 3-5 p.m., Azure Hills church, 22633 Barton Rd., Grand Terrace. For church disabilities ministries coordinators and associates. Register by 9/21: 951-509-2337 or Janelle.Muthiah@seccsda.org.

**INLAND EMPIRE CHILDREN AND FAMILY WEEKEND EMPHASIS** (Oct. 9-11) Info: 951-509-2260 or www.seccyouth.com.

**PRISON MINISTRIES SEMINAR, INLAND EMPIRE** (Oct. 10) 3-5 p.m., Kansas Avenue church, 4491 Kansas Ave., Riverside. For church prison ministries coordinators and associates. Info:



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951-509-2337 or Janelle.Muthiah@seccsda.org.

**YOUTH PASTORS GRIEF TRAINING WORKSHOP** (Oct. 15) SECC assembly room, 11330 Pierce St., Riverside. Info: 951-509-2260 or secyouth.com.

**LEADERSHAPING CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN: SHAPING YOUR SOUL, SHAPING YOUR CAREER** (Oct. 16-18) La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Pkwy., Riverside. Dynamic speakers and workshops. Info: 951-785-2470 or wrclasierra.edu or AdventistWomensCenter.org.

**INDONESIAN CONVOCATION** (Oct. 17) Chaffey High School, 1245 N. Euclid Ave., Ontario. Info: Praban Agussaputro, 909-653-5720; 909-246-1909.

**FILIPINO ADVENTIST MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA CONVOCATION** (Oct. 16, 17) Loma Linda Filipino Multipurpose Hall, 11180 New Jersey St., Redlands. Info: Dem Robles, 619-425-9814.

**CREATION WEEKEND** (Oct. 22-24) Presenters: Bob Gentry, D.Sc., Hon., of The Orion Foundation, and David Gentry, M.D., of LLUMC Radiology Department. Corona church, 2550 South Main St., Corona. Info: 951-737-5953, www.halos.com.

**IGNITE: PUBLIC CAMPUS CATALYST** (Oct. 24) Info: 951-509-2260 or www.seccyouth.com.

**SEVEN STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM** (Oct. 25) 9 a.m. to noon, SECC assembly room, 11330 Pierce St., Riverside. Presenter: Gordon Botting, stewardship director and financial educator for the Pacific Union. Register by 10/19 with Sue Jones, 951-509-2227; sue.jones@seccsda.org.

**FOR YOUTH, BY YOUTH** (Oct. 31) Info: 951-509-2260 or www.seccyouth.com.

### Southern California

**SCC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES RETREAT** (Oct. 2-4) "Convinced, but Not Converted." Speaker, Brenda Walsh, 3ABN host/author. Workshop titles: Forgiveness; Praise & Worship; and Prayer. For ladies 12 and up. Camp Cedar Falls Conference Center, 39850 Hwy 38, Angeles Oaks. Info: Mickie Hall, 909-464-2287; Lillian Patton, 626-918-6941.

**SUKKOT, THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES** (Oct. 3) A high Sabbath on which to recall the wandering in the wilderness, looking forward to wandering no more in our future home in an earth made new. 6 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Ohavey Torah, a ministry

of the Thousand Oaks church, 480 W. Gainsborough Rd. Info: 805-373-0320.

**SIMCHAT TORAH** (Oct. 10) Celebration of the completion of the annual reading of the Torah. 6 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Ohavey Torah, a ministry of the Thousand Oaks church, 480 W. Gainsborough Rd. Info: 805-373-0320.

**"SEVEN STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM"** (Oct. 11-13) A free, 3-day seminar including Sunday brunch. Presenter, Gordon Botting, stewardship director, Pacific Union. 9 a.m. Oct. 11, including brunch; 7 p.m. Oct. 12, 13. Scholl Canyon Estates, 1551 E. Chevy Chase Dr., Glendale. Walk-ins welcome. RSVP appreciated. Call 818-546-8400.

**"TRUTH FOR TODAY, HOPE FOR TOMORROW" SEMINAR** (Oct. 16) Bilingual - English/Mandarin. Discover an exciting prophecy that reveals hope for the future and proves, without a doubt, the accuracy of God's Word. Pastor Paul Cho, Ph.D. 7:15 p.m. Hacienda Heights Chinese company, 2120 So. Stimson Ave. Info: 626-217-5782.

**"JESÚS: EJEMPLO DE PERDÓN" RETIRO ESPIRITUAL DE ORACIÓN** (Oct. 23-25) Para toda la familia. En Camp Cedar Falls, 39850 Hwy 38, Angeles Oaks. Oradores: Lourdes Morales-Gudmundsson, Rosalie

Flores, Alfredo Lee. Organizado por Ministerio de Oración-Región Hispana y Conferencia del Sur de California. Info: 818-546-8448.

**50TH ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING** (Oct. 24-31) Valley Crossroads church, 11350 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima. 10/31, Charles Brooks, retired dir./speaker, Breath of Life. Personalities, music, social activities. Memorabilia representing the church's history? Contact Karen Spence, 661-208-2099; cheyasha7@aol.com.

**THE BOOK OF DANIEL SEMINAR** (through Nov. 6) A prophecy-based series. Speaker, local elder Chester Williams under the leadership of senior Pastor Stewart Walker. Nightly except Thurs., 7-8 p.m. at the Altadena church, 2609 Lincoln Ave. Info: 626-794-3953.

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# SUNSETS

SEPTEMBER 2009



	Sept. 4	Sept. 11	Sept. 18	Sept. 25
Alturas	7:27	7:16	7:03	6:51
Angwin	7:33	7:22	7:11	6:59
Calexico	7:01	6:51	6:42	6:32
Chico	7:31	7:20	7:08	6:57
Eureka	7:41	7:30	7:18	7:06
Fresno	7:20	7:10	6:59	6:49
Hilo	6:32	6:26	6:19	6:13
Honolulu	6:43	6:36	6:30	6:23
Las Vegas	7:02	6:51	6:41	6:31
Lodi	7:28	7:17	7:06	6:55
Loma Linda	7:09	6:59	6:49	6:39
Los Angeles	7:13	7:03	6:53	6:44
Moab	7:40	7:29	7:18	7:07
Oakland	7:31	7:20	7:09	6:58
Phoenix	6:47	6:38	6:28	6:18
Reno	7:23	7:12	7:00	6:49
Riverside	7:09	6:59	6:50	6:40
Sacramento	7:29	7:18	7:07	6:55
Salt Lake City	7:52	7:40	7:29	7:17
San Diego	7:07	6:58	6:48	6:39
San Francisco	7:32	7:21	7:10	6:59
San Jose	7:29	7:19	7:08	6:57
Tucson	6:42	6:33	6:23	6:14





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**MIDDLE TENNESSEE SCHOOL** of Anesthesia presidential search. MTSA is a private, regionally and professionally accredited, highly selective graduate/professional school currently possessing a single focus mission of educating nurse anesthetists at the Master's degree level. The institution, historically associated with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, is located in Madison, Tenn., (a suburb of Nashville), and enjoys a distinctive and exceptional national reputation in both the higher education and medical communities. The curriculum is a focused combination of didactic and clinical instruction. The school states as its mission to provide a Christian learning environment that fosters academic excellence, the pursuit of truth, superior skills in anesthesia practice, and a life of service from its graduates (see website at [www.mtsa.edu](http://www.mtsa.edu)). The Board of Trust is seeking both nominations and materials from applicants for the position of president.

The anticipated date of employment is July 1, 2010. Application materials will be received until December 15, 2009, with the review process beginning in January, 2010. The president serves as the chief executive officer and institutional leader, and will be responsible for the operation of all areas of the school. He/she reports to the Board of Trust.

**Expected qualifications include:** 1) an earned doctoral degree; 2) previous higher education leadership, at the executive level, as well as teaching experience/scholarship; 3) the ability to work with both internal and external constituencies which include the local medical community, health care facility administrators, and external accreditation agencies; 4) have higher education curriculum building experience; and 5) have high energy and the ability to focus and lead the institution internally. The salary will be commensurate with both experience and qualifications.

**Applicants must supply** the following materials: 1) letter of interest; 2) a personal vision statement focusing on the institution; 3) a detailed professional résumé; and 4) a reference listing of five individuals, with contact information, who can provide focused information on the ability of the applicant to serve as a president of a small institution. Nominators must have permission of the potential candidate to forward his/her name to the search chairperson, and must request that individual nominated

supply the required information within the appropriate time period. MTSA is an equal opportunity employer. All materials should be sent by U.S. mail to: Ms. Nila Sherrill, Trustee/Search Chairperson, 217 Donna Drive, Madison, TN 37115.

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### Events

**4-DAY COUNTRY LIVING & Gardening Workshop** at Leoni Meadows, Oct. 14-17, 2009. Lynn and Elizabeth Hoag will team up with Mountain Media Ministries to present practical country living seminars and a hands-on gardening and tree planting workshop. Visit [MountainMediaMinistries.org](http://MountainMediaMinistries.org) or call Lynn for more information 530-622-4968.

**L.A. ADVENTIST FORUM** (Oct. 24) 3:30 p.m. Fritz Guy, Ph.D., professor, La Sierra University, "Marriage, Homosexuality, and the Church: What Happened at the Andrews Conference? And Why it Matters." Chapel of the Good

Shepherd, Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave., Glendale, CA 91206. Info: 818-244-7241.

**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](http://www.noahsarkwinston.com); 541-784-1261, 411 Safari Rd., Winston, OR. 97496.

**SAN DIEGO FORUM** (Oct. 10) 3 p.m. Lourdes Morales, "Toward an Adventist Theology of Migration." Tierrasanta church, 11260 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA. Info: 858-576-9990 or 619-561-2360. E-mail [ak-jk@cox.net](mailto:ak-jk@cox.net).

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Part 1 Thursday, 7:00 pm

Part 2 Friday, 7:00 pm

"Discovery of the Center of God's Universe Exposes the Big Bang Cosmic Titanic And Points To the Great White Throne"

Sabbath School, 9:30 am

"God's Six-Day Creation of the Heavens and Earth Points to the Seventh-Day Sabbath Memorial of Creation"

Sabbath Worship, 10:50 am



Presenters

David Gentry, M.D.

Bob Gentry, D. Sc. Hon.

Their Adventist Media Production DVDs "Fingerprints of Creation," "The Young Age of the Earth," and "Center of the Universe" air on the Hope Channel and 3ABN

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**Throughout her 90 years, Louise Johnson\* touched the lives of many.**

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Southern California	Pacific Union College

*This information is not intended to provide advice for any specific situation. Advice from a qualified attorney and/or tax accountant should always be obtained before implementing any of the strategies described.*

*\*Louise Johnson is not a real person. This story is for illustrative purposes only.*

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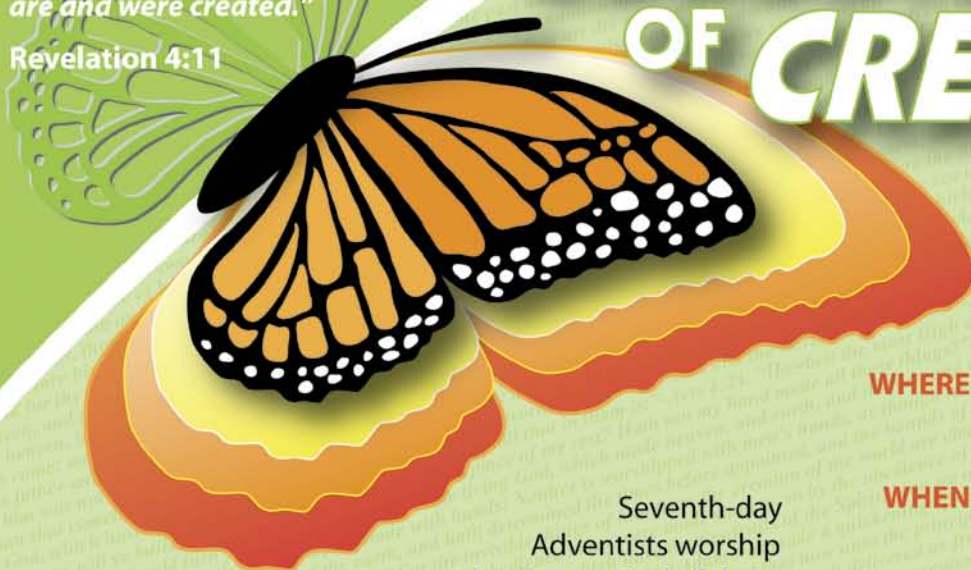
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Revelation 4:11

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- *What does it all mean?*

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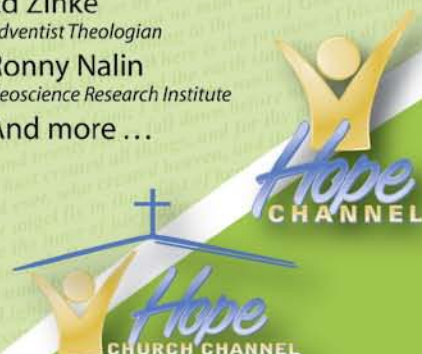
For more information visit [www.fscsda.org](http://www.fscsda.org)

**WHERE:** Loma Linda University Church  
Loma Linda, CA

**WHEN:** Friday, October 23  
7:00 PM

Sabbath, October 24  
10:00 AM, 2:00 PM, 6:00 PM

**SPEAKERS:** Richard Davidson  
*Andrews University*  
JoAnn Davidson  
*Andrews University*  
Leonard Brand  
*Loma Linda University*  
Cliff Goldstein  
*General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*  
Randy Younker  
*Horn Institute of Archaeology*  
Jim Gibson  
*Geoscience Research Institute*  
Art Chadwick  
*Southwestern Adventist University*  
Tim Standish  
*Geoscience Research Institute*  
John Baldwin  
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## AT REST

### ANDERSON, FRANCES RAE

(MARKHAM) — b. June 24, 1923, Loy-alton, Calif.; d. July 20, 2009, Millville, Calif. Survivors: son, Jack; three grand-children; three great-grandchildren.

### BACCHUS, MARGE (HOLBROOK) — b.

Dec. 23, 1926, St. Helena, Calif.; d. July 12, 2009, Oakhurst, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Cindy Wiseman, Cher Miller-Johnson; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

### BAUMANN, MARJORIE LAVELLE

(BENNETT) — b. April 29, 1924, San Jose, Calif.; d. Aug. 3, 2009, San Jose, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Marjorie Harding; one granddaughter; two great-grandchildren.

### BECKHAM, DOROTHY — b. June

13, 1925, Mission, Texas; d. June 24, 2009, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: son, Clay; daughter, Linda Bissegger; two grand-children; four great-grandchildren. Worked as a nurse and nursing adminis-trator in several Adventist hospitals.

### BEDDOE, STANLEY A. — b. May

20, 1930, Yakima, Wash.; d. July 28, 2009, Hanford, Calif. Survivors: sons, Randy, Ric; daughter, Renee Story; six grandchildren.

### CALDERON, LEONILA C. — b. Jan.

17, 1912, Tayug, Pangasinan, Philip-pines; d. Aug. 2, 2009, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: son, Victoriano, Jr.; daughters, Araceli Quijada, Manolita Primero; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren. Served as nursing director and super-visor at Loma Linda University, Glendale Adventist and White Memorial medical centers.

### CARDEY, KITTIE — b. Jan. 14, 1930,

Colusa, Calif.; d. July 9, 2009, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: son, Patrick; two grand-children; five great-grandchildren.

### CASON, VIRGINIA "GE GE" (RICH-

ARDS) — b. April 9, 1924, Ottawa, Ontario Canada; d. April 1, 2009,

Vancouver, Wash. Survivors: husband, Walter; daughters, Laura, Pat; brothers, Kenneth and Jan Richards. Wrote books and songs for children's Sabbath School.

### CHASE, VIOLET — b. Oct. 18, 1921,

Sioux Rapids, Iowa; d. March 14, 2009, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: husband, James; sons, James, Donald; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren. Taught at Golden Gate Academy, Oakland, Calif.

### DRAKE, LORETTA P. (BAUER) — b.

Oct. 11, 1910, Wheat Belt, Alberta, Canada; d. Aug. 21, 2009, Woodland, Calif. Survivors: nieces, Linda Quast, Kristine Fairbanks.

### ENGLISH, DOROTHY MAE (ELLE-

GARD) SMITH — b. Sept. 1, 1910, Oak-land, Calif.; d. Aug. 12, 2009, Placerville, Calif. Survivors: son, Alan; daughter, Shirley Tsagris; six grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren.

### FOELTZ, RUTH — b. Nov. 26, 1931,

Boonville, Ark.; d. July 2, 2009, Bakersfield, Calif. Survivors: husband, Melvin; daughters, Joyce Barnes, Donna Craig; five grandchildren; several great-grandchildren.

### FOLSOM, ROBERT "BOB" SR. — b.

March 30, 1922, Glendale, Calif.; d. Aug. 9, 2009, Bakersfield, Calif. Survivors: sons, Bob II, Larry.

### GEORGESON, RUTH — b. Feb. 4,

1941, Grandby, Mo.; d. June 25, 2009, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: son, Roy; daughter, Gina Sisney; three grandchildren.

### GLOS, ROBERT EUGENE — b. June

29, 1932, Bakersfield, Calif.; d. July 19, 2009, American Canyon, Calif. Survivors: wife, Idaline; son, David; daughters, Tammy, Melissa; five grandchildren.

### JESKE, LOLA B. (GRAHAM) — b.

Dec. 23, 1920, Malone, Wash.; d. July 13, 2009, Alturas, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Leanna Rose, Lorena; four grandchildren; sister, Lucille Shultz.

### KENDRICK, SHIRLEY — b. Aug. 7,

1932, Oakland, Calif.; d. Feb. 27, 2009, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: husband, Lloyd; sons, Ronald Rheiner, Gary Rhe-inor, Alan, James; daughters, Jeri Wig-dahl, Connie Watson, Shelly Simac; 28 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren.

### LUNDY, JEFFREY — b. Nov. 29, 1955,

San Bernardino, Calif.; d. July 13, 2009, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Eva; daughters, Sapphire, Jessica, Jennifer Demorest; stepchildren, Elizabeth, John, James; father, William; siblings, Brad, Janis Karnes, Stan; five grandchildren.

### MCCALL, DONNA JEAN — b. Jan. 25,

1946, San Diego, Calif.; d. July 6, 2009, Jamestown, Calif. Survivors: sons, Bill Chapman, Henley Chapman, Martin Chapman, Matthew Chapman; daugh-ter, Joslyne Chapman; six grandchildren.

### MCMURRY, FRANK G. — b. Oct. 11,

1928, Covina, Calif.; d. Aug. 7, 2009, Sonora, Calif. Survivors: wife, Jean; son, Jim; daughters, Joan Bryson, Carol Hyde, Jeri Hoag; 17 grandchildren. Served as pastor in the Central California and Hawaii conferences.

### MELASHENKO, ANNE (KOLEADA)

— b. Dec. 1, 1919, Perdue, Saskatch-ewan; d. Aug. 8, 2009, Paradise, Calif. Survivors: husband, Joseph; sons, Lonnie, Joedy, Dallas, Eugene; Rudy; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

### MILLS, JANICE EILEEN — b. Aug. 26,

1955, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. May 16, 2009, Orangevale, Calif.

### ORSER, MARIAN (HOPKINS) — b.

Aug. 16, 1913, Noblesville, Ind.; d. April 24, 2009, Palm Desert, Calif. Survivor: daughter, Marjorie. Taught academy for several years.

### PATRY, CHRIS — b. June 5, 1924, Lake

City, Ark.; d. June 12, 2009, Lake Havasu City, Ariz. Survivors: brother, Tipton; sister, Trula Strickland.

### PEARSON, ODESSER BRIDGES — b.

Nov. 6, 1918, Harrisville, Miss.; d. April 29, 2009, Durham, N.C. Survivors: daughter, Jan Washington; two grand-children; three great-grandchildren.

### POTTERTON, KENNETH — b. Sept. 8,

1927, Modesto, Calif.; d. July 26, 2009, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: son, Leon; daughter, Kathy Applebaum.

### PUTNEY, VIOLA — b. Feb. 19, 1913,

Quebec, Canada; d. July 10, 2009, Chico, Calif. Survivor: son, Wynn.

### RICHERT, LAVERNE B. (ALLAWAY)

— b. Sept. 12, 1928, Missoula, Mont.; d. Aug. 17, 2009, Santa Rosa, Calif. Survi-vors: daughters, Carmen Sheldon, Sonya Richert, Jennifer Phan; two grandchil-dren. Served with her husband, Donal, in Africa; Upper Columbia Academy, Review & Herald Publishing Association; Tanzania Seminary and College; ADRA in Khartoum, Sudan.

### ROBBINS, THOMAS — b. Oct. 4,

1914, Berkeley, Calif.; d. July 28, 2009, Sonora, Calif. Survivors: wife, Virginia; son, Richard; many grandchildren; great-grandchildren.

### ROYER, TED P. — b. March 5, 1928,

Los Angeles, Calif.; d. June 3, 2009, Corona, Calif. Survivors: wife, Marilyn; sons, Mark, Todd; daughter, Renee; four grandchildren.

### SWENSON, HOWARD FRANK — b.

Sept. 9, 1941, Monterey Park, Calif.; d. Aug. 7, 2009, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: brother, Ralph.

### TAYLOR, EDWARD — b. April 5,

1917, Winona, Miss.; d. March 16, 2009, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: wife, Georgette; son, Richard; seven grand-children; four step-grandchildren.

### TAYLOR, KENT STEWART — b. May

14, 1914, Gary, Ind.; d. Aug. 8, 2009, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: son, Daniel Keith; daughters, Gail Rice, Sandra Kay Feazell; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

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**YOUNG, GEORGE EDMUND** — b. Feb. 22, 1906, Plainfield, N.J.; d. April 12, 2009, Mariposa, Calif. Survivors: son, Wayne; daughters, Pauline Otis; Joyce Kinion; 17 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; 18 great-great-grandchildren.

**YOUNG, WESLEY RAY** — b. Oct. 11, 1961, Merced, Calif.; d. July 16, 2009, Tuolumne, Calif. Survivors: wife, Madeline; sons, Evan, Kelly, Marlo; daughter, Rachel; two grandchildren.

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- **December: Oct. 26**
- **January: Nov. 23**

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**The Quiet Hour**..... [www.thequiethour.org](http://www.thequiethour.org) • 800-900-9021

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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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