

Connecting the Pacific Union Adventist Family

# Recorder

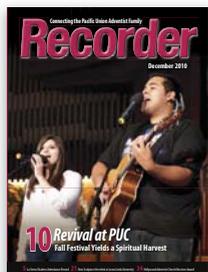
December 2010



## 10 *Revival at PUC* Fall Festival Yields a Spiritual Harvest



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## ABOUT THE COVER

Fall Festival at Pacific Union College was a deeply spiritual experience for all involved. Students led out in music and other aspects of the revival meetings.

Photo by Loni Johnson.

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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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# Praying for Revival

*Ricardo Graham*



At every notice of the death of a friend, co-worker or church member; at every news report of some evil perpetrated on innocent children, I desire more and more to see Jesus return and to see Him impart immortality to His children. Paul said, "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:52-54).

While we look forward to that physical change, preparatory spiritual transformation is essential.

God desires to facilitate in us a transformation of heart and mind. He seeks to make us like Him in character. What a wonderful thought. I am amazed by it every time I read it in Scripture or am reminded of it in an article or book.

That transformation is no work of our own, but His alone, while we yield our souls to Him.

I believe our Heavenly Father seeks to revive and reform us. Revival and reformation aren't mentioned much in our secular humanist society. Religious voices echo it from time to time, but the most popular preachers often miss this basic spiritual fact: we are constantly in need of revival and reformation.

I recently re-read these words, penned many years ago: "A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it. Our heavenly Father is more willing

to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing. A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer" (Ellen White, *First Selected Messages*, p. 121).

In response, I ask myself, is this true of the members, pastors and administrators in the Pacific Union? Do I need a revival of "true Godliness"? I don't want to be judgmental, but I believe the answer to all of the above is yes.

That being the case, the suggested elements of revival are noteworthy.

We are to confess, humble ourselves, repent and earnestly pray for revival. Revival will only come to us — our homes, churches and institutions — as an answer to sincere prayer.

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*... what would happen if more of us — all of us — were to spend more time asking God to show us what we need to confess and then confessing it; and asking God to produce true humility in our lives.*

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Why would we not seek a true and godly revival and reformation?

Many of us are "prayer warriors" — praying earnestly for blessings to be manifested in our lives, for God to answer problems and to guide in decision-making and more. And this we need. But what would happen if more of us — all of us — were to spend more time asking God to show us what we need to confess and then confessing it; and asking God to produce true humility in our lives.

We need the Lord to show us what, where and when He wants us to repent, then He will transform our minds and hearts after His own. I think the world is waiting to see what will happen when a true revival of godliness and reformation takes place in our churches. Let's ask God to bring revival and reformation in our day.

# Members Support Kahului Church Renovation

*Arlene Lindsey*

**W**hen Pastor Juan Rivera arrived at the Kahului Seventh-day Adventist Church in April 2005, he prayerfully set about to fulfill the vision of the development committee. After many years of planning and research, committee members laid out for Rivera the history of their church and what they envisioned for its future.

In 1953, when Kahului was a sleepy little plantation town, church members purchased the current two-acre property on Puunene Avenue. The old church building from Paia in which they worshiped was moved onto the new site, and the small congregation from Wailuku joined them to form the Kahului Community Seventh-day Adventist Church.

In 1963, a blessing service was held for a completely new, 200-seat, contemporary church.

At that time, wide-open spaces surrounded the property. During the fifty years after the church was

built — except for the addition of classrooms, a kitchen and parking lot — the church remained the same, but the town grew around it. Another street was added along the north side of the property and it became one of the major intersections in Kahului. Sirens, motorcycles and revving engines sometimes drowned out sermons on Sabbath mornings.

The church facilities became run down and the congregation considered selling the property to build at another location. But they soon realized that selling was impossible, due to a deed restriction, so the development committee developed plans to expand the church by 100 seats, add more Sabbath school classrooms and enlarge and refurbish the kitchen. The plans suggested a unique way to accomplish this. By “flipping” the church, the new front entrance could be accessed directly from the existing parking lot, creating enough space for additional classrooms in the back of the sanctuary. The extended front entrance would allow for a large foyer, mother’s room, prayer room, powder room, storage and a balcony with an audio/visual sound room.

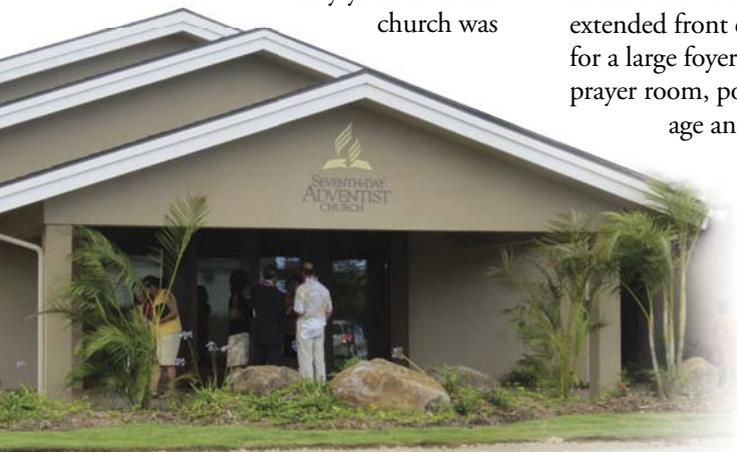
These plans would require a major fundraising effort the likes of which this church family had not

experienced since 1963. Rivera says “The timing, resources and energy were placed in God’s hands and within a year the necessary funds were raised to move forward with the project. We ventured out in doing all that was in our power, to follow through with this noble cause. The vision was very challenging considering the downward economical trend our state and country are going through.”

Members of the congregation in the construction trades were dedicated to producing a high quality, well-built sanctuary befitting the worship of our Lord and King. During the entire year of construction and renovation, Sabbath services continued to be held in the sanctuary. Tireless volunteers cleared construction debris and set up pews each Friday afternoon for the Sabbath services. Then, every Sunday, the volunteers would move the pews out so the construction workers could resume their work. The baby grand piano sat in its place without one scratch as the workers buzzed around it.

“Members came to worship each Sabbath, anticipating being with Jesus and seeing the progress of construction. It brought everyone closer together and to the Lord in praise and thanksgiving for what he was able to do for our congregation in Kahului,” says Rivera.

At the official inauguration blessing, Ralph Watts III, president of the Hawaii Conference, challenged the congregation: “That this sense of purpose and spirit of hard work be a catalyst of a continued, dedicated service to God and to this community, so that when the stories of the Kahului church are written, may it be said that God added to His church, this church, this church, daily.”



The newly renovated front entrance.

# La Sierra Fall Enrollment Shatters Records

*Larry Becker*

**R**ecord numbers of students have enrolled at La Sierra University this fall quarter. According to figures released by the university, 2,098 students registered at the start of the current school year, an increase of 12.9 percent over last year's total of 1,857. It's the first time La Sierra has topped the 2,000 mark in enrollment since its establishment as a university in 1990, and exceeds the previous enrollment record of 1,946 set in the fall of 2003.

La Sierra also enrolled its largest freshman class since 1990. This year 440 freshmen chose La Sierra to continue their education, topping last year's freshman class of 348 by 26.4 percent.

Record enrollment numbers also have had a positive impact on the campus financial outlook. Preliminary figures show that the financial full-time equivalent enrollment is

162 over the budgeted expectation. And residence halls are showing a significant increase in usage, exceeding budget projections as well.

"I am absolutely delighted to see how well our university is both growing and thriving!" says Provost Steve Pawluk. "As I visited with the parents of new students during the past summer's orientation sessions, it became clear that what they value most about La Sierra University is the honest and open investigation of facts and ideas in the context of the supportive Seventh-day Adventist learning community that we offer to their sons and daughters."

"Each member of the La Sierra University family — faculty, staff, current students, and our alumni — played important parts in helping us reach this milestone," says President Randal Wisbey. "These efforts, blessed by God, have added immense value to the outstanding

work of our enrollment services team."

"For several years we've been implementing a sophisticated system of contacting and interacting with academy and high school students interested in attending La Sierra," says David Lofthouse, vice president for enrollment services. "Of course, it takes time before we actually see the fruits of our labor in the incoming class. This year's result exceeded even my private hopes for this fall."

"I am thankful we have the privilege of creating a campus where students are absolutely caught up in the excitement of learning. Where professors provide that extra sparkle of imagination. Where faith in God is real and transforming," Wisbey says. "It is truly an honor to see this vision of Adventist education fulfilled every day at La Sierra University."

Naton Yigona



A record-setting freshman class gathers on La Sierra University's new artificial-surface soccer field just before classes begin for fall quarter. The 440 freshmen are part of an overall record-setting enrollment for the university of 2,098.



# New Survey Reports That Competent Teachers and Adventist Focus Are Major Strengths of NCC Schools

*Julie Lorenz*

A survey of Northern California Conference church members placed academically competent teachers and a focus on Adventist beliefs in the educational program as the top characteristics of NCC schools.

“While I am thrilled with the results; honestly, I am not surprised,” said Jill Genobaga, member of the NCC Board of Education. “I have seen first-hand the dedicated teachers, administrators and parents hard at work to help Adventist schools provide the finest education possible.”

The idea for the survey came during the 2008 Education

Summit, during which NCC Education Superintendent Berit von Pohle invited suggestions and feedback from constituents. One of the action plans stemming from the Summit — “Research of members regarding perceptions and expectations of Seventh-day Adventist education” — resulted in the survey.

“We really want to know what people are thinking about their local Adventist school,” said von Pohle. “What do they think our NCC schools are doing well, what can we improve, and what good things do we need to communicate better?”

The education department contracted with a non-profit research and marketing organization — which specializes in Christian K-12 education — to write the survey, tailoring it specifically for Adventist education. Earlier this year, the education department mailed 10,000 surveys to randomly selected church members in the conference territory. The survey garnered 752 respondents.

The research organization analyzed the survey results and submitted a lengthy assessment report to the education department, evaluating 40 different aspects of NCC Adventist education. Von Pohle began presenting the results to the NCC Board of Education in mid-October. Her report included a list of items that the survey results indicated NCC schools should continue doing well:



Sue Alexander teaches first and second grades at Napa Christian Campus of Education.

Demetrio Villar, Jr. is the assistant principal and registrar at Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy.

Greg Coryell



- ▶ Academically competent teachers
- ▶ Adventist beliefs integrated into the educational program
- ▶ Challenging educational curriculum
- ▶ Curriculum up-to-date
- ▶ High academic standards for students
- ▶ Individual attention provided for students
- ▶ Individual student differences are accommodated
- ▶ Safe learning environment
- ▶ School advances denominational goals
- ▶ Students are involved in their church
- ▶ Students feel accepted by their peers
- ▶ Teachers exhibit care and concern for students
- ▶ Student admission standards
- ▶ Quality of parents

“I was happy to report that our team of teachers, principals, support staff and parents has been recognized for doing these things well,” said von Pohle.

NCC Board of Education members responded positively to the report of top characteristics. “When I saw the list, I was delighted because it shows that we have a strong education system. It really encouraged me,” said Fairfield Community church Pastor Leon Brown, Sr.

The Board of Education also reviewed survey results indicating changes that need to be made to improve NCC schools. (These results will be the focus of a future article.) The board has already begun working on action plans in response to these results.

“I am a new member on the Board of Education, but I already

sense a desire to find ways to urge teachers toward excellence and then reward them in positive and tangible ways,” said El Dorado Adventist School Principal Larry Ballew.

“We want to continue to make the improvements that are highlighted in the survey results,” said Brown. “But we also need to do a more effective job of communicating our strengths to our constituency.”



Brad Davis serves as the principal and seventh and eighth grade teacher at Orangevale SDA School.

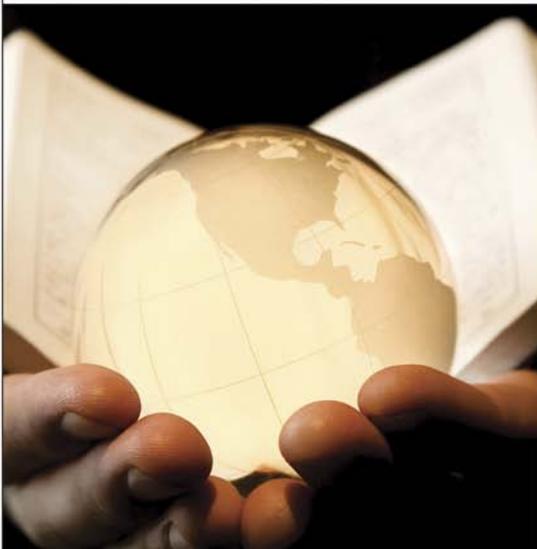
**Correction**

In a photo caption with the November story, “Stockton Fil-Am Church Burns Its Mortgage,” we incorrectly identified one of the participants. The church treasurer is Molly Espinosa.

*Sunday, February 27, 2011*

*Begins at 9:00 a.m.*

*Fairfield Community Church  
1101 East Tabor Avenue  
Fairfield, CA 94533*



# Local Elders Training Symposium

*“Training and Equipping Believers for Servant Leadership”*

**Special Features include:**

**Larry Richards, Ph.D.**, Seminary Professor of New Testament Exegesis; Emeritus Director, Greek Manuscript Research Center, presenting **“How We Got the Bible”**

**Steve Cassimy, D.Min.**, Ministerial Director, Greater New York Conference, presenting **“The Requirements of Servant Leadership”**

- *Come receive tools and resources for ministry service*
- *Come learn about the contemporary issues we face*
- *Come share common challenges and prayerful solutions*

For more information and to pre-register for this event, please email Bernadette Johnson at [bjohnson@nccsda.com](mailto:bjohnson@nccsda.com) or call 925-603-5089. Sponsored by the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Ministerial Department.

SEE YOU THERE!



# African-American Convocation Meets in Sacramento

*Kathy Batchelor*

The thirty-second annual Northern California Conference African-American convocation was held in Sacramento, October 8-9. The weekend's theme was "Connected to Christ, Connected to Community."

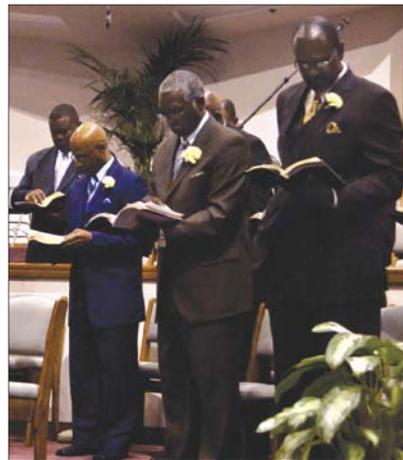
Even though attendance was down a little due to several other events held the same weekend, spirits were high and constituents were glad to be back together again. "It was a great time of fellowship, and it was good seeing friends from around the conference that I don't get to see," said Brenda Hill, pastoral spouse at the Sacramento-Southgate and Rancho Cordova churches.

The weekend's featured speaker was Abraham Jules, pastor of the Mt. Vernon church in New York. He spoke at the Friday night service, held at the Sacramento-Capitol City church, and during the divine worship service on Sabbath, held at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church.

During Sabbath's personal ministries time, Lanston Sylvester, Stockton-Mayfair church pastor, shared a video about the progress of his congregation's new church building and how they are actively involved in the community. "Mayfair reaches out to the community with their feeding program as well as serving as medical missionaries through their partnership with St. Joseph's Medical Center in Stockton," he reported.

The Sabbath service continued with a message by Jules on "The Anatomy of Wholeness." Jules admonished attendees not to worry about the things they cannot change, and to remember that the Lord is in charge and that God is a God of the impossible. He also encouraged members to "get out into the community and share the love of God with a dying world."

The speaker for the youth services was Jason Ridley, pastor of the Berea and Shiloh churches in West Virginia. "The service was enjoyable



Anthony Frazier of Mobile Snap Studios

NCC African-American Ministries Coordinator Virgil Childs (center) and elders from churches around the conference participate in the convocation's worship service.

and the message was deep," said Eric Holness, Oakland-Elmhurst church youth pastor. "With these youth services I'm reminded that our church leaders are still looking out for us young people, and I appreciate that very much."

In the afternoon, churches participated in the Bible Bowl and Bible Quizarama. The convocation ended with an evening social.

"It was a blessing to be part of the convocation. From the speakers, to the music, to the fellowship, God's Spirit was present to bring

reality to the theme of 'Connected to Christ, Connected to Community,'" said NCC President Jim Pedersen.

"Our God did not disappoint us," said Virgil Childs, NCC African-American Ministries coordinator. "We made ourselves available to Him and He blessed us."



Anthony Frazier of Mobile Snap Studios

The Fairfield Women of Praise sing on Sabbath morning.



# Galt Church Celebrates Centennial

*Julie Lorenz*

On Sabbath, Sept. 25, the Galt church celebrated its centennial. About 350 church members and guests attended a special Sabbath school program, worship service and hosted lunch. People stayed afterward — some as late as 7 p.m. — to visit with old friends.

“It was an exciting, uplifting day, and I thoroughly enjoyed all of it,” said member Florence Grose.

“It was so nice to see people who have given to the church in so many ways,” said member Louis Pullen. “Their influence has helped me serve God and my fellow man.”

Pacific Union Conference President Ricardo Graham spoke for the worship service, and Stephen Chavez, managing editor of the *Adventist Review*, presented the Sabbath school lesson. (Chavez served as the church’s interim pastor in 1979.) The city’s mayor and vice mayor attended as honored guests.

Former pastors Lester Bennett and Norm Ostrander, and former pastor’s wife Anne (Neergaard)

Caviness, also participated. “It was so cool to see all the former pastors whose names I had heard, but never knew,” said Kaylie Ackerman, one of the church’s youth.

The anniversary committee spent hundreds of hours preparing for the centennial celebration. One member, Erma Nordine, made a souvenir bookmark for each person who attended. The committee endeavored to invite as many former church members as possible. “We went through old church directories and made lots of phone calls,” said committee chair Pat Rosich. “It was fun.”

During the worship service, the congregation watched a slide presentation tracing the church’s history through the decades.

The Galt church was first organized on July 10, 1910, with 13



“The centennial brought everybody together for a common purpose and a common goal,” said Galt Pastor Jim Witcombe.

charter members, one of whom was the grandfather of current member Loren Winn. For the next few years, church members met in various places — a tent, the Galt Christian Church, a church member’s home and a schoolhouse. In 1913, the congregation raised money to buy land and build their own place of worship on A Street. In 1955, the current church building on Myrtle Avenue was finished, built on land donated by Pullen’s parents. It was remodeled in 2008.

As Galt church members recalled their history, they also looked ahead. “We need to remember the past and the faithfulness of people and then to look forward to the future,” said Rosich.

“An anniversary as significant as this one calls for a time of reflection,” said current Pastor Jim Witcombe. “And as we are reminded of God’s leading in the past, we can be certain of His guidance in the future.”



Former Galt church pastor, Norm Ostrander, came from Tennessee for the centennial celebration.

# College Experiences Revival

PUC CAMPUS WAS READY FOR A HARVEST

*Aren Rennacker*

At the start of the 2010 school year, Pacific Union College Chaplain Roy Ice began to feel something heavy come over him. He knew it was something special. Something new. Something divine. “You can sense when the Holy Spirit is around,” Ice says. “It’s a tangible presence.”

It was a presence that assured him that this school year, 2010-2011, would be a year of extraordinary spiritual growth for PUC. That this year would be different — better — than those of the past. “I think God really cares about PUC, and I think

the groundwork that we’ve done over the past five years is leading to a real harvest year,” Ice says. “This is our harvest year.”

It is something Ice had unabashedly proclaimed to students on more than one occasion. He even began Fall Revival, a three-day evangelistic series at PUC in October, by expressing his feeling that a special year was upon the school. Simply said, he was a man with a conviction.

“It’s the tangible presence of God,” he claims, “and I can’t explain it.”

As the final meeting of the revival began, Ice’s proclamation had begun to look like a spot-on prediction. But the powerful ending was still ahead.

The revival began on Wednesday, Oct. 6. Ice had invited Kietrich Germany, the 31-year-old associate pastor of Oakland-Market Street Seventh-day Adventist Church, to be the speaker. Ice had never met the pastor, but knew of his reputation as a lively and dynamic — but very Scripture-based — preacher.

No more than two minutes into his first message, Germany gave his audience a crucial warning. “You’ll have to forgive me,” he began, “but

sometimes I get excited about the word of God. I get a little loud.” In truth, his disclaimer was an understatement. Having given sermons since he was a teenager, Germany had acquired an audible passion in his preaching that could rival any evangelist and make you question the need for a microphone.

It was also in the inaugural sermon, which was titled “It’s Still Amazing,” that Germany informed them of his expectations. “I believe that God is going to do something powerful this week,” he announced. “We’ve got some great things in store.”

“By definition, grace is inherently unfair,” Germany proclaimed from the stage. “You can’t be good enough to receive God’s grace, and you can’t do anything bad enough to cause Him not to give you that grace. God loves you just because you are His child!”

To Ice, it was the ideal introductory message. “After the first talk, I walked up to Kietrich and told him it was perfect,” he recalls. “I felt like God really guided him in what platform to preach from.”

Ice and Germany had talked months before about what they wanted to do on the final night of revival, and they had come to a similar conclusion: a push for greater commitment. This would have to include a formal appeal — something Ice knew would be a challenge for many students. “We’re in a culture here where the predominant



Students led out in the praise service at Fall Revival.

Loni Johnson



Pastor Kietrich Germany's passion for the Word helped spark a revival at PUC.

group of students are unaccustomed to a regular altar call," he says. "It was something they had to ask if they were comfortable with." In a harvest year, crossing the line of comfort is often necessary.

It would also include a small card that the students were given as they walked in. It simply read "I choose to have a closer walk with God through..." Five choices were presented, including a renewal of commitment, joining a Bible study group, and being baptized.

At a quarter to nine, Germany began to speak. With even greater fervor than usual, he urged the students to experience God for themselves. "He's the doorway of deliverance! He's the pathway of peace! He's the roadway of righteousness! He's the highway of holiness! He's the gateway of glory! And oh, I wish I could describe Him to you." Roars of applause and "amens" filled the room.

As he neared the end, Germany began his final appeal. He encouraged the students to grab a pencil and consider the options on the card, and paused quietly to allow the Holy Spirit to speak. Next, he invited all those who made one of the decisions to come forward for prayer. Within minutes, nearly 200 students stood shoulder to shoulder up front.

"The Word of God tells us that when one sinner repents, all of Heaven throws a party," Germany said. "You better believe right now in glory, God is calling out to Gabriel to strike up the band."

In all, 240 students made a decision that night, including thirteen who expressed interest in baptism. Brent Wild, a senior who requested group Bible study, was especially impacted by the format of the appeal. "Most preachers just do an altar call that is all or nothing, but he

realized that through the Christian walk people are at different places in their lives. I thought that was cool because it gave people a chance to get involved where they're at."

"I had some great conversations with students afterward who were wrestling with where they stood," Ice says. "I think anyone that causes us to question where we stand with Christ and our level of public commitment is doing us all a service."

In addition to Wild, 82 other students requested to begin Bible study. Several students also offered to begin leading out their own Bible studies. PUC's pastoral team has since followed up by sending invitations to those who signed up for studies and contacting those wanting baptism.

In three days, Germany was able to touch the hearts of a diverse group of students and challenge them to make a decision that would last much longer than his short time at PUC. In so doing, he was able to spark the minds of some students, touch the hearts of others, and truly bring a fall revival to PUC.

Haley Wesley



Students responded to the Fall Revival altar call in a big way: 240 made a renewed commitment to God, including 83 signing up for Bible studies and 13 for baptism.



# Small Groups Have a Mission

SABBATH SCHOOL DIRECTOR FOCUSES ON FELLOWSHIP

*Marc Cid*

**M**ary Yepes, convinced that the seventh day was the Sabbath, began attending an Adventist church. And though she had casual interactions with its members, it was not until she had attended for three years that someone realized she was not a Seventh-day Adventist.

That someone was a church greeter named Ruth Villanueva. She introduced Mary to another member, Jocelyn Sonsona, for Bible studies. From there, Yepes joined a small Bible study group led by Levi Pagunsan. Three other members in that same group had already been baptized as a result of joining it.

After Rudy Bermudez, conference adult Sabbath school ministries director, helped Yepes with the more

difficult topics, she was baptized by Robert Streib, the pastor of Laguna Niguel church, on July 31.

Because of that story and others like them, Bermudez believes that the small group method has great potential for outreach. And he has a plan to keep small groups in big churches. When Jesus started His ministry, He started with 12 disciples and trained them to teach and preach. Bermudez advocates a similar approach. Within each small group, the veteran members are trained as teachers and leaders so that when their group becomes large enough, they can split off and lead a new group. The pastor of the church must play a big role in guiding and forming these groups.

Bermudez supports his assertion about the value of small groups by quoting from James Cress's *You Can Keep Them If You Care*: "A lack of fellowship was the strongest factor influencing personal decisions to leave the church" (p. 41).

He also calls upon Ellen White's *Selections From the Testimonies Bearing on Sabbath School Work*: "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort is a plan that has been presented by One who cannot err" (p. 20).

These testimonies reveal a solution not only to prevent losing members, but a resolution to bring back those who have left. Bermudez believes in including each church member in a group of eight to 10 people, whether it be through Sabbath school, Pathfinders, prayer groups, or other groups. In a small group, members are more likely to participate and interact for a closer fellowship than in the church at large.

Because of their small group format, Bermudez says that Sabbath school classes serve "as the catalyst to strengthen church members by including the care ingredient in the class before the lesson is presented. A time is set aside to get to know the members and build rapport with them, establish relationships, recognize special events in their lives and encourage them to bring their friends. And the Sabbath school members will visit absent



From left: Ruth Villanueva, greeter; Mary Yepes, recently baptized; and Jocelyn Sonsona, who gave Mary her Bible studies.



Jocelyn Fay



Rudy Bermudez is director of adult Sabbath school, prison and disabilities ministries at Southeastern California Conference.

members and communicate with them during the week.”

Fellowship is the focus, Bermudez says, but the three other goals of Sabbath school (spiritual growth, world mission, and community outreach) are not neglected. In fact, to avoid merely becoming a clique, these groups must have a mission: to nurture the existing group members and to reach out. Small groups not only create a more solid, smaller church family within the bigger church family, but they can also help the church grow. When a member invites a friend from outside the church, that newcomer will feel less overwhelmed and intimidated when introduced to the church in a group small enough that they can remember names and faces. The small group method spiritually grounds Christians

in human relationships, and the intimate fellowship it can offer may attract newcomers as well.

Bermudez has been advocating small groups for seven years, and aims to make visits to every church in the conference to give seminars about them to each congregation. Bermudez acknowledges that small groups may not attract new members as dramatically as other forms of evangelism, but they specifically address the factors that may cause a new member to abandon church. And if the church is to grow, the church must not only attract new members but give them reasons to stay. Bermudez suggests that Christian fellowship is one such reason.

## Park Is New Vice President for Asian/Pacific Ministries

*Jocelyn Fay*

Jonathan Park, former associate pastor of the Loma Linda Korean church, is Southeastern California Conference’s new vice president for Asian/Pacific ministries.

Park was named by the conference executive committee on September 23 to replace Rudy Bermudez, who has retired. Bermudez will continue to do part-time ministry at the conference as director of adult Sabbath school, prison and disabilities ministries.

Park, who earned his Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University in 1995, served as a pastor in the Northern California, Southern

California, and Chesapeake conferences before moving to Southeastern in 2007.

Park has a passion to make Adventism real in the lives of the younger generation, and to immerse them in ministry so they know they are making a difference in their churches.

“As an institution in this world, we are bound to face issue after issue. Yet if we are only focusing on the issues that rise, we will not make any progress,” Park said. “When we have a clear vision and goals, when we have passion and drive to be healthy churches, we will work through the issues to

achieve the vision and goals that God has given to us. It is my commitment to serve the pastors and churches so that in spite of the issues we are facing, we will be called ‘good and faithful servants’ by God.”

Park and his wife, Ashley, have three children, Evelyn, 13; Brandon, 11; and Sydney, 6.



Jonathan Park



# Inland Empire Foundation Receives Congressman's Recognition

*Jocelyn Fay, with Tim Evans*

United States Congressman Joe Baca recently presented a Community Leadership Award to The Unforgettables Foundation, founded and directed by Tim Evans, a member of the Campus Hill church in Loma Linda.

Baca, who represents California's 43rd district, honored the foundation for its commitment to financially supporting families struggling with the cost of burying a child. Evans received the award on behalf of the foundation at Baca's annual Community Leadership Awards dinner on October 22.

Evans and his wife, Sonya, who also has been a part of this ministry from its beginning, say they were humbled to have received Baca's award.

"Joe has always asked us encouragingly about our mission and has supported us actively at a number of our golf events. He is a strong voice for those who are struggling," Evans says.

Thirty years ago Evans and Tom Sherwin became friends as camp counselors in Michigan. Years later they worked together in the Pediatric Emergency Room at the Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, where Evans was the head chaplain and Sherwin was a physician. There they recognized a seemingly overlooked community issue — the crisis of unexpected death for unprepared families.

Ten years ago Evans and Sherwin established The Unforgettables Foundation, with Sherwin serving as chair



Through the years, supporters of The Unforgettables Foundation have conducted a New Year's Eve march through Loma Linda called "Lights for Little Lives." After the march, at the Campus Hill church, they conduct a service during which the names of children who have died are spoken aloud by parents as they light a candle in remembrance. This December 31 the walk will be held in two locations. Walks will begin at 3:30 p.m. at the Palm Desert Civic Center and at the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House.

of the fledgling board made up of community leaders from the Inland Empire.

"We had a really strong board from the very beginning," Sherwin recalls. "People instantly saw that we were meeting an unmet need." In its first year of offering financial support, the foundation helped 82 families bury children from causes of death such as cancer, accidents, stillbirth, and sickle-cell anemia.

During its 10 years of service to grieving families, the foundation has applied donations to mortuary bills for about 3,000 children.

Evans offers the response of Guillermo Belman, from Riverside, as typical: "I appreciate you guys helping me pay for my little baby's cremation — Baby Angel. I am sorry for not sending you a letter of appreciation earlier. It's a rough time. Thank God there are people like you guys that help on occasions like this.

I'll be praying for you guys and will appreciate The Unforgettables all the days of my life."

"Many of these families have been referred by LLU Children's Hospital," Evans says, "but we work with all area hospitals." Recently, after 10 years of service as an Unforgettables volunteer, Evans left his job as executive director of development at La Sierra University to become the foundation's lone full-time staff member.

"It gives me a chance to put my fund-raising training into use," he says. "Raising funds is a real challenge for small causes right now. But we believe that ultimately there should be a chapter of our ministry at every major children's hospital and trauma center, including every Adventist hospital."

For more information about The Unforgettables Foundation, go to [www.theunforgettables.com](http://www.theunforgettables.com).



# Fourth Graders Partner With LLBN on Salvation Submarine

*Shawna Campbell, with Clayton Koh*

**K**iller whales powered by the Holy Spirit, hermit crabs covered by the full armor of God, and oysters transformed through irritating experiences — these are just a few of the many unexpected sights that kids see while aboard the “Salvation Submarine.”

“Salvation Submarine” is the newest Loma Linda Broadcasting Network children’s television show created, written, and acted by fourth graders at Loma Linda Elementary School, guided by their teacher, Clayton Koh. It was filmed last year but will air in the spring of 2011; his current fourth-grade class will film new episodes this school year.

Koh says that in each episode, viewers in 149 countries worldwide embark on an underwater adventure. A scuba diver, a game-show host, an engineer, a marine biologist, some passengers, and two captains greet and guide them on a bubble-popping journey that leads to discoveries of biblical treasures found in the underwater plants and animals. Viewers learn through stories, science, and songs that the Bible can be fun while providing valuable lessons for their lives.

This show is a part of the service-learning curriculum that is widespread on the campus of Loma Linda Academy. Teachers and students work together to learn academic content through real-life service projects that simultaneously motivate learning and enhance the lives of others in the community



Stew Harty, right, and Clayton Koh coach Genevieve Pidal, Rajesh Kelly, and Pere-re Herd on the game show set.

and, through television or the Internet, around the world.

“The ‘Salvation Submarine’ project taught students reading, speaking, and writing skills. Students also reported learning important social skills, including teamwork, conflict resolution, and patience. Most important, kids experienced first-hand the life-changing, challenging, and rewarding aspects of spreading the gospel message of Matthew 28:19 to the world,” said Koh.

“Salvation Submarine” is the second TV show that LLBN and LLE have created together. Last year, “Hope Train” was produced and filmed in the LLBN studio, and the 13-episode season began airing last spring. “Hope Train” can

be viewed on LLBN on Sabbath mornings at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It can be watched via satellite or on the Internet at [www.llbn.tv](http://www.llbn.tv) by clicking on the “Watch LLBN” tab. “Salvation Submarine” and “Hope Train” are just two of the many shows that LLBN produces and airs worldwide.

“This is just the beginning of what God is doing through these students. Thanks to parent support, child creativity, LLBN’s production, and the inspiration and power of the Holy Spirit, both “Hope Train” and “Salvation Submarine” will be effective tools to share the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ to the entire world,” Koh said.



# The Place Members Experience God's Greatness on Mission Trips

*Randall Goulard*

**T**he Place Adventist Fellowship in Newbury Park is seeing the greatness of God in powerful ways. Each summer members embark on a missionary journey to varying destinations. Their purpose is always the same: to experience the greatness of God and to show the love and kindness of Jesus.

In 2010, two opportunities presented themselves, one in Honduras and another in Chad, Africa.

“Missions show where God resides — within the pain and poverty and trials of a lack of [basic human needs],” said Lisa Kincaid, who has participated in every mission trip that The Place has done. “God shines through and humbly moves in each of our hearts, and each journey brings me closer to the Truth that provides a way for me to spread His good news.”

Those who went to Honduras August 1-12 shared this good news in the cities of La Ceiba and Tegucigalpa.

The primary goal was to minister to orphans in the Casa Cielo orphanage, but they believe God showed them much more that He wanted done. Digging out tree stumps for a new orphanage site, playing with kids in the waters of the Caribbean, putting on Vacation Bible School programs for different villages, handing out toothbrushes to children who make their home in a landfill, and ministering to

members of the 18th Street Gang were just a few of these opportunities. “God moved in such amazing ways,” the group leader noted, “that I have already begun to make plans to repeat the trip next year; everyone should have a chance to experience this.”

In September, a second trip led participants to the Muslim village of Abu Budam in Chad

to help James Appel, an Adventist medical missionary, complete a new medical clinic in just eight days. The group worked in blazing heat to construct a clinic made of cement bags mortared together, and had very primitive accommodations. “God is alive and well in Chad!” Senior Pastor Simon Liversidge said in his first sermon after returning.

The group came away with two realizations: that there are ways to share Jesus with Muslims if we can get past some basic misunderstandings, and that working together in His spirit can break down a lot of walls. Liversidge challenged members of The Place to recognize daily at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. that “God is great,” a powerful act of worship and a declaration that He is working all around the world.



The Place members stand with locals on a newly-completed medical clinic in the Muslim village of Abu Budam in Chad.

Brandon Schwarz



Jacquie Hutauruk

Jenna Hutauruk brings smiles to girls of a Honduran village during The Place's summer mission trip.



# Nenad Didara Ordained

*Betty Cooney*

**Y**ou are our first born, Nenad,” said Miroslav Didara, president of the Sudan Field, as he spoke at his son’s ordination service earlier this year in the Eagle Rock church. “I was thinking often that it would be nice if you could become a pastor. I never told you, because I didn’t want to influence you. You had to follow your inner convictions, not just my expectations as your father.

“After my son finished high school 10 years ago,” the father said to the audience, “Nenad approached me. ‘I have decided to become a pastor,’ he said. ‘I want to study theology.’ So my dream came true.”

In his response later in the service, Nenad expressed gratitude to his parents. “My family was stable,” he said. “My brother, my mother; and probably the biggest reason for that stability was my father’s integrity and dedication to his calling as a pastor. He has always stood for what is right.” He also expressed gratitude to the Eagle Rock church, “for giving me hope that I will be okay as a minister here. Thank you for being supportive, for giving me a welcome.

“How do I know God called me? He led me through difficult moments and it was a quiet voice in my heart that made a difference. He has called me. Let us all respond to Him, saying, ‘Here am I, send me.’”

Born in Zadar, Croatia, Nenad Dadara’s family moved to Newbold

College, in England, where his father pursued graduate study. During this time, Nenad noted that he had life-changing experiences that “in many ways, shaped my future path.”

By the end of 1992, the family returned to Croatia, which was at war. Following his baptism there, he eventually was asked to become a youth coordinator for campus worship and reported that he realized then “that serving God was the most exciting privilege in the world. This is when I felt the call

to ministry and decided to dedicate my life to serve God as a minister.”

Didara and his wife, Zeljka, ministered in Croatia for two years.

In 2005, the Southern California Conference invited Didara to serve as a minister and eventually assigned him as associate pastor at the Eagle Rock church, in charge of children’s and youth ministries.

In 2008, he completed his master’s degree in youth theology at Lampeter University, Wales.

Nenad and Zeljka are the parents of Samuel Noah, age 2.

Betty Cooney



(L. to r.) Miroslav Didara, Nenad, Velino Salazar, SCC executive secretary; and Nadica Didara, mother of Nenad



# Camp Meeting 2010 Celebrates Adventist Name

Betty Cooney

**T**he Sunland-Tujunga, Living Stones and Lighthouse Community churches joined in a “mini-camp meeting” with Crescenta Valley Adventist School Oct. 1-2, 2010, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church name.

“I learned about Seventh-day Adventism through an evangelistic series,” said Cary Fisher, pastor of the Sunland-Tujunga and Living Stones churches, in opening the meeting. “It changed my life. The Adventist name is part of who I am.”

Speaking on one of several featured aspects of Adventism, Morre Dean, CEO and president of Glendale Adventist Medical Center, commented on the beginnings of Adventist health work in Glendale.

“The reason they started the Glendale Sanitarium (now Glendale Adventist Medical Center) was to meet people’s needs and to share God’s love. It was also important that, not only can we help you get better, we can show you a better way to live.” Other Adventist

hospitals sharing that perspective within the Southern California Conference include White Memorial and Simi Valley Hospital.

Speaker Roy Branson, associate dean of the Loma Linda University School of Religion, portrayed Adventist pioneers as reformers involved in temperance, anti-slavery and other moral reforms of their day. He profiled early Adventist leaders as proponents of Revelation’s “healing of the nations,” along with their deep commitment to the “salvation of the community.”

“They lived and implemented the healing of the nations,” Branson said, sharing vignettes of Adventist reformers from the denomination’s earliest days to more recent times of the first Civil Rights march in Selma, Alabama. “It was all part of



James Dok, associate pastor of the Norwalk church, shares mission experiences from Cambodia and Thailand, in a spotlight on missions. Other spotlights included evangelism, education and publishing work.

Robert Kooremy

Adventist belief in ‘making man whole,’ part of the ‘healing of the nations.’”

Sabbath’s presentations focused on the church present and future. “The family is crucial to holding a mature faith in the church family,” noted speaker V. Bailey Gillespie, professor of Theology and Christian Personality, La Sierra University. “We are a family. We hold something precious: people who love each other and care for each other, who see the best in each other. All church families are the parents and families of the children in the church.”

Glendale Adventist Medical Center and local Pathfinders donated lunch. Attendees gave donations for the meal, benefiting Crescenta Valley Adventist School’s scholarship fund. The Living Stones church provided haystacks for supper.

In the concluding message, Rogelio Paquini, pastor of the Spanish-American church and a former pastor of Lighthouse Community, meshed the camp meeting’s past, present and future themes by telling young people, “You are the church of today — and tomorrow.”

Robert Kooremy



Camp Meeting 2010 drew an audience eager for a camp meeting experience under a tent. Smaller tents placed around the campus added to the camp meeting atmosphere. One tent offered water provided by the Sunland-Tujunga church for the hot weekend.



# Los Angeles Thai Adventist Company Organizes

Betty Cooney

The Los Angeles Thai Adventist company officially organized Sept. 25, in the Hollywood church, where they have been meeting for nearly ten years. In a room packed with Thai Adventist believers, the service celebrated the group's decade of ministry in Thai Town and the surrounding area.

During that time the group baptized about 21 people, started a Thai Bible correspondence school and launched "Kao Dee," a Thai TV program. The program has been airing weekly to Thai and Lao audiences in 26 states in North America since 2005. Thai Adventists conduct an annual health fair serving the Thai-Lao communities in Los Angeles County as part of a major Thai New Year's Day celebration.

For that New Year's outreach, Pastor Somchai Piromgraiakd has regularly enlisted the participation of area Pathfinder clubs to march in the event's parade, displaying a large banner identifying Adventist participation. The Adventist Book Center was also invited to have a booth near the popular Thai health fair booths that offered free screening and health education materials. As a result of the church's involvement, Somchai has been invited to share inspirational remarks as part of the occasion.

Somchai summed up the group's approach to service with a familiar formula,  $E=MC^2$ . "'E' equals Evangelism and Eternal life," he explained. "'M' equals Ministry



(L. to r.) Elders George Atiga, Pacific Union Asian-South Pacific ministries director; Velino Salazar, SCC executive secretary; Samuel Lee, SCC Asian-Pacific region director (at pulpit); James G. Lee, Jr., SCC vice-president; Pastor Somchai; and Larry L. Caviness, SCC president.

and Members working together. 'C' equals Commitment to Christ Completely, preparing people for His coming."

"The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of mankind," said Larry L. Caviness, Southern California Conference president. "It was organized for service and its mission is to carry the gospel to all the world. You are to be salt, light and healing waters in that mission.

"As people think of the Thai church because they know you, may they say of the Los Angeles Thai congregation," Caviness added, "The Lord is there among His people."

Begun with a nucleus of a dozen members from the Redlands Thai church which had originally been their church home, 38 charter members of the L.A. Thai company responded to Velino Salazar, SCC executive secretary's, invitation to come forward during its organization service.

"The Lord has led us," said Somchai. "The many opportunities that we have had for ministry in the community are because of His guidance. Our mission is to join in the movement of preparing people for Christ's soon return. Praise be to His name."

Betty Cooney

# Pharmacy Students Provide Medical Care in Romania

*Richard Weismeyer*

**E**leven students from Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy returned from a 10-day mission trip to Romania on Aug. 10. Led by Naomi R. Florea, Pharm.D., the 11 students provided medical care to patients in two underserved, poverty-stricken villages.

Prior to their departure, the students received intensive clinical training from Andrew S. Florea, M.D., a 2001 graduate of the School of Medicine, and Naomi Florea. Training included physical examination and diagnosis, disease state management, patient consultation, and cultural appropriateness.

“Having grown up in a developing country myself, I have witnessed many of the difficulties of gaining access to medical care. I never thought I would find these types of difficulties in a European country,” says Michael Ibrahim, School of Pharmacy class of 2011 student. “But I did in Romania. Through our mission trip to Romania, I have come to feel a deep sense of satisfaction for helping underserved populations, and I am looking forward to continuing the pursuits as I strive to become a doctor of pharmacy.”

In Romania the team was joined by three local physicians who worked with them to screen, diagnose and treat hundreds of patients with numerous diseases, including congestive heart failure, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary

disease, asthma and a variety of acute and chronic infectious diseases.

All of the medications and medical supplies for the mission trip were donated by the LLU Medical Center pharmacy, thanks to the efforts of Paul Norris, Pharm.D., executive director of pharmacy and medical management, LLUMC, and associate dean for clinical affairs and professor of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, School of Pharmacy.

“The kindness, mercy, and love that poured out of the 11 School of Pharmacy students was unparalleled,” says Naomi Florea. “They worked in the most difficult conditions, caring for hundreds of patients, while maintaining the most hardworking and gracious attitudes. They clearly showed the love of Jesus in all their actions. They were shining lights in a darkened world and this opened the door for us to share the gospel with patients in Romania. This trip truly brought all glory and honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.”

“The students from the School of Pharmacy were so well prepared and had such a strong knowledge base,” says Peter Barbu, M.D., a physician from Timisoara, Romania. “After working with them, I no longer considered them students; instead I considered them my colleagues. I count it my privilege to have worked beside them on this medical mission trip.

“This was definitely the best experience of my life. I honestly still have Romania-withdrawal,” says Anna Lee, class of 2011.

“While Romania was my first mission trip through Loma Linda University, it most definitely won’t be my last,” says Stephen Hom, School of Pharmacy class of 2013. “This was an experience of a lifetime, having the opportunity to help others in need of medical service. God has graciously given me the knowledge and abilities to help others, and I undoubtedly will continue to do so throughout the rest of my life.”



Students and faculty member who participated in the Romania mission trip include (bottom row, from left) Michelle Hoang Thuy Nguyen; Anna Lee; Naomi Florea, Pharm.D.; Ashley Schuler, and Myelene Manalo. Top row, from left are Jeffmar Dickey, David Whatton, Michael Ibrahim, Steven Bowen, Steven Hom, and Jean Pierre Bullon.

Loma Linda University

# 'Who Touched Me?' Sculpture Unveiled at Loma Linda University

*James Ponder*

One of the most electrifying incidents in the New Testament recently came to life on the campus of Loma Linda University when a larger-than-life sculpture depicting Christ and the woman who touched His garment in faith was unveiled at the north entrance to the Centennial Complex on Wednesday, Oct. 20.

Titled "Who Touched Me?" in honor of the story recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the new work of art is the result of a collaboration between philanthropist Reuben Matiko, M.D., and sculptor Alan Collins.

At the ceremony, Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president of the university, welcomed the audience and said the sculptural installation "has been a long time in coming." He pointed out that Collins was approached several years ago by Matiko to create a sculpture that would memorialize the incident described in Matthew chapter 9 and Luke chapter 8.

Collins is well known in Loma Linda as the artist responsible for the Good Samaritan sculpture on the campus mall between Prince Hall and the University church.

Since Matiko was unable to attend the service due to a health issue, his son Jim Matiko, M.D., read the words of a poem his father wrote in response to the conclusion of the story from Matthew 9:22:

*Christ's sacred words verity tell.*

*For twelve worrisome years  
she grievously bled.*

*Her doctors didn't succeed — alibis probably said.*

*Her FAITH, a spiritual essence,  
distinctly divine,*

*So readily provided ample courage  
to her spine.*

Hart noted that the poem will be inscribed on a plaque and placed at the base of the installation.

In his remarks, Lowell Cooper, M.Div., M.P.H., chair of the board of trustees, suggested that "a picture is worth a thousand words, and depending on who is speaking, maybe ten thousand."

Cooper noted that there are moments when words obscure meaning and silence leads to deeper understanding. He said that "we contemplate life's deepest questions in silence," and expressed his hope that this sculpture would provoke many silent encounters in the years to come as students, faculty, and members of the community come face to face with the meaning of the story. "Jesus Christ stands before us as the Pattern Man," Cooper concluded. "His love, pure and simple, blessed all who came within the circle of its influence. We are to do the same."

In his concluding prayer, Wil Alexander, Ph.D., emeritus professor in the School of Religion, and professor of family medicine in the School of Medicine, said to God that "We read in Your word that the clouds are the dust underneath Your feet, and so You walk among us today." Alexander thanked the Creator for the gifts "that have brought all this about," and commented that the woman depicted in the sculpture reached out in faith.

"You have called us to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ," he concluded. "Your power is the source today as it was then. Each of us is touched by Your love. Some day, in the not-too-distant future, may the meaning of the sculpture come to life in our hearts."

Loma Linda University



Richard Hart, M.D., Dr.P.H., president of Loma Linda University, addresses attendees at the unveiling and dedication ceremony for the "Who Touched Me?" sculpture installation at the north entrance of the Centennial Complex.

# Big Gains for Adventist Elementary Education

*Denny Krause*

**E**lementary Adventist education in the Nevada-Utah Conference is booming this school year. Opening enrollments for the 2010-2011 school year across the ten conference elementary schools are up nearly 14 percent over closing enrollments last year.

Both large and small schools, in all areas of the conference, saw enrollment increases for this school year. Two schools were standouts in overall gains. Las Vegas Junior Academy experienced a 39% increase in enrollment, and Summit Christian Academy (Salt Lake City) recorded a 17% increase in its number of students.

One might wonder how such large increases are possible in an era of economic challenges and general decreases over the years in students attending Adventist schools.

Dick Molstead, co-superintendent of education for the Nevada-Utah Conference thinks he may have the answer. Molstead points out, "It's an issue of perception. Parents see an overall advantage when their children receive quality, value-based, Christian education in a safe environment."

Nevada-Utah Conference co-superintendent for education, Anita Molstead, has an answer, too, and is quick to point out, "Our teachers make all the difference. They are innovative, creative, dedicated,



Silver State Adventist School students take a break from volunteering at Wildlife Shelter, Inc. in the Lake Tahoe area.

and foster a fantastic learning environment."

Many factors come into play when thinking about positioning a school for growth. In all cases, however, it is important to be intentional and distinctive. Principals of Nevada-Utah Conference elementary schools have caught that vision and are demonstrating its importance.

Volunteers play a major role in enhancing a church school program. Arlyn Sundsted, principal of Las Vegas Junior Academy, says, "An army of volunteers makes a difference for us to help with teaching special classes, offering extra-curricular programs, assisting with afternoon care, and putting on special events."

Trevor Kendal, principal of Summit Christian Academy in Salt Lake City, believes engaging classroom environments are a

dividend-paying enhancement to an overall school program. Kendal states, "Each teacher, with help from a set designer, transformed their classroom into another world — ancient Egypt, a rainforest, a space station, the desert national parks of Utah, etc. As students and parents came to visit the school, the beautiful, themed classrooms instantly piqued their interest and produced an excitement for the coming year."

At Silver State Adventist School in Reno, Claritza Karry, principal, believes that involvement in the community is key to setting a school on a growth path. So far this year, two community projects have been completed — one at the Reno Women's Homeless Shelter and the other at Wildlife Shelter, Inc. in the Lake Tahoe area. Karry comments, "I believe the Lord is blessing our school this year with wonderful students and parents. We are working together to be a light in the Reno area."

The entire Nevada-Utah Conference administrative, educational and pastoral team is committed to Adventist Christian education, and is diligently working to increase the number of schools, enhance the existing ones, position all for growth, and offer strong academics and enhanced spiritual opportunities for Adventist and community students throughout the conference.



# Associate Pastor Ordained at Mountain View Church

*Sheree McCandless*

**M**ay 22, 2010 was a high day for the Mountain View church family in Las Vegas. Richard “Brett” Hadley was ordained in a special, combined early and late church worship service.

Larry Unterseher, Nevada-Utah Conference president officiated at the service and give the ordination charge. Denny Krause, then Mountain View church senior pastor,

offered the ordination prayer. Following the prayer, the worship service sermon for the day was delivered by the just-ordained Pastor Brett Hadley.

Pastor Brett (or “PB” as the young people call him) has been an associate pastor at Mountain View since June, 2007, with primary responsibilities in the areas of high school ministry and children’s ministry. Many other areas fall under his leadership, as well.

Krause, comments, “Pastor Brett has been a wonderful and spiritual addition to the pastoral staff at Mountain View, and the whole staff and church are proud to have been associated with him, and congratulate him on his ordination.”



Nevada-Utah Conference President Larry Unterseher (left) presents an ordination gift to Pastor Brett Hadley, while Senior Pastor Denny Krause looks on.

Immediately prior to joining the Mountain View church pastoral staff, Hadley was an eighth-grade teacher at Las Vegas Junior Academy. Earlier in his career, Hadley has been a teacher, youth pastor, and campus chaplain at Aspen Camp School for the Deaf (Aspen, Colo.), Carmichael church (Sacramento, Calif.), Madison Academy (Madison, Tenn.), and Sawgrass Adventist School (Plantation, Fla.).

Hadley has a long history in Christian theater arts. He directed

the Adventist Christian Theater drama troupe for eighteen years, and obtained an MFA degree in Theater from the University of California, Davis. His formal education was received from Mount Pisgah Academy and Southern Adventist University.

Pastor Brett is married to Miranda and they both enjoy parenting their 4-year-old daughter, Aspen.

Richard Faverly



Newly ordained Pastor Brett Hadley

Madison Burnett

# African-American Pastors Create Ministerial Fellowship

*Phil Draper*

Arizona's African-American pastors took what they consider to be a momentous step this year by establishing a ministerial fellowship. The current fellowship consists of nine pastors.

W. Don Edwards, assistant to the president for African-American ministries and senior pastor of the Beacon Light church, is the fellowship director.

We pray that God will crown our efforts with success.”

Fellowship members provide a broad range of talents and work experience.

Shane Davis, pastor of the Chandler/South Mountain district, is a former Iowa state trooper with a remarkable conversion story. Davis was ordained this summer at the Arizona camp meeting.

was performed for him at police headquarters.

Al Bowden came to Arizona from the Shiloh church in Kansas. Recently retired, Bowden is actively assisting Shane Davis at South Mountain.

Walter Arties, former director of Breath of Life and recently manager of the Voice of Prophecy, chose to retire in Prescott. An internationally acclaimed musician, Arties is active at the South Mountain church and serves as the liaison for the Arizona Conference to the Pacific Union Regional Ministries department.

Dennis Keith, a retired under-treasurer for the General Conference, is active in the Peoria-Sun Cities church.

James Washington, pastor of Shepherd of the Valley company, is the former coordinator for African-American ministries for the Arizona Conference.

B.J. Warren, director of prison ministries for Arizona, is actively involved in the programs at the Beacon Light church.

Florence Darby, recording secretary for the fellowship, has been an administrative assistant to the African-American, Native-American and community services departments for the Arizona Conference for the past 30 years. “Sister Darby” is considered a good will ambassador by fellowship members, who value her participation and connections.

Phil Draper



African-American ministerial fellowship was recently formed to help in all aspects of ministry within the Arizona Conference. Front row: Walter Arties, Florence Darby, Don Edwards; Back row: Cleophas Mims, Shane Davis and Dennis Keith.

Edwards states, “Its purpose is to give tangible support to each of its constituents and to plan and execute programs that will enhance the ministry for African-Americans in Arizona. Drawing from the wealth of experience that resides within the fellowship, we look forward to significant professional growth and spiritual support for our pastors as they recommit to finishing the work here in Arizona. We are eager to add new members to the fellowship as time progresses.

Abraham Francois, pastor of the Sharon church in Tucson, recently came to the Arizona Conference from the North Pacific Union and brings a wealth of wisdom, insight and experience.

Cleophas Mims, pastor of the Buckeye church, recently retired but continues to serve. In addition to fulfilling his pastoral duties at Buckeye, Mims is also actively involved in chaplain ministry with the Phoenix Police Department. A recent swearing in ceremony



# Volunteers Help Build Community Center for Navajos at Coppermine

BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA VOLUNTEERS LEND HELPING HANDS

*Shirley Chipman*

From the beginning of their ministry, Allen and Kelley Fowler, of Diné Outreach in Coppermine, northern Arizona, have dreamed of building a community service center in Coppermine — for worship, teaching and providing food and clothing for the local Navajo people. That dream is taking shape, thanks to volunteers and mission groups.

The Fowlers were thrilled last summer to receive a phone call from Dora Buller, a mission-minded woman in her 80's from Bakersfield, Calif. Dora had read about Diné Outreach in the Recorder and then saw the Fowlers on 3ABN. She contacted a group at the Hillcrest church, her home church in Bakersfield, to see if they would help.

Church members got excited about the project, so as soon as a date was set — September 2010 — Dave and Karen Firtch traveled to

Coppermine to make a video of the work to be done. Jamey Houghton, a pastor from Bakersfield Hillcrest, promoted the project, and others got on board.

Volunteer Susan Frye was pleased to be a part of a mission trip that didn't require a passport. She works for a non-profit organization, Pacific Health Education Center in Bakersfield, which teaches health education to people around the world.

"I shared with my boss, Steve Horton, my interest in doing a special health program for the Navajo children, and he was excited about presenting the Eight Laws of Health to the children. He allowed me the time off and use of the work van to transport the equipment needed to complete the project."

Team leader Fana Tiaono asked each of the workers to lead a worship time focused on the life of Jesus. This added to the spiritual closeness of the group and was a

reminder of their purpose in being at Coppermine.

One team member met with the Fowlers at a Flagstaff store to select and pay for door sets for the center (three singles and one double), a stove for the kitchen, paint for the entire building and three kitchen cabinets. Then the (anonymous) team member donated money to buy the tile.

"A totally unexpected blessing was assistance from people in the local community," says Kelley. "We are situated right off a main dirt road, and when neighbors saw the activity, they stopped to check it out and began helping. Lou Spencer and Cheryl Yazzie, a mother and daughter from the community, showed up the first day and pitched right in. They shared food, too, delighting the team with real Navajo fry bread."

"It was a great experience to work alongside this group," says Jim Rickabaugh, a volunteer from Yuma who did plumbing. "Each one had a job and a goal, and they kept right on working until it was complete." Jim's plumbing skills fit in perfectly with the timing of the Bakersfield team.

Every member of the volunteer team, from a homesick girl who was tempted to go back to Bakersfield, but stayed, to the other devoted people in this extraordinary group, said this was a life-changing experience, one they hope to repeat in the near future.

Kelley Fowler



Volunteers from Bakersfield, Calif. stand with Arizona and local community volunteers beside the Pacific Health Education Center van, loaded with materials for the mission project.



# Adventist Health Employees Connect With Patients to Show God's Love

*Brittany Russell*

**N**urses rush in and out of the room. The squeaky wheels of the meal cart echo in the halls. Scratchy voices ring out over the intercom. Through all this activity, how could anyone in a hospital ever feel alone? But it happens every day to patients who are unsure about their futures, scared about treatments or don't have any family at their bedsides.

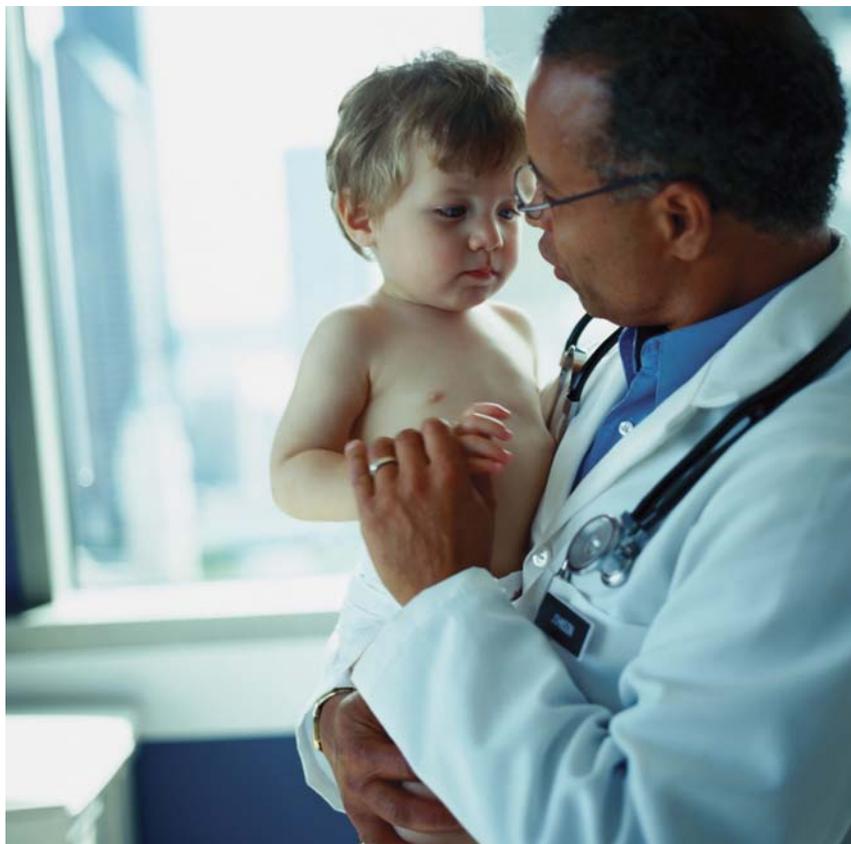
At Adventist Health, doctors, nurses and other staff work to defeat the loneliness and fear that can take hold of patients by offering a kind word, a prayer or even just a smile. This human connection is what can change the whole patient experience from fearful to hopeful. Here are two stories from around our system that illustrate how a human connection can help fulfill our mission of sharing God's love.

## **The Best Toothache I Ever Had**

Most people don't look forward to going to the dentist, but for one man a dental visit to Adventist Health's rural health clinic in Sonora, Calif., changed his life.

Forest Road Health & Wellness Center has a contract with a local county jail to provide dental care to inmates. One day, because of a toothache, a prisoner was brought into the clinic wearing shackles and a red jumpsuit. Slumping in the chair, he seemed very withdrawn and the picture of dejection.

One of the dental assistants tried repeatedly to talk to him but he



just kept looking at the floor with a pained expression. While taking his x-rays, she continued to speak cheerfully to him, and finally he responded. He spoke of how down he was feeling; that he had come from a good family but had gotten in with the wrong crowd, made bad choices and become involved in crime. He was not concerned so much with having to do his time as he was about the results of his actions on his family's lives.

The assistant touched his arm and told him that Christ had died for

him, and no matter what he had done, Christ still cared about him and his family. She went on to tell the prisoner that if he gave his heart to the Lord, things would get better. He broke down and cried as the assistant led him in prayer, and he acknowledged Christ as his Lord. She prayed with him and told him that the whole Forest Road dental staff also would be praying for him and his family.

A few months later, a smiling, cleanly-dressed young man came into the dental clinic. At first, none



of the staff recognized him — the former inmate had just been released from jail.

He indicated that when he was in the clinic as a prisoner he felt as if there was no escape, that he had no future, no chance in life and was afraid his wife would leave him. After his dental visit, his life started to turn around and he was released. He still faces problems but things are beginning to work out at home. He no longer feels like he has to deal with everything by himself. He told the staff, “That was the best toothache I ever had. Thank you so much for being there and caring.”

### **Will You Dance With Jesus?**

As Athena Gustafson, RN, began her shift at Hanford Community Medical Center, she introduced herself to one of her patients, Mary,\* an older woman who was full of life despite terminal cancer. Mary’s vibrant spirit shone through her

deteriorating body, which appeared to worsen by the minute.

That day, the unit was short-handed and Mary insisted on using the bedside commode. She was heavier than average, and Athena had to help her up out of bed because she could no longer bear her own weight. Athena didn’t try to convince Mary otherwise. She was determined to preserve this woman’s dignity for as long as she was able to. At one point, Mary looked at Athena, who was holding her up and quipped, “So, we are dancing here, are we?” Athena smiled and playfully responded that Mary would have to lead.

A few days later, Athena returned to work to find that Mary was losing her battle with cancer. She felt the need to talk with Mary even though she wasn’t her patient that day.

Mary’s family filled the room as Athena walked in and asked to

speak with her. They were gracious to her request. Athena quietly went to Mary’s side and leaned in close to her until there was little room between the two women.

She whispered, “Mary, my name is Athena. I took care of you last week. Do you remember me?”

Mary whispered that she remembered. Tears quickly filled Athena’s eyes as she said, “Remember, Mary, we danced last week. Can you do me a favor?”

“Yes,” Mary responded softly.

“When we get to heaven, will you dance with Jesus, and when I find you, can we dance together?” The response was quiet and faint. “Yes,” Mary replied, and a powerful, unearthly silence fell upon the room.

Mary lost her battle with cancer the following day. Though she is gone, Athena says that Mary’s spirit remains in her heart.

*\*Name was changed to protect patient confidentiality.*

# Nondiscrimination Policy Statement

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in all of its church schools, admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools, and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or loan programs, and extracurricular programs.

## Arizona Conference

Adobe Adventist Christian School  
Desert Valley Christian School  
Glenview Adventist Academy  
Holbrook Adventist Indian School  
Prescott Adventist Elementary School  
Red Rock Christian School  
Saguaro Hills Adventist School  
Thunderbird Adventist Academy  
Thunderbird Christian Elementary School  
Verde Valley Adventist School  
Yuma Adventist School

## Central California Conference

Armona Union Academy  
Bakersfield Adventist Academy  
Central Valley Christian Academy  
Chowchilla Adventist Elementary School  
Dinuba Junior Academy  
Foothill Adventist Elementary School  
Foster-Moore Adventist School  
Fresno Adventist Academy  
Hollister Adventist Christian School  
Kern Adventist Elementary School  
Los Banos Adventist Elementary School  
Mariposa Adventist Christian School  
Miramonte Adventist Elementary School  
Monterey Bay Academy  
Mother Lode Adventist Jr. Academy  
Mountain View Academy  
Oakhurst Adventist Christian School  
Peninsula Adventist School  
San Francisco Adventist School  
Sierra View Junior Academy  
Templeton Hills Adventist School  
Valley View Junior Academy  
VHM Christian School  
West Valley Christian School

## Hawaii Conference

Adventist Malama Elementary School  
Hawaiian Mission Academy  
Hawaiian Mission Academy-Windward Campus  
Kahili Adventist School  
Kohala Mission School  
Kona Adventist Christian School  
Maui Adventist School  
Mauna Loa School

## Nevada-Utah Conference

Abundant Life Christian Academy  
Bishop SDA Elementary School  
Deamude Adventist Christian School  
Eagle Valley Christian School  
Fallon SDA Elementary School  
Las Vegas Junior. Academy  
Monument Valley Mission School  
Silver State Adventist School  
Summit Christian Academy  
Susanville Adventist Christian School

## Northern California Conference

Adventist Christian Elementary School of Red Bluff  
Adventist Christian School of Yuba City  
Bayside SDA Christian School  
Chico Oaks Adventist School  
Clearlake SDA Christian School  
Cloverdale SDA School  
Crescent City SDA School  
Echo Ridge SDA Elementary School  
El Dorado Adventist School  
Feather River Adventist School  
Foothills Elementary School  
Fortuna Junior Academy  
Galt Adventist Christian School  
Hilltop Christian School  
Humboldt Bay SDA School  
Lodi Adventist Academy  
Lodi Elementary School  
Magalia Adventist School  
Manteca Adventist Christian School  
Middletown Adventist School  
Mission Hills SDA School  
Napa Christian Campus of Education  
Orangevale SDA School  
Pacific Union College Elementary School  
Pacific Union College Preparatory School  
Paradise Adventist Academy  
Pine Hills Adventist Academy  
Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy  
Redding Adventist Academy  
Redwood Adventist Academy  
Rio Lindo Adventist Academy  
Sacramento Adventist Academy  
Sutter Hill SDA Elementary School  
Tracy SDA Christian Elementary School  
Ukiah Junior Academy

Vacaville Adventist School  
Westlake SDA School  
Willits SDA School  
Yreka SDA School

## Southeastern California Conference

Calexico Mission School  
Desert Adventist School  
El Cajon SDA Christian School  
Escondido Adventist Academy  
Hemet Adventist Christian School  
Laguna Niguel Junior Academy  
La Sierra Academy  
Loma Linda Academy  
Mesa Grande Academy  
Mentone Adventist Team School  
Murrieta Springs Adventist Christian School  
Needles SDA School  
Oceanside Adventist Elementary School  
Orangewood Academy  
Redlands Adventist Academy  
San Antonio Christian School  
San Diego Academy  
Valley Adventist Christian School  
Victor Valley SDA School  
West Fullerton Christian School  
Yucca Valley Adventist Team School

## Southern California Conference

Adventist Christian School  
Adventist Union School  
Antelope Valley Adventist School  
Conejo Adventist Elementary School  
Crescenta Valley Adventist School  
East Valley Adventist School  
Glendale Adventist Academy  
Linda Vista Adventist Elementary School  
Los Angeles Adventist Academy  
Newbury Park Adventist Academy  
San Fernando Valley Academy  
San Gabriel Academy  
Simi Valley Adventist School  
South Bay Junior Academy  
West Covina Hills Adventist School  
White Memorial Adventist School  
Whittier Adventist Elementary School



# Court Rules for Camp Wawona

CALIFORNIA STATE SUPREME COURT DENIES HEARING PETITION FOR REVIEW OF CAMP ENTITLEMENT

*Caron Oswald*



**W**ith the California Supreme Court's refusal to hear the petition for review of the Camp Wawona entitlement case on October 13, the 20-year land use battle for saving and developing the aging camp finally ended.

"God has prevailed on behalf of Camp Wawona," says Ramiro Cano, interim president of Central California Conference. "This 20-year legal endeavor is at last concluded. We will still need to work on some legal housekeeping items in the coming weeks, but we can rejoice with God's answered prayers."

As executive secretary, Cano has been responsible for overseeing the entitlement process and rebuilding project. Prayer partners, pastors and hundreds of church members have diligently supported Camp Wawona, bathing the project in prayer, writing letters of support and attending several public meetings.

Public hearings, which began in 2006, involved several private and public entities. The Wawona Township Planning Advisory Council with the Wawona Property Owners Association voted to recommend the development project to

the Mariposa County Planning Commission.

A unanimous vote by the Mariposa County Supervisors to approve the conditional use permit and the redevelopment of Camp Wawona in Nov. 2007 seemed to complete 16 years of applications and hearings.

## Decision to Appeal

But the supervisors' approval sparked an appeal. "Land use attorneys on behalf of Central California Conference worked diligently with this case which would, as a by-product, defend the land use rights of individual property owners in the Wawona community," Cano explains.

When the Appellate Court decided on behalf of the Conference, opponents petitioned the California Supreme Court to hear and review the lower court's decision. The Supreme Court's refusal to hear the petition gives Central California Conference the long prayed for outcome.

Through this 20-year process, God's hand of intervention has been evident. Consultants, attorneys and government officials observed and commented

on seemingly impossible happenings and perfect timings on behalf of Camp Wawona.

"At every step of the way, we have been vindicated. God stepped in every time," says Forrest Robertson, Camp Wawona Foundation board member. He and wife Susie have been strong Camp Wawona supporters since the late 70s and now live in Wawona. "Most of our neighbors support the camp," he adds.

The first two rebuilding permits were issued this past spring for the construction of eight Yurt cabins. The Yurts will replace the tent cabins used for male summer camp staff and provide more adequate housing for weekend campers, training events and church retreats.

To view Camp Wawona's approved master plan or for more information about the rebuilding projects, go to <http://ccc.adventist.org>. Select Capital Campaign in the left side menu. Or contact Jackie Bragaw Phillips at [jbragaw@cccsda.org](mailto:jbragaw@cccsda.org) or 559-217-1031.



Rendering of a completed Yurt cabin. Eight platforms were built in May.

# Former MTV Performer Ordained to Ministry

*Shenalyn Page*

Ivor Myers, former MTV performer, was ordained to gospel ministry on September 11. The Templeton Hills church was packed as William Smith, director of literature evangelism for the Southern Union Conference, joined conference officials for the ordination. “The ordination was a special affirmation that God is working with and through me,” says Myers.

Myers fell in love with hip-hop at age four. By high school his rap group, the Boogiemonsters, was winning talent shows. A talent scout heard them during their first year of college and the Boogiemonsters landed an eight album, one million dollar deal with EMI records. His dream life seemed within reach.

Myers and 20 friends dropped out of school to party, write music and smoke marijuana while the Boogiemonsters recorded their first album. During this time “D”, a backslidden Adventist, joined their group. While they were high on pot one evening, the subject of religion came up, and “D” asked if they knew what day the Sabbath was. His answer startled them and they began studying the Bible.

Within six months the entire group was baptized. Myers and his buddies started sharing the three angels’ messages in their hip-hop music, holding up their Bibles on MTV and tossing copies of *The Great Controversy* to the audience

during live shows. But when a fan asked how the Boogiemonsters could represent God, conviction came and Myers left his music career to work at Target.

Not long after, Myers began studying theology at Oakwood University. While there he met and married Atonte Ware. “We love to do ministry together,” says Atonte, who supports Myers in an administrative capacity. “It’s how we fell in love and we plan to do it until Jesus comes.” The couple has four children: Jaden, Joshua, Jenesis, and Jaliyah.

Shortly after their marriage, Myers became lay pastor of a small church in Paso Robles, Calif. In 2003, he joined Steve Wohlberg, then pastor of the Templeton Hills church, as youth pastor/Bible worker. When Wohlberg became a full-time evangelist, conference leaders called Myers to be the church’s pastor.

“I’ve been privileged to watch the Lord raise up this talented young couple,” says former conference president Jerry Page. “They’ve studied the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy

deeply and are filled with the Spirit. I know God will continue to use them powerfully.”

Myers’ mission is to equip his church members so they can be effective witnesses for Jesus. “I am convinced that prayer, Bible study and service within the local church are vital to spreading the gospel,” he says. Myers holds a public outreach series each year.

In addition to pastoring, Myers travels, speaking and sharing his testimony through Power of the Lamb Ministries. He and Atonte have also begun a number of other global ministry movements, including Operation Global Rain and ARME Bible Camp. A number of other ministry concepts are in the works.

“God has laid a heavy burden on me to develop global strategies for evangelism,” says Myers. “I feel called to organize the church at a grass roots level to finish the work, by fostering revival and mobilizing the priesthood of believers.”



The Myers family: (l-r) Joshua, Jaden, Atonte, Ivor, Jenesis, and Jaliyah.

Heather Rechelle



# Former Sailer Prepares for Ministry

*Shenaly Page*

In July, 25-year-old Stephan Rendon, a former “preachers’ kid” turned sailor, felt God’s call to become a minister. “If that’s what God wants, I’m going to do it because He’s my commander,” says Rendon, who enrolled in the theology program at Pacific Union College this fall.

Rendon credits God’s grace and his parents’ persistent prayers for bringing him back to God. “They kept praying and didn’t give up on me. I think that had a huge influence.”

## From Adventist Boy to Drunken Sailor

Rendon says his parents had done everything they could to teach him about Jesus. His father Luis pastored, while his mother Esther postponed nursing school to raise the boys. “We wanted them to be saved,” she states.

“I knew all the Adventist beliefs, but I didn’t know Jesus,” he says. “I just did the formalities of being a preacher’s kid. It didn’t help that everybody was expecting more of me.”

Rendon was fascinated with war stories. He discovered the Navy SEALs and enlisted the day he turned 18. “But I didn’t put God into my plans,” he says. “I know now that was a recipe for failure.”

Rendon breezed through boot camp and, at first, excelled in SEAL training. But just before “hell week” he made a crucial mistake, which automatically eliminated him. He

begged to be reconsidered but was told he’d have to try again in two years. And he was assigned to clean bathrooms. “He went from being way up high, to being way down low,” says Luis, who pastors the Watsonville Spanish and Gilroy English and Spanish churches.

Drinking heavily, he became known as Whiskey Jack among his friends. Often he was in trouble with the Navy. “I was totally out of control,” says Rendon, who did tours of duty in Bahrain, Spain and Israel. “I knew God was real and there would be a judgment day, but it didn’t bother me a bit.”

When he was in trouble, he prayed and God always answered, but his life remained unchanged. “It gets depressing to live by the seat of your pants, because you’re not going anywhere,” he says.

## Answered Prayers

Luis and Esther kept praying, though after a while they changed their prayers. “I began praying that if I had to die, or if he had to die,



Pastor Luis Rendon, right, baptizes his son Stephan in his home church in Watsonville, Calif.



Esther Rendon with her son Stephan.

that was okay as long as he was saved,” Esther says. “My constant desire was for his salvation.”

They often tried to share their faith, but Rendon tuned them out, eating the meat substitutes they sent, and shelving the religious books. But when Gina, a childhood friend, sent him a Bible, he began to read it. “God got my attention through a pretty girl,” he says.

“In the military there’s a manual for everything and I’d often wished there was a manual for life. I started to realize the Bible is that manual. For the first time it was actually my own study and it blew my mind,” he says.

At Gina’s urging, he visited a church near his base. But no one spoke to him, and he vowed to never return to church. But two months later he visited another area church. This time he felt welcomed and decided to attend the evangelistic series beginning that evening. The messages captivated him and, by the series end, he decided to be baptized.

Rendon returned home over Thanksgiving break so his dad could baptize him in his home church. “When he told us he’d decided to be baptized, all we could do was cry,” Esther says.

# Religious Liberty Team Launched in Inland Empire

*Norman Farley and Larry Christoffel*

The Inland Empire of Southern California now boasts an active local North American Religious Liberty Association (NARLA) team, as twenty-two members from eight area churches gathered at the Lake Arrowhead home of Dr. and Mrs. Norm Farley in August to develop future plans. Churches represented included Beaumont, Loma Linda Campus Hill, Corona, San Bernardino Del Rosa, Riverside Kansas Avenue, Loma Linda University, San Bernardino 16th Street and Yucaipa. The group is committed to providing grassroots input to re-ignite local religious liberty ministry in the U.S. A wide ranging discussion considered the question: What will excite the imagination of church members to make NARLA a successful grassroots movement throughout the region and the nation?

The group agreed that a broader emphasis on liberty of conscience is needed in order to generate greater enthusiasm. This would be reflected in a range of issues, such as: human trafficking, hate crimes, public funding of religion, women's rights, early sex education in public schools, the conflict between religious rights and gay rights, America as a Christian nation, and separation of church and state.

The Inland Empire NARLA team expressed a conviction that religious liberty must be a grassroots movement, with important input from the "bottom" and not just led from the "top down." The Adventist church, they say, began as a movement led by lay members, but today many of the laity rely on professional leadership. NARLA teams are being sponsored to return religious liberty ministry to the local church, where they believe it belongs. The group was excited about creating a vision that would inspire both youth and adults to participate, and to involve the church's entire educational system.

Perhaps the most important question that arose was how do religious liberty and the gospel link together; how does freedom of conscience relate to the character of God? Team members pointed out that Jesus links proclaiming the gospel with

His arrival as Messiah (In Luke 4:18, 19). "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me; he has sent me to preach the glad tidings to the poor, to heal the broken in heart, to proclaim liberty of the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind; to declare the acceptable year of the Lord." He thus joins the gospel and "glad tidings" with liberation from economic, physical and relational oppression as the Messiah Liberator. It is undeniable that gospel and freedom through Christ are inseparably linked.

Taking this to the most practical level, Jesus made it clear that coercion as a method was unacceptable and never an option. John Graz, director of public affairs and religious liberty for the world church, states, "He sent his disciples to a village to find a place where they could rest for the night. The Samaritans refused to extend hospitality to him. James and John were so furious that they wanted to ask God to destroy the village. That is exactly what religious fanaticism has done for centuries. It tries to destroy those who are different and refuse to welcome them. Religious intolerance and violence are not part of Jesus' teaching" ("Issues of Faith and Freedom," Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 2008).

The NARLA Inland Empire Team voted to invite Graz to come and address issues of freedom of conscience and human rights



The Inland Empire NARLA team meets at the Norm Farley home in Arrowhead.



during the first week of February, 2011. He will speak at the Campus Hill church in Loma Linda at 11:00 a.m. and again at 3:00 p.m. on Sabbath, Feb. 5. And he

will be available to speak at other churches and venues throughout the week. Graz is an internationally renowned leader in this area, so this is a rare and valuable

opportunity. To book Graz during this time, contact Pastor Larry Christoffel at [Christoffelld@gmail.com](mailto:Christoffelld@gmail.com), or Norman Farley at [cnf.af@verizon.net](mailto:cnf.af@verizon.net).

# Religious Liberty Department Called Too Liberal

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*

**W**e hear it from both sides. Political liberals assume the religious liberty department is aligned with the religious right, while political conservatives think we're a bunch of liberal democrats. We know we can't please everyone, but perhaps we can clarify where we really stand.

First, the Adventist church is not partisan, politically. Our members include Republicans, Democrats, independents and others, and it is simply unfair to imply that political affiliation is indicative of spiritual maturity — as in: “if you're not a [fill in political party], you're not a good Christian.” Personally, I register as an independent and I vote my conscience.

Second, religious freedom is not the special province of either liberals or conservatives. Our focus is on preserving liberty of conscience for all peaceful people of faith, including the freedom of religious association. We will stand with conservatives on some issues, like the rights of nurses or medical professionals to refuse, on religious grounds, to perform abortions, or to administer lethal medication. When we uphold the rights of individuals to conscientiously object to bearing arms in defense of the nation, we seem to

be more liberal. Similarly, when we object to the use of public funds to support proselytizing activities, we may be dismissed as liberal. We analyze issues, not agendas.

Third, religious freedom is not bigotry. Contrary to popular opinion, we are not hostile to leaders of the “religious right,” nor are we anti-gay and lesbian people. We are not “anti,” but for the rights of all to believe and worship, or not, according to the dictates of their own conscience. Many Adventists believe the Bible predicts that the religious community will motivate enactment of religious legislation in fulfillment of the “mark of the beast” prophecy. This leads some to vehemently oppose anything the religious right supports. Others have been influenced by Christian radio and television to always see liberals as the enemy.

Yet, both liberals and conservatives in America have blindspots when it comes to liberty of conscience. Our task is to build bridges of friendship wherever we can. Recently, we built bridges with gay leadership in Sacramento to improve a bill that could have hurt religious freedom. We succeeded because we clearly conveyed that we do not oppose the rights of any

group, but seek a legal climate that protects the rights of all.

Several years ago, the Pacific Union Recorder featured a cover photo of our departmental associate with our Liberty banquet speaker, then Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton. We received many e-mails criticizing our liberal bias. If the critics had read the accompanying article, they would have realized that Republican and Democrat speakers are invited in alternate years to headline the Liberty banquet in our nation's capitol, in an effort to maintain strict non-partisanship.

Your religious liberty department works through two primary organizations. The Church State Council was formed in 1964, and is well known in Sacramento as the leading regional non-partisan religious liberty organization. The North American Religious Liberty Association is a national membership group, supported by church members like those reading this article. It is active in Congress, and in sponsoring local chapters and educational outreach events in our communities. Get to know us better, be informed, get involved, check out our websites: [www.churchstate.org](http://www.churchstate.org) and [www.religiousliberty.info](http://www.religiousliberty.info).

# Hollywood Adventist Church Receives 2010 NAD Innovative Church Award

*Dave Gemmell*

The Hollywood Seventh-day Adventist Church was selected by the North American Division Church Resource Center (CRC) as the 2010 Innovative Church of the Year. Pastor Ryan Bell received the award on behalf of the church at the National Conference on Innovation in Columbus, Ohio on October 4.

“Hollywood church was selected because it faced the challenges of anti-religious sentiment, extreme diversity, graffiti and homelessness, and turned them into opportunities by adopting the community within one mile of the church,” says Dave Gemmell, associate CRC director. “This has resulted in strong

networking with existing organizations to tackle some of the challenges by designing a mural, developing a park, providing vegetable gardens, creating a film production company, a podcast and workshops. As a result, 50 church members are active in outreach, and church attendance has grown from 75 to 150.”

The National Conference on Innovation is designed to foster a global conversation on innovation and renewal within the Adventist Church and to create a safe space for innovators to learn, explore, collaborate and strategize for the future. The event, sponsored by Partners in Innovation, is held each fall in Columbus, Ohio.

Through the Innovative Church of the Year, The NAD Church Resource Center hopes to foster growing healthy congregations in the United States, Canada and Bermuda. Gemmell says that “most everything we do in church life started out as an innovation. We need to continue to innovate and update because the world is constantly changing.”

The North American Division Church Resource Center hopes to stimulate and affirm congregations that have successfully taken risk in adapting the eternal truth of the gospel to constant environmental changes.



Hollywood Adventist church accepts the 2010 NAD Innovative Church of the Year award. (L. to r.) Raj Attiken, Leslie Foster, Ryan Bell, Corrine Galvan, Nathan French, Dave Gemmell, Richard Roethler.



# Communication Professionals Meet in New York

Carrie Purkepile

Gerry Chudleigh



Members of SAC pose at the annual convention in Rochester, New York.

Adventist communication professionals gathered for the annual Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) convention in Rochester, N.Y., this year, very close to the first location of the Review and Herald Publishing Association.

“We were humbled to hold our meetings in Rochester, literally a few blocks from where our early pioneers began the communication work of our church with a small printing press and a great big message,” says Steve Vistaunet, Society of Adventist Communicators president. “Their message is our message. We ask God to grant us a measure of their faith.”

The convention provided a variety of workshops for communicators of all levels and all specialties.

Many students from Adventist colleges attended the event, as well as Adventist professionals employed in the public sector, local church communication officers, conference and union officials, and communicators employed by supporting ministries.

“As a student, SAC gives me the opportunity to find future employers, but more importantly, lifelong mentors in the field of communications who care enough to share their personal experiences with me and give me advice as I try to follow in their footsteps and even create some of my own,” says Rebecca Barcelo, La Sierra University student.

Media enthusiasts learned from a variety of presenters including keynote speaker Phil Cooke, author of *Branding Faith* and *Jolt! The Power*

*of Intentional Change in a World that's Constantly Changing.*

“Many felt this was one of the best-ever SAC conventions,” says Vistaunet. “The keynote and seminar presentations, the hands-on workshops, the informal networking, really whet our appetites for new creative ways to share the mission and message of our church. Many have already said, ‘We’re definitely coming again next year!’”

The annual SAC convention provides training and networking opportunities for aspiring and professional writers, editors, graphic designers, photographers, videographers, sound engineers, students and marketing gurus with workshops for specific areas of expertise.

The next convention of the Society of Adventist Communicators will be held in Chicago, Ill., October 20-22, 2011. All are welcome to attend. Visit [www.adventistcommunicator.org](http://www.adventistcommunicator.org) for more information or to sign up for the monthly newsletter.

Gerry Chudleigh



Brittany Russell, right, from Roseville, Calif., accepts SAC Award of Merit from Steve Vistaunet, SAC president. Award was for Adventist Health's 2009 Annual Report, produced by Heidi Tomlinson, Rita Waterman and Heather Wheeler.

CALENDARS

Arizona Conference

**RETIREEES' CHRISTMAS DINNER** (Dec. 5) Ariz. Conf. office, 13405 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale. Info and reservations: Shirley, 480-991-6777, ext. 128.

**ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER** (Dec. 5) 13405 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale. Open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sundays in December 12 noon-3 p.m.

**PHOENIX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** (Dec. 13) 7:30 p.m. Handel's Messiah. Camelback church, 5902 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix.

**"AN EVENING IN DECEMBER"** (Dec. 18) 10:40 a.m. Christmas oratorio, portions of Handel's Messiah, Peoria/Sun Cities church choir, soloists, Dr. Franklin Lusk, directing, 13450 N. Plaza del Rio Blvd., Peoria. Info: 623-374-3086 or 623-977-7990.

Central California

**CHURCH MINISTRIES LEADERS/Teachers Training** (Dec. 5) Clovis church. Info: Rosa 559-347-3183 or rgillham@cccsda.org.

**TREASURERS TRAINING** (Dec. 5) Central Calif. Conf. office. Info: Claudia 559-347-3196 or carias@cccsda.org.

**SENIOR CITIZEN SEMINAR** (Dec. 11) Milpitas church. Info: Liseth 559-347-3176 or lpasillas@cccsda.org.

**HISPANIC SABBATH SCHOOL/Church Officers Training/Lay Recognition** (Jan. 8) San Jose Spanish church. Info: Florina 559-347-3150 or fmorales@cccsda.org.

**PRAYER SUMMIT** (Jan. 14-15) Clovis church. Info: Joyce Mulligan 209-996-5393 or joycejmulligan@sbcglobal.net.

**GLOW RALLY** (Jan. 16) Fresno Central church. Info: Desiree 559-347-3152 or www.goglow.org.

**WOMEN'S RETREAT** (Jan. 28-30) Tenaya Lodge. Info: Pat Curtis 559-642-2396.

La Sierra University

**CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CONCERT** (Dec. 3) 7:30 p.m. Presented by the LSU Department of Music. La Sierra Univ. church. Info: 951-785-2036.

**FALL WIND ENSEMBLE Concert** (Dec. 4) and Big Band Concert (Dec. 11) Both concerts begin 7 p.m. Presented by Department of Music. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

**CHRISTMAS RECESS** (Dec. 17-Jan. 9) University business offices closed (Dec. 24-Jan. 3.) Winter quarter classes begin Jan. 10, 2011. Enrollment information at info@lasierra.edu.

**FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP**, Fridays, 8 p.m. La Sierra University. Info: 951-785-2090.

Northern California

**"2010 ... LORD, YOU'VE BEEN SO FAITHFUL"** (Dec. 4) 5 p.m. Sacramento-Capitol City church, 6701 Lemon Hill Ave, Sacramento. Children's Christmas Musical Program. Info: 916-381-5353.

**ACOUSTIC CHRISTMAS 4** (Dec. 5) 7 p.m. St. Helena church Fireside Room, 1777 Main Street, St. Helena. Refreshments served. Info: 707-963-4461, info@shsda.org or www.shsda.org.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** (Dec. 17) 7 p.m. Carmichael church choir and orchestra. Carmichael church, 4600 Winding Way, Sacramento. Info: 916-487-8684, Ext. 111.

**SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE RETREAT** (Dec. 30-Jan. 2) Monterey Hyatt Regency. Music, worship, art gallery, children & youth programs. Speakers: Michael & Helen Pearson, Newbold College; David Newman, *Adventist Today*; Norman & Heather

Knight, PUC. Info: srrmonterey.com or jhughson@puc.edu.

**FUSION: YOUTH SABBATH** (Jan. 8) 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Carmichael church, 4600 Winding Way, Sacramento. Three Angels' Messages. Student-led preaching, music, drama, giveaways. Lunch provided. Info: Youth Dept. 925-685-4300.

Pacific Union Conference

**FOUNTAINVIEW ACADEMY ORCHESTRA**, Fountainview, Canada, will be touring the Pacific Union (Dec. 9-18). Visit <http://fountainofmusic.ca/tours/upcoming-concerts> to find a concert near you.

Southeastern California

**"THE CITY OF GOD"** (Nov. 30-Dec. 2) 6-8 p.m. Azure Hills church, 22633 Barton Rd., Grand Terrace. Global village with nativity scene; tour four continents, learn about world-wide AIDS pandemic. Info: Marlene Ferreras, 909-825-8611.

**JAIME JORGE**, violinist (Dec. 1) 7 p.m. Fullerton church, 2535 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton. Offering will be collected for West Fullerton

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**JANEEN LITTLE ORDINATION-COMMISSIONING** (Dec. 4) 4 p.m., La Sierra University church, 4937 Sierra Vista Ave., Riverside.

**LOMA LINDA CHILDREN'S CENTER** Christmas Program (Dec. 4) 4:30 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda.

**FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS** Parade (Dec. 4) 6:30 p.m. Palm Canyon Dr., Palm Springs. Info: 760-327-5112.

**HANDEL'S MESSIAH** (Dec. 5) 3 p.m. Palm Springs church, 620 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs. Info: 760-327-5112 or [www.palmspringsadventistchurch.org](http://www.palmspringsadventistchurch.org).

**FOUNTAINVIEW ACADEMY CHOIR** and Orchestra (Dec. 11) 4 p.m. Palm Desert Oasis church, 74-200 Country Club Dr., Palm Desert. Info: 760-568-0809.

**SAN DIEGO ACADEMY** Annual Christmas Concert (Dec. 11) 10:45 a.m. Paradise Valley church, 2701 E. 8th St., National City. Info: 619-267-8990.

**SOULFUL MESSIAH** (Dec. 11) 7 p.m., Mt. Rubidoux church, 5320 Victoria Ave., Riverside. Melodies of the traditional Messiah packaged in rhythms of urban music and creative arts. Info: 951-276-2741.



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**FOUNTAINVIEW ACADEMY CHOIR** and Orchestra (Dec. 12) 7 p.m. Paradise Valley church, 2701 E. 8th St., National City.

**"QUIET CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT"** (Dec. 17) 7 p.m. Anaheim church, 900 S. Sunkist St., Anaheim. Stories, music, and a beautiful church setting on a Sabbath Eve.

**KIDDERS AND FRIENDS** Musical Vespers (Dec. 18) 4:30 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda.

**SHALOM JUDAH** (Dec. 18) 5 p.m. Yucaipa Valley Spanish church, 12504 Fourth St., Yucaipa. Info: 909-797-0151.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT** (Dec. 18) 5 p.m. Blythe Spanish/English church, 415 E. Barnard St., Blythe. Choir directed by Dulce Amor Nueske. Info: 760-922-0644.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL** (Dec. 18) 11 a.m. Campus Hill church, 11057 Hill Dr., Loma Linda. Ephraim Sayud, director and producer. Info: 909-796-0222.

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA** (Dec. 18) 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Inland Empire Filipino church, 604 E. State St., Redlands. Jun Israel, conductor. Info: 909-709-8448.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** (Dec. 18) 4 p.m. La Sierra University church, 4937 Sierra Vista Ave., Riverside. LSUC Chancel Choir and Orchestra; Elvin Rodriguez, director.

**"HOLIDAY, HARMONY, HILARITY"** (Dec. 19) 6 p.m. Palm Desert Oasis church, 74-200 Country Club Dr., Palm Desert. Refreshments will be served. Info: 760-568-0809.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** (Dec. 19) 6 p.m. First Baptist church of Riverside, 5500 Alessandro Blvd., Riverside. First Baptist and La Sierra Univ. church chancel choirs, LSU church orchestra; Elvin Rodriguez, director.

**CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM** (Dec. 24) 5:30 p.m. La Sierra University church, 4937 Sierra Vista Ave.,

Riverside. LSUC Chancel Choir; Elvin Rodriguez, director.

**"GO TELL IT"** (Dec. 25) 11 a.m. Loma Linda Filipino church, 11180 New Jersey St., Redlands. A Christmas musical, conducted by Ephraim de la Cruz.

**CHRISTMAS MUSICAL** Extravaganza (Dec. 25) 11 a.m. Valley Fellowship, 275 E. Grove St., Rialto. Info: 909-874-5851.

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC** and Readings (Dec. 25) 4:30 p.m. Loma Linda University church, 11125 Campus St., Loma Linda.

**LIGHTS FOR LITTLE LIVES** Memorial Walk (Dec. 31) 3:30 p.m. Two locations: Palm Desert Civic Center, 73-510 Fred Waring Dr., Palm Desert; and Ronald McDonald House, 11365 Anderson St., Loma Linda. Annual candlelit walk by The Unforgettables Foundation. Info: 760-837-7373, 951-680-9996.

### Southern California

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT** (Dec. 3) 7 p.m. Featuring Handel's The Messiah, Glendale City Sanctuary Choir, Glendale Academy Chorale, strings, organ. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241

**THE REASON FOR THE SEASON** (Dec. 4) 7 p.m. Yvonne and Bones Deoso benefit concert for Adventist University of the Philippines. White Memorial church, 401 N. State St., Los Angeles 90033. Info: 323-264-2170.

**FORKS OVER KNIVES** (Dec. 6) Screening of new documentary featuring latest nutrition, lifestyle research, stories of people who changed lifestyles and their health outcomes. Free admission. (In theaters early 2011.) 6:30 p.m. reception; 7 p.m. screening. Auditorium, Glendale Adventist Medical Center, 1509 Wilson Terrace. Info/Reservations: 818-409-8100.

**LESSONS & CAROLS** (Dec. 18) 5 p.m. Christmas choral presentation. Moorpark Community Fellowship, 484

Los Angeles Ave., Suite 109, Moorpark 93021. Info/Directions: [www.moorparkcommunitychurch.com](http://www.moorparkcommunitychurch.com); 805-857-1097.

**"CHRISTMAS IN THE BARRIO"** (Dec. 18) 4 p.m. Baldwin Park Bilingual church will give 1,000 toys to 1,000 community children and families. Christmas carols and drama, piñatas, tamales, and toy gifts. Donations for toys welcome. 13965 Ramona Pkwy. Info: 818-334-9261.

**MESSIAH SING-A-LONG** (Dec. 18) 4 p.m. Christmas portion of Handel's famous work performed by soloists, ensemble. Bunny Phillips-Thornburgh, conductor. Santa Clarita church, 24436 Valley St. Scores provided. Info: 661-259-5420.

**CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** (Dec. 18) 4:30 p.m. at the Lancaster church, 43824 30th St. W. Orchestra, carols, nativity scene, drama and music. Candlelight afterglow will follow at 6 p.m. in the gym, with cocoa and cookies. Info: 661-943-5725.

**GENERATION EXCELLENCE 2010**, a New Year's Eve Praise Party presented by the Greater LA Region Youth Department (Dec. 31) Featuring youth/young adult choirs, groups, and praise teams. 9 p.m. until New Year's. Philadelphian Church, 2640 Santa Fe Ave, Long Beach. Info: 562-426-8026

**CHRISTIAN EDITION** in Concert (Dec. 31) 10 p.m. to midnight at the Vallejo Drive Church, 300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale. Info: 818-246-2476

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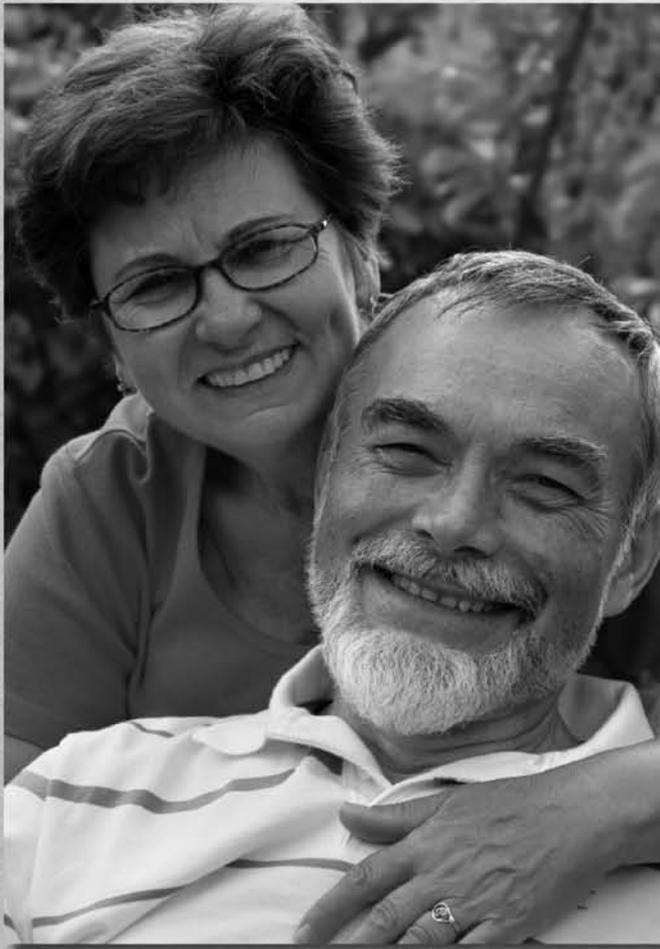
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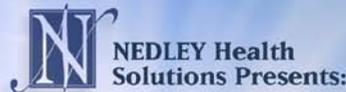
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**BATISTE, COLUMBUS I.** – b. Dec. 19, 1932, Lafayette, La.; d. Aug. 12, 2010, Corona, Calif. Survivors: wife, Yvonne; sons, Richard, Maxel, Columbus II; daughters, Diane, Strachella, Telicia; 13 grandchildren.

**BELL, VIOLET (ANN)** - b. Oct. 29, 1922, Sacramento, Calif.; d. Oct. 17, 2010, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: sons, John and David Deadrich, Terry; daughter, Pamela Vane; seven grandchildren; several great-grandchildren.

**BLACKER, WILLIAM JOHN** – b. Jan. 10, 1914, Brantford, Ontario, Canada; d. Sept. 27, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Established the Philippine Publishing House; secretary-treasurer and later president of the Pacific Union Conference, general manager of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, vice president for finance at Loma Linda University.

**BRAYSHAW, VIOLET (TRUMAN)** – b. June 11, 1914, Loma Linda, Calif.; d. Sept. 1, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Sonja Rust Nicola; sister, Myrna Truman Hamara.

**BROWN, DOREEN C.** – b. Aug. 6, 1916, San Angelo, Texas; d. June 28, 2010, Phoenix, Ariz. Survivors: daughter, Margaret Alvarez, four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. Served as teacher; secretary at the General Conference.

**BULLINGTON, EVANGELINE** – b. Sept. 3, 1911, Denver, Colo.; d. Sept. 28, 2010, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: husband, Paul; son, Kenneth; one grandchild.

**CIRCLE, JACK** – b. Oct. 19, 1923, Springfield, Ohio; d. June 11, 2010, Tucson, Ariz. Survivors: wife, Betty; son, Dale.

**DENNIS, RUTH** – b. Aug. 28, 1926, McLaughlin, S.D.; d. Sept. 14, 2010, Fresno, Calif. Survivors: husband, George; son, Richard; daughter, Sharon Intyre.

**HILL, EUNICE (RICHARDS)** – b. Feb. 17, 1915, Durham, Kan.; d. Sept. 25, 2010, Reno, Nev. Survivors: daughters, Janene Simpson, Arlene Hill-Dohrmann.

**HOYT-PINDER, CORAL RUTH** - b. March 11, 1921, Berrien Springs, Mich.; d. May 8, 2010, Los Alamitos, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Donna Lester; two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**JACKSON, MINNIE** – b. Feb. 20, 1927, Bethany, La.; d. Sept. 20, 2010, San Francisco, Calif. Survivors: husband, J. B.; sons, Gregory, Shawn; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

**KUHN, ALICE** – b. Sept. 21, 1918, Hankou, China; d. Oct. 9, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Nursing instructor at Loma Linda University.

**MCDERMOTT, JANICE NADINE (KING)** – b. Jan. 21, 1937, San Jose, Calif.; d. Oct. 7, 2010, Ukiah, Calif. Survivors: husband, Don; son, John; daughter, Danelle; two grandchildren.

**MILNE, JAMES WILLIAM** – b. Sept. 8, 1943, Oakland, Calif.; d. Oct. 13, 2010, Vancouver, Wash. Survivors: daughter, Tammi Mazziliano; three grandchildren.

**NEAL, BARBARA ANN** – b. April 9, 1933, Fredonia, Kan.; d. Sept. 3, 2010, Newberry Springs, Calif. Survivors: husband, Clarence "Bud"; sons, Tye,

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Mike; daughter, Pat Seefeld; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

**Correction: PRICE, ARDYTHE B.** — b. Sept. 27, 1948, San Jose, Costa Rico; d. Aug. 18, 2010, Alberta, Canada. Survivors: son, Steven; daughter Shelley Price; father, Peter C. Tym; sisters, Sharon W. Foley, Bonnie Corson.

**PRICE, DOROTHY P.** — b. April 21, 1917, Agency, Iowa; d. August 13, 2010, Northridge, Calif. Survivors: son, Richard; daughter, Karen Sellers; seven grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren.

**PYKE, CAROL JOYCE** — b. Sept. 14, 1926, Smyrna, Wash.; d. Sept. 23, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: husband, Dale; son, Bob; daughter, Janelle; two grandchildren; brother, Robert Gilbert.

**QUALIA-EASTON, LORNA MARGENA (BAILEY)** — b. Feb. 23, 1913, Williamston, Mich.; d. Sept. 5, 2010, Angwin, Calif. Survivors: daughters, Arlene Ermsar, Raelene Qualia; three grandchildren.

**ROBERTS, HAROLD DEVERE** — b. Sept. 25, 1925, Cottonwood, Ariz.; d. Oct. 3, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Olga; daughters, Debra Slapper, Carol Roberts.

**ROMAN, JAUNITA** — b. April 13, 1918, Havana, Cuba; d. Sept. 1, 2010, Turlock, Calif. Survivors: sisters, Cira Hernandez, Zenaida Aguilera, Antonia de la Torre.

**STRICKLAND, LUCILLE** — b. July 30, 1920 Detroit Lakes, Minn.; d. Sept. 13, 2010, Modesto, Calif. Survivors: husband, John; sons, Paul Kildal, Marshall; daughters, Kathleen Stroud, Debbie; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

**TEFFT-MCWILLIAMS, DORIS E. (RAGSDALE)** — b. July 23, 1914, Grandview, Idaho; d. Oct. 7, 2010, Bozeman, Mont. Survivors: step-son, Glenn Tefft; daughters, Sharon Duensing, Twyla Geraci, step-daughter Deanna Sparks; two grandchildren; two step-grandchildren and three step great-grandchildren.

**TURNER, CYNTHIA H.** — b. Oct. 30, 1911, Virgin Islands; d. July 5, 2010,

Lodi, Calif. Survivors: sons, Frank Sumersille, Richard, James; 13 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren.

**UNDERHILL, MARILYN DALY** — b. April 14, 1925, Des Moines, Iowa; d. July 24, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: son, Jerry Daly; daughter Peggy Daly Crabtree; stepson, Gary Underhill, stepdaughter, Carole Underhill Schwartz; ten grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren.

**UNDERWOOD, MELVIN GRAHAM** — b. Feb. 14, 1921, St. Petersburg, Fla.; d. Dec. 14, 2009, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: son, Larry; daughter, Kathy Parsons; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

**VALDEZ, FLORENTINO** — b. Oct. 24, 1940, Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico; d. Sept. 1, 2010, Santa Cruz, Calif.

Survivors: sons, Timothy, David; daughters, Sandra Valdez, Michelle Vasquez; one grandchild.

**WAHL, ERMA J. (NITSCHKE)** — b. Sept. 27, 1929, N.D.; d. Oct. 5, 2010, Lodi, Calif. Survivors: son, Randy; four grandchildren.

**WILKINS, ROBERT L.** — b. April 21, 1954, Camden, N.J.; d. Sept. 11, 2010, Loma Linda, Calif. Survivors: wife, Kris; sons, Tyler, Nick; one grandson. Professor at the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry.

**YOST, HANK** — b. Nov. 22, 1933, Aurora, Neb.; d. Oct. 7, 2010, Roseville, Calif. Survivors: sons, Rick, Scott; daughter, Lisa Rosenstrauch; eight grandchildren.

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## SUNSETS

	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17	Dec 24	Dec 31
Alturas	4:32	4:32	4:34	4:37	4:42
Angwin	4:48	4:48	4:50	4:54	4:59
Calexico	4:35	4:36	4:38	4:42	4:47
Chico	4:42	4:42	4:44	4:48	4:53
Eureka	4:49	4:49	4:50	4:54	4:59
Fresno	4:42	4:43	4:45	4:48	4:53
Hilo	5:41	5:43	5:46	5:49	5:54
Honolulu	5:48	5:50	5:53	5:56	6:01
Las Vegas	4:25	4:26	4:28	4:31	4:36
Lodi	4:45	4:45	4:47	4:50	4:55
Loma Linda	4:39	4:40	4:42	4:45	4:50
Los Angeles	4:43	4:44	4:46	4:50	4:55
Moab	4:55	4:55	4:57	5:01	5:06
Oakland	4:49	4:49	4:51	4:55	5:00
Phoenix	5:19	5:20	5:22	5:26	5:30
Reno	4:35	4:35	4:37	4:41	4:46
Riverside	4:40	4:41	4:43	4:46	4:51
Sacramento	4:44	4:44	4:46	4:50	4:55
Salt Lake City	4:59	4:59	5:01	5:05	5:10
San Diego	4:42	4:42	4:45	4:48	4:53
San Francisco	4:50	4:51	4:53	4:56	5:01
San Jose	4:49	4:49	4:51	4:55	5:00
Tucson	5:18	5:19	5:21	5:24	5:29

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