

PACIFIC UNION

# recorder

CONNECTING THE PACIFIC UNION ADVENTIST FAMILY >> APRIL 2012

A photograph of two men embracing in a swimming pool. The man on the right is smiling broadly, showing his teeth, and has water on his face. He is wearing a dark blue shirt. The man on the left is seen from the back, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt. The background shows the blue water of the pool and some blurred lights.

## 27 Revelation Today

brings hope for tomorrow to Las Vegas

11 Loma Linda Academy volunteer night draws hundreds

13 Recipe: calavasitas

# CONTENTS

- 28 *Adventist Health*
- 34-40 *Advertising*
- 24-25 *Arizona*
- 16-18, 23 *Central California*
- Center** *Church Applied Insert*
- 31 *La Sierra University*
- 30 *Loma Linda*
- 26-27 *Nevada-Utah*
- 12-15 *Northern California*
- 29 *Pacific Union College*
- 32-33 *Religious Liberty*
- 8-11 *Southeastern California*
- 4-7 *Southern California*
- 32 *Sunsets*



## about the cover

Wayne O'Bannon, white shirt, pastor of the Centennial Hills church, baptizes Richard McKogg during the final weekend of the Revelation Today series. Photo by Palmer Halverson.



# PACIFIC UNION recorder

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# Jesus is Coming Again

**W**e Seventh-day Adventists have held to the belief that Jesus is coming again since the Advent movement began in the 1800s. It is part of our "spiritual DNA." Ellen White stated, "The name Seventh-day Adventist carries the true features of our faith in front, and will convict the inquiring mind. Like an arrow from the Lord's quiver, it will wound the transgressors of God's law, and will lead to repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ" (*Testimonies*, vol. 1, pp. 223, 224).

The observance of the seventh day as the Sabbath of God and the belief in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ are fundamental to our faith. In fact, doctrinal statement ("fundamental belief") number 25 states:

The second coming of Christ is the blessed hope of the church, the grand climax of the gospel. The Saviour's coming will be literal, personal, visible, and worldwide. When He returns, the righteous dead will be resurrected, and together with the righteous living will be glorified and taken to heaven, but the unrighteous will die. The almost complete fulfillment of most lines of prophecy, together with the present condition of the world, indicates that Christ's coming is imminent. The time of that event has not been revealed, and we are therefore exhorted to be ready at all times. (Titus 2:13; Heb. 9:28; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; Matt. 24:14; Rev. 1:7; Matt. 24:43, 44; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-54; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2:8; Rev. 14:14-20; 19:11-21; Matt. 24; Mark 13; Luke 21; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 Thess. 5:1-6.)

I believe the above listed fundamental doctrine as written. We could focus on the imminence or the fulfillment of prophecy by events that have transpired or will soon come to pass. But the main reason I accept this blessed hope is simply that Jesus promised it.

I could mention the increasing moral depravity in our society or the endless wars and rumors of wars that grip our world; the spread of pestilences and the

return of diseases that were once thought conquered. We could talk about the "lukewarm" Christian church in general and Adventism in particular. Beyond the fulfillment of the signs, I choose to believe because He promised it.

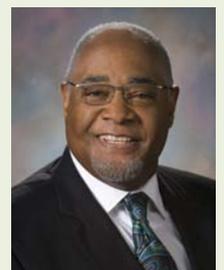
God cannot lie (Titus 1:2). He is bound to the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

Someone may accuse me of blind faith, naivety or a simple faith wherein I suspend my reasoning ability and abandon the critical thinking process. Not so. I just choose to accept the Word of God that He is coming; He promised to return.

Having said that, I choose to believe what the Bible teaches for secondary reasons, too. For example, I have attended two funerals of dear church members in one week's time. These individuals were faithful members, trusting and believing in God and His Word until their deaths. They were people who were not perfect, but walked "by faith and not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7) during their earthly journey. Now they rest in peace with the multitude of believers who have died in Christ. Jesus promised to bring them back to life when He comes. I want to see the end of death and the resurrection of the saints.

More important than my seeing my departed loved ones is the vindication of God's character in the universe. The countless lies, myths and misunderstandings perpetrated by Satan will be exposed for what they are when Jesus comes. All disease destroyed, all evil eradicated, every wrong made right, every righteous soul rewarded and God's name uplifted. What a wonderful day that will be! Even so, come Lord Jesus.

*Ricardo Graham*



# Worship conference focused on interactive worship



C. ELMWA PLATNER

**Pastors from SCC's West Region, which sponsored the West Coast Worship Conference, pray with Dan Jackson, NAD president (second from left).**

Meetings at the 2012 West Coast Worship Conference focused on "The Face of Worship in a Digital Age." "Ten million people live an hour away from these meetings," said Rick Roethler, West Region director and WCWC coordinator. "How can we reach them? It will take the priesthood of all believers, using every possible tool."

In his Sabbath-morning message, Dan Jackson, North American Division president, reflected on the exponentially-increasing speed of change in Internet activity, and on the questions that people are asking today: "Is Jesus enough?"

"With enough video being produced online to stream 674 days of video every second by 2015, we are convinced that we are living in the days just before Jesus' coming," said Jackson. "Online and in every aspect of our lives, we and the church need to reinforce our belief in the sufficiency of Jesus to meet every need."

About 200 pastors and members attended the conference, with several coming from other

conferences. The worship conference program was varied, covering a wide range of practical, worship-related topics, including why we worship, practical prayer, and worship-leading and planning. Groups from The Place, Santa Monica churches and other individuals provided music for the conference.

In a number of social media workshops, pastors and members shared experiences in outreach via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. "I use Twitter for prayer requests," said one pastor, "and Facebook for people not attending church."

In the WCWC program notes, MIT professor and author Henry Jenkins stated his view that digital and social media are changing American popular culture. "We are in an age of media transition," he noted, "one marked by unclear directions and unpredictable outcomes." It was to deal with those changes in today's world — brought about largely by the phenomenon of social media — that pastors and members came together for the conference.

Riva Robinson, pastor of the Ridgecrest church, spoke appreciatively of the practical help pastors received. "One speaker, Doug Pagitt, shared how he engages community for help in constructing his sermons," Robinson said. "He meets people, particularly young adults, in the community and invites them to participate in developing his sermon, so the worship committee he meets with includes both members and community guests."

"This has been a nice ending to an amazing journey God has taken me on for the last two weeks," wrote one layperson. "I have been seriously questioning the Adventist church, but I now have renewed hope in it."

*Betty Cooney*



BETTY COONEY

**Ed Sammons, pastor of the Lancaster church, conducts a workshop on social networking.**

# Chino Valley Chinese members celebrate grand opening

The new facility of the Chino Valley Chinese church (formerly Hacienda Heights Chinese church) was filled to capacity on the afternoon of Feb. 11 for the grand opening ceremony.

During the service, a number of speakers commented on the trajectory of the church in its first six years; among them Pete Lou, treasurer. "Welcome to the Chino Valley Chinese church," he said. "Two years ago, we became a

BETTY COONEY



*Samuel Lee, Asian-Pacific Region director (center, front), leads a prayer of dedication for the new facility.*

BETTY COONEY



*Chino Valley Chinese church Pathfinders participate in the celebration, one month after organizing as a club.*

church; two years prior to that, we became a company. Six years ago, we started the Hacienda Heights Chinese Adventist Fellowship with a dozen members. Finally, we own our home! God uses His people to do the work for Him. We only must be willing to let Him use us; to trust Him."

Acquiring a four-acre property with two buildings that formerly served as a Christian school was a major cause for celebration and thanksgiving to God for a church that had rented property prior to that day.

"They originally were asking for \$4 million," said Cho, praising God for His leading in the property's purchase.

"The property was appraised at \$3 million. The bank said we could have it for \$1.8 million. We said no, we could only buy it for \$1 million. On the second day, someone made an offer that was higher than ours. We prayed, and I said, 'If God is going to give it to us, the price will be \$1 million.' The next day, the bank said we could have the property for \$980,000 cash. God is a wonderful God!" With fundraising from members and benefit concerts during the church's early years, the church has a substantial amount toward construction of the new building after paying for the property.

Within the next two years, the congregation plans to build a new sanctuary on the property, leaving the initial two buildings for classrooms and other uses.

The congregation of nearly 200 members is already preparing for outreach in their new location.

At the grand opening, Cho announced, "Tonight we will start small-group evangelism. We already have more than 10 members willing to start small-group evangelism training. Yesterday the church wrote to the Chino Community Services to ask how we may serve the community. We look forward to serving the Chinese community in this area."

*Betty Cooney*

# Crescenta Valley Elementary hosts first academic bowl

**O**n Super Bowl weekend, while millions were stocking up on chips and dip at the supermarket, 12 fifth- and sixth-graders were enjoying their own kind of bowl — an academic one.

Crescenta Valley Adventist Elementary School held its first Academic Bowl on Feb. 4. Students from three Adventist schools competed for the trophy. Crescenta Valley, Conejo, and San Fernando Valley Adventist elementary schools chose two students from each of the two grades to participate. The event highlighted those students who have worked hard and earned high marks in their scholastic efforts as well as in citizenship.

The Academics Bowl, created by Crescenta Valley teacher Wendy DiLullo-Newmyer, was high-energy and fast-paced. Each grade had 15 minutes to answer as many questions as

possible in four core subjects: English, math, science and social studies.

San Fernando Valley students Janis Leones and Zachary Barrientos took home the first-place trophy for the fifth-grade level. Ashley Ramos and Zane Arteaga from Conejo placed second, and Zarinah Alarcon and Michael Matsuda from Crescenta Valley came in third.

Julianna O'Malley and Aaron Recalde from Crescenta Valley took home the first-place trophy for the sixth-grade level. Makani Crosby and Nathan Lew from Conejo placed second. Danielle Viray and Ronald Galvez from San Fernando Valley came in third. "We learned a lot from the studying we did for the Academic Bowl," said O'Malley. "Even though we were under pressure, it was a lot of fun."

The students basked in the hard-earned accolades they received from family, teachers and friends. "Being on stage was actually really fun,"

said Crescenta Valley student Zarinah Alarcon. "I wasn't even nervous. Normally, I would get kind of nervous on stage, but I really enjoyed pressing the buzzer and answering the questions."

Jenny O'Malley was happy to see the students and families showing as much excitement for the Academic Bowl as they might for the athletic Super Bowl. "It is exciting that people would invest as much energy and excitement in academics, when so much emphasis is placed on athletes," O'Malley observed.

"What a great evening!" commented Debra Powell, Crescenta Valley secretary and a judge for the event. "I hope this is the first of many academic bowls. Experiencing our schools getting together having so much fun and learning at the same time is something worth repeating."

*Wendy DeLullo-Newmyer*

FRANCIS RECALDE



Back row l. to r.: George Newmyer (judge), Cameo Draper (CVAES principal/teacher), Wendy DiLullo-Newmyer (CVAES teacher), Sharon Hairston (SFVA teacher), Simon Liversidge (pastor/judge), Debra Powell (CVAES sec./judge), Stacy Doyle (Conejo teacher). Middle row l. to r.: Julianna O'Malley, Aaron Recalde, Nathan Lew, Makani Crosby, Danielle Viray, Ronald Galvez. Front row l. to r.: Michael Matsuda, Zarinah Alarcon, Zane Arteaga, Ashley Ramos, Janis Leones, Zachary Barrientos.

# Pathfinder convocation zeroes in on outreach

A bagpiper walked down the center aisle of the White Memorial church to open the 2012 Pathfinder Convocation. With standing room only, enthusiastic Pathfinders, parents and leaders representing 65 clubs awaited an informative and spiritual program.

Two Pathfinder boys presented the morning's sermon on the theme of outreach. Adiel Diel, of the Trinity club, spoke of an outreach program that had touched his own life. "My family and I knocked on doors, giving people tracts, inviting them to a medical outreach program. A few refused," he said, "but I won't ever forget what happened in the last house.

"When someone opened the door, we could see that the family was crying. My mom was surprised. 'We're sorry to disturb you. We just wanted to inform you that there will be a medical program providing the community with doctors and nurses, blood pressure and sugar-level checks.'

"The family was amazed, explaining that they had received such a quick answer to their prayers. One family member was suffering from diabetes, and they didn't have medical



Jonathan Santos, Newhall Spanish Pathfinder, preaches about the good Samaritan.

insurance, but they needed a medical checkup as soon as possible. The following day, I was overjoyed to see them attending the medical program at the church." The Pathfinder weekend included some outreach projects.

In his sermon, Jonathan Santos, a member of the Newhall Spanish Pathfinders, illustrated how to reach others with the story of the good Samaritan. "The first step is to open your eyes," Santos pointed out. "Finding someone with a need is an easy thing to do

if you open your eyes. We too often walk past those who are hurting as if we never see them. The world might be expected to do that, but not the church. We are to be seekers."

At the conclusion of the worship service, 85 Pathfinders came forward to affirm their decisions to be baptized.

The main service was scheduled first. Next, La Sierra University's outreach team shared what they are doing in their local community. Carlos Williams, who assists with the Altadena Pathfinders, also presented a report of several collaborative outreach projects SCC clubs had participated in during the previous year.

Hannah Decolongon, an Eagle Rock Pathfinder, wowed attendees with her harp. An orchestra presented a well-know hymn. And the Rolling Hills praise team sang "Family," with a new twist. The words of the second stanza were changed to include "Pathfinder."

Bob Wong



Bagpiper Dee Stoller, Adventurer leader at the Tehachapi church, opens the 2012 convocation.

# Garden Grove church reinstates drama ministry

**T**he Garden Grove church is bringing back the art of telling the powerful life changing stories of the Bible in living re-enactments.

About 10 years ago the church began drama productions with an original passion play entitled "Matthew's Miracle" as an outreach to their community. In the following years, they produced nine plays under the leadership of Thomas Neslund, head elder. The mission of the drama ministry has not changed, but today's populations have become even more visual, Neslund says.

"Reading the Word of God is good, but some people are visual, so telling the story through the life of an actor or actress makes their experience memorable."

The stage has been dormant for three years, but with increased church membership and renewed interest, the ministry is coming back to life. The church has refurbished its staging. A donated 10- by 14-foot screen and a skywalk giving greater lighting control provide the audience with a much richer experience.

Neslund, script writer, director and producer, developed his passion for plays to capture people's hearts when he was an associate

director in the health and temperance department of the General Conference. Dick Stenbacken, a coworker at the GC, stopped by his office one day to brainstorm what the GC could do to bring the public into the office building. As a result they developed "Walk



*A priest inspects a leper during one of the plays.*



*One of the three wise men poses with his props.*



through Bethlehem," a historic village set up in the meeting room of the GC that opened to the public in 1996. Visitors walked through the sets with costumed inhabitants, visited the manger scene, and bought products from street merchants with Bethlehem currency.

"One couple requested to go through several times," says Neslund. "They had lived in Bethlehem and commented, 'This is so authentic, it reminds us of home.'" For almost nine seasons, 67,000 people visited "Walk through Bethlehem." NBC-TV produced a 30-minute segment of their morning newscast from the site.

When he retired and became a member of the Garden Grove church, Neslund wanted to continue the ministry.

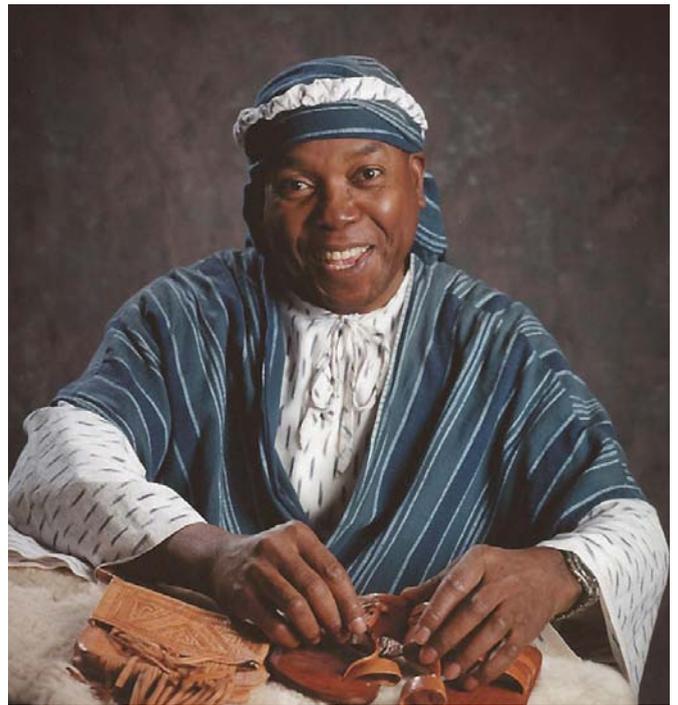
"God uses the simple message of the play to impact lives," he says. "Over the course of the past 16 years, I have seen actors and actresses change because they have experienced the power of the Word in their own lives. The actor has to ask him or herself, 'Am I faithfully filling this role?' I have seen lives renewed on the back lot and in rehearsals. There is something powerful about the spoken Word of God."

Through the years, the plays at the Garden Grove church — "Matthew's Miracle," "Matthew's Victory," "The Land of the Free," "The Prince of Peace" and many others — enriched viewers lives, brought hope and directed their thoughts to Jesus Christ.

"One play in particular impacted the lives of two sisters," relates Neslund. "The two had not spoken to each other for 30 years. Avoiding



*An actor poses as a Sadducee with a scroll.*



*An enthusiastic merchant shows off his leather merchandise.*

each other and sitting on opposite sides during the production of 'Matthew's Victory,' they listened to the message of two men, Matthew and Saul, enemies, who eventually came to forgive and appreciate each other. At the conclusion of the play, the sisters sought each other out, hugged, wept and begged for forgiveness."

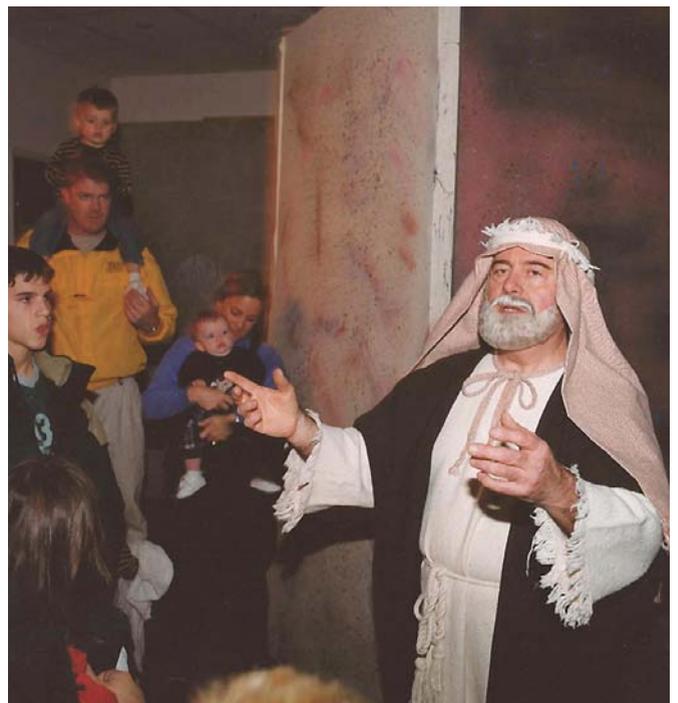
On April 7, the Garden Grove church will present a new play for the community, entitled "Risen Changes Everything." The audience will follow in the footsteps of a man named Legion, whom Jesus released from the bonds of demons. This man runs into Jesus a second time and follows Him and His disciples through the Passover week.

"The purpose and ministry of the Garden Grove church drama is to uplift Jesus Christ and see the rewards in renewed and changed lives," says Dan Smith, senior pastor.

*Edna Maye Gallington*



*Dick Stenbacken plays King Herod. The three wise men stand in the background.*



# Students grow spiritually and socially at Junior High Bible Camp

**J**unior High Bible Camp is held yearly at Pine Springs Ranch, the conference's retreat center, and is open to both public school and academy students. This year, the Bible camp took place during the weekend of Feb. 3-5.

The camp is designed for students to come together and focus on their spiritual journey. They get a chance to spend time together, share stories about their lives and faith, and experience Jesus in a secluded place far from the everyday noise.

This year's theme was LifeApps: H.A.B.I.T.S., an acronym for Hang time with God, Accountability, Bible memorization, Involvement in church, Tithing and Studying the Scriptures.

Garrett Speyer, youth pastor of Garden Grove church, was the main speaker for the event and brought inspiring messages to each session. His messages of acceptance, making smart choices and seeking Christ, spoke to the importance of keeping Christ-like values and habits.

During the day, youth assistants from various churches — including Kazar Ackerman, Campus Hill church; Deon Chatman, San Bernardino 16th St. church; Amanda Johnston, Orange



*Two junior high girls connect and create a deeper friendship.*



*A group of junior high students tries to fit on a small piece of wood.*

church; and Gatra Suhari, Costa Mesa church — taught spiritual lessons. They challenged students with questions and activities on how to keep a balanced mind, spend money wisely, take care of their bodies and grow in their spiritual lives.

Bonding in small groups was a key component at Bible camp. A group of trained La Sierra University students provided a full praise and worship band and ran the games for social night.

"Focusing on our junior high students is very important. During this time, many of them start to make life impacting decisions about God and faith," said Eric Penick, associate youth director of the conference.

"It's where I met new people, talked about Jesus, and got away from all the distractions," said Joy Pereda, a seventh-grader from La Sierra Academy.

Next year, the planning committee for the Junior High Bible Camp decided to divide into two groups — there will be separate programming for boys and girls.

*Liz Adams*



*Two girls sit outside and listen to one of the sessions in the outdoors.*

# Loma Linda Academy volunteer night draws hundreds

Ten-year-old Nathan Perez was busy coloring light blue sky around cloud shapes on his Giving Box on a recent Saturday night, the finishing touches to a decorative effort that included airplane and rainbow stickers.

The small white box was intended to hold a slip of paper inscribed with an idea for helping others, such as collecting money for charitable donations, helping and befriending the elderly, aiding the homeless, caring for animals and other acts of kindness.

The Giving Box project was set up at one of 10 workstations in the Loma Linda Academy high school gymnasium on Feb. 25 as part of the academy's first Family Volunteer Night. The event attracted roughly 700 academy students, their families, academy staff and community members interested in finding ways of helping those in need. Each workstation provided an outreach opportunity. Among other things,

Loma Linda Academy Elementary Home and School organized the event, which they plan to institute as an annual activity.

"It is vital for our children and their families to work together and learn the importance of service and the joy of giving back to our community," said Kimberly Thomas, co-president of Home and School along with Alane Hegstad.

Ethan Green, an 11-year-old, decorated his Giving Box with lizards, ladybugs, elephant and hippo stickers. He and Perez attend fifth grade at Loma Linda Academy. "We have plenty of stuff, but they don't have any, so we're trying to help them," said Green.

Volunteer Julie Duffie said she appreciated the event because she wants her children "to think outside of their own needs." Duffie's children attend first and fifth grades at the academy. "It gives us a chance to see where the needs are in the community and get the kids involved throughout the year as well."

Loma Linda Academy's high school students helped oversee workstation activities. Kristen Kim, a 10th grade student, helped out at the Benevolent Animal Rescue table where volunteers made more than 300 dog and cat toys for animal shelters. "I really enjoy this event, because it brings the community closer together," said Kim. "It shows we really care about other people, and we can glorify God this way."

Some volunteers were inspired by personal experiences. Loma Linda Academy alumna Chelsea Aka had been growing her hair since last summer and by Family Volunteer Night had the length required to donate a 10-inch portion of her long, black strands to Locks of Love. The



LLA Elementary Home and School members Kimberly Thomas and Alane Hegstad stand by as children fill bags with toiletries. Thomas and Hegstad organized the event.

charity creates hairpieces for disadvantaged children who have suffered long-term hair loss due to illness. "My mom had breast cancer, and that's a lot of my motivation," said Aka. "She had a wig and she loved it."

Family Volunteer Night organizers raised \$4,000 in cash and gift cards and collected donations of 3,000 toothbrushes and toothpaste, 4,000 shampoo/conditioner/lotion travel kits, coats, jackets, canned goods, and art supplies.

"It makes me think there might be hope for humanity after all," quipped Anthony Miley, who has a child attending seventh grade at the academy. He, his wife Cheryl and friend Val Davis spent the evening at one workstation tying knots in fleece blankets to be delivered to the homeless.

The event attracted 18 donors, including principal sponsor Loma Linda University Shared Services; platinum sponsors Loma Linda University Health Systems and Loma Linda University Printing Services; the Southeastern California Conference, Arrowhead Orthopaedics, Security Bank of California, La Sierra University School of Business, Stater Bros. Markets and Costco Wholesale San Bernardino.

Darla Tucker

PHOTOS BY SCOTT GUPILL



Student volunteers receive a passport-style stamp book to complete as they visit the 10 volunteer stations.

participants made 500 Giving Boxes; assembled 3,000 hygiene kits for the homeless; prepared 100 fleece blankets; decorated 300 tote bags for homeless individuals to use; made 1,000 cards for military personnel and nursing home residents; inscribed 500 cards with Bible verses to go in needy youngsters' food kits; and even registered as potential bone marrow donors. Participants carried volunteer passports that were stamped at each station as projects were completed.

# Paradise church members share “Food with Friends”

“Thank you,” said a man who came to the Paradise church to receive a free meal one Sunday. His next words to Paradise church member Jennifer Klingbeil moved the hearts of the church’s food ministry team: “Thank you for providing a hot meal on Sundays,” he said. “Sunday was dumpster diving day in Paradise.”

Reaching out to people scrambling for food and basic needs is the goal behind the church’s weekly “Food with Friends,” a program which provides a hot meal every Sunday to people in the community. Weekly, 70-100 people come to eat. More than 100 volunteers — ranging in age from 6 to 90 — have served enthusiastically during the year the program has been in operation.



PHOTOS BY PETE BRAMAN

**Sophia Sir, Annalise Lang and Madison Marquez help in the kitchen.**

The church youth and young adult groups have each chosen a Sunday that is uniquely theirs to prepare and serve the food. “I have been observing the young people over the course of several months, and I noticed some felt a bit uneasy at first,” said Hyung An, who leads the youth Food with Friends team. “You can now see in their faces an expression of confidence — of enjoying their experience meeting with and serving the guests.”

Church members have discovered that volunteering is a good way for friends and family to grow closer. “Usually youth are always doing a lot of things together in school and church (school activities or youth rallies), but it’s been exciting to serve others together. Serving with my family has also been very special,” said

Paradise Adventist Academy freshman Annalise Lang.

The goal of Food with Friends is not only to provide a special meal, but a welcoming ambiance. Since the guests cannot afford a night out at a restaurant, the church team has tried to create that type of atmosphere in the Fellowship Center, including “real” plates and silverware, flowers, people waiting on tables and live piano music.

Although the church members have not overtly promoted religious beliefs, many guests want to learn more about Adventism and the local church, and they request books and other literature. A few guests have attended church services, and some have received lesson quarterlies and copies of *The Messiah*.

As expected, special relationships have begun to develop between the volunteers and guests. “When we started the ministry, I thought we would be a blessing to those we serve. It became clear after our first week and after visiting with our guests, that we were the ones being blessed,” said Mark Morris, Food With Friends coordinator.



**Guests enjoy the food and ambiance at Food with Friends. “When people feel accepted and cared for, the Spirit will open doors of opportunity along the way,” said Associate Pastor Pete Braman.**

## Volunteers are eager to help

Food with Friends was initiated after Paradise church Associate Pastor Pete Braman attended a town planning meeting and discovered that Sunday was the only day of the week that no hot meal was provided for the community’s neediest citizens. When he proposed the idea to his church, “Every committee voted unanimously to embrace the program,” he said. Since then, many members have volunteered to help.

“The most exciting part of Food With Friends is how eager our church members are to help those in need in our community,” he said.

The church advertised the program with a large banner on the property, their name on a pamphlet distributed throughout the community, and a story in the local paper. The first meal in April 2011 served more than 70 people.

Braman is willing to share what he has learned with others who might be interested in starting a similar outreach program in their churches. For information, contact the Paradise church office at 530-877-4454.

“Martin Luther said, ‘Preach the gospel as often as possible, and if necessary, use words,’” said Braman. “Sharing the love of Jesus in a tangible way has been a tremendous blessing to our volunteers.”

*Pete Braman*



**Brandon Dudar, Stenton Chapman and Kevin Nye serve guests.**

*Julie Lorenz*

# Woodside church shares the joy of life through healthy cooking

Most people don't think about attending a healthy cooking class on a Saturday night, but "Joie de Vivre" at the Sacramento-Woodside church is so much fun that attendance is growing. The name means "enjoyment of life," and leaders Chris Johnston and Lorraine West work diligently to ensure that each evening is informative and enjoyable.

On the third weekend of every month, church and community members gather in the Woodside Center to watch cooking demonstrations, compete in trivia contests, try brain teasers, win door prizes and learn ways to be healthier. The session begins with a short devotional.

"This has been the most fun and participatory outreach effort that I've ever been part of," said Pastor Steve McHan.

Every night's recipes are based on a theme, such as healthy desserts or winter comfort foods. Church members take turns demonstrating three vegan recipes, including one

presented by a child — "something really simple that a child can come home from school and put together himself," said West. Each attendee goes home with copies of the recipes for that evening.

Church member Tom Hamilton enjoys watching people's reactions to the recipes. "My favorite part is seeing the excitement in their eyes — that it's vegetarian, but it looks good, smells good and tastes fabulous — but it's healthy," he said.

"I wasn't very well-versed in vegetarian cooking," said church member John Verderber. "I've learned different techniques and recipes for preparing vegetables."

The February class included guest speaker Susan Singer, a registered dietician. "I've taken many nutrition classes over the years," said church member John Schwartzhoff. "The guest speaker did an exemplary job of explaining fairly technical terms about nutrition. It is the clearest I've heard it."

Although the classes are lighthearted, they have a serious purpose — to help people improve health and also to introduce them to important truths. "God created us and He gave us all these foods and all these methods of healthy living because He knew what was best for us," said Johnston. "We can demonstrate that He loves us."

Health outreach is an effective method for reaching unbelievers in a non-threatening way. "[Ellen] White tells us that this is going to be one of the last works that we are

able to do," said West. "From what we've seen, the community that is coming here is really interested in changing the way they eat. We're also giving them spiritual input at the meeting."

Johnston emphasizes that it's not enough to get people to attend the classes. Church members need to make friends with visitors and welcome them into the community. "If people come and just watch the program and leave, we're not accomplishing our goal," she said. "This is a way to reach out to people — and get them healthier in the process."

*Julie Lorenz*

## Calavasitas (little zucchinis)

- 2 ears of corn (kernels only)
- 4 zucchinis, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 2 small tomatoes, diced
- 1/4 jalapeno or green chili, chopped
- 1/8 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped
- 1 tbsp oil

Put the oil in the pan and let it heat; then add all ingredients together. Cook for 5 minutes or until the flavors mingle; then serve.

*Balvina Reed*

JEFF PHILLIPS



*Ivanna Willis and Balvina Reed demonstrate several Mexican recipes, including calavasitas.*

BRICK JOHNSTON



*Steve McHan, Sacramento-Woodside church pastor, prepares mideast tostadas (lentils on bread instead of beans on tortillas). "I like taking the mystery out of being in the kitchen," he said. "It doesn't need to be intimidating to work with new kinds of foods."*

# NCC members enjoy a wide variety of Sabbath schools

Many members find meaning and enjoyment in non-traditional Sabbath schools throughout the Northern California Conference. People with similar interests join together to reach out to others, strengthen their faith, learn more about the Bible and praise God. Following are some inspiring examples:

## Wire Choir – Carmichael

For more than a decade, members of the Wire Choir have spent Sabbath school praising God with instruments and voice. “For me, it’s therapy — just singing and playing,” said Diane Leslie, class coordinator. “We’re kind of a family.”

The all-music class is “an alternative and not a replacement” to traditional Sabbath schools, according to John Verzosa, class leader. The class meets on alternate weeks so members can also join study classes.



ROD KAMPF

People of all musical skill levels participate in the Wire Choir at the Carmichael church.

Though the group is currently composed of guitar players, in the past, a variety of instruments — stringed and otherwise — have contributed, including mandolin, banjo, woodwind, drums and more. Musical ability, however, is not a requirement. “You don’t have to play an instrument; you can just sing,” said Verzosa.

Members take turns selecting songs that have been collected

through the years in customized binders, including several pieces written especially for Wire Choir. The group plays all kinds of music — hymns, praise music, children’s songs, bluegrass and gospel.

Wire Choir members make the gathering a non-threatening place for beginners to learn how to praise God through music. Although the current class is composed of adults, people of all ages are welcome. The group has included young kids and people into their 70s. “That’s one thing that’s nice about it — the wide age range,” said Verzosa. “We encourage people to join us all the time.”

## Second Look – Gracepoint

Members of Second Look view the Sabbath sermon not as a monologue, but rather as an invitation to dialogue. Led by church pastors Walt Groff and Greg Webster, the class encourages members to fully absorb the day’s sermon and to examine the topic from a variety of angles.

People have a chance to ask questions about the points they didn’t understand during the sermon. “It’s an opportunity to go further in depth, to clear up anything that wasn’t clear,” said Webster.

They also have an opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas on the sermon topic. “It’s good to be able to hear feedback and to know that they were listening and — beyond that — they were able to apply it in their own lives,” said Webster.

For many years, Gracepoint’s church service came before the Sabbath school period, so everyone in the class heard the sermon before the discussion. Now that the congregation has two services, half the class members respond to



TAMI KAVAS

Gracepoint church pastors Walt Groff and Greg Webster lead the Second Look discussion.

the sermon, and the other half discuss the topic before hearing it — sort of a preview.

“It’s amazing that, at times, even a sentence spoken offhandedly during the sermon can spark an entire discussion,” said class member Birdie Galbraith. “There are points that have been brought up that, a couple of years later, still have a profound effect on me.”

## Outreach – Oakland-Market Street

Almost four years ago, a man in Diane Cartier’s Sabbath school class went to live in a nursing home about 10 miles from the church. “He missed Sabbath school so much,” said Cartier, class leader and Sabbath school superintendent. She thought, “We’ve got to bring Sabbath school to him — and not only him. It was just something the Lord placed on our hearts.”



CARL CARTIER

Oakland-Market Street church member Diane Cartier leads Sabbath school for nursing home residents.

The nursing home’s activities director readily agreed to let Cartier’s class come present Saturday morning programs at the facility. The residents appreciate the class, which meets twice a month, and a number of them actively participate — giving testimonies, singing, clapping and playing the piano. “I enjoy hearing their testimonies about what God has done for them throughout their lives,” said church member Carl Cartier.

In addition to Sabbath school, the church members endeavor to make connections in other ways. When someone they know at the facility passes away, they try to attend the funeral and reach out to the family. Last Christmas, the whole church got involved in

presenting a holiday program and distributing more than 100 hand-made blankets.

Looking at the patients, "You see His children — your mothers, your brothers, your family," said Diane Cartier. The class emphasizes a message of hope. "It prompts their minds when they get depressed and downtrodden: there's hope in Jesus; don't ever give up," she said.



*Arrie Cartier, Frankie Philips, Betty Glenn, Ada Ward and James Ward sing during the Sabbath school program at a nursing home.*

## 12-Step Group – Pacific Union College

People attend the 12-Step Sabbath school class for a variety of reasons. Some are struggling with substance abuse issues or eating disorders. Others come to find balance. "We really stress that it's for anybody that doesn't feel they have control in their lives," said Joellen Lee, a counselor and one of the class leaders.

The group spends one to three weeks on each of the 12 steps, discussing it from a Christian perspective until everyone feels ready to move on. When they complete all 12 steps, they start over with number one. Like other gatherings of this kind, "We assure anonymity to anyone who comes," said Lee.

The group began after PUC Pastor Tim Mitchell asked Lee and her husband to attend a workshop in preparation for starting some kind of substance abuse recovery program at the church. Lee had heard about a 12-step Sabbath school class at another college church, and Mitchell was supportive of that format. The group has been meeting together for about three years.

Participants take turns leading the class period. "We don't have the same person facilitate every week; we're all equals there," said Lee. "People will really open up and talk."

The class has been an entryway for several people to start attending church again. "People have come back to church that haven't come for years," said Lee. "That's been a really cool thing."



*As part of Pacific Union College's KidzReach program, the TLC4 class prepared three meals for a large group of children with parents in prison.*

## TLC4 – Pacific Union College

Another class at the PUC church, TLC4, stands for Tender Loving Care to the fourth power (choice, community, connection, care). About six years ago, class organizers read the book *Reinvent Your Sabbath School* by Chris and Yolanda Blake and decided to start a ministry-driven class. "We knew we wanted a strong connection with each other and a strong connection with the community," said Jim Roy, former leader.

Through the years, in addition to prayer and study, class members have spent class time talking about community needs and organizing class projects. They have given up many

hours of free time for service, such as yard work for elderly couples, a complete bathroom renovation for a disabled man, grounds work at nearby Elmshaven, and more.

The group also helps financially where it can, via a class bank account. Once, the class paid a needy widow's rent for a year. Most recently, they voted to pay for shoes, clothes and school supplies children at a mission

project site in Guatemala.

The group stays in touch via a weekly e-mail message — sent out by current co-leader Karen Bunch — providing information about the next week's study topic, upcoming potlucks and people needing time or monetary donations. "We are a Sabbath school of action because we feel like only learning isn't doing any good unless we're out there putting it to use, meeting people's needs where they are," said Bunch. "That's what we as Christians should be about."

*Julie Lorenz*



*While their home was being renovated by TLC4 members, a disabled man and his wife stayed in the home of Ron and Karen Bunch, and the Sabbath school class met there so the couple could attend.*

# Justin Bond strives to make dreams come true for severely wounded veterans

It was April 9, 2004 — the one-year anniversary of the toppling of Saddam Hussein's army. Army Sergeant Justin Bond was traveling in a convoy taking supplies to a Marine unit during the Battle of Fallujah in Iraq. Suddenly, more than 700 insurgents attacked with rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and AK-47s.

Two soldiers and a civilian contractor were captured, eight soldiers and five civilian contractors were killed. Many others were severely wounded, including Bond. He was shot in both knees. Treatment by medics was followed by a medevac flight to an Army hospital in Landstuhl, Germany. Then Bond was sent on to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., where he spent 15 months with 33 surgeries aimed at saving his legs.

When he finally returned home to Hanford, Calif., he and Laurel Ernst, a Pacific Union College graduate, were married.

"We met in elementary school at Armona Union Academy," says Laurel. "He was an older man." Justin is four years older. They became reacquainted after his first tour of duty. Laurel, an early childhood education major, says, "I always liked him from afar." They had two dates before he left for Iraq, and stayed in touch during his deployment.

"I was just going to live a day at a time," she says of loving a deployed soldier. A middle of the night phone call alerting her of Justin's critical injury forever changed her life. During his time at Walter Reed Hospital, they fell in love, and she completed her bachelor's in early childhood education. After the wedding, they had a very small apartment and a disability income of \$1,400 a month.

Bond was also walking on two very painful legs and knew it was only a matter of time before one or both had to be amputated.

Surgeries to save his legs continued until Justin said no more. "The total knee replacements didn't work," he says. His left leg was amputated in 2009. "It is only a matter of time until the right leg has to go."

"[It is] a bit of a challenge, but we work through it," Laurel shares. "He's



**PGA champion Greg Norman (aka "The Shark"), left, gives Justin Bond a few golf lessons during a round of play. Norman was also happy to give tips and encouragement to rookie caddy Laurel Bond, Justin's wife.**

different than what he used to be. But God brings us closer. You know how a relationship goes. This is our journey."

When his left leg was amputated, Justin experienced depression and despair for the first time.

"I had never thought about suicide," Bond explains. "But once I lost my leg and couldn't get out of the house and was taking prescription drugs, even I got to the point of 'Why do I get up in the morning?' Add spousal problems, financial issues, alcohol, and pills ... life feels hopeless. It's one of our biggest problems."

The "our" Bond is talking about are severely wounded soldiers coming home from the Afghanistan and Iraq wars. A new mission began to grow in his heart. He got up from the sofa and began to put his new dreams into action. "I won't rest until all the severely wounded veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan wars have an opportunity to experience their dreams," he promises.



**David Riley, left, and Justin Bond spend time with Butch, the elephant at the Healing Safari. Though missing his arms and legs, David learned to scuba dive at a donated resort near Monterey, Calif.**

## Our Heroes Dreams

"After returning home, I saw many needs that my military brothers and sisters had, and I volunteered to help. Yet, too many times they would take their own lives. Frustrated, I felt like God was leading me in two directions. Then, one day, it all came together. I would show the vets who Christ is through me," Bond shares.

Bond founded an organization called Our Heroes' Dreams, a non-profit organization for veterans similar to the Make-a-Wish Foundation. It is funded by the Wounded Soldier and Family Relief Fund, Inc., and exists to improve the lives of warriors and their families by helping them to accomplish the dreams that they otherwise wouldn't be able to accomplish because of their disabilities.

"They are part of the greatest mission in the world. They come back wounded and overnight are sitting on a couch with no mission. We want to help them find a new mission in life," Bond explains.

In the summer of 2011, Bond received a telephone call from a Coast Guard veteran, Dave Riley, who had lost both arms and both legs in the line of duty. He was filled with despair and suicidal. Riley's love was scuba diving, and he'd lost that ability. Bond talked him into coming to a seaside resort for a week. And he promised that they would go scuba diving.

Frank Degnan, scuba instructor and author of *Diving With Disabilities*, agreed to help make Riley's dream a reality. Lack of weight, mobility and balance were huge challenges, but the adventure was successful. And for Riley, hope began to grow.

Helping to fulfill the dreams of wounded veterans was a great start, but Bond decided that veterans also needed access to an upscale resort center where they could meet with counselors experienced with post traumatic stress disorder and financial and marriage issues.

"The doors started flying open," says Bond. "I met a guy [from Wild Things, Inc., at the Vision Quest Ranch] who offered his animal safari and cabins. We are now partnering with other nonprofits."

The Healing Safari, a program of Our Heroes' Dreams, opened its doors to veterans in January 2012 at the resort located near Monterey, Calif. Elephants from the ranch deliver breakfast to the guests in their cabins.

They hope to host two groups a month. Children come, too, and families discover things they can do together, like skydiving, rock climbing, scuba diving, sailing and whale watching. Everything is free for the vets and their families.

## The Ride of a Lifetime

On April 1, Bond is scheduled to begin a ride across the country from Monterey, Calif., to Jacksonville, Fla. Along the way, he plans to raise awareness and money for Wounded Soldier and Family Relief Fund, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit charity that funds Our Heroes' Dreams projects. And "thanks to the Central California Conference that helped us from the beginning," Bond says.

"The ride across the country is something he has wanted to do," Laurel Bond says.

"I'm going to support him and do a little shopping. He has lots of dreams — it is neat to see. Some fall

apart, and some go through."

Bond had planned to ride on a recumbent bicycle. Now, with one leg missing, that wasn't possible. Bond joined others in lobbying for military benefits for amputees to include a Segway. Joined by two disabled veterans, they will ride through cities and towns on Segways.

## Other Blessings

In October, the George W. Bush Presidential Center near Dallas, Texas, hosted the first Warrior Open, a golf tournament featuring service

members who were severely wounded in the global war on terror.

Bond was one of 20 service members who participated in the 36-hole tournament. President Bush was Laurel's dinner date. "He's the nicest guy ever, really down to earth," she reports. Justin's golf partner was PGA champion Greg Norman, also known as "The Shark."

Next, the Bond family received an unexpected gift — a new 2,650-square-foot house! Homes for Our Troops is a national nonprofit organization, based in Taunton, Mass. Since 2004, they have been building specially adapted homes for severely injured service members. All homes are built at no cost to the veterans.

Local builder G.J. Gardner was the project's overseer and also found subcontractors to donate material and labor. Homes for Our Troops covered the remainder. Bond's was the 109th home completed.

"Having the freedom to move around my own home will allow me to feel like I am protecting my family again," he says. "I will also be able to take care of myself and not need to rely on my wife to bear all of the household chores and responsibilities."

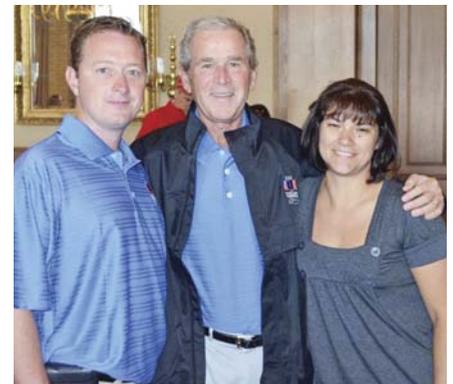
"God is awesome! I am loving being a soldier again. This time I am a soldier in the Army of the Lord. I am fighting for my brothers and sisters in arms to stay alive on earth, so they have a chance to learn about the true God and have a chance to help others. What God has shown me is simply simple — help these vets find a mission in life."

For more information and a list of cities for the Our Heroes' Dreams, go to [www.ourheroes-dreams.org](http://www.ourheroes-dreams.org).

*Caron Oswald*



**Justin Bond plays segway polo at the 2011 Woz Cup in Folsom, Calif. The sixth international event was founded by Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple. New segways were gifted to Justin and another wounded veteran. Pictured is one of his team members.**



**Justin and Laurel Bond at a dinner with President George W. Bush. Laurel was President Bush's dinner partner.**

# Make Us One

Opening Night  
July 12, 2012



**Ricardo  
Graham**

President  
Pacific Union  
Conference

Opening Weekend  
July 13-14, 2012



**Carlton  
Byrd**

Speaker/Director  
Breath of Life

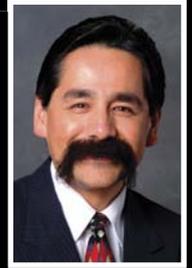
Nightly  
July 15-17, 2012



**Doug  
Batchelor**

Speaker/Director  
Amazing Facts

Closing Weekend  
July 20-21, 2012



**Jose  
Rojas**

Director of the  
Office of  
Volunteer  
Ministries for the  
North American  
Division

Opening Weekend  
July 13-16, 2012



**Stephen  
Bohr**

Speaker/Director  
Secrets Unsealed

*Seminar Speakers*  
Carlton & Jean Oler, Ed Reid,  
Tim Roosenberg, Dennis Smith,  
Arlene Taylor, and more...

Closing Weekend  
July 17-21, 2012



**Alejandro  
Bullon**

Speaker/Director  
Ministerio Bullon

# Haynos Uno

## *Spanish Tent Speakers*

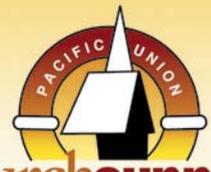
Health Seminar: Joaquín Cazares  
Layman Seminar: José Marín  
Prayer Time: Guillermo Garica  
Devotionals: Jorge Soria,  
Ramiro Cano, plus more...

**For Young  
Adults, Youth  
and Children:  
Programs and  
recreation times:  
9:30 am - 9:00 pm**

**Live Satellite  
Broadcasts on  
the Hope Church  
Channel:  
Evenings:  
7:00-9:00 pm  
Sabbath:  
10:45 am - 12:30 pm**

**For More Information:**  
[ccc.adventist.org](http://ccc.adventist.org)  
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[www.triangle.tv](http://www.triangle.tv)





# Church Applied

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

## Wi-Fi IN CHURCH?

*editorial*



Imagine a church giving access to its Wi-Fi signal during their Sabbath morning services? Why would they want to do this? Wouldn't this be like encouraging people to surf the net and update their Facebook pages during church? Pastors, do you really want this kind of competition? It used to be that during the sermon, a down-turned head meant that someone was sleeping, reading their Bible, or praying. But now, if their face has a bright bluish tint to it, you may have lost them to Facebook.

The "church Wi-Fi" conversation is happening because more and more members are bringing their smart devices (with data plans) and using them during services, whether or not Wi-Fi is available. The age of technology is creating interesting, and sometimes unwanted challenges with how we communicate, how we access information, shop, and yes, how we do church. The intrusion of technology into what we classify as "sacred spaces" is real and probably not going away, unless we install cell phone jamming devices in our sanctuaries, which may be illegal and could be viewed as unfriendly, to say the least.

When Gutenberg created movable type (new technology) and started printing Bibles, some believed it was the death knell for the church. Back then copying Bibles was considered sacred work done only by the church. But Gutenberg started everyone down a new path. As people started getting their own Bibles, some wondered if they would stop attending worship events? How would the distribution of printed matter affect longstanding institutions?

The church has always struggled with how to adapt to modern culture. And however churches choose to navigate such questions, there needs to be at least an acknowledgment that emerging technologies can have both positive and negative implications. The question is always, how far do we go? Where do we draw the line? How can we use technology as a tool to help us fulfill our mission, as opposed to being swallowed by it?

The Forest Lake Church in Apopka, Fla., wrestled with the Wi-Fi issue for a period of time before pursuing their current course of action. Delwin Finch, Pastor for Web Services at Forest Lake, said they were constantly being asked by members to make their Wi-Fi signal available. And they were aware that many were using their smart

ChurchApplied features online resources for ministry (personal and church-related). Many of the items listed require online access to be read in their entirety. The purpose of this piece is to acquaint members and church leaders with some of the new resources that are available on the web and on smart devices. To subscribe to ChurchApplied see page 4.



*Cont. on pg.2*

phones and iPads throughout the services anyway. So, here's what they do now:

Finch says, "We provide Wi-Fi access during our services, and encourage those in our congregation who choose to be online to access the materials we have prepared for the service. We use YouVersion ([www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com)) as our interface, which is available as an app. The specific YouVersion feature is called 'Live,' and with it you can create an event and include sermon notes, a response field (eg, send prayer requests, feedback, etc.) and the texts being used in the sermon."

"Once a 'Live' event is created, it gets a custom URL, which you then share with the congregation. The event can be created ahead of time so you can publish the URL to a bulletin or website. And the event is 'searchable'; in other words, people can look for events in their area based on zip code or city and your event will come up as one of the options for them to attend."

"So far we have had no negative feedback, although I'm sure some parents have had to try and defend their own habit of checking 'Words with Friends' on their way to YouVersion."

Forest Lake is a large church, and undoubtedly such an approach will not work everywhere. But what Forest Lake is doing provides an example of how a church can use something that could be distracting for ministry purposes.

We'd like to hear from other churches who are using online media during their Sabbath morning services. Send feedback to [css@puonline.org](mailto:css@puonline.org).

*Rich DuBose is Editor of Church-Applied and Director of Pacific Union Conference Church Support services.*

# Poetry Man by Benjamin DuBose



One summer, while enjoying some down time in Santa Barbara, Calif., I came across a kind old gentleman selling poetry by the side of the road. He was wearing a ragged old jacket, thick with dirt. His hands were covered in grease and soot. His hair was wet and matted, and years of hard life were etched across his weather-beaten face.

He kindly asked me if I'd like to buy a poem, and I obliged. He sold me a poem about a wounded whale on his last leg of life. I asked him about the poem, where the inspiration came from and how it made him feel. He looked at me totally startled and flabbergasted.

He told me that in all of his years sitting there in the dirt selling poetry no one had ever asked him how he felt about a poem, or where he got the inspiration for it.

He collected his thoughts for a moment and began to tell me the saddest story I've ever heard about his own life and how he ended up on the streets.

*Benjamin DuBose is a freelance writer and web content editor.*

**Read full article:**  
[www.e-gracenotes.org/poetryman](http://www.e-gracenotes.org/poetryman)



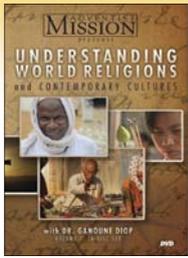
## Las Vegas Grill Promotes Heart Attack Meal

According to a news report, a Las Vegas restaurant called "Heart Attack Grill" offers a menu of exceedingly unhealthy food. Recently, "a diner was eating a 'Triple Bypass Burger,' including 1.5 pounds of beef and a dozen bacon slices, when he began complaining of chest pains, according to a report on KVVU-TV in Las Vegas. Paramedics quickly arrived to treat the customer, who is now recovering."\* Ignorance is far from bliss. What are you doing to promote health and wellness in your community and church?

Ask for a FREE supply of our Healthy Living sharing cards. Check out our online health lessons at: [www.answersforme.org/health](http://www.answersforme.org/health).

*\*by Tiffany Hsu, Los Angeles Times, February 15, 2012.*

# Resources YOU CAN USE



**“Understanding World Religions and Contemporary Cultures”** is a new DVD series that opens the door to comprehending the beliefs, values and practices of Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Christianity and Postmodernism. It offers guidelines on sharing the Christian gospel in a manner that is respectful and meaningful. The DVD features Dr. Ganoune Diop, an expert on world religions with the Global Mission Study Centers.

The price is \$34.99. Check it out at [www.AdventistBookCenter.com](http://www.AdventistBookCenter.com).



**GraceNotes App** - GraceNotes is a cache of well-written articles that touch on contemporary issues of faith, health and family life. Produced by the Center for Creative Ministry and the North American Division, the content appears on many Adventist Church websites throughout the world and will soon be available in iTunes as a free app. The material is great for personal devotions, sermon illustrations, small group discussions and more. Visit GraceNotes at [www.e-gracenotes.org](http://www.e-gracenotes.org).

**WestPoint 2012** - Looking for creative approaches to ministry. Plan now to attend WestPoint, April 8-12, 2012, San Mateo, California. For more details visit: [www.westpoint2012.com](http://www.westpoint2012.com).



## OUT OF THE SAFE MODE

Everyone knows how to play hide and seek. If you aren't "it," your job is to hide, then sneak your way back to home base without being tagged. Players cannot win without assuming the risk of being "caught."

When I played hide and seek as a child, some kids were so clever at hiding they were never found. They didn't get tagged, but they never made it back to home base — which means they didn't win! They hid so well they essentially fell out of the game.

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



## Stage Lighting Panels

Platforms are the focal point that we spend most of our time looking at when attending services in a church. Often they are dark, filled with heavy pieces of furniture, and maybe a few bushes or trees. Why not open it up with architectural lighting that gives a more airy and colorful feeling? Greg Mace with GJM Sound has developed a package of light panels that utilize LED lights that can be adjusted to fit the occasion. The above photo shows how these are being used in the Placerville Adventist Church. For more details contact Greg at: 530-626-5211 or [greg.mace@usa.net](mailto:greg.mace@usa.net).



Photo: Valerie Mellor



**One project** – Recently, 700+ followers of Jesus from Australia, Brazil,

Canada, Europe and the USA met in Seattle for the One project gathering with one purpose: to celebrate the supremacy of Jesus within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The results of the two days were overwhelming joy in Jesus. People of all ages from 18 to 60+ joined together to remember the past and look forward to a bright future.

Already 168 are registered for Chicago next February. They will have eight presentations on the four gospels. For more information visit: [www.the1project.org](http://www.the1project.org).



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# Web Round-Up

**CSPS**  
[www.arealexperience.org](http://www.arealexperience.org)

**FaithTrip**  
[www.faithtrip.org](http://www.faithtrip.org)

**inSpire**  
[www.facebook.com/visit.inspire](http://www.facebook.com/visit.inspire)

**Sharing Scripture**  
[www.tinyurl.com/89wcbso](http://www.tinyurl.com/89wcbso)

**ChurchApplied Videos**  
[www.vimeo.com/churchapplied](http://www.vimeo.com/churchapplied)

**Hell and Mr. Fudge**  
[www.hellandmrfudge.com](http://www.hellandmrfudge.com)

**SONscreen**  
[www.sonscreen.org](http://www.sonscreen.org)



Do you have a passion for sharing God's love through media, particularly video or film? If so, you need to be at **SONscreen** in Simi Valley on April 12. SONscreen was created by the North American Division (NAD) of Seventh-day Adventists to nurture Christian filmmakers in their craft, career development, and spiritual lives. For more details visit: [www.sonscreen.org](http://www.sonscreen.org).

## Everyone Wants My Body

by Dick Duerksen

Everybody wants my body. Some, so they can fill me with beer. Others, so they can adjust my appearance to match their definition of "beautiful." Still others harangue and wheedle about how I must reduce my cholesterol, increase my carbs, reduce my carbs, drink flax seed tea, or purchase new running shoes from *only* their company.



accosted by the makers of houses, cars, beer, shoes, mortgages, graduate education, the world's finest candy, dental implants, and three more brands of beer. All seem to know exactly what I need, and why I need it. "Right Now!"

*Newsweek, TIME, People, The UTNE Reader, Mother Jones, The Adventist Review, and WORLD Magazine* have each dedicated scores of pages to telling me about my body.

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



**inSpire** is a new online community for Adventist artists, poets and songwriters who are committed to using their craft to share God's message of hope. Visit inSpire online at: [www.visitinspire.org](http://www.visitinspire.org).



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Get monthly updates that feature ministry news, videos, people, ideas and more. Sign up at: [www.churchsupportservices.org/news](http://www.churchsupportservices.org/news).

# Steenberg joins CCC administrative team

Pastor Pierre Steenberg joined the Central California Conference administrative team Feb. 1 as the vice president of human resources and personnel. Dennis Seaton, who served that department for nearly 20 years, has joined to the Pacific Union as associate director for public affairs and religious liberty.

Steenberg knew he wanted to be a pastor since his elementary school days. He was preaching by age 12. Growing up on a campus with an elementary school, an academy and an old folks home in South Africa provided the opportunity to preach.

"Since my freshman year in high school, I have always felt called and knew I wanted to be a pastor," Steenberg says. "The idea was that I would go to grad school to eventually teach theology." Never once did he aspire to be a personnel or human resources director. That idea never crossed his mind.

He met his future wife, Karlien Voster, at college. "We were forced to work together on a project, and we just never stopped," Steenberg shares. They have been married for 19 years and have two sons, Elmer, 14, and Dylan, 12.

Steenberg began serving as a pastor in 1992 and was ordained in 1998. He received a bachelor's from Andrews University. From the University of Pretoria in South Africa, he earned a bachelor's degree in biblical studies, a master's degree in biblical studies and a Ph.D. in New Testament studies.

"I just love studying. If someone was to pay me to study, I would gladly become a full-time student until I retire," Steenberg explains.

Ten months before completing his Ph.D., he began asking God where and how He wanted to use him. "I told God that I was willing to do anything He wanted me to do and that I would work anywhere in the world, including staying in South Africa."

Other than his wife, Steenberg didn't tell anyone about his prayers. In short order, one professor after another after another told him that he should go to the United States.

So they went. When the Steenberg family arrived in the U.S., many of the interviews



*Elmer, Pierre, Karlien and Dylan Steenberg.*

Steenberg had arranged didn't end up happening. "Basically, God prevented me from being interviewed by the right people in most of the other conferences," he says. "All except one — Central California Conference." He also was interviewed by a university and later offered a teaching position, but he just did not feel at peace with that option.

As he and Karlien sat in a vacant pastor's office while the Hollister, Calif., congregation deliberated, each independently felt a deep peace that they were where God wanted them. That was in 2001.

In his 10-year tenure at Hollister, the congregation and church school became an evangelistic outreach. A successful internet ministry was established resulting in as many as 6,000 sermon downloads every month.

In his spare time, Steenberg earned another doctorate in ministry, this time in pastoral psychology and family therapy from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif.

Then Steenberg began receiving job offers outside pastoral ministry, including the HR job at Central. He said no, time and again, and

even turned down calls from other conferences. "I began feeling like Jonah and, like Jonah, I said to God: 'God, please leave me alone. I like it here. My family is happy, my wife loves her work, and the kids love their schools. I don't want to go.'"

To soothe his conscience, Steenberg prayed and made a deal with God: If this really was God's calling, then Ramiro Cano, CCC president, would call again. If it was not God's will, then He needed to have the conference appoint someone else.

Cano was impressed to call Steenberg one more time, and this time, Steenberg said yes.

"Why God wants me here, I still don't know," Steenberg states. "What I do know is that God sometimes exposes us to certain experiences to prepare us for something He has in mind in the future. At other times, He has us do what He has in mind for the end goal. We are not always sure if He is busy preparing us or using us for His end goal or the future. Either way, as long as I have peace that God is leading, I will follow."

*Caron Oswald*

# Thunderbird Adventist Academy undergoes physical and academic renovation

**T**hunderbird Adventist Academy is transforming. “Our dream is for every Arizona Conference school to be a ‘School of Excellence,’ an educational center where students learn how to live successfully on earth while choosing to focus their lives on living victoriously in heaven with God,” says Tony Anobile, Arizona Conference president.



**Rom Lachica, Berrien Springs, Mich., has worked on numerous Maranatha projects all over the world.**

This year the Arizona Conference is focusing on Thunderbird Academy, especially the academic program and the renovation of one wing of each dormitory.

“The dormitories are solid buildings,” says Principal Wayne Longhofer, “but everything inside the walls is 40 years old. To bring them up-to-date, we’re removing carpets, tile, windows, desks, beds, furniture, ceilings — everything except the concrete floors and slump-block walls — in preparation for a whole new look.”

That “whole new look” is possible because of a creative partnership between the conference, the academy, the Alumni Awards Foundation, Maranatha Volunteers International, and a donor — all of whom are dedicated to helping Adventist education fulfill its potential.

For several weeks during February and March, a team of Maranatha volunteers from across America parked their RVs at Thunderbird and began transforming the dormitories from “1971” to “2012.”

Maranatha’s construction superintendent Ken Casper says his team of volunteers has two major roles in the project — demolition and restoration.

“First we had to do the demolition,” Casper says. “We’ve filled several 40-foot refuse bins with what we’ve taken out of the rooms, offices, rec rooms and kitchens. Then several of the volunteers removed all of the ancient single-pane windows while others jack-hammered concrete floors so we could get to the leaky plumbing. While all that was going on, we had other teams removing walls to expand apartments for the deans.”

“The dust was so thick that we had to take lots of long showers,” laughs one of the volunteers, “and by evening we were so exhausted that sometimes we could hardly eat the cafeteria’s mounds of great food.”

By mid-February, the volunteers were on “almost the last lap” of this year’s project. The hallways are bright instead of dark. The bathrooms are brand new with wider stalls and upgraded fixtures, and each room will have colorful new carpet that perfectly matches the new carpet in the halls.

“I’m really excited about the new rec rooms and the bright new tile in the lobby,” says boy’s dean Dennis Anderson. “With just a few weeks of hard



**Maranatha volunteers Dave Dildine from San Diego and Betty Finch from Phoenix join 60 other volunteers to help renovate TAA.**

work, we have a dorm that’s much more like home for our students.”

School excellence is not just about transformed dorms, but the changes being made at Thunderbird represent an entire conference’s commitment to helping their academy become the finest possible place for their children to grow and learn.

“We want every one of our kids in heaven,” says Anobile, “and we’re excited to see what the partnership of conference, academy, AAF, the donor and Maranatha is doing at Thunderbird. Our academy is truly being transformed into a School of Excellence.”

TAA is the pilot school in the AAF’s Renaissance Network program. For more information, see [www.alumniawards.org/archives/624](http://www.alumniawards.org/archives/624).

*Dick Duerksen*



**Conrad Chipman, retired from Christian Record Braille, lends a helping hand at TAA.**



**Dick Duerksen, Maranatha Volunteers International storyteller and team leader, joins more than 60 workers during the TAA renovations.**

# Glenview Academy celebrates 75 years



*Music punctuated the anniversary celebration.*

**G**lenview Adventist Academy celebrated its diamond anniversary Feb. 17-18, remembering 75 years of continuous Seventh-day Adventist education. Established in 1936 in old-town Glendale, the school moved to its current location in Phoenix in 1959. Lyman Thompson Sr. was the eldest alumnus present on Sabbath, having attended Glenview during the 1938-39 school year.

The two-day celebration began with an unofficial roll call at the Friday evening program. Musical selections from the Glenview Select Chorale and Bell Choir under the direction of Dennis, Claudia and Claudio Marsollier were

featured. Then a panel of former teachers, students and administrators shared memories of their experiences at Glenview.

Principal Gus Martin played a "name-that-picture" game with two of the current first-grade students who attempted to recognize school photos of some of the alumni who were present. The evening ended with a time of remember-

ing for anyone who has been associated with Glenview.

The Sabbath morning program began with the Glendale praise band, Mosaic, and the Sabbath school lesson taught by Pastor Gary Venden.

Conference President Tony Anobile was the keynote speaker for the worship service and delivered a message about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and the possible death they faced in the fiery furnace for refusing to bow down to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar. Anobile drew parallels from this story and Adventist education, and the morals it helps

to instill. "These Israelite boys were certainly products of the finest church education," he said, "and the lessons learned in school, about serving God and not being ashamed of serving Him, gave them the strength to stand up for what they knew was right."

The afternoon concluded with a presentation by architect and Glenview alumnus Claudio Marsollier, who unveiled architectural drawings of a proposed new building for Glenview

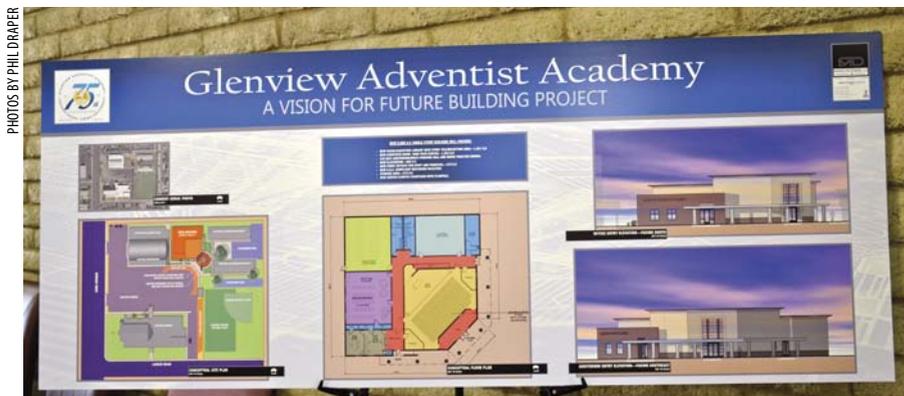


*Arizona Conference President Tony Anobile, left, and Education Superintendent Ruben Escalante, right, present a special plaque to Glenview Principal Gus Martin.*

Adventist Academy. This building would add more classroom space, office space, a computer lab, and a small auditorium, as well as the new Chace-Albertsen library.

The celebration concluded with a concert by world-renowned violinist Jaime Jorge. Throughout his concert, Jorge gave many illustrations from his own life to demonstrate the importance of Adventist education.

"In all, it was a very blessed event," said Martin. "Everyone who attended came away with freshly repainted memories of why Glenview was and is important to the church's ongoing mission of training Adventist youth. We're grateful to God for our 75 years, and hope that He will take us home before the next 75!"



*Architect Claudio Marsollier unveiled a master plan for future expansion.*

*Will Stone*

# Fallon church hosts monthly food distribution program

**A**t 8 a.m. the first Tuesday of every month, a dream comes true for Sherry Taylor, a member of the Fallon, Nev., church. That's when the doors of the church multi-purpose center are opened and scores of hungry people waiting in a long line begin to file in.

Taylor wanted to help provide for the nutritional needs of people needing assistance, and to do so in a manner where their dignity could be kept intact, and they could experience the love of Jesus in the process.

Taylor's dream began to take shape in 2008, when the Fallon church partnered with the Food Bank of Nevada and suppliers of fresh produce, dairy products and other food commodities to open a food distribution program for the Fallon community. Doors opened in September of that year.

On days when food is distributed, every parking space for a block in every direction is filled with cars, vans, pick-ups, SUVs, and even motorcycles with big baskets on the back. People know to arrive and get in line early, even in bad weather.

"We encourage the people to come early, because we have limited supplies of food, and the doors close when all the food has been distributed," says Albert Tilstra, church pastor.

On a typical first Tuesday of the month, as many as 1,400 individuals receive food. Those



**Volunteers prepare heavy boxes of all types of food for clients to pick up on distribution day.**

who have signed up for the program and brave the long line receive a box containing 40-50 pounds of food.

Canned and packaged foods, baked goods, produce, and an assortment of dairy products will help fill their families' tummies.

As many as 12 volunteers, including some from other denominations, keep the operation running smoothly. Some greet at the door, others move the food, and some help carry the

food to the waiting cars. Clients are treated with respect — hugs, handshakes and words of encouragement abound.

In a town with a population of just over 7,500 residents, a food distribution program the size of the one at the Fallon church is well-known in the community.

"We are so pleased to provide such needed food to deserving residents of our city," says Tilstra. "It gives us much pleasure and satisfaction to be of service, and we are highly motivated to continue to be the hands of Jesus as we meet so many of our city's residents."

*Denny Krause*



**Lines form early in the morning to pick up boxes of food.**

# Revelation Today series brings hope for tomorrow to Las Vegas

**R**evelation Today, the Las Vegas-based, world-wide evangelistic endeavor sponsored by It Is Written and the Nevada-Utah Conference and presented by Pastor John Bradshaw, was an opportunity for many people in Las Vegas and around the world to gain hope for the future.

The series began Jan. 20 at Cashman Center and continued through Feb. 18. The identical, twice-daily, morning and evening meetings began with a combined on-site attendance of more than 1,500 people, narrowing to about 800 committed people after 15 presentations. An unknown number of churches and individuals around the world "attended" the meetings broadcast via the Internet.

DENNY KRAUSE



GERRY CHUDLEIGH



*It Is Written speaker/director John Bradshaw preaches for the Revelation Today series in Las Vegas.*

At every meeting, scores of It Is Written staff, area pastors and church members — from highly technical audio-visual positions to greeters, auditorium hosts, registrars, assistants, and more — kept the operation running.

During the course of the meetings, Las Vegas pastors, along with trained lay people, phoned and visited hundreds of people who attended the series.

Bible study guides were available at tables in the auditorium lobby. The guides were graded during the next meeting and returned to the guests at the conclusion of the day's meeting.

The last day of the series, nearly 100 people were baptized at an indoor municipal swimming pool just blocks away from Cashman Center. To view a three minute video of the baptism, go to: [lasvegas.itiswritten.com/](http://lasvegas.itiswritten.com/)

*Candidates were baptized in groups by the pastors of churches they connected with during the Revelation Today series.*

"This work really energizes us because of the eternal impact it has on people's lives," said Yves Monnier, It Is Written coordinator for the event.

Decision cards turned in at the end of presentations expressed significant interest in the Bible topics presented. Throughout the series, take-home

news\_entries/144. Several hundred more have expressed an interest in preparing for baptism in the coming months, and reports from baptisms across the country and around the world are still coming in.

"It was exciting to see so many people move to the front of the auditorium when Pastor John invited guests to follow Jesus' example through biblical baptism," said Larry Unterseher, president of the Nevada-Utah Conference. "I heard many people talk about how these meetings changed their lives. We give God the glory."

*Denny Krause*

DENNY KRAUSE



*(L. to r.) Pastors Larry Unterseher, John Bradshaw, and Yves Monnier pause for a photo after the baptism.*

# Haitian with a broken heart finds healing in Ukiah

**B**roken hearts. Hundreds of them lined the debris-covered city as Haitians mourned their battered belongings and lost loved ones.

Under a crowded medical tent in the country's capital, Dale Morrison, M.D., a cardiologist and chief medical officer at Ukiah Valley Medical Center in Ukiah, Calif., was one of the medical volunteers in Port-au-Prince after the devastating earthquake on Jan. 12, 2010.

"I was at the right place at the right time," said Morrison as he and a delegation of medical personnel from UVMC triaged patients one hot day in Haiti. "I got to be part of a miracle." Donald Victor Leopold truly had a broken heart. Escorted by his father, he was short of breath and obviously in need of medical attention.

The next 20 minutes started a life-changing, heart-wrenching rhythm of events. As soon as Morrison put his stethoscope to Leopold's chest, he immediately knew something wasn't right.

"That's not what I expected to hear from a strapping 22-year old," remembered Morrison.

He diagnosed a congenital aortic valve disease, which meant the young man's heart had to pump twice as hard to empty blood that immediately flowed back in because of a faulty valve.

Leopold and his father tried to communicate with Morrison about an echocardiogram that Leopold had received previously, but the results were in French, a challenge for Morrison. Haitian doctors had medicated Leopold, but didn't have the technology or equipment to do anything else for him.

After the mission trip, Morrison returned to Northern California, but Leopold's case kept nagging at his heart — so much so that he started working with the U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince to get Leopold a visa to come to the U.S. for surgery.

Two years in the making, Morrison and his office staff finalized arrangements for travel and accommodations, and even secured the services of one of his colleagues to perform the much-needed surgery, all free of charge to Leopold.

"After the earthquake, I thought I would die, because the country became a desert with blood everywhere," said Leopold. "But God in His love allowed me to meet Dr. Morrison, and he helped me believe in life and hope that my life is not over."

Leopold flew by himself to the U.S. and met up with his brother. On Jan. 30, Leopold had a successful heart surgery in Northern California. Upon discharge, he went home with Morrison where his wife, Barbara, a retired nurse, cared

physicians, 20 nurses and seven various other medical personnel from Adventist Health who had participated in the Haiti "heart" mission trip. All of the volunteers paid their own expenses for the Haiti trip, which contributed to UVMC earning the prestigious national "Best Nursing Team" award in 2011.

"I have a new heart, a big heart. I thank the Lord and thank Dr. Morrison and his wife for all they have done for me," said Leopold. "I also want to thank all those who participated in



*Dale and Barbara Morrison arranged to repair Donald Victor Leopold's broken heart.*

for Leopold during recuperation.

"We were honored to have Donald and his brother in our home," said Barbara Morrison. "They love pizza and spaghetti . . . and enjoy watching soccer and basketball on television. They've become our family."

Leopold's heart went from broken to grateful, surrounded by people who love him. Interestingly, the Morrisons didn't realize Leopold is a Seventh-day Adventist until he arrived at their home in the United States.

While he was in Ukiah, the Morrisons hosted a reunion party that included the group of 11

fulfilling this dream for me."

The UVMC staff continues to support the Reveil Matinal Orphanage, an Adventist orphanage in Haiti, with medical visits and financial support, including a monthly community-wide bake sale at the medical center in Ukiah.

The Sabbath before he headed home, Leopold thanked the community by offering special music on the piano at the Ukiah Seventh-day Adventist Church.

*Keith Dobbs*

# Hollywood executive urges PUC students to seek God's plan

**A**t a special Colloquy program Thursday, Feb. 23, at Pacific Union College, Hollywood movie executive DeVon Franklin opened with a bold statement. "God has sent me here to deliver you a message," he said. "Someone here has a calling — something God wants you to do — but fear is holding you back from following that dream. I'm here to free you from that fear."

Franklin is vice president of production at Columbia Pictures, and has been involved in the production of films including *The Pursuit of Happyness* and the recent remake of *The Karate Kid*.

He's also a Seventh-day Adventist, and has recently written *Produced by Faith*, a book about maintaining a relationship with God while working in the entertainment industry.

He described how movies like "The Color Purple," "Rocky," and "Back To The Future" captivated him as a boy. He remembered wanting to make those images, but when he shared his dream with others in the Adventist community, he was often met with skepticism. This did not stop him from having faith that God would take him where He wanted him to be, he said.

Franklin advised students to actively seek and pursue their God-given purpose in this world. "So many times we begin to curtail what God has

called us to do because someone told us, 'Oh, you can't,'" he said. He recalled times when he became depressed because he did not know why God had created him. He urged the students to listen to the voice of God in their lives. "You are a light, and you must allow your light to shine," he said.

He told students that an Adventist education offers unique advantages, because of its focus on character as well as knowledge. "When you learn integrity, when you learn consistency, when you learn ethics, and when you combine that with what God has planned for you

— look out world! They're not going to know what to do with you," he said. After speaking at the morning Colloquy service, Franklin met with a smaller group of students for a question and answer session, where he discussed faith, film production, and charting a successful career path.

He encouraged students to be willing to stand up for their beliefs on the job, sharing an experience he had during the filming of "The Karate Kid." Shooting on location in China, he and his crew hadn't finished an important shot, and Friday evening was rapidly approaching.

Despite his commitment to honoring the Sabbath, he hesitated to quit working — but a moment of prayer reminded him of his priorities. "Getting that one shot was not worth damaging my relationship with God," he said.

He told students that the crew took note of his decision — and one crew-member even joined him in worship the next day. "You have no idea who you're inspiring by your walk, and who you're touching by being who God made you to be," he said.

Learn more about DeVon Franklin and his book, *Produced by Faith: Enjoy Real Success Without Losing Your True Self*, at [www.producedby-faith.com](http://www.producedby-faith.com).



*At a Colloquy service on Feb. 23, Columbia Pictures executive DeVon Franklin urged PUC students to live God's plan for their lives.*

*Larry Peña with Lauren Armstrong*

# Classes introduce students and employees to Adventist beliefs

Several new classes aim to provide students and employees of Loma Linda University and Loma Linda University Medical Center a foundation for understanding the beliefs and teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Titled “Seventh-day Adventist History” and “The Saga of Adventists and Health Care: Cornflakes, Baby Fae, and the Healing of the Nations,” the courses are designed to provide an introduction to Adventist teaching.

McMillan took Shedd’s inquiry to Gerald R. Winslow, Ph.D., vice president of mission and culture at the medical center. Ironically, Winslow had been thinking of offering a class like this, so he was highly supportive.

Once McMillan got the green light, she flew into action to make the idea a reality.

“We invited local pastors to come and speak each night about specific aspects of Adventism,” McMillan says. Specifically, the pastors ad-

each of the presenters talk for 15 minutes with another 15 minutes at the end of the evening for questions. The second night, we limited the talks to 10 minutes in order to devote half an hour for questions. That worked out better.”

The questions turned out to be very insightful.

“They wanted to know about the Adventist teaching on the state of the dead, the Sabbath, diet, and abortion,” she reveals. “One

participant wanted to know if it was OK for him to order meat when he goes out to eat with an Adventist colleague. We assured him it was fine.”

For her part, the lady who requested the class in the first place is very pleased with how it turned out.

“The class was enlightening and well rounded,” Shedd reflects. “The class emphasized the relationship with God more than anything else. The biggest benefit for me is that now, when I have a student, co-worker or

patient come up to me and ask, I can give them an answer or offer a class instead of not having anywhere to send them. It’s a great opportunity for people to get more information if they choose to.”

McMillan says that response to the first class was so positive that she anticipates holding the class one or two times per year.

*James Ponder*



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

*A conversation between Kathy McMillan, M.A., (left) and Joanna Shedd, M.Sc., led to the creation of an introductory class in Adventist beliefs for employees of Loma Linda University Medical Center. There has been considerable enthusiasm for the class among employees.*

These classes explore the values and practices of Adventism with special attention to the life and ministry of Ellen G. White, and present an overview of notable Adventist contributions to the field of health.

Kathy McMillan, M.A., director of employee spiritual care and wholeness at LLU Medical Center, says the idea for the classes came from Joanna Shedd, M.Sc., assistant clinical instructor in the LLU School of Nursing.

“She said she had worked here for 12 years and didn’t really know very much about Adventism,” McMillan reports.

dressed Adventist history, prophecy, health, the second coming, death, heaven, the new earth, and how to live in a relationship with God.

About 50 people attended the two sessions. McMillan says they ran the gamut from recently hired employees to people who have worked at the medical center or university for 20 years and wanted to increase their understanding of Adventism.

“Some of them were department heads,” she recounts, “two were resident physicians, and the rest were employees from a variety of departments and services. The first night, we had

# Kids Against Hunger event brings missions to campus

As part of La Sierra University's annual winter quarter Missions Rush Week, numerous university students, aided by 70 academy students, formed assembly lines around long tables in the university's Student Center. Students filled plastic bags with dehydrated meal ingredients, sealed them and packed boxes with 36 meal bags in each.

Organized by the university's missions office in partnership with humanitarian food-aid organization Kids Against Hunger, the event was the first of its kind at La Sierra. It aimed to bring the missions experience to campus and offer students an on-site outreach opportunity. The missions office typically recruits students for annual long and short-term missions activities overseas and in the United States. Currently, nine La Sierra students are working as teachers, medical and dental assistants in Majuro, Peru, Zambia and Honduras. (Read their blogs here: [www.lasierra.edu/index.php?id=773](http://www.lasierra.edu/index.php?id=773))

Kids Against Hunger, based in New Hope, Minn., holds food packaging drives with private institutions, churches and corporations to feed starving children around the United States and the world. Using donated funds of 23 cents per meal, Kids Against Hunger purchases the meal ingredients for the packaging drives. The rice and soy meals, engineered by scientists at General Mills and Archer Daniels Midland Co., contain 21 essential vitamins and minerals.

Pallets of the meals boxed at La Sierra will be stored in a warehouse in Temecula and eventually loaded onto a Navy ship in San Diego. The



*La Sierra University students pour the components of the rice and soy based meals into individual bags. Each meal costs 23 cents, and will be shipped to West Africa for distribution.*

Navy, through its program Project Handclasp, will transport the food to West Africa where partner agencies will deliver meals to starving families and children.

"I haven't done anything like this before," said pre-nursing major Nancy Sanchez as she scooped cupfuls of a dry meal substance into a plastic bag through a funnel. She and three other students poured one scoop each of meal components into the bag in the prescribed order – first vitamins, then minerals, followed by soy and rice.

Sanchez transferred to La Sierra this year from Riverside Community College. Her involvement in the Kids Against Hunger outreach was her first experience with a mission-related activity, thus meeting one of the goals of the meal-bagging drive.

"A lot of kids are asking when they can come and do it again," said sophomore Andrew Pedersen, a religious studies major and student missions director. "It gives people an opportunity who might not have the ability to leave the country" to serve overseas or to participate in short-term missions, he said. "Hopefully there will be more opportunities like this."

"It's fun," said Bassam Fargo, a pre-dentistry student. "I enjoy working with people and

making new friends through the process of helping."

The event attracted at least one former La Sierra student. Crystine Garsula, who attended the university between 2001 and 2003, noticed an announcement about the Kids Against Hunger event on the missions office Facebook page. "I figured I was free today. I think it's a great cause," said Garsula as she sealed the ends of plastic meal bags. "It doesn't require any money, just my time."

*Darla Martin Tucker*



*The meal packing project was sponsored by the campus missions department and took place during the winter quarter Missions Rush Week.*

PHOTOS BY NATAN VIGNA



*The Kids Against Hunger project attracted participation from numerous La Sierra University students. Nearly 70 La Sierra Academy students came to the university campus to help.*

# Adventist attorneys convene in New Mexico



Adventists used to discourage their kids from going to law school. Conventional wisdom held that you can't be both a Christian and a lawyer. This past November, more than 60 Adventist lawyers convened in Bernalillo, N.M., a living demonstration that faith and law really can mix. They came at the invitation of the General Conference Office of General Counsel, in conjunction with the regular meeting of the Pacific Union Adventist Attorneys Association. While a few of these lawyers are employed by the church, many others provide legal services to the church or are in private practice.

"Our association has been meeting for nearly 20 years," reports Alan J. Reinach, Pacific Union director of public affairs and religious liberty. "We balance the spiritual, social and recreational with legal programs that are second to none."

This year's program had a separate religious freedom track, in addition to more general programs that included topics such as legal ethics, how to avoid legal malpractice, understanding jury selection, family law issues, estate planning, and risk management.

The Thursday evening plenary featured a panel discussion entitled: "A Clash of Rights: Same Sex Marriage and Religious Liberty, A Risk Assessment." Speakers included Kent Hansen, General Counsel for Loma Linda University and Medical Center; Jeff Berman, a partner at Seyfarth Shaw; Nate Schilt, a partner at Schilt and Heinrich in Loma Linda; and James Sweeney, counsel to the California Catholic Conference. This panel was diverse — it consisted of Protestants, a Roman Catholic and a Jew, all of whom agreed that many courts adjudicating civil rights claims brought against religious entities forget about the constitutionally-guaranteed right of religious autonomy, a problem recently identified by Justice Samuel Alito Jr. in his concurring opinion in *Hossana-Tabor*. The failure of courts to appropriately consider the autonomy of religious institutions and the religious beliefs of individuals has created significant problems in a wide variety of cases. By way of example, Sweeney discussed how the Catholic church has had to close down adoption agencies in Boston, San Francisco and Illinois due to new regulations requiring them to provide services to same sex couples.

"I've been attending since law school," said Jon Daggett, a past president of the association. "The meetings are a highlight of my year, and I haven't missed one yet."

"I invited two colleagues who are not church members, and they enjoyed the fellowship so much, they will be returning," said Carol Adams, an association vice president.

Next year, the association will be meeting in Rancho Mirage at the Rancho Las Palmas Hotel. The meetings are always on Veterans Day weekend in November, and are open to lawyers and others serving in the legal profession. For more information, contact Reinach: [ajreinach@churchstate.org](mailto:ajreinach@churchstate.org).

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*

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

## SUNSETS

	April 6	April 13	April 20	April 27
Alturas	7:34	7:42	7:49	7:57
Angwin	7:39	7:46	7:52	7:59
Calexico	7:06	7:11	7:16	7:21
Chico	7:38	7:45	7:52	7:59
Eureka	7:48	7:55	8:03	8:10
Fresno	7:27	7:33	7:39	7:45
Hilo	7:37	7:39	7:41	7:43
Honolulu	7:48	7:50	7:53	7:55
Las Vegas	7:08	7:14	7:20	7:26
Lodi	7:34	7:40	7:47	7:54
Loma Linda	7:14	7:20	7:25	7:31
Los Angeles	7:19	7:24	7:29	7:35
Moab	7:46	7:53	8:00	8:06
Oakland	7:37	7:44	7:50	7:56
Phoenix	7:53	7:58	8:03	8:09
Reno	7:29	7:36	7:43	7:50
Riverside	7:15	7:20	7:26	7:31
Sacramento	7:35	7:42	7:48	7:55
Salt Lake City	7:59	8:06	8:13	8:21
San Diego	7:13	7:18	7:23	7:28
San Francisco	7:38	7:45	7:51	7:57
San Jose	7:36	7:42	7:48	7:54
Tucson	7:47	7:52	7:57	8:02

# Fresno-area churches organize cooperative religious liberty push

**O**n Feb. 18, 11 Fresno-area churches heard religious liberty sermons thanks to the united efforts of the North American Religious Liberty Association – West.

“Years ago, when I came to the Pacific Union,” said Alan J. Reinach, Esq., Pacific Union religious liberty director, “I did the math: there’s one of me and more than 700 churches. I knew I had to recruit others to help me establish a presence in churches.” NARLA has been conducting such events periodically throughout the Pacific Union, but this year’s rally in Fresno was the biggest ever.

Members of all the area churches were invited to attend a weekend series at Fresno Central church where Reinach delivered a four part series: “The Foundations of Religious Freedom.” The series was designed as a training program for those serving as religious liberty leaders in local churches, and will be available from *Secrets Unsealed*. The series covered the biblical foundations of freedom, the Protestant origins of freedom, and the constitutional foundations of freedom. The sermon was a call to action in defense of freedom.

Central California Conference leaders Dan Escamilla and his assistant, Florina Morales, worked to schedule the speakers in the various churches. The response shows that church members are concerned about protecting their freedoms. Many members throughout

the churches signed up to participate in a local NARLA chapter that is in the works.

NARLA chapters are small group ministries, working together to educate people in the local churches and communities about religious freedom, to build bridges with civic and political leaders, and to be ready for active response when freedom issues arise in the legislature. Chapters are already active in Los Angeles, the Inland Empire and Phoenix. The Phoenix chapter is the newest, led by Pastor Ralph Robertson and Dorothy Keith.

NARLA speakers are eager to visit Pacific Union churches, conduct rallies similar to the one in Fresno, and recruit willing church members to form new chapters. “Americans’ priorities are whack,” observed Reinach. “In January, the people rose up at the direction of their Internet masters to defeat bills in Congress

that would deprive them of the right to steal stuff — digital entertainment like music and television programs. The so-called Internet privacy bills were squashed. Yet, when Congress delivered the National Defense Authorization Act to the president, including a provision to permit the military to operate domestically, and to indefinitely detain, not criminals, not those engaged in active criminal conspiracies, but those suspected of aiding terrorists, barely a whimper!”

NARLA has roots going back to 1886, when the Adventist church first organized its religious liberty work. For more information about forming a local team or conducting a rally, contact [parl@puconline.org](mailto:parl@puconline.org) or 805-413-7396.

*Alan J. Reinach, Esq.*



*L. to r.: Daniel Rodela, Hector Polo Sr., Daniel Escamilla, Del Andrus, Florina Morales, Dennis Seaton, Alan Reinach, Fabian Carballo, Norm Farley, Gary Jensen, Hector Polo Jr. and Mario Negrete Jr. [Speakers missing: Eliezer Benavides and Mick Macomber.]*

# The Great Hope

## An interview with J. Alfred Johnson about the NAD initiative

**Question:** Pastor Johnson, could you tell readers about the NAD initiative to distribute *The Great Controversy* and *The Great Hope* throughout the Division?

**J. Alfred Johnson, director of Adult Ministries for the North American Division:** NAD's lead initiative is to distribute *The Great Hope* because it's the 11-chapter abridged version of *The Great Controversy* that is designed to serve as an entry type of literature to individuals who have some spiritual interest, and particularly, interest in last day events. We recognize that the unabridged version of *The Great Controversy* outside of a relational context has the capacity to raise more questions than answers when distributed in a cold-contact process, so we encourage distribution of *The Great Hope*. It will be available for everyone by May 15, through the local Adventist Book Centers.

**Question:** Why the push to distribute both versions of the books?

**Johnson:** We are emphasizing *The Great Hope* because it's a less complex "entering wedge" compilation of literature than the unabridged version.

**Question:** What is the numerical goal? What is the larger aim/outcome hoped for?

**Johnson:** Our goal is to distribute three million copies in the NAD territory. A larger outcome would be as many beyond three million as possible.

**Question:** What is the timeline for the NAD initiative?

**Johnson:** The entire timeline is January-December, 2012. I should explain that that timeline is divided into two sections:

1. We're asking members to read the unabridged version (*The Great Controversy*) from now through May. Read it prayerfully, asking the Lord to lead you to individuals to whom you should distribute *The Great Hope*, so you'll find the people most receptive. That will take the leading and grace of the Lord.
2. Then, the relational distribution of *The Great Hope* to family, friends and acquaintances will be from June through December.

**Question:** Will individual members be able to get the reduced prices to purchase *The Great Hope* (paperback), or must they coordinate their

purchases through their pastor and conference? Can't they just purchase copies through their local Adventist Book Center?

**Johnson:** Yes. The reduced pricing of 49 cents/copy (plus shipping) is a pre-publication price offered by Review and Herald Publishing Association and Pacific Press Publishing Association. That price is good for orders received from anyone — individuals, churches and conferences — by April 15. We would assume that most conferences will coordinate their orders coming from the local church through the local conference and finally, to the local Adventist Book Centers.

"Following the April 15 deadline, the pricing at the local ABC will be closely aligned with the pre-publication price of 49 cents per copy.

**Question:** What are the prices for various quantity cut-off points?

**Johnson:** The 49 cents price represents the best quantity pricing. One conference is ordering 500,000 copies.

**Question:** Tell us about *The Great Hope* edition. How is it different? What chapters are included, and why? Is it available in paperback only, or is hardback available?

**Johnson:** Chapters are listed at the [www.nadadventist.org/GreatHope](http://www.nadadventist.org/GreatHope) on the NAD website. Hardcover copies are not available. *The Great Hope* comes in paperback only, and contains 94 pages.

**Question:** Is contact information included in the books if readers want to discuss them, have questions, or request Bible studies?

**Johnson:** Yes, at this time plans are for including contact information for Bible study organizations such as the Discover Bible School and BibleInfo.com.

**Question:** Will there be a study guide available if someone wanted to use *The Great Hope* for a small group study?

**Johnson:** Yes. The Discover Bible School is preparing a study guide for *The Great Hope*, ready for publication time, on May 15. The study guides will be available online at [www.nadadventist.org/greathope](http://www.nadadventist.org/greathope) and through the Adventist Book Centers.

**Question:** How will *The Great Hope* initiative fit into the larger REACH America initiative? Will there

be other *The Great Hope* tie-ins in 2012, such as a NET series?

**Johnson:** It will fit all throughout the larger REACH initiative, particularly for evangelism and literature distribution. It will have tie-ins in 2012. We're not aware of a NET series, but we are aware that the GC communication department has already completed two episodes of a *Great Controversy* video series, tied in with the larger unabridged version, and it is also designed to tie in with any evangelistic series that are themed toward *The Great Controversy*.

**Question:** What is the NAD's vision for the best way to distribute the books?

**Johnson:** I love this question! The NAD's vision for the best way to distribute these books is in a relational context, person-to-person, friend-to-friend!

**Question:** How close are we to reaching our numerical goal? (3 million)

**Johnson:** We are already two-thirds of the way. Two million copies of the unabridged version have been distributed in the U.S.

**Question:** Where can readers go for more information about the NAD initiative and the G.C. initiative? Websites?

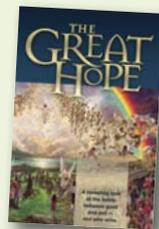
**Johnson:** We will flow information through the NAD website. You will find links to online and Kindle versions, audio, and plans for DVDs and a *Great Controversy* movie!

**Question:** Are there any marketing materials available to help promote this NAD initiative — bulletin inserts and announcements, posters, social media sites, etc.? If so, how can people get them?

**Johnson:** A bulletin insert and short, three-slide PowerPoint presentation for churches is posted on the NAD website. More materials and information will be available there and announced through future *NewsPoints* and the NAD Facebook page.

**Question:** How does someone donate to this initiative?

**Answer:** Send check or money order made out to The North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, Attention: NAD Treasury Department, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600. Designate 'For Great Hope Project.'



# CALENDARS

## Arizona

**UNION-WIDE HISPANIC** Evangelistic Meetings (April 7-14) includes 27 Arizona churches holding programs in their own churches. Info: Pastor Jose Marin, 480-991-6777, ext. 108.

**MARICOPA NATIVE** Camp Meeting (April 13-15) Maricopa Village church and school, 8050 W. Baseline Rd., Laveen, Ariz. Speakers: Monte Church, North Pacific Union director of Native American work, and Curtis Church, pastor and educator. Outdoor setting and breakfast, lunch and supper and inspirational music. Info: Pastor Ted Parks, 480-671-3325.

**THUNDERBIRD ACADEMY** Alumni Weekend (April 13-15) Honor classes are '62, '72, '82, '92, '97 and '02. Friday is the evening reception; Saturday: Sabbath school 10 a.m., church 11 a.m. and concert 4 p.m. Info: Wayne Longhofer, 480-948-3300 or wlonghofer@thunderbirdacademy.org.

**HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT** (April 20-22) Camp Yavapines, Prescott, Ariz. Speaker: Elizabeth Talbot, "At the Foot of the Cross." Info: Cinthia Riffel, 480-991-6777, ext. 117.

**GOSPEL CONCERT** (April 21) Gospel recording artists Reggie and Lady Love

Smith. 7 p.m. Camelback church. The Smiths have been seen on the Gaither Homecoming series for over a decade and are guest artists on 3ABN. Free; open to the public.

**ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR** (April 22) Chandler church, 1188 W. Galveston St., Chandler, Ariz. Free prostate checks; mammograms free for the first 10 women. Those with insurance can sign up at 480-967-3767. Free blood pressure and blood sugar checks, dental screenings, children's activity booth, and much more. Info: Tracey Creely, creetlcw@hotmail.com.

**HISPANIC CHILDREN'S MUSIC** Festival (April 28) Phoenix Central Spanish, 821 W. Flower, Phoenix, Ariz. All churches are invited to this day of children's music. Info: Pastor Abimael Escalante, 623-221-9742.

## Central California

**SENIOR CITIZEN SEMINAR** (April 7) Mtn. View church. Presenter: Cynthia Williams. Info: Marlyn Novielli, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**GIRLS RETREAT** (April 13-15) Soquel Conference Center. Info: Joyce Mulligan, 559-696-3692.

**GUYS RETREAT** (April 13-15) Camp Wawona. Pre-registration is required. Info: Jon Tillay, 509-3019438 or jontillay@gmail.com.

**INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY** Training (April 13-15) Bakersfield Central church. Teachers, preachers and Bible students will gain new skills that will allow the Word to speak for itself on the Righteousness of Christ. Speaker: Pastor Bill Liveridge. Info: 661-301-1027 or alivesay@yahoo.com.

**FRESNO ADVENTIST ACADEMY**/Fresno Union Academy Alumni Reunion (April 27-28) Friday, alumni golf tournament. Sabbath: registration starts at 10 a.m. Service begins at 10:45, followed by a potluck dinner. Honor classes: 1942, '52, '62, '72, '82, '87, '92, and '02. Info: Richelle, 559-273-4976 or rrickard@faa.org.

**SINGLES RALLY** (April 28) East Palo Alto church. Speaker: Dr. Piper-Mandy. Info: Marlyn Novielli, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**PARENTING SEMINAR** (May 5) Mtn. View church. Speaker: Dr. Pierre Steenberg. Info: Marlyn Novielli, 559-347-3176 or mnovielli@cccsda.org.

**KID SCHOOL** (May 5-7) Info: Rosa Gillham 559-347-3186 or rgillham@cccsda.org.

## La Sierra University

**FACULTY RECITAL** (April 14) Featuring Raejin Lee, voice. 7 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

**ALUMNI HOMECOMING** (April 20-22) Celebrating La Sierra's 90th year, and honoring the classes of 1952, 1963, 1972. Events include annual homecoming banquet with alumni of the year, and the alumni worship service at 9:30 a.m. Special reunions for School of Business 25th reunion and SIFE open house, student missions reunion, the 40th anniversary of University Honors, a student association officer reunion, and BSA and Latino alumni reunions. Info: 909-785-4LSU or www.lasierra.edu/alumni.



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**54TH ANNUAL CONCERTO** (April 21) 8:15 p.m. Hole Memorial Auditorium. Info: 951-785-2036.

**ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF NATIONS** (April 22) 4-7 p.m.

**ART STUDENTS EXHIBITION** (April 9-26) Brandstater Gallery.

**FIRST SERVICE WORSHIP**. Fridays at 8 p.m. LSU. Info: 951-785-2090.

## Nevada-Utah

**SALT LAKE CITY Area Youth Rally** (April 20-21) Speaker: Sonia Perez, Potomac Conference. Info: Pastor David Hall, 775-322-6929 or nucyouthdirector@gmail.com.

**RENO AREA YOUTH RALLY** (May 3-4) Speaker: Michael Tuionetoa, Wisconsin Conference. Info: Pastor David Hall, 775-322-6929 or nucyouthdirector@gmail.com.

## Northern California Conference

**EASTER CANTATA** (April 7) 10:45 a.m. Carmichael church, 4600 Winding Way, Sacramento. Carmichael choir and orchestra, under the direction of Arladd

Nelson-Speyer, will perform "Forsaken – Remembering the Last Days of Christ." Info: 916-487-8684, ext. 110.

**NCC SPELLING BEE FINALS** (April 15) 10 a.m. Rio Lindo Adventist Academy, 3200 Rio Lindo Ave., Healdsburg. Info: 925-603-5061.

**PATHFINDER TEEN ROCK CLIMBING** (April 20-22, 27-29) Yosemite National Park. Info: 925-603-5080.

**HISPANIC MEN'S RETREAT** (April 20-22) Leoni Meadows. Speakers: Pastor César and Carolann de León, family counselors. Also, meetings for teens and younger boys. Info: 925-603-5092.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TRAINING** (April 22) 10 a.m. NCC Headquarters, 401 Taylor Blvd., Pleasant Hill. Review of some available VBS programs. Info: 925-603-5082.

**STOCKTON-MAYFAIR CHURCH GALA** (April 22) Stockton Golf and Country Club, 3800 West Country Club Blvd. Silent auctions, music, food and fun. Info: 209-477-5222 or www.mayfairsda.org.

**WELLNESS WEEKEND** (April 27-29) 7:30 a.m.–noon. Leoni Meadows. Speakers: Dr. Richard Swenson, author of Margin; Dr. Fred Hardinge, General Conference; Dr. Neil Nedley, Weimar; Dr. Michael Orlich,

Adventist Health Study. CEUs for nurses. Info: 925-603-5073.

**STOCKTON-MAYFAIR CHURCH BOOTH** (April 27-29) 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Asparagus Festival. Downtown Stockton. Providing literature, DVDs and information. Info: 209-477-5222.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES RETREAT** (April 29-May 2) 7:30 a.m.–noon. Leoni Meadows. Speakers: Dr. Sung Kwon, NAD Community Services executive director; Dick Duerksen from Maranatha. Info: 925-603-5073.

**MASTER GUIDE 10-Hour Course** (April 29) For English and Spanish speakers. Info: 925-603-5080.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** (May 4-6) Sacramento Area. You CAN have a better marriage. Info: Rob and Debbie Purvis, 530-622-4798.

**PATHFINDER BIKE-A-THON** (May 6) Sleep Train Amphitheatre, Wheatland. Info: 925-603-5080.

## Pacific Union College

**ACADEMY KEYBOARD FESTIVAL** (April 5) A three-day event challenging select academy pianists to learn and perform together. Featuring a final concert (April 7) 8 p.m. Paulin Hall Auditorium. Info: 707-965-6303.

**FINE ARTS SERIES**: Frank Düpre (April 8) 7 p.m. This accomplished young pianist has won over 50 national and international awards. Paulin Hall Auditorium. Info: 707-965-6303.

**NAPA VALLEY DIRT CLASSIC** (April 15) 8 a.m. registration, 10:30 a.m. race. This thrilling 22-mile mountain bike race draws riders from around the country every year. Pacific Auditorium. Info and early registration: www.puc.edu/nvdc.

**RAG: STUDENT ART EXHIBITION** (April 19) Annual exhibit featuring more than 100 works of art submitted by Pacific Union College students. Opening reception 7 p.m. Info: 707-965-6303.

**HOMECOMING** (April 20-22) Come home to Angwin for a chance to reunite with old friends! Featuring Dr. Lawrence T. Geraty, '62, and hosting reunion parties for the classes of '52, '62, '72, '82, '87, '92, and '02. Info: 707-965-7500 and www.puc.edu/homecoming.

## Southeastern

**WORSHIP CANTATA** "Come, Touch the Robe" (April 7) 10:30 a.m., La Mesa church, 4207 Spring Gardens Rd., La Mesa. Info: 619-461-5703.

**JR. HIGH BAND FESTIVAL** (April 11) 7 p.m., Loma Linda Academy, 10656 Anderson St., Loma Linda. Everyone is invited. Info: 951-509-2311.

**JAN PAULSEN** (April 14) noon, La Sierra University church, 4937 Sierra Vista Ave., Riverside. Former president of the world church will preach. Info: 951-354-7095 or www.lsuchurch.org.

**ADVENTURER FUN DAY** (April 15) SECC Conference, 11330 Pierce St., Riverside. Everyone is invited. Info: 951-509-2265, www.seccyouth.com.

**CONFERENCE-WIDE BIBLE QUIZ-A-RAMA** (April 28) 5 p.m. Mt. Rubidoux church, 5320 Victoria Ave., Riverside. Everyone is invited. Info: 951-509-2260, www.seccyouth.com.

## Southern California Conference

**WISDOM KEYS** to Lost Civilizations: In Search of Solomon's Treasures (April 7, 14) 7 p.m. Van Nuys church, 14615 Sherman Way. Unlock secrets of Solomon's wisdom; discover keys to the meaning, purpose of life. Multimedia series designed to reach the postmodern generation. Pastor John Aitkin shares archaeological insights. Info: 818-787-8380.

**REJOICE IN THE LAMB** Second Saturday Concert (April 14) 4 p.m. Glendale City Sanctuary Choir with works by Britten, Parry and Rutter. Glendale City church, 610 E. California Ave. Info: 818-244-7241.

**FORKS OVER KNIVES** Documentary (April 16) 6-8 p.m. Panel discussion of a plant-based, whole-grain diet as well as samples of some food choices. Crowell Community Public Library, 1890 Huntington Dr., San Marino 91108. Info: 626-300-0777; http://sanmarinopl.org/about/calendar.htm.

**GLAR CONVOCATION** (April 20, 21) Fri., 7 p.m., Breath of Life church, 425 S. La Brea Ave., Inglewood; featuring Marvin Hugley. Sabbath, 9 a.m. White Memorial church, 401 No. State St., Los Angeles. Speakers: Adults, Leslie Pollard, D.Min., Ph.D., president, Oakwood University; Youth, Pastor Courtney Ray. Info: 818-546-8445.

**ADVENTIST UNION SCHOOL-BELL-FLOWER** Alumni Weekend (April 27-29) Programs will be held at the school, 15548 Santa Ana Ave., Bellflower. All alumni, former students, faculty and staff are invited to attend. Info: 562-867-0718.

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Chemistry Department, Southern Adventist University, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315; 423-236-2932; [rjscott@southern.edu](mailto:rjscott@southern.edu).

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for full-time faculty positions in Business, English; and contract faculty in many areas. For more information and application process, please visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>. All positions will remain open until filled.

**Events**

**MONTEREY BAY ACADEMY,** 13th Annual Golf Classic (April 27). All proceeds from the tournament will go to the Student Aid Fund. Open to everyone; \$125/person-April 12 (early bird); \$150/person-April 13-27. Questions: call the Alumni Office at 831-728-1481 ext. 1246 or register: [golf.montereybayacademy.org](http://golf.montereybayacademy.org).

**WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE RENEWAL & Weight Management Programs** focus on lifestyle change, health education, hands-on cooking, and exercise. 14-day sessions (April 29-May 13), (May 20-June 3). Cost: \$740. Upcoming seminars: Country Living (July 15-29). Cost: \$370. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, Tenn. Contact: Darlene Keith 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). E-mail: [darlenekeith@gmail.com](mailto:darlenekeith@gmail.com).



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## Missing Members

**VALLEJO CENTRAL.** Contact *Fredericka Black*, church clerk, 1111 Colusa Street, Vallejo, CA 94590, 707-557-0402, or [rickyblack3@comcast.net](mailto:rickyblack3@comcast.net): Ken Agustin, Al Barnes, Cassie Bigley, Julian Celestial, Renee Celestial, Roman Celestial, Stephanie Celestial, Mark Concepcion, Alexius Daco, Erlinda Daco, Jonathan Daco, Xavier Daco, Miryam Davis, Ella DeCastro, Chareese Ealy, Victoria Ealy, Richard Harris, Xioneida Harris, Sherisha Hatchett, Bill Higgins, Janine Higgins,

Samantha Higgins, Nelda Hill, Virginia (Metcalf) Holman, Heather Hurst, Linda Jimenez, Norma Latham, Samantha Lorick, Sue Maharaj, Eugenia Manaquil, Sonia Marie, Eloise McNair, Karen Medina, Alicia Metler, Steven Miller, Amber Minter, Jasmine Minter, Terri Morgan, Ramon Muniz III, John Natale, W. Jack Sykes, Gideon Tameru, Angela Taylor, Emilie Uy, Jim Wickens, Virginia Womack, Maha Yanni.

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## Reunions

**LAKE UNION ACADEMIES** Reunion potluck (May 5) 1 p.m. Come to the Loma Linda University School of Nursing, West Hall, 11262 Campus Street (1/2 block north of Barton Road) in Loma Linda, Calif. Questions: call 909-799-8039 or 909-748-5178.

*Correction:* **MONTEREY BAY ACADEMY** invites all alumni, former students, and former faculty/staff to its 62nd Alumni Weekend, April 26-29, 2012. Fri: golf tournament. Sabbath: worship services, evening concert with the Oceanaires and Bay Area Men's Chorus. Sun: 49ers Brunch for classes 1950-1962. Visit [alumni.montereybayacademy.org](http://alumni.montereybayacademy.org) for all

weekend details or call the alumni office 831-728-1481 ext. 1246.

**SAN GABRIEL ACADEMY** Alumni Weekend (April 13-15) Honor Classes, '62 (50 yr. class, "Golden"), '67, '72, '77, '82, '87 (25 yr. class, "Silver"), '92, '97, '02, '07. Info: 626-292-1156. [www.sangabrielacademy.org](http://www.sangabrielacademy.org).

**SAN PASQUAL ACADEMY** Alumni Reunion (June 23) 9 a.m.- 5:30 p.m., Old Campus, 17701 San Pasqual Valley Rd., Escondido, CA 92025. Honor classes: '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '91, '97. For more info: [www.SanPasqualAcademy.com](http://www.SanPasqualAcademy.com) or find us on Facebook.

**VALLEY ADVENTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL** Alumni Homecoming (April 27-29) Former faculty, staff, and students to be honored. Friday, Sabbath, and Sunday programs. 12649 Indian Street, Moreno Valley, CA 92553; [vacsonline.org](http://vacsonline.org); Info/RSVP: 951-242-3012 or [valleyadventistchristianschool@yahoo.com](mailto:valleyadventistchristianschool@yahoo.com).

**"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY** Reunion (June 8-10) for alumni and warmly welcomed schoolmates of 1962 and earlier at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Mich. Honor classes: 1932, 1942, 1952, 1962. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. Also, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit [www.glaa.net](http://www.glaa.net) for further info. Please do pass along the good word.

## Vacation Opportunities

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*Sarah Winder* is a dog lover, a dedicated walker and a wife. She's also a valued member of the nursing staff at Loma Linda. She brings her sense of humor, her humility and commitment to every patient interaction. Sarah is one of the people that help to make Loma Linda a center of clinical excellence and supportive faith-based care.



*Sarah Winder, RN*

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**AT REST**

**BANDY, MARY LOU (MAHLIOS)** – b. Nov. 16, 1929, E. Lansing, Mich.; d. Jan. 12, 2012, Flagstaff, Ariz. Served as a nurse at Paradise Valley Hospital.

**BOLLIER, KATHLEEN E. (MCCARTY)** – b. Sept. 11, 1936, Canada; d. Jan. 27, 2012, Cameron Park, Calif. Survivors: one grandchild.

**BRUNSON, JUNE PETROVA (LAN-  
NING)** – b. June 10, 1920, Seattle, Wash.; d. Jan. 13, 2012, Los Angeles, Calif. Survivors: son, George D. Brunson III; daughters, JoAnne Ford, Brenda M. Brunson; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; brother, Hoshea. Served as educator at Berean church school, St. Louis, Mo.

**CARDENAS SR., FRANCISCO LEIJA** – b. Oct. 4, 1926, Mexico; d. Nov. 25, 2011, Yuba City, Calif. Survivors: wife, Edna; sons, Francisco Jr., Hugo; daughter, Connie Ontiveros; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

**CLIFFORD, VICKIE L. (PETERSON)** – b. July 2, 1953, Van Nuys, Calif.; d. Dec. 15, 2011, Sacramento, Calif. Survivors: husband, Jim; daughters, Ashley Brostrom, Brittney, Courtney; sisters, Barbara Layland, Cris Carte; one grandchild.

**FINDLEY, CLAIRE C. (BRYANT)** – b. Jan. 10, 1952, Eureka, Calif.; d. Jan. 17, 2012, Fair Oaks, Calif. Survivors: husband, Luther; sons, Matthew Carr, Forrest; stepdaughter, Autumn Sharp; parents, Rosanne and Lloyd Robert, Keith and Patti Bryant; brother Paul Bryant; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

**FORE, CHARLES C.** – b. May 3, 1956, New York, N.Y.; d. Feb. 7, 2012, Fairfield, Calif. Survivors: daughter, Berenis; mother, Pauline Wagner; stepfather, George Wagner; brother, Carl; sister, Carol Leonard.

**FOWLER, CORA MAE** – b. Aug. 19, 1921, Dewitt, Ky.; d. Feb. 12, 2012, Riverside, Calif. Survivors: son, Daniel Dedmon; daughter, Donna Davis; two grandchildren.

**HUGHES, ARTHUR EVANS** – b. Dec. 23, 1921, Sabula, Mo.; d. Dec. 19, 2011, Kettle Falls, Wash. Survivors: wife, Nellie; daughters, Orvadel Mathis, Geraldine Meyer; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**IOANE, ANZON ANESONE** – b. Jan. 25, 1965, Samoa; d. Jan. 24, 2012, Las Vegas, Nev. Survivors: wife, Sandy; son, Al Ikenasio; mother, Palatisa I. Fuimaonu; brother, Richard; sisters, Lamada, Joy Lesa, Caroline Lagkilde, Apolo Laurel.

**KURTZ, BETTY M.** – b. Oct. 3, 1930, Pilsager, Minn.; d. Feb. 11, 2012, Lodi, Calif.

Survivors: husband, Leon; sons, James, Jerry; daughter, Sherry; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

**LEE, EARL T.** – b. April 14, 1922, Ashland, Ohio; d. Feb. 11, 2012, Las Vegas, Nev. Survivors: son, Larry Lee; daughter, Linda Huggins; granddaughter, Michelle; grandsons, Skylar, Shaun, Samuel, Bryan, Seth. Served as a pastor in the Idaho and Nevada-Utah Conferences, and for almost 20 years as one of the first Adventist chaplains in the U.S. Army.

**MCCARTY, ESSIE B. (ROSVOROUGH)** – b. Sept. 13, 1912, Kan.; d. Jan. 31, 2012, Folsom, Calif. Survivors: one grandchild; one great-grandchild.

**MCFARLAND, EDITH E. (WRIGHT)** – b. March 26, 1920, Saginaw, Mich.; d. Nov. 29, 2011, Ukiah, Calif. Survivors: sons, James, Roger, Larry; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

**NAGY, ANA (CHIRILA)** – b. Sept. 12, 1952, Zalau, Romania; d. Nov. 16, 2011, Carmichael, Calif. Survivors: husband, Geza; sons, Emil, Robert; five grandchildren.

**NEUMANN, OSCAR W.** – b. Jan. 23, 1919, Porto Alegre, Brazil; d. Feb. 21, 2012, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: sons, David, Timothy; daughters, Monica, Tamara; five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren.

**SANDBERG, FLORENCE ALLAN** – b. Dec. 16, 1921, Fort Morgan, Colo.; d. Feb. 15, 2012, Ola, Ark. Survivors: sons, Jon, Karl; seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren.

*Correction:* **SCHEITHAUER, BERND** – b. Aug. 30, 1946, Gelenau, East Germany; d. Sept. 19, 2011, Rochester, Minn. Survivors: son, Hans; daughter, Monika Maxey; mother, Renate. World-renowned physician known for his expertise in neuropathology.

**SMITH, VIVIAN** – b. Aug. 2, 1918, Bristol, Okla.; d. Jan. 30, 2012, Redlands, Calif. Survivors: sons, Bruce, Ruben; daughter, Karen; three grandchildren.

**SURRIDGE, ROBERT JAMES** – b. Feb. 18, 1957, Takoma Park, Md.; d. Dec. 17, 2011, Yuba City, Calif. Survivors: wife, Dawn; sons, Martin, Jack; father, Ronald; mother, Rachel; brother, John. Served as a teacher and pastor for over 30 years.

**WEICK, GLENN** – b. Jan. 6, 1927, San Bernardino, Calif.; d. Nov. 8, 2011, San Bernardino, Calif. Survivors: wife, Barbara; son, Glen Allen; daughter, Katherine; three grandchildren; one great-grandchild.

**WING, DOROTHY (CRATTY)** – b. Nov. 20, 1925, Sutherlin, Ore.; d. Jan. 30, 2012, Napa, Calif. Survivors: son, Robert; stepson, Kenneth; daughter, Phyllis Paquette.

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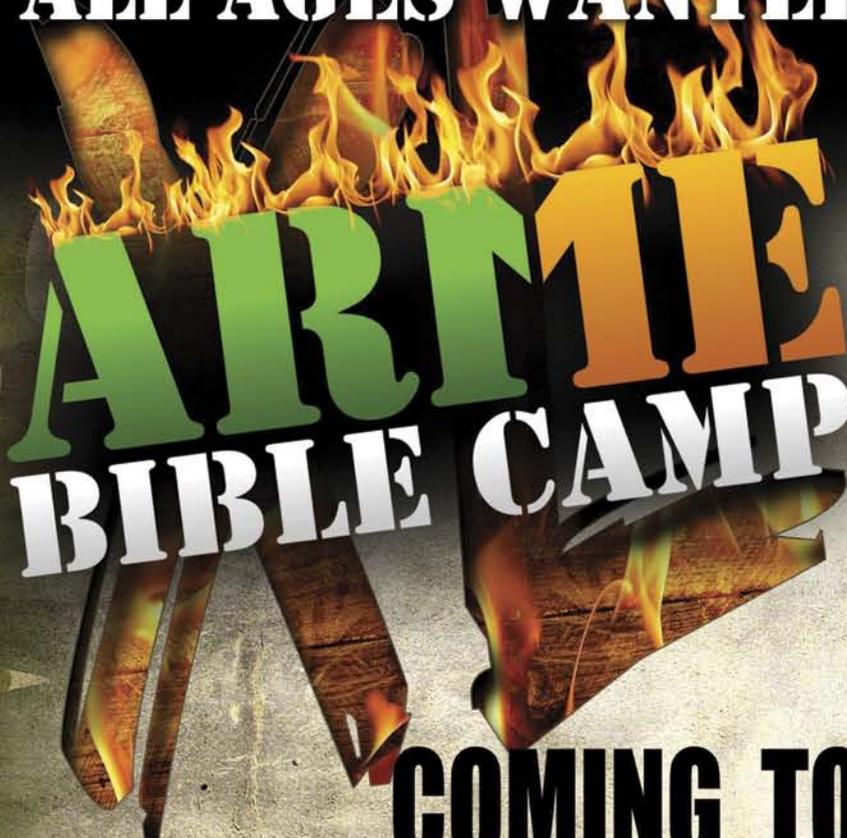
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