

# ViewPoint

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE SUMMER 2010



## A LIFEWORK

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# our college perspective



*In essence, “The Adventist Advantage” is a set of seven principles and assets, which I believe give Adventist education its exceptional value and significance in a twenty-first century world fraught with complexity and confusion.*

## “The Adventist Advantage”

Since my arrival at PUC in Fall 2009, I have been sharing a new concept I call “The Adventist Advantage.” In essence, “The Adventist Advantage” is a set of seven principles and assets, which I believe give Adventist education its exceptional value and significance in a 21st century world fraught with complexity and confusion. In a world where truth claims are often dismissed as naive or irrelevant, why should our students commit to Adventism? In the context of Christian education, why invest in attending an Adventist institution of higher learning at all? What significant difference will this decision make, if any?

It is my strong belief that “The Adventist Advantage,” first of all, assists our students in their quest for meaning and purpose in life by providing them multiple opportunities to connect with Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. It is only through this critical life-saving connection that our students can develop a meaningful and fulfilling philosophy of life, which will guide them successfully through the mountains and valleys which characterize human life. Second, “The Adventist Advantage” foregrounds our church’s historical focus on health, wellness and a wholesome lifestyle, an emphasis which has garnered national and international recognition for our church whether through the vehicle of Loma Linda’s distinction as a “blue zone,” or the advice in a February issue of *U.S. News and World Report* to “live like a Seventh-day Adventist” if one desires to emulate the health habits that provide the best opportunity to live to be 100. What a powerful witness!

Third, “The Adventist Advantage” highlights our commitment to education and lifelong learning extending into eternity. This commitment to an educated clergy and laity has contributed to creative and critical thinking and a broad range of perspectives on issues within our society and church — a contributor to civility, as well as to healthy debate and dialogue. This commitment has also been a tool for social and economic upward mobility within our church. Fourth, “The Adventist Advantage” equips our students with a moral and ethical compass, a Moral Positioning System, as authors Doug Lennick and Fred Kiel remind us in the recent text *Moral Intelligence*. In an

age characterized by greed and selfishness, it is imperative that our students are taught to live lives of moral integrity as they navigate the murky waters of today’s moral and ethical dilemmas.

Additionally, “The Adventist Advantage” has always emphasized Christian service, leading to organizations such as the Dorcas Society, ADRA and PUC’s own REVO. This type of involvement is now manifest in higher education through the Service Learning Movement and students’ interest in participating in the public square in terms of active civic engagement. Sixth, “The Adventist Advantage” helps us articulate and maximize the educational, spiritual and social benefits of diversity with a global church filled with rich potential for teaching intercultural competence and global understanding — two skills vitally necessary for surviving and thriving in a new global society. Our Adventist faith becomes the common glue that binds us together as we embody and live out the beloved community. Finally, “The Adventist Advantage” requires active stewardship of the Earth, which our loving Creator God created in six days while reminding us to rest on the seventh day, a memorial of His Creative powers and our need for re-creation. This focus on stewardship and sustainability is also an important aspect of our signature worldview.

At Pacific Union College, our highest goal is to transform the Adventist Advantage into the PUC Advantage by highlighting for our students the truth that knowledge alone is not power. Rather, “Joyful is the person who finds WISDOM, the one who gains understanding” (Proverbs 3:13). Wisdom is the true learning outcome which we highly prize in our distinctive learning community. At PUC, we want to provide “positive peer-pressure.” At PUC, we want to help to cultivate and foster a commitment to our Lord and to our Church. Taken altogether, what could be of higher value than “The Adventist Advantage?”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather J. Knight".

Heather J. Knight, President



# ViewPoint

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**Vision Statement:** *ViewPoint*, the journal of Pacific Union College, connects PUC's alumni and friends in a community that celebrates the college's activities and stories, and supports the continuation of its mission into the future. *ViewPoint* aims to provide quality features about topics relevant to our community; news about the college and alumni; and means to unite, motivate, and inspire.

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The Adventist Church is the context for many alums' ministry and careers (page 12). Above: Herb Ford, longtime Adventist public relations director. Cover design by Haley Wesley.



# DISTINGUISHED PAST, CONFIDENT FUTURE

## Alumni gather for Homecoming 2010

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE ALUMNI GATHERED as they do each spring for Homecoming Weekend, April 16-18. From the handing out of Diogenes Lantern blossoms to the Utt Lecture by archivist Allison Fox to parties for Honor Classes, events gave alumni a chance to enjoy the current campus and reminisce about their days at PUC.

The weekend officially celebrated PUC's "Distinguished Past, Confident Future" and included opportunities for visitors ranging from exhibits in Rasmussen Art Gallery, the history museum, and the Wilmer C. Hansen Museum to a music department concert featuring the orchestra, handbells, symphonic wind ensemble, and I Cantori chorale.

Featured presentations included speakers Fred Kinsey and Hernan Grenados on Sabbath and, from the younger crowd, performances by a musical group called "Ebenezer Road" and a Dramatic Arts Society production of "This Adventist Life." On Sunday morning, students hosted a benefit run for this year's REVO project (read more on page 10).

Honored classes were '40, '50, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90, '00, and '10. You can find the honored class photos in the Alumni News section of this issue. You can also see more photos from the whole weekend at [www.puc.edu/homecoming-gallery](http://www.puc.edu/homecoming-gallery).

**Catching up:** Alumni made use of the chance to reconnect with classmates and catch up on each other's news.





# People & Celebrations



**Ruth and Lyle McCoy** always wear their matching PUC sweaters at Homecoming. "This is about the only time we wear them so they'll last a long time," says Ruth, '42, but she's none too happy that she lost her favorite one, black with gold lettering. They have lived in Angwin for many years, and last year Lyle, '45, '46, was named "Mr. Angwin."



**The Sabbath message** was given by Fred Kinsey, the speaker and director of the Voice of Prophecy radio program and assistant to the president for communication at the North American Division of the Adventist Church. Kinsey is a former PUC professor.



**Herb Ford**, pictured here with former students Sam Vigil, '80, Carolyn Hamilton, '81, Kellie Lind, '82, and John Korb, '80, was honored at the Diogenes Dinner as a long-time college supporter in many different roles.



**Retiring professors** Nancy Tucker, Bill Hemmerlin (pictured here), and James Chase were honored at the Alumni Potluck and meet-the-faculty tables in the gymnasium.



**Naomi (Jungling) Sica, '58**, came to Homecoming with her husband Philip and tells stories about working at the Adventist Information Center as a receptionist and starting a noontime Bible class, from which at least 30 participants were baptized. Naomi was a chaplain at a retirement center, is an organist, and ends her account with, "Then we retired — which is a total myth!"



**The Class of 1940** was our earliest Honored Class this year. They celebrated at the Strawberry Shortcake Reception; other class parties were held in people's homes or cafeteria side rooms.



## HONORING INVALUABLE MEMBERS OF THE PUC FAMILY

This year, Honored Alumni awards went to Audrey and Bruce Anderson, Monica Neumann, and Jake Scheideman. The Andersons, both 1960 graduates, come from a family whose members have attended, taught, or pastored at PUC since 1910. The two have been invaluable to the legacy of former PUC professor Walter Utt, hosting alumni and board meetings and collaborating with the college on Utt Endowment affairs. Monica Neumann, class of 1970, is an anesthesiologist, professor, and director at Loma Linda University Medical Center and is known for her work in nurturing the next generation of Adventist medical professionals. Local bike shop owner Jake Scheideman, class of 1990, has spent 12 years improving life for the people of a small town in Nicaragua. He founded the non-profit Developing Communities, Inc., and has involved the local community and many volunteers in contributing to the town.

PUC also honored Jean Phillips as an Honored Pioneer, a person whose friendship to the college had been significant. Phillips serves as trustee for the estate of Dorothy Tweed, whose trust provides academic support funding for PUC's nursing program. Others recognized included Herb Ford, a long-time college supporter and former journalism teacher who was honored at the Diogenes Dinner, and retiring professors Nancy Tucker, Bill Hemmerlin, and James Chase.



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# INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

PUC officially installs Knight  
as president Lainey S. Cronk



The inauguration program is held in the PUC Church.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE WELCOMED Dr. Heather J. Knight as the new president in September of 2009. On April 15, 2010, the college hosted the official inaugural ceremony and installation of Knight as our 21st president.

For a program replete with regalia colors and inspiring music, the PUC Church filled with faculty, staff, students, community members, educational and church leaders, and family and friends. PUC's history and future were celebrated by the entire college body and representatives from across the country. The platform party was composed of PUC administrators and Board of Trustees members, administrators from Adventist and non-Adventist colleges and universities, administrators from the Seventh-day Adventist Church (NAD, GC), local county and city officials, pastors, the *Adventist Review* editor, and leaders from the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Knight was welcomed with words of accolade and advice from several of these representatives. Brief speeches were presented by Napa

County Supervisor Diane Dillon, St. Helena Mayor Del Britton, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities President Jonathan Brown, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists General Vice President Ella Simmons, Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities President and Walla Walla University President John McVay, Andrews University President Niels-Erik Andreasen, University of the Pacific Jacoby Center Director and College of Arts and Sciences Dean Emeritus Robert Benedetti, and University of the Pacific Provost Phillip N. Gilbertson.

Dr. Knight was also presented with gifts from four representative groups at PUC: a crystal bell from the administrators, a miniature grape vine from the faculty, a painting by former PUC art department chair Vernon Nye by the staff, and two tickets for a hot-air balloon ride from the student body. Throughout the program, inspiring musical pieces were performed by soloist Melody Germany-Wilson, by the PUC Gospel Choir, and by the I Cantori choir.

In the inaugural homily, Pioneer Memorial Church (Andrews University) senior pastor





Dwight Nelson spoke about “level five leaders,” the best of the best, whose defining characteristic is humility. Recounting Solomon’s opportunity upon being recognized as king to be given anything he asked for from God, Nelson asked Knight to consider what she would ask for. Solomon admitted that he did not have the wisdom to carry out his leadership tasks; he asked for a discerning heart. Nelson expanded on this prayer, suggesting that it be Knight’s prayer: “Give me a discerning heart... to know the difference between the temporal and the eternal. The difference between the wanting and the needing. The difference between the popular and the principal. The difference between the good and the best, the difference between the wrong and the right.... God will grant you, President Knight, the wisdom to know the difference if you ask Him.”

Following the presentation of the presidential medallion, installed by PUC Board of Trustees chairman and Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists president Ricardo Graham and immediate past PUC president Richard Osborn, Knight gave an inaugural address. She expressed gratitude, spoke about

PUC’s history and calling, and presented her platform of “The Adventist Advantage.” Knight also posed the question, “How does the Adventist Advantage extend into the PUC Advantage?” and suggested that the PUC Advantage is wisdom, which can stand for Wholeness, Integrity, Service and ethical standards, Diversity, Our Adventist heritage, and Maintaining lifelong learning. “We not only aim to impart to our students knowledge in the finest liberal arts tradition... but to impart to them the twin vision of wisdom as well,” she said. “It is wisdom, not merely knowledge, that will make the critical difference in the lives of PUC graduates. This will be our distinguishing marker of excellence.”

Looking at where PUC stands at this point in its long history, Knight called it a “moment for PUC to reaffirm our rich history and heritage and also to envision a bold and significant future, one in which we prove responsive to the major opportunities and challenges facing American higher education today, and one in which we articulate the great value of an education framed in the Christian liberal arts tradition.” **VP**



**Dr. Knight** receives the presidential medallion from PUC Board of Trustees chairman and Pacific Union Conference President Ricardo Graham and immediate past PUC president Richard Osborn.





# REVO PUC

Connecting people and causes Lainey S. Cronk

**W**HEN A TEAM OF THIS YEAR'S STUDENTS took on Pacific Union College's third REVO event, they decided to combine the visions of the previous two years by going local *and* global.

REVO is a student-led movement now nationwide, to host events that raise awareness and funds for various humanitarian causes. PUC student Grace Jung, a 2009 REVO leader, expressed it eloquently when she said, "REVO promotes the idea that anyone, especially young people, can change the world into a better place from where they are now, with what they have now."

PUC hosted the first campus REVO in 2008 — other REVO events around the world had

been based in specific cities, not campuses. Student Rachel Thompson, who was friends with REVO founder Nina Brav, brought REVO to PUC to raise awareness and funds for the Not For Sale Campaign. They contributed \$10,000 to build a shelter and vocational center for young victims of trafficking in Lima, Peru.

In 2009, Grace Jung and another team of students brought the effort local, choosing to support the Napa Valley Food Bank. The food bank is a key area resource that had recently seen major setbacks due to a rodent infestation in their building. Students presented the director with a check for \$8,541.41 at a "payoff" party.

For the 2010 REVO PUC, the students decided to split their efforts between a local project

called KidzReach and a global project to fight a foot disease. KidzReach was born out of a local prison ministry when the founder of that group began to worry about the families the inmates he was serving had left behind. To assist with this project, he began recruiting PUC students to help take care of these kids, providing for their spiritual and emotional needs. Many students participate weekly to provide activities and mentorship for these children.

For the global project, REVO is supporting clinics in Ethiopia that are sponsored by the Tropical Health Alliance Foundation (THAF) and combat a foot disease called podoconiosis, a form of elephantitis caused by exposure of feet to red clay soil. Santa Monica-based non-

profit TOMS Shoes agreed to collaborate with REVO and THAF by providing shoes for family members of each person who receives treatment as a result of this endeavor.

This year's grand REVO event took place on an April Sunday; and like the 2008 and 2009 REVO events, it took place in an outdoor area on campus and provided hundreds of students (and other campus and community members) with an evening of concerts, food, booths, a rummage sale, a fashion show and a silent auction. The silent auction included items from original artwork to a designer dress. Three different bands played, two composed of current students and alumni and one a Los Angeles band on tour in Northern California. For the fashion show, student designers were each allotted \$50 to spend at thrift stores, and two faculty members and REVO founder Nina Brav served as judges. Brav and previous REVO PUC leaders Thompson and Jung also took the stage for a few minutes to talk about the movement's history and motivation. Students who had participated personally in the KidzReach ministry shared a little bit about their experience and why this ministry is pivotal for kids in the area who's homes are broken or unstable.

One student encouraged others to get involved, citing it as "part of the PUC experience."

In addition to the fun atmosphere that drew people to REVO events, student leaders felt that there was a deeper sense of the project's value. "Students are willing to turn out in droves because they understand the point of it all," says Tyler Cantrell, who recently finished his PUC classes and served as one of the REVO leaders. "The idea of REVO is that we can do something in a positive light here and now to change the world, and being able to see the results right in front of you is a powerful statement of how much we can do if we work together for the good!"

Putting together major events like these is no easy task for full-time students. "This event always takes a lot of risk and a ton of work," says Tyler McCulloch, another student leader. "There were numerous hours spent by many people in the last few months, and all the hard work really did pay off." Cantrell adds that "it

was incredible to see how much students were willing to donate in terms of time to an event like this."

For McCulloch, the result was a positive connection for students and community to a worthwhile effort. "REVO is a great chance for not only the student body but the community around us to come together for a great cause. I heard over and over again from multiple people — students, community members and faculty — 'I love spending money at REVO, it's such a happy event that makes you feel good.'"

Cantrell agrees that overall support was huge. "We were so incredibly blessed by support and the generosity of the students, faculty, staff and especially the community throughout the entire process," he says. "People just gave and gave stuff until we literally had to stop taking donations 'cause we had no more room to store them in."

This year's REVO events raised \$3,600 for KidzReach and \$4,850 for the fight against podo, a total of \$8,450. **VP**



**REVO founder** Nina Brav (L) joined previous REVO PUC leaders Rachel Thompson and Grace Jung to talk about REVO's history and significance.



## RUN FOR REVO

For this year's REVO PUC, the coordinators decided to host a benefit 5K run as well as the usual evening of entertainment and rummage sale. The race was held to raise money for both of this year's causes, but had an especially relevant tie-in to the "foot" theme for the fight against podoconiosis. Early registration for the race was \$30 and same-day registration was \$40, so the event raised around \$4,000, a great start for this year's REVO project.

The race took place on Sunday, April 18, and the students were hoping for 100 racers and some decent weather. Instead, they had 125 racers and a gorgeous day. PUC cross country coach Bob Paulson laid out a fairly simple 5K course for the runners as well as an easy route of about two miles for people who preferred to walk. "We had so much rain [before], it was a bit of an obstacle course," Paulson reports. But he says people just had fun with the challenge. "Everybody seemed to have a blast."

The student leaders were also very pleased to see some runners who were not from the campus. "I was surprised at how many runners were not students," reports Tyler McCulloch, one of the student organizers for the event. "We had people from Fairfield, Napa, and beyond."

With a beautifully fair day squeezed between rainstorms and a great local turnout, the REVO team was inspired by and appreciative of the event's success. And the participants enjoyed a really good excuse for a thoroughly enjoyable morning. "Everyone was happy to be out enjoying the good weather, getting some exercise and helping a good cause," McCulloch says.

# For KidzReach: \$3,600

# For THAF: \$4,850



# A LIFEWORK IN THE CHURCH

Adventist ministry, family, and career for all generations

Lainey S. Cronk and Aren Rennacker

**O**N THE VERGE OF GRADUATION, BRAD Gienger is ready to commit his career to the Adventist Church. “This is the context in which God has placed me.”

He’s headed into the lifework that has given many older alums a long resume — and many tales of challenges and rewards unique to working for a religious organization.

While those older generations are, by the laws of human nature, required to worry about younger generations, many of our youngest graduates are still intentionally — and joyfully — choosing to work within the Adventist system. Statistics that point out dwindling numbers of young adults in our pews may alert us to needs and start valuable conversations, but we have to avoid pessimism that blinds us to people of all generations who are deeply dedicated to their mother church and to ministry, careers and family membership within her familiar walls.

## **Lifetimes of Adventism**

Harold Otis (or “H.O.” to PUC friends) Burden was on leave from the army and in an almost-empty C46 “hopping” from the Norfolk Naval Air Station to Boling Airforce Base when the

moment of decision came. “Sitting there all by myself in the back, looking down at the landscape, the night, the lights and so forth... I finally said, ‘Lord, I give up — if you want me to go back and be a pastor, that’s what I’ll do.’”

When he finished his two-year military service, he kept his word and, rather than making his planned switch to medicine, finished in 1956 the PUC theology degree he had started several years earlier.

The logic for his switch to medicine had been that doctors had opportunities to minister that pastors might not have. But while in the army, reading in Ellen White’s *Acts of the Apostles* about the need to move beyond naval-gazing, Harold realized that underneath his public rationale of piety was a different factor: “No way was I going to be controlled by a conference committee or something to tell me where to go and be a missionary.”

Now, 54 years after his graduation (and pastoral work, missionary time at Lake Titicaca and in Columbia, 25 years as a community health educator in Portland, and being the full-time volunteer chair of the Adventist Coronary Health Improvement Program Association) Harold can say, “My confidence in God’s leading in this movement is stronger than it has

ever been.” He also says that a career in the church can be a big challenge — bigger than a non-church career — but he’s so convinced of the value of that challenge that he encourages young people to give God a chance to use them through church work.

The legacy of PUC alumni who have embraced that challenge is huge. Teachers, pastors, clerks and secretaries, doctors, missionaries in a myriad of fields, have all served lifetimes in denominational employ. Scores of Church leaders have come from PUC, including three General Conference presidents, the founder of Adventist-layman’s Services and Industries (ASI), and editors of national and international Church papers. And they’ve all faced the challenge that Harold identifies as the Church still being a human organization. But, compared to working with any other human organization, Harold suggests, “The chemistry and dynamics of working for the church are a bit more complex... Our expectations of one another are perhaps unreal. And then the challenge comes in the level of honesty within, transparency.”

That’s where inspiring the next generation to embrace this challenge may come into play. Recognizing that young people value openness and transparency and don’t always find it in the



**Herb Ford** (left), public relations director at the time for the Southern California Conference, talks with KTLA director Wes Butler about a weekly TV program called “The Adventist Hour.”

church, Harold challenges them to be a part of making that happen. “We need a higher level of openness, honesty, and vulnerability. And I believe that young people want that. I would like to challenge them to be part of an increasingly open and honest, vulnerable organization whose identity is that of an apocalyptic movement, as opposed to another church.”

### A Million Possibilities

Denominational service rarely means staying in one place doing one thing. Harold’s an example of that; and so is Herb Ford, ’54, whose Adventist career in public relations meant worldwide travel and jobs in California and D.C. ranging from public relations director to professor to vice president to newspaper stringer to news desk chief. Herb has plenty of stories, from famed WWII photographer Joe Rosenthal photographing a General Conference session and forgetting to take off his lens cap for the first time in over 25 years, to Herb’s memory of walking across the newsroom (“Boy, that was a long walk”) to deliver his first story to *Los Angeles Herald Express* editor Agnes Underwood, at that time the only female city editor of a major American metropolitan newspaper and known for being tough.

For Herb, unique frustrations included Church leaders who didn’t take opportunities to speak to the “second congregation” through the media. Herb would like to see young people take up the cause for that congregation: “I’ve always had a burden to get young people in to the kind of work I’ve done for the church – mass communication about the Adventist faith to the great ‘second congregation’ of the church – those who are not members everywhere and anywhere.” He isn’t worried whether these youngsters lack commitment: “I just think you gotta get their fire up, that’s all,” he says. If young people knew that “it’s the most adventurous work that you could find in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination,” Herb says, they’d want to get involved.

Theology major Robert Abdul-Karim isn’t (probably) going into PR, but he does embrace Herb’s concept of Church work as a place for adventure. “I want to do everything,” Robert says.

Robert’s parents became Adventists in Lebanon and then came to the United States. Robert has grown up with both American and Middle-Eastern culture, and he wants to do ministry in both cultures, and maybe others as well – spending time abroad is a significant goal for this senior. “I want to be able to be the senior pastor... work in the conference... go up to the GC level... be a photographer for the Review and Herald – whatever it is! I would like to work on the DVD the church produces for missions. Anything and everything!” In a sentiment that may be shared by others in his generation, Robert says he’s not looking for the boundaries of a single 9-to-5 job. He’s even brewing an idea to connect Adventist colleges around the world with a team of people who does weeks of prayer at each college and creates a website linking the worldwide Adventist college experience.

### Stepping Up

Like Robert, Brad Gienger expects Adventism to be his career context. Feeling a call, Brad changed majors midway through his PUC time and is headed for the ministry.

He’s a good example of intergenerational impact. Brad’s two pastor grandfathers, his theology and religion professors here at PUC, and the senior pastor at Brad’s home church — where he’s now interning — have all had a significant impact both on Brad’s decision for and approach to ministry. “One of the key things that’s been imparted to me has been a desire in ministry to shift the focus from preferences to values,” he says. In church, he explains, if our focus is on our personal preference for details, we can get lost in arguments that blind us to our actual



**At his home church**, intern Brad Gienger (in argyle) learned from pastors Ron Aguilera, Garrison Chaffee, and Ron Christiansen.



purpose — as Brad puts it, that “we actually do have a mission to do, we have work to do on this earth.” On the other hand, Brad says, if we focus on Jesus and his values, “those types of preferences tend to fade into the background, to instead focus on the weightier issues.”

But another interesting cycle became apparent through Brad’s internship. The Santa Rosa Adventist Church has been his home church for about 12 years, making it “a safe place for me to make mistakes because they’ve known me for so long.” But, he adds, “I think on the other side, for them it’s been a great experience as an affirmation of their ministry as a church. Because here’s this kid who grew up running around the church climbing fire escapes and stuff — here he is down the road largely going into ministry because of the impact of the ministry of the church.”



**Open doors** led to a unique ministry right after graduation for Godfrey Miranda, who’s now the youth pastor at Modesto Central Adventist Church in California.

Brad’s not too worried about running into disappointment within the church, though he’s realistic. “This part of the body of Christ is where God has put me, and I’m going to go ahead and assume that it’s intentional on God’s part,” he says. “Sometimes I think the Adventist church — or any church — doesn’t live up to every expectation we have for it. And yet it is

what we have and I feel like God has called me to work within it. I love it!”

So far, Brad feels like his generation focuses less on positioning themselves on “the Adventist pendulum.” The sense Brad gets from those who ponder what the church and Christianity mean to them is that, in everything they do, they ask themselves, “Is it authentic? Is it grounded in what Christ has called us to do?” Brad explains, “I think that exemplifies my generation’s approach to church, to Christianity, to spirituality.”

A similar perspective on how young people in ministry position themselves — or are labeled by others — comes from Zach Reiber, ’09, a youth pastor at Sunset Oaks Adventist Church in Rocklin, California. He finds that such definitions aren’t what’s key. “When I look at my ministry, my goals for these kids, I find that my methods have less to do with who I am and more to do with what they need. These kids need church family, a place where they can

feel comfortable and grow. They need a connection with Jesus that is as real as the world they live in. Meeting the needs of this new generation often means using new methods, but the foundation is always the same.”

Foundation is an important concept for Godfrey Miranda, ’05, now a youth pastor at Modesto Central Church in California. While at PUC, a youth pastor from academy got Godfrey — and Debbie Phillips, ’05, now Godfrey’s wife — involved with the Teen Bible Academy. After that summer experience they talked about how amazing it would be to do that kind of ministry full-time. Then, headed to camp meeting the next summer after Teen Bible Academy, they ran into conference president Jerry Page, who shared his idea of a full-time traveling ministry team. It was exactly what they’d been dreaming of. So after graduation, they started the Youth Evangelism Team for the Central California Conference and spent two years traveling around the conference to

## From Our First 75 Years

*Here are just a few examples from the long list of church leaders and workers who studied at PUC (these alumni studied here during PUC’s first 75 years).*



### Presidents

**James L. McElhany, 1901,** General Conference

**Ruben R. Figuhr, 1920s,** General Conference

**Neal C. Wilson, ’42,** General Conference

**Winston T. Clark, ’46,** Far Eastern Division

**Eugene M. Stiles, ’59,** Pacific Press Publishing Association

### Editors

**Francis D. Nichol, ’19, ’20,** *Review and Herald*

**Kenneth H. Wood, ’38,** *Review and Herald*

**S. Lawrence Maxwell, ’46, ’50,** *Little Friend, Primary Treasure, and Signs of the Times*



### Practitioners of Variety

**Georgia Anna Burgess, 1893**, one of the first Adventist missionaries in India; opened a girl's school in Calcutta; pioneered work among the Bengali, Hindi, Urdu, and Khasi-speaking peoples.

**Nathaniel Carter Wilson, '18**, founded Association of Self-Supporting Institutions (now Adventist-Laymen's Services & Industries); teacher, pastor, missionary, and administrator in North American, Southern Africa, Southern Asia, Australasian, and Far Eastern Divisions.

**Myrtle Sather, '42**, nursing director in Botswana; medical secretary of the Southern Africa Division; guided development of hospitals, clinics, and schools of nursing, midwives and medical assistants; assistant director of personnel at Kettering Memorial Hospital in Ohio.

**Joyce W. (Wilson) Hopp, '45**, nurse; director of health education at local and world levels; faculty of Loma Linda University's School of Public Health; dean of LLU's School of Allied Health Professions; associate world director of Health Ministries for the General Conference.

**Ray Hefferlin, '51**, professor at Southern Missionary College; named one of America's top ten professors in the 1985 CASE Professor of the Year competition; developed a periodic system of molecules and did research all over the world.

**Dorlin Knowles Griffith, '52**, pastor, teacher, and principal; educational secretary of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, Florida Conference, Gulf States Conference and Southern Union Conference; president of Ethiopian Adventist College.

different schools and churches and doing full-time ministry for the youth. Debbie had a per diem nursing job at a hospital in Bakersfield, so that became their home base and their testing ground for pilot programs.

In these early years in the ministry, Godfrey formed some of his own ideas about young people, authenticity, and foundation. Godfrey suggests that "authenticity" is a catch-phrase that's popular now, but something that every generation has strived for. And while it may hint at why this generation is sometimes missing from our churches, he's more worried about forgetting why we're here. "One of my biggest concerns is that we've forgotten why we even exist. When you look at the origins of this movement, especially from a prophetic view, this really is a movement of destiny that God has raised up for a very specific purpose, and it's outlined in the book of Revelation." Godfrey adds with conviction, "This stuff does make sense, and does mean something!" He hopes the

young people he works with will discover that; and that they won't, "in the pursuit of authenticity, miss out on what makes us distinct, and really personally grabbing hold of that."

### Practical Considerations

As a senior, Brad's facing a more practical challenge for young people who want to work for the denomination: whether they have money to hire pastors. At this writing, Brad is waiting to see if any job offers result from recent interviews. Zach faced a similar reality when he decided to go into ministry: "I realized that because of my personal connections to the Adventist church and my desire to be a pastor that not only would I be working for the church, they were my sole employer. It's a bit of a complicated relationship; I need them, they need me, they can't afford to hire me."

For now, Zach has found a spot and says he's "absolutely" convinced that his lifework is here. "Although this is something I have struggled

with this last year and will probably struggle with again in my life, I feel strongly that this is where God has called me," he says.

Lauren Waychoff admits that after graduation, she'll take whatever job she can find (she's an education major getting both Adventist and public credentials). But she, too, hopes for a life-work in Adventist education – even if her job ends up being at a public school, she intends to be active in her church and involved with the youth. Lauren went to public school through 6th grade and then to Adventist school, and that's one reason she'd love to work with K-6 kids in Adventist classrooms: "I'd want to get them excited at a young age for God and church. I was excited for it too, but it was always at home, it wasn't in school."

But working with PUC's KidzReach ministry has also shown Lauren that there can be opportunities for ministry in both places, though there are personal advantages to an Adventist classroom. "There are more opportunities in





**"I want to do everything"** says Robert Abdul-Karim (back, in blue), here with the Alameda Extreme ministry and his mentor pastor, Ron Pickell.

the close-knit community, such as the freedom to witness to them without bothering a parent because you want to pray in class," she says. "I can show off more of my religious personality in a private school."

### Our Pews

It's Sabbath morning and Pastor Sunny Doh is not in the pulpit of his Napa Valley (Calif.) Korean Adventist Church; a college student named Danny is in his place. Danny Chung, a sophomore religion and pre-medicine student, is giving the sermon this morning on a topic he used in a recent Bible study: staying aware when we pray of how awesome and powerful God is.

What concerns some people more than whether this generation will be employed within Adventism is whether they'll even be involved. Again, stats aside, we know scores on campus who, far and above mere attendance or occasional participation in a praise band or ministry, are core church leaders with weekly ministries. A vibrant and on-going example of this is our Korean-American students, many of whom, like Danny, are active and taking leadership.

Alice Holst, who deaned and taught at Adventist academies and colleges and is a PUC honorary professor emerita, has a benevolent eye on such young people. She understands the "human element" that Harold identified — Alice, her father, and her brother found hurts in their Adventist employment, and Alice finished her career in public high school. But she continues to be an active supporter of PUC and Adventist education, and her attitude keeps her impressively positive. "To handle stress, I first

find out everything I can about the problem," she says. "Number two, I learn what I can do about it. Number three, I immediately do what I can about the problem. And number four, I then forget it. I'm just not going to let problems make me ill." Alice still says that teaching for Adventist schools "was the joy of my life."

Alice is a huge fan of young people, and despite how different their attire is from 1939, she doesn't dwell on the change. "Now I go to church and I see a completely different look... But the young people to me are the same." Alice has a burden for new generations to know the Adventist church. "I think the future will be bright

if the church does what it should, which is to involve the young people in the church and in every aspect of the church, starting with grade school so they realize how wonderful it is," she says. Her theory is that older folks' tasks are to get acquainted with young people, to be involved, and to listen. "I think it's a matter of a personal contact and finding out what the concerns are of the young people themselves and then helping them find the answers."

Such connections are part of why PUC's Korean-American students are so active in churches; it's also because of tradition. "When we were in high school or junior high, we had PUC students who would come," Danny explains. "They were our role models, and they really made our church fun... So it's kind of like following after them." Another reason is need. "Our church *does* need us to help," Danny says.

Another group of students helps out at a Korean Adventist church in Rohnert Park. The student leaders each have a role, ranging from coordinating vespers to leading praise music to creating a bulletin. Though their emphasis was initially on the high-school-aged youth, they now provide programming for junior high and even elementary school children. On any given Sabbath morning, several cars will be filled with 15-20 PUC students headed to Rohnert Park to lead, help out, or attend.

This involvement is an extension of a program through the Korean Adventist Student Association at PUC, a Big Brother/Big Sister program that pairs upperclassmen with incoming freshmen. "Korean culture is known for its emphasis on respect, especially respect towards your elders," student Sam Lee explains. "This enables us to develop a special bond between

the young and the old in a 'mentorship' type system in which the older group looks after and guides the younger group."

The same effect applies at the church. "Having a strong collegiate presence in our small church provides the youth group with a solid group of mature and responsible mentors," Sam says. The result is that the youth see church more positively and know that college students are invested in them. To Sam, what his classmates do deserves high recognition. "They are true lay leaders."

### Chemistry and Context

Is working for and living with the church an easy option? "Not necessarily," says Harold Burden, reflecting on his years of Adventist work experience. But for so many people with long Adventist resumes and so many just beginning theirs, the Church offers its members a chance to find their careers, in addition to their church families, inside. "I believe that working for the church offers in its own a way a unique opportunity not only for professional growth but also for spiritual growth," Harold says in what may be a perfect summary. "Perhaps because, in ways that each person will have to define for themselves, it offers opportunities for character development that are unique to the Adventist chemistry and context." **VP**

## Students and Staff Serve in Repair Effort

### Homes of Calistoga elderly benefit from community help

DURING APRIL, SEVERAL PUC STUDENTS AND staff joined in a two-week effort to clean and repair the dilapidated homes of elderly and disabled citizens living in nearby Calistoga. Teaming with Rebuilding Calistoga, a volunteer organization under the sponsorship of Calistoga Affordable Housing, Inc., they contributed to the restoration of nearly 50 residences, half of which were mobile homes.

PUC chaplain Roy Ice helped get the college involved and contributed his own efforts to the rebuilding project. "I think that it's important to show that PUC is a resource to our community, and not the other way around," Ice says.

The project was conceived by Larry Kromann, a retired school principal and PUC church member, who wanted to find a way to help the elderly. He gathered the help and support of community members for the home repair project and received the sponsorship of Home Depot, which donated a \$5,000 gift card and promised to send out 30 of its employees.

A ceremony was held on April 25 to recognize everybody who volunteered. Calistoga mayor Jack Gingles publicly recognized PUC's contribution and expressed his gratitude towards the college's involvement. "I want you to take a message back to PUC and your president that we really appreciate what you guys did," he announced.

The individual projects took as little as half an hour to complete and did not require a background in home repair. "It was a small time commitment to change the lives of people that live in our neighborhood," said Ice, a novice handyman himself. "Christianity is not about knowledge, it's about action."





## Research Goes National

THIS SPRING, THREE GROUPS OF PUC students and faculty members traveled to national and international conferences to present original research. In March, social work professor Monte Butler and three senior social work majors traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, for the annual conference of the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors (BPD). Butler and four students had submitted two posters to the conference, both of which were accepted — a notable achievement in this competitive professional conference. But the honors escalated when the poster by student Brian Rodriguez and Butler was given Highest Honors, the equivalent of first place in the nation.

The conference only recently began featuring posters, and this is the second year PUC students have participated and received honors. Last year, two students won High Honors (second place) for a poster. This year's honored poster was titled "Aggression Replacement Training for At-Risk Youth: Will Gender Matching Help?" and evaluated a program at a local agency that was designed to help at-risk teenagers manage their anger.

In April, biology professor Brian Wong and two students traveled to Washington, D.C., for the 2010 American Association of Cancer Research (AACR) general meeting. Wong is known for his on-going research into cancer prevention, and proficient biology students have the opportunity to work with him as assistants.

This year, Wong and five student co-authors had two research posters accepted at the conference. Wong and students Christal Nishikawa and Lucas Kim traveled to the conference in person to attend seminars and present their research on the cancer prevention properties of two Chinese medicinal herbs against colon cancer formation in mouse and human cells.

Also in April, sixteen psychology majors and four professors attended the Western Psychological Association (WPA) convention in Cancun, Mexico.



**Award-winning research:** Student Brian Rodriguez (in back) presents a poster he wrote with professor Monte Butler, which received Highest Honors. This was one of six research posters presented by PUC faculty and students at conferences in the spring.

At the convention sponsored by Psi Chi, the national honor society of psychology, the students presented two posters, met recruiters from graduate schools, and listened to PUC alum Cara Tan give a symposium. One research poster the professors and students presented was on the effect of ethnic awareness on job association, while the other group presented their study of the effect of spanking on children.

Presenting at WPA is an incredible opportunity for students who wish to attend graduate school. "Most people don't have the chance to present posters at WPA, so we're lucky that we had the chance to put our names out there in the world of psychology," says student Jessica Cerda. "It's a great asset to students in our department."

### academic highlights

**Sylvia Rasi Gregorutti**, modern languages professor, spoke about Christian higher education to a group of young women at the 2010 Northern California Conference Hispanic Women's Ministries Retreat held at Leoni Meadows.

**Mei Ann Teo**, drama program director, presented at the Arts in the One World conference at Brown University. Her topic was "Rebuilding from Within: Mitigating Fundamentalism in the Seventh-day Adventist Bubble through Theatre."

**Asher Raboy**, wind ensemble director and music professor, had an April concert that was made up entirely of his own compositions — including a world premiere of a new tone poem. The concert was with the Napa Valley Symphony at Lincoln Theater.

**Debra Winkle**, nursing professor and LVN to RN program director, was made Honorary Commander of the 60th Medical Group Inpatient Operations Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, where PUC offers a unique nursing program.



## Celebrating Sustainability

THIS YEAR, PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE CELEBRATED EARTH DAY WITH A fair, a clean-up project, and a special speaker. L. Hunter Lovins, a globally recognized leader and consultant in sustainable practices, arrived with her signature cowboy hat to speak to the PUC campus and community during the morning colloquy and a special evening lecture on “Sustainability in Napa County.”

Lovins began her address by introducing the argument for why life as we know it cannot sustain itself. She suggested that if we are to meet the challenges and goals of the future and adapt to sustain the planet, we must do so on a paradigm that includes “world best practices” for addressing human needs, smart development that is truly sustainable, and redesigning education.

This positive movement is calling everybody to be “stewards of creation.” Lovins compared the transition process to the development of a butterfly from a cocoon: hard but worth it.

To this end, PUC students, as well as high school and elementary students from Angwin, also participated in a clean-up day at Crane Park in nearby St. Helena, including planting trees, spreading bark, staining a shed, and cleaning picnic tables.



## Student Art at Rasmussen Art Gallery

A SPRING EXHIBIT AT THE RASMUSSEN ART GALLERY CELEBRATED THE VARIOUS talents of PUC’s creative student minds. April 15 was the opening and awards presentation for the annual Student Art Exhibition in the gallery, and around 80 visitors, including students, faculty, and community members, came to cheer on the student artists. The show was open to all PUC students of any major, and many students had responded to the call for entries, resulting in 165 exhibited works.

Student artwork was judged under the categories Drawing, Opaque Media Painting, Watercolor, Graphic Design, Printmaking, Mixed Media, Stained Glass, Sculpture, and Ceramics. Visitors viewed the

show while enjoying refreshments, including fresh fruit and sparkling Martinelli’s, all the while talking with the students who had come to view their own success.

Various prizes were awarded for the different categories—\$25 for first place, \$20 for second, and \$15 for third. There was also a \$50 grand prize awarded for the emphasized environmental theme of PUC’s Green Week.





**Going Green.** A t-shirt screen-printing station is a popular part of the Earth Day Fair.



**2010 Maxwell Golf Classic.** A brief moment of blue sky smiles on this year's dedicated players, who stuck around despite rain (and helped raise thousands for scholarships).



**Photography Trip to Mexico.** Spring break finds a group of students with professor Tom Turner in Mexico for some excellent photo opportunities.



**Strawberry Shortcake.** Faculty, staff, and students gather for this tasty spring tradition.



**Emergency Services.** Students practice for emergency medical careers.





**Spring in Angwin.** A wet spring keeps campus feeling wintry late this year, but when the sun comes out, it's glorious.



**Bell Ringing.** Students celebrate the completion of their undergrad studies by ringing the Healdsburg Bell.



**In Asian Art class,** sophomore Hilja Koski learns about the Japanese tradition associating 1,000 origami cranes with peace and good luck, and she makes 1,000 for a class project.





## Faculty Recognized

THE PUC FACULTY MEMBERS KEEP BUSY PURSUING GOALS OF HIGHER learning even as they encourage undergraduate students to do the same. At the annual Faculty Awards Colloquy this spring, about 20 were recognized for scholarly activities this year. Six of these were presented the Herber award for faculty development, three were presented the Meritorious Service Awards for outstanding contributions to PUC's mission, and two were extended congratulations for completing doctorates in 2009-2010.

Many of the honored faculty members enlisted student help in their projects, including biology professor (and Herber Award recipient) Brian Wong, who was recognized for a research poster session he worked on with several students. Other individuals were recognized for artistic endeavors ranging from art instructor Cheryl Daley's "Magnolia Boxes" shown in the Sebastopol Center for the Arts to English professor John McDowell's poem "Blue" and artwork "Alarm," both featured in *Spectrum* magazine.

Recurring topics addressed in faculty research are spirituality and service to others. Communication professor Tammy McGuire had an article titled "From Emotions to Spirituality: 'Spiritual Labor' as the commodification, codification, and regulation of organizational members' spirituality" published in *Management Communication Quarterly*. Biology professor Brian Ness had his article, "Creation, Evolution, and Higher Education," published in *Spectrum* magazine.

Adu Worku, PUC's library director, is a recipient of the Meritorious Service Award for outstanding leadership and dedication in his role as the first chair of the Campus Services Program Review Committee. The "Way of Great Learning," as Brian Wong's Educator of the Year address was entitled, continues through such hardworking people as Worku and the other faculty members at PUC. Also, as a result of their dedication, students are able to travel this "Way of Great Learning" to reach even greater heights.

## From the Ground Up

THIS YEAR'S STUDENT WEEK OF PRAYER, "From the Ground Up," brought eight students to the platform. During morning and evening programs, they shared about becoming active Christians and emphasized community, acceptance, and personal ministry.

Student speaker Laura Dominguez started with this quote: "The human soul spends [a lifetime] searching for that one thing that will bring fullness, meaning, and happiness to life." She acted out a dialogue in which her heart was missing something; people brought suggestions to fill it but nothing fit until a friend came to tell her about "something that will give you a love purer than all others: Jesus Christ."

Manny Gonzales took a completely different approach to a similar topic, saying, "Many of us seem to be risk-takers...But I think there's one risk we're not really willing to take: That risk is surrendering our hearts to God, letting him lead our lives." Yet it's the best possible risk to take. "It's not about giving up the things we love; it's about what we gain...by surrendering our hearts to God."



## Alum Performs at PUC

WHEN TAD WORKU, '08, walked onto the stage at PUC, 400 students, packed into Dauphinee Chapel, gave him the warmest welcome back home. "Being here, being around you guys, this feels more like a jam session," Worku told the crowd. "It just feels like home."

The highly anticipated performance by the former business major and his band of four full-time musicians (whom he calls "psychotically gifted") was very popular among students. Worku's band, consisting of Marcus Phillips on the bass, Nate Mercereau on the guitar, Q Jackson on the drums, and gospel keyboardist Dave Jackson, left the stage with the audience on their feet. "The musicians were... indescribable!" said Student Association social vice president Chris Madrid. "Everyone was just amazed at how incredible they were."

The group played a set of 10 songs, ranging from pieces Worku wrote for other artists in the time he worked for production companies to his very first composition "Stormy Weather," which he wrote as an 18-year-old freshman at PUC. Worku currently works full-time on his music in San Francisco, recording two to three times a week and playing shows bi-monthly.



## KASA Members Take on Church Roles



DANNY CHUNG, A RELIGION AND PRE-MEDICAL STUDENT, gets asked to preach once in a while at the Napa Korean Adventist Church; but more often he is busy leading the youth Sabbath school group at the church. It's Chung's home church and he continued to attend when he went off to PUC, juggling the task of finding topics that will resonate with both college-age and high-school-age members, joined together in one youth group of about 50

members. Along with Chung, PUC students Paul Ong, Steven Chung, Brian Kim, and James Oh, several of whom also grew up in this church, provide the youth leadership for Sabbath school and social activities.

Another group of Korean PUC students are fulfilling an almost identical mission for the Rohnert Park Korean Church. "I remember how awesome it was as an early high school student to have college students take an interest in me," says Sam Lee, a senior who leads youth events.

He and seven other students talk about their different roles in youth leadership. Eugenia Kwon, a junior on the leadership team, points out that "it does become a ministry to [PUC] underclassmen as well," because new students will start attending with the group and eventually become leaders themselves — as she has.



## Students Meet Renowned Pianist

AFTER A NAPA VALLEY SYMPHONY CONCERT AT LINCOLN THEATER IN YOUNTVILLE, PUC MUSIC students joined professor Asher Raboy on the stage to meet pianist Leon Bates, pose for photos, and receive autographs.

Raboy, who has been music director of the symphony since 1990, directed a concert featuring several of his original compositions and a piano concerto featuring Bates, one of Raboy's long-time collaborators and one of America's top pianists.

Attending students included four who had enjoyed a Master Class with Bates the previous evening, one who had turned pages for him during the Symphony concert, several from the Survey of Music class, PUC music ensemble members, and the PUC Musical Arts Symposium. "It was delightful to see so many of them," Raboy said later. "It's great to see PUC and the Symphony have this great interaction."

At PUC, Raboy's experience and connections as a director, teacher, and composer and his energy for practical learning have made him a valuable asset to music students. "It was a fabulous concert, but more importantly, Asher was so gracious to PUC students," said PUC vice president Pam Sadler after the Lincoln Theater concert. "We are fortunate to have Asher teaching here."

## One Simple Act, Many Great Results

Experts say two out of three Americans do not have a will.

Wills and the reasons why people write them, or fail to write them, are legendary. In one of the most famous cases, a judge ruled Howard Hughes died without a will and his \$2.5 billion estate was split among 22 relatives, even though one person claimed to have found Howard Hughes' will on a church desk and another said the will was found in a Nevada gas station. Many others who should have had a will never did. Abraham Lincoln, Sonny Bono, James Dean and Andrew Jackson all died without one.

It is perhaps unfortunate that will-making tends to sound complicated and confusing. It needn't be. Wills are simple to make and many young people have had valid plans. Anna Nicole Smith, Marilyn Monroe and JFK, Jr. all died with wills. Some have had some interesting provisions. Janis Joplin died at age 27 with a will she revised just two days before her passing. It included a directive that \$2,500 be used to hold a party for her friends. Author Charles Dickens' will included instructions for what not to wear at his funeral while William Shakespeare's will took care of his "second best bed," but made no mention of his literary works.

Take time to talk with your family and your advisors about what is important to you and what passions, ideals and good works you want to continue beyond your lifetime. It is a great opportunity to let your family and cherished causes know just how important they are to you.

It has never been easier or less expensive to have a will. Attorneys often charge low fees for all but the most complicated plans. Most attorneys are accustomed to clients who are new to will-writing, so they make the process easy and simple.

Those who write wills often remark at the good feeling they experience knowing they have made a difference that will last beyond their years. If you need help finding an attorney or want some general information, call or email us and we can point you in the right direction.

*For more information on wills, estate plans, and other types of planned gifts, please contact Eckhard Hubin at the Office of Planned Giving.*

### Office of Planned Giving

plannedgiving@puc.edu  
www.pucplannedgiving.org  
Local: 707-965-6596  
Toll-free: 1-800-243-5251



# alumni*news*

Class Notes, Births, Weddings, and In Memory

## Class Notes

### 1940



**Class of 1940** at Homecoming 2010.

### 1950

**Ernest S. Zane, '51,** and **Tom Godfrey, '53, '57,** were both given the Distinguished Service Award at the Loma Linda University School of Medicine graduation on May 30, 2010. Tom has been practicing oncology for over 40 years there, and Ernest is still practicing and teaching after 50 years.

### 1960

**Delmer G. Ross, '65,** retired in 2009 after forty years of service at Adventist colleges and universities. He taught mainly Latin American history

at PUC, Oakwood College, and La Sierra University. He also



has eleven book titles and more than one hundred articles on his list of

publications. His most recent books are *Iner S. Ritchie, Medical Evangelist* (2007) and *The Bagdad Chase Mine and Its Ludlow & Southern Railway* (2009).

### 1970

**Allan Sather, '70,** is celebrating 40 years in Adventist education this summer. On July 4, friends, family, and colleagues will join him to celebrate in Couer d'Alene, Idaho, where he and his



wife, Judith Nickel Sather, att. '64-'65, reside. Allan has worked for the conferences of Southern California, Northern California, Mid-America, and North Pacific Union. Growing up near PUC, Allan worked his way through school working at the college bakery. He served in the U.S. Army, earned his master's degree, and has been teacher and principal in eight Adventist schools.

**Debra (Evans) Gamble, '78,** recently earned her MSN, with



**Class of 1950** at Homecoming 2010.



**Class of 1960** at Homecoming 2010.



**Class of 1970** at Homecoming 2010.

a concentration in Nursing Education, from Walden University. Debra graduated from PUC with an associate degree in nursing, and has now earned jointly her BSN and MSN from Walden. Debra works for Integrated Health Management and plans to go into clinical education with her MSN.

**Roscoe Howard, '78**, now serves as president of the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. His church leadership responsibility includes 10 mid-American states with 449 Adventist churches and 62,000 members.

**Mike Smithwick, '78**, recently authored several educational applications for Apple's iPhone and iPad "Appstore." Mike reports that these include one of the oldest and continuously supported consumer software packages still on the market, an astronomy title, Distant Suns; and also a music player for the internet broadcasting company, Live365. Distant Suns was featured on the front of iTunes in February, and was one of the first apps available for the iPad on the first day of release.

## 1980

**Samuel S. Young, '83**, has taken a position as the Chief Information Officer at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, Calif. Previously he was the Chief Technology Officer at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas. Earlier, he worked as the Director of Information Technology/Chief Information Officer at La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif.

**Dennis L. Ballard, '85**, a member of the music education faculty at Indiana State University, Terre Haute (ISU), was recently the guest conductor of the Greene

### births



► Madelyn Capri Jones, daughter of **Amy (Cunningham), att. '02-'04**, and **Ryan Jones, '04**, of Bakersfield, Ca. Born 11-6-09.



► Ling Chen, daughter of **Jun Liu, '03**, and **Hong Chen** of Angwin, Calif. Born 4-30-10.



► Mia Marie McNutt, daughter of **Amadet (Pulido), '05**, and **Martin Frank McNutt** of Antioch, Calif. Born 5-13-10.

County (Indiana) Music Festival, a gathering of 280 teen musicians from throughout the county. At ISU, he serves as an instrumental music education specialist, teaches methods courses, supervises student teachers, and conducts the Concert Band.

**Hilton Raethel, '86**, recently accepted the position of Senior Vice President for Hawaii Medical Service Association, the not-for-profit Blue Cross/Blue Shield mutual benefit society that covers 700,000 lives in Hawaii. His wife Kathy continues to serve as Vice President for Patient Care at Castle Medical Center.

**Kristy Lee, '87**, has recently been appointed director of sales and marketing for the Ritz Carlton Shanghai, Pudong, hotel. A Hong Kong citizen with 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry, Kristy has worked at the Ritz Taipei hotel and major international hotel groups including Conrad International, Shangri-La, and Langham.



**Class of 1980** at Homecoming 2010.



**Class of 1985** at Homecoming 2010.



**Class of 1990** at Homecoming 2010.



## weddings



► **Kay Blalock, '08,** and **Tyler Newton, '08,** in Temecula, Calif. 4-19-09.



► **Andi Tucker-Brown, '00,** and **Ben Galusha** in Rutherford, Calif. 6-20-09.



► **Beryl Salva, '06, '09,** and **Chris McDonald, '06,** in Pasadena, Calif. 9-20-09.

**Duane Covrig, att. '89,** and **Randall W. Younker, '75** recently received the prestigious Daniel A. Augsburg Excellence in Teaching Award at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. Seven other PUC alumni were recently given service awards for five, ten and fifteen years of continuous service to the university: these were **Verlyn Benson, '76; Cynthia Birney, '78; Roy Gane, '77; Gary Gifford, '67; Nicholas Miller, '89;** and **Ralph Wood, att. '79-'82.** **Gary Gene Land, '66,** was awarded Honored Retiree of Andrews University.

## 1990

**Karen Torres, att. '90,** teaches kindergarten at Sierra View Junior Academy in Exeter, Calif. Almost all of that school's teachers, its board chairman, and three board members are all PUC alumni, including **Ana Bramhall, att. '08; Christopher Brenner, '97; Laurie (Bickner) Dounies, att. '75-'77; Brenda (Bergham) Evans, att. '73-'74; Bruce Evans, '79; Cindy Evans,**

**'80; Julianne George, '96; Darcel Lee-Valdez, '07; Doug Motsenbocker, '60; Diane Tremper, att. '75-'76;** and **Charles Yoshida, '89.**

**Rossina (Seville) Gil, '91,** authored a recently released book titled *The Corporate Looking Glass: Using Culture for*



*Your Competitive Advantage.*

Rossina notes that she acknowledges Angwin in the back of the book

and that it has been requested to be part of the private corporate library of SAS, the company rated by Fortune as the 2010 #1 Best Company to Work For. Rossina has also been tapped as a speaker for the Merrill Lynch "Women, Wealth, & Wisdom" five-city conference tour in 2010. These cities include Las Vegas, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

**Tanita Davis, '93,** received a 2010 Coretta Scott King Honor for her second novel, *Mare's War*. Davis' young adult fiction novel earned the honor of "the most distinguished portrayal of African American experience in literature for children." At this writing, Davis is scheduled to accept this honor at the American Library Association

Annual Convention in Washington, D.C., in June. There, Davis will attend a breakfast where she will be awarded a medal and asked to give an acceptance speech, which the self-described introvert is dreading. For her next project, Davis says she is "letting out my inner geek" and trying her hand at some science fiction and another historical novel set in Italy and Tunisia.

**Amy (Timmons) Stumpf, '93,** is currently an associate professor of religion and society at California Baptist University and was named Professor of the Year 2009. Amy is married to Paul Stumpf, a pastor, and has two children, Matthew (9) and Lindsey (7).

**Scott Eastman, '98, '03,** was named CEO and executive director of the Siskiyou Family YMCA in Yreka, Calif., in March. Scott, formerly senior program director of that "Y," has been with the organization for a number of years and now, as CEO, is overseeing the completion of a children's fitness center at the facility and starting a whitewater rafting program.

**Joy Cho, '99,** is currently the Children's Pastor at Loma Linda Korean Adventist Church. "I am having a blast being a

leader, transforming lives for God's kingdom!" she reports. If you'd like her to speak to your



youth group, children's ministry, or church in general,

she's glad to be contacted at [pastorjoy88@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjoy88@gmail.com).

## 2000

**Martin McCarthy, '06,** who has 25 years of law enforcement experience, is one of four aspirants to the office of Sheriff of Lake County, Calif. Martin began as a police officer in Santa Clara, Calif., in 1980, and since that time has held several law enforcement posts on military installations, Indian reservations and a university campus.

**Stephanie Hutchins, '07,** says that "Since graduating in 2007 I have had wonderful experiences in the world of nursing. I built on my previous nursing experience by becoming an Occupational Health Nurse, which I could only have done with my BSN. When that contract ended, God surprised me by putting a teaching job in my life; I am currently coordinating and teaching a basic nursing skills lab for the Psychiatric Technician program at Santa Rosa Junior College." Stephanie has also been made Assistant Director of the program. "God's grace and the excellent BSN program at PUC have allowed me to reach these professional goals," she says.

**Tad Worku, '08,** performed his second live concert at Yoshi's restaurant and jazz club in San Francisco in May, as an exclusive "sneak-peak" event for his album set to release later this year. Worku, a songwriter, vocalist, and pianist, performed with a band of four other musicians.



Class of 2000 at Homecoming 2010.

**Dylan Leach, '08**, now employed by the Napa Valley Unified School District, has recently been named the football defensive coordinator of Napa (Calif.) High School. Before joining the Napa High football coaching staff, Dylan was the football defensive coach at Vintage High School in Napa.

**Lila (Vasquez) Cervantes, '08** (DCP business program), reports that she has "had the amazing opportunity of



recording my very first album called *I Can See*. I invite you to visit my website at [lilacervantes.com](http://lilacervantes.com) and spread the word!!

Looking for opportunities to perform and spread the love of our precious Savior!" Lila met songwriter **Brenda Lane, '98** and att. '79-'82, in 2008; Brenda had lived in Angwin and prayed for someone to sing her songs and it turned out Lila later moved into the very same house, and prayed for a songwriter! The CD was released in November, 2009, and Lila has been performing concerts. "My message is one of hope and to never give up on your dreams! God can use us at any age!" Lila says. Brenda also has an amazing story of her journey that she's shared in her new book *Under the Eye*, published by WestBow Press.

**Kevin Longo, '81**, was promoted to assistant vice president and Corporate Compliance Officer for



Adventist Health in January. Director of the Compliance department since 1997, Longo

began his 25-year career with Adventist Health as an

accounts payable clerk at St. Helena Hospital in the Napa Valley. Longo and his wife, Laurie, have four children and reside in Auburn, California.

## Your Update Here

► Let us know about your adventures, jobs, and family! Class Notes come from a variety of sources, but we like it best when they come from you.

[viewpoint@puc.edu](mailto:viewpoint@puc.edu)

[puc.edu/alumni/news-memories](http://puc.edu/alumni/news-memories)  
707-965-6303

## In Memory

**Willeta Raley Bolinger, '29, '59**, passed away February 14, 2010 in Jefferson, Texas, at age 103. She was an accomplished teacher, writer and artist. She taught at the Adventist Church school in Napa, the one-room school at Lake Berryessa, Redwood Jr. High School in Napa, and the Howell Mountain School. In her retirement years, she and her husband, Walter, traveled extensively on behalf of Adventist World Radio. Willeta is survived by her sisters, June Raley Knight Reed and Goldie Raley Caviness; two daughters, Rebecca, and Betty Stanfield; a son Kenneth W.; and five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**David Yin Fo Chong, '52**, died in San Leandro, Calif., on April 5, 2010. He was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1923. He spent the war years working at Hickam Field, repairing aircraft. At PUC he met his

## Jimmy Ha

### A beloved teacher and theologian



**On April 21, 2010, Jimmy Ha, '91**, a PUC assistant professor of religion, lost his battle with pancreatic cancer. Jimmy was at the Queen of the Valley Medical Center in Napa when he died, and he was surrounded by his loving family. He was 41 years old.

Jimmy began teaching at PUC in the fall of 2005. It was Jimmy's lifelong dream to teach at his alma mater, and during his illness, the embrace of the PUC community meant a great deal to

him. Jimmy and his wife, Sonia, started an endowed scholarship at PUC that will award annual scholarships in Jimmy's name.

A few weeks before he died, 400 family members, friends, and students and youth from every aspect of Jimmy's life gathered for "A-wake," a life celebration that included stories, laughter, music and prayer. People said that "his life, his ministry, his friendship has been a channel of divine blessings to us," that "he had the capacity to understand a whole lot more than others," that "Jimmy is probably one of the most authentic Christians I know."

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Sonia; his daughter, Sophie; his parents, Daniel and Millie Ha; and his sister, Jane Yon.

wife, Lila Anne Fong, '52, roomed in Grainger and was active in the Hawaiian Club. David obtained a master's and taught industrial arts in the Oakland



school district for 34 years. He is survived by his wife, Lila; children David, Alan, Robert, and Lynette; and four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Jerry Louise Chilson, '56**, died on May 3, 2010, in Walton, Ore. She was born April 12, 1935, in Takoma Park, Md. A world traveler and life-long educator, she received her master's degree from Potomac University

Seminary and was a Zapara Excellence in Teaching Award winner.

**Leon Gambetta, former faculty**, died March 25, 2010, in Deer Park, Calif. He was born in Miguel Cane, Argentina, on February 9, 1914. Leon taught Spanish at PUC and was an editor at the Pacific Press Publishing Association. He is survived by his wife, Mary; children, Ariel and Nora Gambetta, and Charles and Robert Garcia; and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Barbara J. (Westerhout) Griffith, '55**, passed away on January 14, 2010. She was born in San Francisco, Calif., in 1931. She met her husband, Wayne, at PUC and traveled



with him extensively in his work (including missionary service in Peru and the Philippines) as a minister and doing preventative medicine outreach for the church, health education, and teaching. Barb later earned a nursing degree at Atlantic Union College and worked in many areas of nursing. She is survived by her children, Randy, Ron, Jan Widmann, and Julie Porter; sisters Dorothy Harris, Elizabeth Barclay, and Joyce Hanson; a brother, Robert; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Kelly Jane Harris, former faculty**, passed away on April 26, 2010. Kelly was born May 17, 1957 in London, England. She emigrated with her parents and brothers to Rochester, N.Y. in 1965. Kelly served in the U.S. Navy as a hospital corpsman and drug abuse counselor, in the Air Force as a medical technician and an officer in the Nursing Corps. She taught nursing at several colleges, including PUC. Her post-military career was as an educator, mentor, and clinical nurse specialist. Kelly is survived by her sons Trevor, and Ethan Harris Drake; brothers Neil and Stuart; and numerous other relatives.

**Dorothy "Dottie" June Hofmann, '49**, died in Sunland, Calif., on March 19, 2010. She was 82. She was born on July 12, 1927 in Nevada, Iowa. Dottie began her career teaching 2nd grade, and after raising her own seven children she returned to teach 3rd grade at Glendale Adventist Elementary for 15 years. After retirement she volunteered as a teacher's aid for 16 years. Dottie is survived by her four daughters, Sherry Rincon, Judy, Kathleen Nordland, and Cynthia Dickinson; three sons, Wally, Larry, and Gary; and 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**Evelyn (Nethercott) Johnsen, att. '41-'42**, died on January 9, 2010, in Meadow Vista, Calif. She was born on February 18, 1922, in Oakland, Calif. Evelyn was a homemaker and craftswoman. She is survived by her sons, Chris and Leigh; a sister, Charlotte Parks; three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Keith B. Knoche, '70**, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor, teacher and evangelist, died on November 23, 2009, in Palm Springs, Calif. He was born in Loma Linda, Calif., on September 28, 1948. In addition to his ministerial and teaching service, Keith was a Pacific Press author and Chapel recording artist. He is survived by his father, Philip; and sister, Kitsy Rooker.

**Cheryl Eliason Maddox, '69**, passed away in Wheat Ridge, Colo., on April 14, 2010. Cheryl was born July 16, 1946, in San Francisco. A life-long resident of the Sonoma and Napa Valleys, Cheryl ran a bed and breakfast in Yountville and later worked as a real-estate agent in Napa. Cheryl is survived by her two children, Olivia and Eric; her mother, Margaret Egitkhanoff Anderson; a brother, Sonny Eliason; and a sister, Peggy Eliason.

**Richard A. Malott, '54**, died April 30, 2010, in Sacramento, Calif. He was born on April 10, 1933, in Los Angeles, Calif. Following a two-year stint in the Army, Richard started a law firm in Lafayette, Calif. He served on the PUC Board of Trustees for 39 years and, in retirement, focused on real estate development. Richard was one of the founders of Citizens Bank of Northern California. He is survived by his wife, Sharon; daughters Richelle Weeks and Sylvia Small; sons Russell and

Richard Malott, Jr.; and six grandchildren.

**Earl G. Meyer, '44**, died January 21, 2010, in Ceres, Calif. He was born November 15, 1916, in Beaumont, Calif. Earl served as a principal at Calexico Mission School, president of Inca Union College in Peru and Bolivia Adventist College, and a pastor and teacher at Antillean Union College in Puerto Rico. He is survived by a daughter, Marti Butcher; a brother, Warren Meyer; and one grandson.

**Edward Motsenbocker, '60**, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor, died on November 27, 2009, in Porterville, Calif. He was born on June 29, 1913, in Alden, Okla. He is survived by his daughter, Nadine LaVell; sons, Douglas and Norman; five grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

**Kai Harold Pihl, Jr., '42**, an orthopedic physician, died on September 12, 2009, in Lincoln, Calif. He was born on September 27, 1916, in Omaha, Neb. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Emma; daughters Aprille, and SueAnn Mikrut; a son, Thomas; and two grandchildren.

**María Silva Rosado, att. '66** and former PUC dean, died on January 29, 2010. María was born in Oliveirinha, Aveiro, Portugal on December 8, 1939. She worked as an assistant dean of women at PUC 1962-1966. She later worked in migrant education until her retirement in 2006. María is survived by her husband, Othoniel; two daughters, Debra Jean Rosado-Davisson and Melissa María Rosado; four grandchildren; and a sister, Arminde Agra de Castro.

**Gerald Lee Sage, '65**, passed away May 12, 2010, in Poulsbo, Wash. He was born May 27, 1941, in San Jose, Calif. Gerald

was a retired teacher who taught for over 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Helen E. (Dunston); his three daughters, Cheryl Ratcliff, Carol, and Jenny; a brother, Melvin; and four grandchildren.

**Jack A. Seeley, '57**, of Boise, Idaho, passed away April 15, 2010. Jack was born on July 5, 1934 in Sacramento, Calif. He studied medicine at Loma Linda University and worked at Adventist hospitals in Korea and Thailand. He later set up a medical practice in Boise. Jack is survived by his wife, Carolyn; two daughters, Caren Davis and Kim Williams; and two grandsons.

**James Lloyd Webster, att. '41**, passed away in Redlands, Calif., on April 30, 2010. He was born on January 18, 1923, in Chico, Calif. He attended medical school and, with his family, served as a medical missionary in Bangkok, Thailand. He later had a private practice and worked at the Loma Linda VA Medical Center in California. He is survived by his wife, Betty; sons, John and James; and one granddaughter.

## Remembering Friends

➤ In Memory is our opportunity to honor and remember fellow alumni. Currently, we receive obituaries from various sources and information may not always be complete. Family members with obituaries or information can contact the Alumni Office; and the names we receive are also read each year at Homecoming.

[alumni@puc.edu](mailto:alumni@puc.edu)  
[puc.edu/alumni/news-memories](http://puc.edu/alumni/news-memories)  
707-965-7500

# back in the day



In the '30's: The gas station, Medical Cadet Corps, and College Laundry ironing room.

## Memories from the '30s Our 70th anniversary

Robert Wearner, '40



The year 2010 marks the 70th anniversary of the graduation of my Class of 1940 at Pacific Union College. Vast changes have taken place in the world and at the college in the crater. Let me

take you to the decade of the 1930s when I was a high school and college student.

It was the period of the Great Depression in the United States. Life was not easy. We lived near the St. Helena Sanitarium just down the mountain, five miles from Angwin. My father served as chaplain and pastor. At \$35.00 a week, he struggled to support our family of five. I worked as bellhop at 22 cents an hour.

Since the church operated a ten-grade school, I did not start studying at Pacific Union College Preparatory school until 1934 in my eleventh grade. I lived at home and traveled back and forth by bus.

Lloyd E. Downs was our principal, followed by R. B. Lewis the following year. We academy

students occupied the same buildings as the college students. The classroom building, located behind the chapel, was in poor repair. Alice Babcock's English class met in a room that leaked every time it rained. In 1936 the old building was torn down and replaced by a two-story addition to Irwin Hall.

During summers I sold books and harvested prunes (in Pratt Valley near the Sanitarium) and pears (at Camino). I carefully saved my money and received the discount at the beginning of the school year. Believe it or not, in 1937 I paid my college tuition for the school year for only \$99.90. The following year, \$110. One year I was reader for the history department at the college. I think I received 35 cents an hour.

From 1936 to 1940 I fulfilled the requirements for my undergraduate degree with a double major in theology and history. For my research project, I wrote on "The Doctrine of Righteousness by Faith in the Life of Martin Luther." W. I. Smith was president during my college years. Pastors W. R. French and E. H.

Emmerson guided me through a study of the scriptures. A. W. Johnson and Mark Hamilton taught me history. Many other teachers had an influence on my life, such as Charles Weniger, L. L. Caviness, A. R. Monteith, Guy Wolfkill. I was required to take two science courses. I chose Genetics taught by Harold Clark, and Astronomy by Myron Newton. I have been interested in both sciences ever since.

Since war clouds began to gather, a Medical Cadet Corps was organized on campus. C. Roscoe Hyatt, a retired navy captain, taught us close order drill.

My success in life I owe in large part to these PUC teachers.

### What's your memory?

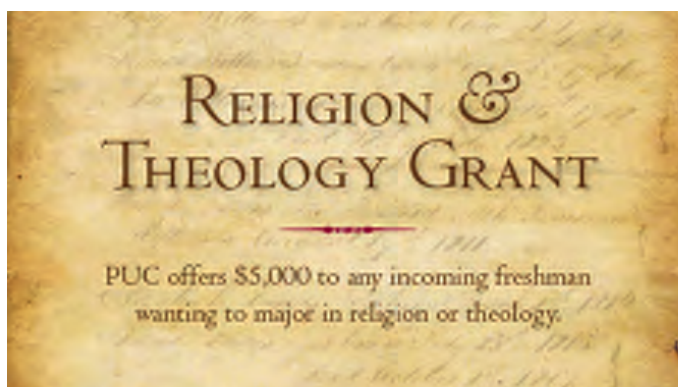
*viewpoint@puc.edu or online at [www.puc.edu/alumni/share-your-memories](http://www.puc.edu/alumni/share-your-memories) or by post to ViewPoint Editor, One Angwin Avenue, Angwin, CA 94508*



# looking forward

## ShareHim in Guatemala

With sponsor Charo Caballero-Chambers, a modern languages professor at PUC, a group of students is making this PUC's eighth summer trip with ShareHim. They're headed to Guatemala in July to preach a series of sermons in churches to which each student is assigned.



## Weddings & Family Reunions



The perfect setting for a special gathering, the Albion Field Station can be rented partially or entirely for weddings, family reunions, and other events.

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*The Albion Field Station  
is operated by Pacific Union College*

## Digital Photography

From July 11 to 23, photographers of all levels will gather at PUC's Albion Field Station on the Mendocino coast. The digital art photography course can be taken as a daily session, a one-week session

(your choice of which week), or a two-week session. For more information, check out [www.puc.edu/albion](http://www.puc.edu/albion).

## Tropical Biology Tour

You can sign up for the biology department's nine-day tropical biology tour of Costa Rica, December 27-January 4. The tour includes experiential learning, lectures, and visiting sites of interest. Learn more at [www.efcollegestudytours.com](http://www.efcollegestudytours.com) by selecting "Check out my professor's tour" and entering tour number 451499. For info, contact Floyd Hayes at [fhayes@puc.edu](mailto:fhayes@puc.edu).

## PUC at Camp Meeting

As usual, PUC will have booths at several western camp meetings such as Soquel and Redwood. Be sure to look us up! For more information, call 707-965-6303.

## Fall Birdwatching

Starting with afternoon birding on Thursday, September 23, and concluding with a morning session on Sunday, September 26, this annual birdwatching weekend features bird walks and lectures led by expert birders Larry Siemens, Stanley Snyder, and Matthew Matthiessen. Learn more at [www.puc.edu/albion](http://www.puc.edu/albion).

## PacificQuest

This residential summer experience gives gifted students from grades 7-9 a one-week chance to explore college-level courses. Thirty young students will join us from July 25 to 30 to study history, drawing, and chemistry.

## The Year Begins

The 2010/2011 academic year begins officially with the first day of instruction on September 20. But to gear up, freshmen move in on September 15, new student orientation takes place September 16, the freshman Fusion retreat runs September 17-19, and SA hosts a welcome back party on September 19!

## Publication Workshop

Open to Pacific Union Conference academy students and their sponsors, PUC's annual Publication Workshop offers a solid stretch of classes and workshops providing targeted, practical hands-on training in specific media for academy newspaper editors, yearbook editors, and video yearbook editors. The workshop begins on Tuesday, September 7, and ends on Thursday, September 9. For more information, go to [publicationworkshop.puc.edu](http://publicationworkshop.puc.edu).

*Learn more about upcoming events at [puc.edu/news/calendar](http://puc.edu/news/calendar). For info about specific events you can call the Office of Public Relations at 707-965-6303.*

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# my viewpoint

## Along for the Ride

Even the demons know that Jesus is the Messiah. It's accepting his authority in our lives and having a relationship with him that makes him our savior.

I was in Costa Rica on a mission trip, and the night before we left we went to a little restaurant where I had the *best* guacamole<sup>6</sup>—it was just wonderful... until about 3:30 the next morning. My stomach began to boil, and after several hours of being incredibly uncomfortable, I began to think that I was going to die. Later that morning in the long line at the airport, I kept thinking, "If only I can make it to the plane." When I finally made it on board, I was like, "Oh yes, I can do this — because now they've got to take me home!"

Shortly after I boarded the plane, I knew that I was in for a very uncomfortable ride home. As soon as they made the announcement that the door had been closed for takeoff, I realized that I couldn't stay in my seat. I made it to the bathroom in the nick of time, but on the way back I ran into trouble. A flight attendant yelled, "Sir! You have to sit down now!" I sat down but I started to pass out. I'm a pretty big guy, so when I lie down on the floor in the middle of the airplane as we're taxiing down the runway, flight attendants notice! Again the flight attendant yelled, "Sir, get in your seat right now!!" I tried, but I couldn't. Next thing I know the plane is screeching to a halt.

The next 24 hours were a blur. Experiencing a Red Cross Clinic, dead bodies, and an uncomfortable plane ride home rounded out the day. Little did I realize that my relationship with God was about to be severely tested.

Six weeks later, back in Costa Rica, I was body surfing with some kids on a mission trip when my feet got caught in the curl of a wave and pile-drove my head straight into the bottom of the ocean, breaking my neck. For the next three weeks I waited in limbo, not knowing if I was going to be able to walk again. I couldn't figure out why this had happened to me, and I have to admit I was pretty angry at God.

In the middle of all of that, God said to me, "Eddie, do you trust me?" I said, "Well, I think I do, but I don't understand what's happening to me." He said, "Eddie, do you trust me?" "Well, okay yeah, I do

trust you." "Alright, does it matter if you can walk again?" That's not really what I wanted to hear from God.

But I finally realized that it didn't matter, because I was along for the ride. I finally had to come to the realization that Jesus is more powerful than I am, and he's got a plan for my life. The moment that I surrendered to that, I was able to go, "Alright, it's going to be okay no matter what happens to me." It's about accepting Jesus in our lives, accepting his authority over us. It's about realizing we don't have it all together, that we are on a roller coaster ride and it's going to hurt us if we get off.

At Knott's Berry Farm there's this crazy ride that looks like an old ore car from a mine. We were in the first car and got stuck at the very top. We sat there for 25 minutes looking over the edge, waiting for the moment when we'd plunge to our deaths or they would fix the ride. We were committed to staying on the ride. We were committed to the process. We finally heard them say, "We think we got it fixed," and without warning we plunged down — in the most exhilarating, pants-wetting, scream your head off ride I've ever been on. I wouldn't have missed it for world!

That is how I look at my life. I'm on this roller coaster, and I have Jesus right there with his arms around me. I have come to realize that Jesus is Lord of my life and no matter what happens to me, I want to be on that roller coaster with him.

We're not here by chance. The things that happen in our lives are sometimes awfully hard to explain. There's a lot of ugliness out there that can't be explained. But someday Jesus is going to take us home, and when we hit the top of that ride, we're going to end up in his kingdom.



*I finally had to come to the realization that Jesus is more powerful than I am and he's got a plan for my life.*

by Eddie Heinrich, '91, youth director for the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This piece is taken from a talk he gave to PUC students at a vespers service in February (at which he was walking just fine). *Photo: Eddie as a PUC senior, 1991.*





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# news and conversation

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