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Volume 22, Number 1 Monday, January 12, 2009

- LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
- + LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
- + LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
- LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER-EAST **C**AMPUS
- + LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE CENTER
- LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH CARE
- FACULTY MEDICAL GROUP OF **LLUSM**
- FACULTY PHYSICIANS &



# Annual week of renewal features senior pastors from college, university campuses

By RICHARD WEISMEYER

Loma Linda University, Loma Linda University Medical Center, and the Loma Linda University Church have joined together to sponsor a week of renewal. The theme of the week of renewal is "A God Worth Knowing."

Leading off the week of renewal was Loma Linda University Church senior pastor Randy Roberts, DMin, with a message titled "The God Jesus Knew." He spoke on Saturday, January 10.

Senior pastors from different college and university churches across North America will be the guest speakers during the week. There will be both morning and evening meetings.

Speaking on Monday for both the morning and evening services will be Karl Haffner, senior pastor of the Kettering College of Medical Arts Church, Kettering, Ohio. Pastor Haffner will speak on "Siegfried and Roy and the Untameable Character of God" at the 11:00 a.m. service, and on "E.B.S. and the Forgiving Heart of Our Father" for the evening service at

Other speakers include Andy McDonald, senior pastor of the Florida Hospital College Church,

Orlando, who will speak on Tuesday, January 13. He will speak on "The God Who Won't Meet Us Halfway" at 11:00 a.m. and "The Intolerant God" at 7:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, January 14, Ron Halverson, senior pastor of the Union College Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, will speak on "My God Recycles" at 11:00 a.m. and on "Making Pigpen of Paradise" at 7:00 p.m.

Speaking on Thursday, January 15, will be Hyveth Williams, DMin, senior pastor of the Loma Linda University Campus Hill Church. She will speak on "Upright, Not Uptight!" at 11:00 a.m. and "I Am the Greatest" at the 7:00 p.m. service.

On Friday, January 16, the guest speaker will be Mic Thurber, senior pastor of the Southwestern Adventist University Church, Keene, Texas. He will speak on "The Fourth Temptation Is the Worst..." at 11:00 a.m. and on "So, What About James?"

Speaking at the conclusion of the annual week of renewal will be Tim Mitchell, senior pastor of the Pacific Union College Church, Angwin, Has Years, Let Him Hear." On each day of the week beginning on Monday, January 12, a 20-minute service of praise and prayer will be held in rooms 1830 and 1832 of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

The praise service will begin each

weekday promptly at 8:30 a.m. and

conclude at 8:50 a.m.

California. Pastor Mitchell will speak

at both the 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

service. He will speak on "He Who

Several special events are scheduled during the week of renewal. On Monday, January 12, a prayer walk will be held at the Behavioral Medicine Center education room beginning at 1:00 p.m. A special dedication service for Loma Linda University Heart and Surgical Hospital will be held in the lobby of the facility on Tuesday, January 13, at 1:30 p.m.

Rounding out the annual week of renewal will be a prayer walk at the Loma Linda University East Campus. The walk will begin at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 14, at the East Campus Amphitheater.

All employees and community residents are invited to attend the annual



The University Church of Seventh-day Adventists will be the venue for the annual week of renewal. The theme of the week is "A God Worth Knowing."

#### J professor Science Discovers God authored by

At present the scientific community usually ignores God and tries to explain everything in materialistic terms. The new book Science Discovers God: Seven Convincing Lines of Evidence for His Existence, challenges that secular stance. The recent advances of science, especially in nuclear physics and molecular biology, make it very difficult to think that all the precision and complexity discovered just happened all by itself. A very perceptive God seems necessary to explain what is being discovered.

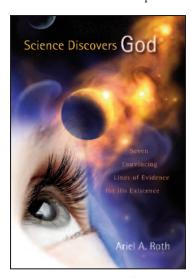
Authored by Ariel A. Roth, PhD, adjunct professor of earth and biological sciences in the School of Science and Technology, this new book presents seven key arguments from science that indicate the necessity for God. These lines of reasoning are illustrated with many examples presented in an easily understood style. The last third of the book discusses the deep question of why, in the context of such compelling evidence for God from science, the scientific community rejects Him from its explanatory menu. Exclusiveness and sociology play significant roles.

"At present, scientists frequently state that religion and science should not be mixed, because they are separate realms of experience and inquiry," Dr. Roth says.

His book challenges that popular view. Too much recent scientific data is essentially impossible to explain

"Belief in God is not just a matter of blind faith; there is solid evidence from nature indicating that there is a God," according to Dr. Roth.

"Furthermore, the pioneers of modern science such as Kepler, Boyle, Newton, Pascal, and Linnaeus all believed in a God that was active in nature, and they incorporated God in their conclusions about nature. They saw no conflict between their scientific observations and God, because He had established the laws of nature that made scientific studies possible.



Science Discovers God is a new book written by Loma Linda University professor Ariel A. Roth, PhD.

These pioneers demonstrated how good science and God can work very well together."

The book covers in detail the leading scientific evidence for God. In nature there is such complexity and precision that it seems virtually impossible that it all could have come about by itself.

"A very discerning architect seems absolutely essential," Dr. Roth says.

Seven examples include: (1) Matter exists. This matter could be just simple disorganized goo, but instead it is organized into very intricate atoms that provide over 100 different kinds of elements. These are so versatile that they form anything from water molecules to galaxies. They provide for all kinds of vital chemical changes and light to see. These atoms have very necessary and exact interrelated features.

Please turn to page 2

### Nine-year-old philanthropist brings joy to kids at LLUCH

Kameron Studley, a fourth grader, has spent weekends and holidays visiting his grandparents for as long as he can remember. They always plan fun things for him to do-and they have the coolest toys to play with and shelves full of books to read. During his visits he also enjoys playing video games.

This visit was special— Christmas week, 2008. There were piles of Christmas presents just waiting to be opened.

On Monday, December 22, Kameron's grandmother asked to kids at Loma Linda University

BY NANCY YUEN him if he'd like to take some toys Children's Hospital. There were couldn't read yet, up to books he picture books for children who



Nine-year-old Kameron Studley made Christmas special for children at LLUCH this Christmas season. He gave many of his unopened presents to patients at Children's Hospital.

still liked to read; he could choose some of them to share. Right away Kameron said, "Let's do it!"

"When I realized," he remembers, "that there were kids who would have to be in the hospital on Christmas, I felt sad." Kameron thought about the fun he was going to have with his family on Christmas, and he knew what he wanted to do. In addition to books and toys he played with at his grandparents' house, he wanted to give his unopened Christmas presents to kids at Children's Hospital.

Please turn to page 2

### New book authored by long-time Loma Linda University professor...

Continued from page 1

(2) How did the four forces of physics such as gravity and the nuclear strong force come to have the exact realm of operation and extremely varied and precise values necessary in order for matter to exist?

(3) The tiniest kind of independent life known is unbelievably complex, with many hundreds of parts and chemical changes going on as life is sustained. How could all the many specific parts come together at the same time and place all by themselves, so as to start the first life on earth?

(4) In advanced organisms, very complex structures such as the brain or the autofocus and autoexposure mechanism of the eye have interdependent parts that cannot function until all necessary parts are present. Random changes would not suddenly produce these complex systems, and evolution's survival of the fittest system would tend to eliminate the gradually evolving useless parts of incomplete systems with interdependent parts.

(5) Studies about the probability of a specific protein molecule forming by itself or of slowly reproducing advanced organisms evolving by

themselves indicate that the billions of years usually postulated for their evolution are way, way too short.

(6) The fossils in the earth do not show gradual evolutionary advancement over billions of years. Most major animal types appear in less than two percent of proposed geologic time. Their sudden appearance looks like creation by God. A few fossils that are considered evolutionary intermediates are reported, but they are closely related to other kinds. The solid continuity expected by intermediates trying to evolve over billions of years is missing from the fossil record.

(7) As science has studied matter, it has not found an explanation for the higher characteristics of the human mind, such as free will, consciousness, morality, and the meaning of our existence. These characteristics that are not found in matter reflect a transcendent God as the originator of our mysterious minds.

"There is a lot of scientific data that points to God, but at present He is not allowed in science," Dr. Roth states

"About a century and a half ago, scientists began to gradually remove God from scientific explanations. Why was this done? Many reasons can be suggested. Probably most important is the great success of science, which has fostered elitism where science is considered superior to everything else.

"Religion is deemed to be less objective and inferior. Also important is the personal freedom provided by a meaningless universe where there is no God. Likewise, the present scientific attitude is that in order to be a scientist, you have to free yourself of the fetters of religion.

"Of late, the leaders of science have been most forceful in requiring that science exclude God. Four out of 10 scientists in the United States believe in a God that answers their prayers, but to refer to Him in scientific articles and textbooks is not allowed. Science now rejects God mainly because of psychological and sociological factors, not because of the scientific data.

"If science is searching for truth, it should follow the data of nature wherever it may lead, and a lot of scientific data demands an extremely incisive designer who is God."

Dr. Roth was born in Geneva, Switzerland, and grew up in Europe, the Caribbean, and North America.

He holds a bachelor of arts degree

in biology from Pacific Union College, Angwin, California, a master's degree in biology and a doctor of philosophy degree in zoology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In addition, Dr. Roth has taken additional training in geology, mathematics, and radiation biology at various campuses of the University of California.

He has held a number of college and university appointments and is a member of several learned societies. He has been chair of the biology departments at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, and at Loma Linda University, and for 14 years he was director of the Geoscience Research Institute based in Loma Linda. For 23 years he was the editor of the journal *Origins*.

Dr. Roth has pursued research in invertebrate zoology and on fossil and living coral reefs in both the Pacific and Caribbean Oceans. There he has investigated the effects of light and pigment on the rate of coral reef growth. His research in various aspects of biology has been financed by several United States government agencies including the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes

of Health, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He is currently investigating the authenticity of fossil termite nests in the Jurassic Morrison Formation.

Dr. Roth has been active in the evolution-creation controversy in the United States. He has been a consultant, keynote speaker, or witness to the states of California, Oregon, and Arkansas. He has conducted numerous paleontological and geological field trips in Australia, New Zealand, Europe, and North America in areas significant to the creation-evolution controversy.

He has published more than 180 articles in both scientific and popular journals and has given many hundreds of lectures throughout the world. His book *Origins: Linking Science and Scripture*, which presents scientific evidence that authenticates the Bible, has been published in 16 languages.

Science Discovers God: Seven Convincing Lines of Evidence for His Existence is available at the Adventist Book Center in Loma Linda, at Autumn House Publishing, <www.autumnhousepublishing.com>, or at <www.amazon.com>.

### Nine-year-old philanthropist...

Continued from page 1

Not just one or two presents, but many of them. "Right away, I felt good—happy," he says. "I knew they'd have a great Christmas."

His grandfather, Albin Grohar, PhD, executive director, Loma Linda University philanthropy, couldn't be more proud.

"It was Kameron's idea," he says, "to share his Christmas gifts with children who would be in the hospital on Christmas. We packed boxes of toys, video games, books, and Kameron's unopened Christmas presents—including cars and Thomas Trains. We wheeled the

gifts into the Children's Hospital lobby on a luggage valet and Julian (not his real name), a 6-year-old patient, and Dinah Evans, MS, child life specialist and manager, child life program, met us to accept the gifts on behalf of the children on unit 4800 (pediatric oncology)."

Christmas has now passed and Kameron is glad the kids on unit 4800 are enjoying his gifts. And the experience made him feel so good that he wants to continue giving. "I'd like to take more gifts to the kids in Children's Hospital next Christmas," he says with a warm grin.



### San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra highlights Christmas season at LLUCH

Dorothy Clark Brooks, MA, child life specialist and bereavement and community education specialist at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, welcomes the audience to a special Christmas concert featuring members of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra on Wednesday, December 10, 2008. The symphony has been providing the patients of LLUCH with outstanding holiday musical entertainment for many years.



### Patients, visitors help decorate lobby of Children's Hospital

Patients and visitors jumped in with both hands to help the Big Hearts for Little Hearts Guild decorate the lobby of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital for Christmas. In this photo, one of Santa's elves pensively considers whether she should put the red licorice ornament on the door of her colorful cottage, or whether it might be good enough to eat. The year 2008 marked the 13th year the guild has sponsored and organized the Gingerbread Village at LLUCH. Individuals interested in joining the guild in its outreach to hospitalized children are invited to contact Eloise Habekost, president of the organization, by e-mail at <e\_habekost@msn.com>.

## LLU Heart and Surgical Hospital opens its doors for patients

By James Ponder

Thanks to a pair of day-long preparatory runs in which employees and volunteers impersonated patients requiring treatment, the administration and staff of the brand new Loma Linda University Heart and Surgical Hospital (LLUHSH) were ready to swing into action the moment the first patients strode through the doors on Wednesday, January 7, 2009.

After a tense waiting period that Beth Elwell, MBA, executive director of corporate compliance for LLU Health Services, and activation director for LLUHSH, characterized as "waiting on pins and needles," the State of California granted its approval for the new hospital to open for business just in time to enliven the grand opening/ribbon-cutting ceremonies, which were held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

Two hours later, Jesse Mock, MA, LLUHSH administrator, broke the news to the rest of the campus in an electronic memo.

"I am thankful," Mr. Mock shared, "and very happy to report that we are officially licensed by the State of California to provide inpatient and outpatient care!"

While cameras from Los Angelesarea television stations rolled, LLU health care officials extolled the new levels of patient-centered care it will provide. Reporters abbreviated the new hospital's acronym—LLUHSH—to lush, noting that it offers medical service at a premium level and looks more like a hotel than a hospital.

"This is lush for our surgeons," Subhas Gupta, MD, chief of surgery for LLUHSH, agreed, "because we've got such a great operating room setting. It's lush for our patients, too. Patients tend to heal better when they're happier."

Indeed they do. As Mr. Mock pointed out, LLUHSH not only offers private rooms—many of which open out onto their own patio—but also room service via telephone or interactive TV, in-room Wi-Fi Internet service, and chairs that fold down into an overnight bed for a family member or guest.

Ruthita Fike, MA, CEO and administrator of Loma Linda University Medical Center, reflected on the attention that planners, architects, and designers of the new facility lavished on small details. In speaking of the little things that make a big difference to patients, she noted, "What they see, what they hear, what they smell . . . all of those things we have tried to be thoughtful about."

That same spirit of thoughtful attention to detail motivated the two preparatory runs on December 2 and 11, 2008. Mr. Mock noted that a day in the life, as the sessions were called, gave administrators and staff a chance to "practice actual operations before opening live." He called the trial runs "a very informative and educational process," and noted that they "gave us an opportunity to test all processes and systems before actual patients arrived. We were very appreciative for the significant physician involvement in our day in the life sessions!"

How did things go? "We learned all the things that went well, and learned a few items that didn't, which we were able to tweak, change, and/or modify before we actually begin providing patient care," Mr. Mock notes. "Overall, this was a very successful process."

During the two installments of a day in the life, volunteers and employees pretended to be patients suffering from a variety of medical conditions that needed treatment.

Mr. Mock said he anticipates the new hospital will help expand business and alleviate traffic and congestion on the campus of Loma Linda University Medical Center by attracting as many as 10,000 new patients per year to the LLUHSH for treatment of a variety of conditions ranging from minor outpatient cases to major heart, vascular, gynecology, ENT, and urology procedures. Mr. Mock notes that "many procedures will utilize minimally invasive techniques and equipment, including the Da Vinci 'S' robot. The Da Vinci 'S' is the most advanced piece of equipment of its kind within the Inland Empire. The new robot is a major equipment

acquisition that was purchased by LLUMC to be used in the new facility once it opened."

The 28-bed, 66,000-square-foot hospital—which is located on Barton Road near the intersection with New Jersey Street—had been a source of conflict in the community when plans to build it were approved by the city in 2005.

Several local and regional health care organizations voiced strident opposition to plans to build the new hospital. The opposition was based on a concern that the hospital would only serve the most profitable cases and not provide overall services to the community at large. However, the initial investors encountered problems due to construction costs and an inability to secure needed capital funding to complete the hospital.

"Once Loma Linda acquired the new facility, the concerns voiced by regional providers were no longer relevant," Mr. Mock states. "The new campus will become part of Loma Linda's overall hospital system and will be part of the full continuum of care LLUMC provides to the overall community."



Caution: patients in photo may not be as medically indisposed as they appear! If the staff and "patient" in this picture appear to be having more fun than they normally would during, say, a cardiology procedure, it just might be because this time around, they were all play acting. Why? To give administrators and staff a chance to role-play patient care situations with employees and volunteers substituting for patients before the brand new Loma Linda University Heart and Surgical Hospital opens it doors to serve the public.



The Honorable Richard D. "Dick" Riddell, mayor of Yucaipa, presents a certificate of commendation to Jesse Mock, MA, administrator of Loma Linda University Heart and Surgical Hospital, at the hospital's grand opening ceremony on Tuesday, January 6, 2009. (Photo courtesy of Dick Schaefer)



John and Martha Barrett enjoy a moment of levity before Martha's surgery on Wednesday, January 7, 2009. Ms. Barrett was the second patient to arrive at Loma Linda University Heart and Surgical Hospital on its very first day open for business. "When we first walked in," Mr. Barrett recalls, "I asked myself if this was a hospital, or the Hilton!"



The patient may be a volunteer actor, but to anesthesiologist Richard Applegate, MD, and his staff, taking care of patients is serious business. The scene is a patient care area inside the recently completed Loma Linda University Heart and Surgical Hospital during one of two trial runs held recently to help the staff prepare for an influx of real patients once the facility opens its doors.

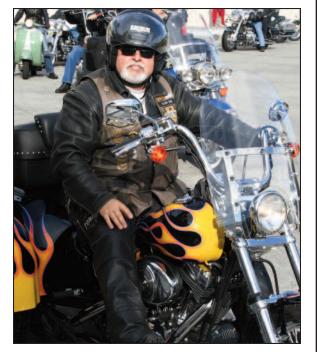












## Bikers roar into Loma Linda on a mission of goodwill

By James Ponder

You should have seen what happened when a bunch of leather-clad bikers roared into the parking lot of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital on Sunday, December 21, 2008, and

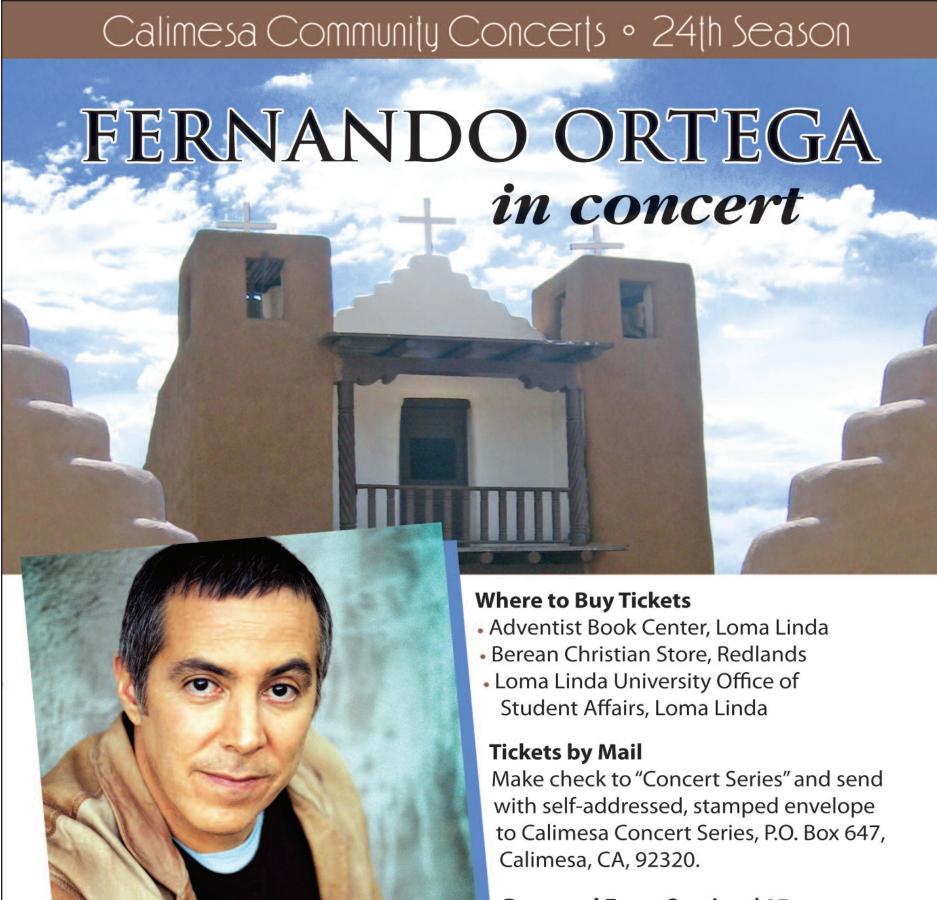
streamed through the front lobby in

According to Glenn Quaid, owner of Quaid Harley-Davidson/Buell in Loma Linda, and one of many generous contributors to the event, more than 400 bikers

rolled into Loma Linda on a mission of Yuletide cheer intended to gladden the hearts of hospitalized children. And they didn't come alone; they brought a truckload of toys.

For the 16th year in a row, members

of the Motorcycle Rider's Association rode Harleys, Hondas, Triumphs, Indians, Vespas, and—in the case of one little girl in a bright pink helmet—a motorized toy motorcycle with a teddy bear fastened to the forks.



Reserved Front Seating \$15 Open Seating \$10

Contemporary Christian singer-songwriter Fernando Ortega is noted for his compelling interpretations of traditional hymns and gospel songs such as "Give Me Jesus," "Be Thou My Vision," and many more.

Saturday, February 7, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

(Doors open at 6:45)

Loma Linda University Church 11125 Campus Street, Loma Linda

Tickets and information: (909) 795-4960

# Peru tour offered to LLU faculty, students, employees

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

For nearly 20 years, Loma Linda University faculty, students, and benefit-eligible employees have participated in an annual Andes and Amazon spring vacation study tour to Peru.

Offered through Loma Linda University School of Religion and led by adjunct professor of ethical studies Charles Teel Jr., PhD, this tour is scheduled for March 20 to 28, 2009—during Loma Linda University's spring vacation.

The tour follows in the footsteps of early 20th-century Adventist medical and educational missionaries Fernando and Ana Stahl.

The Stahls are lauded by investigators on three continents for their progressive work in personal and social transformation in the areas of health care, open markets, and human rights—and for founding the first coeducational and first indigenous school system in the Peruvian highlands that came to number as many as 200 schools.

"Tour participants have been in age from 13 months to 90 years of age," notes Dr. Teel. "Indeed, many Loma Linda families have boasted three-generational tour participants on various south-of-the-border tour experiences."

Tour participants will have the opportunity to sail on Lake Titicaca, visit the "floating islands" of Lake Titicaca, cruise the Amazon River, trek the Inca trail, visit the lost Inca city of Machu Picchu, worship with a rural Andean congregation, tour Clinica Ana Stahl on the banks of the Amazon River, tour Colegio Fernando Stahl on the shores of Lake Titicaca, and visit a primi-

## New lecture series initiated by University

By Dustin Jones, MA

Janice Johnson Browne, PhD, clinical therapist, professor, speaker, and musician, will be the keynote speaker for Loma Linda University's new lecture series, "The Art that Heals."

Presented by the humanities department of the School of Religion, the lecture will take place on Wednesday, February 18, 2009, at 12:00 noon in the Randall Visitors Center on the campus of Loma Linda University.

Dr. Johnson Browne's presentation, "SONshine for the Mind, Soul, and Spirit," is a soul-stirring, motivational telling of healing stories. The lecture is free to the public and light refreshments will be provided.

The lecture is being sponsored by the humanities department of the School of Religion and the office of diversity.

For further information contact: Ramona L. Hyman, PhD, associate professor of humanities, at <rhyman@llu.edu> or phone (909) 651-5097.

tive clinic on the Amazon River.

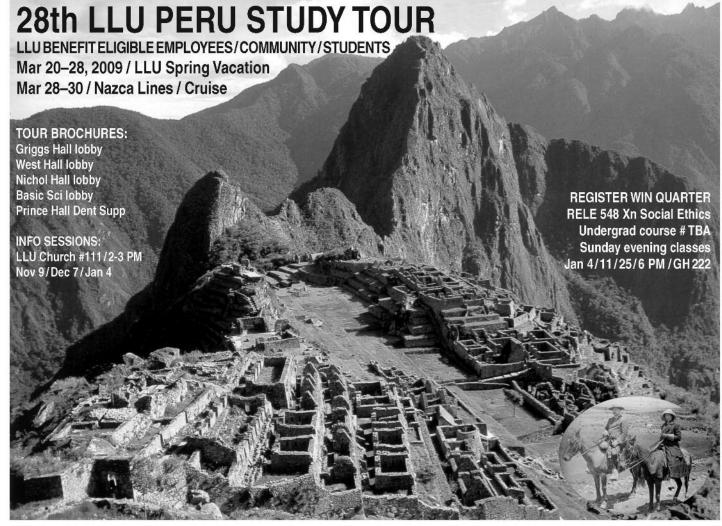
In addition to the regular tour, a three-day extension may be added on that will take participants to south Peru's Ballestas Islands and the Nazca Lines.

Full tour information is found in tour brochures available in the lobbies of Griggs Hall, West Hall, Nichol Hall, and the School of Dentistry dental supply office.

While the tour rate is \$3,190 for the nine-day tour (\$990 added for the tour extension), Loma Linda benefit-eligible

employees may be eligible for a reduced tuition rate.

Additional information may be obtained by e-mailing Dr. Teel at <cmteel@aol.com>.



TOUR FOLLOWS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF FERNANDO AND ANA STAHL, 1911 INITIATORS OF SUSTAINED DEVELOPMENT IN HEALTH EDUCATION, INDIGENOUS EDUCATION, AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PERUVIAN ANDES AND AMAZON

•Cruise the Amazon •Sail Lake Titicaca •Experience Machu Picchu •Trek (or view!) the Inca Trail •Hike (or view!) Huayna Picchu

## **ANDES & AMAZON STUDY TOUR**

• Visit: ADRA operatives • Clinica Ana Stahl on the Amazon • Lake Titicaca "Floating Islands" school • Colegio Fernando Stahl

#### TOUR FARES\*: Community, LLU benefit eligible employees, students—

- Unsubsidized Community: \$3190
- Subsidized LLU students (all LLU students): \$2990\*
- Subsidized LLU Benefit Eligible Employees: \$1326 (undergraduates)
- Subsidized LLU Benefit Eligible Employees: \$1134 (graduate students)
- SN students (SN dean offers \$500 tuition subsidy for the first ten SN students to post \$600 tour deposit\*\*)
   \*tour fare does not include LLU tuition

\*\*other LLU students may wish to check with their respective dean to ascertain if a tuition subsidy might be offered

#### TOUR EXTENSION: March 27-30 extension—

- Paracas Reserve and Las Dunas Resort
- · Ballestas Islands cruise with tens of thousands of bird life plus thousands of seals, sea lions, and penguins
- Overflight to view the mysterious Nazca Lines
- End-of-tour dinner at La Rosa Nautica restaurant over the Pacific surf

### TOUR PROCEDURES: Steps to take to reserve space on this tour—

- LLU Benefit-eligible employees consult LLU Human Resources Benefits to verify eligibility with Kelly Murray or Sherrie Mansfield / 909.558.4330
- All study carefully the LLU Tour Brochure available in Griggs Hall, Nichol Hall, West Hall lobbies and Prince Hall at Dental Supply
- All students consult with LLU Financial Aid Office representative to inquire whether financial aid might be increased for this field course
- All students review 2008-09 academic year programs and verify that course offerings qualify as a religion elective
- All verify that your schedule fits three Winter quarter class sessions: Sundays / GH 222 / 6:00–9:00 PM / January 4, 11, 25, 2009

All attend one Sunday info session in LLU Church Room #111 at 2 PM: Nov 9, Dec 7, Jan 4 (space is often filled by mid-November)

For further information contact: LLU Adjunct Professor of Ethical Studies Dr. Charles Teel, cmteel@aol.com/subject "LLU Peru Tour."

Tour offers 4 units credit / 10-day study tour with air / land / hotels / gratuities / private baths / most meals.

### Looking for a great day trip? Try a day at Calico Ghost Town

By James Ponder

"All work and no play," an anonymous sage opined, "makes Jack a dull boy."

It can have that same effect on you and me. Now that the holidays are over, and you're firmly ensconced in way too much to do, how about we get away to someplace fun this weekend?

I know, you can't afford a trip to Tahiti right now, but I'll bet dollars to donuts that if we pool our resources, we could come up with the cash for a nearby excursion that will lift our spirits and deepen our connections to Southern California history, as well as all things archaeological, geological, and paleontological in one fell swoop. And if St. Moses the Black shows up, things might get theological as well. Who's he? I'll tell once we get there.

I'll bring the car around Sunday morning at 7:00 a.m. You drive this time; I'll navigate the way to Calico Ghost Town. For some reason, I find myself clamoring for Calico every so often. It's not only a great place to explore, but it's also the only place I know where you can catch the classic, slightly-left-of-Mozart musical stylings of Henry Fencepost and the Bilhillies.

We'll head up Interstate 15 through some of the most geologically interesting terrain this side of southern Utah. See those white boulders off to the left at Devore? They're called the Mormon Rocks after pioneering members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who circled their wagons at the base of these sandstone giants after crossing the Mojave Desert back in the 1850s. I know, you weren't born then, but did you know the Mormons were some of the first Anglos to colonize the Inland Empire? You do now.

Notice how those two mountain ranges come together at Cajon Pass? Experts say the 4,190-foot pass was formed when the San Bernardinos ran into their montane comrades, the San Gabriels, as a result of frisky seismic upheaval back in prehistoric times thanks to good old San Andreas. Don't fault the dear old saint; he's too much of a mover and a shaker to sit still for any length of time.

We zip through the locales of Hesperia, Victorville, and the Lucerne Valley, and before we know it, it's time for a pit stop at Barstow Station. Barstow Station's one of my regular haunts whenever I'm in the vicinity. It's kitschy to the point of tawdry, but there's no better place to shop for T-shirts, trinkets, and Jackalope postcards. So what that every tour bus between L.A. and Las Vegas stops here—the fast food is, well, fast, and the bathrooms are clean. As the sailors say, any port in a storm.

The drive up I-15 from Barstow to Yermo only takes a handful of minutes and look, there's the Calico off-ramp right up ahead. Get off the freeway here and follow the signs. It's only three more miles to the 1880s.

I'll pay the price of admission if you'll spring for a sasparilla with lunch. What's sasparilla? Just the best-tasting root beer this side of New York City! Its real name is sarsaparilla, but that was too long a word for the grizzled old miners of Calico to pronounce. I drink one every chance I get.

Calico sprang up at the dusty base of King Mountain during the largest silver strike in California, in March of 1881. Before long, everybody in town was drunk with silver fever as pick-wielding opportunists scoured the hills looking for the precious metal. All told, they carved out more than 500 mines.

The mines produced more than \$86 million in silver and another \$45 million in borax and gold. Legend suggests the town derives its name from the colorful, mineral-rich hills, which, in the salty lingo of the early miners, were said to be "as purty as a gal's calico skirt."

The boomtown's good fortune came to an end once the silver mines pretty much went bust in the late 1890s, and it ultimately collapsed in 1907 after the borax gave out.

Notice how this place resembles Knott's Berry Farm? Walter Knott, who actually worked here as a miner in his youth, up and bought the town of Calico in 1951 and moved some of the original buildings to his family's strawberry farm in Orange County. Then he shored-up some of the ramshackle buildings of this place and turned it into the bodacious tourist destination it is today.

Don't know about you, but I'm getting hungry. Maybe it's all this walking in the high-altitude air. What do you say we head up the street to the Old Miner's Café and grab some grub? We can eat on the porch overlooking the town and catch good ol' Henry Fencepost and his right snazzy ragtime routine. Nothin' like a little musical razzmatazz to make the sasparilla slide down!

After lunch, we'll go underground at the Maggie Mine, watch the water flow uphill at the Mystery Shack, ride the Calico Odessa Railroad through the convoluted hills, check out the Bottle House, pan for gold, watch the Lakota dancers, try our hand at making adobe, and visit all the popcorn palaces, gem and mineral emporiums, and corny souvenir shops we

an handle.

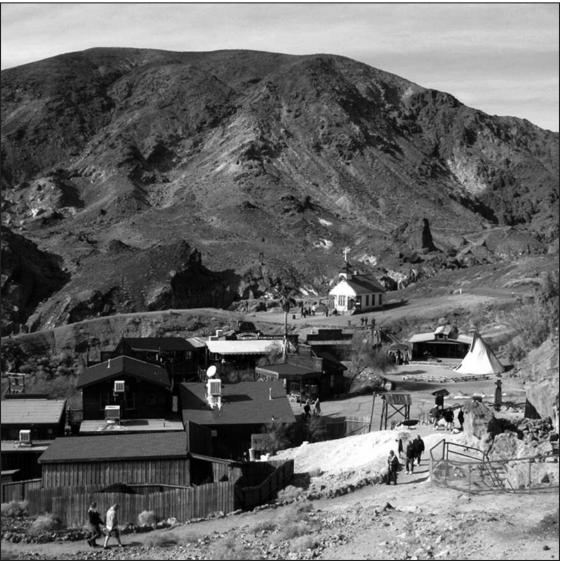
After that, we can explore the nearby fossil diggings of the Barstow Formation, or tour the Calico Early Man site to see what our prehistoric ancestors were up to back at the dawn of time. Maybe we'll even pay a call on St. Moses the Black.

St. Moses is one of two patron saints of St. Antony Coptic Orthodox Monastery in Yermo. What, you weren't expecting to find an Egyptian monastery way out here? Neither was I, but it's something to see! According to the very friendly monks of St. Antony's, the spirit of St. Moses

appeared to one of the brothers of the monastery and directed him to build a sanctuary.

The building is currently under construction, but from the looks of things, it's going to be a gorgeous monument to orthodox Christianity out in the middle of nowhere. If it seems a little, well, unorthodox to be out here, just remember this is California; anything can happen!

Despite the fact that St. Moses died somewhere in the Arabian Desert in the 5th century A.D., the spirit of his work apparently lives on in the Mojave Desert today.



This is the north end of Calico Ghost Town seen from the hills above the Maggie Mine. In its heyday, Calico was a riproarin' silver boomtown flowing with money and heady optimism. Today, it's a wonderful place to have a good time. The colorful tourist destination is about an hour and a half from Loma Linda.



Buzzard and Amos, two good of boys from the 1880s, take their coffee inside one of Calico Ghost Town's many boutiques. They're discussing President Grover Cleveland's victory in the 1884 elections and the grand opening of Calico's snazzy new Town Hall. Can the Civic Light Opera be far behind?

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### Standing-room only crowd celebrates 80th anniversary of University Church

By James Ponder Sometimes conditions really do go full circle.

Take overcrowding for instance. On Saturday, December 27, 2008, more than 3,000 worshipers crowded the sanctuary, balcony, and overflow chapel of the Loma Linda University Church to celebrate the congregation's 80th anniversary; this in spite of the fact that the sanctuary is designed to accommodate only two-thirds that many people.

History points out that overcrowding was precisely the problem that led to the formation of the University Church in the first place.

According to an article on the congregation's website, the University Church was founded on December 29, 1928, to alleviate overcrowding at the parent congregation-currently known as the Campus Hill Church of Seventhday Adventists—after attendance at weekly services there exceeded 1,000 and many would-be worshipers were forced to leave after being unable to find parking or seating. So a group of 284 moved into the chapel of the original Loma Linda Sanitarium and incorporated themselves as the College Church of Seventh-day Adventists. The College Church moved to Burden Hall in the late 1930s, and then to the current church in 1960. The name was changed to Loma Linda University Church in 1961.

Church officials didn't seem to mind the congestion at the 80th anniversary celebrations on December 27, 2008, however. Instead, they welcomed the overflow assembly with open arms and a whole lot of reminiscing.

"It was an exciting celebration," observes Darold Retzer, executive pastor, "as we recounted the way the Lord has led us in the past and the ministries we have been able to begin for the community."

Some of that recounting took place during the church at study period when Dan Matthews, associate pastor for media ministries and pastoral care, interviewed five individuals who have witnessed pivotal events in the history of University Church. The included Harvey Elder, MD; Penny Miller, PhD; Marguerite Smith; Stan Crispin; and Ellsworth Wareham, MD. The octogenarian Ms. Smith shared her memories of that very first service on December 29,

Ms. Smith's remembrances weren't the only ones expressed. During the 11:15 a.m. church at worship service, congregants watched a video hosted by William Loveless, EdD, former senior pastor, in which numerous individuals—including several former pastors and administrators—told their stories from the past eight decades.

"The video of our history, with interviews of longtime members, was the high point for me," Pastor Retzer notes. "But we not only looked back, Pastor Randy Roberts, DMin, challenged us to look forward and to be the people God would have us be."

Pastor Roberts, who became the senior pastor of the congregation in September 2000, began the morning homily—titled "A Shifting Church Built on Solid Rock"—by pointing out that the congregation has defied the odds. Citing church growth scholars who report that the average life span for a church is a mere 40 years, Pastor Roberts stated, "It is nothing short of a miracle that this church, 80 years old, continues to be vibrant."

The numbers suggest Pastor Roberts' observations are correct. The church website lists 6,500 members, which makes it the largest Seventh-day Adventist congregation in North America.

Ironically, Pastor Roberts asserted that the only way a megachurch can survive is by thinking small. He asked worshipers to take notes as he forecasted six significant shifts the church will experience in coming years.

The first is a shift from church membership to discipleship. The second shift is from being a member on the books of a large church to being a participant, with other disciples, in a small group. Third, he predicted a shift from professionalism to a biblically based model of ministry, which distinguishes between members of the clergy, whom the New Testament terms "pastors," and believers in Jesus who are called to represent the Gospel as "ministers."

The fourth shift will be from church as event to church as lifestyle. Pastor Roberts said the fifth shift, a transition of leadership from older to younger generations, will undoubtedly be the most controversial. He cited exam-



Dan Matthews, associate pastor for media ministries and pastoral care at the Loma Linda University Church, makes a point at the 80th anniversary of the Loma Linda University Church on Saturday, December 27, 2008. To underscore God's leading during the past eight decades, Pastor Matthews interviewed five longtime friends of the congregation. Marguerite Smith certainly fits that description—she was 8 years old at the time of the inaugural service of the new congregation on December 29, 1928. (Photo courtesy of Larry Becker, La Sierra University)

ples of church members who were elected to leadership roles at young ages but said the trend must be accelerated in the future due to changing demographics.

Since new members constantly accede to membership in the University Church as new students arrive to study at Loma Linda University every year, Pastor Roberts declared that the final shift will be from growth through transfer and biological growth to maximizing obedience to the Great Commission by consistently inviting new believers into a faith journey with Jesus.

Nevertheless, two celebratory events before Pastor Roberts arose to deliver the sermon suggest that biological growth still plays an important role in the life of the church: the first was the dedication of Baby Matthew Edward Hidalgo to the Lord; the second was the baptism of ninth-grader Summer Lynn Eller.

The congregation's response to Matthew's dedication service and Ms. Eller's baptism left the distinct impression that even though both young people are the children of

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FACULTY PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS OF LLUSM church members, the organization has no plans to protest membership growth by biological accretion whatsoever.

It may lead to overcrowding, but welcoming new members into the fold and making room for a growing population are just the sorts of conditions this church has shown itself historically eager to resolve.



Senior pastor Randy Roberts, DMin, discusses six significant shifts facing the Loma Linda University Church in coming decades during his thoughtful and challenging homily, "A Shifting Church Built on Solid Rock." Dr. Roberts offered his reflections during the 80th anniversary ceremonies at the church on Saturday, December 27, 2008. (Photo courtesy Larry Becker, La Sierra University)

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