

UNITED IN JESUS – PROCLAIMING HIS GRACE

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His Benefits.” Psalm 103:2

As we look back over the past four years, we can see that enormous changes have taken place in our world: political changes in many countries of the world; economic challenges, natural disasters, violence of all kinds, and wars. It causes many to ask, “Where are we in the timeline for the end of time and the coming of Jesus?”

The church continues to do its ministry and mission through the members and workers of the Southern California Conference. You are God’s hands touching and helping in the lives of many who are in need and introducing them to Jesus through your love.

This report will give you an overview of the progress in mission and finances over the years 2007 – 2010. We can see the blessing of God in many ways and as we are reminded in scripture, let’s not “forget all His benefits”.

Elder Sung Oh, conference Treasurer will give a close look at the details of conference finances in his report. Elder Velino Salazar, Executive Secretary, will report on the statistics of growth and membership. Elder James Lee, Vice-president, will report on evangelism and special ministries activities.

This report highlights the activities of the Regions and Departments of the conference. I have asked the directors to list for you some of the significant events that have occurred in the last four years in the area for which they have been responsible. Their reports are the following:

THE ASIAN-PACIFIC REGION

Elder Samuel Lee, director; Mrs. Angeline Matiko, administrative secretary

The Asian-Pacific Region is composed of churches representing **nine** different language groups. It is a model in diversity and reflects the larger picture of diversity in the Southern California Conference.

- During the past 4 years, growth has accelerated in the Region’s churches.
- Membership has increased from 5344 to 6249, or about a 14% increase
- Churches have been added and the financial strength of the Region has improved substantially.
- The annual tithe has increased about 9%.

The organizing of the **Hacienda-Heights Chinese** congregation as a church is the result of ongoing evangelism, concerts, Bible studies, and the diligent efforts of members in reaching out to the Chinese community in their area. This is a church that started with 11 members in 2006 and as of December 31, 2010, it had 186 members.

Our **Filipino** churches are growing also – in Glendale, in Los Angeles, and in adding new groups in the valley communities. Together these churches conducted a United Filipino reaping series and added 35 souls for God’s kingdom.

To reach their community, the **El Monte Vietnamese Church** continues its publishing ministry, printing literature and Bible lessons in Vietnamese for believers in the U. S. and Vietnam and also printing the Vietnamese Sabbath School lessons for the world field. The church also conducts language classes for the community.

Japanese church members continue to reach out to their communities in various ways. After years of searching, the Central Japanese American church recently acquired a new church building in Pasadena and has adopted a new name: the **Central Japanese-American Community Church of Seventh-day Adventists**. We pray for God's continued blessings on the church as they "Proclaim God's Grace" to the community they serve. Young people in the church are involved in a unique ministry: an oil change ministry. People came! And they were blessed.

The Indonesian American Church continues to grow and is active in health and other service ministries. The church is full and the question is, "Do we look for a new and larger facility, do we plant a new congregation, or do we have multiple services?" Church growth is a wonderful but challenging problem to have.

Our **Korean** churches worship and witness in their communities. The **Glendale Korean Church** recently rebuilt their church sanctuary.

Tongan believers are witnessing to their community.

The pastor and members of the **Compton Samoan church** conducted evangelistic meetings for their fellow Samoans in our area and have been adding new members.

The **Thai** members were recently organized as a company. Several years of witnessing to the largely Buddhist Thai Community in the Hollywood area has brought slow but consistent growth to the church. The TV ministry continues to bring interests to the church and also Bible Study interests from communities across the United States where the program is viewed. The Thai church has started a Bible School to service those who enroll in Bible studies.

GREATER LOS ANGELES REGION

Elder Adolphus Garnett, director; Ms. Lynda Ortiz, administrative secretary

- **Annual Convocations** bring members together for worship and to launch annual, region-wide initiatives and campaigns like the present "Year of the Harvest" evangelism emphasis.
- **Churches – Breath of Life**, after years of searching for a church building of their own, the members recently purchased a striking new church building in Inglewood; the facility is actually two buildings and one they rent to other Christian groups. There is plenty of room for growth.
- **My Family Matterz** - The goals are to make available to families services which provide nurture, resources, and foster positive relationships in families. This is accomplished by promoting values and practices that cultivate strong, healthy family units resulting in more vibrant churches and communities.
- **Annual West Coast Music Symposium**, The region hosts the symposium which provides training and resources to enhance church music for worship. [photo]
- **Officially organized – The Hidden Treasure Group**, which is located in the Antelope Valley.

HISPANIC REGION

Elder Alfredo Lee, director; Mrs. Luz Benitez, administrative secretary.

This large region of our conference has been active in evangelism each year of the quadrennium.

Elder Alejandro Bullón – conducted meetings March 8-15, 2008, with an average attendance of 1,000 per night.

- **Hispanic Convocation** – March 15, 2008 – 5,000 attended
- **Robert Costa from Esta Escrito of It Is Written** – “Un Nuevo Amanecer con Jesús (A New Beginning with Jesus) – Conducted evangelistic series in 8 churches from February - May 2009.
- **All Hispanic churches participated in Holy Week evangelism**, April 4-11, 2009. 40 evangelists came from the USA and Latin America. Non-member attendance – 2,500.
- **Hispanic evangelism for 2008 and 2009** - 945 baptisms and 94 professions of faith.
- **“Jesus Loves Jeans” Youth Discipleship Training**– February 20-21, 2009, with 1500 youth attending. **Youth evangelism** June 6-13, 2009 with 500 in attendance and 65 youth baptisms.

Hispanic Youth Camp at Camp Cedar Falls - an average of 10 baptisms each year.

Elder Alejandro Delgado, pastor of the Panorama Spanish Church, tells a story of one of the new converts in his church. “Erik, was a 21-year-old ex-con and a gang member. On Sabbath, April 4, 2009, while lying in bed, he asked the Lord to show Himself because his life was meaningless. At that moment, two young girls from the church were knocking on doors in the neighborhood. Tired of knocking and having doors shut in their faces, they came to Erik’s home. Before knocking, they asked the Lord to reveal Himself, for they were very tired. They knocked and Erik opened the door. He took the flyer for the evangelistic series at their church, and later that afternoon he went to the church. You already know the end of the story! He was baptized and his mother eventually was baptized as well.

L. A. METRO REGION

Dr. Gerard Kiemeney, director; Mrs. Angeline Matiko, administrative secretary

Life Development Outreach – Altadena church – March 20-22, 2009 – A training event conducted by Miraslov Pujic of the General Conference to train members in exploring new ways of evangelistic thinking to reach the post-modern generation. More than 160 people attended.

Re-Vive worship celebration – held January 2010 at the North Hills Church.

Lay Training Event – February 2010 at the Downey Church. A training session conducted for members by pastors and lay members engaged in a variety of outreach modalities.

East Cluster evangelism - May 9-15, 2010 - “Redeem”, a collaborative evangelistic series by the pastors of the LA Metro Region. Concluding meeting was held at the West Covina Hills church with 300 in attendance.

Media Ministry – In late 2010, the LA Metro Region committee endorsed a new cable TV ministry. Under the direction of Raj Thiruselvan, the program is designed to reach non-churched

people through Time Warner cable. Production of the TV series is slated to begin the latter half of 2011.

Pheron – A Secular Campus Ministry program. There are more than 75 college and university campuses within the SCC territory with more than 550,000 students. Many of our own youth are students on these campuses. The youth pastors and the young adult group have taken this ministry as their challenge. They have been organizing, developing resources, and doing training since late 2009. The first Pheron retreat was held at Camp Cedar Falls on April 1-3, 2011, with more than 70 young people attending.

WEST REGION

Elder Richard Roethler, director; Mrs. Cherie Vendouris, administrative secretary

Key events during the last four years:

- **A major Antelope Valley evangelistic series in the summer of 2009**
- 1100 attended, 115 volunteers; 128 baptized
- **2009- West Coast Worship Conference** - 350 attended.
- **“One Church” program** - connecting local church members with world missions via Hope for Humanity literacy programs. Churches across the West Region are supporting Literacy Learning Centers.
- **Two new schools**-- Antelope Valley Adventist School
Conejo Adventist Elementary School
- **New Church building** for the Tehachapi congregation
- **Stained Glass Project** – An NAD DVD showing two churches reaching communities in the inner city; one of the churches was Hollywood Church, which received the Innovative Church of the Year award in 2010.
- **Year ‘round evangelism** - Thousand Oaks church added new members as it took on the challenge of conducting evangelism year ‘round.
- **Malibu new church plant** – the project is growing under the enthusiastic leadership of Sister Judith Miranda.
- **Santa Barbara Grace Community plant** – A new church in the Santa Barbara area. This is a young congregation whose worship style is more contemporary than the mother church.

MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Richard Carey, Superintendent of Schools; Allan A. Chase, Mario Negrete, Associate Superintendents

Blanca B. Barnes, Cherie Vendouris, secretaries

- ***“True education embraces the highest ideals stimulated by the contemplation of the vastness of God’s love, His laws, and His infinite creation.”*** *Fundamentals of Christian Education* - pg 49
- ***“Character building is the most important work ever entrusted to human beings.”*** *Ibid*, page 225

The Southern California Conference Office of Education oversees the administrative supervision of the following:

- 15 K – 8 Elementary Schools
- 1 Jr. High School
- 5 Senior Academies

Total enrollment - 2, 315 students

Elementary and secondary teachers - 180

During this Quadrennium, the administrators and faculty have:

- worked tirelessly to introduce students to Jesus as their Savior
- and have been blessed to have a total 487 students baptized.

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

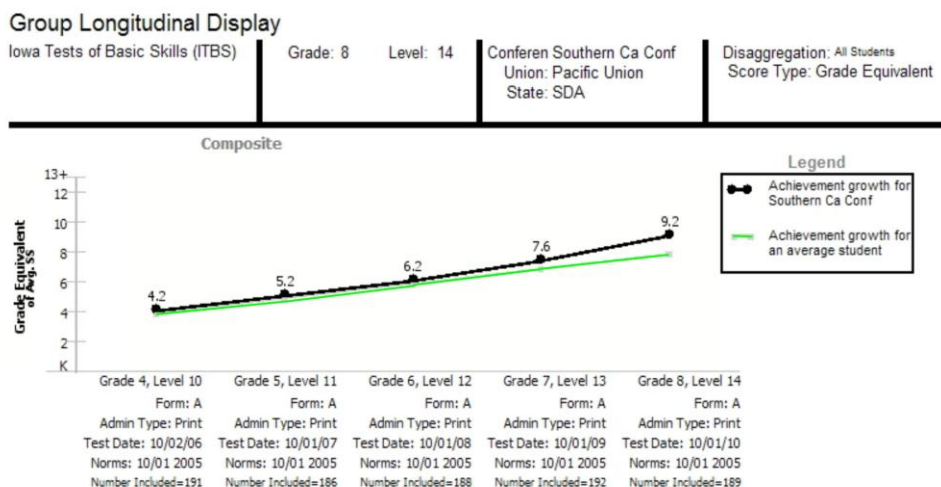
New programs implemented

In conjunction with the Pacific Union Conference Office of Education, the SCC Office of Education is presently working on a 3- 5 year plan to:

- Implement new instructional programs:
- **Pathways**: A Journey to Excellence through Literacy is a new NAD integrated language arts program which includes reading, writing, phonics, spelling, word study, comprehension and study skills, grammar, vocabulary, and handwriting.
- **Differentiated Instruction**: Instruction that makes it possible to maximize learning for all students. It assists teachers in creating different pathways that respond to the success and needs of diverse learners.
- **Testing Results**: Newly established elementary and secondary curriculum committees are working to improve test scores in the areas of Math, Reading, Science and other subjects.

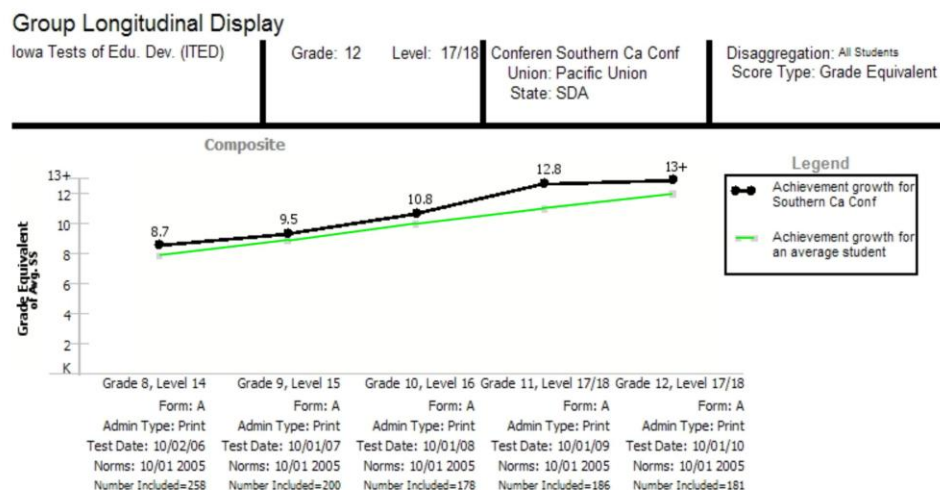
EXIT TEST SCORES FOR 8th Grade

Group Longitudinal Composite Scores



Exit Test Scores 12th Grade

Group Longitudinal Composite Scores



CHURCH APPRECIATION

The SCC Office of Education in conjunction with their affiliated schools wishes to express their heartfelt appreciation to the parents, church members and pastors for their continued support of Adventist education.

“All your children will be taught by the LORD, and great will be their peace.” *Isaiah 54:13*

JUNIOR YOUTH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

Elder Robert Wong, director; Mrs. Brenda Richards, secretary

- **Baptisms per year** from Pathfinder and Camp programs range from 75 – 100.
- **Year 2009 - 136 Baptisms** (17 were baptized at the North American Division Camporee held in Oshkosh, Wisconsin)
- **Adventurer Clubs** – more than 60 clubs, with a total of 2,000 club members
- **Pathfinder Clubs** – more than 75 clubs, with a total of 2,240 club members
- **Annual Pathfinder Convocations** at White Memorial Church – Over 2,000 attend
- **Annual Adventurer Rally** at White Memorial Church –2,000 attend
- **Annual Adventurer Family camps** - more than 700 attend at Camp Cedar Falls.
- **Pathfinder Fair** - April 5, 2009 held on Don Bosco Technical School Grounds in Rosemead, CA with 46 clubs in attendance. Attendance grew in 2011 to include 55 clubs attending.
- **Two Camporees in 2010:**
 - #1 Camp Cedar Falls – 9 Clubs - 220 Pathfinders and staff attended.
 - #2 Pathfinder Camporee - September 2010 - held at Prado Regional Park, Chino, CA. 40 Clubs: more than 950 Pathfinders and staff attended.

ASSET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Ms. Eunice Winston, director; Ms. Lynda Ortiz, secretary

PRESENT GIFTS RECEIVED – January 2007 – December 2010

2007	\$1,483,289
2008	58,791
2009	18,523

2010		619,953
	TOTAL	\$2,180,616

CAPITAL PROJECTS - 2007 – 2010

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COST</u>	
Altadena Church	\$ 125,000	
Antelope Valley School	\$ 3,126,585	pd
Berean Church	\$ 200,000	
Burbank Church	\$ 181,281	
Conejo Elementary School	\$ 7,850,000	
Fifty-Fourth Street Church	\$ 170,000	
Glendale Academy	\$ 629,128	
Glendale Korean Church	\$ 1,427,700	
North Hills Church	\$ 300,000	
Pomona Church	\$ 75,000	
Tamarind Avenue Church	\$ 600,000	
Tehachapi Church	\$ 890,000	
TOTAL COST	\$ 15,574,694	

EXHIBIT "A"

SALES TRANSACTIONS INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) South Central Spanish
- 2) Maranata Norwalk Spanish
- 3) Los Angeles Central Japanese-American
- 4) University Church (residence)

Purchases included the following:

- 1) Santa Barbara Parsonage
- 2) Maranata Norwalk Spanish
- 3) South Central Spanish Church
- 4) Glendale Korean Church
- 5) San Fernando Spanish Church (residence)
- 6) EastMont Spanish Church
- 7) Alpha & Omega Spanish- El Fargo
- 8) Newbury Park Spanish (residence)
- 9) Breath of Life Church
- 10) Glendale Spanish West
- 11) Los Angeles Central Japanese-American

PLANNED GIVING AND TRUST SERVICES

Planned Giving Officers, Elders Geoffry Park, Earl Labry and Linton Manier.

During the past four years the Trust Development services were moved from the Western Adventist Foundation to the Southern California Conference as an in-house service. The Trust asset management continues to remain with the Western Adventist Foundation. Trust officers have written more than 70 trusts during the last four years which will leave to Southern California Conference and its entities (churches and schools) about \$16,000,000 upon maturity. The officers' responsibilities include visiting churches for speaking appointments, conducting seminars and helping trustors as the needs arise. They have presented 135 sermons and seminars in our churches and spent more than 6,000 hours ministering to the needs of our current trustors.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Betty Cooney, director; Mrs. Ruth Dimas, secretary

The Communication Department:

- Reports on activities in our churches and the conference for the Recorder and at times in the Adventist Review
- Hosts quarterly Internet training for church webmasters
- Manages content for Conference and other websites
- The Communication director represents the conference at three interfaith organizations in Los Angeles, raising awareness of Seventh-day Adventism and making friends for our church.
- To help raise awareness of our work in our communities, the department leads a volunteer Health Response Steering Committee that is active in the following ways:
 - Trains Health Ministry directors.
 - Collaborates with Adventist churches and hospitals on major health initiatives and health fairs
 - Conducts an annual Reversing Diabetes, Obesity & Heart Disease Seminar that has helped many people regain or improve their health.

STUDENT LITERATURE MINISTRIES

Ms. Heidi Bryant, director

During the past four years, Student L. E. Ministries accomplished the following:

Sales - \$596,623.00
Books sold – 100,815
Students involved – 175
Homes visited – 552,495
Bible study interests – 847
Student scholarships awarded - \$298,312.00
Baptisms – 9

LITERATURE MINISTRIES

Operated by the Pacific Press Publishing Association

Years	Free Lit. Given	Prayers Offered	Number of Homes Visited	Interests for Bible Studies	L. E. Contacts Baptized
2007	19,679	7,002	15,434	268	55
2008	14,995	6,232	10,284	2,710	35
2009	32,502	8,078	11,868	3,230	104
2010	23,026	10,266	14,626	6,016	105
Totals	90,202	31,578	52,165	12,224	299

Each year for the past four years, between 55 and 60 Literature Evangelists have been working in SCC territory. Sales have been between \$200,000 and \$250,000 per year. In 2010 they sold \$208,000, which is more than half of all literature sold in the entire Pacific Union.

LAY-LED MINISTRIES

PRAYER MINISTRY is alive and well, under the leadership of Mrs. Janet Lui, Mrs. Cenia Garcia and a dedicated team of pastors and lay members.

- Prayer weekends and special prayer-focused ministries are a part of what this vital ministry has been involved with in our conference.

- During the Constituency Session on May 15, 2011, members of the Prayer Team will be praying for the delegates during the entire duration of the Session. The prayers of God's people are the petitions God longs to hear pleading for the blessing of the power and presence of His Holy Spirit.

MEN'S MINISTRY, led by Charles Dolcey, conducts an annual Men's Ministry Retreat at Camp Cedar Falls and at times has conducted health and other events to minister to men and youth in our conference.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY, led by Beverly Martin and Lillian Lopez, conduct annual Women's Ministry Retreats.

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We are grateful for the service of lay persons and workers on our Conference Executive Committee on behalf of SCC churches and members.

Nate Caballero
Richard Carey
Adolphus Garnett
Gerard Kiemeney
Alfredo Lee
James Lee, Jr.
Samuel Lee
Sung H. Oh
Velino Salazar
Richard Roethler
Hilda Carranza

John Paul Castro
Grace Coleman
Dan Dik
Reijin Fujita
Tim Garrison
Raquel Guzman
Ronda Harrison
Jaime Heras
Eddy Kartagi
Lewis Keller

Eleanor Marshalleck
Kathleen Myers
Alex Pardo
Greg Prout
Lan Quach
Myriam Salcedo-Gonzalez
Kirsten Salvador
Rudy Sandres
Ed Settle
Stewart Walker

SUPPORT SERVICES AND STAFF

We are also grateful for the tremendous help that our support services and staff provide in their dedicated and faithful service to the members, office staff and officers throughout each year.

Auditing Services – Elder Abner Castanon and Mrs. Rose Vaughn

Human Resources and Risk Management – Mr. Dennis Imai, Mrs. Kerry Barragan, and Mrs. Deanna Simone.

Custodial – Mr. Abraham Febre

Purchasing/Office Services – Mrs. Erline Docil

Reprographics – Mr. Fernando Sapigao

Receptionist – Mrs. Lois McAdams-Pasos

CONCLUSION

We have looked back and acknowledged with grateful hearts the “benefits of God” to the Southern California Conference. During the past four years much of our attention has been directed to our finances and to the unfinished projects that now are very near completion. Looking ahead to the next four years, we increase our attention to our God-given mission. Now we must make mission our #1 priority. That mission is threefold:

- Spiritual care for members – **NURTURE**
- Proclaim His Grace in SCC territory – **EVANGELISM**
- World church mission – **GLOBAL SUPPORT**

The theme chosen for this constituency meeting, United in Jesus – Proclaiming His Grace, must be more than just words on the page. They must be a passion that we live every day. We cannot allow the dark forces of Satan to divide and fracture the churches in our conference. We must make it our determination to be and to stay “United in Jesus.” We may disagree on issues and positions, but we need not become disagreeable toward one another. We must be, and remain, “United in Jesus.”

We have good news to share—and that is the amazing grace and love of God. As we share the story of Jesus and His love with neighbors around us, many will come to know and love Him. Let us, under the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, boldly and faithfully “Proclaim His Grace” to the communities and residents of the Southern California Conference.

“United in Jesus – Proclaiming His Grace” – Together we can!