

“THE HEART OF THE MATTER”

A Monthly Source of Information for the Church Family

Praise God For Our Awesome UJA Legacy!

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15 NIV

Here in our beautiful Ukiah valley, we have enjoyed an exciting and dynamic legacy of Seventh-day Adventist education that has spanned more than 117 years! We continue to reap the blessings of those who had the vision, the passion, and the commitment to provide God-ordained education.

From 1903-1914, family homes were designated as school sites with some of the early pioneer visionaries being Frank and Louise Eddy, Daisy Neston, and Edith Barns.

In 1913, the Eddys bought acreage on S. Dora Street and donated it to the church for a school, which was built by the church families and was ready for the 1914-15 school year.

In the spring of 1914, Vera Starr (Bowen) graduated from Ukiah High School and was asked to teach the church school the following fall. To prepare for the position, she spent the summer taking teacher training classes at Pacific Union College. She planned for school to begin as soon as the grapes and prunes were harvested, as the children were needed to help with the harvest. From her home in Doolan Canyon, Vera walked to school and gave her best energy to training twelve students for a monthly salary of \$45.00.

The school continually grew until property was bought on Stipp Lane in 1956.

A year later, the completed buildings were ready for students, which are still being used today. In a few years, more classrooms were added to accommodate the growing student body. The final step in the school's completion took place in 1979 when a gymnasium was constructed.

God has consistently blessed our school with a long list of compassionate, capable, and committed administrators and teachers who have dedicated their talents and energies to prepare students for God's service. We have also been blessed by many church and community constituents who have generously supported through financial resources, volunteering labor, and unending prayer.

Our school is one in a world-wide educational system. From this global span to each child's desk, Seventh-day Adventist schools exist to prepare young people for happiness and service on this earth and a glorious life in the New Earth to come!

Hallelujah! Praise Him for His wondrous plan!

By Donna Faye Anderson

UJA Legacy Continued



UJA in History!

"The first day of school arrived with twelve bright and shining faces sitting in front of their nervous teacher. There were three Andersons, two Eddys, three Rudds, and four Zumwalt children.

"All was going well when suddenly there was a knock on the door. Miss Starr answered the door to find two men facing her, each holding a long piece of stove pipe.

"The next few hours were spent with these men installing a wood stove with which to heat the new school. Of course, the stove could not be installed under where the chimney had been built, but clear across the room with the stove pipe spanning the entire room.

"The children were distracted and the teacher was dismayed. After awhile the day settled down into a routine, and the students began to study."

The Ukiah Church School History, Author unknown, written in April 1982

Glenn Miller Memorial Golf Tournament

Please reserve the date of Friday, **September 18, 2020**, for the seventh annual Glenn Miller Memorial Golf Tournament! This tournament is a fundraiser to support student scholarships for Ukiah Junior Academy in memory of Dr. Glenn Miller, who was known for his advocacy for Christian education. Please prayerfully consider how you would like to participate in this major event: whether it be to register as a player or to make a God-directed donation. Steve Miller, son of the late Dr. Glenn Miller, is the human energy behind this enormous effort and is a dedicated ambassador for UJA, not only in Ukiah, but in all the surrounding communities! He works tirelessly on this tournament year round and welcomes your questions, comments, or donations anytime. Please do not hesitate to call him at 707-391-1749.

**IT IS TIME TO PUT THIS EVENT AT
THE TOP OF YOUR PRIORITY LIST!**

The School Office Wears a New Face

by Donna Faye Anderson

The next time you visit the school office, expect to be warmly greeted by Allison Kurtz with her friendly smile. She brings Sonshine to the school.

She has lived her whole life in this beautiful valley, so her roots go down deep. Allison began her educational venture as a Kindergartner right here at UJA and went clear through the 10th. grade. She finished high school at Rio Lindo Adventist Academy. She graduated from Pacific Union College in 2009 with a B.S. in Film and Television.



Allison has spent the last decade managing busy professional offices and now, we are so excited that she has joined the staff at UJA. We welcome her with open arms.

Some of you may not be aware that as an artist, she has been teaching a group of twelve how to pencil draw and to paint with water colors. She also instructed the Pathfinders in their pursuit to complete the requirements for a Drawing Honor.

Another fascinating news item about Allison is her love for unusual pets, especially the creepy, crawly ones. Her menagerie changes continually, but currently, these are the ones she's caring for. Beginning with the ordinary, she owns two poodles, a standard and a mini that she named Bartimaeus and, coincidentally, he became blind when he was four. Allison loves her five snakes: an Indigo, a pair of Kenyan Sand Boas, an albino Honduran Milk Snake, and a Texas Rat Snake, which is the moodiest one. She also has an African Leopard Tortoise and a colony of hissing cockroaches.

For as long as she can remember, she has always been attracted to animals and critters that most people detest, so, kids, be sure to share with Ms. Kurtz your extraordinary creatures, because you won't be able to freak her out.

Now our attentions are beginning to turn to a summer break with different activities and some extra rest. May each of us make a deliberate decision to always be a positive representative for UJA during the summer.

Above all, let us be consistent ambassadors for Christ, reflecting His love! May we find strength and confidence in Christ alone wherever He may lead us!

Let's Get Acquainted

This month we are featuring Dr. Beverly Giebel, a very talented woman who has been part of our church family for many years, but some of our newer members may learn some interesting facts about her in the interview that follows.

Dr. Bev is always ready to give her support to any health workshops and she's a faithful volunteer at our Community Services ministry. She also shares her love of music and is regularly seen playing the piano or organ or a brass instrument. If you haven't become acquainted with Dr. Giebel, you're really missing out!

Dr. Bev, where were you born and raised? I was born in the Hinsdale Sanitarium and Hospital in 1930. I grew up in the subdivision south of Broadview Academy in west Chicago. Both of my parents were Adventists. My father's parents became Adventists when he was three years old in Germany. My mother, of Danish background, learned the truth from some of her older sisters. She came from a large family, and had sisters old enough to be her mother. Three of her older sisters and one older brother were faithful to the end. Three other sisters knew the message, but married outsiders which was a hindrance. Her

youngest sister died of measles complications while attending Broadview College. Two other brothers did not accept.

Tell us about your family. I have three living children - Rita, Herbert, and Arthur.

Rita was born in Hamburg, Germany on a Sabbath! She was three months old when she traveled by air to Pakistan. Previously



Dr's Bev and Harald Giebel

all missionaries went by boat. At five years, she knew her way back to our abode in Jerusalem better than her parents! She is an attorney and consultant working with medical manufacturers.

Herb was also born on a Sabbath in Karachi, Pakistan. He is married to Gail Muir born in Peru. They have two daughters and a son-in-law. After completing medical school, Herb studied public health in North Carolina and then did a course in Tropical Medicine in London. He spent sixteen years in Nigeria and then went to Christian Medical College in Vellore, India where he is working with students, doing family practice and working with lifestyle.



The younger Giebels - Rita, Arthur, Herbert

Art was born in Glendale, California. He did not graduate from high school or college, but did from medical school in Loma Linda. After completing an ophthalmology residency, he worked eight years at J. L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center before joining the Pacific Cataract and Laser Institute in Washington. After his marriage to Lisa Bjelland, they moved to Walla Walla where he began an ophthalmology practice, specializing in diseases of the cornea. They have a married daughter, Josie.

Describe your conversion experience. By the time I was in the 8th grade, I had decided I wanted to be baptized. So, after confessing and making amends, I was ready at the age of 12. I was baptized at the West Central Church in Chicago, as the academy did not have a baptistry.

How did you choose your profession? Mission stories told in Sabbath School inspired me at a very young age to want to be a missionary nurse. After graduating from the academy, Lee Taylor talked with me. From this discussion, I decided I could do more good in the mission field as a doctor instead of a nurse, so when I entered Emmanuel Missionary College, I began as a premed student.

My husband Harald, who also was a doctor, and I served in Pakistan from 1958-1963 and 1971-1981, Ethiopia from 1989-1995, Papua New Guinea from 1995-2004, and India from 2010-2012. My husband passed away on November 29, 2011, and I completed the two-year term.

If you could master one skill you don't have right now, what would it be?

Public speaking, so I could teach a Sabbath School class, etc.

Tell us about something that is still on your "bucket list".

A nature cruise to Alaska.

Where are some of the most interesting places you have traveled?

1) Galapagos, where the animals were not afraid of us, 2) Mexico where I swam with the dolphins, and 3) San Ignacio, Baja, where I had an opportunity to pet whales!

What is your favorite Bible verse, and why? I couldn't limit it to just one, so here are four that I frequently turn to.

John 14:1-3 lets me know I have a heavenly place to look forward to.

Revelation 21:4 brings me happiness when I read that God's kingdom will have no death, sorrow, or pain.

God gives me strength in His promise in Philippians 4:13.

Peace comes to me as a wonderful blessing when I read Psalm 119:165.

FAREWELL TO THE BARAHONAS

The time is fast approaching when the Barahonas will be leaving us to go to the Seminary. While we are excited for them as they embark on a different phase of their ministry, we will surely miss the tremendous blessings of knowing them and benefitting from their leadership here in Ukiah! The church family has loved them from the moment they first arrived! "May the Lord watch between you and me when we are absent one from another." Genesis 31:49

Their last Sabbath with us will be July 18. Pastor Doug is planning a beautiful baptismal service that you won't want to miss.

Church Announcements

Our church re-opened on June 20 with 29 attending a worship-only service. Sabbath School programs have not resumed yet. The maximum number of people allowed in the building is 100. Live-streaming the worship service continues to be an option for those who are in the high-risk category.

Here are the requirements for each person who attends the weekly worship service:

1. Use a face covering, except for children under two years.
2. Do not make physical contact with others, such as handshaking or hugging.
3. Always maintain social distances, at least six feet.
4. Do not pause or gather in groups inside.
5. Go directly to the sanctuary, sit in a designated area with only members of a single household.
6. After the service, go directly outdoors before engaging in conversation.

Life Groups Doing Life Together

Life Groups are still on pause due to Covid 19, but last month two groups enjoyed outings together.

Mike Wilson and his Walking Group spent a Sabbath at Van Dam State Park. They had a delightful day worshipping, eating, hiking, and fellowshiping together in God's beautiful creation.

Wendi Olivera and her Birding Group went to Potter Valley where they spotted 20 different species. The Cliff swallows at the bridge were a sight to behold as they swarmed in the air, and back to their mud nests under the bridge to feed their little swallows.

If you are interested in going with either of these groups, please contact Mike or Wendi.



Attention Youth

The NCC Online Youth Group continues to meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm, hosted by Youth Director Eddie Heinrich and assisted by several youth pastors. "We want to provide a resource to support our youth during this difficult time," said Heinrich. "It is also a fun way for them to interact and be social." Please call Pastor Doug if you would like to join so he can give you the Zoom invitation for this event.

The NCC Youth Department is also hosting a conference-wide virtual Pathfinder Club that meets every Thursday at 6:45pm. Please call Luis Pastor for information about joining this

Other Zoom Opportunities

Welcome the Sabbath Friday 7:30pm. Hosted by Pastor Doug. Three adult Sabbath School classes are being taught by Hans Sawatzky, Judson Howe, and Dale Morrison. If you want to join one of these classes, call the teacher.

Our Church has an exciting announcement!

We were graced with the presence of Avery Keilani Tremper on June 3rd at 11:58 AM. Avery weighed 6lbs 4.5oz and was 18 inches long. Our precious girl has brought so much joy to our life. She loves going on walks, listening to daddy sing and read to her, and enjoys eating and sleeping.



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