

"The of the Matter"

A Monthly Source of Information for the Church Family

Our God Is With Us!

"Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1: 9 On June 19, Dave and I began a journey to Wewoka Woods, the Oklahoma Conference location for summer camps, camp meetings, and other events. Our reason for travel was to attend a Zomi camp meeting from June 24-28. Zomi refers to the people of the Chin Hills in northwestern Burma, the place where the Andersons took the Seventh-day Adventist message.

We had attended a camp meeting with them in June of 20019 at Bowling Green, Kentucky, where Dave told many experiences of how God had led his family to establish the first Seventh-day Adventist mission in that part of the world. Those who were at that camp meeting were well aware of the Andersons by name, but most had not heard the stories Dave shared. They asked for a book that would include all the details. They wanted to have the whole story. I returned home with a determination to make that happen.

Pulling our travel trailer loaded with boxes of the newly published book, *Gene Anderson: Trailblazer to Tedim*, we set off on a labyrinth of highways to reach our destination. We committed ourselves and our truck and trailer to God's care each morning. Once we left California, we were amazed at the 80 mile-an-hour designation for the highways. Much of the trip, Dave had to drive way below the speed limit and grip the steering wheel when the semi-trucks created a "vacuum pull" as they whizzed past. We also experienced countless wind gusts that never announced their arrival. By Friday, the 24th., when camp meeting would begin that evening, we calculated we still had 800 miles to reach Wewoka Woods. We realized we would never make it on time, but we kept moving onward. Our praises go to God who recalculated the miles and got us safely to our destination about 45 minutes before the opening meeting began. Our Zomi friends were so happy to see us and we were thrilled to spend the weekend with them. They had come from many states, and from Australia, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and Burma. Their love and devotion for each other and for God was very evident. There was lots of music—choirs, quartets, duets, solos, with all ages participating. It was WONDERFUL! Dave sang with gusto the Zomi hymns when the congregation sang. We were inspired by the youth and child preachers! The theme for camp meeting was Joshua 1:9. The platform backdrop had in big letters the Zomi words Hat Inla Hang In!—Be strong and of good courage!

Because we sat at a book-signing table in the foyer for part of the weekend, we enjoyed a wonderful privilege of talking with many more of these dear people than we would have otherwise. It filled our hearts with emotion as one after another would say, "Thank you for coming to our village. Because of your family, I am a fourth-generation Seventh-day Adventist." We met many people who were at the 2019 camp meeting, as well as being in Tedim when our family visited in 2001. It was exciting to meet former teachers at Anderson Adventist Seminary and many who had attended as students. It truly was a

foretaste of heaven and we thought much about Dad and Mom Anderson during the weekend.

We experienced the same “vacuum pulls” and unexpected wind gusts on our way home, but God kept His hand on us. We arrived home about 7:00 pm July 4. The next morning, Dave went out to the trailer and discovered that one of the tires was flat. When it was taken off, he could see that it had received major trauma. We will never know how or when this happened, but we do know that our almighty God kept that tire inflated until we were home.

Church News

VBS

Our two pastors are collaborating to lead out in a dynamic VBS program August 8-12, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Ukiah Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The theme is Jasper Canyon—“each child is treasured by God.” The kids will enjoy five days of Christ-centered activities that will help them dig into the Bible to find out how uniquely special they really are!

The key Bible verse is Romans 8:38, 39. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created things, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Church Roof Project

The roof is progressing at a good rate. According to our records, it appears that we have enough \$\$ set aside to complete the project.

Thank you for your generous support for this important repair for our church building. God Bless. Thank you, Dave



Men working on the steep roof.
Photograph by Eric Williams

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Filled With The Holy Spirit,
Discipling,
Baptizing,
Teaching, With Love,
Preparing All For Jesus' Return

OUR VISION STATEMENT

To Know Jesus
To Share Jesus
To Follow Jesus
Changing Lives Today
And For Eternity

This summer has been short but fun. In June we had three youth events, which many students from the school attended. The week after school got out, we had a pool party, then we had a surfing trip to Stinson Beach, and then a rock-climbing trip the following week. Each of these events was a great success and we still have more to come. On the surf trip we had over 10 youth that participated and a total of nearly 20 including adults and a few younger kids that tagged along. All the kids tried surfing and all of them were able to stand up and ride a wave a least a few times. Pastor Williams and Kablanow both helped the youth in the water and one of the parents did as well. They all had a wonderful day, and we plan to have another surfing day on August 5. The rock-climbing trip was also a great success. There was a small group of youth that went but it was a good day. Each of them made it to the top of each route they tried. Only two of them had previously climbed before but they all had a lot of fun. It's amazing how wonderfully God created this world and how we have the opportunities to have these experiences out in God's creation. By Eric Kablanow, Associate Pastor



Surfing Picture: left to right – Pastor K, Zoe, Alexis, Caleb T, Emery, Ollie, taken by Beth Kablanow



Climbing photo: climber is Nathan Kuntz, photo taken by Beth Kablanow

Sounds of the trail. One of the featured, family friendly activities, that was lovingly created during the development of the Great Redwood Trail, was the development of a volunteer-built sound garden. There were five creatively built sound stations that consisted of giant home-built chimes, pianos that were stripped down to the strings and sound boards, a pvc tubulum, hanging bamboo chimes, and pots and pans gongs. Each station offered fun and creative solutions to engage the musical side of the brain in both kids and adults alike.

As the years have gone by, water and sun damage have paid a toll on the sound garden. Lack of paint, old wood-chips, instruments that have walked off, and overly abused items have left the sound garden in disrepair. Neil Davis, the Program Administrator for Community Services at the City of Ukiah, who is also the founder and board member of the Ukiah Trail Group, approached our Blue Zones Project Public Policy Lead, Lucy Bartholomew. Neil suggested that the sound garden be a marquee project for our Blue Zones Team to improve our surrounding environment, as well as to encourage volunteers to give back to their community. These are very important objectives of engagement for our Blue Zones project. It will lead us one step closer to becoming a Certified Blue Zones Project.

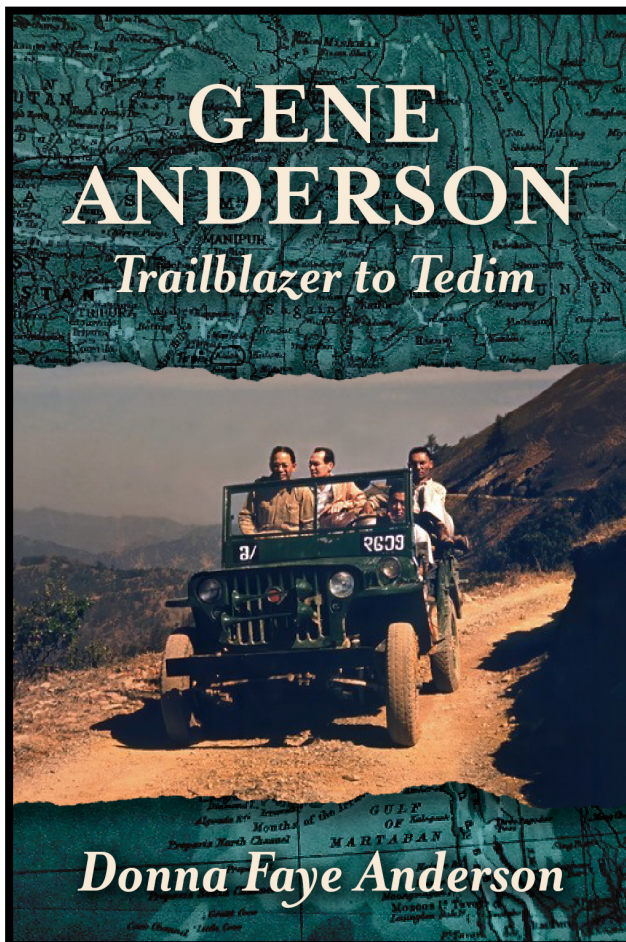
Having about 20 volunteers engage in the rehabilitation process of the sound garden thus far has totally transformed that area. Starting with a formal committee to discuss the best way to approach the rehab process, which instruments need to be replaced, repaired and developed, funding, and how many days/volunteers will be needed to get everything back up and running was the first line of order. Neil and his team, along with Lucy, arranged for four specific groups to volunteer: MCAVHN Care Network led by Ace Barash, MD, students from the School of Instilling Goodness and Developing Virtue led by Jin Shi, a team of volunteers from the Ukiah Trail Group, as well as members of our Blue Zones Project Team, to join in the rehab process.

A fresh coat of fun and vibrant paint, and a new tubulum have completely refreshed the area. (See photos on page 5). New bamboo has been ordered, as well as crushed gravel, will replace the old bark to keep the area clean and beautiful.

Collaborating with our community to help make the healthy choice the easy choice, and to help people live longer and better, is exactly why Adventist Health has made the investment to bring the Blue Zones Project to Mendocino County. This was such a fun project; we can't wait to put the final touches on the sound garden. Go check it out! You will have a BLAST!

Ryan Veness, MBA | Organization lead manager: 707-227-4862
ryan.Veness@sharecare.com, Blue Zones Project Mendocino County. We aspire to improve the well-being of everyone, everywhere, community-by-community.





Vespers Followed By A Book Signing
A Sabbath evening vespers is planned for August 20, 2022 at which time the book, *Gene Anderson: Trailblazer to Tedim* will be introduced. The book is a biography and mission story, but it also contains some Adventist “firsts.” Following the vesper program, you will have an opportunity to purchase a book and have it signed by the author—Donna Faye Anderson

The Heart of the Matter is edited and produced by David and Donna Faye Anderson. You may contact them at 707-234-9234 or online davendonnaa@icloud.com.

Nature Nugget By Shari Kim

Birds have anywhere from 940-25,000 feathers depending on the variety of bird. The hummingbird has the fewest, swans have the most and penguins have the warmest feathers. There are various types of feathers that serve different purposes such as to fly, camouflage, attract a mate, protect, waterproof, and provide insulation. They are made up of keratin, like our hair.

Most feathers have a firm center with a flat vane on each side. The vane is made up of branches that come off the center shaft. The branches are called barbs and they have hooks that lock together like zippers. If the barbs split apart, the bird can zip them back together with its bill.

Birds preen, or groom, their feathers to keep their feathers in optimal condition. Preening removes dirt and parasites from their feathers and makes sure they are in the correct alignment. Birds can stay dry in the rain because their feathers overlap. They have a gland near their tail that rubs an oily/waxy substance that waterproofs the outside of their feathers and keeps them flexible.

When damaged, feathers are unable to repair themselves. Birds shed, or molt, their feathers and grow a new set typically every year due to wear and tear that is beyond what preening will help. The process of growing a new set of feathers happens over a period of weeks so the birds are protected and still able to fly.

The Bible tells us in Psalm 91:4 that God “shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust.” This Bible verse paints a picture of a bird that tenderly, affectionately, lovingly hides their helpless baby under their strong feather covered wings to protect and shield their own. What a beautiful picture of what our God is doing for us. He created the feathers of birds with so much detail, care and foresight of their needs; how much more does he care for and protect us?

Thoughts taken from: Family Bible Lessons, by SonLight Education Ministry, Year 2, Quarter 1, Lesson 10, Pages 161-166.

Photo credit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/coloredpencilmag/32418384331>





This will be my last nature nugget. Our family has decided to take a call to serve in Kenya and we will be leaving Ukiah at the end of August. We have loved our time in Ukiah and it is with deep sadness that we leave this place that we have come to love. I have greatly enjoyed learning about God through His second book of nature and have appreciated the opportunity to share what I have learned. My sincere prayer is that we will all grow deeper in our relationship with Jesus day by day and will meet again in the clouds of heaven soon.

If you would like to keep in touch, you can email me at shari.lyn.kim@gmail.com or Justin at jkimpt@gmail.com.

Farewell For The Kim Family.

A gathering is planned for August 14, at 3:00 p.m. at the Rice's—1351 Rafello Dr. Ukiah CA 95482. It will be a swim party and an "open menu" potluck. The Social Committee will provide the beverages. The Kims are going as missionaries to Kenya. We are certainly going to miss them! Their whole family, Justin, Shari, Elena, Tessa, and Stella, have ministered to our church family!

We will look forward to hearing from them once they get settled in Kenya.



The Sooty Grouse asks the old miner in our yard, "What are you doing up there?" May I come up?"

Photo by
David E Anderson

UJA is gearing up for another great year. Our staff is unchanged with grade assignments the same, with one exception. Mrs. Nelson will teach Grade 1, while Mr. Oliver will have a combined classroom of Grades 2-3. We have been very thankful to Robert Olivera and his crew for the new floors in the Kindergarten and Grade 1 rooms.

The school board has voted to update our Vision and Mission statements to better reflect our core values of Grace, Growth, and Devotion. Here they are:

Our Vision

Every child growing through grace in the wisdom and knowledge of God and Man.

Our Mission

To cultivate servant-leaders devoted to God and His ways.

Please continue to pray for the mission of UJA. We introduce the Love of Jesus to the community around us through the children we have in our classrooms. This is a great honor and privilege that we hold dear. Thank you all for your prayers and support.

Rick Nelson

Here are some important dates to note as we approach the start of our school year:

Sunday, August 7, 8:00 to 12:00: Back to school work day and BBQ lunch with master chef, Pete Bushby.

Monday, August 15 at 6:30: Parent Orientation

Wednesday, August 17 at 8:00: First Day of school!

UJA now has an App!

Stay up-to-date on what is going on in our school! See what is for Hot Lunch each week, contact your students' teachers, and get school-wide as well as class-specific notifications!

Download it from the QR codes below, or find the link on at the bottom page of our *new website!*

<https://ukiahiracademy.org>

<https://myuja.org>



The Glenn Miller Memorial Golf Tournament

The 9th annual Glenn Miller Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 16, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This tournament benefits Ukiah Junior Academy significantly by providing WORTHY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS. 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-inspired donation.

In addition to the funds raised, there is a second tremendous benefit. While promoting the event and soliciting sponsors, the community-at-large gains an increased awareness of UJA and the opportunities it offers.

Steve Miller, the son of the late Dr. Glenn Miller, is the human vibrancy behind this enormous effort. He talks with people about the tournament throughout the year as he works on the myriad of details. When you see him, take time to thank him for his passion and commitment.

The Veggie Food Store

Cheryl Witzel, Manager, reports that the store hours will remain the same when school resumes: 2:30-4:30 p.m. every Thursday afternoon.

“If you would like to order cases of anything, be sure to let me know right away, so I can include them with the August order.”



Two of our favorite flowers on our back deck. Please tell us the names of them if you know them. Photos by David E. Anderson