

“The of the Matter”

A Monthly Source of Information for the Church

A Powerful Testimony

By Alan Jamison

In the late 70s or early 80s, the church had an annual fund-raising program in which groups would go to residential areas of the city and sing carols and ask for donations. It is important, for the sake of this narrative, to indicate that this was “BC—Before Cellphones.”

It was early December, when it was dark by 6:30 and the temperature could fall 20 degrees at sunset, when it was cloudless. It was time for Ingathering. We would meet at the gym, split into our groups, and head out to a pre-selected neighborhood. The purpose was to sing carols and ask for donations for this community Christmas effort. Then, we would return to the gym for hot cocoa or cider and tally our donations. The solicitors would get a good feeling if they received a \$5 or \$10 dollar donation. (Remember this was in the late 70s or early 80s).

This particular year, I was in charge of the sixth-graders, which was quite fun. They were enthused to be the pre- and post-guards with flashlights to warn any traffic of the walking carolers. Our neighborhood to canvass was from Luce to Washington and from Dora to Helen. We had a convoy of four or five cars and met on Marwen to start. I was the last to arrive. The other adults and children were waiting for us on the sidewalk. I parked and as I watched my group cross the street, I went around and locked my car doors. (There were no remote key fobs to control the door locks). My focus was more on the children than what I was actually doing.

As I got to my driver's door, I pushed the lock down, depressed the button on the outside handle, and shut the door, but it didn't latch or lock. I opened the door and tried to figure out what the problem was. Not finding a problem, I repeated the procedure. The door did not lock. I was somewhat aware of a noise in the background, but my attention was focused elsewhere. Again, I examined where the problem might be. And for the third time, I depressed the lock, pushed in the exterior latch, and shut the door. This time, before the door actually shut, I recognized the sound coming from my car, to inform me that my keys were still in the ignition. However, my efforts of locking the door were successful. I tried the door and it was secure. I walked around my car trying all of the doors. Peering through the passenger-side window, I could see my keys firmly inserted in the ignition.

At that time, the door locks had a mushroom-shaped head, so if something stiff, yet pliable, could be fashioned into a hook, you could maneuver it under the mushroom, lift up, and unlatch the lock. I walked over to the other drivers and inquired if anyone had a wire coat hanger. Unfortunately, none of them could produce one. Walking back to my car, I tried to come up with a solution to get my car unlocked, so I could rejoin the carolers to do what I had come to do. Nothing was coming to me—a lot of thoughts, but none of them fruitful. I leaned against my car and wondered.

A Powerful Testimony, cont.

Then. . .looking down at the ground, right below my driver's door, on the pavement, was a wire coat hanger. Picking it up, straightening it out, and then bending it into a hook configuration, I was able to work it between the weather-stripping and underneath the mushroom head of the door lock. Within a few minutes, I had rejoined the carolers with my car locked and the keys in my pocket.

The rest of the evening, I was comparing the hanger to Jesus and how it had given me my freedom. I also realized that no matter where I had parked, the wire hanger would have been there.

Since that time, I have come to know and love God so much more. The first thing I can witness to was that at no time did I pray, except to thank Him afterward. Before that, it was all me trying to work out my solution. What also dawned on me was the placement of the hanger. It was not on the sidewalk, or in the gutter, or under my car, but right below my driver's door.

The most significant thoughts that I have had, as I have replayed this scene in my mind, were these: God didn't wait until I got it right to provide for me. He was with me all the time. He knew I needed something more than me, and that I needed to both pick up and use the hanger.

No, the hanger didn't provide for me an eternity with my Savior and my God, but it did give me a profound awareness of His love and care for me at that moment.

Quoting Mrs. White from her book, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 356:

"Through channels which we cannot discern, He is in active communication with every part of His dominion. But it is in this speck of a world, in the souls that He gave His only begotten Son to save, that His interest and the interest of all heaven is centered."

"How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings. They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures. For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light." Psalm 36:7-9

Medical Missionary/Community Help Bands

By Jeanine Kablanow

Save **June 1, at 5:30 p.m.** for **Dinner with the Doctor** in the church chapel.

Dr. William Guthrie (Family Medicine & Addiction Medicine) from southern California will be presenting a lecture entitled: **Connected Yet Disconnected: Social Media,**

Substance Use, and Rebuilding Family Bonds. One thousand flyers have been given out door-to-door so far and our radio station agreed to advertise it as well. Please take a handful of flyers and share them with your neighbors, friends, and co-workers.

A delicious whole foods, plant-based meal will be served. If you would like to help, contact Judson Howe or Wayne Kablanow. If you have a friend you are planning to bring, please reserve a place for you and your guest by texting or calling 509-368-4032.

Every Sabbath evening at 5:30 p.m., in the choir room, a group of us come together, mark our Bibles, and read a portion of the book, *Amazing Disciples*, published by Amazing Facts, which is a training book to teach us how to be disciple-makers. We have a wonderful time of fellowship and would love to see you there! God be with each one of you!

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!

REDWOOD AREA CAMP MEETING

Redwood Camp Meeting 2025, from **July 27 - August 2**, promises exceptional programs for both the youth and the adults, and a God-filled family experience.

Pepperwood Pavillion Speakers:

Jessie Seibel will be presenting during the first half of the week. He is a chaplain at Adventist Health Castle in Kailua, HI. He has an incredible ability to connect with people on a personal level.

Jon Paulien will finish the week, including Sabbath. He is a leading scholar and lecturer on the book of Revelation. He is the Program Director of Religion and Health at Loma Linda University.

Gary and Marilynn Venden will continue to bless us with their gifts of edifying early morning manna and uplifting evening music.

Plan for this week of worship in the redwoods!



A double
daffodil
in our
yard.
Photo by
David
Anderson

Opportunities to Pray for the Holy Spirit

Sundays, 7-7:30 a.m. at UA's Library via the parking lot door by the gym stairwell.

Wednesdays, 7-8:00 p.m. in the last room adjacent to the Chapel to discover: Bible teaching on what is needed to bring revival in your life and to our church facilitated by Pastors Mike Wilson and Eric Williams.

Sabbaths, 9-9:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

"Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is in the word of God, praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints." Ephesians 6:14-18.

"The Holy Spirit seeks to abide in each soul. If it is welcomed as an honored guest, those who receive it will be made complete in Christ. The good work begun will be finished; the holy thoughts, heavenly affections, and Christlike actions will take the place of impure thoughts, perverse sentiments, and rebellious acts."

Counsels on Health, p. 561.

"The Son of man came into the world to unite the very life of God with the human life of man. When He completed His work by His obedience, death and resurrection, He was exalted to His throne, that the Holy Spirit which had dwelt in Him might come as this all-prevailing sovereign presence, and the disciple becomes the participant of His very life. So the life of the Creator penetrates the life of the creatures. Thus we find what the Holy Spirit is doing in us."

The Coming of the Comforter, p. 63, 64.

"Transformation of character is the testimony to the world of an indwelling Christ. The Spirit of God produces a new life in the soul, bringing the thoughts and desires into obedience to the will of Christ; and the inward man is renewed in the image of God." *Prophets and Kings*, p. 233.

Ukiah Pathfinders at the NCC Pathfinder Fair Work on Their Honors

By Danae Brunner

On Sunday, May 4, 2025, the Napa Christian School campus was filled with Pathfinders from across the Northern California Conference working to gain various honors. Among them were Chemistry, Bogs and Fens, Nutrition, Balloon Art, and Blacksmithing.

We kicked things off bright and early - really early - leaving at 5am to begin setting up for the day. Becky Kuntz held down the registration table for Blacksmithing and had every single class slot filled before the first session even started. Talk about popular!

Danae Brunner led the classroom session, giving the Pathfinders a solid foundation in blacksmithing basics. She covered coal and gas forges, the tools of the trade, and a safety talk that had the fire chiefs raving! From there, it was time to get their hands dirty.

During the two hour forge sessions, the Pathfinders worked hard at their stations, each making a Frederick's Cross and an S-Hook to take home. The instruction team included Andrew Corbett, Wayne and Eric Kablanow, Bella and Matt Taylor, Luis Pastor, and Dan Kuntz, with Scot Brunner keeping everything running smoothly.

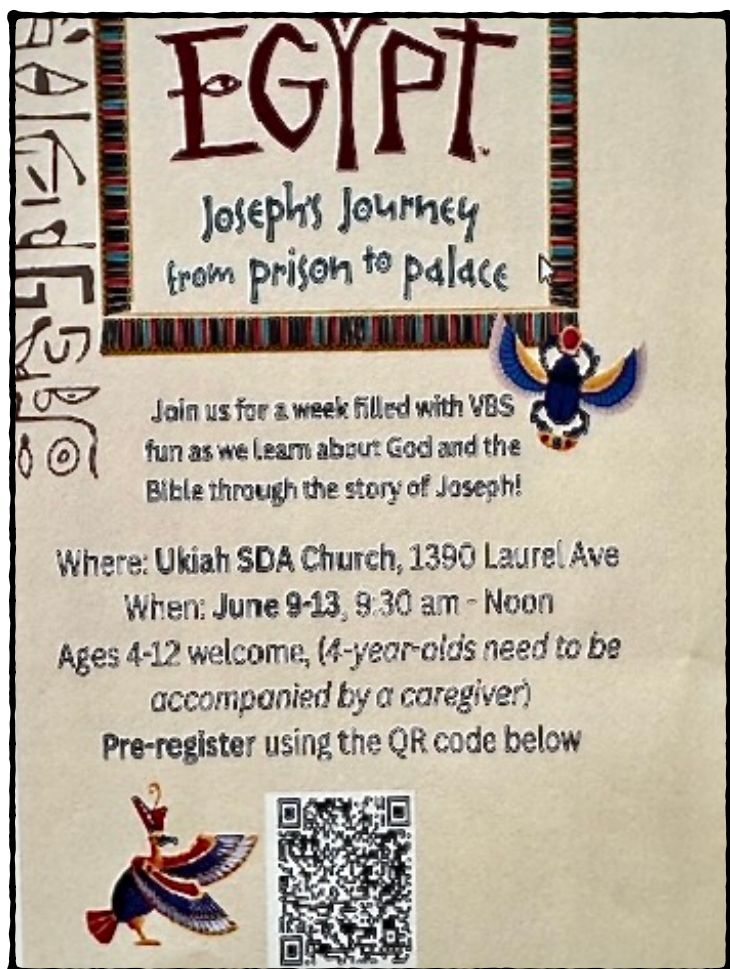
The first class began at 10am, followed by a second session at 12:30 with 18 students each. By 3pm we wrapped up the final projects having given 36 people a solid foundation in blacksmithing. It was a long day—but a rewarding one.

If you (or someone you know) are interested in learning blacksmithing and joining our instructor team to help share this unique ministry across Northern California, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to Scot or Danae Brunner for more info.

Mark your calendars—our next blacksmithing event will be at the Pathfinder Camporee at Leoni Meadows, October 2–4. Hope to see you at the forge!




Pathfinders in NCC working on the Blacksmithing Honor!



EGYPT
Joseph's Journey
from prison to palace

Join us for a week filled with VBS
fun as we learn about God and the
Bible through the story of Joseph!

Where: Ukiah SDA Church, 1390 Laurel Ave
When: June 9-13, 9:30 am - Noon
Ages 4-12 welcome, (4-year-olds need to be
accompanied by a caregiver)
Pre-register using the QR code below



Vacation Bible School—See AD above for dates
and times, Pre-register with the QR code below.

The Glenn Miller Memorial Golf Tournament

The date for the twelfth annual Glenn Miller Memorial Golf Tournament is set for Friday, September 19, 2025. This takes place at the Ukiah Valley Golf Course with registration beginning at 7:00 a.m. and a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. There will be teams at all 18 holes and they will play until 1:00 p.m., followed by an awards ceremony and a lunch put on by the Savings Bank of Mendocino County. This is in memory of Dr. Glenn Miller, who personally helped many students attend Ukiah Junior Academy.

One hundred percent of the money that comes from this fundraiser goes to assist families who want their children to attend Ukiah Junior Academy, but cannot afford the full tuition.

**Please prayerfully consider how you
would like to support this major event.**

Steve Miller, the son of the late Dr. Glenn Miller, works on this tournament year round. He visits businesses and people throughout the community, many of whom knew his Dad. Also, because of his ambassadorial commitment, he acquaints new people every year with UJA and this fundraiser, who would not otherwise know about the school. When you see him, be sure to thank him for his passion and commitment.



**ARE YOU
WONDERING
ABOUT
CURRENT
EVENTS?**

God has it all under control. Learn
from the Bible what is just ahead at:

**Ukiah Christian Radio
KPR 89.5 FM**

Also streaming online! ▶



Also streaming online at:
<https://primary.christianradiostreaming.org/kpra.mp3>



Christian Lifestyle
Bible Answers
Health Topics
Children's
Programming

Contact us at: kpraukiah@gmail.com

Praise the Lord for Blessing KPR 89.5 FM Recently a group of dedicated volunteers gathered atop Spanish Mountain to install a new energy-efficient transmitter and two antennas. This upgrade will cut the electricity usage in half! Praises go to God that the new transmitter is now online and the signal quality is excellent.

Thank you to each of you who have helped with the purchase of the station, the new equipment, and are helping with the ongoing expenses of this dynamic evangelistic outreach.

People are beginning to come to church for the first time or are asking for information. Many have learned new concepts and want to know more.

Cards have been ordered with details how to listen to KPR, both locally and online via URL or the QR code. This will give anyone with internet capability the option to listen online.

Please continue to pray for this radio ministry. May His Word reach hearts here and around the world!

By Mike Wilson

Congratulations to Academy/High School Seniors who have attended UJA !

Fletcher Academy, NC



Kate Annalise Corbett

Kate, we are so very proud of you. All your hard work has paid off and you have graduated with high honors from Fletcher Academy. We can hardly wait for you to continue to blossom and grow as you follow your heart. It seems like just yesterday you were a little toddler running around our legs and learning how to talk. Now you're suddenly a young lady with grand plans and goals. It has been a wonderful experience to watch you grow and mature. You have brought us much joy and happiness, even though there have been some growing pains. We'll always support and love you and be cheering you on. Love Dad and Mom

Overall, I've loved my year at Fletcher. I've made so many amazing friends and memories, and I'm really thankful for the opportunity I had to go there. This fall, I plan on taking nursing at Southern Adventist University. Kate

As we celebrate Takoda's **Ukiah High School** graduation, our hearts are filled with pride and gratitude. From a young age, Takoda has lived up to the meaning of his name—*friend to all*—with a kindness and warmth that draws people to him. He is not only smart and respectful, but also a true team player, both in life and on the field. His athletic talents, especially in baseball, have been matched by his dedication and sportsmanship. This fall, he will begin an exciting new chapter at Santa Rosa Junior College, where he'll continue to pursue his academic goals and play the sport he loves.

Takoda, your strength of character and generous spirit inspire everyone around you. We can't wait to see all the amazing things your future holds. We love you so much, Mom, Dad, Hailee and Kannon



Takoda Newman

Rio Lindo Adventist Academy

Alexis is graduating from Rio Lindo Adventist Academy with honors, 4 year student and 3rd generation Rio graduate. We are so proud of her and all her accomplishments. She is planning to attend Santa Barbara City College in the fall. She is pursuing a career in the medical field, but isn't exactly sure what that is yet.

We want to personally thank our church family for all of your love and support throughout her life. You all have truly been a wonderful "village." God sent some wonderful families to our church when she was young who were a pivotal part of her early childhood. What a blessing to raise our children together with strong, loving families. We are grateful for all the advice and prayers. Thank You!



Alexis Bushby

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Jordan, we are proud of the young man you have become: always learning, working hard, and volunteering to help others. We have loved traveling with you on your journey, and we know that God has plans for you.

"I have called you you by your name; you are Mine." Isaiah 4 3:1

Love, Dad, Mom and Lily

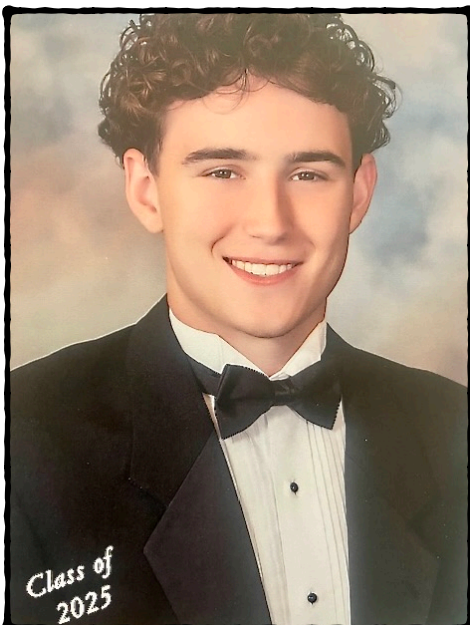
Jordan will likely be attending Mendocino Junior College in the fall.

Micah Nelson will be graduating from Rio Lindo Adventist Academy on June 1, 2025. He will continue his education at Southern Adventist University beginning in July 2025. We are so very proud of Micah and the young man he has become. We are excited to see how God leads him in the future.



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Hunter McNunn

Hunter is the youngest of three boys and was born to parents who absolutely adore him. Most importantly, he learned to love God and to act in His ways.

He has accomplished so many things in his young years, such as performing in several musicals at Ukiah Junior Academy: he played Sandy, the dog, in Annie, Kurt von Trapp in The Sound of Music, Simba, Jr. in The Lion King, as well as nine Cantatas. He started his musical career in Kindergarten with Tom Ganoung in the small music studio playing the piano. Since then he has dabbled with the guitar and ukulele and other string instruments.

Hunter joined The School of Performing Arts at age three and has always loved the stage. He performed in many plays through the years. He helped script a play alongside Amanda Rosenberg—A Place of Tomorrow. Amanda was someone who saw something in Hunter as she helped him improve his writing skills and his self-esteem, along with becoming an amazing dancer. He danced in Higher Ground and specialized in Capoeira, and many more. He was very talented in this endeavor. He then moved on to teach for The School of Performing Arts at a very young age. He coached the class called, Strictly Streets.

Basketball came easy for him. He started playing at age four, as well as baseball. Basketball was the sport that really took his attention, often getting his name printed in various papers. He continued playing basketball every year of his life, until his senior year, when he was sadly injured and has had to resign from the sport.

Hunter was baptized when he was in the seventh grade, along with his best friend, Jonathan Ngayan, and his twin sisters, Mikayla and Samantha. Jonathan and Hunter even picked their favorite Scriptures that were two lines apart from each other.

Hunter was very successful at Ukiah Junior Academy. This was greatly because of Beth Garibaldi, who always took extra time with him to make sure he had the tools to move on. Because of that strong background, Hunter was well equipped for Rio Lindo Adventist Academy, where he has received high marks. This is where he has spent his last four years, always living on the fourth floor. He has been an RA on this floor for two years. He received the shield in football in his freshman year and carried it through his senior year. He gave up The School of Performing Arts for a high school that included God. He has studied God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit and lives by these divine teachers.

He has had the opportunity to travel the world, including the UK, Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Portugal, France, Greece, Japan, Denmark, Sweden, Korea, and Vatican City. Last summer he was in Japan teaching Japanese kids English as a second language. He loves mission experiences!

To the church family, and you know who you are, we have raised an amazing young man who loves Jesus. Thank you!

Valeria Martinez graduated from Rio Lindo Adventist Academy. Photo unavailable.

Learning Fair—2025

On April 24, Ukiah Junior Academy held their annual Learning Fair event. Each class participated in a social studies or science topic.

In **Mrs. Olivera's Kindergarten**, ocean animals were the theme of her students' projects. **First graders** learned with **Mrs. Nelson** about life cycles and even watched as chicks hatched from an incubator. In the **Second and Third-grade** classroom, **Mr. Oliver** presented his students as historical figures who dressed up and shared about individuals from the past. Learning about the amazing human body was **Mrs. Kablanow's** topic for her **Fourth** graders.

Our **Fifth and Sixth grade** class created their own Rube Goldberg machines, led by **Mr. Kuntz**. Looking back into history with **Mrs. Chamberlain**, the **7th-10th graders** explored various historical advancements, transformative ideas, and iconic masterpieces.

Whether our guests or students were diving into the depths of the ocean or human body, taking a trip into the past, exploring great accomplishments, learning creative ways to cause reactions, or marveling at God's various creative animal life cycles, it was a terrific evening, full of enthusiasm and a love for learning!

By Wendi Olivera

Grade 1

By Debbie Nelson

Springtime is a special time of year for first graders at UJA. With life cycles as the focus, the class is excited to watch caterpillars become butterflies, praying mantises emerge from their egg cases, and experience the wonder of chicks hatching in the classroom incubator. The Learning Fair in April was the perfect time to show church and school families what the class has learned. All of the Learning Fair visitors adored the 15 baby chicks, and the first graders enjoyed showing their friends and families the projects they completed about life cycles.



Father's Day, June 15

Honor your father and celebrate his gifts of love to you!

I gave you life, but I cannot live it for you.

I can teach you things, but I cannot make you learn.

I can give you directions, but I cannot always be there to lead you.

I can allow you freedom, but I cannot account for it.

I can take you to church, but I cannot make you believe.

I can teach you right from wrong, but I cannot always decide for you.

I can buy you beautiful clothes, but I cannot make you beautiful inside.

I can offer you advice, but I cannot accept it for you.

I can give you love, but I cannot force it upon you.

I can teach you to share, but I cannot make you unselfish.

I can teach you respect, but I cannot make you honorable.

I can advise you about friends, but I cannot choose them for you.

I can advise you about sex, but I cannot keep you pure.

I can tell you about the facts of life, but I cannot build your reputation.

I can tell you about alcohol, but I cannot say NO for you.

I can warn you about harmful drugs, but I cannot prevent you from using them.

I can tell you about lofty goals, but I cannot achieve them for you.

I can teach you about kindness, but I cannot force you to be gracious.

I can warn you about sins, but I cannot set your standards.

I can love you, but I cannot place you in God's kingdom.

I can pray for you, but I cannot make you walk with God.

I can teach you about Jesus, but I cannot make Jesus your Lord.

I can tell you how to live, but I cannot give you eternal life.

Author unknown

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 davendonaa@icloud.com.