GOOD TIDINGS

E-NEWS - 31 January 2014 #26

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This Worlds Last Revelation – AUC Delegation and Spiritual Conference 2013

On the 24th of December, I travelled to Elim Heights Youth Camp (approximately 60 km North of Windsor, NSW) to attend the Australasian Union Conference. The camp meeting officially opened on Wednesday evening 25th of December with a powerful Bible Study, "Let There Be Light."

The theme of the camp was, "This World's Last Revelation," and there were many wonderful messages talking about God's matchless love and mercy and the importance of sharing this beautiful truth with those around us. The speakers also brought out that even though this world is becoming destitute of Christianity and of Christ, it is in the darkest hour that the light of Christ will shine the brightest. It is up to us to let His light shine through us.

On Thursday the messages mainly centred on witnessing for God through various avenues including canvassing and distributing books and tracts; helping those around us in practical ways; using our voice to tell others of the Gospel message of salvation. On Thursday evening the message focused on Philippians 2:5-9. The theme, "God's Glory in Attitude", concentrated on Jesus' life, the call to let the mind or attitude of Jesus be in us, and of what He did for us in becoming a human being. Partaking of our fallen human nature, He can empathize with us as sinful humans in all our trials and perplexities, giving us the grace we need to follow his example of humility.

On Friday we learnt about over-coming sin and how difficult this can be. The main reason that it is so difficult is mostly because we love it and therefore don't want to give it up. We learnt the only way this will ever be possible is through Jesus Christ delivering us from what the Bible calls "bondage." We need Jesus to give us a hatred for sin and a love for purity.

The Friday night meeting for opening Sabbath was entitled, "A plan for God's church," and this meeting brought out the need for each

member of God's church to be trained as missionaries in order to help the gospel message spread fast so that the work can be completed. It's not until the members rally to the work that the gospel in the light of the third angel's message will be given to all the world. It can't just be left to the Bible workers and Ministers.

Sabbath was a big day with some more wonderful messages. The Sabbath school lesson tied in well with the theme of camp, talking about the importance of having a relationship with Jesus and living for Him in every aspect of our lives. The Divine Service was very thought provoking. The key verse was Revelation 18:1 which talks about an angel that came from heaven and lightened the whole earth with his glory. We realized from this study how important it is to not only carry out the forms of religion but much more importantly to have Jesus living inside of us. The principles of the New Covenant were brought home to us all - surrendering everything to Christ and letting Him work out His will in us.

While we were greatly blessed with wholesome spiritual food throughout the camp time, we were also blessed with a lot of great, tasty, and healthful meals prepared by experienced cooks. It was also a treat to have a great variety of musical items. A highlight among them was the many wonderful vocal harmonies delivered by brethren from the Pacific Islands. As they praised God in song, I sometimes felt like I had been transported to heaven as the harmony of the singing was so uplifting. There were also many musicians, totalling about 16 in our little orchestra. The camp was well attended throughout, with more than 300 people present on Sabbath.

The Union Delegation session had taken place just before the camp meeting, and on Sabbath night the list of all the new Union Conference officers was read out. (See AUC Officers list below). It was so good to feel God's blessing over this part of the program as well and we pray that God will bless all the new leaders in their different fields of labour.

I came home from camp spiritually blessed and refreshed and hope that everyone felt the same. May we all continue more earnestly to work for God and gain a closer experience with Him in the coming year.

Yours in the Blessed Hope,

~Hayden Wiseman



Newly Elected South Pacific Union Mission and Australasian Union Conference Officers



Photo memories of AUC Camp Meeting 2013

Australasian Union Conference Officers 2014-2017

President:	Br Paul Chapman
Vice-President:	Br Nathan Tyler
Secretary/Treasurer:	Br Joe Voncina
Auditor:	Sr Mary Wiseman
Executive Committee:	Brn Paul Chapman, Nathan Tyler, Joe Voncina,
	Brian Jaksic, Alasdair Pow, Ben Thiel, Peter Szabo
Union Council:	Executive Committee, Conference Presidents,
	Field Leaders, Department Directors
Ministerial Committee:	Brn Paul Chapman (Chair), Nathan Tyler,
	Brian Jaksic, Peter Lausevic, Alasdair Pow,
	Ben Thiel, Matthias Thiel
Ministerial Committee Advisors:	Retired Ministers
Ministerial Council	All Credentialed Ministers in the AUC
Finance Committee:	Brn Harold Kraus (Chair), Danko Ilic,
	Martin Staudinger
Bylaws Committee:	Brn Paul Chapman (Chair), Ben Thiel,
	Gerson Robles
Directors of Reform Movement:	Executive Committee
Public Relations Officer:	Br Paul Chapman
Sabbath School Department Director:	Br Sam Batger
Sabbath School Committee (2)	Sr Kelly Payne-Reyes, Br Gerson Robles
Youth Department Director:	Br Csongor Matyas
Youth Department Committee (2)	Brn Ben Thiel, Peter Szabo,
Missionary Department Director:	Br Arnaldo Pedrosa
Missionary Department Committee (2)	Br Sam Batger, Luke Kneebone
Education Department Director:	Sr Deborah Chapman
Education Department Committee (4)	Srs Vesna Kraus, Diana Szabo, Elizabeth Thiel,
	Danica Tyler
Elim Missionary College Director	Br Peter Lausevic
Elim Missionary College Committee (2)	Brn Paul Chapman, Nathan Tyler
Health Department Director:	Sr Susan Lausevic
Health Department Committee (4)	Brn Alasdair Pow, Amos Thiel,
	Srs Monica Balarezo, Catherine Robles
Good Tidings Editor:	Br Paul Chapman
Good Tidings E-News Editor:	Br Paul Chapman
Good Tidings E-News Assistant Editor:	Sr Lidia Voncina
Hearts & Homes Publisher:	RLPA
Hearts & Homes Editor:	Sr I Lausevic
Hearts & Homes Associate Editor:	Sr Danica Tyler
Soul Magazine:	Br Nathan Tyler
Soul Magazine Team:	Directors of Missionary, Youth, Health and
	Education Departments

Youth Challenger Editor:	Br Csongor Matyas	
Youth Challenger Associate Editor	Youth Department	
RLPA Director:	TBA	
AUC Office Secretary:	Sr Lidia Voncina	
Publications & Electronic Media Review Committee: Brn Gerson Robles, A C Sas, Matthias Thiel,		
	Nathan Tyler, Sr Kaylene Matyas	
Elim Heights Management Committee:	Brn Robin Gordon (Chair), Rolf Hauptmann,	
	Branko Ilic, Garry Kraus, Sr Elaine Weymark	
Elim Store:	Sr Elaine Weymark	
Webmaster:	Br Nathan Tyler	
Welfare Department Director:	Br John Lausevic	
Welfare Department Committee (2)	Sr Karen Araya, Br Matthias Thiel	
Office Workers:	Br Joe Voncina, Srs Lidia Voncina, Elizabeth Thiel	
NSW Conference Minister/s	Br Alasdair Pow, Matthias Thiel	
	Brethren Peter Lausevic (GC), Rolly Dumaguit (GC)	
NSW Bible Worker/s:	Br Domenic Polistina (1 st yr. Trainee)	
Queensland Conference Minister/s	Brn Paul Chapman, Ben Thiel	
Queensland Conference Bible Worker/s:	Br Jacob de Souza	
Victoria/Tasmania Conference Minister/s:	Br Nathan Tyler	
Victoria/Tasmania Bible Worker/s:	Brn Geoff McCutcheon, Johnny Araya	
New Zealand Mission Field Minister/s	Br Arnaldo Pedrosa	
SA Mission Field Bible Worker/s	Br Csongor Matyas	
Western Australian Mission Field Bible Worker/s:.	Br Luke Kneebone (4 th yr. trainee)	
Western Australian Mission Field Minister/s	Br Ben Thiel (based in WA for 12 months, then	
	relocate to QLD)	
GC Delegates at Large:	Brn Paul Chapman	
GC Delegates:	Brn Nathan Tyler, Csongor Matyas	
GC Reserve Delegates:	1) Brn Joe Voncina, 2) Matthias Thiel,	
	3) Arnaldo Pedrosa	

Active Ministers:

Paul Chapman **Rolly Dumaguit** Peter Lausevic Arnaldo Pedrosa Alasdair Pow Ben Thiel Matthias Thiel Nathan Tyler

Retired Ministers: Neville S Brittain John Ciric

Alfredo Carlos Sas

Brian Jaksic

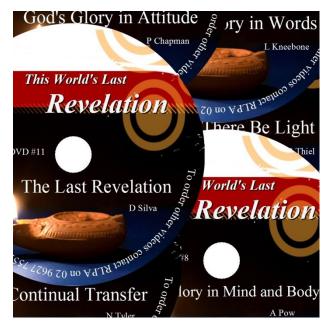
Mervin B Southwell

Ordained Elders:

Vladimir Ilic (Snr) **Csongor Matyas** Geoff McCutcheon Graham McMahon James Newman Jacques Payet **Gerson Robles Ordained Deacons:**

David Allen **Harold Kraus** Istvan Szabo

"The World's Last Revelation" DVDs Available



DVD recordings of the recent AUC Camp Meeting, "The World's Last Revelation" are now available from the Religious Liberty Publishing Association.

Single DVD \$2.00 each + postage Set of 14 DVDs \$28.00 + postage

> 9. A Plan for God's 1. Let there be Light 2. Behold Your God Church 3. God's Glory in Words 10. The Continual 4. God's Glory in Writing Transfer 5. God's Glory in Deeds 11. The Last Revelation 6. God's Glory in Attitude 12. Youth Meeting & 7. Grasping Peace **Praise Items** 8. God's Glory in Mind and 13 The Acceptable Year Body

of the Lord 14. Blessings for All

To order DVDs contact RLPA on +61-2-9627-7553 or email info@rlpa.org.au

Invitation to the NSW Spiritual Conference - 6-9 June 2014

A Thief in the Night

NSW Conference invites you to attend our 2014 Spiritual Conference, 6-9 June, 2014. The title of our conference is "A Thief in the Night".

Venue

The conference is being held at:

Elim Heights Youth Camp and Convention Centre, 5760B-5760D Putty Road, Colo Heights, NSW, 2756

For more details contact Alasdair Pow – mobile: 0433 408 145 or apow@sdarm.org.au

How to Make Tofu: Educating AUC Delegates

The South Pacific Islands Union Mission Delegates to Elim Heights at the recent AUC Session had a really blessed time. However, a real treat was the assistance given by Sister Richelle Pedrosa of New Zealand in teaching some of the attending delegates how to make tofu. I always thought that the making of tofu was complicated and simply easier to purchase. After visiting a tofu factory in Sacramento California recently I had an interest in making my own. This class presentation showed that it was so easy to do. For those with access to soy beans, much money can be saved over the course of a year in purchases. With many of our Pacific Islands brethren living in remote places, making tofu at home makes sense as the cost for transport is high and freshness of purchased products is never guaranteed.

We first saw how the soy beans had to be soaked and then processed in the blender. After that the blended soy beans are strained in cheesecloth and the pulp separated. Once that work was completed, the dregs were separated and the liquid portion was brought to a rolling slow boil. Some salt was placed at this point in time into the pot and fresh lemon juice was added to curdle the milk. The temperature was brought down and the curdled soy product--now called tofu--was placed into baskets which could be strained. This was left overnight to drain through the cheesecloth then placed into the refrigerator. This method produces a uniform and harder texture than normal tofu purchased in the shops. An additional benefit to the making of this style of tofu was that the dregs also known as 'okara' could be used in many other meal preparation ideas.

The next day, the finished tofu was cut into small cubes and used in a tofu salad which contained tomatoes, cucumbers, olives, alfalfa sprouts and seasonings. There was not much left at the end of the meal that day and a wonderful lesson was taught. We thank Sister Pedrosa for teaching us this lesson in Tofu Making.

~John Lausevic





"Music in the Church", Part 3

(Continued from "Good Tidings" E-News #24)



In I Samuel 16:23 we find the first Biblical account of music therapy. David played his harp to soothe the troubled mind of King Saul, and "Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him." The music played would have been relaxing and encouraging to the king.

Realizing the effect of the tone of the music upon King Saul, what is the significance of the actual lyrics of music? Why, for instance, don't we play "Happy Birthday" in a minor key? If you think about it, it's not a matter of preference or taste. There are some songs where you can swap the tunes, such as "Amazing Grace" and "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name." But these songs have the same metrical pattern. So why then don't we play "Jesus Loves Me" in a minor key? It's because the minor key doesn't work with the song. The words don't fit the tune. Is this because the song is something you just get used to, or is something communicated from the music apart from what the words say?

Some people believe the following:

- 1. Art as art is essentially neutral.
- 2. Art and music are both neutral.
- 3. Words are the important thing regardless of the music.
- 4. Music is only a vehicle for the words.

We can contrast these beliefs with some thoughts originally brought out by Aristotle, a Greek philosopher. He said that if one listens to the wrong kind of music, he will become the wrong kind of person. But conversely, if one listens to the right kind of music, he will tend to become the right kind of person.

Music directly imitates, that is, represents, the passions or states of the soul: gentleness, anger, courage, temperance, and the opposite qualities. Hence, when one listens to music that imitates a certain passion, he becomes imbued with that passion. And if over a long time he habitually listens to the kind of music that rouses ignoble (inferior, degraded) passions, his whole character will be shaped to an ignoble form.

In Germany a symposium was given on music in medicine. The findings demonstrated that music dictates feelings to the listener. It was also found that we, in listening to the music, subject ourselves to the composer. We assimilate the emotions and feelings that the composer/the performing musician is communicating.

Consider a segment of music which is full of suspense. Such music would probably be used in a spy movie at a crucial moment. Why would we not use this piece for a birthday party for a child or for a lullaby for a baby? If it is true that music means different things to different people, then why would a young child start crying over the suspenseful music? It is because music, in and of itself, speaks and communicates a message irrespective of the words. Music, we can see, is NOT neutral. Some would argue that it is a matter of what each individual associates with the music. However, in this case, there is a specific message given in the suspenseful piece, and no matter who you are, you will get that message. This tells us that we need to be careful about the music we listen to, not just the words.

Those who choose music to accompany a film track assume that the music chosen will affect <u>everyone</u> in the same way or they won't choose that particular music. The secular world knows that music affects everyone the same, even those in different cultures. It is only Christians that claim that music affects everyone differently. It is nonsense to argue that there are cultural differences in the way we react to music, or that music affects individuals in different ways.

What does the infant child understand? The word you say or the tone of your voice? By the tone of your voice, he understands your meaning without understanding your language. Here is an example of different tones used to say the same word; notice the different messages being communicated:

- "no"—to an infant about to upset the table;
- 2. "no"—to a child just about to run onto the road;
- 3. "no"—an angry person speaking;
- 4. "no"—a person's unbelief at winning the lottery;
- 5. "no"—a person hearing a family member has died.

All backgrounds, all cultures would understand the same emotional language expressed by the tone of voice. We can understand some things without understanding language. For example, children understand emotion very early in life. We also can understand the child before he can say a word. He knows how to communicate.

The tone of voice is not the only means of communication. Dogs and birds can communicate with us through various means. They can understand our tone of voice, a touch, and even our body language. For example, a slow, deliberate bow shows reverence. Whereas, a quick, jerky bow demonstrates something else.

Music affects our inner being. Music communicates various emotions, such as fear, grief, love, joy, reverence, hatred, anger, and sensuality. In the study of sentics, which deals with emotional healing through music, we find that the different emotions we experience affect both our heart rate and our respiration rate. As music affects our moods, it also affects us physically. As we listen to certain music, we are powerless to resist emotions conveyed through the music. These emotions create a physical response in altered heart rates and breathing rates. This is why television does affect us whether we like to admit it or not. The musical soundtracks are so strong, we cannot avoid being affected by them. They get into our conscious mind and our conscious thinking. They have affected our emotions, and we can no longer differentiate between what's on the screen and what is real life. Thus as we consider all the implications of our music choices, we should remember that "whatsoever (we) do, do all to the glory of God." (I Corinthians 10:31)

—Summary of a Presentation Series on CD by W. Stefani, Adventist Pastor, "Music in the Church". Part 4 in the next issue.

Farewell to our AUC working colleague Tabitha Hauptmann



1 Left to Right: Lizy Thiel, Lidia Voncina, Tabitha Hauptmann, Joe Voncina

On the 17th February 2003 the Australasian Union Conference (AUC) head office, then situated at Garfield Road, Riverstone, NSW, was blest by the addition of a new staff member. Sister Tabitha Ciric, a very shy and quiet young lady joined the team of workers as a desktop publisher. With her artistic skills and an eye for detail, she has been a huge blessing to the publishing work of the AUC ever since.

At that time, due to Naomi Thiel leaving,
Tabitha took over the desktop publishing
work. The office workers then included
Philip Gordon and Joe and Lidia Voncina. We
had many happy times working together and
I appreciated the help Tabitha was always
willing to give throughout her years of
service. A few years later, Tabitha was also
elected to be Religious Liberty Publishing
Association Director.

During Tabitha's working period at the office, she experienced a number of very

important and significant events in her life. She became an aunty for the first time in 2005, then became a wife when on the 22nd of October, 2006, she and Br Rolf Hauptmann joined their lives together in holy wedlock.

I have asked Tabitha to express some of the highlights she had whilst working at the office and I would like to share them with you.

"One of the best things about my job in the office was working with such lovely people! I couldn't have asked for nicer colleagues, I really enjoyed the wonderful family atmosphere, and will always treasure my memories of working together with Lidia and Joe.

My first challenge at the office was to learn how to use the graphic design software, and this quickly became my favourite task. I found a lot of pleasure in designing for the different projects that were required, from flyers, booklets and magazines, to invitations, posters and media packaging. I'm really thankful for this opportunity to gain skills and experience in this area.

With the Elim store located at the AUC Office, it was also a great pleasure to assist the different customers who came to purchase from the health food shop, and to meet many new people.

While graphic design was the most enjoyable part of my work, two other things that I really liked about my job were using the computer, my favourite 'gadget,' and since I love reading, being surrounded by books was also wonderful! When posting out the new

literature it was impossible not to get a 'sneak peak' at the magazines, and scan through the interesting news and articles.

Especially to all the youth, I want to encourage you to use and give your talents in God's service in whatever opportunity you are given, and you will be abundantly blessed."

After ten years of faithful service, Tabitha decided it was time to pursue something different in her life and Friday, 6th of December 2013 was her last day at work.

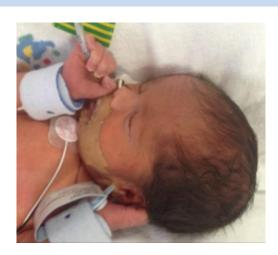
We would like to welcome our new team member Elizabeth (Lizy) Thiel who moved back over to Australia from New Zealand together with her family due to her husband, Matthias Thiel, being placed in NSW as a local minister. Currently Lizy is looking after the administration of our Publishing Department.

Tabitha's many skills no doubt will be missed at the office but we wish her all the very best for her future plans. May God richly bless both Tabitha and Rolf as they continue to serve Him in different ways.

~ Lidia Voncina

Ezra Robles - What a Surprise!





Ezra Robles was born on the 21 January 2014. He is the second child born to Catherine and Gerson Robles. Due to complications during the pregnancy, he was 1.8kg at birth (less than 4lbs). Here is a word from Catherine and Gerson on the birth and early days of their son:

"There had been complications in pregnancy and at birth Ezra was diagnosed with tracheoesophageal fistula which is a condition where the oesophagus has an abnormal connection to the trachea (the pipe that brings air from your mouth to lungs) and in Ezra's case was not connected to his stomach. Immediately after birth he was taken to the neonatal intensive care unit and had surgery the next morning to correct this. Since his surgery he has been progressing extremely well day by day, putting on weight and slowly losing each tube that had been there to help him breath, eat and recover. He had an ultrasound scan one week post-surgery which showed that the body had healed very well and there were no leaks which enabled him to now drink milk from a bottle instead of being fed through a nasogastric tube.

"We attribute his good health and recovery to the loving care of our Heavenly Father (along with wonderful surgeons and doctors) and we are extremely grateful to everybody for their prayers, love and support which were a huge help to us during this difficult time. He still has a long way to go as he was very small and weighed in at 1.8kgs. Your continued prayers are really appreciated."

"Gerson and Catherine."



We thank the Lord for hearing the many prayers that went up on behalf of Ezra and for guiding the hands of the doctors and nurses who attended to Ezra and Catherine. We desire them both a very quick recovery and many years of health and happiness to follow.

Congratulations and God's blessings to this beautiful family!

"Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD..." Psalms 127:3 first part.

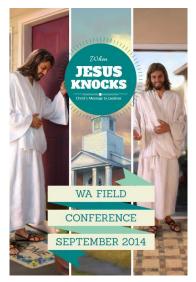
Invitation to the WA Spiritual Conference - September 2014

Jesus Knocks - Christ's Message to Laodicea

WA Field invites you to our 2014 Field Spiritual Conference, 26-29 September, 2014. The title of our conference is "When Jesus Knocks — Christ's Message to Laodicea". The counsel of the True Witness to Laodicea is more relevant to God's people today than at any other time in the history of the Christian church. We will consider the most important elements of this message found in Revelation Chapter 3 and how they apply to us today. We hope you will be able to come and join us at this important and refreshing time together.

Venue

The conference is being held at a beautiful Christian campsite named Camp Logue Brook located just 1½ hours' drive south of Perth (between Yarloop and Harvey). The address is: Logue Brook Dam Road, HARVEY WA 6220



For more details and to download the invitation, go to: www.sdarm.org.au/wa2014

Coming Events Calendar

9 Feb - 7 June, 2014 Elim Missionary College 2014 Course

(Registrations are still being accepted)

For further information contact:

emc@sdarm.org.au

Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553

For Registration Forms and Course Information go to:

http://www.sdarm.org.au/emc

17-21 April, 2014 Victorian Conference Camp 2014

Location: Waratah Bay, Victoria. For Further information go to

<u>vic@sdarm.org.au</u>

Telephone: +61-(0)3-9331-6432

6-9 June, 2014 NSW Spiritual Conference 2014

"A Thief in the Night"

Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW.

For Further information contact Alasdair Pow on

apow@sdarm.org.au or

Telephone: +61-(0)433 408 145

15-17 August, 2014 Queensland Conference Camp 2014

For Further information contact Paul Chapman

Email: pchapman@sdarm.org.au
Telephone: +61-(0)7-3862-4803

26-29 September, 2014 Western Australian Mission Field Spiritual Conference

Location: Camp Logue Brook, Harvey

Western Australia

For further information contact: wa@sdarm.org.au

Telephone: +61-(0)8-9377-3283

Download Invitation Here: www.sdarm.org.au/wa2014

24-28 December, 2014 AUC Youth Convention 2014

Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW

For Further information go to

www.sdarm.org.au

Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553

GOOD TIDINGS E-NEWS

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PO Box 132, Riverstone NSW 2765, Australia

Tel: (02) 9627 7553

Email: goodtidings@sdarm.org.au

Web: <u>www.sdarm.org.au</u> Editor: Paul Chapman

Associate Editor: Lidia Voncina Design: Tabitha Hauptmann

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