

AUSTRALASIAN GOOD TIDINGS

E-NEWS – 31 July 2014 #32

AUC Youth Department Fly-n-Build 2014

In this Issue

AUC Youth Department Fly-n-Build 2014.....	1
Fellowshipment – Larry and Tanya Ah-ching.....	4
Depression Recovery Program – Graduation Lunch.....	6
Cooking Demonstrations – Perth WA7	
NSW Youth Focus Meeting – July 2014.....	9
Agriculture Seminar - Philippines – J Lausevic.....	10
Music in the Church – Part 5.....	12
Victoria/Tasmania Conference New Officers for 2014-2016.....	14
Follow Their Faith – 100 Years of Witness – Part 2.....	14
Condolences to Boje Family – Romania.....	17
Serbia Public Missionary Outreach	17
RLPA News.....	19
Invitations to Spiritual Conferences, Camp Meetings and Summer School 2015.....	20
Coming Events Calendar.....	21

Stage One - Elim Heights NSW July 6-11



Some volunteers arrived on Friday the 4th, while others arrived on Sunday morning to start a week of intensive, hard and challenging labour at Elim Heights Youth Camp. Some volunteers started their journey from interstate after they finished their work for the day and drove half of the night to get to Elim Heights to start working on one of the projects, “the amphitheatre”. The first day of work started at 6:30am with morning worship and breakfast. After breakfast we had a look at the site and thought this should not take too long to clear, mark and start the drilling of the holes for the posts to be concreted in for the retaining walls which form the terraces for the amphitheatre.

But unfortunately we were wrong. As soon as we set up the laser level, the site proved to require a lot more work than we first anticipated. While the professional volunteers - Madalin Duna and Gabriel Mandic - got in to mark up the levels and the shape of the amphitheatre designed by Jesse Ilic, Peter Szabo drove his car to pick up a 1.8t excavator hired and paid for by Amy and Benny Gules for the project. By the time the boys marked up the site, the excavator was on site and Gabriel enthusiastically got in to start the work of excavation straight away.

After scooping dirt a few times, we realised that we needed to excavate much more than we initially thought. Then the work became more challenging; we hit some huge rocks that the little 1.8t excavator struggled to even scratch let alone dig out. Then we started frantically searching for mobile signals in order to make some phone calls in search of a much bigger and stronger excavator. Meanwhile Diana Szabo cooked up a delicious meal to help us regain strength for the work that proved to be more challenging than we anticipated.



After the first lunch we learned that Benny had organised a 5t excavator, Darko and Braidon Voncina graciously volunteered to bring it up on their truck after work. The second excavator arrived on site at around 10:00pm. Gabriel jumped straight in, to start digging out the huge rocks that the little excavator could not move, while Madalin kept digging and cutting with the small one. Jordan Chapman was in charge of making sure that the excavations followed the right levels. His university training gave him an upper hand to make sure the site levels were consistent all around. Finally the first day of work finished at around 11:30pm.

After a well-deserved short sleep, we started work at the same time as the first day with the same procedure. Three more volunteers arrived from Queensland - Monica, Daniela and Elisabeth Balarezo. With more man power on the ground, the work could start again in full strength. The cold of the day was only felt until we got to the site and started working. Soon the extra layers of clothing started peeling back. As soon as the excavation of the first two rows of terraces were completed, Madalin started drilling the holes. Soon we realised that even that job was not as easy as we initially imagined. After much time and combined effort - man and excavator power - we had drilled the first hole.

This tedious work continued on for the whole day. We only stopped for the much appreciated delicious meals and kept on going till 12:00pm midnight. Huge rocks were dug out, and a lot of dirt that was taken out of the terraces was collected at the bottom of the hill to form the stage. The rocks were used to create natural retaining walls where it was needed. A rock was found with the shape of the map of Australia and is now on the stage becoming part of one of the natural retaining walls. Darko and Braidon Voncina came up once again to take the 5t excavator away. The site finally took shape, and most of the 90 or so holes were drilled.

The third day the small excavator was due back to the hire place, so the day had to start again at 6:30am as usual with the same procedure. There was a lot of excavation that needed to be finished before the excavator was returned, so Gabriel worked really hard to clear all that work. Brother Robin Gordon was constantly carrying dirt away with the new backhoe tractor that was just purchased recently as part of the Fly & Build project. Some of the holes were in places where huge rocks were and had to be drilled by jackhammer. About nine or so holes were drilled this way.

All of the volunteers took their turn in jackhammering, but most of the holes were drilled by Domenic Polistina and Peter Szabo, while the others worked hard mixing concrete and pushing wheelbarrows full of concrete to the holes where all the steel posts were concreted in one by one. These posts needed to be at the right height, level and distance from each other, so this job was not an easy task either.

Because of the rocks under the surface, some of the holes drilled by the excavator shifted out of place during the drilling, so afterwards these needed to be rectified by hand and shovel. Girls and boys on their knees hurried to clean the holes of dirt and rocks before the concrete was poured into the holes. The volunteers all took turns mixing the concrete and pushing wheelbarrows. Different people were in charge of the two concrete mixers mainly the youngest volunteers, Roni and Rico Szabo and Nathan Boje. They worked really hard to make sure the concrete arrived to the holes in time and always mixed to the right



ratio of ingredients. We nearly ran out of cement, and Benny and Amy Gules came and brought us 40 bags of cement in their truck, arriving on site around 8:30pm. The work could go on, and by the end of the day almost all the holes were filled with one post and a wheelbarrow full of concrete. The work continued all the way into the night again, till 11:00pm.

Madalin and Gabriel were supposed to be travelling home that night as they had another job on hold and other tradies were waiting on their return. They had left their families and children behind - some of them were fighting colds in their absence, but they could not leave while the work was not complete.

On Thursday morning Br Matthias Thiel also came to help. This was the big day when all the concrete sleepers were carried to the site. Pairs of workers carried them one by one and placed them in front of the steel posts. Madalin and Gabriel worked out the levels once again, spacers were cut to the right height and the concrete sleepers were placed in position. Brother Merv Southwell also helped out, with carrying the 50 kg concrete sleepers. We politely asked him not to consider himself young just this one time, and he reluctantly gave up that work, but he never stopped helping with other things.

In the end different individuals, wanting to show that the week's hard work had given them extra muscle power, picked up and carried the 50kg concrete sleepers on their own. Jordan Chapman and David Dumaguit, who don't work every day on construction sites, were extra pleased by this achievement. By evening the work was completed, and we could finally stop working at a decent time - 7:00pm. Gathering around the fire in the dining hall, nicely showered and ready for bed, signs of a long long week of hard labour started to show. People looked worn and exhausted but thankful to God for how much was achieved and pleased with their individual accomplishments. After evening worship, everyone was really eager to go to bed.

On Friday morning Br Peter Szabo and I finished installing the last few sleepers and straight away started discussing the plans for the second stage of the project. Originally we hoped to finish the project in one go, but unfortunately the difficulty of the job and the availability of our main volunteers forced us to split the

project into two stages. Brother Robin, Br Peter and I started looking for timber for the seating. Not long after, we found a place where we found some good quality hardwood timber, and we ordered it straight away. They will finish cutting the timber within three weeks, and it will dry by the time the second stage commences sometime in September.

We would like to praise the Lord for the strength He blessed us all with and for keeping us safe as we worked. We cannot thank Him enough that He looked after us with great weather-- no rain, snow or strong winds. We would also like to thank all the volunteers that helped us out in any way. There were many more volunteers than the number of people onsite and many who helped us financially. The cost of the amphitheatre in total will be somewhere around \$15,000.00, but no money can buy the beauty of the place where it is situated and we trust, and hope that many blessed meetings will be enjoyed in this great location.

If you feel inspired to help out in stage two of the project, please check the YC Website - www.youthchallenger.org.au/fly-build - as we will post the dates there. You can also see more details and photos on this website. Ultimately you can become a YC Member, and we will e-mail you the info as it becomes available. Go to: www.youthchallenger.org.au/new-member-2 to become a YC Member. If you cannot help physically in stage two, your financial support is much appreciated. You can donate online at the above website or through your local treasury indicating Fly & Build on the tithe slip. Thank you for your help, and may God richly bless you.

~ Csongor Matyas

AUC Youth Department Director

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=5957>

Fellowshipment – Larry and Tanya Ah-ching

Schofields Church, Sydney, Australia

On a cold winter's Sabbath morning, our hearts felt very warm with the joy of Christian love as we worshipped our wonderful Heavenly Father.



During the Divine Service, Brother Larry and Sister Tanya Ah-ching made their public declaration that they would like to be rejoined with God's people and were fellowshipped into the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement Schofields Church.

The opening scripture reading was found in Ephesians 5:25-27: *"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by*

the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

Brother Matthias Thiel took the first part of the Divine Service by highlighting the importance of being in the fold, not wandering around alone, and also hearing, knowing and distinguishing the voice of the true Shepherd and following Him.

Time was then given to Larry and Tanya to express their thoughts. Sister Tanya chose to read a poem, “A God of Hope” by M.S. Lowndes as it best described their experience, how thankful they are to the Lord for being with them throughout their Christian journey. Larry and Tanya left the Reform Church with heavy hearts, having in mind to be of help to others. They both shared how their experience away has been a huge learning curve; they always believed that the Reform Movement was the true church of God, and during their time away, their faith was made stronger by the trials they had to face. They also shared how happy they are now to take this stand. Brother Matthias then welcomed them back and extended the righthand of fellowship into the body of Christ.



Brother A C Sas had a short sermon on the Church being the body of Christ and Christ being the head of the body. He brought the analogy of how the human body works, having many individual members fit together to make a whole body, this representing the church. The General Conference representing the heart, pumps out spiritual life sending literature around the world and in return treating problems that are



brought back to it. There is no life unless the head, which is Christ, is connected to the body. When one of the members suffers, then the whole body is affected and suffers. The body can live without some parts,

but a member of the body cannot live without being connected to the body; it must be nourished, otherwise it will certainly die.

After the service, everyone was given opportunity on their way out, to greet Brother and Sister Ah-ching. It was truly a wonderful day, and we praise God for this blessed occasion.

Matthew 16:19: *“And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”*

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6036>

Depression Recovery Program – Graduation Lunch

Wentworthville Depression Recovery Program

Sunday morning on July 13, the Wentworthville Church kitchen was a busy hive of activity as the sisters were preparing lunch for the graduates of the Dr Neil Nedley Depression Recovery Program. Although only six of the graduates (including church members) were present, we had a wonderful time together.

Before sitting down to the delicious meal, Br Domenic Polistina, Program Director, thanked all for coming and shared a few encouraging words. Before and after scores from the test results showed, on average, a marked improvement by the end of the program in attendees’ levels of anxiety, depression and emotional intelligence (EQ). It was an exciting and moving moment when the graduates were called forward to receive their certificates.



Lunch highlighted some of the top “brain foods” presented by Dr Nedley, with dishes that included tofu, walnuts, linseed, green soy beans and other healthy ingredients. The tasty food and pleasant company was greatly enjoyed by all.

God willing, we look forward to hosting the Depression Recovery Program again in the future, and in the meantime, we are planning a cooking demonstration in September that will also focus on brain food. Please pray that it goes well and that the Lord will bless the planning and running of these classes so that those attending receive a blessing.

~ SDARM Wentworthville Church

Cooking Demonstrations – Perth WA

On Sunday July 20, the WA Health Department team hosted another cooking demonstration, this time including a hands-on bread making workshop in the program. It was something new for everybody, but went off really well, although of course we learned some things along the way.



The program began with the bread-making, with everybody heartily joining in and having a lot of fun together. Once the bread was ready for rising, we cleaned up a little (there was liberal amounts of flour over tables, floors and people) and sat back and listened to Sylvia Bush talk about whole grains, their uses, benefits and variety.

Amariah Payet and myself (Catherine Robles) demonstrated tofu and spinach scrolls and blueberry muffins using wholemeal flour. We had no complaints about the dishes, and all said they thoroughly enjoyed the food.

The demonstrations were followed by a five-minute talk on a natural remedy, peppermint and chamomile tea mixed with fresh lemon juice and honey, and then everybody wanted to know when they were going to make their bread rolls. The afternoon was concluded with the making of the bread rolls; and everybody socialised with tea, food tasting and good company while they waited for their bread rolls to bake in the ovens.

We really had a lovely time together and are looking forward to our next event promoting healthy vegetarianism. See below for a couple of recipes which were demonstrated.

~ Catherine Robles

No-fail Bread

INGREDIENTS

5 ½ cups whole wheat flour

3 teaspoons salt

2 ½ cups water

1 ½ tablespoons active dry yeast

OPTIONAL INGREDIENTS:

Soy flour, or other flours: 1/2 cup
1-3 tablespoons honey or other sweetener
3 tablespoons olive oil

METHOD

Mix the water with the other liquid ingredients and salt. Add about 3/4 of the flour and all of the yeast and other optional ingredients. Mix together well, and then knead for approximately 5-10 minutes, adding flour as needed until you have a springy, non-sticky ball of dough. Place dough into a bowl, cover with a cloth and allow to rise in a warm place until the dough has doubled in size (about an hour). Punch the dough down, and allow it to rise again (about ½ an hour). Take the dough out of the bowl, form it into a smooth ball and place in a medium-sized, oiled bread pan. Cover and allow to rise. When dough is starting to rise out of the top of the pan, place carefully into a pre-heated oven (about 180-200 degrees Celsius), taking care not to bump the tin, as this will cause the dough to sink. Bake for 40-60 minutes or until the bread is a golden-brown colour. Remove from the tin immediately, and allow to cool on a cooling rack. Store the bread in a cool, dry place. Keeps for up to a week.

Tofu & Spinach Rolls

INGREDIENTS

Pastry:

3 cups wholemeal flour
1 teaspoon salt
½ cup vegetable or olive oil
1 cup water

Filling:

1½ blocks tofu	½ lemon squeezed
1 bag baby spinach	2 tablespoons water
2 tablespoons soya sauce	½ tub of Tofutti cream cheese
2 teaspoon curry powder	1 finely sliced onion
½ teaspoon salt	2 cloves of garlic, crushed

METHOD

Preheat oven to 180 degrees Celsius

Pastry: Place flour and salt in bowl and mix. Then add vegetable/olive oil and water, and combine together well till it forms a dough. Lightly spread some flour on working bench, and place dough on the bench. Roll out dough.

Filling:

Cut finely or blend baby spinach. In a separate bowl scramble tofu using a fork. Combine tofu and spinach, adding soya sauce, curry powder, salt, lemon, onion, crushed garlic and water. Mix well.

Spread the Tofutti Cream Cheese evenly on the rolled out pastry.

Place the combined spinach and tofu on pastry and again, spread evenly.

Starting from one end, roll the pastry, forming a scroll.

Cut the scroll into desired sizes, and place in oven for 40 min

Serve while hot.

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=5984>

NSW Youth Focus Meeting – July 2014

5 July 2014

July's Youth Focus Meeting (YFM) took place at Danko and Rosetta Ilic's home.

Upon closing the Sabbath together, we were all tested on our general Bible knowledge by doing a couple of Bible Trivia Quizzes. One was on "End of Time Prophecy" and the other was a general knowledge quiz from the New Testament. These were multiple answer questions and even though they looked very easy, it did make one think. For example:

What does the phrase 'Ephphatha' mean?

- Be opened
- Your sins are forgiven
- You are healed
- I thirst

The answer was – Be opened – Mark 7:34



We are admonished in John 5:39 to *"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me"*; and then it was time to see how we all scored... and I am happy to report that the majority of attendants passed with over 80%!!!

We then proceeded to have a special youth business meeting in order to organise and elect leaders for the

upcoming "Youth Sabbath" which will be taking place at Elim Heights on the 5th Sabbath of November.

This was followed by a delicious potluck dinner. The youth were previously invited to bring their favourite popcorn topping, so a large amount of popcorn was made after dinner for each one to add on their favourite topping; it was very yummy to enjoy different flavours of both savoury and sweet popcorn!

Thank you Rosetta and Danko Ilic for opening your home to the youth and for your kind hospitality!

~ NSW Youth Department

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=6017>

Agriculture Seminar - Philippines – J Lausevic

“Organic Farming Seminar”



Two training seminars were held by Br John Lausevic, the Australasian Union Conference (AUC) Welfare Department Director, and the General Conference Welfare Department Committee at the request of the APAR Regional Secretary, Br Rolly Dumaguit.

The trip was funded by generous donations from brothers and sisters around Australia and the United States.

Australia’s ties with the Philippines have a long history of church cooperation. Beginning in 1958, Brother D. Nicolici visited Davao City. This initial visit led to more and more visits until a group incorporated themselves as Seventh Day Adventist Remnant Church. Since this visit, until now, many members have joined the Reform Movement, and to date this has grown to over 500 members on this Island alone. A week-long seminar was held in the Digos City Church property which is Southern Mindanao’s Conference Headquarters established long ago. This city is a 90-minute drive from Davao City. Although it was harvest time, many farmers and members along with church workers attended the week-long seminar on Organic Farming and making of Bio- Fertilizers. Many wonderful experiences were made, and old friendships from my first visit to this country almost 29 years ago were renewed. Many acquaintances recalled the times of Br and Sr Milivoj Dimitrijevic and also Br Steven Barat and some of his family members during their time spent in Philippines. They also remembered travellers like Sr Sandra Barnett and Mary Barnett Wiseman and their visit many years ago.

After completion of the seminar many brethren expressed the desire for a future seminar in Mindanao. They said “please come back to the ‘Fruit Basket’ of the Philippines”. A short day trip was taken to visit a “Garden of Eden” park/compound surrounded by a very tall walled fence to keep people out. Interesting plants were seen along with landscaping and a “Pastoral Palace” belonging to the Television Minister who owned the park.



Bio Fertilizer Training Session

After an un eventful flight back to Manila, Br Ian Lepo, who accompanied me on this trip, and I presented another week-long training seminar in BTMS also known as Bible Training Missionary School in Cabatang, Quezon Province. This property was established in 1990 after being shifted from Paenan area of Quezon. Here more intensive sessions were held for the missionary school students, along with over 30+ attendees--farmers, gardeners, and people with an interest in farming. Hands on sessions included Calamansi Tree Plantation Restoration, Tropical Bio Fertilizers, Compost Pile Building, Manufacturing of Bio Fertilizers, Organic Gardening and Garlic and Tomato Growing. Every night was capped by an agriculture-related movie on health, canning, making your own soaps and permaculture methods. Many people are trapped in the chemical fertilizer cycle, and this was a good experience for them to see that organic farming is possible especially in the tropics.

Several years ago Br Rolly Dumaguit the GC Regional Secretary requested Agriculture Seminars be given to our brethren in Philippines. Due to time constraints and illness I could not give them. The brethren there were disappointed and new dates were established. But then those were postponed as well due to a lack of finances for travel. After typhoon Yolanda, the need for the seminars was even greater. Generous assistance was then given to the Philippines by the Australian brethren.

Although much time has passed since my first visit to the Philippines, poverty has not been erased. Many of our members are still living hand to mouth, and agriculture is a way to improve their incomes. You can still see to this day, the needs of the poor will always be among us. Having and giving is a blessing to each one of us, and every time I visit a country with poor people in need, it is a constant reminder to me that I have much to be thankful for. Please give generously towards the poor and also the work of the Welfare Department of the Australasian Union Conference. Much more can be done but funds are always lacking. An additional "Thank You" is given to the Philippine Union for transport and hospitality, and to the

volunteers who gave generously of their time to cook and attend to the needs of all the attendees at both locations.

While still in the Philippines, I was also able to travel to the typhoon stricken areas, with a generous donation of funds from a sister in Australia. Those devastated areas were without electricity for two months, and to this day, only basic services are available, and the needs are many.

Because of the typhoon's tremendous force, we lost two church buildings. One church has been rebuilt by the brethren there. There is a word in Tagalog, the local language, "Bayanihan" which I learned is a wonderful word for welfare work. It is the cooperative undertaking; a concerted effort, especially, the act of working together in mutual aid.

"Bayanihan" was used to restore and rebuild the Ormoc City Church which was damaged. However, due to circumstances, the Bogo City Church cannot be rebuilt on the previous site. The brethren there have purchased a small block of land, but since the time of my visit, everything there is at a standstill, as they do not have funds to build. They wish to build a cement-block structure which will withstand cyclones. The brethren there need funds to accomplish this endeavour.

John Lausevic
AUC Welfare Department Director

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=5972>

Music in the Church – Part 5

DVD Presentation by W. Stefani, Adventist Pastor

That which rules the heart forms the art. There is a purpose in the arts. They communicate what is in the heart of the artist. As the Bible says, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." In art, as in anything creative, there is always a philosophy or religion behind it. For example, the values or the things most important to the artist are shown in the way the art form is made. This is even true in how a city is built. You can tell by the architecture what the beliefs of the people are. In art, you can portray what something looks like, or you can portray an idea. Regardless of what is portrayed, the artwork reveals what the artist believes.

Nothing is religiously neutral. In music, human beings create the style of music. They do this in several ways. Firstly, the style can be shown by how the notes are put together. Secondly, the musician can choose which harmonies to use. Then, he chooses which instruments to use.

Music, then, and art in general, actually shows us whether a civilization is Christian. The concept of God is a major factor in art. There are two views of God; one is a transcendent view, and the other is an imminent view. In the transcendent view, God is above and beyond what we experience as human beings. The characteristics of God which are very important to those with this view are that He is omnipotent, omniscient, and holy. Faiths that follow this view include Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. Those who hold the other view of imminence believe that God is very close to us, and He is present everywhere. This belief focuses on God's omnipresence and His accessibility in the human experience. In this view, the experience is blurred between the emotions and an experience with God. Faiths that follow this view include

Pantheism and Hinduism. It is important that we understand these two distinct views because each view gives rise to a different set of religious beliefs and experiences and a different type of music.

Looking first at the characteristics of music for those with a transcendent belief, we find very little imitation of the present world (God is above and beyond). This belief avoids dancing. The focus is on meditation of what God has given. It leads to thoughts of God. This type of music won't emphasize emotions, but instead intellect, a study of the Word. Those who follow this belief meditate on what God has said about Himself. This music is linked to the text; it is melodic, without much jump in pitch. The tempo is relaxed, and there is calm, continuous movement. Those who sing this type of music do not use a dramatic effect in their voice. The music is not meant to draw attention to the performer.

On the other hand, imminent music has an emphasis on imitating the physical world. It touches the emotions, but does not lead to reflection. The words are not important. The rhythm, however, is all important. Repetition in words and phrases is common. There are often meaningless words and the rhythm is repetitive as well. This music can be mesmerizing. This music is used largely with percussion instruments. It encourages group participation. The experience one has, rather than meditation, is the ultimate goal.

In Christianity, we believe that God is both transcendent and imminent. Holding the two in balance is the key. Christian music, unlike any other cultural music, has been prone to dramatic change. It started out with very transcendent music and has now come, as a whole, to a very imminent focus. How did this happen? When Christian music first came on the scene, it was very transcendent, to make the distinction clear between Christians and pagans, who listened to more imminent music. The early Christian church adopted the Gregorian chant, which came from Judaism. God was moved further and further away until the people didn't participate in the music at all. Then the Reformation came and brought God much closer to the people. Jesus was our Saviour, and we could come directly to Him. So the music changed; it became *more* imminent, but not completely imminent. The people were now able to participate in the music. There was more metered rhythm to help those not musically trained to sing together. Music fanned the Reformation. There was now more emphasis on what God was doing in the individual's life, not how far He was away from them. From this beginning, the music went to loud music, full of harmonies, repetition, and more participation. This all led to the charismatic movement, where imminence is all important. In this music, the artists look for things that stir up the people. Unfortunately, Christianity has moved into what the secular world has done; they have looked into what will stir the emotions. In the charismatic movement the music will do for me what I want it to do. We then will have to go against the current culture towards a more transcendent view.

You can tell a lot about where a church is theologically by the music it approves and allows. In general, spiritual vision is lacking. We are following what everyone is doing. People are being sent to Hillsong to learn how to present music. We do have the skill already; unfortunately, we don't have the vision. We don't know where we ought to be with our music. If God does not dwell within us, we will yield to what is around us. We should not adjust to custom. We need Divine aid. Music is a moral issue. We need to know how to make things more balanced. God wants us to sing a new song. He says, "This is the way; walk ye in it."

"The soul may ascend nearer heaven on the wings of praise. God is worshiped with song and music in the courts above, and as we express our gratitude we are approximating to the worship of the heavenly hosts. 'Whoso offereth praise glorifieth' God (Psalm 50:23). Let us with reverent joy come before our Creator, with "thanksgiving, and the voice of melody" (Isaiah 51:3)." --*Steps to Christ*, pp. 103, 104.

Victoria/Tasmania Conference New Officers for 2014-2016

The Victoria/Tasmania Conference has had their delegation session and the following are the new officers for the term 2014-2016:

Conference President	Nathan Tyler
Vice President	Geoff McCutcheon
Secretary	Brigita Szabo
Treasurer	Peter Szabo
Auditor	Csaba Szabo
Sabbath School Department Director	Joe Szabo
Assistant SS Department Director	Diana Szabo
Young Peoples Department Director	Daniel Cristea
Assistant YPs Department Director	Gabriel Mandic
Missionary Department Director	John Araya
Media Department Director	Nathan Tyler
Literature Department Director	Andrada Condrovici
Children's Department Director	Diana Szabo
Music Coordinator	Brigita Szabo
Assistant – Music Coordinator	Natasha Duna

May God bless the work done in Victoria and Tasmania.

Follow Their Faith – 100 Years of Witness - Part 2

Continuing our series of testimonies left by some of our modern day heroes of the faith—men and women who, being both Christians and Reformers of the past century, stood in defense of the truth and righteousness, regardless of the consequences. The following are excerpts from the publication, And Follow Their Faith.

In the years 1919-1926/27, the central office of the Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement in Germany was moved to Isernhagen, near Hannover. The work progressed everywhere, in Germany as well as abroad. But when the totalitarian regime of the National Socialists came to power in 1933, a difficult time again began for the believers. The required coordination in the service of earthly and national interests presented to us many decisive conscientious problems. The leading men of the Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement in Germany as well as in other countries were convinced, mostly because of personal experiences and battles of faith during World War I, that on the basis of the Bible and the Testimonies we



cannot at any time participate in political struggles or national or international quarrels. Therefore it was not long before principally the leading men in Germany were called to testify before party bosses and organs of the state government. Because of the unmerciful election propaganda and the pressure to take part in and become members of the party, etc., all under the symbol of the sunwheel, hardly anyone was spared from showing his colors....

The president of the East German Union Conference, Brother Johann Hanselmann, who lived at that time in Saxony, near Dresden, was arrested in September of 1936. Based on the decision of September 29, 1939, the Attorney General ruled that the trial against him was to be at the cost of the state. Nevertheless he was further held in custody in the police prison at Dresden.

Johann Hanselmann

The Secret State Police had decreed the following on January 27, 1937:

"In connection with the drives against the leaders and ministers, as well as colporteurs, of the Reformed Church of the Seventh-day Adventists, the current leader for East Germany, . Johannes Hanselmann, born 5/1/1892 in Frankenberg (Wuerttemberg), last living at Langebrueck (Dresden County), Adolf Hitler Street 9, has also been taken into custody for investigation under 16 J s 2796/36."

On March 23, 1937, the Attorney General and Chief of the prosecution for the special court of Saxony at Freiburg issued a warrant for the arrest of Hanselmann, Johann Georg, Minister. He was accused as follows:

"He drove through the following territories with his car- Saxony, Brandenburg. Pomerania, Silesia, and East Prussia- visited the followers of this sect, held Bible studies, celebrated the Lord's Supper according to the rite of the prohibited sect, and accepted monies that had been gathered."

"Also the accused says that because of his religious conviction he avoids worldly discussion as a matter of principle and at every occasion gives a free and open testimony for God's Word as written in the Bible."

These were the "crimes" of which Brother Hanselmann was accused. For this reason he was put in prison at Dresden until October 2, 1937. As a faithful shepherd, he served the flock entrusted to him in the midst of all dangers and obstacles, gave them "the bread of life," and strengthened them in the faith, impressing upon them that "through many trials we must enter into the kingdom of God."

Shortly after this, he was again arrested. At Halle/Saale the second trial against him was begun. The accusation read as follows:

"The accused was formerly a minister of the sect of the 'Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement,' which was prohibited in all of the Reich by decree of the Assistant Chief of the Secret Police on April 29, 1936. This sect, with its headquarters at Isernhagen, separated from' the large Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1914, because the Adventists, against their principles of faith, have given their followers permission to do military service. The Reformers were of the opinion that the Adventists were not authorized to give their members this permission. The contrast between Adventists and Reformers became still greater after the national revolution. While the followers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church placed themselves without exception behind the National Socialist Government, gave the German salute, took their children to the National Socialist organizations, and performed military service, the adherents of the Reform maintained their old principles of faith. Under cover of a religious movement, they pursue goals that are contrary to the world vision of National Socialism. Therefore they refuse to do any military service, do not greet with the German salute, do not support the National Socialist organizations, such as NSV, RLB, and WHW, and are internationally oriented, because they know no fatherland but regard all people as their brethren."

"The Reformers take the view that they can obey a law only insofar as it does not contradict the Bible, because they are to obey God rather than men."

The reasons given in this document of accusation as quoted above show clearly that the leading brethren of the Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement were not willing to deny the doctrine of peace as found in the gospel, which is valid for all nations; they would not deny it even when they were persecuted. Imprisoned, and executed for their stand. The good shepherd goes before his sheep as a good example, for what would become of the sheep if they were left without protection in the midst of ravenous wolves? Alas, it was just in this regard that the leading clergy of the nominal Christians and the responsible men of the great Advent Movement failed, as is unmistakably shown in the above writ of accusation.



Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp Security Perimeter Fence

Later, in the main session of the special court at Halle/Saale, several brothers and sisters of the Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement were brought forward as co-defendants and also as witnesses against Brother Hanselmann. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. Also the court costs were given him to pay. When the two-year term ended, his pocket watch and some personal belongings were sent to his wife. In a letter, Brother Hanselmann wrote very briefly: *"Now the worst is yet to come. I am being transported to the concentration camp of Sachsenhausen."*

About the middle of May 1942, his wife received the report that her husband had fallen sick of dysentery and died in the concentration camp. That was the last official notice.

A prisoner who was in the concentration camp at Sachsenhausen later reported that Brother Hanselmann had refused to go to work on Sabbath morning, and therefore he was pulled up by his hands, which were tied behind his back, and this caused him to choke to death.

So this faithful gospel servant's life ended as he fought for the present truth. He did not forsake the souls that were in his care but served them, surrounded by many dangers and much suffering, and was faithful until death. We should be thankful to God that He has given us such conscientious men as shepherds of His flock for an example.

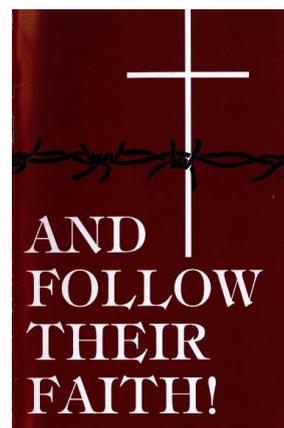
Excerpts from the book, *And Follow Their Faith*.

Book available for purchase from *Religious Liberty Publishing Association*:

Tel: +61-2-9627-7553

Email: info@rlpa.org.au

"In reviewing our past history, having travelled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."—Ellen G. White, *Life Sketches*, p. 196 (1902).



Condolences to Boje Family – Romania

We are very sorry to receive the sad news of the passing away of Sister Maria Boje from Romania, on Sunday 20 July 2014. Our condolences go especially to her husband and their five children Ioan (John), Daniel, Marianna, Lidia, and Grigore and their families, who have lost their wonderful mother and grandmother. Our prayers and thoughts are with you all.

Take courage in knowing that she is only sleep in Jesus for a short time until He comes back to take us home. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”*

Serbia Public Missionary Outreach

We just finished the first part of the public meetings at our special missionary project yesterday. As we mentioned before, for the most part, fifteen of us have been working in distributing 20,000 flyers all across



the city of Kragujevac, Serbia, along with 450 posters. We even secured some radio and television spots. Although there were only a few of us, we were praying for God’s special blessings to bring people to the meetings. We are told that not many come to such outreach programs anymore, but we were blessed on the opening night when Dragan Ivanov began the first presentation on “How to Eat Healthy”, he did not speak to an empty room. We had over 100 visitors the very first night. About half came in response to the

flyers and half in response to the posters. Only one person came in response to the TV advertisement and one in response to the radio advertisement.



We did not have the Sabbath morning worship service advertised on any of the flyers but told the visitors that we will be speaking on the same subject from a Biblical perspective and invited them to come. We were pleasantly surprised when 20 of the visitors came the next morning. They really enjoyed the spiritual food and hearing about the vegetarian diet from the Bible was something really new. As Dragan Ivanov began the evening meeting on “How to Overcome Stress”, he spoke to a room full of people. There were about 140

present for the evening presentation. When we announced the spiritual program beginning the following week, almost everyone took a flyer on the way out, and many books were purchased on health, and other topics.

On Sundays many people work, and so we had only about 120 present with some new faces to listen to “Emotions and Health”. One of the difficult things is to transition from health to spiritual topics in such a short time. As Dragan gave 11 points on how to improve the emotional health to avoid depression, his 10th point was on prayer. After he finished, he invited me to come forward to introduce the spiritual meetings. I told them they are not the only ones that ask where I am from. Even in the USA and Australia they ask the same question. However, they were surprised that I was born only 80kms (48miles) from this city. I spoke in Serbian but assured them I will speak through a translator next week. As I reminded them about the 10th point from the presentation that evening, we invited them to speak to our God as we closed the meeting in prayer. As they were leaving and getting additional flyers, many assured us they will see us on Friday night. Again the book stand was very busy, as people really wanted not only the health books and DVDs but also the spiritual books.

Please pray for us that the Lord will continue His magnificent work in bringing souls to the meetings this Friday evening and eventually to the present truth for our time.

God bless.

Peter D Lausevic

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=5996>

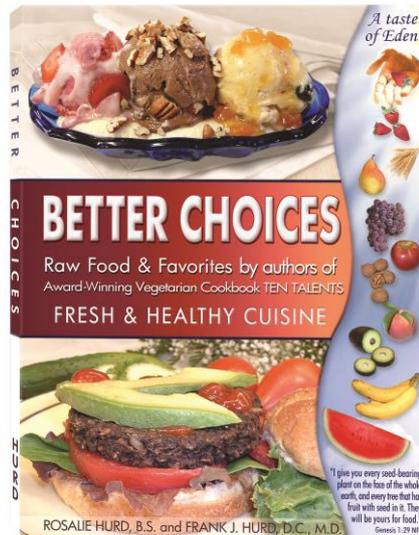


“A Taste of Eden”

Power-Packed with:
Fresh Raw
Whole Foods
Vegetarian
Vegan
Soy & Gluten Free

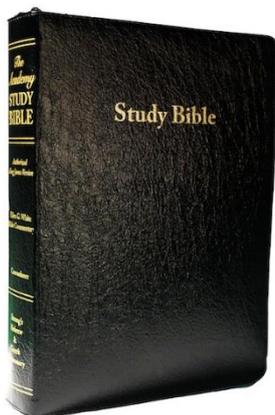
BETTER CHOICES Cookbook

- Practical tips
- 15 food charts
- 3 glossaries
- Nutrition analysis of each recipe
- Plus 10 timeless health secrets for vibrant living
- Every page bursting with colourful photos and illustrations
- Jump Start your Vitality with **225** simply prepared, great tasting, and properly combined recipes to increase energy and enhance health



\$29.90 + postage

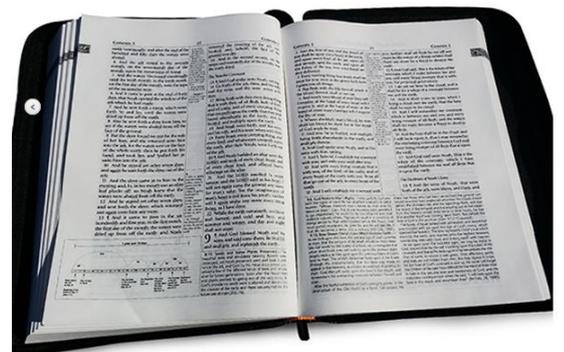
For orders and book sales contact RLPA – Tel: +61 2 9627 7553, or email info@rlpa.org.au



The Academy Study Bible

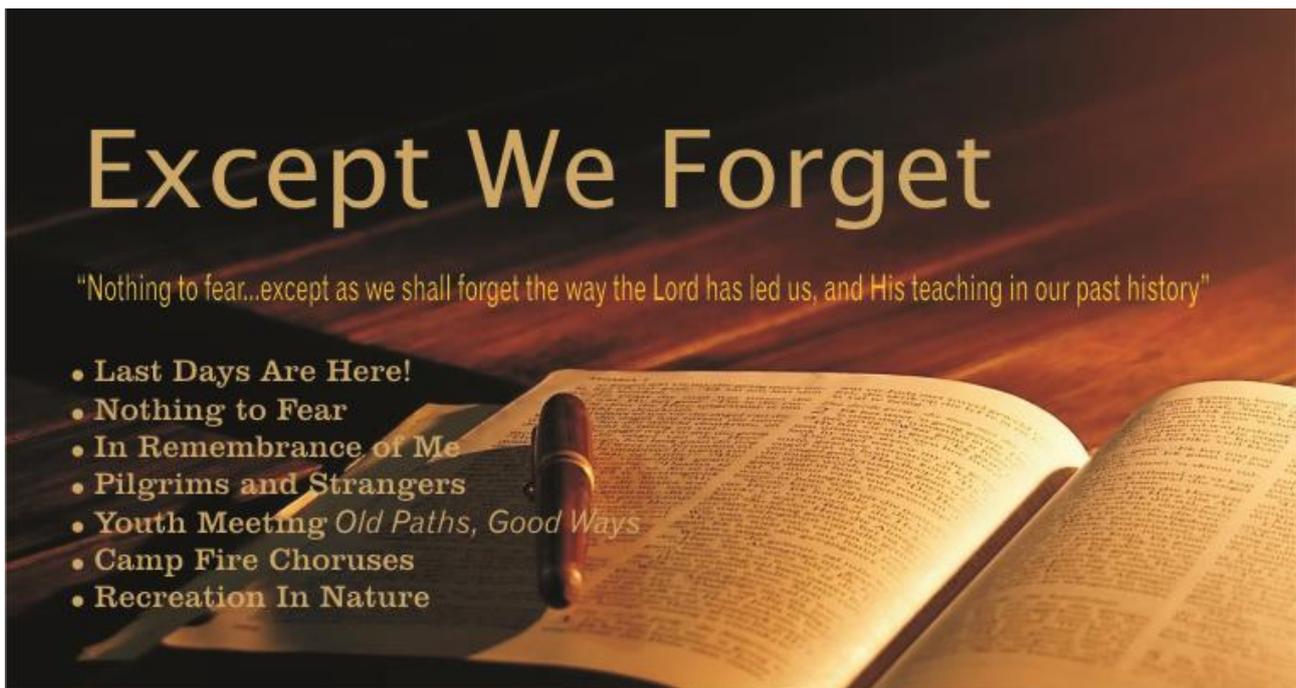
Hot off the press in November, 2013, The Academy Study Bible (EG White, Bible Commentary) brings you all the same, tried and true study aids that you've come to love in the original Study Bible but now there are even more features! Strong's concordance numbers for most words are printed right into the text, linking directly to Hebrew and Greek dictionaries in the back of the book. We have also enlarged the Bible to allow for wider margins, making room for all your personal study notes. Your study of the

Word will be easier than ever before. This Bible also has large print. 27cm x 19.7 cm x 4.7cm Genuine leather (zipper) \$165.00



Order through RLPA – Tel: 02 9627 7553, or email info@rlpa.org.au

Invitation to the QLD Spiritual Conference – 15-17 August 2014



QLD Conference invites you to attend our 2014 Spiritual Conference, 15-17 August, 2014. The title of our conference is "Except We Forget".

Come aside with us for a spiritual refreshing as we consider those truths that have made us a distinct people before the world. "Except We Forget" encapsulates the theme for this year's camp, as we recognise 100 years since the outbreak of World War 1 and the subsequent formation of the SDA Reform Movement.

Venue: Ewen Maddock Dam Recreation Centre, Landsborough, QLD

Accommodation:

- Adults (15 and over) - \$75.00 for the weekend.
- Children: (4-14 years) - \$45.00 for the weekend

An offering will be collected during the camp to cover the cost of food. (Suggested offering \$20.00/person)

For more details go to <http://www.sdarm.org.au/events/queensland-spiritual-conference/>

Or contact Paul Chapman – mobile: 0414 495 838 or pchapman@sdarm.org.au

REGISTER ONLINE NOW: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/upcoming-events/registration-queensland-conference-spiritual-camp-meeting-2014/>

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 register: www.sdarm.org.au/wa2014 or call Luke Kneebone on 08 9453 1756

Invitation to AUC Youth Convention – 2014

Elected 4 Glory

22-28 December 2014

Elim Heights Youth Camp

5760B-5760D Putty Road PUTTY NSW 5670

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood”

Further information coming soon!

Summer School Is Back! 4-14 January 2015

A 10 days Bible Summer School will be held at Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW from the 4th to the 14th of January 2015. For all those, young and old alike, who are keen on studying God's Word, mark these dates down on your calendar. More to come soon.

For further information email: education@sdarm.org.au

Coming Events Calendar

6-20 July, 2014

Youth Department Fly-n-Build 2014

Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW

For Further information contact Csongor Matyas

Email: youth@sdarm.org.au

Telephone or SMS: +61-430505934

15-17 August, 2014

Queensland Conference Camp 2014

“Except We Forget”

Location: Ewen Maddack Dam Recreation Centre,

Landsborough, QLD

Register online at: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/upcoming-events/registration-queensland-conference-spiritual-camp-meeting-2014/>

For Further information contact Paul Chapman

Email: pchapman@sdarm.org.au

Telephone: +61-(0)7-3862-4803

Download invitation Here: [QLD Camp 2014 Invite.1.0.Print .pdf](#)

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

Location: Camp Logue Brook, Harvey

Western Australia

Register online at wa@sdarm.org.au

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

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

3-6 October, 2014 NSW Youth Camp

Location: 85 Grange Avenue Schofields.

For Further information

mthiel@sdarm.org.au or lidia@sdarm.org.au

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

Matthias Thiel mob: +61-(0)424 430 329

26 October, 2014 NSW Youth Department Seminar - Communication

Location: 85 Grange Avenue Schofields.

For Further information

mthiel@sdarm.org.au or lidia@sdarm.org.au

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

Matthias Thiel mob: +61-(0)424 430 329

**22-28 December, 2014 AUC Youth Convention 2014
"Elected 4 Glory"**

Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW

For Further information go to

www.sdarm.org.au

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

4-14 January, 2015 Summer School 2015

Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW

For Further information email info@sdarm.org.au

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

GOOD TIDINGS E-NEWS

Electronic Newsletter of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement, Australasian Union Conference

PO Box 132, Riverstone NSW 2765, Australia

Tel: (02) 9627 7553

Email: goodtidings@sdarm.org.au

Web: www.sdarm.org.au

Editor: Paul Chapman

Associate Editor: Lidia Voncina

Design: Tabitha Hauptmann

If you no longer wish to receive the Good Tidings e-news, please click unsubscribe: [UNSUBSCRIBE](#)